

SUIJET

LV2 – ANGLAIS

Durée de l'épreuve : 3 heures.

Barème : la note sur 80 sera divisée par 4 pour obtenir la note sur 20, les deux chiffres après la virgule arrondis au centième supérieur.

Les candidats ne sont pas autorisés à modifier le choix de la première langue dans laquelle ils doivent composer. Tout manquement à la règle sera assimilé à une tentative de fraude.

IÉNA

NB : Les candidats ne doivent faire usage d'aucun document, dictionnaire ou lexique ; l'utilisation de toute calculatrice et de tout matériel électronique est interdite.

SUIJET

ATTACK OF THE NANNIES

1 Polls keep showing that American Indians aren't really offended by college team nicknames such as warriors, braves, Indians, Seminoles, and Fighting Illini. But many sportswriters, campus "diversity" officials, and now the National Collegiate Athletic Association think they ought to be. So the NCAA says it will ban from 5 championship play all college teams with "hostile or abusive" nicknames and mascots. It apparently took this action without consulting tribal leaders. (...)

Here we are confronted by the dreaded social disease of nannyism, the ir-
pressible urge toward do-good coercion. The nannies are all around us now,
attempting to ban smoking in outdoor areas, including New York's vast Central
10 Park, working to eliminate one schoolyard game after another, including dodge
ball (too violent), tag (hurts feelings by turning kids into targets), and just about
any game with winners and losers (competition douses the cooperative ethic, and
losers can be traumatized for life).

15 California has banned genetically modified fish from home aquariums, and
San Francisco set strict rules for doghouse construction. Alabama banned sex toys.
A California legislator introduced a state bill to prohibit use of tanning machines
by those under age 18, unless they have a doctor's prescription. A New York
assembly-man sponsored a bill to require every car in the state to come with a
device that would allow driving only if the motorist blew into a tube and passed a
20 breathalyzer test. The test would have to be repeated every 30 to 40 minutes, or the
car would stop. In North Dakota, a state bill would make it illegal for people who
are just turning 21 to drink before 8 a.m. on their birthdays. The goal is to keep the
young from rushing out at midnight on their birthday to get drunk. (...)

25 Nannyism is a progressive affliction. When the nannies get something from
the public, they always want more: helmets for tots riding tricycles, for example.
Now that the sensible rules against drivers use of hand-held phones have caught
on, the campaign against hands-free phones has begun. "Inattention blindness," we
are told, is the real villain, and a recent study says that all drivers who use phones –

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30 hand-held or not – are four times as likely as other drivers to have serious crash injuries. The logic of this is to ban radios and smoking in cars, and perhaps babies, dogs, and talking passengers, all of which can be distracting. Drive-through fast-food windows would have to close, too. (...)

Let's hope nannies can learn to control themselves. Otherwise, we may need some coercive but kindhearted antinannyist legislation.

35

U.S. News & World Report, 29 August 2005.

I – VERSION (sur 20 points)

Traduire le titre et depuis “California has banned genetically modified fish...” **jusqu’à** “... or the car would stop”.

(de la ligne 14 jusqu’à la ligne 21.)

II – QUESTIONS (sur 40 points)

1. **Question de compréhension du texte (150 mots ± 10 % *; sur 20 points)**
What particularly visible contemporary phenomenon is highlighted in this article? What are its characteristics? What exactly is the journalist’s standpoint?
2. **Question d’expression personnelle (250 mots ± 10 % *; sur 20 points)**
How far do you expect the state to eliminate risks of all kinds for its citizens?

* Le non-respect de ces normes sera sanctionné. (Indiquer le nombre de mots après chaque question.)

III – THÈME (sur 20 points)

1. Personne ne peut dire quand la grève prendra fin.
2. C’est la première fois que cette compagnie aérienne étrangère licencie du personnel.
3. Elle est PDG de cette société depuis cinq ans, depuis qu’elle a remplacé son père.
4. Refuser les heures supplémentaires n’est peut-être pas la meilleure solution.
5. On est en train de construire une galène marchande au nord de la ville.
6. La réunion avec les syndicats devrait être annulée car elle a peu de chances d’aboutir.
7. Plus l’entreprise se développera, plus elle embauchera.
8. On n’aurait jamais dû lui faire confiance.
9. Il n’a pas réussi à se faire entendre, les manifestants faisant trop de bruit.
10. Il y aurait moins d’accidents si les automobilistes respectaient les limitations de vitesse.

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CORRIGÉ*par Louis Mouton, professeur au lycée Madeleine Michélin, à Amiens.***I – VERSION****Offensive de l'État « nounou »**

IÉNA

En Californie il est désormais interdit aux particuliers d'avoir des poissons transgéniques dans leurs aquariums et à San Francisco la construction des niches est soumise à des règles strictes. En Alabama, ce sont les jouets érotiques qui sont pros crits. Un élu californien a déposé un projet de loi applicable à son État pour interdire l'usage des cabines de bronzage aux moins de 18 ans en l'absence de certificat médical. Un parlementaire de l'État de New York a parrainé un projet de loi pour exiger que toutes les voitures de cet État soient équipées d'un dispositif qui n'autoriserait la conduite qu'à condition que le conducteur ait soufflé dans un embout et satisfait à un alcootest. Le contrôle serait à renouveler toutes les trente à quarante minutes sous peine d'immobilisation du véhicule.

III – THÈME

1. Nobody can say when the strike is to end.
2. It's the first time this foreign airline has made some of its staff redundant.
3. She has been at the head of this firm for five years, ever since she took over from her father.
4. Refusing to work overtime may not be the best solution.
5. A shopping mall is being built north of the city.
6. The meeting with the trade unions ought to be called off as it has little likelihood of leading anywhere.
7. The more the company develops, the more employees it will hire.
8. We should never have trusted him.
9. He never succeeded in making himself heard, so loud was the demonstrators' racket.
10. There would be fewer accidents, were drivers to abide by the speed limits.

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Proposition A

The journalist makes numerous references to Nannyism, a new trend that has affected all aspects of life in the USA. It is a well-meaning conviction of legislators that the state always knows better than individual citizens, who should therefore be

“What particularly visible contemporary phenomenon is highlighted in this article? What are its characteristics? What exactly is the journalist's standpoint?”

QUESTION 1

protected against themselves, supposedly for their own good. Hence Nannyism, a compulsion for control freaks to monitor people's actions, because there are inherent risks that should be prevented at all costs. The result has been an erosion of individual freedom and initiative. Although the intentions behind this "do-good coercion" are definitely laudable, the journalist resorts to irony to denounce the resulting excesses which often verge on the preposterous, like having compulsory crash helmets for small kids riding trikes, or banning competitive games because losing might be traumatic. Why not ban kids from cars because they distract drivers, he says. For him, enough is enough, "nannyists" are going too far, it is time to put a check on their obsession.

Proposition B

This amusing piece targets a growing social disease affecting Americans, nicknamed nannyism. Nannies are supposed to take care of young children who might misbehave or get injured, but it is adults who now receive strict instructions from self-proclaimed do-gooders, who mean to limit risk to a minimum. And this is making people's lives increasingly miserable, as the list of prohibitions that the authorities impose to regulate their everyday activities keeps increasing: from sports, where any fighting spirit must be tamed, and driving, with ever more exacting safety rules, to tobacco and alcohol consumption, where total prohibition is creeping back. Every victory of the nannies (as in their campaign against hand-held phones in cars) is the prelude to another attack, with the risk that there won't be much freedom left in this risk-free, nanny-controlled world. Nannies, according to the journalist, are nothing more than interfering busybodies whose pestering power will have to be reduced.

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Durée globale : 3 heures.

1. TRADUCTIONS

Durée de l'épreuve : 1 heure 30 minutes.

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N.B. : Les candidats ne doivent faire usage d'aucun document, dictionnaire ou lexique ; l'utilisation de toute calculatrice et de tout matériel électronique est interdite.

I – TRADUCTION D'ANGLAIS EN FRANÇAIS

When Penelope was barely thirteen years old, she had gone away on a camping trip [...] with a friend from Torrance House, and the friend's family. Juliet was in favor of this. Penelope had been at Torrance House for only one year (accepted on favorable financial terms because of her mother's once having taught there), and it pleased Juliet that she had already made so firm a friend and been accepted readily by the friend's family. Also that she was going camping –something that regular children did and that Juliet, as a child, had never had the chance to do. Not that she would have wanted to, being already buried in books– but she welcomed signs that Penelope was turning out to be a more normal sort of girl than she herself had been.

Eric was apprehensive about the whole idea. He thought Penelope was too young. He didn't like her going on a holiday with people he knew so little about. And now that she went to boarding school they saw too little of her as it was – so why should that time be shortened?

Juliet had another reason –she simply wanted Penelope out of the way for the first couple of weeks of the summer holidays, because the air was not clear between herself and Eric.

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Alice Munro, *Runaway: Stories*, Vintage, 2004.

II – TRADUCTION DE FRANÇAIS EN ANGLAIS

Je l'entendais sourire.

« – Exactement. Quand j'étais jeune et beau et que je n'avais pas encore de cheveux blancs...

– Tu as des cheveux blancs?!

– J'en ai cinq je crois.

– Ah! ça va, tu m'as fait peur! Tu as raison. Je ne sais pas si c'est une bonne idée mais j'y pense depuis un bout de temps... et je me disais que c'était vraiment une chose qui me ferait plaisir... Alors comme il n'y a plus beaucoup de choses qui me font plaisir ces derniers temps... je... je t'ai appelé.

– Tu y penses depuis combien de temps?

– Douze ans! Non... Je plaisante. J'y pense depuis quelques mois. Depuis mon

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dernier séjour à l'hôpital pour être exacte.

- Tu veux me revoir, tu crois ?
- Oui.
- Quand ?
- Quand tu veux. Quand tu peux.
- Tu vis où ?
- Toujours pareil. À cent kilomètres de chez toi je crois. »

Anna Gavalda, *Je voudrais que quelqu'un m'attende quelque part, Le Dilettante, 1999.*

2. EXPRESSION ÉCRITE

Durée de l'épreuve : 1 heure 30 minutes.

N.B. : Les candidats ne doivent faire usage d'aucun document, dictionnaire ou lexique ; l'utilisation de toute calculatrice et de tout matériel électronique est interdite.

Lire soigneusement le texte ci-dessous :

As they drag their passengers through thick traffic, the rickshaw pullers of Calcutta pose a philosophical dilemma: Are they the victims of oppression, or are they earning an honest living and providing a valued service to the city?

The mayor describes the job as “despicable”; the chief minister of the state of West Bengal, a Marxist, says it is “barbaric.” City officials point out that hand-pulled rickshaws are a colonial anachronism that have been outlawed almost everywhere else in the world and argue that it is an “abuse of human rights” to allow these “human horses” to continue working.

If the government has its way, a ban on rickshaws will go into effect in a matter of weeks and Calcutta’s approximately 18,000 rickshaw men will be out of work. The image of one man pulling another through the streets has no place in the new, shining India, officials say. (...)

No one argues that rickshaw pulling is a desirable job, but many pullers are skeptical about what the Communist government here is trying to protect –the workers or the city’s image– as officials court foreign investors.

“I don’t feel any indignity,” said Mohammed Nasim, a 45-year-old father of nine. “If I wasn’t pulling rickshaw, then I’d have to work in a hotel, or start collecting up rubbish. I think rickshaw pulling is a better job.” The All Bengal Rickshaw Union agrees. It argues that “a man pulling a man is by no means more inhuman, than a man laboring in the fields or the coal mine.”

The ban was announced on Aug. 15 by Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee of West Bengal, who said that rickshaws would be outlawed within three to four months. Instead of being grateful for this promise of liberation, the rickshaw, community responded by burning effigies of the minister.

This is not the first time Calcutta has tried to rid the streets of rickshaws. An effort in the mid-1990s was abandoned after a public outcry. But the city’s mayor, Bikash Ranjan Bhattacharya, said this time the ban would be enforced.

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“No civilized country in the world today permits the pulling of rickshaws by hand;” he said. “It is very damaging to the image of Calcutta to see one human being pulling another human being. This is a question of human rights. I despise this system.”

He acknowledged that the “nitty gritty” of a compensation package had not yet been finalized, but said the rickshaw pullers would be given alternative employment to help them survive. “The government is thinking about what these alternatives may be,” he said. “Once these alternatives are decided, then these rickshaws will be taken off the streets.”

The chief minister, known here as Buddhha, is laboring to promote the city’s commerce. He hopes to recast Calcutta as a hub of information technology, shaking off international perceptions of the city as a pit of poverty and suffering. The rickshaws, he says, are an embarrassing reminder of how much remains to be done.

Sabir Ahamed, a worker with the Calcutta Samaritans, a charity that runs a program to protect rickshaw pullers, said the government was more interested in giving the city a face-lift than in protecting the rights of the rickshaw men. “The chief minister is desperately trying to get foreign companies to invest here,” he said, adding that he was going about the makeover the wrong way. “He’s trying to improve the city’s appearance by removing these uncomfortable images.”

Ahamed added, “They are not upgrading the drainage system or improving the roads—they are simply targeting the poor, the slum dwellers and the rickshaw pullers.”

Amelia Gentleman, *International Herald Tribune*, Friday November 25, 2005.

Répondre en anglais aux questions ci-dessous (environ 200 mots pour chaque réponse):

1. According to the author, what are the arguments for and against the use of rickshaws in Calcutta?
Answer the question in your own words.
2. How far do you think tradition is incompatible with progress in developing countries such as India?

CORRIGÉ

par Philippe Rayet, professeur d'anglais en classes préparatoires au lycée Notre-Dame-du-Grandchamp ; à Versailles.

I – TRADUCTION D’ANGLAIS EN FRANÇAIS

Quand Pénélope avait à peine treize ans, elle était partie faire du camping [...] avec une camarade de classe de Torrance House et sa famille. Juliet était favorable à ce projet. Cela faisait seulement un an que Pénélope était à Torrance House (où elle avait été admise à des conditions financières avantageuses parce que, par le passé, sa mère y avait occupé un poste d’enseignante) et Juliet était heureuse qu’elle s’y soit déjà fait une si bonne copine et que la famille de cette copine l’ait adoptée de bon cœur. Heureuse, aussi, que sa fille parte faire du camping – activité courante chez tout enfant normal, mais que Juliet n’avait personnellement jamais eu l’occasion de pratiquer quand elle était plus jeune.

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Quoi qu'il en soit, elle n'aurait pas même voulu essayer car elle était déjà plongée dans ses livres – mais elle se réjouissait de voir que Pénélope était en passe de devenir une jeune fille beaucoup plus normale qu'elle-même ne l'avait été.

Eric, pour sa part, était inquiet à l'idée de voir partir Pénélope. Il trouvait qu'elle était trop jeune. Cela ne lui plaisait pas qu'elle soit invitée à camper par des gens qu'il connaissait si peu. Qui plus est, ils ne la voyaient déjà pas beaucoup maintenant qu'elle était pensionnaire [interne], alors pourquoi devoir réduire encore le temps qu'ils passaient ensemble ?

Juliet avait ses raisons : elle voulait purement et simplement se débarrasser de Pénélope pendant la première quinzaine des vacances d'été parce que la situation n'était pas des plus claires entre Eric et elle.

D'après Alice Munro, *Runaway* : *Stories*, 2004.

// – TRADUCTION DE FRANÇAIS EN ANGLAIS

I could hear that she was smiling.

“Exactly. When I was a handsome young man with no grey hairs as yet...”

“Have you got grey hairs?!”

“I’ve got five, I think.”

“Ah! That’s more like it [That’s better]. You scared me! You’re right. I don’t know if it’s a good idea but I’ve been thinking about it for quite a long time... and I was saying to myself that it would actually be something I’d love to do... So, as there aren’t many things left I’ve been able to appreciate of late... I... I’ve called you.”

“How long have you been thinking about it?”

“Two!ve years! No... I’m joking. I’ve been thinking about it for a few months. Since my latest stay in hospital, to be more accurate.”

“Sure you want to see me again?”

“Yes.”

“When?”

“When you want and when you can.”

“Where do you live?”

“Same address. A hundred kilometres from your place, I think.”

Anna Gavalda, *Je voudrais que quelqu’un m’attende quelque part*, 1999.

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