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OPTION A

DEFINING THE OBAMA DOCTRINE

During the 2008 campaign, Barack Obama promised to roll back Bush-era abuses and restore the proper balance between security and freedom. A few days after being sworn in, he elated progressives by banning torture, beginning the process of closing Guantánamo, and putting military commissions on ice. But a year on, a majority of Bush's counterterror policies remain largely, if not entirely, intact. Critics on the left call Obama "Bush lite"; meanwhile, Dick Cheney hammers him for aiding and comforting the enemy. So who's right? And what philosophy is the administration adopting as a guide in the war on terror?

Neither criticism hits the mark. Dismantling the CIA's enhanced-interrogation program and shuttering Guantánamo are substantive reforms that improve our global image. The counterterror policies that remain are now on firmer legal footing. Obama's lawyers have sought the input of Congress and the blessing of the courts.

These changes represent a critical conceptual shift. Under Bush, policy sometimes seemed to be driven as much by a desire to vindicate ideology as a need to protect the American people. Obama starts from a different premise: that the tools we rely on to combat terrorism should be grounded in the rule of law and subject to congressional and judicial review.

QUESTIONS

1. Answer the following questions according to the instructions (3 points as a whole).

a. Answer the following question using your own words (10 to 20 words) (1 point).

a.1. According to the text, what did Barack Obama promise in the 2008 campaign?

b. Say if the following statements are *true* or *false*. Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice (1 point as a whole: 0.5 each).

b.1. Soon after being sworn Barack Obama made important decisions for the U.S.

b.2. Barack Obama is in favour of torture.

c. Choose a, b or c in each question below. Only one choice is correct (1 point as a whole: 0.5 each).

c.1. Put someone or something on ice means:

a) to fail to convince; b) to postpone acting; c) to get something started.

c.2. Shuttering Guantánamo:

a) was the biggest mistake; b) gave U.S. a better image; c) dismantled the CIA's interrogation program.

2. Complete the following tasks according to the instructions (2 points as a whole: 0.5 each).

a) Write a question for which the underlined words are the answer: "During the 2008 campaign Barack Obama travelled all over America."

b) Put into the passive: "Critics on the left call Obama 'Bush lite'."

c) Transform into reported speech: "Dick Cheney hammers him for aiding and comforting the enemy." Begin with: "A High Commissioner stated that ..."

d) Complete: "If Obama hadn't shut Guantánamo ..."


3. Find words in the text with the following meaning (a and b) and synonyms for each of the words below (c, d and e) (1 as a whole: 0.2 each).

a) a series of coordinated activities b) prohibiting by legal means

c) whole d) change e) fight

4. Write about the following topic using between 90-120 words (0-4 points).

Can politicians solve our problems (e.g. the climate change, terrorism, etc.)?

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OPTION B

WHY DO TEENAGERS DRINK ALCOHOL?

Teenagers consume alcohol for a number of reasons, and there is not just one dimension to this situation. Since teenagers are at an age when they want to experiment with everything, the curiosity to consume alcohol sometimes leads them to alcohol addiction. Teenagers can sometimes go through rough patches which can be due to relationship problems or something to do with their parents, and in the end, they are unable to cope with these issues and tend to get depressed.

Such conditions encourage teens to consume alcohol. As teenagers often witness their parents fighting and verbally abusing each other, this also affects their mental state. In fact, one of the main things which leads teenagers to drink is their parents getting divorced, and whenever such a thing happens, teenagers can be known to seek solace in alcohol and drugs. It is important to keep the home environment positive for teens as many of them are highly sensitive and take things very personally.

You cannot blame the teenagers for their addiction. Rather it is the situation that encourages them to turn to alcohol. Also, another reason to drink alcohol is that teenagers want to impress their friends. They want to be cool in front of them, and they believe that drinking alcohol is a way of being adult-like and trendy.

QUESTIONS

- 1. Answer the following questions according to the instructions (3 points as a whole).**
 - a. Answer the following question using your own words. (10 to 20 words) (1 point).**
 - a.1. According to the text, what circumstances lead teenagers to take refuge in drinking?
 - b. Say if the following statements are *true* or *false*. Indicate the line(s) in the text supporting your choice (2 points as a whole: 0.5 each).**
 - b.1. Teenagers often drink alcohol because of peer pressure .
 - b.2. Some teens drink because their parents don't get on with each other very well.
 - c. Choose a, b or c in each question below. Only one choice is correct (1 point as a whole: 0,5 each).**
 - c.1. Many teens start drinking because:
 - a) their families drink; b) they feel angry; c) they can't handle their problems.
 - c.2. One way to help avoid alcohol and drug addiction in teenagers is:
 - a) to maintain a positive environment; b) to be very critical about friends; c) to get them to try everything.
- 2. Complete the following tasks according to the instructions (2 points as a whole: 0.5 each).**
 - a) Complete: *The younger a person is when they begin drinking, the ...*
 - b) Join the following sentences into one: *I used to drink to make me feel more confident around my mates. I started getting into fights.*
 - c) Join the following two sentences by means of a relative pronoun: *Some teenagers consume alcohol and drugs. They have problems with their parents.*
 - d) Rephrasing: *A boy is upset because he had a car accident after having taken drugs.*
Begin with: *"He wishes ...*
- 3. Find words in the text with the following meaning (a and b) and synonyms for each of the words below (c, d and e) (1 as a whole: 0.2 each).**
 - a) intense desire to know b) a physical or mental dependence
 - c) animate d) mistreating e) accuse
- 4. Write about the following topic using between 90-120 words (0-4 points).**
How can drinking alcohol affect young people?