

ANGLAIS (60 MINUTES)

Nom et Prénom du / de la candidat(e) : _____

Numéro : _____

Read the text below and do the exercises that follow.

Good news at last: the world isn't as horrific as you think*by Hans Rosling*

Things are bad and it feels like they are getting worse, doesn't it? War, violence, natural disasters, corruption. The rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer; and we will soon run out of resources. That's the picture most people in the West get from the media.

5 I call it the overdramatic worldview. It's stressful and incorrect. In fact, most of the people in the world are somewhere in the middle – neither very rich nor very poor. Their girls go to school; their children are vaccinated. Step by step, year by year, the world is improving. In the past two centuries, life expectancy has more than doubled. The world has many problems but in many ways, it has become better.

10 It is true that there are many bad things in this world. The number of deaths during wars has been reducing since the Second World War but the Syrian war has made this number rise again. Terrorism is rising, too. The list of endangered species is getting longer.

It is easy to hear about all the bad things happening in the world but it's harder to know about the good things. Good things happen slowly. Over the past 20 years, the number of people living in extreme poverty has almost halved. But in most countries, fewer than 10% of people know this.

15 Our instinct to notice bad news more than good news comes from three things: we remember the past incorrectly; journalists report the bad news, not the good; and we feel that when things are bad, it's heartless to say they are getting better.

For hundreds of years, older people have said that things used to be better. But that's not true. Most things used to be worse.

- 20 Stories about slow improvements are not usually big news stories even when they affect millions of people. And because of the internet, we hear about more disasters than ever before. In the United States, the number of violent crimes has been reducing since 1990. But most people believe that violent crime is getting worse.

- 25 How can we help our brains to realize that things are getting better? Think of the world as a very sick little baby in hospital. After a week, she is improving but she has to stay in hospital because she is still not well enough to go home. Can we say that the baby's situation is improving? Yes. Can we say it is bad? Yes. It's both bad and better. That is how we must think about the world.

Remember that negative stories are more dramatic than positive ones. When you hear about something terrible, calm yourself and ask: would they write a story about a positive improvement?

- 30 This is "factfulness". Understanding this can bring you mental peace. Like a healthy diet and regular exercise, it should be part of people's daily lives. Practise "factfulness" and you will make better decisions and not be stressed about the wrong things.

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A. Comprehension check (see the text!)

Choose the best answer to each question. (8 MARKS)

1. Line 4: "the worldview" *means*...
a) the positive opinion of the world
or b) the landscape
or c) the general opinion

2. Line 14: "the number ... has halved" *means*...
a) has become more important
or b) has doubled
or c) has reduced by fifty per cent

3. Line 16: "journalists report the bad news" *means*...
a) invent
or b) hide
or c) publish

4. Line 20: “stories ... affect millions of people” *means*...
- a) concern
- or b) lie to
- or c) help
5. Line 30: “Factfulness” *is*...
- a) training yourself not to read the news every day.
- or b) training yourself to think carefully about the news so that you get a clearer and more realistic picture.
6. “Factfulness” *can*...
- a) bring you less stress.
- or b) destroy your mental peace.
7. “Factfulness” *will help you to*...
- a) make better decisions.
- or b) use your instincts.
8. You should try to ...
- a) make “factfulness” part of your everyday life.
- or b) practise “factfulness” once a day.

B. Vocabulary

Match the key words with the definitions. (10 MARKS)

!!! There are two extra words/expressions which you do not have to use !!!

Key words:

corruption	endangered species	heartless	instinct	life expectancy	the media
mental peace	poverty	resources	rise	sources	vaccine

Definitions:

1. when someone does not have enough money to pay for their basic needs such as food:

2. showing no sympathy or kindness: _____
3. a calm quiet feeling you have in your mind when you are not annoyed or worried:

4. dishonest or illegal behaviour by people in power, especially when they take money for doing things for someone: _____
5. the length of time that someone will probably live: _____
6. an injection to stop you from getting an illness or disease: _____
7. a type of animal or plant that may soon no longer exist: _____
8. get bigger in size or number: _____
9. radio, television, newspapers, the internet and magazines: _____
10. things such as coal, trees and oil that exist in nature and can be used by people:

C. Grammar

Change the following sentences into a) questions, b) negative sentences, c) sentences in the past. (15 MARKS)

1. There are many bad things in this world.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____
2. He feels sad.
a) question: _____
b) negative: _____
c) past simple: _____

3. We can change the world.

a) question: _____

b) negative: _____

c) past simple: _____

4. We hear bad news every day.

a) question: _____

b) negative: _____

c) past simple: _____

5. The world has many problems.

a) question: _____

b) negative: _____

c) past simple: _____

D. Composition

Write a text of approximately 100 words about the following subject:

“Living in the 21st century is great!”

Do you agree with / disagree with this statement? Give 2-3 examples to support your opinion. (12 MARKS)

[illegible]

TOTAL: 45 MARKS

KEY

A. 1c	B. poverty
2c	heartless
3c	mental peace
4a	corruption
5b	life expectancy
6a	vaccine
7a	endangered species
8a	rise
	the media
	resources

- C. 1. Are there many bad things in this world?
There aren't many bad things in this world.
There were many bad things in this world.
2. Does he feel sad?
He doesn't feel sad.
He felt sad.
3. Can we change the world?
We can't change the world.
We couldn't change the world.
4. Do we hear bad news every day?
We don't hear bad news every day.
We heard bad news every day.
5. Does the world have many problems?
The world doesn't have many problems.
The world had many problems.