

Stream: 3 Year Scientific Classes.**Duration:** 02 Hours**Part one:** Reading. [15 Pts]**A- Comprehension:** (8 pts)*Read the text and do the following activities.***Text:****Wife of French Candidate François Fillon Faces Formal Inquiry**

François Fillon and his wife, Penelope, in Paris in January. The decision to place Mrs. Fillon under a formal investigation comes two weeks after Mr. Fillon was charged with embezzlement.

Getty Images

PARIS — The faltering campaign of the French presidential candidate François Fillon suffered another setback on Tuesday when magistrates placed his wife under formal investigation over accusations that he paid her for a fake parliamentary job.

Mr. Fillon's wife, Penelope Fillon, will be investigated to determine whether she was complicit in misappropriating public funds and several related offenses, a judicial official said.

The decision, announced after she was questioned by magistrates, comes two weeks after Mr. Fillon was charged with embezzlement in the same case.

The magistrates' decision moves **the couple** one step closer to a trial. Mr. Fillon, 63, the main conservative candidate in France's presidential election being held over two rounds

in April and May, had been favored to win until the allegations about fake jobs surfaced in late January.

The allegations were reported by the satirical weekly *Le Canard Enchaîné*, which said Penelope Fillon had drawn about 500,000 euros, or about \$540,000, in salary over eight years for working as an assistant to her husband when he was a lawmaker and later to the man who replaced him. It said there was little sign she had done any work.

Mr. Fillon has tumbled to third place in opinion polls, which show him as likely to be eliminated in the first round of the election on April 23.

While denying that he did anything illegal, Mr. Fillon has conceded that he made errors of judgment, both in connection with the furor over his wife's job and in accepting expensive suits as a gift from a lawyer renowned for **his** role as a deal maker in Africa.

Mr. Fillon has resisted pressure from his party to pull out of the campaign. Penelope Fillon, 61, made no comment on Tuesday. She said in a newspaper interview this month that her work for her husband was real. "He needed someone that carried out his tasks," she told the newspaper *Le Journal du Dimanche*. "If it hadn't been **me**, he would have paid someone else to do it, so we decided that it would be me."

*By REUTERS (MARCH 28, 2017)***1. Choose the right answer.**→ *The text above is:*

- a- A folk tale. b- A newspaper article. c- A poem.

2. Are the following statements true or false?

- a- Mr. François Fillon's wife was a candidate for the presidential elections this year.
 b- Mrs. Penelope Fillon was accused of doing a fake job of 500,000 euros.
 c- The scandal had no effect over Fillon's electoral campaign.
 d- Fillon didn't deny any accusation addressed to him.

3. Re-order the following ideas according to their occurrence in the text.

- a- The probability of being eliminated from the race.
- b- The magistrate's decision to put Penelope under investigation.
- c- Fillion's resitance to stay in the race.
- d- What the French newspaper reported about Penelope's fake job.

4. Answer the following questions according to the text.

- a- Who is François Fillion?
- b- Identify / Underline the offences that Mr. François Fillion was accused of:
 - Getting a fake parliamentary job.
 - Embezzling.
 - Accepting expensive suits as a gift from a lawyer.

5. What / Who do the underlined words refer to in the text?

- a- The couple (§4) b- his (§7) c- me (§8)

B- Text Exploration: (7 pts)

1. Find in the text words closest in meaning to the following.

- a- misfortune = (§1) b- wrongdoings = (§2)
- c- accusations = (§4) d- admitted = (§7)

2. What nouns can be derived from the following words?

- a- presidential b- parliamentary c- legal

3. Rewrite sentence (b) so that it means the same as sentence (a).

- a- Mr. Fillon's wife will be investigated by the magistrates.
- b- The magistrates.....
 - a- Political parties are required to stop corrupt officials from activity.
 - b- Political parties.....

4. Underline the stressed syllable in the following words.

- Political - strategic - mathematics - organize

5. Fill in gaps with words from the list below.

employment - considered - trouble - whether

Mr. Fillon has been.....a favorite in the race, but now must contend with questions about.....the payments to his wife were inappropriate. It is not illegal in France for members of Parliament to.....family. But if Mrs. Fillon did nothing, holding a fake job, in effect, in return for the public funds, her husband could be in.....

Part two: Writing. [05 Pts]

Choose one topic only.

Topic 01: In no more than 100 words, write a composition about the topic below.

- Counterfeit products are invading our markets? Suggest solutions to this problem.

Topic 02: Use the notes below to write a composition of a 150 words.

Corruption is an evil that must be faught to realize prosperity. What would you do if you were head of this nation ?

- Have a clear and practical program – Appoint honest officials – punish the dishonest – fight embezzlers and tax evaders – rehabilitate the value of work – etc...

Best wishes from your teacher of English