

Assas

**Session :** Janvier 2017

**Année d'étude :** Deuxième année de Licence économie-gestion mention économie et gestion

**Discipline :** **Anglais**  
(Unité d'Enseignements Complémentaires 1)

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**Document(s) autorisé(s) :** Aucun document n'est autorisé

**Durée de l'épreuve : 1h30.**

**Vous rédigerez une synthèse en anglais à l'aide des documents ci-après.**

**Votre synthèse comportera environ 375 mots (+ / -10%)**

**mais ne reprendra aucune séquence de plus de trois mots des documents originaux.**

# US Trade

## Did you know?

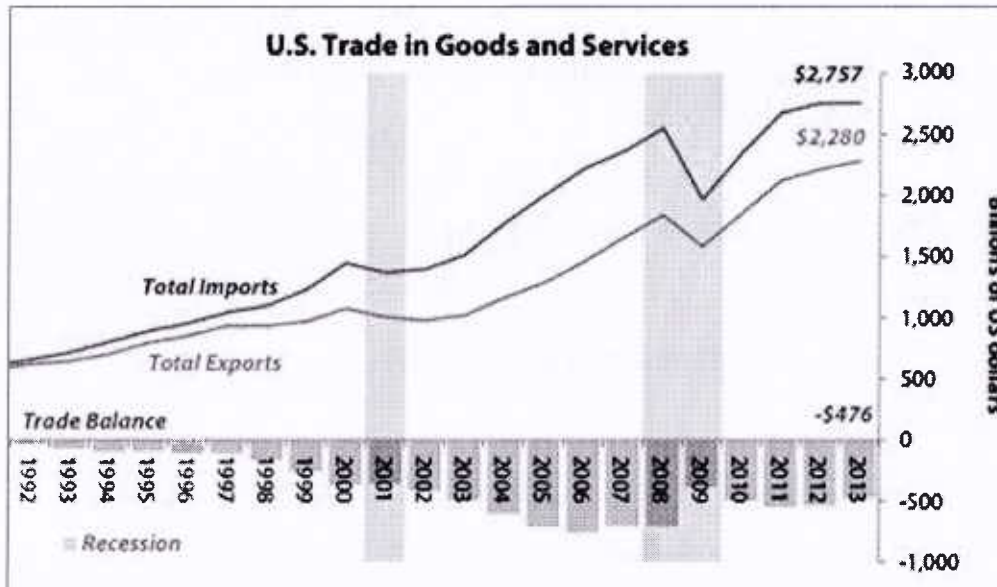
The post-World War II era has seen the dramatic growth of international trade and the creation of a global trading framework based on the principles of open economies. The United States has been at the forefront of these changes, even as its reliance on trade remains near the lowest of any developed country.

With global trade talks stalling, the United States has turned to regional and bilateral free trade agreements (FTAs). Having won the passage of FTAs with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea, President Barack Obama's administration is now focused on completing two blockbuster trade deals: the Asia-centered Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) – whose negotiations began in 2002 –, and a separate deal with the European Union, the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), officially launched in 2013.

Total trade (exports and imports) accounted for 30% of U.S. GDP in 2013.

*Adapted from cfr.org, September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2016*

## Doc 1:



(Source: International Trade Administration)

## Doc 2:

The years after the NAFTA agreement came into force, in 1994, were actually rather good ones for America's economy, including manufacturing. But China's accession to the WTO caused a big shock. By 2013 it had captured one-fifth of all manufacturing exports worldwide, compared with a share of only 2% in 1991.

This coincided with a fresh decline in factory jobs in America. Between 1999 and 2011 America lost almost 6m manufacturing jobs in net terms. That may not be as dramatic as it sounds, since America is a large and dynamic place where around 5m jobs come and go every month. Still, when researchers from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), the University of Zurich and the University of California, San Diego, looked into the job losses more closely, they found something worrying. At least one-fifth of the drop in factory jobs during that period was the direct result of competition from China.

Moreover, the American workers who had lost those jobs neither found new ones close by nor searched for work farther afield. They either swelled the ranks of the unemployed or, more often, left the workforce. That contradicts the widespread belief that America's jobs market is fluid and flexible. When men lose a factory job, they often stay put. Those who managed to find new jobs were paid less than before and were working in industries that were vulnerable to competition from imports. In subsequent research, the authors found that lost factory jobs also had a depressing effect on aggregate demand (and thus non-manufacturing jobs) in the affected areas. In total, up to 2.4m jobs may have been lost, directly and indirectly, as a consequence of imports from China.

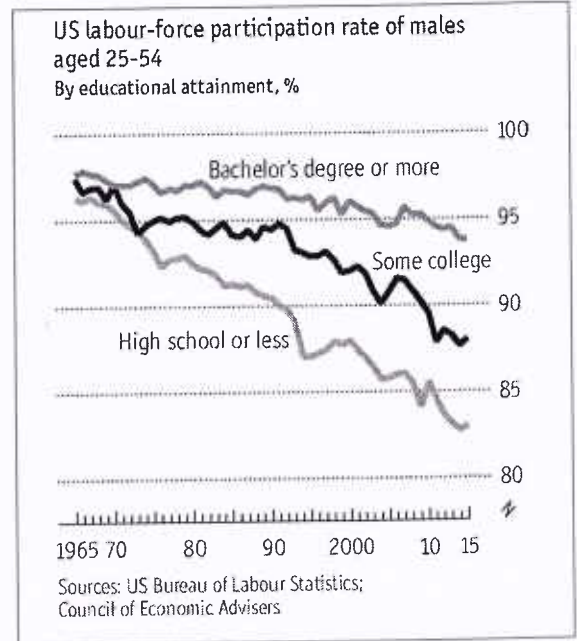
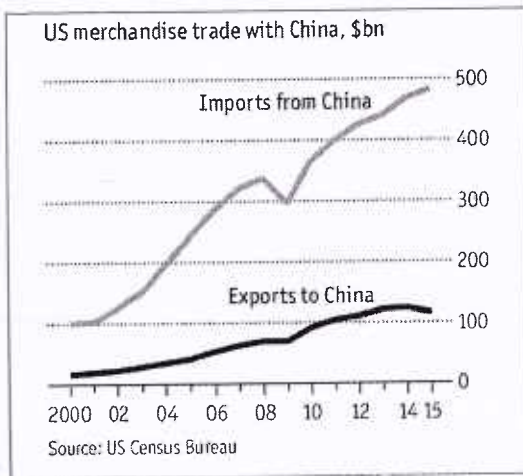
[...] It is important to note that America's growing inability to bounce back from losing manufacturing jobs predates the rise of China as an exporting power. A report published in June by the Council of Economic Advisers (CEA) shows that in the mid-1960s almost all men aged between 25 and 54 were either in work or looking for a job.

Trade with China seems to have had an unusually large effect on American workers. Since 1985, America has signed 15 free-trade agreements (FTAs) covering 20 countries. Exports to these countries account for nearly half of all the goods America sells abroad, even though FTA countries make up just a tenth of GDP outside America. In the five years after a new trade pact comes into force, America's exports to new FTA partners typically grow around three times as fast as its overall exports, at least keeping pace with imports. In 2012, exports to the 20 countries covered by FTAs grew twice as fast as the average. In America, exporting firms pay a wage premium of between 13% and 18%, compared with non-exporters.

Adapted from *The Economist*, October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

**Doc 4:**

**Doc 3:**



**Doc 5:**

Free trade is one of the subjects that first drew Donald Trump into politics. He has been grumbling about foreign powers cheating America and stealing jobs since the 1980s, when he would appear on television talk shows. He attacked free-trade deals as the NAFTA pact with Mexico and Canada, or the forthcoming Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) between America and 11 other Asia-Pacific countries. He claimed—with no evidence—that America had hired “stupid” negotiators.

Mr Trump will demand the renegotiation of existing trade pacts or would threaten to pull out of them. Every future trade agreement, from TPP to the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership with Europe will be put on hold. One of his close aids declared: “The era of trade deficits is over. It will be, ‘Let’s talk, but otherwise we put tariffs on.’”

Adapted from *The Economist*, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

