

COMPRÉHENSION – EXPRESSION

Corrigé

Vous traiterez les questions **dans l'ordre**, en indiquant clairement le **numéro** sur votre copie.
Lorsque la réponse doit être développée, le nombre de mots est indiqué dans la question.
En l'absence d'indications, vous répondrez **brèvement** à la question posée.

1. The text can be divided into two parts, corresponding to two moments in Howard Beamish's life.

a) How old is he in each part?

6 in the first part. 38 in the second part.

2x2 pts = 4 pts

b) For each part, say what characters are present, mentioned or referred to.

Howard is present in both parts.

Howard's parents are present in the first part but in the second part, they are only mentioned. In this second part, Vivien is present and Carol is mentioned

5 x 2 pts = 10 pts

c) Say how Vivien and Carol are connected to Howard.

Carol is a secretary working with Howard. (Accepter: his secretary)

Vivien is Howard's girlfriend / wife / the woman he is rapidly falling out of love with.

2 x 3 pts = 6 pts

2. a) Give the exact name of the place where both scenes are set. **Blue Anchor Beach.**

2 pts

b) What did Howard find the first time he went there?

He found a fossil / an ammonite / fossils

2 pts

c) How did that discovery influence the course of Howard's life?

That's what made him decide to become a palaeontologist. / That's when his passion for fossils began.

4 pts

3. Read from line 6 to line 20.

Contrast Howard's, his mother's and his father's attitudes and reactions concerning that discovery. (60 / 70 words)

Howard is really curious, and keeps asking questions because he is interested in what he has found. On the contrary, his father doesn't care about it. Howard's mother tries to help but is unable to give him further information about the fossil. When Howard wants to take the fossils back home, his parents refuse to help him. He is so determined that he carries them home himself (in spite of their weight).

5 x 3 pts = 15 pts

Focus on the passage from line 23 to the end.

4. a) In your own words, give the reasons why Howard visited the same place again.

(30 / 40 words)

He wanted to come back to the place that reminded him of his childhood and he wanted to come back to the place where his passion for fossils had started.

Moreover, he was there to celebrate his promotion as a Senior Lecturer and the success of his book.

3 x 3 pts = 9 pts

b) Say how Vivien felt about the place and justify your answer with three quotations.

Vivien didn't like it.

2 + 3X1 pt = 5 pts

Line 27: "Vivien complained about the steep and slippery path down the beach"

Line 28: "There is no sand"

Lines 28-29: "The sea is the colour of mud."

Line 29: "I don't see anywhere we can sit."

Lines 29-30: "The whole place is nothing but pebbles."

5. Why did Howard's "present" to Vivien (line 34) cause more tension between them? Use your own words. (20 / 30 words)

When he gave the piece of alabaster to Vivien, he mentioned Carol, **she** is jealous of.

Mettre un bonus au candidat qui explicite l'histoire de l'ammonite.

2X3 pts = 6 pts

6. Read lines 45-46 ("He considered...decided not to"). Explain Howard's decision. (20 / 30 words)
Perhaps he didn't want to offer her the ammonite because she could consider it as a kind of provocation. Or he may have decided not to reconcile with her as he didn't love her anymore.

5 pts

7. a) What does "that other afternoon" (line 46) refer to?

It refers to the afternoon when Howard found his ammonite during his holidays at Blue Anchor Beach with his parents, at the age of six.

6 pts

b) What image did Howard decide to keep of his parents? (20 / 30 words)

He chose / decided to remember them as young parents who knew everything, and to forget that they had become old.

Bonus pour un candidat qui revient sur "omniscient" et parle d'idéalisation des parents.

6 pts

8. Choose one of the following subjects.

(250 words approximately. Write down the number of words.)

Subject 1

You tell your parents that you have just changed your mind about your studies or your future job. They react to your decision. Write the scene.

Subject 2

Is there any place that means something special to you? Write about it.

TRADUCTION

Translate into French from line 4 [...] *Howard picked up...* to line 15 ... *several pounds*.

1. Howard picked up an ammonite on Blue Anchor Beach.

Howard ramassa une ammonite à Blue Anchor Beach / sur la plage de Blue Anchor / de l'Ancre Bleue.

6 pts

2. He presented it to his parents. 'What's this?'

Il la montra à ses parents. « Qu'est-ce que c'est ? »

6 pts

3. 'It's a stone,' said his father, who was listening to the test match.

– C'est une pierre », dit son père, qui écoutait un test match / un match test (à la radio)
(Accepter : match de sélection, match international...)

6 pts

4. 'No, it isn't' retorted Howard, an observant child.

« Non. / Non, c'est pas ça. / c'est pas une pierre / répliqua / rétorqua Howard qui était un enfant observateur.

6 pts

5. 'It's a fossil, dear' said his mother. 'That's a very old sort of stone.'

– C'est un fossile, (mon) chéri, dit sa mère. C'est une sorte de pierre très ancienne.

6 pts

6. 'Why?' persisted Howard, after a few moments.

– Pourquoi ? » insista Howard / dit Howard avec insistance, au bout d'un moment.

6 pts

7. The single word embraced in fact a vast range of query, for which he did not have the language.

Ce simple mot / ce mot à lui tout seul / recouvrait un large éventail de questions, contenait toute une série de questions qu'il n'arrivait pas (encore) à formuler / pour lesquelles il n'avait pas les mots. 12 pts

8. His mother, too, paused to consider and was also defeated,
Sa mère aussi s'arrêta un instant pour réfléchir et déclara également forfait / et s'avoua également vaincue / et ne sut que dire 9 pts

9. though for different reasons. 3 pts
même si ses raisons étaient différentes / bien que cela ne fût pas pour les mêmes raisons.

10. She evaded the issue by offering Howard a tomato sandwich,
Elle éluda la question / évita le sujet / contourna le problème en proposant à Howard un sandwich à la tomate, 6 pts

11. which he accepted with enthusiasm 3 pts
qu'il accepta avec enthousiasme

12. while continuing to pore over the ammonite. 6 pts
tout en continuant à / d'observer l'ammonite attentivement.

13. During the rest of the afternoon, he collected five more fossil fragments, 6 pts
Pendant le reste de l'après midi, il ramassa encore cinq fragments / morceaux de fossiles,

14. including one embedded in a slab of rock weighing several pounds. 9 pts
dont un était incrusté dans une pierre / dans un morceau de pierre / de roche pesant / qui pesait / (de) plusieurs livres.

RECAPITULATIF

COMPREHENSION – EXPRESSION 140 points

1. a) 4 points
b) 10 points
c) 6 points
2. a) 2 points
b) 2 points
c) 4 points
3. 15 points
4. a) 9 points
b) 5 points
5. 6 points
6. 5 points
7. a) 6 points
b) 6 points
8. 60 points

Corrigé

TRADUCTION 90 points à ramener sur 60 points
(multiplier la note obtenue par 2 puis diviser par 3)