

**BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL**

**ANGLAIS**

**Série L**

**Langue Vivante 2**

**Durée : 3 heures**

**Coefficient : 4**

**L'usage du dictionnaire et des calculatrices est interdit.**

***L'ensemble du sujet est àagrafer à la copie d'examen.***

***Avant de composer, le candidat s'assurera que le sujet comporte bien***

***9 pages numérotées de 1/9 à 9/9.***

**Compréhension : 7 points**

**Compétence linguistique : 6 points**

**Expression : 7 points**

AN2LME1

August 28, 1919  
Detroit, Michigan  
America

Dearest *Matka*,

5 You will not understand this easily, so best I tell you quickly. Now my name is Rose. Do you like it? I whisper this new name and summer surrounds me: flowers and larks<sup>(1)</sup> and quiet breezes, and I forget the boat and the people crowded tight against me, squeezing the thoughts out of my head. A new name cannot make your daughter a different person, *Matka*, and all you taught me is mine forever. But now I'm in America, and my name is  
10 Rose. It is a happy name. A name Americans understand.

Stanislaus, reading this letter to *Matka*, ask her to say my new name. She should feel for one moment what it means to be in America, where everything is new and different, even something so little and so grand as a name.

15 The people we know don't have the names they had on the boat. *Matka*, forgive me, but when I got here they made me Rose, so this is who I am now. You would be proud to see me.

I plan to become an American as soon as I can. I plan to learn English fast. One day I will have lots and lots of nice things, *Matka*, and you will have nice things too because I will send them to you.

20 Two days here, and already I see how there is so much in America: so much time, so much space. There is everything! Time to work hard and earn good money, time to tell stories and laugh.

My name is gone!

I am here! I am here!

25 With precious love always from your daughter ...

November 16, 1919  
Detroit, Michigan  
America

Dearest *Matka*,

30 Late at night is the only time my thoughts of you aren't hidden. Overlook my crooked lettering because I'm writing in the dark as everyone sleeps; only the light from the moon peeks in where the curtain doesn't pull shut. It's never quiet here in America. Across the hall the Jasinski's baby girl cries, boot steps clump to the washroom, a harmonica plays the same song every night, then stops too suddenly.

35 The daylight hours are not ours anyway; they belong to the factory, the landlord, the hallways I can't scrub clean of muddy footprints, the peddler<sup>(2)</sup> whose prices are too high, the butcher with the meat cut ways I don't understand, the teacher at night school and his long sighs and bad complexion, the babies who whimper to be held. Nights have always been for dreaming, so that is when I dream of you, *Matka*, and everything behind me.

40 When I went to say good-bye, you were surrounded by chickens; you were tossing out their feed. Neither of us spoke. Only the chickens squawked<sup>(3)</sup>, as handfuls of food rained

down upon them when it was supposed to be just one. These months later, I want to hear your voice, but it's chickens I remember.

45 It is like nothing you can think of, to live in America. Even the sun is bigger here, its light whiter. There are so many people, and they talk too fast; their language is twisted and gnarled, like trees growing in the wind. There are stories here, but I don't know them. I only know the stories you told me, *Matka*, and I repeat them to myself so I won't forget. The story about the day the rooster<sup>(4)</sup> got its crow. The story about the wolves running through the snow and how their tracks filled with gold coins. I think of you telling me those stories,  
50 but I still can't hear your voice.

At night, I feel my American baby growing inside me. My body doesn't want to let go of this baby. This is not the right way to think because again and again this child will find new ways to leave me. There's no end to leaving. Not yet a mother and already I know this.

My husband learns English words at the factory school. "I am a good American", he  
55 can say and write. What he learns he teaches me. He is good this way. We learn together.

Stanislaus, reading this letter to *Matka*, please tell her we are fine here in America. Tell everyone we are fine. Tell them to remember us in their prayers. We remember them.

With precious love always from your daughter ...

Pears on a Willow Tree, (p. 9-11), Leslie PIETRZYK, (Granta Books, 1998)

(1) larks (line 6) : *alouettes*

(2) peddler (line 36) : *marchand ambulant*

(3) squawked (line 41) : *caquetaient*

(4) rooster (line 48) : *un coq*

**COMPRÉHENSION**

1. Who is writing the two letters and who are they addressed to? (Give their names and say how they are related)

.....  
.....

2. Sum up the contents of each letter. (*maximum 40 words*)

- letter 1: .....  
.....  
.....

- letter 2: .....  
.....  
.....

3. What do we learn about her trip to America?

a. - the means of transport .....  
.....

b. - the conditions of transport .....  
.....

c. - the date of arrival .....  
.....

4. What first change occurred as soon as she arrived? How did she react to it? (*about 40 words*)

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

5. True (T) or false (F)? Tick the appropriate box and justify with one quotation from the text (letter 2). Indicate the lines.

- |   | True                     | False                    |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Rose has plenty of free time during the day.               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| line .....: .....   |                          |                          |
| .....   |                          |                          |
| 2. The new immigrants have to live together, under one roof.  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| line .....: .....   |                          |                          |
| .....   |                          |                          |
| 3. Rose can afford to buy whatever she wants.                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| line .....: .....   |                          |                          |
| .....   |                          |                          |
| 4. The American language is difficult to understand for Rose. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| line .....: .....   |                          |                          |
| .....   |                          |                          |
| 5. Now she likes listening to American stories best.          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| line .....: .....   |                          |                          |
| .....   |                          |                          |

6. In the following list, underline **four adjectives** and use them to analyze the evolution of Rose's feelings in the two letters. (60 words):

*bitter - determined - depressed - frustrated - hopeful - miserable - thrilled*

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

7. Pick out three elements from the text related to nature (indicate the lines) and say what they mean or suggest in the letters.

1) line .....  
.....

2) line .....  
.....

3) line .....  
.....

**COMPÉTENCE LINGUISTIQUE**

1. Use the following articles to complete the paragraph: Ø, the, a, an.

..... *Matka's* daughter left for America at ..... turn of ..... century. After ..... trip across ..... Atlantic which had been ..... extremely unpleasant experience, she was delighted to find out what ..... immense country America was and what ..... incredible prospects stood ahead of her. After ..... while, however, ..... past started haunting her.

2. Put the verbs in brackets into the right tenses and voices:

During the trip Rose ..... (*think*) that when they ..... (*be*) in America, they would learn English fast. No sooner ..... they ..... (*arrive*) there than they ..... (*give*) an apartment. It was the first time they ..... (*live*) in a big city and she ..... (*feel*) lost. Happily the baby ..... (*be born*) in a few months and she ..... (*tell*) her child the stories she ..... (*teach*) by her mother.

3. Put the verbs in the right forms:

- a. Rose looked forward to (*make*) ..... a fresh start.
- b. It was no use (*clean*) ..... the hallways. They were always muddy.
- c. The teacher expected her (*understand*) ..... everything he said.
- d. She couldn't help (*think*) ..... about her mother.
- e. She remembered (*feed*) ..... the chickens at home.
- f. "Remember (*say*) ..... your prayers every night," her mother had told her.

4. Rephrase the following sentences using the prompts:

a. "When I got here they made me Rose."

- No sooner .....  
.....

b. She still can't hear her mother's voice.

- She wishes .....  
.....

c. "Tell everyone we are fine".

- Rose asked Stanislaus .....

5. Link the following sentences with the words in the list, making any necessary changes:

*so ... that, in spite of, hardly ... when, whenever, even though.*

a. She arrived in America. She immediately saw how much space there was.

.....  
.....

b. She appreciated being able to earn money. She hated her noisy conditions of living.

.....  
.....

c. Americans spoke too fast. She didn't understand them.

.....  
.....

d. Her husband learnt new words. He always taught them to her.

.....  
.....

e. They met many difficulties. They didn't regret leaving Poland.

.....  
.....





