

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

SESSION 2012

ANGLAIS

Langue vivante 1

Séries ES et S

Durée : 3 heures - Coefficient 3

L'usage des calculatrices et de tout dictionnaire est interdit.

Compréhension écrite : 10 points

Expression : 10 points

Le sujet comporte 5 pages numérotées de 1 à 5.

[The scene takes place in Germany in 1939.]

When school broke up briefly for *Weihnachten*¹, Liesel even afforded Sister Maria a 'Merry Christmas' before going on her way. Knowing that the Hubermanns were essentially broke, still paying off debts and paying rent quicker than the money could come in, she was not expecting a gift of any sort. Perhaps only some better food. To her surprise, on Christmas Eve, after sitting in church at midnight with Mama, Papa, Hans Junior and Trudy, she came home to find something wrapped in newspaper under the Christmas tree.

'From Saint Niklaus,' Papa said, but the girl was not fooled. She hugged both her foster parents², with snow still laid across her shoulders.

10 Unfurling the paper, she unwrapped two small books. The first one, *Faust the Dog*, was written by a man named Mattheus Oettleberg. All up, she would read that book thirteen times. On Christmas Eve, she read the first twenty pages at the kitchen table while Papa and Hans Junior argued about a thing she did not understand. Something called politics.

15 Later they read some more in bed, adhering to the tradition of circling the words she didn't know and writing them down. *Faust the Dog* also had pictures – lovely curves and ears and caricatures of a German Shepherd with an obscene drooling problem and the ability to talk.

20 The second book was called *The Lighthouse* and was written by a woman, Ingrid Rippinstein. That particular book was a little longer, so Liesel was only able to get through it nine times, her pace increasing ever so slightly by the end of such prolific readings.

25 It was a few days after Christmas that she asked her Papa a question regarding the books. They were all eating in the kitchen. Looking at the spoonfuls of pea soup entering Mama's mouth, she decided to shift her focus to Papa. 'There's something I need to ask.'

At first, there was nothing.

'And?'

It was Mama, her mouth still half full.

30 'I just wanted to know how you found the money to buy my books.'

A short grin was smiled into Papa's spoon. 'You really want to know?'

'Of course.'

From his pocket, Papa took what was left of his tobacco ration and began rolling a cigarette, at which Liesel became impatient.

35 'Are you going to tell me or not?'

Papa laughed. 'But I *am* telling you, child.' He completed the production of one cigarette, flipped it on the table, and began on another. 'Just like this.'

¹ *Weihnachten*: Christmas (in German)

² Foster parents: *famille d'accueil*

40 That was when Mama finished her soup with a clank, suppressed a burp and answered for him. 'That *Saukerl*³,' she said. 'You know what he did? He rolled up all of his filthy cigarettes, went to the market when it was in town and traded them with some gypsy.'

'Eight cigarettes per book.' Papa showed one in his mouth in triumph. He lit up and took in the smoke. 'Praise the Lord for cigarettes, huh, Mama?'

45 Mama only handed him one of her trademark looks of disgust, followed by the most common ration of her vocabulary. '*Saukerl*.'

Liesel swapped a wink⁴ with her Papa and finished eating her soup. As always, one of her books was next to her. She could not deny that the answer to her question had been more than satisfactory. There were not many people who could say that their education had been paid for with cigarettes.

50 Mama, on the other hand, said that if Hans Hubermann was any good at all, he would trade some tobacco for the new dress she was in desperate need of, or some better shoes. 'But no...' She emptied the words out into the sink. 'When it comes to me, you'd rather smoke a whole ration, wouldn't you? *Plus* some of next door's.'

55 A few nights later, however, Hans Hubermann came home with a box of eggs. 'Sorry, Mama.' He placed them on the table. 'They were all out of shoes.'

Mama didn't complain.

She even sang to herself as she cooked those eggs to the brink of burndom. It appeared that there was great joy in cigarettes, and it was a happy time in the Hubermann household.

60 It ended a few weeks later.

Markus Zusak, *The Book Thief*, 2005

³ *Saukerl* (derogatory German word) ≈ pig, stupid man

⁴ wink: *clin d'oeil*

NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

Les candidats traiteront le sujet sur la copie qui leur sera fournie et veilleront à :

- respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter la numérotation sur la copie (numéro et lettre repère, le cas échéant ; ex : 6b.).
- faire précéder les citations de la mention de la ligne.
- composer des phrases complètes à chaque fois qu'il leur est demandé de rédiger la réponse.
- respecter le nombre de mots indiqué. En l'absence d'indication, les candidats répondront brièvement à la question posée.

I – Compréhension écrite

1. a) Identify all the members in this family. Say how they are related and give their full names when possible.
- b) The main character is ...
 - 3 - 4 years old
 - 7-10 years old
 - 14 -16 years old

Select the right answer then justify by quoting from the text. (one quote)

2. **Focus on lines 1 - 22**

- a) On what special occasion is this first scene set? Justify your answer with three different quotes.
 - b) What comes as a surprise to Liesel on that occasion? (10 words max.)
 - c) Why is it so surprising? Answer in your own words (10 words) and justify with one quote.
3. By quoting from the text (one quote for each quotation), show that...
 - a) Liesel is an avid reader.
 - b) Her reading improves very gradually.

4. **Focus on lines 30 - 43**

- a) What is Liesel's question to her foster parents?
- b) Contrast the ways in which each of her two foster parents answers that question. (30 - 40 words).
- c) Quote two elements from the text showing that the father is enjoying himself.
- d) What other feeling does the father express? Answer in your own words and justify with one quote.

5. **Focus on lines 44 - 60**

- a) Which foster parent is Liesel closer to? Explain and justify with one quote. (20 - 30 words)
 - b) What does Mama reproach her husband for? Give at least two reasons. (10 - 20 words)
 - c) Why does Hans Hubermann say that he is "sorry" (l. 54)? (10 - 20 words)
 - d) Why doesn't Mama complain? (10 words)
 - e) How do you understand the sentence "It appeared that there was great joy in cigarettes" (l. 57)?
6. Translate into French from line 57 ("She even sang ...") to line 59 ("household").

II - **Expression**

Les candidats traiteront l'**UN** des deux sujets au choix (indiquer le nombre de mots). 300 mots +/- 10%

- a) Imagine why this "happy time" "ended a few weeks later" (l. 60).

OU

- b) Can reading affect the way we live our lives? Give examples of books which have had an impact on you.