

PART I A: Reading comprehension. True or False?

Read text A below and decide whether the following 10 statements are True or False. Put a cross (x) in the appropriate box on the answer sheet provided, as shown in the example, 0):

	TRUE	FALSE
0		X
1		

From the text it can be understood that:

0. Emmanuel Macron has compared the Yellow Vest movement to the French Revolution.
1. The original grievance books of 1789 are on display in town and city halls.
2. The exercise in direct democracy allows people to complain publicly about what is wrong.
3. The author will prepare a report on the government's response to people's ideas.
4. The majority of participants in the debate at Boulogne-Billancourt were better educated members of French society.
5. Students and union representatives could not afford to spend four hours debating in the evening.
6. The French people feel that the political class has taken away their freedom to speak.
7. Politicians and technocrats are seen as aristocrats, who answer for their actions to no one.
8. Macron's career is emblematic of France's political class today.
9. Many ordinary French citizens would like to remove from office both their national and their local political representatives.
10. The author agrees that the French state could provide a better service to its taxpayers.

TEXT A

In an effort to reply to demands from the Yellow Vest movement, Emmanuel Macron has launched a major national debate that has so far had some success. The initiative is similar to one suggested by Louis XVI before the French Revolution, when citizens were invited to present "grievance books" to the king.

The French have a soft spot for revolutionary experiences. This time around, the grievance books of 1789 have been restored under the name "free expression books" that can be accessed in town and city halls and online. There are also public debates generally organized by mayors, during which anyone can speak out against the present and suggest the future. Four million French citizens have already taken part in this exercise in direct democracy set to finish on March 15. The government will then be responsible for producing, as best as it can, a summary of propositions and a list of conclusions.

Before we receive this national report and the reforms it will — or will not — inspire, allow me to paint a simplified picture of this country-wide debate based on one I personally hosted in Boulogne-Billancourt, a town of 118,000 inhabitants west of Paris. The 600 participants were most likely not representative of the entire country, as the people of this town are somewhat wealthier and more educated than elsewhere. It is also obvious that retirees have more time to spend at meetings beginning at 7 pm and finishing four hours later. But younger generations and students were also in attendance as well as delegates from the workers' unions. The members of the French parliament and senate sat in silence. The room was therefore not a fair representation, but direct democracy never is. My sample of the population was significant, nonetheless.

In conclusion, it appears that the French care about their civil rights, particularly that of freedom of expression, but they also feel this right has been removed by political parties. The political class is perceived as a new aristocracy and is the focus of all criticisms. The only exceptions are the mayors, who are elected locally and are easily accessible. This political aristocracy is being rejected along with the technocratic class of high-ranking officials who lead the country without answering to anyone. The distinction between the two groups is blurred, as the political class recruits its members from the pool of technocrats. President

Macron was a high-ranking official in the Ministry of Finance before being elected, and almost all his predecessors followed the same path. This political profession is generally seen as being removed from the reality of French people who work and pay taxes.

But rejection of the public elite has not led to a rejection of the state itself. The French like the state — a little too much for my taste — and expect far too much from it. However, they regret that this same state is so opaque and poorly run. The citizens of Boulogne would like to be sure they are “getting their money’s worth.” Are the rules of modern management that govern businesses suitable for the state? Are technological resources used effectively? Are errors sanctioned? And what is the correlation between the money paid by each individual and the results produced? The people would like to know but are left in the dark. The French are therefore not against the state but are disappointed. And their reproaches are justified. The French government is notoriously badly managed, has been running a permanent deficit since the 18th century, and is the costliest in the developed world, drawing in 53% of national wealth.

Part I B Reading Comprehension: Synonyms

Match the words and phrases 1-10 in BOX A (highlighted in text A above) with 10 of the words or phrases having the same *contextual* meaning in BOX B. Write your answers on the answer sheet provided, as shown in the example (0):

0	d
1	

BOX A	BOX B
0. <i>soft spot</i>	a) <i>recommendation</i>
1. <i>mayors</i>	b) <i>better off</i>
2. <i>proposition</i>	c) <i>representative portion</i>
3. <i>hosted</i>	d) <i>susceptibility</i>
4. <i>wealthier</i>	e) <i>receiving good value</i>
5. <i>retirees</i>	f) <i>not knowing</i>
6. <i>sample</i>	g) <i>complaints</i>
7. <i>blurred</i>	h) <i>municipal government officials</i>
8. <i>getting their money’s worth</i>	i) <i>most important ones</i>
9. <i>in the dark</i>	j) <i>pensioners</i>
10. <i>reproaches</i>	k) <i>more expensive</i>
	l) <i>presented</i>
	m) <i>obscured</i>

Part II: Reading comprehension (0-10) and language use (11-23).

Read Text B and choose the best answer from a)-d) to the 23 questions below. Transfer your answer to the answer sheet provided, as shown in the example 0):

	a	b	c	d
0	X			
1				

TEXT B

Citizens of Europe, if I am taking the liberty of addressing you directly, it is not only in the name of the history and values that unite us, but because time is of the essence. A few weeks from now the European elections will be decisive for the future of our continent.

Never since the second world war has Europe been so essential. Yet never has Europe been in such danger. Brexit stands as the symbol of that. It symbolises the crisis of a Europe that has failed to respond to its peoples' need for protection from the major shocks of the modern world. It also symbolises the European trap. The trap lies not in being part of the European Union; the trap is in the lie and the irresponsibility that can destroy it. Who told the British people the truth about their post-Brexit future? Who spoke to them about losing access to the EU market? Who mentioned the risks to peace in Ireland of restoring the border? Retreating into nationalism offers nothing; it is rejection without an alternative. And this is the trap that threatens the whole of Europe: the anger mongers, backed by fake news, promise anything and everything.

We have to stand firm, proud and lucid, in the face of this manipulation and say first of all what Europe is. It is a historic success: the reconciliation of a devastated continent is an unprecedented project of peace, prosperity and freedom. Let's never forget that. And this project continues to protect us today. What country can act on its own in the face of aggressive strategies by the major powers? Who can claim to be sovereign, on their own, in the face of the digital giants? How would we resist the crises of financial capitalism without the euro, which is a force for the entire EU? Europe is also those thousands of projects daily that have changed the face of our regions: the school refurbished, the road built, and the long-awaited arrival of high-speed internet access. This struggle is a daily commitment, because Europe, like peace, can never be taken for granted. I pursue it tirelessly on behalf of France, in order to take Europe forward and to defend its model. We have shown that things we were told were unattainable, the creation of a European defence capability and the protection of social rights, were in fact possible.

Yet we need to do more and faster, because there is another trap: the trap of the status quo and resignation. Faced with major crises in the world, citizens so often ask, "Where is Europe? What is Europe doing?" To them it has become a soulless market.

Yet Europe is not just an economic market. It is a project. A market is useful, but it should not detract from the need for borders to protect and values that unite. Nationalists are misguided when they claim to defend our identity by withdrawing from the EU, because it is European civilisation that unites, frees and protects us. But those who would change nothing are also misguided, because they deny the fear felt by our people, the doubts that undermine our democracies. We are at a pivotal moment for our continent, a moment when together we need to politically and culturally reinvent the shape of our civilisation in a changing world. Now is the time for a European renaissance. Hence, resisting the temptation of isolation and division, I propose we build this renewal together around three ambitions: freedom, protection and progress.

The European model is based on freedom: of people, diversity of opinions and creation. Our first freedom is democratic freedom: the freedom to choose our leaders as foreign powers seek to influence our votes at every election. I propose the creation of a European Agency for the Protection of Democracies to provide each EU member state with European experts to protect their election process against cyber-attacks and manipulation. In this same spirit of independence, we should also ban the funding of

European political parties by foreign powers. We should have European rules banishing incitement to hatred and violence from the internet, since respect for the individual is the bedrock of our civilisation and our dignity.

Founded on internal reconciliation, the EU has forgotten the realities of the world. Yet no community can create a sense of belonging if it does not have protected territorial limits. The boundary is freedom in security. We therefore need to rethink the Schengen area: all those who want to be part of it should comply with obligations of responsibility (stringent border controls) and solidarity (a single asylum policy with common acceptance and refusal rules).

We will need a common border force and a European asylum office, strict control obligations and European solidarity to which each country will contribute under the authority of a European Council for Internal Security. On migration, I believe in a Europe that protects both its values and its borders. It is for you to decide whether Europe and the values of progress that it embodies are to be more than just a passing episode in history.

- 0) The intended audience for this text is:
 - a) population of all the EU member states
 - b) academics at a world history conference
 - c) EU officials who will be monitoring the EU elections
 - d) an international group of journalists
- 1) The speaker is:
 - a) a pro-Brexit British politician.
 - b) a French EU official.
 - c) a pro-European political leader.
 - d) an online blogger.
- 2) The speaker says that
 - a) Europe is excited about the imminent European elections.
 - b) there is no reason to complain about the EU.
 - c) Brexit means a loss of credibility for Europe.
 - d) the European project is in danger.
- 3) The speaker believes UK voters voted for Brexit because they
 - a) believed that the European market was inaccessible.
 - b) were victims of a dishonest campaign.
 - c) feel the UK is invincible against powerful aggressors.
 - d) felt that Ireland is a risk to UK security.
- 4) What does the speaker NOT mention as part of the first 'European trap', in the third line of paragraph 2?
 - a) Nostalgia for the post-WW2 era.
 - b) Misinformation and empty promises.
 - c) Failure to protect EU citizens against hard contemporary realities.
 - d) Nationalism.
- 5) What do people tend to forget about the EU, according to the speaker?
 - a) The peace, freedom and prosperity which the EU has guaranteed for sixty years.
 - b) The tenacity, pride and lucidity of the EU's founding fathers.
 - c) That the EU began as an economic market.
 - d) That France is a protagonist of the European project.
- 6) The speaker's overall evaluation of the EU is that it
 - a) has been a success and needs to continue in the same direction.
 - b) has not been entirely successful and needs to change its direction.
 - c) has been a successful project but needs to adapt to changes in the contemporary world.
 - d) has been too ambitious as a project and needs to limit its ambitions.
- 7) In answering the question "why are EU citizens afraid?", what reason does the speaker NOT give?
 - a) Foreign interference in their democratic elections.
 - b) The building of walls between states.
 - c) Migration.
 - d) An unregulated Internet.
- 8) The purpose of the measures proposed by the speaker is best described as to
 - a) balance freedom, security and solidarity.
 - b) convince EU citizens to vote in the European elections.

- c) remind us of contemporary realities. d) remind us why the European project was born.

LANGUAGE

9) The author asks what politicians voters in the Brexit referendum, about the problem of peace in Ireland.

- a) did tell to b) told c) told to d) did tell

10) If Britain leaves the EU, it access to the EU market.

- a) would have not b) will have no c) will have had no d) would have had not

11) Having no access to the EU market means that Britain will be

- a) more poor b) poorer c) poorest d) the most poor

12) If the founding fathers of Europe could see Europe today, they proud of its success.

- a) will have been b) would have been c) would be d) will have been

13) Britain since 1973.

- a) is an EU member b) is a member EU c) has been EU's member d) has been an EU member

14) If there had been no Brexit referendum, the British Conservative party the support of voters.

- a) will have lost b) will lose c) would have lost d) would lose

15) Nationalists habitually accuse the EU against their interests.

- a) to make decisions b) of making decisions c) of doing decisions d) to do decisions

16) Some believe that the 2016 Brexit referendum

- a) should not have happened. b) must not happen. c) had not to happen. d) ought to not happen.

17) fake news is tackled, democracy will be at risk.

- a) Unless b) If c) As long as d) In case

18) Many empty promises during election campaigns.

- a) is made b) are done c) are made d) are making

19) Europe to take action on cybercrime.

- a) must b) should c) supposed d) has

20) The European Economic Community was founded sixty-two years

- a) long b) yet c) ago d) since

21) The politicians were accused lies.

- a) to tell b) of saying c) to have said d) of telling

22) Before Schengen, travellers in the EU show their passports when travelling between countries.

- a) use to b) used to c) were used to d) have been used to

23) The political leader a press conference to explain her proposals for the EU.

- a) held b) took c) made d) did

PART III: Translation from Italian to English

Read the Italian text below carefully, paying particular attention to the parts in bold numbered (1) - (7). For each, choose the best English translation from the four options (a)-(d) provided below. Enter your choices on the answer sheet.

Diritti umani e democrazia nel mondo: adottata la relazione annuale 2018 dell'UE

Il 13 maggio 2019 il Consiglio **(1) ha adottato la relazione annuale dell'UE** sui diritti umani e la democrazia nel mondo nel 2018. La relazione rileva che nel 2018 l'UE **(2) è rimasta in prima linea nella protezione e promozione dei diritti umani** in un contesto geopolitico in rapida evoluzione. **(3) L'UE si è impegnata in attività in tutto il mondo** in linea con gli obiettivi definiti nel piano d'azione dell'UE per i diritti umani e la democrazia (2015-2019). Il Consiglio ha riconosciuto che, in un mondo instabile e imprevedibile, il piano d'azione **(4) è stato determinante nel far avanzare l'agenda in materia di diritti umani**.

Nel 2018 si è celebrato il 70° anniversario della Dichiarazione Universale dei Diritti dell'Uomo e, nel corso dell'anno, l'UE ha continuato a sostenere fermamente la promozione e la protezione dei diritti umani quali elementi centrali del multilateralismo particolarmente importanti in un periodo caratterizzato da gravi tendenze negative per quanto riguarda i diritti umani e la democrazia in tutto il mondo.

(5) Nel corso dell'anno si è verificato un aumento delle minacce e delle violazioni contro giornalisti e altri operatori dei media, con la conseguenza di un'ulteriore riduzione dello spazio per il giornalismo libero. In linea con le priorità della strategia globale per la politica estera e di sicurezza dell'Unione europea, l'UE **(6) ha continuato a opporsi fermamente a qualsiasi restrizione ingiustificata alla libertà di associazione e di riunione pacifica**.

La relazione annuale 2018 rileva inoltre che quest'anno non si è assistito solo a sfide e battute d'arresto in materia di diritti umani: c'è stato anche un cambiamento positivo. Nel 2018 l'UE si è mobilitata per individuare e sostenere i messaggi positivi in materia di diritti umani, muovendo dalla visione di un'Agenda 2030 basata sui diritti umani. L'iniziativa a guida UE "Good Human Rights Stories" (storie positive nell'ambito dei diritti umani), lanciata in occasione della 73ª Assemblea generale delle Nazioni Unite (UNGA), ha avuto ampia risonanza a livello transregionale e **(7) mira a fornire uno strumento efficace di cambiamento positivo in futuro**.

1) ha adottato la relazione annuale dell'UE

- | | |
|---|--|
| a) has adopted the annual relation of the EU | b) adopted the EU annual report |
| c) has adopted the yearly UE report | d) the world human rights and democracy |

2) è rimasta in prima linea nella protezione e promozione dei diritti umani

- a)** remained at the forefront of the protection and promotion of human rights
- b)** had remained in the first line of the human rights protection and promotion
- c)** has remained at the forefront of the human rights protection and promotion
- d)** is remaining in the front line of protection and promotion of human rights

3) L'UE si è impegnata in attività in tutto il mondo

- | | |
|---|--|
| a) the EU worldwide engaged in activities | b) the UE engaged with activities in the world entire |
| c) the UE was busy in the whole world in activities. | d) the EU engaged in activities across the globe |

4) è stato determinante nel far avanzare l'agenda in materia di diritti umani.

- | | |
|--|--|
| a) had been decisive in advancing the agenda of human rights. | b) was being key in taking forward the human rights issue. |
| c) has been instrumental in taking forward the human rights agenda. | d) is being instrumental to front the agenda of human rights. |

5) Nel corso dell'anno si è verificato un aumento delle minacce e delle violazioni contro giornalisti e altri operatori dei media,

- a)** The year saw an increase in threats and violations against journalists and other media workers,
- b)** During the year the treats and the violations against the journalists and the other media operators has increased,
- c)** Throughout the year it has been a raise in the threats and the violations towards journalists and media workers,
- d)** Over the year have been increasing treats and violations towards the reporters and the media operators,

6) ha continuato a opporsi fermamente a qualsiasi restrizione ingiustificata

- a) has continued opposing firmly every unjustified restriction b) was continued to oppose strongly every unjustified restriction
c) continued to firmly oppose any unjustified restrictions d) was continuing strongly opposing any unjustifying restrictions

7) mira a fornire uno strumento efficace di cambiamento positivo in futuro

- a) is aiming at provide a real instrument for positive future change.
b) aims to provide an effective vehicle for positive change in the future.
c) aims at provide for positive future change an effective vehicle.
d) aims to provide for an effective vehicle to positively change the future.

Part IV: Language Use

Choose ONE of the 12 words or phrases (a)-(l) provided in the box below it to fill spaces 1-10 in the text below, and transfer your choices to the answer sheet, as shown in the example, (0):

0	j
1	

NB: use each word or phrase ONCE only (initial capital letters have been removed). There is one extra word, to be discarded.

Trade, economic and cultural relations between the European Union and Hong Kong remained strong ...(0)... the period covered by this annual report. The European Union remained Hong Kong's second-largest trading partner after mainland China, ...(1)... Hong Kong was a major partner for the European Union as regards trade in goods and services and foreign investment flows. With ...(2)... 2,200 EU companies based in Hong Kong, the EU remains the largest foreign business constituency in the city. A variety of factors including the rule of law, the transparent regulatory framework, ...(3)... an efficient public administration and an independent judiciary, contributed to preserving a favourable investment climate in Hong Kong.

Most aspects of the 'one country, two systems' principle, ...(4)... is the cornerstone of Hong Kong's economic success, continued to work well. ...(5)... several politically sensitive cases, the rule of law generally prevailed and the judiciary continued to demonstrate its independence and its consistent adherence to due process. ...(6)..., the 'one country, two systems' principle came under increased pressure during 2018, giving rise to concerns about its erosion and calling into question ...(7)... Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and its attractiveness as an international business centre will continue to be upheld in the long term. Three noteworthy incidents highlighted in the report relate to restrictions of the right to stand for election, the banning of a political party, ...(8)... the refusal to renew the work visa of a foreign journalist. Freedom of expression faced unprecedented challenges, particularly on sensitive political issues, with indications of increasing self-censorship.

The European Union looks forward to further strengthening and expanding its relations with the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR). The report encourages the Hong Kong SAR and the Central Government authorities to resume the electoral reform ...(9)... enshrined in the Basic Law, and reach an agreement on an election system that is democratic, fair, open, and transparent. Universal suffrage would give the government greater public support and legitimacy to reach Hong Kong's economic objectives and tackle ...(10)... socio-economic challenges.

- (a) along with (b) more than (c) which (d) his (e) despite (f) as (g) however
(h) while (i) whether (j) during (k) and (l) its