

TEXT:

While scientific progress on molecular biology has a great potential to increase our understanding of nature and provides new medical tools, it should not be used as justification to turn the environment into a giant genetic experiment by commercial interests. The biodiversity and environmental integrity of the world's food supply is too important to our survival to be put at risk.

Genetic engineering enables scientists to create plants, animals and micro-organisms by manipulating genes in a way that does not occur naturally. These genetically modified organisms (GMOs) can spread through nature and interbreed with natural organisms, thereby contaminating 'non-GE' environments and future generations in an unforeseeable and uncontrollable way. Their release is 'genetic pollution' and is a major threat because GMOs cannot be recalled once released into the environment.

Because of commercial interests, the public is being denied the right to know about GE ingredients in the food chain, and therefore losing the right to avoid them despite the presence of labeling laws in certain countries. Biological diversity must be protected and respected as the global heritage of humankind, and one of our world's fundamental keys to survival.

In April 2010, farmers, environmentalists and consumers from all over Spain demonstrated in Madrid under the slogan "GMO-free agriculture". They demanded the Government to follow the example of countries like France, Germany or Australia, and ban the cultivation of GM maize in Spain.

Notes:

Unforeseeable: unpredictable.

QUESTIONS (20 points)

I- READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (5 points)

A. Multiple choice questions (1 point)

Copy the complete sentence containing the correct answer.

1. ... enables scientists to create micro-organisms.

- a. Molecular biology
- b. New medical tools
- c. Genetic engineering
- d. Environmental integrity

2. Farmers, environmentalists and consumers from all over Spain asked the

Government to ...

- a. ban the cultivation of GM maize in Spain.
- b. avoid the example of some countries.
- c. release "GMOs" into the environment.
- d. put at risk the biodiversity.

B. True / false questions (2 points)

1. Scientific progress on molecular biology provides new medical tools.
2. The biodiversity of the world's food supply is very important.
3. The genetically modified organisms contaminate "non-GE" environments.
4. The public is given the right to know about GE ingredients in the food chain.

C. Answer the following questions (2 points)

1. How can genetic engineering enable scientists to create plants, animals and micro-organisms?
2. What is "genetic pollution"?

II- LANGUAGE (10 points)

A. Copy down each word from the list on the left with one from the right so as to make pairs of synonyms. (2 points)

A	B
Spread	to contradict
Release	to forbid
Deny	to scatter
Ban	liberation

B. Insert *some* or *any*, making the appropriate compounds if necessary. (2 points)

1. Would you like ...thing to drink?
2. There's... water in that glass.
3. Will you have ... pudding or... fruits?

C. You want to ask your teacher if smoking is allowed in the school yard. (2 points)

What do you say?

What does the teacher reply? (Negative answer)

D. Translate into English (2 points)

Le génie génétique a beaucoup contribué à la productivité et à l'amélioration des espèces. Aussi, les maladies incurables peuvent être traitées grâce à la génétique.

E. Translate in French (2 points)

Genetic engineering enables scientists to create plants, animals and micro-organisms by manipulating genes in a way that does not occur naturally. These genetically modified organisms can spread through nature and interbreed with natural organisms.

III- COMPOSITION (5 points)

Choose only one topic.

A. Genetic engineering is well appreciated in many domains. However some people are against its use.

Write a ten-line essay showing the disadvantages of the use of genetic engineering.

B. Harouna Sangaré, TSE, LKDK, Koutiala, has passed the Baccalaureate exam. He wants to carry on his studies in France. He writes to his former English teacher Nouhoum Koné, LKDK, to ask for advice. He explains the field of studies he is interested in and his career preferences, and gives reasons.

Write Harouna's letter with the appropriate layout.