



## Admission Test (Cycle 1)

Written Portion 1/2

**Essay**

Duration : 2 hours

Session : XX

Name and Surname of Candidate :

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Academic Entry : 2016/2017

## WRITTEN PORTION – 1/2

In this section, you are asked to choose and write an essay on one of the following themes:

- Theme 1: *Challenges and dynamics facing the world in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century, an era of change.*

*N.B: A study guide and review of social sciences (secondary education level) is available in French on the website.*

- Theme 2: *Climate change.*

Since you have chosen English as the language of composition in this admission test, all of your answers must be given in English. Your essay should demonstrate a fair amount of knowledge about the topic, providing well-structured arguments and illustrations where relevant.

The time allotted to this task is 2 hours.

## METHODS OF ASSESSMENT

Your essay will be assessed on the basis the following criteria:

- The ability to problematize the topic : you are expected to define and analyze terms and concepts explaining why the subject matter warrants such examination.
- The ability to draw upon a wide range of reliable and verifiable information that is related to the issue at hand.
- The ability to outline various ideas and hypotheses; providing comparisons and contrasts where relevant.
- The ability to take critical distance from various standpoints; showing their strengths as well as their limitations.
- The ability to conclude on an issue and point to areas where the problematic could branch out further.

## INSTRUCTIONS

Read instructions carefully. You are to write on one topic from the 2 available choices.

Your essay must consist of 3 sections :

- Introduction : This is the part where you introduce the topic and analyze key concepts and terms. You are expected to raise the problematic and give clear indication on how you will approach the topic in subsequent paragraphs in the body of your essay.
- Body : This part should consist of 2 or 3 balanced paragraphs. You are expected to demonstrate a fair amount of knowledge about the issue at hand and outline different standpoints; showing where they converge and diverge. You are also expected to take a critical view showing the strengths and limitations of the standpoints you have outlined.
- Conclusion : A brief recapitulation and overall assessment of the main ideas featured in your essay, with the possibility to explore further the issue.

An essay which fails to comply with this format will be penalized. A particular attention will be given to the visual presentation of the exam answer sheet.

## ESSAY TOPICS TO CHOOSE FROM

1 choice of topic	<b>1<sup>st</sup> choice</b>  Challenges and dynamics of the 20 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> century: An era of change.  (see: suggested study guide)	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Choice</b>  Climate change.
	<b><u>Topic 1</u></b>  Maritime areas : a major geo- economic and geostrategic challenge for international relations in an increasingly globalized world	<b><u>Topic 2</u></b>  Sustainable development: a solution to environmental and development challenges facing the planet.