



Samedi 8 avril 2023

ÉPREUVE : ANGLAIS

MP - MPI - PC - PSI - PT - TSI

Durée : 2 heures 30 minutes

Conditions particulières

Calculatrice interdite

Indiquez votre code candidat SCEI sur le QCM à insérer dans votre copie d'examen

Concours CPGE EPITA-IPSA-ESME 2023

Instructions

This exam is composed of **25 multiple choice questions** and **2 writing tasks** dealing with one document.

Part 1.

- Multiple Choice Questions based on the document. Write answers on the ANSWER SHEET provided. (25 pts).

Part 2.

- Writing Task 1: Synthesis

Write an OBJECTIVE synthesis of the document, which reflects information and opinions concerning the notion of cancel culture. This synthesis must contain 300 words maximum. (10 pts).

With maximum rigor in expression, conclude by writing your thoughts about the ideas and arguments exposed in the document. Word limit: 200. (10 pts).

Total word limit: 500 words with a margin of 5 %. All words count, including any references to the article.

Indiquer le nombre de mots que vous avez utilisés.

- Writing Task 2: Short Answers

Answer the following questions in 4 to 5 sentences as completely as possible, referring to the text where necessary. Five points for each question.

1. How is a boycott an example of cancel culture?
2. Read paragraph 24. Explain your understanding of Ben Franklin's statement about a boycott.
3. In paragraph 14, the author refers to anti-intellectualism. What do you think she means by this?

Origin of document: The Conversation, 1 September 2022

"Joanna Bourke, the [Australian] New South Wales arts minister, and the unruly contradictions of cancel culture"

By Jennifer Ann McDonell

Warning. To ensure that your handwriting is as legible as possible, paper is provided for a rough draft. Use the *livret* for your final version.

Attention. Afin d'assurer que votre écriture soit la plus lisible possible, vous êtes prié de commencer par un brouillon puis rédiger la version finale sur les feuillets fournis.

“Joanna Bourke, the [Australian] NSW arts minister, and the unruly contradictions of cancel culture”

By Jennifer Ann McDonell in *The Conversation*, 1 Sept. 2022

Ms. McDonell is an associate professor at the University of New England

Vocabulary (in **bold** in the text)

Bestiality – 1. savagely cruel or depraved behaviour; 2. sexual intercourse between a person and an animal.

Wokeness – the state of being aware, especially of social problems such as racism and inequality.

Doxing – finding or publishing private information about someone on the Internet without their permission

To deem – consider or judge

To stifle – to prevent something from being expressed, or continuing.

NB. In Anglo-Saxon politics, the term liberal refers to the left, conservative to the right.

1. An earworm has gnawed its way into my brain, looping the same melody over and over. It is Italy’s most famous resistance song, “Bella Ciao,” which I recently heard played as a high-decibel dance remix in an exclusive Balinese bar overlooking the Indian Ocean. Well-heeled patrons of diverse nationalities bopped to the catchy tune in the glow of a glorious sunset and, fueled by exotic cocktails, chanted the chorus. I wondered how a sacred anthem of radical credentials could have strayed so far from its original meanings and contexts.
2. “Bella Ciao” began as a partisan anthem, possibly with roots in folk laments sung by exploited workers in the north of Italy. It is associated in Italian minds with the resistance of 1943–45.
3. The song’s popularity peaked when it was used as a soundtrack for the popular Netflix series *Money Heist* (2017). It was sung from balconies in Europe during the pandemic; it is de rigueur at political rallies by groups of all political leanings. It is used to sell burgers in Korea and to celebrate quashing an opponent in football matches (“Messi Ciao”). Unanchored from its local habitation as a protest folk song, “Bella Ciao” is now a tune that can travel anywhere and represent everyone and everything.
4. The less benign phrase “cancel culture” (and its cognate “cancelling”), which has roots in oral Black vernacular traditions, has suffered a similar semantic drift.

5. “Cancelling” originally referred to a practice among the disempowered of “calling out” socially unacceptable behaviour and discrimination. It has now become a catch-all phrase, imprecisely applied to all manner of people, places and things. It is used to signify everything from vigilante justice, hostile debate, intimidation and harassment to levelling statues and de-platforming books and lectures in universities and school syllabi.
6. Cancel culture is often conflated with adjacent phenomena such as outrage culture, boycotts, and backlashes. It is linked to debates about censorship, free speech, decolonising the curriculum, “**wokeness**” and “political correctness”. The noisy **doxing** and bad faith piling-on feels, to many, like a rudderless surrogate of the judicial process, at once chaotic and ritualised, and has invited comparisons by some commentators to ancient, ritualised practices of scapegoating.

A real phenomenon

7. While cancel culture may be a hot topic among journalistic and intellectual elites, a recent UK YouGov survey found that only around a third of Britons (35%) think they know what “cancel culture” means. Of the two-thirds who don’t know what it means, close to four in ten claimed never to have heard the expression in the first place (38%).
8. That many people have not heard of “cancel culture” doesn’t mean the phenomenon isn’t real. On August 19, the NSW Minister for the Arts, Ben Franklin, demanded that Sydney’s Festival of Dangerous Ideas cancel a talk about **bestiality** by eminent historian Joanna Bourke. After being contacted for comment by 2GB talkback radio host Ben Fordham, Franklin’s office said he was
9. “deeply concerned by the contents of Bourke’s scheduled talk entitled “The Last Taboo”, and is demanding festival organisers remove it from their program”.
10. Festival curator and Ethics Centre director Simon Longstaff refused to comply with the request, stating Bourke’s views have been misunderstood. “If somebody was to provide a history of cannibalism or slavery,” said Longstaff, “does that mean they are therefore encouraging us to eat each other or enslave our fellow man?” As a result of this media attention, he added, Bourke has been “trolled by lowlives”.
11. In 2019, the Macquarie Dictionary committee named “cancel culture” Word of the Year, noting it captured an important aspect of the zeitgeist. According to its definition, it describes community attitudes that
12. “call for or bring about the withdrawal of support from [for] a public figure, such as cancellation of an acting role, a ban on playing an artist’s music, removal from social media, etc., usually in response to an accusation of a socially unacceptable action or comment.”