SESSION 2006

BACCALAUREAT GENERAL

ANGLAIS

SERIE L

LANGUE VIVANTE 1

Durée : 3 heures Coefficient : 4

NOTE IMPORTANTE

- Les réponses doivent impérativement être portées sur la copie d'examen à entête
- Il est inutile de recopier les questions posées. En revanche, il faudra inscrire scrupuleusement les numéros et/ou lettres des questions de chaque exercice.
- ◆ Les réponses devront impérativement être proposées dans le même ordre que celui de la feuille de sujet.

L'usage du dictionnaire et des calculatrices est interdit.

COMPREHENSION-EXPRESSION	14 points
TRADUCTION	06 points

Avant de composer, le candidat s'assurera que le sujet comporte bien 4 pages numérotées de 1/4 à 4/4.

They stood before the registering desk and he put the valises down and rubbed his hands together to get the sweat off. His back was wet with it.

"Some of them looked pretty young," she said hopefully.

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Through the white-curtained windows the backs of heads were showing from the porch.

He looked around at the silent lobby which smelled of the pines. To their left were three open French doors through which they could hear the tinkle of silverware. Now and then a waiter passed beyond the doorways, carrying clean dishes or tablecloths. How often he had sat here waiting, waiting desolately...

"Setting up for lunch," he said with experience. She had let go of his arm and was leaning against the desk looking taller than usual, he thought, for she was stretching and standing on her toes with her back a little arched as she surveyed the lobby with comfortable appreciation.

"I'd better let them know we're here," he said, and touched a little bell that was on the desk.

They waited several moments, looking out toward the porch. Low conversational voices rose and died momentarily out there. He felt the embarrassment of being ignored and turned to her.

"Always find somebody interesting to talk to here. Nice lively crowd."

"You recognize any of them?" She indicated the porch.

"No, there's always new people. But they don't stand for any of this summer-hotel rowdyism¹." He talked with relish, enjoying the unique privilege of opening a little bit of the world to her.

"I'd like to take a swim before lunch," she said, glancing at the suitcases to recall where her suit was.

"You can swim all day if you want to..."

They heard the loud creak of the rocker on the porch, and looked toward the door as a man entered the lobby. He was the small old man who had been carving the wood. Mr. Newman did not recall him from the previous stay. The old man crossed the lobby toward them, smiling tiredly with his head cocked to one side. As he walked he was wiping off the long blade of his knife and snapping it shut and knocking it against his palm as though it were a pipe.

Ignoring Gertrude altogether he stopped before Mr. Newman. His head was bent forward a little. He had a thick head of white hair through which he ran his fingers now that the knife was settled in his pocket.

"Yes, sir," he said quietly and with a soft smile.

"I'm Lawrence Newman, and this is Mrs. Newman..."

The old man nodded to her, saying, "How do you do," and closing his eyes, which opened again only when he was facing Mr. Newman an instant later. The introduction did not seem to make much difference to him, for he stood smiling kindly at Mr. Newman just as though they had not gotten beyond his initial "Yes, sir."

Mr. Newman started again. "I had a very good room here five summers ago. I wondered whether we could get it again."

"You can't get anything here. Full up," the old man said, closing his eyes once and opening them to stare all blue into Newman's face.

"Oh," Mr. Newman said. Somehow he could not meet the blue gaze of the old man. Looking down and then glancing at him, he said, "Is Mr. Sullivan around? He'd remem..."

"He's swimming," the old man said, his head unmoving, "but he couldn't help you. He's my son. I own the hotel."

Mr. Newman met the old man's adamantly² kind gaze. "I see," he said, quietly. He took a breath. "I thought he'd remember me. I was here for two weeks..."

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The old man's eyes closed as he shook his head with the smile still soft. "Full up, mister. Couldn't help you if I wanted to."

"We'll go onto the other one then, Lawrence," Gertrude said coming to them from the desk. Newman turned to her quickly. She was looking at the old man. Her eyelids were heavy and low and the little red splotches were showing on her face. "We wanted to save gas, that's why we tried you."

The old man's smile came down. "I'd be glad to help you if we weren't so full up," he said, with deeper baritone.

"Yeh, I know. You must be mobbed³ with twelve cars out there. What, did the rest of your guests get here by yacht?"

"I said what I have to say, lady."

"Jump in with your son and drown, will ya?" She turned now to Newman who was standing between the valises gaping at her. "Let's go, Lawrence," she said huskily.

Arthur Miller, Focus, 1945.

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I - COMPREHENSION

1. How many characters are present in the text? Where are they and why are they there?

Read from line 1 to line 26.

- 2. What time of the year does the scene take place? (two justifications).
- 3. Pick out three quotes showing that it is not the first time the male character has been here.
- 4. a) Pick out three quotations referring to sounds
 - b) What impression is conveyed? (20 words).
- 5. "He talked with relish (...) a little bit of the world to her." (line 22 to 23) What does this sentence reveal about the man's personality?

Read from line 27 to the end.

- 6. How does the description of the old man (I 27 to I 35) contrast with his actual status in the hotel? (30 words)
- 7. What effect does Newman expect his name will have on the old man?
- 8. What disappointing information do the couple get from the old man?
- Say whether the following adjectives apply to Newman or the old man. Justify in your own words using elements from the text. (60 words)
 DISCONCERTED / ILL AT EASE / RUDE / SELF-ASSURED
- 10. How does the woman react to the situation? (30 words)

¹ rowdyism : great noise, uproar.

² adamantly: categorically.

³ mobbed : crowded.

II - EXPRESSION

Choisir un seul des sujets suivants (250 mots +/- 10 %).

Indiquer le nombre de mots.

- 1. Have you ever had any unpleasant experiences during your holidays? Say what happened.
- 2. Just after leaving the hotel, the couple discover that there are still a number of rooms vacant. Imagine what happens next.

III - TRADUCTION

Traduire en français de la ligne 47 ("Oh", Mr Newman said...) jusqu'à la ligne 56 (Couldn't help you if I wanted to).