

BACCALAUREAT GENERAL**ANGLAIS****SERIE S****LANGUE VIVANTE 2**

Durée Série S : 2 heures

COEFFICIENT : 2

NOTE IMPORTANTE

- ◆ Les réponses doivent impérativement être portées sur la copie d'examen à en-tête.
- ◆ 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	10 points
EXPRESSION	10 points

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

I am three years old and in the company of my grandfather. I have with me a tricycle on which I am trundling round the perimeter of the garden while Granddad sits in that Greek-temple affair that serves as a shelter near the wrought iron fence. Granddad has brought a newspaper to read, but he isn't reading. Instead he's listening to some music coming from one of the buildings behind him.

He says to me in a hushed voice, 'it's called a concerto, Gideon. This is Paganini's D Major concerto. Listen.' He beckons me to his side. He sits at the very end of the bench and I stand next to him, with his arm round my shoulders, and I listen.

And I know in an instant that this is what I want to do. I somehow know as a three-year-old what has never left me since: that to listen is to be but to play is to live.

I insist that we leave the garden at once. Granddad's hands are arthritic and they struggle with the gate. I demand that he hurry 'before it's too late'.

'Too late for what?' he asks me fondly.

I grab his hand and show him.

I lead him to the Peabody House which is where the music is coming from. And then we're inside, where a lino floor has recently been washed and the air stings our eyes with the smell of bleach.

Up on the first floor, we find the source of the Paganini concerto. One of the bed-sitting rooms is the dwelling place of Miss Rosemary Orr, long retired from the London Philharmonic. She is standing in front of a large wall mirror, and she's got a violin under her chin and a bow in her hand. She isn't playing the Paganini, though. Instead, she's listening to a recording of it with her eyes closed and her bow hand lowered and tears coursing down her cheeks and onto the wood of her instrument.

'She's going to break it, Granddad,' I inform my grandfather. And this rouses Miss Orr who starts and no doubt wonders how an arthritic old gentleman and a runny-nosed boy come to be standing at the door to her room.

But there is no time for her to voice any consternation, for I go to her and take the instrument from her hands. And I begin to play.

Not well, of course, for who would believe that an untrained three-year-old no matter his natural talent could possibly pick up a violin and play Paganini's Concerto in D Major the first time he's heard it? But the raw materials are there within me – the ear, the inherent balance, the passion – and Miss Orr sees this and insists that she be allowed to instruct the precocious child.

So she becomes my first violin instructor. And I remain with her until I am four and a half years old, at which time it is decided that a less conventional manner of instruction is required for my talent.

Elizabeth George, *A Traitor to Memory*, 2001

I – COMPREHENSION

- 1°) What kind of text is it?
- 2°) What does it relate? (10 – 20 words)
- 3°) Specify the circumstances (place, people, activities...) (30 words)
- 4°) **Read the text again from line 1 to line 11.**
- a) Show that the grandfather has a passion for music. (20 words)
 - b) Show that he wants to share it with his grandson. (20 words) Support your answer with quotations.
- 5°) The main character : what do we learn about him (name, age, tastes, personality...)? (30 words)
- 6°) Are the following statements true or false? Justify your answers with quotations from the text.
- a) The grandfather has a good knowledge of music.
 - b) For the main character, it is more gratifying to play music than to listen to it.
 - c) The old lady is playing the concerto in her flat.
 - d) She is moved by the music.
 - e) She expected her visitors.
 - f) The main character had played this instrument before.
 - g) This was an unimportant event in his life.
- 7°) Answer questions a) and c) and complete sentence b).
- a) line 10 : "this is what I want to do".
What does he want to do?
 - b) line 13 : "before it's too late" means before.....
 - c) line 25 : "She's going to break it"
What does "it" refer to?
- 8°) a) What do we learn about Miss Orr? Write a paragraph in your own words. (40 words)
- b) (lines 33 and 34)
- "Miss Orr (...) insists that she be allowed to instruct the precocious child."
Why does she insist? (30 words)
- 9°) Translate from "She is standing" (l.21) to "Paganini, though." (l.22)

II – EXPRESSION

Les candidats traiteront au choix un seul des deux sujets (150 mots +/- 10 %)

1. Have you got a passion in life? Write about it.
2. Write about an episode of your childhood that you still vividly remember today.