

## **1. VERSION**

### **Ce que le réchauffement climatique fera de l'Amérique, selon un rapport officiel**

La lecture du rapport ne laisse augurer rien de bon. On y détaille comment le changement climatique affecte déjà l'Amérique, où les inondations et périodes de sécheresse se multiplient, et ce qu'il faut attendre de rendements agricoles en baisse, de la prolifération d'insectes porteurs de maladies, d'ouragans plus violents et de biens d'autres choses encore. Le niveau de la mer, déjà supérieur de 16 à 21cm par rapport à il y a 120 ans, pourrait monter encore d'un mètre au cours des 80 prochaines années, menaçant 1 000 milliards de dollars de foncier sur les côtes. Au Texas, il se pourrait que le temps de travail doive diminuer à cause de la hausse des températures, et qu'on doive payer 10 à 20% plus cher l'énergie. Les feux de forêt devraient causer moins de dégâts en 2090 qu'aujourd'hui, mais seulement dans la mesure où les forêts elles-mêmes auront déjà entièrement brûlé. Dans l'ensemble, des émissions de gaz à effet de serre non jugulées pourraient amputer le PIB américain de 10% au cours de ce siècle. Il y a des politiques qui entendent ces avertissements.

## **2. QUESTIONS**

### **1) Questions de compréhension de texte**

Given President Donald Trump is a climate doubter and an anti-science politician he can only disagree with experts on climate change, and it does not come as a surprise that he should disagree with the report that was published by the Fourth National Climate Assessment in November 2018. The report draws a very dismal/bleak picture of the climate crisis in the US. Climate change has already wreaked havoc in several parts of the US but it is just the beginning. If nothing is done to curb global warming, the US could lose 200 to 430 trillion dollars in output each year. But the president will not take the report into account contrary to other American politicians who tried to pass a bill in the House of Representatives to tackle the issue. Unfortunately some Republican representatives support the president's view and made the bill fail. This makes America's view of climate change difficult to grasp. (154 words)

### **2) Question d'expression personnelle**

*Would you say that experts' advice matter less and less today ?*

Today, experts are more admired than followed which explains why it is so difficult to solve complex issues. When a disaster occurs experts explain they had warned about it. What undermines expertise and why do experts matter ? (38)

With the Internet and search engines- like Google -people browse the web for information and appoint themselves experts, which is dangerous. Plenty of misinformation circulates about vaccines which has caused a disease like measles to resurface and kill many people. People tend to rely on testimonials to jump to conclusions. They distrust experts because they can find scientific and pseudoscientific information on the web. Thus, they feel empowered and spread conspiracy theories. What also undermines expertise is that it unveils inconvenient truths- like the issues of climate change - and stand in the way of politicians whose policies it contradicts and of businessmen whose vested interests it undermines. (108)

However, only experts can help make informed decisions. Some issues-like global warming- are so complex that only experts can deal with them. Climate experts have long explained the dangers of global warming but politicians ignored them because it challenged the current global economy that profits a powerful few. Consequently, neither politicians nor experts worldwide are trusted anymore. We must accept that experts who have shown expertise in a field know more about it than we do. But when a crisis occurs -like the recent fires in Australia or the coronavirus current crisis- experts are called on because everybody knows only they can make an educated analysis of the situation. (109)

Although experts are often demeaned today, we need them to cope with increasingly complex issues that only they can solve. (20) (275 words)

## **3. THÈME**

- 1.They have been working on their book for two years: when will it be published?
- 2.I take public transports about three times a week.
- 3.That company's profits have plummeted last month.
4. I gave up reading the daily news for lack of time.
- 5.The CEO has just decided to give all his employees a Christmas bonus.
- 6.He bought a country house whose roof was in bad shape.
7. I may be a little late, I am waiting for the doctor's. Please accept my apologies.
8. If you feel so concerned with your privacy, why do you post so many pictures on social networks?
9. In the past, there used to be much fewer poor workers in this country.
10. Their flat was burglarised twice over their last holidays.

