LV1 - ANGLAIS

DURÉE: 4 HEURES.

(La note sur 80 sera divisée par 4 pour obtenir la note sur 20, les deux chiffres aprés la virgule arrondis au dixième supérieur.)

Les candidats ne sont pas autorisés à modifier le choix de la première langue dans laquelle ils doivent composer. Tout manquement à la règle sera assimilé à une tentative de fraude.

Ils ne doivent faire usage d'aucun document, dictionnaire ou lexique ; sauf en latin pour lequel un dictionnaire Latin-Français est autorisé ; l'utilisation de toute calculatrice ou de tout matériel électronique est interdite.

Sujet

CROWDFUNDING: HOW THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS IS CHANGING BUSINESS

- 1 Bullying; out of control Facebook parties; unimaginable filth a mere click away. The internet has given us many reasons to shake our heads, worry about our children, and mutter about its dangers. But the online world is as wondrous as it is dangerous. For every vile troll there is an example of an extraordinarily creative vision
- 5 <u>brought to life by the power of the web.</u> And there's perhaps no better example of this than crowdfunding.
 - Put simply, crowdfunding is when enterprising artists and business people appeal to the world to make micro donations, which, taken together, are enough to fund a project. The idea began to take hold in 1997, when fans of British rock band Maril-
- 10 lion launched an internet fund raising campaign to bankroll an American tour. Over £35,000 was raised, and the tour went with a bang. Today, crowdfunding is used by film makers, charities, technology companies, even football clubs. For projects that would otherwise struggle to get off the ground, it's a godsend.
- 15 Recently, the writer Alexander Masters announced in The Daily Telegraph that he was setting up a crowdfunding project to pay for research into treatments for the "Steve Jobs" cancer. For Masters, this is personal: one of his close friends suffers from the disease. A possible treatment has been found, he says, and the only thing missing is £2 million to develop it. In Britain, it is becoming commonplace for or-
- 20 ganizations unable to secure state funding to take on this approach. The website Spacehive, which describes itself as "the world's first funding platform for public space projects", is a case in point. Through the site, one can "fund a new park or renovate your high street as easily as buying a book online". Projects include a "forest garden" in south London, free Wi Fi provision in Mansfield, and turning
- 25 a primary school into a community centre in West Yorkshire.

Some American states have responded to the recession with radical experiments in citizenfunding. In 2010, voters in Colorado Springs chose to avoid tax rises in exchange for dramatic public spending cuts. One in three streetlights was turned

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off; bus services were reduced; park maintenance was put on hold. But residents 30 could choose to fund these things themselves with small payments. If the \$125 needed to turn a street light back on was raised, on it went. Park bins could be provided for \$3,000. It was not without controversy, but voters soon got used to deciding for themselves which services they wanted to maintain. In Britain, it is unlikely that the Government or local authorities would ever consider such radical 35 measures. But with crowdfunding spreading into areas from which the Government has withdrawn, within a few years we may think nothing of supporting what previously were basic services.

[...] When it works, crowdfunding is a thing of beauty. Like a less brutal and humiliating *Dragons' Den*, the artist or inventor makes their pitch. If the public likes what 40 they see, they contribute as much or as little as they like, and in return they get, say, their name on credits, an early look at the product, or simply the warm feeling of having helped.

But when such vast sums of money are suddenly generated from the goodwill of strangers, things can become acrimonious especially when a crowdfunded com-45 pany fails to deliver on their promises. Last December, the Oregon based start up ElevationLab used the site to ask for funding for a minimalist iPhone dock. They received almost \$1.5 million, which far outstripped their target, and each donor was promised a dock. But the company, taken by surprise by the scale of demand, experienced production delays. To make matters worse, the launch of the iPhone 5, 50 with its new connector, effectively rendered ElevationLab's dock obsolete. But they were under no obligation to return the money, and to date have not done so.

In April, Amanda Palmer, singer with the Gothic Boston duo the Dresden Dolls, put a request for \$100,000 on Kickstarter to fund her new album and tour. Within a month, she had received \$1.2 million. Then she put out a plea for local musicians 55 to play on her tour without any recompense save unlimited beer and a promise to "hug/high five you up and down". After objections were raised, she agreed to pay all the musicians who accompanied her.

Despite the risks, with the alluring possibility of instant funding for even the craziest ideas (Detroit's life sized Robocop statue comes to mind), it's clear that crowdfund-60 ing is here to stay. [...]

Jake Wallis Simons, The Daily Telegraph, 24 October 2012.

IENA

Traduire à partir de "Some American states have responded..." jusqu'a "... what previously were basic services." (De la ligne 26 jusqu'à la ligne 37)

II. QUESTIONS

(sur 40 points)

1. Question de compréhension du texte

Explain what the following sentence means:

"For every vile troll there is an example of an extraordinarily creative vision brought to life by the power of the web."
(Lignes 4-5)

(100 mots + ou - 10 % *; sur 10 points)

2. Question de compréhension du texte

Explain what the following sentence means:

" In Britain, it is becoming commonplace for organizations unable to secure state funding to take on this approach. "
(Lignes 19-20)

(100 mots + ou -10 % *; sur 10 points)

3. Question d'expression personnelle

Has the development of new technologies really brought more power to the people? (300 mots + ou - 10 %); sur 20 points)

III. THEME (sur 20 points)

Métro inondé, bus perturbés, pénurie d'essence, embouteillages monstrueux : il était particulièrement difficile de se déplacer mardi 30 octobre à New York, et singulièrement dans le sud de Manhattan, suite au passage de l'ouragan Sandy. Quelques moyens de transport semblaient plus adaptés que les autres à la situation de crise : le taxi, éventuellement partagé par plusieurs passagers, le covoiturage, le vélo et bien sûr la marche. La catastrophe qui a frappe la capitale financière des États-Unis pourrait d'ailleurs contenir quelques leçons pour l'avenir, de ce côté-ci de l'Atlantique. En cas de crue de la Seine, un évènement inéluctable, Paris subirait des dysfonctionnements équivalents. Le vélo apparaît donc dans ces circonstances comme l'un des moyens de transport les plus rapides et les plus fiables. Pendant la crise, les New-Yorkais ont dû faire avec leur propre vélo. En effet, la ville ne dispose pas encore de vélos en libre-service.

D'apres Olivier Razemon, Le Monde, 2 novembre 2012.

^{*} Le non-respect de ces normes sera sanctionné. Indiquer le nombre de mots utilisés.