

FIRST TERM ENGLISH TEST (LV1)- Duration: 3H

This year has seen a sharp rise in child killings in Senegal, a phenomenon blamed on politicians looking for wealth. Local media have counted at least six cases in Dakar, the capital, this year. The corpses of the victims are usually found days after they disappear, mutilated, certain body parts like the genitals, the heart and the kidneys taken away.

Dakar Archbishop Benjamin Ndiaye said that “no amount of political ambition, or the taste for riches, or any other motive justifies the taking away of innocent lives or any threat to their dignity. He was speaking to over 20,000 young people at the 33rd edition of diocesan World Youth Day.

Over 90% percent of Senegal’s population professes to be Muslim, while only 5% are Christian, with the majority of Christians being Catholic. Despite this fact, many still practice animist rituals and almost all cities and villagers have resident witch doctors.

In March, a 14-year-old girl from Khombole College, east of Dakar, was taken by unknown assailants, but the girl was too old. “Fortunately for me, I did not meet the criteria,” the girl told. “The man who hired them wanted children aged between 2 – 4 years.

But the two-year-old FallouDiop wasn’t so lucky. His body was found on March 22 on a farm near his parents’ home in Rufisque, less than 20 miles east of Dakar. The killing has created a climate of fear in Senegal and the government has set up a taskforce to fight the practice.

The phenomenon is not specific to Senegal alone. Ritual killings have been reported in several other African countries, including Uganda, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Cameroon and South Africa. Those who practice human sacrifice and ritual killings believe them to be acts of spiritual fortification. Witch doctors use human body parts for black magic rituals which aim to bring prosperity and protection.

Many of the killings usually go unreported and uninvestigated, often because they involve those at the highest levels of power, both in government and business.

On Saturday, March 24, about 500,000 people gathered in Dakar to protest against ritual killings, many of them dressed in black in a symbol of mourning. They brandished slogans such as “Dafadoy” meaning “it’s enough!”

“It’s a cry from the heart to call on parents and the government to take their responsibilities and protect our children,” said Anta Pierre Loum, one of the organizers of the march. “I am only a mother who has stood up to protest. The death of little Fallou was one more death too many. Senegal has never known a similar wave of assaults on children. This has to stop”

I/COMPREHENSION(8 marks)

A/1/Choose a suitable title for the text(1 mark)

- a. sacrifices in Africa
- b. Ritual killing of children in Senegal
- c. Violence against children in Senegal

B/Complete the passage below with words or phrases from the paragraphs indicated(2 marks)

The number of child killings has increased considerably in our country. Children are tracked daily by 2/ (paragraph4) in the streets and in the neighbourhoods. According to the media, six children have been killed in Dakar and their 3/ (paragraph1) taken to 4/..... (paragraph3) who use them to perform 5/..... (paragraph6) for the politicians and businessmen who seek for 6/ (paragraph 1).

C. Which sentence from the text explains this situation?(1 mark)

Situation	Un phénomène à l'échellecontinentale
Sentence from the text	7/

D/Say whether the following statements are true or false then justify with a specific passage from the text(2 marks)

8/The 14-year-old girl was killed after being taken by bandits.

.....

9/The crimes are often left unpunished.

.....

E/What do the following data refer to in the text? (1.5 mark)

10/ at least six cases =

11/ 20,000 =

12/ 90% =

II/ COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (6 marks)

F/Fill in the gaps with the right form of the words in brackets(2 marks)

The crime rate is getting more and more alarming in Senegal. Some weeks ago, many children were kidnapped in Dakar by 13/..... (identify) individuals. This series of 14/..... (crime) acts have created a real psychose among parents who are afraid even to send their children to the shop. This situation is really 15/..... (hazard) for the preservation of social peace. So it's time the authorities took their responsibilities and address this problem 16/..... (diligent).

G/When Fallou disappeared, the police went to Rufisque for an investigation. They asked the mother a few questions. Complete the conversation meaningfully (2.5 marks)

Police: Good morning mum, thanks for 17/..... (to receive) us in your house.

Mother: You are welcome.

Police: Okay! 18/..... ?

Mother: Fallou is a light-skinned boy, he is thin and he has big eyes. This is his picture.

Police: 19/.....?

Mother: We stayed for four hours without any news from him. We thought a neighbour took him away and that they would come back. But unfortunately there is always no trace of him.

Police: You have an idea about the place where he may be, 20/.....?

Mother: No! All I know is that he was playing outside with his sister when he disappeared. Please, help me! Fallou is my youngest child. I would like him 21/..... (to come) back.

H/Choose the most suitable word to complete this passage (1.5 mark)

Unless – in spite of – in order to – because of

The Senegalese people live in a state of permanent insecurity. In one year, there were more than ten kidnappings in all around the country. They are identical and they most affect children. And 22/..... the promises made by the President and the Minister of Interior, the situation is getting worse and worse. People are convinced that 23/..... severe measures are taken, some more children will disappear. They state that the government should deploy soldiers through the cities 24/..... to track down the kidnappers.

III/WRITING(6 marks)

Choose one topic and write about 150 – 200 words on it

Topic1: Public insecurity has become part of the life of Senegalese people. Say what the main causes are, state the consequences and suggest solutions to stop this phenomenon.

Topic 2:Nowadays, it is reported that the number of kidnappings and child killing is increasing in Senegal. Write a letter to the Head of the State to tell him the consequences of such an increase and make some suggestions to stop this phenomenon.