

Session 2011

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

ANGLAIS

Langue vivante 2

Séries L et S

Série L :
Durée 3 heures – coefficient 4

Série S :
Durée 2 heures – coefficient 2

L'usage du dictionnaire et des calculatrices est interdit.

Compréhension	10 points
Expression	10 points

Le sujet comporte 5 pages numérotées 1/5 à 5/5.

“I love him, Mom. Does that mean anything to you? Do you remember that word from somewhere? He makes my heart beat faster. I can’t live without him.”

5 Ella heard herself chuckle. It wasn’t her intention to make fun of her daughter’s feelings, not at all, but that was probably what her laughing to herself sounded like. For reasons unknown to her, she felt extremely nervous. She’d had fights with Jeannette before, hundreds of them, but today it felt as though she were quarreling with something else, something bigger.

10 “Mom, haven’t you ever been in love?” Jeannette retorted, a hint of contempt creeping into her tone.

“Oh, give me a break! Stop daydreaming and get real, will you? You’re being so...” Ella’s eyes darted toward the window, hunting for a dramatic word, until finally she came up with “... romantic!”

15 “What’s wrong with being romantic?” Jeannette asked, sounding offended.

Really, what was wrong with being romantic? Ella wondered. Since when was she so annoyed by romanticism? Unable to answer the questions tugging at the edges of her mind, she continued all the same. “Come on, honey. Which century are you living in? Just get it in your head, women don’t marry the men they fall in love with. When push comes to shove, they choose the guy who’ll be a good father and a reliable husband. Love is only a sweet feeling bound to come and quickly go away.”

20 When she finished talking, Ella turned to her husband. David had clasped his hands in front of him, slowly as if through water, and was looking at her like he’d never seen her before.

25 “I know why you’re doing this,” Jeannette said. “You’re jealous of my happiness and my youth. You want to make an unhappy housewife out of me. You want me to be you, Mom.”

30 Ella felt a strange, sinking feeling in the pit of her stomach, as if she had a giant rock sitting there. Was she an unhappy housewife? A middle-aged mom trapped in a failing marriage? Was this how her children saw her? And her husband, too? What about friends and neighbors? Suddenly she had the feeling that everyone around her secretly pitied her, and the suspicion was so painful that she gasped.

35 “You should apologize to your mom,” David said, turning to Jeannette with a frown on his face.

“It’s all right. I don’t expect an apology,” Ella said dejectedly.

40 Jeannette gave her mother a mock leer. And just like that, she pushed back her chair, threw her napkin aside, and walked out of the kitchen. After a minute Orly and Avi silently followed suit, either in an unusual act of solidarity with their elder sister or because they’d gotten bored of all this adult talk. Aunt Esther left next, mumbling some poor excuse while chewing fiercely on her last antacid tablet.

45 David and Ella remained at the table, an intense awkwardness hanging in the air between them. It pained Ella to have to face this void, which, as they both knew, had nothing to do with Jeannette or any of their children.

David grabbed the fork he had put aside and inspected it for a while. “So should I conclude that you didn’t marry the man you loved?”

Elif SHAFAK, *The Forty Rules of Love*, 2010.

NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

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

- a) respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter la numérotation sur la copie (numéro et lettre repère le cas échéant, ex. 8a) ;**
- b) les citations seront limitées aux éléments pertinents et seront précédées de la mention de la ligne ;**
- c) en l'absence d'indications précises quant au nombre de mots, répondre brièvement à la question posée ;**
- d) respecter le nombre de mots demandés.**

A. COMPREHENSION GENERALE

- 1. Ella and her daughter Jeannette are talking about love. Explain in your own words why they are having this conversation. (30-40 words)**

- 2. Give their respective views on the subject in your own words. (50-60 words)**

- 3. Explain what this conversation reveals about the parents' marriage. Give two quotes to justify your answer. (30-40 words)**

B. COMPREHENSION DETAILLEE

Focus on Ella and Jeannette:

4. How would you describe the atmosphere between them? (30 words)
5. These adjectives may be used to describe Ella. Justify with one quote per adjective.

irritated, cynical, pensive, uncomfortable

6. *“You want to make an unhappy housewife out of me. You want me to be you, Mom”* (lines 27-28). Explain what Jeannette means. (30 words)

Focus on Ella’s husband, David.

7. Line 24 *“[David] was looking at her like he’d never seen her before.”*
Line 35 *“You should apologize to your mom,” David said.*
Line 47 *“So should I conclude that you didn’t marry the man you loved?”*

From these quotations, what do you understand about David? (30-40 words)

Seuls les candidats de la série L répondront aux questions suivantes:

8. Concentrate on lines 29 to 34.
 - a. What effect do Jeannette’s words have on Ella? (50 words)
 - b. What literary technique does the author use to show this effect?
 - c. Quote two sentences that show how strong her reaction is.

TRADUCTION

9. Translate from l. 44 *“David and Ella remained at the table”* to l. 48 *“the man you loved?”*

C. EXPRESSION

Les candidats choisiront de traiter UN des trois sujets au choix.

Série L :	300 mots minimum
Série S :	200 mots minimum

Sujet 1: “Should I conclude that you didn’t marry the man you loved?”
Imagine how the conversation between Ella and David continues.

Sujet 2: Jeannette decides to apologize to Ella. Write the letter she sends her.

Sujet 3: “What’s wrong with being romantic these days?” Discuss.