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Examen : BTS Opticien- Lunetier BTS Génie optique	Durée : 2h ; Coef : 1 Durée : 2h ; Coef : 2
Epreuve : Langue vivante écrite : ANGLAIS	

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Eye-opening success for iris scans

Iris scans are faster and more accurate than any other computerised means of identifying people, such as fingerprint, face or voice recognition, according to a new study. Most iris recognition systems are based on software created by John Daugman of Cambridge University. An image of an iris, with all the tiny pits, ridges and strings of tissue that make it unique, is turned into a series of three-dimensional contour maps. Then this information is compressed into a code of 1s and 0s just 2048 digits long. This code can be stored or checked against existing records in a database for a match.

Airport security

In a recent trial by the British government, there were no false matches in over two million tests, whereas the failure rate for other methods such as voice recognition ranged from 10 to 25 per cent. And an Eye Ticket Corporation project at an airport in North Carolina has correctly identified half a million volunteers with no mismatches since May last year. Such results prompted the International Air Transport Association to encourage London's Heathrow airport to try using iris scans for ticket and immigration control, in the hope of speeding up check-ins. The scans can be done with a video camera in a few seconds.

No cheating

Daugman admits that the evidence for irises staying the same with age is not extensive. "But I have seen ophthalmologists' photographs of irises taken 25 years apart, and I could see no changes of any details". As for hacking out someone's eyeball and holding it up to the camera, Daugman says this would not work. "The pupil dilates to as much as 80 per cent, and the cornea turns cloudy", he says, and both effects are easily detectable. "Believe it or not, this was actually the first question that the FBI and NSA gumshoes asked me." Curved contact lenses used to mimic an iris can also be distinguished from a real iris, which is nearly flat, he says.

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I) COMPREHENSION DU TEXTE (10 points)

- 1) Vous ferez de ce texte un résumé en français (130 mots environ +/- 10%)
6 points

- 2) Traduisez le texte de la ligne 9 (« In a recent trial ... ») à la ligne 12 (« ... since May last year »)
4 points

II) EXPRESSION ECRITE EN LANGUE ANGLAISE (10 points)

Traitez les deux question suivantes (180 mots au total) :

1. Mention and describe different, up-to-date technological means of personal identification.
2. In your opinion, which of them (including iris recognition) are likely to improve safety in our everyday life (personal and professional) ? Justify your point of view.