

**ÉPREUVES HARMONISÉES DU PREMIER SEMESTRE (ANGLAIS)****TEXT:**

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and right. These words from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights promise all people a life that is free from torture and fear. We celebrate this every year on Human Rights Day. We celebrate the fact that we have certain basic rights. However there are still many children in the world who do not enjoy their rights. Think about the children who are forced to join armies at an early age for example.

According to Amnesty International there are currently more than 300,000 children (people under the age of 18) fighting in wars in West and Central Africa, the Balkans, Latin America, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. More than 15,000 children are fighting in Colombia alone. UNICEF reports that around 8,000 children have been kidnapped in Uganda since 1995 and forced to fight in civil wars in the area. The children are usually from poor rural families.

Young children are recruited because they obey orders more easily than adults and they are not paid. **They** eat less food than adults and they are often not afraid to carry out dangerous missions because they have no idea about the dangers involved. Rebel armies use children as spies and they use them to trap other people because most people trust children.

The life of a child soldier is exceedingly harsh. The children are given drugs and alcohol to **which** they become addicted. They are forced to commit terrible acts such as killing members of their own families. They are often injured from doing heavy work and they also contract sexually transmitted diseases if they are used as sex slaves.

Some of these children are eventually set free, but it is very difficult for them to adjust to a normal life after what they have experienced, many of them have grown up fighting and they know no other life.

*Adapted from AFARAHEAD: STUDENT'S BOOK; EDICEF*

Student's name and class: .....

**I. READING COMPREHENSION (08 marks)**

**A. Choose the exact answer among a), b) or c): (0.5mark)**

1). This text mainly deals with: .....

- a) Children's war
- b) Children involved in conflicts
- c) Child labour

**B. Refer to the text to complete the chart below with the right paragraph numbers: (2 marks)**

a) is given as an example

IDEAS	Paragraph numbers
2) Reintegration problems	Par : .....5.....
3) Dreadful figures about children's living conditions	Par : .....
4) Difficult children's living conditions	Par : .....
5) Discrimination in Rights	Par : .....
6) Preference for children	Par : .....

**C. Information transfer: Fill in the chart with information from the text (1.5 marks)**

7) Number of Children Soldiers in Colombia	.....(Parag2)
8) Reasons for recruiting children	..... (Parag3)
9) Dangers exposed to children	..... (Parag4)

**D. Read the text and find the English equivalents of the French statements in the table below. (2marks)**

STATEMENTS	EQUIVALENTS FROM THE TEXT
Imaginez des enfants que l'on recrute à bas âge contre leur gré ?	10)..... .....
La plupart d'entre eux ne connaissent que le conflit	11) ..... .....

**E. Find in the text words similar in meaning to those in bold in the passage below: (2marks)**

Many children all over the world do not (12) (**profit from**) ..... (p1) their rights and are usually (13) (**wounded**) ..... (p4) when carrying out difficult tasks. Once (14) (**liberated**)..... (p5) they can (15) (**rely on**) ..... (p3) NGOs for their social reinsertion.

**II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (06 marks)****F. Put the verbs between brackets in the right tenses or forms: (2 marks)**

Every child in the world (16).....(**to have**) the right to education and security. The phenomenon of children soldiers (17) .....(**recently/to become**) a sad reality in African countries. Many children (18).....(**to lose**) their lives in wars now. It's high time authorities (19).....(**to take**) measures to fight this plague.

**G. A journalist is interviewing a former child soldier. Complete meaningfully the interview below (Boy Melakh). (2 marks)**

**Journalist:** Hello! Tell us something about your experience,(20).....you ?

**Boy Melakh:** Well, there's nothing special, I was in a rebel camp.

**Journalist:** (21) ... .. ?

**Boy Melakh:** I've stayed there for five years.

**Journalist:** (22) ... ..such a life?

**Boy Melakh:** I chose it because I was really hopeless and penniless.

**Journalist:** If they (23).....(**to give**) you an opportunity, would you do it again?

**Boy Melakh:** No way! I really regret having joined those scoundrels.

**H. Complete the passage with the correct form of the words in brackets. (2marks)**

(24) ..... (**Child / Childhood**) is a crucial period for everybody. Reports have shown that children's exposure to (25) ..... (**variety / various / variously**) dangers is really disastrous in (26) ..... (**its/our/we**) continent. Unfortunately, governmental authorities haven't taken (27) ..... (**many of / some / any**) measures to solve this phenomenon.

