



MINISTÈRE
DE L'ÉDUCATION
NATIONALE

EAD ANG 1

SESSION 2019

**AGREGATION
CONCOURS EXTERNE SPÉCIAL**

**Section : LANGUES VIVANTES ÉTRANGÈRES
ANGLAIS**

COMPOSITION

Durée : 7 heures

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INFORMATION AUX CANDIDATS

Vous trouverez ci-après les codes nécessaires vous permettant de compléter les rubriques figurant en en-tête de votre copie.

Ces codes doivent être reportés sur chacune des copies que vous remettrez quel que soit le sujet choisi (civilisation ou littérature)

► **Composition en anglais (1^{ère} partie) :**

Concours	Section/option	Epreuve	Matière
EAD	0422A	101A	7411

► **2^{ème} composition (2^{ème} partie) :**

Concours	Section/option	Epreuve	Matière
EAD	0422A	101B	0313

Sujet de littérature

Première partie

Comment on the following text:

As there was no avoiding it, he [Voss] spurred his unhappy horse down the yellow bank of the river, and into the flood, of which the breathtaking cold swallowed every thought and emotion. Otherwise, they were drifting deliciously. No dream could have been smoother, silenter, more inevitable. But the wretched horse, it appeared, was trampling the water, or swimming, for eventually he did scratch a foothold, heave himself up, and scramble out upon the opposite bank, there to shake his sides, until his bones and those of his rider were rattling together terribly. Jackie, who had followed, holding the tail of his brown gelding, soon stood there too, smiling and chattering with cold, his nakedness running with light and water, for he had lost his canvas cloak. Of bronze rather than the iron of most other blacks, fear and cold had refined him further into an imperial gold, so that Voss was reconciled to his slave, especially since the river had been negotiated by his own courage.

‘Now,’ he announced, ‘we will inspect the caves.’

The black boy did not refuse, but would not have gone ahead of that exorcizing magic the white man possessed. Night was terrifying, and was never quite emptied out of pockets such as these caves. He would not willingly have gone through darkness without carrying fire. Even moonlight was suspect, full of the blandishment of malicious fur, and treacherous teeth that snapped at black skin.

‘Blackfeller belong by these caves,’ said Jackie, beginning to scent something.

‘How?’ asked Voss.

The black boy could not explain his instincts, so he smiled, and swayed his head, and avoided the expectant eyes of his superior.

‘We shall soon see,’ said the German [Voss], stooping.

Immediately he entered, there was a flitting of bats. The bats flew out, screamed at the rain, circled, and for want of an inviting alternative, returned to their disturbed darkness. Alone in the landscape, the black boy began to feel it was probably preferable to follow the bats, and rejoin his master. How fortunate he was to have one. The rain was sighing with him.

It transpired that the caves were neither very deep nor very dark, for in addition to their general shallowness, a shaft descended through the cliffside into the most important chamber, and down this sleeve a dusty light poured. The floor was deep in dust, which deadened footfall, and made for reverence. There was a smell of dust and age, also possibly of human bodies, but ancient ones, and passionless at last.

Under the influence of the reverent light, the black boy was murmuring, but in his own tongue, because he was moved. Now the cave began to smell also of his live, youthful body. It appeared from his unguarded face and dreaming muscles that the place was full of a good magic.

Then Voss caught sight of the drawings.

‘What do these signify, Jackie?’ he asked.

The boy was explaining, in his own language, assisted by a forefinger.

‘*Verfluchte Sprachen!*’ cried the German.

For he was doubly locked in language.

As the boy continued unperturbed, the man had to recover from his lapse. He was looking.

‘Snake,’ Jackie explained. ‘Father my father, all blackfeller.’

'Gut,' added the boy, for the especial benefit of the German, and the word lit the whole place.

45 The man was yielding himself up to the simplicity of the drawings. Henceforth all words must be deceitful, except those sanctioned by necessity, the handrail of language.

'Kangaroo,' said the boy. 'Old man,' he smiled, touching certain parts.

These were very prominent, and befitting.

50 Although initiated by sympathy into the mystery of the drawings, of which the details fulfilled needs most beautifully, the German did retreat from the kangaroo.

He now said, rather primly:

'Ja. Natürlich. But I like these better. What are they?'

60 These appeared to be an assembly of tortuous skeletons, or bundles of bones and blowing feathers. Voss remembered how, as a boy, he had flown kites with messages attached to their tails. Sometimes the string would break, and the released kite, if it did not disintegrate in the air, must have carried its message into far places; but, whatever the destination, he had never received a reply.

Now, however, looking at the kite-figures, his heart was hopeful.

60 'Men gone away all dead,' the boy explained. 'All over,' he waved his arm. 'By rock. By tree. No more men,' he said, beginning to comb the light with his dark fingers, as if it had been hair. 'No more nothink. Like this. See?' He laid his cheek upon his hands, seed-shaped, and his eyelashes were playing together. 'Wind blow big, night him white, this time these feller dead men. They come out. Usfeller no see. They everywhere.'

65 So that the walls of the cave were twanging with the whispers of the tangled kites. The souls of men were only waiting to come out.

'Now I understand,' said Voss gravely.

He did. To his fingertips. He felt immensely happy.

70 Why can it not remain like this, he wondered to the woman who was locked inside him permanently, and who would answer him through the ends of her long, dreaming hair. She suggested: the souls of those we know are perhaps no more communicative than their words, if you wind in the strings to which they are attached, and that is why it is arranged for those to break, and for the liberated souls to carry messages of hope into Bohemia, Moravia, and Saxony, if rain has not erased; in that event, the finders must content themselves with guesses.

75 The man in the cave should have felt wet, and aching, and cold, but the woman's smooth, instinctive soul caressed his stubborn, struggling spirit. Secretly he would have liked – or why secretly, for the boy would not have understood – he would have liked to contribute to the rock drawings, in warm ochre, the L of happiness.

80 But time was passing, bats were stirring, the boy had tired of the drawings, and was standing at the mouth of the cave, remembering that substantial kangaroo, of which he had stuffed into his belly the last singed squares of hide ten days previously. He was hungry now.

'Nun wir müssen zurück,' said the man, emerging from his thoughts.

Language did not bother the black: that is to say, generally he would not listen. Now he waited for the man to act. Then he followed.

Patrick White, *Voss*. 1957. Sydney: Random House Australia, 2012, p. 274-77.

Annexe 1

Set in nineteenth-century Australia, *Voss* is the story of the secret passion between an explorer and a naïve young woman. Although they have met only a few times, Voss and Laura are joined by overwhelming, obsessive feeling for each other. Voss sets out to cross the

continent. As hardships, mutiny and betrayal whittle away his power to endure and to lead, his attachment to Laura gradually increases. Laura, waiting in Sydney, moves through the months of separation as if they were a dream and Voss the only reality.

Backcover of the 2012 Random House edition (author unknown).

Annexe 2

In Voss's journey across the desert, White portrays the fundamental dismantling of the white explorer's belief that he possesses the power to logically define, circumscribe and understand a place and a culture he does not know. In crossing the Australian desert Voss will have to progressively acknowledge that the Aboriginal world presents an important and different approach to life that is essential in truly interpreting and "mapping" not only Australia but also territory in all its complexities and sacredness.

As Ashcroft points out, the two significant features of White's apprehension of the sacred are "its presence in the simple proximate reality of material things, and the persistent inability of language to fully apprehend it" (2010, 96). In this sense, the use of analogy, symbol and myth are central instruments in White's fiction, in which his search for a meaning can often be elusive, sometimes misleading or obscure, but, as Uhlmann points out: "while meaning is... uncertain, it is... certain that there is meaning" (2010, 75). White's European cultural background greatly influenced his writing, often creating a sense of dismay in the "common" reader, because of the complexity and intercultural, philosophical, spiritual and sacred dimension of his texts. (Ashcroft, 2010).

Antonella Riem, "The Spirit of the Creative Word in Patrick White's *Voss*". *Patrick White Centenary: The Legacy of a Prodigal Son*. Ed. Cynthia vanden Driesen and Bill Ashcroft. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014, p. 225.

Annexe 3

The sublime vision of human sovereignty, by which Voss turns the expedition into his personal coronation party, looms before him in the sands of human failure like a "granite monolith untouched": "It was not possible, really, that anyone could damage the Idea, however much they scratched it" (48). The colossal remains of Shelley's Ozymandias cast their shadow over Voss in the desert, especially in his encounters with the Aboriginals, who know their harsh land too well to ever follow the White Man's terrifying vision of conquering it. The linguistic gulf yawning between Voss and the Aboriginals points to a spiritual one, the latter's superior, primordial grasp of "the distance between aspiration and human nature" (205). The perilous crossing of the abyss exacts humbling recognition of human weakness on the spiritual terrain of material life. In translation, as in spiritual life, one proceeds in the certainty of failure. When Boyle warns Voss that the Aboriginals Jackie and Dugald are neither "infallible guides" nor "reliable companions", Voss replies: "In general, it is necessary to communicate without knowledge of the language".

Christopher Conti, "Mystical Translation in Patrick White's *Voss*". *Literature as Translation/ Translation as Literature*. Ed. Christopher Conti and James Gourley. Newcastle upon Tyne: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2014, p. 32.

Deuxième partie :

À partir d'exemples choisis dans le passage compris entre « *As there was no avoiding it* » (l. 1) et « *passionless at last.* » (l. 31), vous proposerez un traitement structuré de la question suivante : **les adjectifs**. Vous établirez une classification cohérente des formes choisies pour illustrer votre propos et vous vous interrogerez quant à leur fonctionnement. Vous déterminerez leurs différents types d'emplois ainsi que les éventuelles caractéristiques communes à tous ces emplois. Vous décrirez également les effets de sens des formes en question, en fournissant des micro-analyses en contexte et en procédant à toutes les manipulations et comparaisons que vous jugerez utiles.

Sujet de civilisation

Première partie

Comment on the following text:

The Prime Minister (Margaret Thatcher): During the past 11 years, this Government have had a clear and unwavering vision of the future of Europe and Britain's role in it. It is a vision which stems from our deep-seated attachment to parliamentary democracy and commitment to economic liberty, enterprise, competition and a free market economy. No Government in Europe have fought more resolutely against subsidies, state aids to industry and protectionism; unnecessary regulation and bureaucracy and increasing unaccountable central power at the expense of national Parliaments. No Government have fought more against that in Europe than we have.

We have fought attempts to put new burdens and constraints on industry, such as the social charter which would take away jobs, in particular part-time jobs. For us part of the purpose of the Community is to demolish trade barriers and eliminate unfair subsidies, so that we can all benefit from a great expansion of trade both within Europe and with the outside world.

The fact is that Britain has done more to shape the Community over the past 11 years than any other member state. Britain is leading the reform of the common agricultural policy, getting surpluses down, putting a ceiling on agricultural spending. We have been the driving force towards the single market which, when it is completed, will be the most significant advance in the Community since the treaty of Rome itself. We have done more than any other Government to resist protectionism, keep Europe's market open to trade with the rest of the world, and make a success of the GATT negotiations.

We have worked for our vision of a Europe which is free and open to the rest of the world, and above all to the countries of eastern Europe as they emerge from the shadows of socialism. It would not help them if Europe became a tight-knit little club, tied up in regulations and restrictions. They deserve a Europe where there is room for their rediscovered sense of nationhood and a place to decide their own destiny after decades of repression.

With all this, we have never hesitated to stand up for Britain's interests. The people of Britain want a fair deal in Europe, particularly over our budget contribution. We have got back nearly £10 billion which would otherwise have been paid over to the EC under the arrangements negotiated by the Labour party when it was in power.

Indeed, what sort of vision does the Labour party have? None, according to the Leader of the Opposition. Labour Members want a Europe of subsidies, a Europe of socialist restrictions, a Europe of protectionism. They want it because that is how they would like to run—or is it ruin?—this country.

Every time that we have stood up and fought for Britain and British interests, Labour Front Bench spokesmen have carped, criticised and moaned. On the central issues of Europe's future, they will not tell us where they stand. Do they want a single currency? The right hon. Gentleman does not even know what it means, so how can he know?—[*Laughter.*]

Mr. Kinnock: It is a hypothetical question.

The Prime Minister: Absolute nonsense. It is appalling. He says that it is a hypothetical question. It will not be a hypothetical question. Someone must go to Europe and argue knowing what it means.

Are Labour members prepared to defend the rights of this United Kingdom Parliament? No, for all that the right hon. Gentleman said. For them, it is all compromise, “sweep it under the carpet”, “leave it for another day”, and “it might sort itself out”, in the hope that the people of Britain will not notice what is happening to them, and how the powers would gradually slip away.

The Government will continue to take a positive and constructive approach to the future of Europe. We welcome economic and monetary co-operation: indeed, no other member state has gone further than Britain in tabling proposals for the next stage, including the hard ecu. But our proposals would work with the market and give people and Governments real choice.

We want the Community to move forward as twelve: and from my talks in Paris with other European leaders over the past few days, I am convinced that that is their aim too. Europe is strongest when it grows through willing co-operation and practical measures, not compulsion or bureaucratic dreams.

Mr. Alan Beith (Berwick-upon-Tweed): Will the Prime Minister tell us whether she intends to continue her personal fight against a single currency and an independent central bank when she leaves office?

Mr. Dennis Skinner (Bolsover): No. She is going to be the governor. [*Laughter.*]

The Prime Minister: What a good idea. I had not thought of that. But if I were, there would be no European central bank accountable to no one, least of all national Parliaments. The point of that kind of Europe with a central bank is no democracy, taking powers away from every single Parliament, and having a single currency, a monetary policy and interest rates which take all political power away from us. As my right hon. Friend the Member for Blaby (Mr. Lawson) said in his first speech after the proposal for a single currency was made, a single currency is about the politics of Europe, it is about a federal Europe by the back door. So

90 I shall consider the proposal of the hon. Member for Bolsover (Mr. Skinner). Now where were we? I am enjoying this.

Mr. Michael Carttiss (Great Yarmouth): Cancel it. You can wipe the floor with these people.

95 **The Prime Minister:** Yes, indeed—I was talking about Europe and the socialist ideal of Europe. Not for us the corporatism, socialism and central control. We leave those to the Opposition. Ours is a larger vision of a Community whose member states co-operate with one another more and more closely to the benefit of all.

100 Are we then to be censured for standing up for a free and open Britain in a free and open Europe? No. Our policies are in tune with the deepest instincts of the British people. We shall win the censure motion, so we shall not be censured for what is thoroughly right.

105 Under our leadership, Britain has been just as influential in shaping the wider Europe and the relations between East and West. Ten years ago, the eastern part of Europe lay under totalitarian rule, its people knowing neither rights nor liberties. Today, we have a Europe in which democracy, the rule of law and basic human rights are spreading ever more widely, where the threat to our security from the overwhelming conventional forces of the Warsaw pact has been removed: where the Berlin wall has been torn down and the cold war is at an end.

110 These immense changes did not come about by chance. They have been achieved by strength and resolution in defence, and by a refusal ever to be intimidated. No one in eastern Europe believes that their countries would be free had it not been for those western Governments who were prepared to defend liberty, and who kept alive their hope that one day east Europe too would enjoy freedom.

115

Debate in the House of Commons, November 22, 1990.

Margaret Thatcher: In her Own Words.

Ed. Iain Dale. London: Biteback, 2010, p. 312-315.

Annexe 1

The Bruges speech of 1988 set the seal on a new phase characterised by Margaret Thatcher's move from an instrumental and pragmatic position on European integration to an ideological one. She therefore shifted from initially seeing membership of the European Community as an opportunity, to a position where EC membership was perceived as a threat. During this second period, the sceptics' star began to move into the ascendant and the newly emergent phenomenon of Euroscepticism became more pronounced within the Conservative Party. The period closed in November 1990 with a leadership challenge to Margaret Thatcher from Michael Heseltine based around differences on how to handle

the European issue and her replacement by John Major, a leader willing to take a more pragmatic line on Europe.

Anthony Forster, *Euroscepticism in Contemporary British Politics: Opposition to Europe in the British Conservative and Labour Parties since 1945*. London: Routledge, 2002, p. 64.

Annexe 2

Having grudgingly agreed to resign, Thatcher produced a final bravura parliamentary performance later the same day [on 22 November 1990], replying to a Labour no-confidence motion which was rendered pointless by her impending departure. Facing down her enemies on both sides of the house, she defended her record, demolished all interruptions, and restated the case that both domestically and internationally she had halted and reversed Britain's decline. It was an extraordinary display of parliamentary courage and command, and led many Tories to wonder how the party could have been so misguided as to ditch their most successful leader of modern times.

David Cannadine, *Margaret Thatcher: A Life and Legacy*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2017, p. 110.

Annexe 3

Thatcher's fears of a European "super-state" were reinforced by the European Social Charter. As part of the move towards the European Union, the European Commission at the end of 1988 announced that "the single market should not be regarded as a goal in itself". Instead, there must be a "social dimension" to the Union. Delors spelled out this social dimension in a speech to the British Trades Unions Congress that same year when he called for the harmonization and standardization of working hours and conditions, as well as collective bargaining rights, across the member states. Again, Thatcher was aghast. To her, the Social Charter was simply a "Socialist charter", a way for unions to regain the powers they had lost under her governments and a means of state interference with the free market.

Meredith Veldman, *Margaret Thatcher: Shaping the New Conservatism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016, p. 157.

Deuxième partie :

À partir d'exemples choisis dans le passage compris entre « *On the central issues of Europe's future* » (l. 48) et « *what is thoroughly right.* » (l. 103), vous proposerez un traitement structuré de la question suivante : **les modaux**. Vous établirez une classification cohérente des formes choisies pour illustrer votre propos et vous vous interrogerez quant à leur fonctionnement. Vous déterminerez leurs différents types d'emplois ainsi que les éventuelles caractéristiques communes à tous ces emplois. Vous décrierez également les effets de sens des formes en question, en fournissant des micro-analyses en contexte et en procédant à toutes les manipulations et comparaisons que vous jugerez utiles.