E1.2 : LANGUE ANGLAISE APPLIQUÉE À L'INFORMATIQUE ET À LA GESTION

(partie écrite)

Durée : 2 heures   **Coefficient : 2**

L'usage d'un dictionnaire bilingue est autorisé.
Les calculatrices sont interdites.

COMPAQ UNVEILS WIRELESS LAN

WL Series, designed for nomadic office workers, supports 11-mbps transmissions for 300 feet.

Compaq is cutting the cables that bind to an extent. On Monday the company announces a new wireless LAN product that will let you roam around your office with a Compaq computer and still be connected to the office local area network and to the Internet.

5   The WL Series is composed of wireless LAN cards and access points, and it offers 11-megabits-per-second speed. Each access point provides coverage for 300 feet in all directions, and any number of the points could be installed in order to cover an entire building. The PC cards and access points will be available in December, with prices starting at $199 for the cards and $999 for the access points.

10 Wireless LANs have been slow to take off because of high equipment costs, low connection speeds, and interoperability problems. A technology standard established earlier this year, called 802.11, offers connection speeds of up to 11 mbps and solves at least the last two of those issues.

"The time is now for wireless LANs," says Charles Rutstein, an analyst with Forrester Research.

While equipment costs have been falling, the price tag of $999 for a connection station is "still too high" and may have to come down before such roaming systems become widely used, according to
15 Rutstein.

Wireless LANs will be popular for businesses in which workers carry laptops and move about the building a lot. For example, workers who attend meetings in several conference rooms during the day would benefit greatly, Rutstein says.

Apple recently announced a wireless LAN system aimed at consumers who use its iBook computer.
20 On the business front, Compaq faces competition from vendors including Proxima and Lucent Technologies, Rutstein says.

Compaq's WL Series is offered with two types of PC card, one for laptop computers and one for desktop PCs. While Compaq is focusing on the flexibility the product gives to workers to move around inside the building, it can also be used as a substitute for wired networks, says Antoine Barre, manager of eCommerce Strategy for Compaq EMEA (Europe, Middle East, and Africa).

by *Jana Sanchez and James Niccolai, IDG News Service*
adapted from *PC World,* October 25, 1999.

QUESTIONS

1.- <u>**COMPRÉHENSION**</u>   *(12 points)*

Faites un compte rendu du texte en **français** (140 – 160 mots).

2.- <u>**EXPRESSION EN ANGLAIS**</u>   *(8 points)*

a)   Answer the following questions (50 – 80 words) :   (3 points)

1. Describe a LAN.
2. Give a definition of a wireless LAN.
3. What is a wireless LAN used for ?

b)   A wireless LAN : do you think it is another gadget or a real need ?
Express contrast and comparison. (120 words)   (5 points)

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PROPOSITION DE CORRIGÉ

1.- COMPRÉHENSION   *(12 points)*

Compte rendu : proposition de plan

1. - Un nouveau produit orienté vers l'entreprise : le Compaq WL Series.

    - En supprimant la contrainte des câbles qui le lient à son réseau local, le WL Series apporte mobilité à l'utilisateur.

2. - Présentation du produit :
     • deux types de cartes :   - pour les portables
                                     - pour les ordinateurs de bureau
     • des points d'accès :   - offrant une large couverture
                                     - nombre variant en fonction de la taille du réseau local.

3. - Avantages et inconvénients :
     • avantages :   - connexion au réseau local
                          - connexion à Internet
                          - vitesse de connexion élevée (11mbs)
                          - compatibilité grâce à l'adoption d'un standard (802.11)
                          - le WL Séries peut se substituer au réseau câblé d'une entreprise.

     •inconvénients :   - démarrage difficile car le produit est encore trop onéreux.

4. - Concurrence :   - Compaq doit faire face à des vendeurs / Proxima et Lucent Technologies.
                       - Apple : création d'un système de R L sans fil orienté vers l'individu
                         utilisateur du iBook.