



**Concours d'entrée en  
Section Internationale Britannique**

**Epreuve écrite**

**2023-2024**

**Numéro d'anonymat : .....**

**(Merci de le reporter ensuite sur chaque recto, en bas à droite)**

## A/ Compréhension de l'écrit

Lisez cet article adapté du Journal Britannique *The Guardian* et répondez aux questions. Toutes les réponses doivent être rédigées en français (à l'exception de la question 8)

James Mottershead's family has been in the chicken farming business for two decades, but nothing compares with the current situation. "Absolutely dire," is his summary. Based in Shropshire and operating from six vast sheds that churn out 1.3m chickens a year, the business has been hit by a cocktail of pressures.

Versatile and relatively affordable, chicken is the UK's most popular meat, with the level of consumption far outstripping beef, lamb or pork. But these challenges are pushing many domestic producers to reduce the size of their flocks, while others weigh up whether to continue at all.

While some of the government's bird flu restrictions have been lifted recently, allowing free range poultry and other birds to return outside, many other pressures have not eased up. The price of animal feed shot up, along with energy bills, after Russia's invasion, and there is little sign of these costs coming back down.

Mottershead's family has been producing broiler chickens – young birds grown for meat – since 2001. The latest batch of 205,000 chickens is now almost fully grown, destined for the shelves of the nation's largest supermarkets and smaller grocery stores in just over a week's time. Many producers are in a "really, really terrible position" and are making a loss on each bird, says Mottershead, who as chair of the National Farmers' Union (NFU) poultry board represents many of England and Wales's chicken and turkey farmers.

He and his fellow producers are being paid more for their birds than before, but he says the "liveweight" price is linked to the cost of feed, and does not take higher energy bills into account. It has risen from about 95p a kilogram before Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 to about £1.05/kg currently, an 11% increase. This comes at a time when the price of feed – which accounts for almost three-quarters of the input costs for poultry production – has risen by between 20% and 30% over the past two years and energy costs a kilowatt have increased five fold.

The UK is now about two-thirds self-sufficient in poultry, according to the NFU. Britain is a net importer of white poultry meat, particularly shoppers' favourite breast fillets. However, British diners' appetite for chicken is not expected to diminish anytime soon, and the industry fears cheaper imports could fill the gaps on supermarket shelves.

Trade figures highlight a small but significant increase in the amount of European poultry brought into Britain last year. The European Union exported 742,000 tonnes of poultry meat to the UK in 2022, a 2.3% rise on a year earlier, according to European Commission figures, making Britain the bloc's top export destination. Meanwhile, poultry exports from the UK to the EU

tumbled by almost 25% last year, falling to just over 208,000 tonnes, down from nearly 275,000 tonnes in 2021.

Mottershead is calling on the government to bring together the poultry supply chain to discuss sharing the burden placed on farmers. “We need retailers to start to demonstrate that they value the British poultry industry and will pay a sustainable price for those birds.” This means consumers would have to accept paying more for food, a difficult ask during a cost of living crisis and annual food price inflation running at almost 20%.

Beyond all these challenges, there may be one more problem facing poultry producers: the meat-free products hoping to steal chicken’s crown as the nation’s favourite protein. Tindle, which calls itself “chicken made from plants”, has just launched its breaded meat substitutes at 350 Morrisons stores, after a successful Veganuary trial. Made from wheat and soy protein, as well as coconut oil, it contains just nine ingredients including sunflower oil and natural flavours and no genetically modified organisms (GMOs), according to its maker, the Singapore-based food tech firm Next Gen Foods.

Tindle products – including wings, nuggets, and chicken popcorn – will be available for a year at hospitality venues, after which the company’s co-founders, Timo Recker and Andre Menezes, will seek a wider UK audience. “Anywhere chicken is, Tindle has to be. We need to disrupt chicken,” says Recker, the 37-year-old entrepreneur, adding that it is the biggest meat category, the fastest growing and people of most religions can eat it.

Believing such substitutes to be an environmentally friendly alternative, Tindle says it is targeting meat eaters and diners open to trying new things.

By Johanna Partridge, published in *The Guardian*, 1 May 2023.

## A-1/ Questions de compréhension (15 points)

1/ Quelle viande est la plus consommée au Royaume-Uni. ? Relevez dans le texte, deux raisons qui aident à comprendre pourquoi. (3 points)

.....

.....

.....

2/ Quel problème, qui est l’objet de cet article, préoccupe gravement James Mottershead ? (1 point)

.....

.....

.....

3/ Pourquoi James Mottershead est-il particulièrement concerné par ce problème ? (2 éléments de réponse sont attendus). (2 points)

.....

.....

.....

4/ L'article présente plusieurs raisons qui expliquent ce problème. Présentez-en quatre. (4 points)

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

5/ Expliquez qui est Timo Recker (1 point)

.....

.....

.....

6/ Expliquez quel est son objectif et pourquoi il pense pouvoir l'atteindre (2 point)

.....

.....

.....

7 / A votre avis, pourquoi la Russie et l'Ukraine sont-elles évoquées dans l'article ? (2 points)

.....

.....

.....

## A.2 Questions de linguistique (15 points)

8/ Retrouvez dans le texte un mot ou une expression correspondant aux significations suivantes (7 points)

- décennie : .....
- dépasser largement : .....
- volaille : .....
- épicerie : .....
- ses collègues / confrères : .....
- chiffres / statistiques : .....
- dans le même temps/ pendant ce temps: .....

9/ Traduisez les phrases ou expressions suivantes (le paragraphe d'où elles sont extraites est indiqué entre parenthèses). (8 points)

- *nothing compares with the current situation* (1)  
.....  
.....
- *some of the government's bird flu restrictions have been lifted recently.* (3)  
.....  
.....
- *energy costs a kilowatt have increased five fold.* (5)  
.....  
.....
- *according to European Commission figures* (7)  
.....  
.....
- *We need retailers to start to demonstrate that they value the British poultry industry and will pay a sustainable price for those birds* (8)  
.....  
.....



