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## Jurys de l'enseignement secondaire – CESS général, technique et artistique de transition

Langue moderne II : Anglais

Cycle 2021-2022/2

Articles servant de base à l'évaluation de l'expression orale

**NB : Les trois articles doivent être lus et préparés. Un sera tiré au sort  
lors de l'examen oral**

1. 'Fashion can be very exploitative'
2. Teenagers' Career Aspirations and the Future of Work
3. Why Your Friends Are More Important Than You Think

# 1. ‘Fashion can be very exploitative’ – Halima Aden on why she quit modelling

Priya Elan, *Thu 22 Jul 2021*

Halima Aden, the Muslim model who became a trailblazer for wearing her hijab on the catwalk and in photoshoots, has hit out at the fashion industry and its exploitation of young models. Aden quit the industry in November 2020, citing compromised beliefs and feeling like a “minority within a minority”.

In a new interview for the BBC World Service with Tommy Hilfiger, Aden says that towards the end of her modelling career she felt she had lost control of her identity. “The last two years, I trusted the team on set to do my hijab and that’s when I ran into problems,” she says, “like jeans being placed on my head in place of a regular scarf. The way they styled it, I was so far removed from my own image. My hijab kept shrinking and got smaller and smaller with each shoot.”

In 2016, Aden was the first fully covered Muslim contestant to compete in the Miss Minnesota USA contest. She later signed with IMG Models. “When I started I thought: ‘This is going to open the door for so many girls in my community,’” she says. “I never got to flip through a magazine and see someone in a hijab, so to be that person for other girls was a dream come true. But the last two years [of my career], I had so much internal conflict.”

One initial clause of her modelling contract was a guarantee that she would have a blocked-out box to change in. But as time went on this caused problems, she says. “I was on a shoot with another Muslim model and I was given a box to change in and she wasn’t. It didn’t sit well with me,” she says.

Reacting to stories of other models being exploited on set, Aden says in the interview that people in the industry think the models are “easy to exploit. Fashion can be an industry that is very exploitative.” Speaking out about the mistreatment of the hair and makeup of models of colour on the sets of fashion shoots, Aden says: “There needs to be diversity in the makeup crew, hair (and) stylists. It’s not just about having a diverse catwalk. It’s also about the people behind the scenes.”

In 2019, Aden made history by becoming the first model to wear a burkini, designed by Tommy Hilfiger, in Sports Illustrated magazine. “It was such an amazing experience when you consider the history of [the burkini],” she says. “We have people banning it on public beaches. We made quite the statement for it to be featured in Sports Illustrated. We pushed the needle.” Despite it making a statement, she said that the experience wasn’t all positive.

"I felt like it was a thin line I had to walk," she says. "I'd be upsetting members of the Muslim community. [I would hear] comments like, 'This burkini is way too form fitting' and 'Why would you shoot for a publication [like that]?' It felt like I was constantly trying to appease my Muslim fans but also keeping it very fashionable. Because young fans were messaging me saying: 'We want to see you in new looks; we want to see your scarf [tied] differently.'"

Aden says that by leaving the industry she hopes she has inspired younger models. "If I've done anything I've given models the opportunity to speak up," she says. "I felt great pressure being the first hijab-wearing Muslim model in the industry and I felt a sense of responsibility to the girls coming after me."

## **2. Teenagers' Career Aspirations and the Future of Work**

Charles Yidan's foreword in the OECD publication *Dream jobs? Teenagers' Career Aspirations and the Future of Work* published in 2020 - <https://www.oecd.org>

Across the world, the young people who leave education today are, on average, more highly qualified than any preceding generation in history. They often enter the working world with considerably more years of schooling than their parents or grandparents. This is an enormous achievement of which the global education community can be truly proud.

And yet, in spite of completing an unprecedented number of years of formal education, young people continue to struggle in the job market, and governments continue to worry about the mismatch between what societies and economies demand and education systems supply. The coexistence of unemployed university graduates and employers who say they cannot find people with the skills they need, shows that more education does not automatically mean better jobs and better lives. For many young people, academic success alone has proved an insufficient means of ensuring a smooth transition into good employment.

I firmly believe that education is the fundamental driving force for social progress. With the world of work changing so quickly, there is strong reason to believe that schools need to look afresh at how they can better prepare young people for their lives. The industrial age taught us how to educate second-class robots, people who learn in standardised settings and become good at repeating what we tell them. In this age of accelerations, we need to think harder about what makes us first class humans, how we complement, not substitute, the artificial intelligence we have created in our computers, and how we build a culture that facilitates learning, unlearning and re-learning throughout life.

The new generation of citizens requires not just strong academic skills, but also curiosity, imagination, empathy, entrepreneurship and resilience. They need confidence and determination to create their own employment and to manage their careers in new ways. Effective education systems will go beyond traditional teaching techniques. Not only will they provide learners with knowledge relevant to future employment, they will also develop the ability of learners to be personally effective in applying that knowledge in changing situations.

Staying longer in education than ever before, today's young people must make more decisions about what, where and how hard they will study. These are investment decisions that are becoming increasingly difficult because technology is changing the working world itself so quickly. Good schools will respond by helping young people to become critical thinkers about the labour market and how it relates to their learning. Never before has effective career guidance been so important and never before has

there been a greater onus on employers to step up and work with schools to help young people understand jobs and careers and help teachers bring learning to life.

The spectre of the unemployed graduate speaks to a divide between the worlds of education and employment. This publication draws on the best data in the world to understand the extent of the challenge and what is to be gained by closing the gap. Seeking insights from over half a million 15-year-olds in the 79 countries that took part in the latest PISA assessment, unprecedented analysis is presented on contemporary teenage career expectations, how they are formed, and how they are related to gender, geography and the future of work. Assuredly, schooling is not simply about preparing for work, but we owe it to our young people to ensure that they go through education blind neither to the opportunities offered by the working world nor to its potential pitfalls. As this multi-year project develops, data from so many countries will present schools and governments with important scope for peer learning. We owe it to our young people to ensure that these are opportunities that are fully grasped.

### **3. Why Your Friends Are More Important Than You Think**

KIRA M. NEWMAN | JULY 7, 2020

|[HTTPS://GREATERGOOD.BERKELEY.EDU/ARTICLE/ITEM/WHY\\_YOUR\\_FRIENDS\\_ARE\\_MORE\\_IMPORTANT\\_THAN\\_YOU\\_THINK](https://greatergood.berkeley.edu/article/item/why_your_friends_are_more_important_than_you_think)

**How can you sustain your friendships in a pandemic? The first step is recognizing their importance, argues author Lydia Denworth.**

Researchers and philosophers have explored in great detail the emotional dramas of love and family. But they've spent much less time pondering the deep satisfaction of a good friend. A similar thing happens in our own lives, writes science journalist Lydia Denworth. When something's gotta give, it's often our friendships, which take a backseat to our family and work obligations—or our latest fling.

But that's a mistake, she argues in her new book, *Friendship: The Evolution, Biology, and Extraordinary Power of Life's Fundamental Bond*. In fact, research suggests that friendships can help us find purpose and meaning, stay healthy, and live longer. The intimacy, support, equality, and emotional bonds we have in our friendships are unique. Her book honors the relationships forged through slumber parties, shoulders cried upon, and kindnesses that don't need to be repaid. "The science of friendship gives you permission to hang out with your friends and call it healthy," she says. "You're not being indulgent." In a conversation with *Greater Good*, Denworth explains why we need our friends and how to keep those connections strong—even in a pandemic.

When you're very young, of course, your primary social relationship is with your parents or caregivers. But when kids go to school, they start to have deeper friendships that involve, first, doing things together, and then a deeper, shared emotional element. Then in adolescence, it becomes even more abstract and relational. All the way through high school and college, friendships can feel easy because you are thrown into an environment where you have lots of same-age peers and the pool of potential friends is big. Also, when you're an adolescent, your brain is as attuned to social signals and connection as it will ever be. You are really hyper-interested in social activity. Then in adulthood, as people start to have jobs and maybe get married or have a family, it can become harder to spend time with your friends. Toward the end of life, we tend to come back around to having a little bit more time once kids are grown and careers and jobs are less demanding.

There are these transition points in life when it's easier or harder to spend time with friends, but what is important for people to know is that friendship is a lifelong endeavor and that it is something that people should be paying attention to at all points in life. I think that people sometimes think (especially in their 30s and 40s), "I just don't have time for friends right now," and that's a mistake. If you get to be 65 and then now you're ready to start paying attention to friends, well, it's a little bit like stopping smoking when you're 65. If you go from 15 to 65

and you smoke the whole time, it's still better to stop than not, but some damage will have been done. And if you don't pay attention to friends all the way along, the same thing is true.

The reason we neglect our friendships when we get busy is that we feel more beholden to our family that we're related to, and that makes plenty of sense—we're legally and biologically connected to our family members. So, I'm not saying that we should be spending a lot less time with family. But we also feel that spending time with friends, instead of working, is indulgent.

My message is that it is not necessarily indulgent because having good, strong friendships is as important for yourself as diet and exercise, and so it's something you need to prioritize. If you are forever canceling on your friends or failing to make a point of seeing them or talking to them or interacting with them, then you are not being a good friend and you are not maintaining a strong relationship. You need your friends to be there down the road. But you have to do the work along the way, or they won't be there. Friendship does take some time, but that's kind of good news because (mostly) hanging out with your friends is fun.

The second half of the story, though, is that it's quite normal for there to be change in our friendships over the course of a lifetime, and that's OK. Friendship does need to be a relationship that's longstanding, but you can cycle through several longstanding friendships in the course of your life. So, it isn't that you can only stay friends with the people you knew when you were young, of course, because plenty of people do make friends in adulthood and those can become closer friends.

If a relationship is not healthy or even if it's just not serving you well—if it's not positive, if it's really draining, or if it's lopsided and one of you is always helping the other but not vice versa—that's not so great. I think people need to realize that it is OK to walk away from friendships that aren't good ones.