

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

SESSION 2009

ANGLAIS LV 2

Séries L/S

Série L

Durée : 3 heures - Coefficient : 4

Série S

Durée : 2 heures - Coefficient : 2

L'usage de la calculatrice et du dictionnaire n'est pas autorisé.

*Dès que le sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.
Ce sujet comporte 4 pages numérotées de 1/4 à 4/4.*

COMPRÉHENSION	10 pts
EXPRESSION	10 pts

In 1973, halfway through the school year, we moved to Grand Island, Nebraska. Or rather, everyone in the family except my dad moved. At the time, my mom told us that we were leaving so that my dad would be able to finish his dissertation, and we moved into a small duplex just around the corner from my mom's parents' house. While
5 my dad did indeed finish his dissertation that year, he and my mother had in fact separated. It was years, however, before we ever learned the truth about this. My mom was not above keeping secrets from us if she thought the truth would hurt us.

Grand Island was a sleepy little town, nestled in the middle of the state, and as different from Los Angeles as a place could be. Wide yards separated the homes, and
10 directly across the street from my grandparents was the elementary school we'd attend. Unlike the schools we'd been attending, Gates Elementary had massive grass fields, baseball diamonds, and – on the far side, just off the school property – a set of train tracks, where trains would come by regularly. [...]

Entering a new school halfway through the year is always hard, and for the first
15 couple of weeks my brother and I spent most afternoons together, as we had in Los Angeles. We discovered the parks and rode our bikes there; more often than not, we'd see dozens of other kids playing games, some of whom were in our classes. A month later, they would all be there again, sledging down the hills.

But by that age, the differences between us were becoming apparent. Micah was
20 taller, stronger, and more athletic than I, and seemed to fear nothing. He viewed the move as a new adventure, made friends easily, and carried himself with a confidence that I found elusive. I had always been less secure than he. And I worried constantly. I worried about getting in trouble, I worried about getting good grades, and I worried what other people thought about me. I worried about doing the right thing, and playing with
25 the right kind of kids. Though I did indeed make new friends, it took far longer for me to adjust to my new surroundings.

As spring overtook winter, Micah seemed to have less and less need for my companionship, and when I tried to tag along with him, he began treating me as a nuisance. [...]

Around that time, we had our first fight. I can't remember what we'd been arguing
30 about, but one thing led to the next, and fists were flying. He punched me in the stomach, knocking the wind out of me, and slammed me to the ground. Soon, he was on top of me and hitting me over and over. I was helpless to defend myself, absorbing blow after blow. The next thing I remember is the sound of my mother screaming.
35 Jerking Micah up, she swatted him before sending him to his room. He skulked off, and as I struggled to my feet, my mom reached for my arm.

"What happened?"

"He hates me!" I cried.

Even then, I didn't know whether my pain or humiliation was worse, and when my
40 mom tried to comfort me, I shook her hand from my arm.

"Leave me alone!" Turning away, I began to run.

I didn't know where I was going, all I knew was that I didn't want to talk to
45 anyone. I didn't want to see anyone. I didn't want to be small, I didn't want to live in Nebraska, and I didn't want anyone's pity. All I wanted was for things to be the way they used to be, and I kept going and going, as if somehow hoping to make time move in reverse.

Later, I found myself at the railroad tracks, some distance from home. I sat beneath a tree [...] with my face in my hands, shoulders quaking, wishing that our fight had never happened, and crying as I'd never cried before.

Nicholas Sparks and Micah Sparks, *Three Weeks with My Brother*, 2004.

NOTE IMPORTANTE AUX CANDIDATS

Les candidats traiteront le sujet **sur la copie qui leur sera fournie** en respectant l'ordre des questions et en faisant apparaître la **numérotation** (numéro et lettre repère le cas échéant). Ils composeront des phrases complètes chaque fois qu'il leur est demandé de rédiger les réponses. **Le nombre de mots** indiqué constitue une exigence minimale. En l'absence d'indication, les candidats répondront brièvement (moins de 20 mots) à la question posée.

COMPRÉHENSION

1. What is the genre of the text:
 - historical novel?
 - autobiography?
 - detective story?
 - drama?
2. Choose the title that best suits the text:
 - children's games
 - growing up
 - school memories
3.
 - a. Who are the two main characters? How are they related?
 - b. What age group do they belong to? Justify with a quotation.
 - 6-12 year-olds
 - teenagers
 - young adults
4. In what country does the story take place?
5. What happened in 1973 in the narrator's life? What was the cause? (30 words)

From line 8 to line 18

6. True or false? Justify by quoting from the text. Indicate the lines.
 - a. The story takes place in Los Angeles.
 - b. The narrator enjoyed entering the new school.
 - c. The narrator and Micah got on well.

From line 19 to line 29

7. True or false? Justify by quoting from the text. Indicate the lines.
- a. The narrator and Micah were physically different.
 - b. Micah liked being in the narrator's company.
8. Which adjectives can be used to describe the two main characters? Justify by quoting.
Copy the grid below and fill it in.

ADJECTIVE	CHARACTER	LINE AND QUOTATION
Confident		
Sociable		
Anxious		
Reckless		
Conscientious		
Insecure		

From line 30 to the end

9. The fight: pick out four verbs showing how violent the fight was.
10. After the fight: express in your own words why the narrator feels **humiliated, sad and nostalgic**. (30-40 words)
11. What physical details show the narrator's sadness? Quote three elements and indicate the lines.
12. Translate into French
from line 14 ("*Entering a new school...*") to line 17 ("*... our classes.*")

EXPRESSION

Les candidats de la série L traiteront obligatoirement les deux sujets (300 mots au total, soit environ 150 mots pour chaque sujet).

Les candidats de la série S traiteront, au choix, un des deux sujets (200 mots).

1. In the evening, the mother tells the grandparents what has happened. Imagine their conversation. Write a dialogue that is consistent with the **text**
2. Would you like to move to a new place or would you find it difficult to adjust?
Discuss.