

SESSION 2007

**BREVET DE TECHNICIEN
SUPERIEUR**

Épreuve de langue vivante étrangère

Groupe 2

SPÉCIALITÉ
Assistant de gestion de PME-PMI

ANGLAIS

Durée 2 H 00

Coefficient 1,5

LE DICTIONNAIRE BILINGUE EST AUTORISÉ
(à l'exclusion de tout dictionnaire électronique)

CALCULATRICE INTERDITE

Dès que le sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.
Le sujet comporte 3 pages, numérotées de 1 à 3.

Code sujet : APLVE-M07

Is being a good dad ruining your career?

Is it possible both to impress the boss and be an attentive father?

by Rafael Behr

Why does it have to be a choice? Why can't we have it all?

Some of us are at least trying. I work part-time. I spend time with my wife - who is on maternity leave until later this year - and Edie, our daughter.

We are definitely a minority. Men now are in the position that women were in 10 years ago, torn between the office and home. Despite all that is said about men and women sharing the burden more equally, in a lot of jobs putting in a seven-and-a-half hour day and then going home and looking after children is still a recipe for getting fired.

Since the 1970s, Britain has liberalised its labour laws, making hiring and firing cheaper and easier for employers. It has also absorbed thousands of women into the workforce to compete with men.

One unintended consequence is that everyone feels less secure due to the shadow of redundancy. Another social side-effect is that the labour market prefers young, newly qualified people to older more experienced ones who cost more. This undermines the traditional idea of career progression. That's why people in their twenties and thirties should really be taking their leisure and family dividend when they can afford it.

That idea is starting to dawn on some men. But it is a risky idea. The evidence from women's experience of trying to integrate a bit of full-time parenting into a life of work is not encouraging. According to the Equal Opportunities Commission, a woman who has worked part-time for just a year suffers, on average, a 10 per cent long-term reduction in earnings compared to a woman who has stayed in continuous full-time employment.

Not surprisingly, men, usually the main earners, do not often feel comfortable telling their bosses their priorities have changed. Around one in five British fathers take up the statutory right to two weeks' paid paternity leave. A survey of those that don't found that 41 per cent said they couldn't afford to; 23 per cent didn't realise they were entitled to time off. 21 per cent were afraid their employers would make their lives difficult if they advertised their new priorities.

It's up to us to change our culture, take time off for school plays, and go home early for bedtime stories, to take the maximum paternity leave available and demand more. The age at which we tend to have kids - mostly early thirties - is also the point at which we have most value in the labour market, which means we can negotiate our terms from a position of strength. The dads I know don't want careers, we just want a job and a life, and we want to have them at the same time.

Sunday June 11, 2006
Adapted from The Observer

QUESTIONS

1. COMPRÉHENSION (13 points)

Après avoir attentivement lu le texte, vous en rédigez **en ANGLAIS** un compte rendu de 150 à 200 mots. Vous préciserez le nombre de mots utilisés.

2. TRADUCTION EN FRANÇAIS (7 points)

Vous traduirez depuis "*Since the 1970's...*" (paragraphe 4) jusqu'à "*...idea of career progression.*" (paragraphe 5)