

EPREUVE STANDARDISEE DES COMPOSITINS DU SECOND SEMESTRE (ANGLAIS)

Education in South Korea

Education in South Korea is extremely competitive, making it difficult to get into an esteemed university. A South Korean student's school year lasts from March to February. The year divides into two semesters: one from March until July, and another from August to February. The average South Korean high school student also spends roughly 16 hours a day on school and school-related activities. Most South Korean test scores are graded on a curve, leading to more competition.

This high competition can lead to mental illness. In fact, over 90% of suicide victims could be diagnosed with a mental disorder, but only 15% of them received proper treatment. Above two million people suffer from depression annually in South Korea, but only 15,000 choose to receive regular treatment. Because those with mental illnesses are looked down upon in Korean society, families often discourage them from seeking treatment.

Since there is such a strong negative stigma on the treatment of mental illnesses, many symptoms go unnoticed and can lead to many irrational decisions including suicide. Alcohol is often used to self-medicate, and a significant percentage of attempted suicides occur while drunk.

It has been blamed for high suicide rates in South Korea among those aged 10–19. Studies have shown that 46% of high school students in Seoul, South Korea are depressed due to academic stress, which leads to suicidal ideation and suicide attempts. South Korea's competitive educational system and the stressful academic environment, plus the social expectations requiring students to excel in academics have negatively affected the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of the students.

In April 2023, three teenagers died after leaping out of the window of a building within five days of each other in a district known for its elite schools and expensive tutoring centers.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Suicide_in_South_Korea

I. READING COMPREHENSION (08 marks)

A. Who or what do the underlined words refer to in the text? (1 mark)

1. them (parag. 2) :
2. which (parag. 4) :

B. Find in the indicated paragraphs words similar in meaning to the following. (1 mark)

3. marked :(parag. 1)
4. happen :(parag. 3)

C. Match the items in column A with their equivalents from the text in column B. (2 marks)

Column A	Column B
La société coréenne méprise les personnes qui souffrent de troubles mentaux.	5.
Trois adolescents ont perdu la vie après avoir sauté par la fenêtre d'un immeuble.	6.

D. Say if these statements are true or false. Justify with specific passages from the text. (2 marks)

7. Depression affects nearly two million people in South Korea every year.

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8. Having access to a top South Korean college is a challenge.

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E. Fill in the blanks with words from the indicated paragraphs of the text. (2 marks)

9.(parag. 1) is highly valued in South Korea. Students who fail are being 10.(parag. 2), and this unfortunately causes them to feel very depressed and to make therefore 11. (parag. 3) decisions, like for example committing 12. (parag. 4).

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (06 marks)

F. Fill in the gaps with the suitable form of the words in brackets. (2 marks)

College is a time of 13. (significance) transition because you live away from home for the 14. (one) time and have less access to support from family members and friends. This situation is very 15. (stress) and can often lead to depression or mental 16. (ill).

G. Lamine is told that his friend Antoine is about to abandon school. He has left him the following message.

Complete it meaningfully. When the words are given, put them in the right tense or form. (2 marks)

Hi, Antoine! 17. are the family? I guess they're all ok. I'm told that you're about to abandon school. Know that I 18. (not really welcome) the idea. If you

H. Which notions are expressed in these statements? (2 marks)

Statements	Notions expressed
It's a pity that suicide is common among college students.	21.
I'd rather you stopped drinking alcohol.	22.
What about encouraging depressed students to seek treatment?	23.
If I were you, I would see a psychologist.	24.

TOPIC 3 : Suicide is now common among students. What can be the causes? Suggest solutions to eradicate it.

[illegible]

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