BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

Session 2015

ANGLAIS

Langue Vivante 1

Durée de l'épreuve : **3 heures**

Séries **ES/S** – coefficient : **3**

Série **L** langue vivante obligatoire (LVO) – coefficient : **4**

Série **L** LVO et langue vivante approfondie (LVA) – coefficient : **8**

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

Ce sujet comporte 7 pages numérotées de 1/7 à 7/7.

Dès que ce sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.

Répartition des points

Compréhension	10 points
Expression	10 points

DOCUMENT A

A month before for my birthday, Anek had taken me to the new American fast-food place at Sogo Mall. I was happy that day. I had dreamed all week of hamburgers and french fries and a nice cold soda and the air-conditioning of the place. During the ride to the mall, my arms wrapped around my brother's waist, the motorcycle sputtering under us, I imagined sitting at one of those shiny plastic tables across from my brother. We'd be pals. After all, it was my birthday—he had to grant me that. We would look like those university students I had seen through the floor-to-ceiling windows, the ones who laughed and sipped at their sodas. Afterward, we would walk into the summer sun with soft-serve sundaes, my brother's arm around my shoulder.

The place was packed, full of students and families clamoring for a taste of American fast food. All around us, people hungrily devoured their meals. I could smell beef cooking on the grill, hear peanut oil bubbling in the deep fryers. I stared at the illuminated menu above the counter.

"What should I get, Anek?"

"Don't worry, kid. I know just what you'd like."

We waited in line, ordered at the counter, took our tray to an empty booth. Anek said he wasn't hungry, but I knew he had only enough money to order for me: a small burger and some fries. I decided not to ask him about it. I wasn't going to piss him off, what with it being my birthday and what with people being so touchy about money ever since Pa died. As we walked to the booth, I told Anek we could share the meal, I probably wouldn't be able to finish it all myself anyway.

Even though he had been telling me all month about how delicious and great the place was, my brother looked a little uncomfortable. He kept glancing around nervously. It occurred to me then that it was probably his first time there as well. We had on our best clothes that day—Anek in his blue jeans and white polo shirt, me in my khakis and red button-down—but even then I knew our clothes couldn't compare to the other kids' clothes.

Their clothes had been bought in the mall; ours had been bought at the weekend bazaar and were cheap imitations of what they wore.

Anek stared across the table at me. He smiled. He tousled my hair.

"Happy birthday, kid. Eat up."

"Thanks, Anek."

I unwrapped the burger. I peeked under the bun at the gray meat, the limp green pickles, the swirl of yellow mustard and red ketchup. Anek stared out the window at the road in front of the mall. For some reason, I suddenly felt like I should eat as quickly as possible so we could get the hell out of there. I didn't feel so excited any more. And I noticed that the place smelled strange—a scent I'd never encountered before—a bit rancid, like palaa fish left too long in the sun. Later, I would find out it was cheese.

Rattawut Lapcharoensap, *At the café lovely*, in *Sightseeing*, 2005

DOCUMENT B

Moving to America was both exciting and frightening, but we found great comfort in knowing my father spoke English. Having spent years regaling us with stories about his graduate years in America, he had left us with the distinct impression that America was his second home. My mother and I planned to stick close to him, letting him guide us through the exotic American landscape that he knew so well. We counted on him not only to translate the language but also to translate the culture, to be a link to the most foreign of lands. He was to be our own private Rosetta stone[1].

Once we reached America, we wondered whether perhaps my father had confused his life in America with someone else's. Judging from the bewildered looks of store cashiers, gas station attendants, and waiters, my father spoke a version of English not yet shared with the rest of America. His attempts to find a "vater closet" in a department store would usually lead us to the drinking fountain or the home furnishings section. Asking my father to ask a waitress the definition of "sloppy Joe" or "Tater Tots" was no problem. His translations, however, were highly suspect. Waitresses would spend several minutes responding to my father's questions, and these responses, in turn, would be translated as "She doesn't know." Thanks to my father's translations, we stayed away from hot dogs, catfish, and hush puppies[2], and no amount of caviar in the sea would have convinced us to try mud pie.

We wondered how my father had managed to spend several years attending school in America yet remain utterly befuddled by Americans. We soon discovered that his college years had been mainly spent at the library, where he had managed to avoid contact with all Americans except his engineering professors. As long as the conversation was limited to vectors, surface tension, and fluid mechanics, my father was Fred Astaire[3] with words. But one step outside the scintillating world of petroleum engineering and he had two left tongues.

Firoozeh Dumas, *Funny in Farsi*, 2003

[1] Rosetta stone (l.8): a stone that helped understanding Egyptian hieroglyphs

[2] hush puppies (l.18) : fried food

[3] Fred Astaire (l.25) : an American musical dancer (1899-1987)

COMPRÉHENSION

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

- respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter les repères sur la copie (lettre ou lettre et numéro ou lettre, numéro et lettre). Exemples : **I.** ou **I.1.** ;
- faire toujours suivre les citations du numéro de la ligne ;
- répondre à toutes les questions en anglais.

En l'absence d'indications spécifiques, le candidat répondra **brièvement** aux questions.

DOCUMENT A

Tous les candidats traitent les questions de I à III

Read the whole text.

I.

1. Identify the main characters and say how they are related.

2. What do you learn about the main characters' family situation and its consequence?

3. "I was happy that day." (l.2)
   Find two elements showing this day is special for the narrator. Explain.

Read the whole text again and focus on the main characters.

II. What words best define their relationship? Justify your choices with a quote for each word.

rivalry / reject / care / indifference / tension

III.

1. Now focus on the place. How had they imagined it? Answer in your own words giving three different elements.

2. Did it match reality? Give three different elements to justify your answer.

3. How did they feel once there? (30 words)

Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent également la question IV

IV.

1. "I could smell beef cooking on the grill, hear peanut oil bubbling in the deep fryers." (l.11-12)
   How does the author make the reader share the narrator's experience? Find other instances of this technique. Identify and classify them.

2. Read the last paragraph again.
   How does the narrator's mood evolve?
   The author's style illustrates this change of mood. Give one technique and find a quote.

DOCUMENT B

Tous les candidats traitent les questions de V à VII

Read the whole text.

V. "Having spent years regaling us with stories about his graduate years in America, he had left us with the distinct impression that America was his second home." (l.2-4)
Who do the underlined pronouns refer to?

VI.

1. Read the first paragraph again and explain the family situation in your own words.
2. Which member of the family has an important role to play in this situation? Explain what role.

VII. “My father spoke a version of English not yet shared with the rest of America.” (l.11-12)

Explain the quote.

Analyse the narrator’s tone and find two other instances to illustrate your point.

DOCUMENT A AND DOCUMENT B

Tous les candidats traitent la question VIII

Read the two documents again.

VIII.

1. Explain the differences and similarities in the way both narrators have access to American culture. (70 words)

2. What can the reader perceive about American culture in both documents?

EXPRESSION

Seuls les candidats des séries S et ES et ceux de la série L <u>qui ne composent pas</u> au titre de la <u>LVA</u> (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent le sujet I ou le sujet II, au choix.

SUJET I

The narrator in document B writes an e-mail to a friend to relate a family outing in a restaurant in America. (300 words)

SUJET II

Is food the only way to discover a foreign culture? (300 words)

Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la <u>LVA</u> (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent le sujet III ou le sujet IV, au choix.

SUJET III

“Appearances are sometimes deceptive.” Discuss. (300 words)

SUJET IV

To what extent does globalization transcend culture? (300 words)