

UNIVERSITE PARIS 1 PANTHEON – SORBONNE

UFR 06 / SGEL

LICENCE DE GESTION ET ECONOMIE D'ENTREPRISE

Bi-LICENCE DROIT / GESTION

Examen de rattrapage d'anglais appliqué à la gestion, Semestres 1 & 2

Enseignant responsable: JT Pindi

Date: 26 juin 2013

Maître de conférences

Durée: 2 heures

Sujet rédigé en collaboration avec mademoiselle Caroline Peynaud, ATER

Instructions

No documents allowed. Write your answers on the official answer sheets provided

PART I: Reading

Read the text below entitled Tough Times and address the ensuing vocabulary and comprehension exercises.

Tough times

Hispanic labour is feeling the pinch

MIAMI – Carlos Pirir used to earn a good salary as a construction worker on a high-rise building site in downtown Miami. Now the Guatemalan immigrant spends his morning competing for a day's work, standing by the side of the road outside a hardware store in a working class district of Miami. "Before, there was work and the pay was good. Now, it's all paralysed," he says.

Latinos are among the hardest hit by the economic downturn in America. The unemployment rate among all Hispanics rose to 8.8% in October, according to government figures, well above the national unemployment rate of 6.5%. It is expected to be worse still for Hispanic immigrants, whose unemployment rate already stood at 7.5% in the first quarter of this year; though their numbers are fast declining. The Mexican government said last week that the number of its citizens who left to live abroad this year was down more than 40% compared with 2006 and America's Border Patrol says it caught 18% fewer people in the fiscal year that ended in September than in the one before.

Money-transfer companies are reporting a dramatic fall in remittances by migrant communities. The growth in cash sent home from America had already slowed in 2007 to the lowest rate since 2000 according to the Inter-American Development Bank. Remittances to Mexico specifically have increased rapidly in recent years rising by 17% in 2006 to \$23.7 billion, but they grew by just 1% last year. Mexico's central bank now says that it expects a decline in remittances of 7-8% this year.

Mr Pirir used to send \$600 a month to his wife and seven children back home. Last month he managed only \$200. The immigrant labour crunch has been especially severe in the south Florida construction industry. Immigrant workers were highly sought after during the region's building boom earning up to \$1000 a week on busy construction sites. At its peak in 2006 the building boom employed more than 165,000 workers in south Florida alone. But 30,000 of those jobs have gone, according to the Department of Labour, and that number is expected to rise as new construction grinds to a halt. Over 20% of Mexican migrants in America work in construction, according to Mexico's central bank.

The effect is beginning to be felt in Mexico too, especially in communities most dependent on remittances. Besides a lack of jobs, there has also been a concerted crackdown on undocumented workers by American immigration officials. And with the American economy now in recession, things are only going to get worse. Mr Pirir, for one, says he's had enough. He's saving money to pay for the journey home.

The Economist: Migrant labour – Tough Times, Nov 27th 2008

A. Comprehension (5 points)

Say whether the statements below are True (T) or False (F). Justify your answer with a sentence from the text.

1. Carlos Pirir's income has declined because of the economic downturn. **T/F**
2. Carlos Pirir now has a permanent job on a construction site **T/F**
3. The unemployment rate is lower among Hispanic immigrants than in the rest of the population **T/F**
4. The economic downturn has caused an increase in the number of Mexicans migrating to the USA. **T/F**
5. Several jobs intended for Hispanic immigrants have been lost in the construction industry. **T/F**
6. Remittances were expected to increase in 2008. **T/F**
7. A good number of Mexican immigrants in the USA work in the construction sector. **T/F**
8. The construction industry was very successful before 2008. **T/F**
9. The unemployment situation of Mexican workers in the USA has little impact on households in Mexico. **T/F**
10. Mr Pirir wants to go on living in the USA, in spite of the lack of jobs for people like him. **T/F**

B. Vocabulary (5 points)

I. Find the words or expressions in the text, which correspond to the following definitions. Give their paragraph and line references:

1. A measure of the number of jobless people, willing and able to work, expressed as a percentage of the labour force:
2. A period of three months:
3. Human element of the production process:
4. The situation of economic prosperity:
5. Transfers of money (by post):
6. People changing their place of living, especially for a limited period:
7. Organization that regulates, among other things, the amount of money supply:
8. A person who has come to a different country in order to live there permanently:
9. A shop selling manufactured goods and tools for the home and garden:
10. Action by authorities to stop an illegal or dangerous activity:

II. Find synonyms in the text for the words and expressions in italics used in the sentences below. Give the paragraph and line references of the equivalent word or expression you have identified.

1. Before, there was work and the *pay* was good.
2. *Latinos* are the hardest hit by the economic downturn in America.
3. Latinos are the hardest hit by the *economic downturn* in America.
4. The immigrant *labour crunch* has been especially severe in the south Florida construction industry.
5. At its peak in 2006 the building boom employed *more than* 165,00 workers in south Florida alone.
6. They *grew* by just 1% last year.
7. Mexico's central bank now expects a *decline* in remittances of 7 – 8% this year.
8. Immigrant workers were earning up to \$1000 a week on busy *construction* sites.
9. Their *numbers* are fast declining.
10. *America's Border Patrol* says it caught 18% fewer people in the fiscal year that ended in September than in the one before.

PART II: Grammar (5 points)

A. Rewrite these sentences in the active voice. Use the word or expression in brackets as the subject of your sentence.

1. Until April 1998, the UK unemployment figures were based on a claimant count. (The British government)
2. The situation of unemployment is expected to be worse for immigrant workers. (Economists)
3. Immigrant workers were sought after during the region's building boom. (The building sector)
4. The effect is beginning to be felt in Mexico too, especially in communities most dependent on remittances. (People)
5. A lot of cash was sent home from America before 2007. (Immigrant workers)

B. Rewrite these sentences in the passive voice

1. America's Border Patrol caught 18% fewer people in the fiscal year that ended in September than in the one before.
2. Money-transfer companies are reporting a dramatic fall in remittances.
3. Latinos used to send a lot of cash home.
4. Mexico's central bank now expects a decline in remittances of just 7-8% this year.
5. Many immigrants are saving money to pay for the journey home.

PART III. Writing (5 points)

From your knowledge of the subjects studied in class, discuss, in a minimum of 200 words or a maximum of 300, the advantages and disadvantages of the various means of measuring unemployment.

Your essay should include a definition of Unemployment, the various methods of measuring it, the advantages as well as the disadvantages of each of the methods you have mentioned.

You will be assessed in terms of the substance of your discussion and the standard of your English.

Please show your word count at the end of your essay.

Key to answers and guidelines for marking

A. Comprehension (5 points)

Answers

1. True: “Before, there was work and the pay was good. Now all is paralysed” (*paragraph 1, line 4*)
“Mr Pirir used to send \$600 a month to his wife and seven children back home. Last month he managed only \$200.” (*paragraph 4, lines 1 – 2*)
2. False: “Now the Guatemalan immigrant spends his morning competing for a day’s work.”(*paragraph 1, lines 2 - 3*)
3. False: “The unemployment rate among all Hispanics rose to 8.8% in October, according to government figures, well above the national unemployment rate of 6.5%.” (*paragraph 2, line 3*)
4. False: “America’s Border Patrol says it caught 18% fewer people in the fiscal year that ended in September than in the one before.” (*paragraph 2 lines 7-8*)
5. True:” But 30,000 of those jobs have gone, according to the Department of Labour, and that number is expected to rise as new construction grinds to a halt”. (*paragraph 4, lines -7*)
6. False: “Mexico’s central bank now says that it expects a decline in remittances of just 7-8% this year.” (*paragraph 3 lines 5-6*)
7. True: “Over 20% of Mexican migrants in America work in construction,” (*paragraph 4 lines 7 – 8*)
8. True: “At its peak in 2006 the building boom employed more than 165,000 workers in south Florida alone.”(*paragraph 4, lines 4 – 5*)
9. False: “The effect is beginning to be felt in Mexico too, especially in communities most dependent on remittances.” (*paragraph 5, lines 1-2*)
10. False: “He’s saving money to pay for the journey home.” (*paragraph 5, last line*)

Marking guidelines

0.25 point for a correct answer. Another 0.25 point for a correct justification coupled with text references. Nothing to be awarded, if otherwise.

B. Vocabulary (5 points)

Answers

I. Reversed definitions

1. unemployment rate (paragraph 2, line 1)
2. quarter (paragraph 2, line 4)
3. labour (subtitle)
4. boom (paragraph 4, line 4 or 5)
5. remittances (paragraph 3, line 1,3 or last line, last paragraph, line 2)
6. migrants (paragraph 4, line 7)
7. central bank (paragraph 3, line 5, or paragraph 4, last line)
8. immigrant (paragraph 1, line 2 and several other occurrences in the text)
9. hardware store (paragraph 1, line 3)
10. crackdown (last paragraph, line 2)

II. Synonyms

1. salary (paragraph 1, line 1)
2. Hispanics (paragraph 2, line 2)
3. recession (last paragraph, line 4)
4. unemployment (paragraph 2, line 1, 3 or 4)
5. over (paragraph 4, line 7)
6. rose (paragraph 2, line 2)
7. fall (paragraph 3, line 1)
8. building (paragraph 4, line 4 or 5)
9. figures (paragraph 2, line 2)
10. American immigration officials (last paragraph, line 3)

Marking Guidelines

0.25 point if the answer as well as the text references are correct. Nothing to be awarded if otherwise.

PART II: Grammar (5 points)

Answers

A. Active voice

1. Until April 1998, the British government based the UK unemployment figures on a claimant count.

Or

The British government based the UK unemployment figures on a claimant count until April 1998.

2. Economists expect the situation of unemployment to be worse for immigrant workers.
3. The building sector sought after immigrant workers during the region's building boom.
4. People in Mexico are beginning to feel the effect too, especially in communities most dependent on remittances.
5. Immigrant workers sent a lot of cash home from America before 2007.

B. Passive voice

1. 18% fewer people were caught by America's Border Patrol in the fiscal year that ended in September than in the one before.
2. A dramatic fall in remittances is being reported by money-transfer companies.
3. A lot of cash was used to be sent home by Latinos.
4. A decline in remittances of just 7-8% is now expected by Mexico's central bank this year.
5. Money is being saved by many immigrants to pay for the journey home.

Marking Guidelines

Half a point for any correct answer. Nothing to be awarded if otherwise.

PART III. Writing (5 points)

Marking Guidelines

First, please award 1 point as a bonus for requisite length. Nothing to be awarded, nor any penalty point to be deducted for inadequate or excess length.

- Then, please read, correct and comment the discussion and score as follows:

Up to 2 points to be awarded for satisfactory substance, broken down as follows: up to 0.5 for each element of the discussion: i.e. definition, methods (viz. claimant count and ILO's international standards), advantages and disadvantages.

Up to 2 points to be awarded for the standard of English.

Please note that *up to* means that you should feel free to award less if warranted.