

**BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPERIEUR****EPREUVE : ANGLAIS****GROUPE 16****Durée : 2 heures**

Spécialités	Coefficient
Analyses Biologiques	1
Bio-analyses et contrôles	2
Biotechnologie	1
Esthétique Cosmétique	1,5
Hygiène Propreté Environnement	2
Industries Céréalières	2
Métiers de l'eau	2
Qualité dans les Industries Alimentaires et les Bio-industries	2

***L'usage de la calculatrice est interdit.***

***L'usage d'un dictionnaire bilingue est autorisé.***

Ce sujet comporte 3 pages (y compris celle-ci).

## **Children teach their parents a lesson in hygiene**

LukeHarding

It is 11 am, and the students of Marachipatti elementary school are queueing up in their courtyard. Girls and boys in two neat lines stand outside the school's white-painted latrine block. They disappear inside. There is some vigorous hand washing. One by one they emerge into the sunlight before filing back to the classroom.

This is, of course, the toilet break. On the face of it there is nothing remarkable here -until you remember that this is rural India where there are few facilities of any kind, let alone toilets. The lack of proper sanitation is one of many obstacles Indian children face in their struggle for an education. Other factors include too few books, teachers who fail to turn up, and the requirement for children to work - like their parents - in the fields.

Until recently Marachipatti primary didn't have a latrine - nearly 85% of Indian schools are in the same dismal situation. Instead, the pupils would dash across the road and squat down in the thorn bushes. It could be a scary experience: "Sometimes snakes would come and disturb us. I would run away as quickly as possible", one 10-year-old girl, Vasanthi, explained.

The lack of sanitation brought other problems too. Pupils frequently suffered from diarrhoea. They also got hookworm. "In the past as many as 10 - 15 children would be absent because of illness", the school's assistant headteacher Mr Krishnan recalls.

This lamentable situation ended three years ago when the British charity WaterAid came up with an ingenious solution: it built a sanitation block for the school's 104 pupils - at the cost of \$410. More importantly, it asked the five-to-10-year-old pupils to manage the block themselves.

The students organised themselves into different committees responsible for keeping the toilets clean, fetching water from the hand-pump outside and ensuring all pupils washed their hands with soap. Other students on the "tidy committee" looked after the school's modest grounds.

And it worked. "I tell the students to cut their nails, make sure their clothes are clean and to brush their teeth and comb their hair," Vasanthi, a member of the personal hygiene committee, explains.

The initiative brought striking results: pupils became healthier and suffered from fewer illnesses.

But, crucially, the pupils of Marachipatti primary took the message of hygiene awareness back into their homes. WaterAid's local health workers discovered it was far quicker, and more effective, to teach adults good hygiene practices via their children than to target them directly. "I told my mother and now she washes her hands with soap before cooking vegetables," Vasanthi pointed out.

It will take a long time before every Indian school enjoys the facilities that the children of Marachipatti now use during their twice-a-day breaks. In many other rural areas of India the government education system has virtually collapsed. School buildings are falling apart, teachers are absent or do not exist, and the dropout rates, especially among girls, are depressingly high. And yet the success of the WaterAid scheme points the way forward to a better future in which there is not just education for some of the world's poorest children, but sanitation too.

Adapted from The Guardian Weekly. December 26, 2002-January 1, 2003

## QUESTIONS

### **PREMIÈRE PARTIE : COMPRÉHENSION (10 points)**

1. Faire un compte rendu de l'article en français en mettant en évidence les idées essentielles, (environ 120 mots  $\pm$  10%)
2. Traduire en français le texte de la ligne 36 (« *It will take....* ») à la ligne 42 (« *... but sanitation too* » )

### **DEUXIÈME PARTIE : EXPRESSION EN LANGUE ANGLAISE (10 points)**

1. According to the article, teaching hygiene to the young is more effective than to adults. Why? Use your own words to answer the question. (60-80 words)
2. What should our priorities be for helping the world's poorest children? Give your opinion. (130 words  $\pm$  10%).