

CONCOURS EXTERNE DES 19 ET 20 FÉVRIER 2018
POUR LE RECRUTEMENT DE CONTRÔLEURS DES DOUANES ET DROITS INDIRECTS
Branche du contrôle des opérations commerciales et d'administration générale

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Épreuve orale d'admission n° 2

Interrogation de langue étrangère consistant dans la traduction orale en français d'un texte écrit dans la langue étrangère choisie, suivie d'une conversation dans la même langue

(Durée 15 minutes – Coefficient 2)

Arctic shipping lanes open for four months by 2050 – IPCC

A warming Arctic will see ice-free conditions for as long as 125 days each summer by the middle of the century, increasing the likelihood for commodity shipping, according to a new report by the U.N. climate panel. The Arctic has warmed at about twice the global rate in the past three decades, contributing towards record low sea ice in the summer of 2007 and again in 2012. Ice-free summers could open up new, trans-Arctic shipping through the Northwest Passage and Northern Sea Route over northern Canada and Russia. "The Northern Sea Route (NSR) is predicted to have up to 125 days per year suitable for navigation by 2050," said the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), in a leaked report due to be published next Monday.

The NSR is open for about 50 days at present.

"Increased shipping associated with the opening of the NSR will lead to increased resource extraction on land and in the sea, and with two-way commodity flows between the Atlantic and Pacific," the IPCC said. Shipping accounts for 80% of world trade by volume and about 3% of global carbon dioxide emissions. Shorter shipping routes could therefore cut both emissions and the costs of trade. The IPCC report, leaked online, is the second of a three-part publication on climate change. The latest report focuses on expected climate impacts, following an analysis of the evidence for manmade climate change, published last September.

Unreliable

So far, ice-free summers have been most exploited by a rapid increase in tourism. "Climate change has increased the prevalence of cruise tourism throughout Greenland, Norway, Alaska and Canada because of decreasing sea ice extent," the IPCC said. "Loss of sea ice may open up waterways and opportunities for increased cruise traffic and add to an already rapid increase in cruise tourism." The route is presently unreliable for regular, commercial freight, given its seasonality and unpredictability. [...]

27.03.2014, www.climatechangenews.com

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Causes of Ocean Pollution

Over 80% of marine pollution comes from land-based activities. From plastic bags to pesticides, most of the waste we produce on land eventually reaches the oceans, either through deliberate dumping or from run-off through drains and rivers. This includes:

Oil

Oil spills cause huge damage to the marine environment - but in fact are responsible for only around 12% of the oil entering the seas each year. According to a study by the US National Research Council, 36% comes down drains and rivers as waste and runoff from cities and industry.

Fertilizers

Fertilizer runoff from farms and lawns is a huge problem for coastal areas. The extra nutrients cause eutrophication - flourishing of algal blooms that deplete the water's dissolved oxygen and suffocate other marine life. Eutrophication has created enormous dead zones in several parts of the world, including the Gulf of Mexico and the Baltic Sea.

Seas of garbage

Solid garbage also makes its way to the ocean. Plastic bags, balloons, glass bottles, shoes, packaging material – if not disposed of correctly, almost everything we throw away can reach the sea.

Plastic garbage, which decomposes very slowly, is often mistaken for food by marine animals. High concentrations of plastic material, particularly plastic bags, have been found blocking the breathing passages and stomachs of many marine species, including whales, dolphins, seals, puffins, and turtles. Plastic six-pack rings for drink bottles can also choke marine animals. This garbage can also come back to shore, where it pollutes beaches and other coastal habitats. [...]

wwf.panda.org

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Cannes 2018: Female stars protest on red carpet for equal rights

Dozens of women film stars have held a protest at the Cannes film festival against gender-based discrimination in the industry.

Cate Blanchett, Kristen Stewart and Salma Hayek were among those taking part in the red-carpet demonstration.

The prestigious Cannes festival has come under criticism for failing to showcase more films by women directors.

The protest comes after a period of turmoil in the industry following allegations of sexual harassment. This is the first Cannes festival since allegations of sexual abuse were first made against producer Harvey Weinstein last year. He has always denied engaging in non-consensual sex.

The actresses and film-makers linked arms to stroll along the red carpet. Cate Blanchett spoke of the film industry's gender inequalities. "We are 82 women, representing the number of female directors who have climbed these stairs since the first edition of the Cannes film festival in 1946. In the same period, 1,688 male directors have climbed these very same stairs," the two-time Oscar winner said. "The prestigious Palme d'Or has been bestowed upon 71 male directors, too numerous to mention by name, but only two female directors," Ms Blanchett remarked.

The women taking part in the protest included all of the festival's female jury members and many women actors, directors and producers. Producer and activist Melissa Silverstein of Women and Hollywood said the protest was a "massive milestone towards change".

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12.05.2018, BBC News website

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The story of ROSA PARKS

Society goes forward more thanks to people who refuse authority, than to those who respect it. While some people might consider this idea as a recipe for anarchy, it is an idea that is highly respected in the culture of the English-speaking countries. It is rooted in a historic tradition of tolerance, and expressed in attitudes to difference, to originality, even to eccentricity. It does not mean that English speaking countries have always been tolerant: that is certainly not the case; but those who react against intolerance or just against senseless authority can easily become heroes. Rosa Parks is a classic example.

As a young woman in the city of Montgomery, Alabama, in the Deep South of the United States, Rosa became a heroine and role model for millions because she defied authority. Traveling home on a Montgomery bus one day in 1955, Rosa had the gall to sit down in one of the empty seats at the front, seats reserved for Whites only. When the driver noticed, he immediately stopped the bus, and ordered Rosa to go to the back of the bus. Rosa defied his authority. The driver repeated his order "Go to the back !" Again, and again Rosa defied him; in the end, the police were called, and Rosa Parks was hauled off the bus and arrested. She was fined \$10 - a large sum in those days.

Yet Rosa's defiance of authority was to have repercussions throughout the USA; it was this act that ignited the whole Civil Rights movement in the United States of America, and gave hope to similar movements in other parts of the world. As Rosa faced down authority on that city over half a century ago, little did she imagine that she would one day receive the highest honor of the State of Alabama, and that that honor would be bestowed on her personally by the Governor. Yet that is exactly what has happened.

At the end of the year 2000, Rosa Parks, then an elderly lady, became the first recipient of the "Governor's Medal of Honor for Extraordinary Courage", a new award designed to honor those who demonstrate extraordinary acts of courage that have a lasting impact on the lives of others. At the presentation ceremony, Governor Siegelman said: "As governor, I am proud to bestow this highest honor on Rosa Parks, a woman who, in 1955, stared down injustice by sitting firmly to take a stand against the inequality of that day. Mrs. Parks' simple act of civil disobedience sparked a global revolution that began with the Montgomery Bus Boycott and forever changed our nation. Every American is indebted to this daughter of Alabama, who refused to bow to injustice and who personifies extraordinary heroism. [...]"

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Wildlife and the Darknet

New research by INTERPOL has found limited, but clear evidence of criminals using the Darknet to sell illicit wildlife products from critically endangered species such as rhino horn, elephant ivory and tiger parts and products. According to INTERPOL, some wildlife traders are trying to use the Darknet as a medium for conducting their business.

Darknet is a computer network with restricted access that is used chiefly for illegal peer-to-peer file sharing. However, the traders' attempts are sometimes strongly disapproved or condemned. Researchers from INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation noted that the majority of trading was in cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin.

The research report 'Illegal Wildlife Trade in the Darknet,' was funded by the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), the US Department of State and the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF). Conducted between December 2016 and April 2017, the research found 21 advertisements, some dating back to 2015, offering rhino horn products, ivory, and tiger parts.

According to AWF Vice-President for Species Conservation, criminal networks are adapting new ways to traffic wildlife illegally, and law enforcement must stay ahead of their game and collaborate at greater scale.

“Ultimately our efforts will succeed if wildlife species affected by this illicit trade continue to thrive in their natural habitats,” said Muruthi.

During the research, it was noted, only two transactions were publicly recorded as finalized on a Darknet marketplace. The trade of rhinoceros, elephants, and tigers, and their parts, over the Darknet is a small field compared to other products and services such as drugs, carding, digital items, malware, forged documents, child-abuse material, and others. Wildlife items are often included in the “Other Listings” category. [...]

19.06.2018, African wildlife Foundation

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Think of honeybees as 'livestock,' not wildlife, argue experts

The 'die-off' events occurring in honeybee colonies that are bred and farmed like livestock must not be confused with the conservation crisis of dramatic declines in thousands of wild pollinator species, say Cambridge researchers.

Writing in the journal *Science*, the conservationists argue there is a "lack of distinction" in public understanding – fuelled by misguided charity campaigns and media reports – between an agricultural problem and an urgent biodiversity issue. In fact, they say domesticated honeybees actually contribute to wild bee declines through resource competition and spread of disease, with so-called environmental initiatives (...) only likely to exacerbate the loss of wild pollinators.

"The crisis in global pollinator decline has been associated with one species above all, the western honeybee. Yet this is one of the few pollinator species that is continually replenished through breeding and agriculture," said co-author Dr Jonas Geldmann from Cambridge University's Department of Zoology.

"Saving the honeybee does not help wildlife. Western honeybees are a commercially managed species that can actually have negative effects on their immediate environment through the massive numbers in which they are introduced. "Levels of wild pollinators (...) continue to decline at an alarming rate. Currently, up to 50% of all European bee species are threatened with extinction," Geldmann said.

Honeybees are vital for many crops – as are wild pollinators, with some assessments suggesting wild species provide up to half the needed "pollinator services" for the three-quarters of globally important crops that require pollination. However, generating honeybee colonies for crop pollination is problematic. (...)

"Keeping honeybees is an extractive activity. It removes pollen and nectar from the environment, which are natural resources needed by many wild species of bee and other pollinators," said González-Varo, also from Cambridge's Zoology Department. "Honeybees are artificially-bred agricultural animals similar to livestock such as pigs and cows." [...]

25.01.2018, University of Cambridge

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Privacy, arrivano le nuove norme Ue: ecco quali

In arrivo nuove norme europee in tema di tutela della riservatezza e dei dati personali. Con maggiori adempimenti da parte delle aziende. Dal prossimo 25 maggio entra in vigore il nuovo regolamento europeo, detto GDPR, ovvero General Data Protection Regulation. L'obiettivo è tutelare maggiormente la privacy dei cittadini dei Paesi membri dell'Unione Europea. A tale scopo, le imprese dovranno seguire nuove indicazioni ogni volta che chiedono agli utenti il consenso al trattamento dei dati personali.

Sono chiamate ad adeguarsi al nuovo regolamento europeo tutte le aziende – pubbliche e private – che raccolgono e analizzano dati degli utenti: banche, compagnie di assicurazioni, operatori telefonici, pubblica amministrazione, aziende del lusso, start-up, aziende medie o piccole.

Il movimento dei consumatori mette in guardia, ricordando che dal prossimo 25 maggio le imprese dovranno indicare nell'informativa sulla privacy con quali finalità richiedono il trattamento di questi dati, quali sono i diritti che hanno gli utenti per tutelarsi e in che modo possono esercitare questi diritti. Se l'informativa sulla privacy non contiene queste indicazioni, il consenso non è considerato valido.

Sempre nell'informativa sulla privacy dovranno inoltre essere precisati: il diritto dell'utente di presentare reclamo all'autorità di controllo, il periodo di conservazione dei dati, i dati identificativi del Data Protection Officer (Dpo), vale a dire il soggetto che all'interno dell'azienda a cui ci si rivolge per un servizio ha il compito di garantire la tutela della privacy.

L'utente dovrà poter ritirare il consenso al trattamento dei suoi dati personali con la stessa facilità con cui l'ha dato. In pratica, se ha dato il consenso con un semplice click, dovrà poterlo ritirare seguendo lo stesso passaggio. Il nuovo regolamento europeo riconosce all'utente anche il diritto alla portabilità dei dati, in base al quale potrà chiedere e ottenere copia dei dati forniti a un'impresa in modo da poterli poi presentare a un'altra impresa. Si tratta di una norma pensata per permettere all'utente di "passare" con più facilità da un servizio online a un altro. [...]

E se un'azienda non dovesse rispettare le norme del nuovo regolamento europeo? In tal caso ci sono sanzioni, e nemmeno di poco conto: fino a 20 milioni di euro o il 4% del fatturato globale.

Silvano Bonini, 04.05.2018, First Online

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The story of the skyscrapers

America has given a lot of things to the world; but in terms of urban lifestyle, none is as significant and as visible as the skyscraper.

If you ask a person to describe an American city, the chances are that he will mention the word *skyscraper*. Tall buildings, their tips sometimes hidden in the clouds, have become the symbol of the American metropolis, a symbol of twenty-first century urban civilisation. American cities have not always had skyscrapers, but it is now almost a century and a half since the first skyscrapers began to distinguish their skylines.

For millions of people coming to America from Europe, the first proof that they had reached a new world was the moment when they first caught sight of the skyline of Manhattan. Surrealistic, superhuman, the skyline was like nothing they had ever seen in the old world — a concentration of tall buildings, their tops scraping the sky, hundreds of feet above the ground. These were New York's famous skyscrapers ! This was America !

The first skyscrapers, however, did not develop in New York, but in Chicago, in the late nineteenth century. Chicago at that time was the boom town of the United States — New York was just the front door. Chicago was at the centre of the new American adventure, and the new adventure was the West. Chicago was the point at which the West began.

In the year 1871, a large part of booming Chicago was destroyed as a major fire engulfed much of the downtown area. The fire, however, was a great stimulus to architects : not only did it show them the need to design modern buildings that would not be liable to burn very rapidly, but it also gave them plenty of opportunities to put their new theories into practice.

Since those early days, and in particular since the Second World War, skyscrapers have mushroomed in all the world's big cities; and they keep getting higher and higher. [...]

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British Businesses Hope To Cash In On Royal Wedding

(...) A Union Jack with the royal couple's faces in the middle hangs high on the wall and is selling fast. (...) "The most popular item is the mugs, the souvenir mugs. But we've got coasters, teaspoons, magnets, everything," says Drummond.

Most customers now, he says, are foreign tourists "showing a lot of interest" in Saturday's much-anticipated wedding in Windsor, England, of Prince Harry to Meghan Markle. (...) "People like them," Drummond says of the royal couple. "They're a bit cool, aren't they?"

(...) A consultancy, Brand Finance, which last year released a report asserting that the monarchy is good for the U.K.'s economy, predicts a \$1.3 billion boost from the nuptials, to include an increase in tourism revenue of more than \$400 million and a \$67 million boost from sales of souvenirs like the Red Bus shop's mugs and magnets.

But at a time when Britain's leaders are struggling to plot a post-Brexit global role for the U.K., and when British identity can feel confused and adrift, some skeptics are calling into question the benefits to Brits of expensive royal weddings. (...) There are no formal estimates of how much this will cost, but a freedom of information request by the U.K.'s Press Association found that Prince Harry's older brother William's wedding in 2011 incurred a \$8.5 million policing cost, about half of which was paid by the central government.

The costs of the wedding itself — which luxury wedding planners have estimated at about \$2.7 million — will be paid by the royal family, whose income comes from a variety of sources.

Britain's tourism board, VisitBritain, says that the royal family is important to the country's tourism industry. The board says about \$6 billion is spent annually by people attracted to the U.K. because of its culture and heritage, and the royal family is part of that, both through the palaces and castles that dot the country and the "legends and stories" associated with royalty. [...]

Alice FORDHAM, 17.05.2018, NPR website