

SESSION 2010

BTS TERTIAIRES – GROUPE 1

ÉPREUVE ÉCRITE DE LANGUE VIVANTE

ANGLAIS

Durée : 2 heures

Management des unités commerciales		coefficient 1,5
Assurance		coefficient 1
Banque		coefficient 1
Communication des entreprises		coefficient 1
Professions immobilières		coefficient 1
Notariat		coefficient 1

Dictionnaire bilingue autorisé

Calculatrice interdite

TRAVAIL À FAIRE PAR LE CANDIDAT

I. COMPRÉHENSION

10 points

A rédiger en **FRANÇAIS**

Après avoir lu attentivement l'article, vous en dégagerez les idées essentielles en 170 mots (+ ou – 10%)

Vous indiquerez le nombre de mots utilisés.

Toute présentation sous forme de notes sera pénalisée.

II. EXPRESSION

10 points

Vous devez répondre aux **deux** questions en **ANGLAIS**

5 points

A. In your opinion, has the recent economic crisis changed shopping habits? Justify your point of view. (at least 100 words)

5 points

B. A lot of people buy brands. Why? What about you? (at least 100 words)

EVEN WHEN THE RECESSION ENDS, VALUE – NOT BRAND – MAY RULE SALES

- 1 I was chatting to a client at the beginning of the year, just as the recession was beginning to bite, and he mentioned that Gucci had sent non-branded carrier bags to all its stores in New York. I realised that most of us have a rather uni-faceted and short-term view of the economic crisis.
- 5 What we focus on is that people are not able to afford things as they did during the boom times. But there is another more long-term dimension, people may no longer want to buy certain things, even if they have the money to do so. Being rich and flaunting your wealth could just go out of fashion, in much the same way that fur coats became vulgar and attracted public outrage in the 1980s.
- 10 Is it going to become vulgar once more to talk about money and show your wealth? If so, the effect on luxury brands is going to be pretty significant. The nineties saw an unashamed global trend towards flash materialism. But recently there has been a shift. Women are stashing their LV¹ handbags at the back of their cupboards, the diamond encrusted gent's Rolex is being put into the safe for another day.
- 15 As we wean ourselves off these luxury brands, our addiction to them is slowly ebbing away. I can't afford the BMW but no matter- I now have an emotional preference not to buy one. Of course, luxury goods will always have a market, but the global trend of bling is slowly dying.

So what is the best way for a brand, luxury or not, to react?

- 20 A recent study by Euro RSCG² in New York uncovered the fact that consumers are afraid. This anxiety factor has caused people to go back to basics, to lean towards traditional values. The research also proved that the financial crisis has not generated a mass search for the cheapest item, there is an increasing conviction that low prices do not automatically equate good value. In a market flooded with sales and specials, low prices can generate scepticism, a sense the un-sellable rubbish is being fobbed off on bargain-hunting consumers. The study also found that nearly 60
- 25 percent of consumers will buy only from a company they trust.

- 30 So if consumers aren't looking for the cheapest item available, what are they looking for? The answer is value. People want to feel that their hard-earned money is buying something worthwhile. Increasingly, they recognize that buying cheap is taking a risk, and society is currently very risk-averse. Getting good value is therefore about making the sensible choice.

Adapted from *Weekend Argus* (South Africa).
August 15, 2009.

1. LV: Louis Vuitton
2. Euro RSCG : international agency in communications