



*INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA STATISTIQUE ET DES ETUDES ECONOMIQUES*

ECOLE NATIONALE DE LA STATISTIQUE  
ET DE L' ANALYSE DE L'INFORMATION

**Concours d'élève ingénieur de l'ENSAI**

**Concours d'attaché statisticien de l'INSEE**

---

MAI 2008

---

**SPECIALITE ECONOMIE**

---

**composition d'anglais**

**Durée : 2 heures**

---

*Sans dictionnaire*

*Le sujet comporte 2 pages (y compris celle-ci)*

“Can she win?”  
Friday November 9, 2007  
The Guardian

It was about 20 minutes into the presidential debate when Hillary Clinton was asked the series of questions that made the women watching in Melody Drnach's apartment sit up straighter on the cream-coloured sofa, set down their wine glasses and call for the volume on the TV set to be turned up.

The first televised debates of the 2008 election had been polite and relatively bloodless, but this bout could have gone in almost any direction. The questions to the Democratic hopefuls came from members of the public, who had posted videos on YouTube [...]. Among the videos selected for broadcast, a cancer sufferer pulled a wig off her bald head, and a man from a long line of soldiers displayed the flag that had covered the coffin of his eldest son, who had been killed in Iraq.

**But the women gathered in Drnach's apartment in Washington that July evening this year were still taken aback at the line of inquiry directed at Clinton. There was something novel about a candidate for the US presidency being asked: Are you woman enough to be in the White House? And, if you do get elected, how can we be sure you would do a better job for women than any of the male candidates? How would you negotiate with leaders of Muslim states where women do not enjoy equal rights? Clinton didn't miss a beat. "There isn't much doubt in anyone's mind that I can be taken seriously," she said.**

Drnach, who was wearing a Make History T-shirt from the Clinton campaign, was so excited she jumped out of her seat. "That's what having a woman in the race does! Can you imagine? It's terrific that they are up there arguing about who is going to be a better president for women."

The singularity of Clinton's candidacy was not always expressed in ways that Drnach would have liked. The most talked-about news story that day was a fashion item in the Washington Post deconstructing Clinton's neckline. Did the sliver of flesh above her V-neck top really constitute cleavage; and if so, what was its message? But serious questions were being asked as well. Why had it taken so long for a woman to have a serious chance of becoming president? How would women and men respond to Clinton's candidacy? If Americans did elect a woman in 2008, how would Clinton be any different from the 43 men who had occupied the White House before her?

Clinton was clearly a hit among Drnach's mainly young, single, professional and white guests. "It's mostly the gender," admitted one of them, Jill Cartwright, a law student. "Just as a woman, I feel that a woman can represent my interests better - no matter how liberal or progressive a man is."

But the journalist and women's rights activist Gloria Steinem says support for Clinton generally breaks along class lines. "They say you can tell a Hillary supporter by her shoes. If she is wearing nurse's shoes, or waitress's shoes, she supports Hillary," Steinem told me. "Overwhelmingly, women of colour, single women, poor women who have a better sense of their interest in issues, are for Hillary."

---

### *Translation*

Translate into correct French the following passage (**printed in bold characters**): from “But the woman gathered” to “harassment “seriously,” she said.”. /10

### *Questions*

- 1°) Explain briefly or define in English the words or phrases which are underlined in the text, **without translating them**: “bloodless”, “bout”, “gender”, “liberal”, “overwhelmingly”. /2,5
- 2°) Do you think that having people posting videos on YouTube to be selected for national TV broadcast is a further step towards more open political debates? (Answer and discuss in about 75 words) /2,5
- 3°) Do you agree with Jill Cartwright when she explains that "I feel that a woman can represent my interests better - no matter how liberal or progressive a man is."? (Answer and discuss in about 250 words) /5