

Session 2009

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

ANGLAIS

Langue vivante 2

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.

The scene takes place in Charleston, South Carolina.

The gallery door to the street opened.

'Dear,' Sarah Cutworth said.

'Grandmama!'

5 'Your mother said you were working here—' Sarah paused and looked round. She wore a powder-blue linen two-piece and pearls. 'Why,' she said, 'this is just precious.'

Gillon came forward to kiss her cheek.

'I just waxed the floor.'

Sarah looked down.

'You did?'

10 Gillon nodded. 'Cleaned every picture.' She backed herself up against the table, shielding the sculptures.

'I call this', Sarah said, 'a lovely place to work. You get to meet people here.'

'Mostly people who don't quite buy a picture. And tourists.'

15 Sarah made a dismissive gesture. She had seldom herself been west of Virginia, and no further north than New York City, where she stayed, firmly, at the Waldorf Astoria¹ because of its welcoming Junior League floor².

'Tourists. They are *ruining* this city.'

Gillon pointed.

'Do you like that landscape, Grandmama?'

20 Sarah looked.

'No, dear.'

She took a few neat steps sideways and peered at the table.

'What are those? Hallowe'en goblins?'

'Sculptures, Grandmama. Figures of female deities.'

25 Sarah put out a trimly manicured small hand and picked up a soapstone goddess. She inspected it in silence. Then she returned it to the table.

'Nice people', she said, 'don't need to see such things.'

'It's art—'

'Art', Sarah said firmly, 'is not a licence for obscenity.'

30 Gillon put a reassuring finger on the soapstone goddess.

'It isn't obscenity to many people, Grandmama. It's truth and beauty.'

'Don't argue with me, Gillon,' Sarah said. She straightened and looked about her. 'It's a charming place.'

'Yes.'

35 'More', Sarah said, 'than I gather your present residence is?'

'It's not too bad—'

'Society Street,' Sarah said. 'What are you thinking of? It's quite bohemian.'

Gillon bit her lip.

'It's cheap.'

40 'And what is the matter with your home? Or my home?'

'I need my independence—'

'You won't have one shred of independence, my girl, until you marry.'

Gillon turned the goddess round so that her solid little back was towards Sarah.

45 'Is that why you came to see me, Grandmama? Did you come to find me here to tell me what you've told me at least one hundred times before?'

'No,' Sarah said, 'I came to invite you to dinner.'

'Oh—'

'I have met your perfectly charming English friend.' She gave Gillon a coquettish look. 'He is coming. He is delighted to come.'

50 'Henry—'

'What a fine young man,' Sarah said.

¹ the Waldorf Astoria: a luxury hotel

² Junior League floor: an area of the hotel reserved for the association of the Junior Leagues of America

'Grandmama,' Gillon said, 'Henry is not here as – as a kind of family play thing. Henry is here to work. Henry is here to take pictures of the lowcountry³.'

'Your mother and father are very taken with him.'

55 'He's a nice guy—'

'Miss Minda is making chicken enchiladas. And a German chocolate cheesecake for dessert. Or maybe sweetpotato-stuffed apples. What do you think?'

'Either,' Gillon said. 'Anything—'

Sarah leaned forward and brushed her cheek against her granddaughter's.

60 'Find a dress, dear,' she said. 'Or a skirt at least. Just to please me.'

Joanna Trollope, *Girl From the South*, 2002

³ the lowcountry: South Carolina's coastal counties

NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

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

- respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter la numérotation sur la copie (numéro et lettres repères le cas échéant, ex. 8c) ;
- faire précéder les citations de la mention de la ligne ;
- composer des phrases complètes chaque fois qu'il leur est demandé de rédiger la réponse.

COMPRÉHENSION

1. a) Choose the right answer. The characters are in a place where you can:

- stay overnight
- buy art
- play games
- get beauty treatments

b) Pick out three words from the text to justify your choice in 1. a).

c) Copy the following paragraph and fill in the blanks using elements from the text (one blank is one word).

Gillon is (1)..... 's (2) She works in a (3)..... . (4) has come to (5) Gillon in order to (6)..... her for (7)..... .

Focus on Gillon

2. a) Where does she live exactly in Charleston?

b) Quote the three reasons why she chose that address.

3. a) Is she married?

b) Justify your answer in 3. a) by quoting from the text.

4. Choose three adjectives among the following. Justify each answer with one quotation.

Gillon is

affectionate – aggressive – funny – furious – meticulous – rude – self-restrained

Focus on Sarah

5. Find three quotations showing that Sarah has a high standard of living.
6. Choose and copy the right statement from the following list.

- Sarah has a supportive attitude towards Gillon.
- Sarah's values are traditional.
- Sarah is open-minded.
- Sarah is patient.
- Sarah is easily influenced.

7. a) Who or what do the underlined words refer to? Quote from the text.

- Line 17: "They are *ruining* this city."
- Line 23: "What are those?"
- Line 37: "It's quite bohemian."

b) Read the three sentences in 7. a) again. What can you conclude about Sarah's state of mind? (10 words maximum)

Read from line 18 to line 32 "... Sarah said."

8. The conversation is about the works of art shown in the place.
- a) Quote two words or phrases which Gillon uses to refer to them.
- b) Quote two words or phrases which Sarah uses to refer to them.
- c) What does the conversation reveal about their views on the topic? Explain in your own words. (20 words max.)

Read from line 46 to the end

9. a) Lines 48-49. Who does "*He*" refer to?
b) Give information about this character (country of origin, age group, occupation). (15 words max.)
10. a) Quote two phrases illustrating what Sarah thinks of the character referred to in 9. a).
b) Quote two phrases illustrating how Gillon views that character.
c) Compare the two women's views on that character. (15 words max.)
11. a) Who invites the character mentioned in 9. a) for dinner?
b) What seems to be the real motivation behind this invitation? (10 -15 words)

12. Line 60: 'Find a dress, dear,' she said. 'Or a skirt at least. Just to please *me*.'

a) Who is the speaker?

b) Explain in your own words what the speaker actually means. (20 words max.)

13. Seuls les candidats de la série L réaliseront cet exercice.

Traduire en français le passage de 'Gillon bit her lip. ...' (ligne 38) à '... Grandmama?' (ligne 44).

EXPRESSION

Les candidats de la série S choisiront de traiter l'UN des deux sujets au choix (200 mots).

Les candidats de la série L devront obligatoirement traiter les DEUX sujets (300 mots au total, soit environ 150 mots pour chaque sujet).

Sujet 1: A week later, Gillon comes to Sarah's place for the dinner, wearing jeans and a T-shirt. Write the conversation.

Sujet 2: Is a work of art necessarily beautiful? Illustrate your view with examples.