

Session 2007

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

ANGLAIS

Langue vivante 1

Séries ES - S

Durée : 3 heures – Coefficient 3

L'usage du dictionnaire et des calculatrices est interdit.

Compréhension	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.

Pete Johnson, joining Harry and Claude at a pair of snowmobiles that had been specially rebuilt for the rigors of the pole, told them, 'The shaft's twenty-eight yards deep. One more extension for the bit, and the job's done.'

5 'Thank God!' Claude Jobert shivered as if his thermal suit provided no protection whatsoever. In spite of the transparent film of petroleum jelly that protected the exposed portions of his face from frostbite, he was pale and drawn. 'We'll make it back to base camp tonight. Think of that! I haven't been warm one minute since we left.'

10 Ordinarily, Claude didn't complain. He was a jovial, energetic little man. At a glance, he seemed fragile, but that was not the case. At five-seven and a hundred thirty pounds, he was lean, wiry, hard. He had a mane of white hair now tucked under his hood, a face weathered and made leathery by a lifetime in extreme climates, and bright blue eyes as clear as those of a child. Harry had never seen hatred or anger in those eyes. Until yesterday, he had never seen self-pity in them, either, not even
15 three years ago, when Claude had lost his wife, Collette, in a sudden, senseless act of violence; he had been consumed by grief but had never wallowed in self-pity.

20 Since they had left the comfort of Edgeway Station, however, Claude had been neither jovial nor energetic, and he had complained frequently about the cold. At fifty-nine, he was the oldest member of the expedition, eighteen years older than Harry Carpenter, which was the outer limit for anyone working in those brutal latitudes.

25 Although he was a fine arctic geologist specializing in the dynamics of ice formation and movement, the current expedition would be his last trip to either pole. Henceforth⁽¹⁾, his research would be done in laboratories and at computers, far from the severe conditions of the icecap.

30 Harry wondered if Jobert was bothered less by the bitter cold than by the knowledge that the work he loved had grown too demanding for him. One day Harry would have to face the same truth, and he wasn't sure that he would be able to exit with grace. The great chaste spaces of the Arctic and Antarctic enthralled him: the power of the extreme weather, the mystery that cloaked the white geometric landscapes and pooled in the purple shadows of every seemingly unplumbable crevasse, the spectacle on clear nights when the aurora borealis splashed the sky with shimmering streamers of light in jewellike colors, and the vast fields of stars when the curtains of the aurora drew back to reveal them.

35 In some ways he was still the kid who had grown up on a quiet farm in Indiana, without brothers or sisters or playmates, the lonely boy who'd felt stifled⁽²⁾ by the life into which he'd been born, who'd daydreamed of traveling to far places and seeing all the exotic marvels of the world, who'd wanted never to be tied down to one plot of earth, and who'd yearned for adventure. He was a grown man now, and he knew that adventure was hard *work*. Yet, from time to time, the boy within him was abruptly
40 overcome by wonder, stopped whatever he was doing, slowly turned in a circle to look at the dazzlingly white world around him, and thought: *Holy jumping catfish, I'm really here, all the way from Indiana to the end of the earth, the top of the world!*

Pete Johnson said, 'It's snowing.'

Dean Koontz, *Icebound*, 1995 (abridged and adapted)

(1) henceforth: from then on

(2) stifled: oppressed

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 :14 c) ;
- b) faire précéder les citations de la mention de la ligne ;
- c) composer des phrases complètes à chaque fois qu'il est demandé de rédiger la réponse.

COMPRÉHENSION

1. The characters

- a) Give the full names of the characters. Say if they are present or only mentioned.
- b) What is the connection between them?
- c) Find the age of two of the characters.

2. Where does the scene take place?

3. Pick out 4 elements describing the weather conditions.

4. Focus on lines 4 to 8.

What impact does the weather have on Claude? (20 to 30 words)

5. Focus on lines 9 to 24.

- a) Quote two elements about Claude's professional experience.
- b) What do we learn about Claude's personality?
- c) Quote one sentence to show that something in his attitude has changed.
- d) *'The current expedition would be his last trip to either pole.'* Explain what this sentence means. (30 to 40 words)

6. Focus on lines 25 to 33.

- a) From Claude's attitude, what does Harry realize about his own future? (30/40 words)
- b) In your own words, explain why Harry is fascinated by the places where he works (30 words approximately).

7. Focus on lines 34 to 43.

- a) Give three details about Harry's childhood.
- b) Explain how Harry's childhood affected his choice of a career.
- c) Is Harry satisfied with his present life? (30 words approximately)

8. Translate into French from l.17 *'Since they had left...'* to l.20 *'in those brutal latitudes.'*

EXPRESSION

Vous traiterez l'un des deux sujets au choix.

Sujet 1 :

You are Harry's daughter. Imagine a conversation you have with Claude and your father after they have returned home from the expedition. (300 words)

Sujet 2 :

In what way can age be an advantage or a disadvantage at work? (300 words)