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PREMIER MINISTRE

ECOLE NATIONNALE D'ADMINISTRARTION

الوزارة الأولى

المدرسة الوطنية للإدارة

CONCOURS D'ENTREE AU CYCLE SUPERIEUR
SESSION 25 OCTOBRE 2008

مناظرة الدخول إلى المرحلة العليا

دورة 25 أكتوبر 2008

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Epreuve : Anglais

Durée : 02 Heures / Coef /2

Date : Samedi 25 Octobre 2008

إختبار : الإنقليزية

المدة : ساعتان / ضارب 02

التاريخ : السبت 25 أكتوبر 2008

Financing development

Governments need financial resources for their development action. Developing countries often resort to foreign aid, as local resources are traditionally believed to be insufficient, except when some countries have rich natural resources, like oil. But, if this is the easiest way to finance development, it is definitely not the best one.

Foreign aid may be a solution as a substitute for low local revenue, allowing important development actions to be achieved. For example, high levels of aid channeled to governments with clear development objectives may be used to improve the people's standards of living and the quality of the public service, strengthen policy and planning capacity, and establish some institutions for aid management. In many cases, results are undeniable.

However, financing development expenditures essentially through resources that are raised without much effort, like foreign aid, does little to ensure the country's good governance.

In fact, foreign aid has a destructive role, on the whole, as it does not favor self-help and self-reliance. Developing countries don't improve their developmental capacities. They don't cover all the development process, from identifying objectives, through mobilizing financial resources and achieving programs, up to reaching fixed results and evaluating them. They keep guided throughout the process by aid-donors. High levels of aid can, in that case, delay governance improvements. They result into an institutional and technical deficiency.

Worse than institutional and technical deficiency, high dependence on aid pushes governments towards accountability to aid-donors, rather than to their own people. Consequently, they care more about their positive picture in front of aid-donors.

A better way to finance development is taxes. Low local revenue is no excuse. People are only reluctant when they have doubts about the use of money. When they believe that their interests are represented in a democracy, they are more willing to pay taxes, and they also begin to believe that their payment of taxes gives them the right to discuss and argue.

On the other hand, well-designed tax systems can consolidate stable institutions in developing countries, increase revenues, re-focus government spending on public priorities and allow a transfer of wealth from the rich to the poor as to consolidate national solidarity.

Last but not least, taxation improves government responsibility to the people. It remains an underestimated tool in the effort to build more capable and responsive states. In reality, taxation is a central factor in building democracy. The people's duty of paying legitimizes their demands for services and more government responsibility. Democracies are built not only on periodic elections but also on a political contract based on bargaining over the collection and spending of public revenue.

Indeed, without the ability to raise revenues effectively, governments are limited in the extent to which they can provide security, meet basic needs, and foster economic development. Yet the political importance of taxation extends beyond the raising of revenue. Taxation can stimulate calls for more representative and responsible governments.

Revenues should be part of a system of accountability between states and citizens, not between governments and aid-donors.

COMPREHENSION:(10 pts)

1 -- Read the text carefully, then select the right answer:(1 pt - 0.25 pt each)

A- The real driving force behind development is:

a- taxes
b- foreign aid
c- accountability
d- institutional and technical capacity.

B - The text implies that foreign aid:

a- reduces the role of existing institutions
b - prevents the emergence of new institutions
c - favors the emergence of some new institutions
d- destroys institutions.

C - Taxes are low because:

a- people are reluctant to pay.
b - governments underestimate taxes.
c - people are poor.
d - money is not well-used.

D - People pay taxes when:

a- there are elections.
b- they have doubts about the use of money.
c- there is no foreign aid.
d- there are real results.

2 - The text identifies 3 major advantages of financing development by foreign aid, what are they? (1.5pt).

3 - Does the author really think that local resources are limited? Why? (1pt).

4 – Can you identify other resources to finance development, in addition to foreign aid, natural resources and taxes? (1.5pt).

5- In case of financing development by foreign aid, what sort of relations is there: (1.5 pts).

- between the government and the people?

- between the government and aid- donors?

- among the people themselves?

6- In case of financing development by taxes, what sort of relations is there: (1.5 pt)

- between the government and the people?

- between the government and aid- donors?

- among the people themselves?

7 – Explain how well-designed tax systems can: (2 pts)

a- **consolidate stable institutions in developing countries.**
b- **increase revenues.**
c- **re-focus government spending on public priorities.**
d- **allow a transfer of richness from the rich to the poor as to consolidate national solidarity.**

LANGUAGE: (6.5 pts)

1 - Find out in the text words having the same meaning as the following terms: (1,5pts - 0,25 each)

a- To postpone

b- Income

c- Instrument

d- Obligation

e- Richness

f- Certain.

2- Choose the right terms: (1 pt - 0,25 each)

- As none (is / are) above the law, all citizens must pay taxes. Sometimes, in one family, both parents (pays / pay). But couples (that / those) pay above a certain level are reimbursed; (this / these) may be viewed as some sort of consideration to couples' heavy responsibilities.

3 - Re-write the sentences as indicated: (2pts - 0,5 each)

a- Now, I can speak Latin better than anyone else here.

- **Tomorrow, ……..…….**

b – She said: "they will never know the truth".

- **She said that they ……..……..**

c – If governments use national experts, economic growth will be much higher.

- **If governments had used ……**

d- The performance will be higher, provided the climatic conditions are favorable.

- **The performance will be higher, …… the climatic conditions are not favorable.**

4-Ask a question about the underlined terms. (1pt - 0,5 pt each)

a- Foreign aid may be <u>a solution as a substitute for low local revenue</u>

b –They care more about <u>their</u> positive picture

5 - Add the right prepositions: (1 pt - 0,25 each)

If the course doesn't take end …… Wednesday, it will probably take end …… December. This is what I understand …… the e-mail that was sent to me by the professor ..... 2007.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: (3.5 pts)

1-Match every expression from column A with an expression from column B (1.5 pt)

Column A	Column B
- The President is responsible for his action to ……	- The Parliament
- The ministers are responsible for their action to …	- The Prime Minister
- The civil servants are responsible for their action to…	- The electors
- The municipal councils are responsible for their action to..	- The President of the Republic
- The Prime Minister is responsible for his action to…	- Superiors
- The Deputies are responsible for their action to ……	- The Government
	-The President of the Parliament

2– Classify the following positions in public administration: (1 pt)

Deputy-director/ director general / head of service / director.

3 - Classify the following legislative texts: (1pt)

Decree-law / Organic law / Order / Constitution / Decree / Law.

CORRIGE

COMPREHENSION:(10 pts)

2 -- Read the text carefully, then select the right answer:(1 pt - 0.25 pt each)

B- The real driving force behind development is:
c- accountability

B - The text implies that foreign aid:
c - favors the emergence of some new institutions

C - Taxes are low because:
b - governments underestimate taxes.

D - People pay taxes when:
d- there are real results.

2 - The text identifies 3 major advantages of financing development by foreign aid, what are they? (1.5pt).
The three major advantages of financing development by foreign aid are:

- ***It is the easiest way.***
- ***Foreign aid may be a solution as a substitute for low local revenue***
- ***Important development actions can be achieved.***

3 - Does the author really think that local resources are limited? Why? (1pt).
No, the author does not think that local resources are limited, it is only a prejudice; he says: "local resources are traditionally believed to be insufficient". He thinks that people simply are reluctant to pay when they have doubts about the use of money.

4 – Can you identify other resources to finance development, in addition to foreign aid, natural resources and taxes? (1.5pt).
Some other resources to finance development could be:

- ***Borrowings from abroad***
- ***Government bonds***
- ***Participations***
- ***Privatization operations***
- ***Etc.***

5- In case of financing development by foreign aid, what sort of relations is there: (1.5 pts).

- between the government and the people: not a close relation as the people don't pay taxes and the government doesn't feel so much committed to the people;

- between the government and aid- donors: a relation of accountability as the government receives resources and feels responsible to donors ; the government cares more about its positive picture in front of aid-donors.
- among the people themselves: not a close relation either because the system established doesn't favor the transfer of wealth between the different social classes. The poor class does not feel that it is assisted by the rich one.

6- In case of financing development by <u>taxes</u>, what sort of relations is there: (1.5 pt)

- between the government and the people: a relation of accountability to the people

- between the government and aid- donors: a relation of mutual respect as the development action doesn't depend on aids and the government becomes self-reliant.

- among the people themselves: a feeling of solidarity is established between social classes. There is a stronger feeling of cohesion among them as there is a transfer of wealth.

7 – Explain how well-designed tax systems can: (2 pts)

e- ***consolidate stable institutions in developing countries: governments need solid institutions to collect and use taxes.***
f- ***increase revenues: the more governments collect taxes, the more they gain experience and improve tax collection.***
g- ***re-focus government spending on public priorities: collecting taxes means being accountable to people and using public money in the right way.***
h- ***allow a transfer of richness from the rich to the poor as to consolidate national solidarity: the rich pay taxes while the poor take advantage of this. Consequently, this transfer reduces marginalization and frustration in society and consolidates the feeling that there is a better distribution of the national wealth. This reinforces solidarity and improves understanding between the different social classes.***

LANGUAGE: (6.5 pts)

1 - Find out in the text words having the same meaning as the following terms: (1,5pts - 0,25 each)

g- To postpone: to delay

h- Income: revenue

i- Instrument: tool

j- Obligation: duty

k- Richness: wealth

l- Certain: undeniable

2- Choose the right terms: (1 pt - 0,25 each)

- As none (*is* / are) above the law, all citizens must pay taxes. Sometimes, in one family, both parents (pays */ pay*). But couples *(that* / those) pay above a certain level are reimbursed; (*this /* these) may be viewed as some sort of consideration to couples' heavy responsibilities.

3 - Re-write the sentences as indicated: (2pts - 0,5 each)

a- Now, I can speak Latin better than anyone else here.

- ***Tomorrow, I will be able to speak Latin better than anyone else here.***

b – She said: "they will never know the truth".

- ***She said that they would never know the truth.***

c – If governments use national experts, economic growth will be much higher.

- ***If governments had used national experts, economic growth would have been much higher.***

d- The performance will be higher, provided the climatic conditions are favorable.

- **The performance will be higher, *unless* the climatic conditions are not favorable.**

4-Ask a question about the underlined terms. (1pt - 0,5 pt each)

a- Foreign aid may be a solution as a substitute for low local revenue

- ***What may foreign aid be?***

b –They care more about their positive picture

- ***Whose positive picture do they care more about?***

5 - Add the right prepositions: (1 pt - 0,25 each)

If the course doesn't take end *on* Wednesday, it will probably take end *in* December. This is what I understand *from* the e-mail that was sent to me by the professor *in* 2007.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: (3.5 pts)

4-Match every expression from column A with an expression from column B (1.5 pt)

Column A

- The President is responsible for his action to *the electors*
- The ministers are responsible for their action to *the President of the Republic*
- The civil servants are responsible for their action to *their superiors*
- The municipal councils are responsible for their action to *the electors*
- The Prime Minister is responsible for his action to *the President of the Republic*
- The Deputies are responsible for their action to *the electors*

5– Classify the following positions in public administration: (1 pt)
Director General / Director / Deputy-director/ Head of service

6 - Classify the following legislative texts: (1pt)
Constitution / Organic law / Law / Decree-law / Decree / Order.

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