

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL - SESSION 2005

ÉPREUVE	ANGLAIS LV.2	
SÉRIE L	Durée : 3 heures	Coefficient : 4
SÉRIE S	Durée : 2 heures	Coefficient : 2
<i>Ce sujet comporte 5 pages numérotées de 1/5 à 5/5</i>		

L'usage de la calculatrice et du dictionnaire n'est pas autorisé.

Dès que ce sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.

Barème	
Compréhension du texte	10
Expression personnelle	10

It was almost 11 a.m. by the time Conrad woke up, put on the plaid shirt, chinos, and construction boots that had materialized beside the bed, shaved off his mustache, per Kenny's instructions, and made his way downstairs to look for Mai. Sunlight was flooding in through the plate-glass windows of the mini-mart¹.

5 Mai was out at the cash register haranguing Hong, as usual. When she saw Conrad, she led him back into her little office, berating Hong for not taking her place at the register fast enough. She stood still for a moment and stared at Conrad's face.

'You look better!' she said. 'No more mustache.' She laughed. This struck her as a very funny turn of events.

10 Then she sat down at her desk, picked up the telephone, and ordered in some food. She had barely hung up when Kenny arrived. Conrad had never seen him look more manic. His pale blue eyes were electric. His grin showed all his teeth. He was carrying a navy-blue duffel bag heavy enough to bring out the huge muscles of his forearm.

15 He flashed his wildest grin, for Conrad's benefit, stroked his own wispy blond mustache with his thumb and forefinger, and said, 'You wanna know something? You did yourself a favor. I never did like your mustache. Damn thing *drooped*. I'm not kidding!'

'Look better!' said Mai.

20 'You got it, Mai,' said Kenny. Then he set the blue duffel bag at Conrad's feet. 'Here's all the clothes you'll need, or everything I could think of.' He handed Conrad a newspaper and said, 'Take a look. You're on the front page!'

Genuinely frightened: 'Me?'

25 A headline stretched all the way across the upper half of the *Oakland Tribune*: QUAKE ROCKS EAST BAY. From smaller headlines you quickly picked up: 'Massive Destruction... 6.2 on Richter scale... Hayward Fault...' and there, just below the main headline, a big picture in color – must have been taken at dawn – of Santa Rita and the ruins of West Greystone and the escarpment that had risen beneath it and broken it almost in two. Above was a headline reading, JAIL BREAKS. Below was a caption that began, 'The quake's irresistible force created this cliff near Pleasanton, destroying an entire cell block at the Alameda County Jail. All the jail's buildings were heavily damaged. Rescue workers search the ruins for survivors.'

30 Kenny said to Mai, 'You get the ticket?'

¹ small supermarket.

From a drawer in her desk she produced an envelope and handed it to him. Kenny studied the ticket for a moment, then handed it to Conrad. 'Hang on to this. This is a ticket from Portland to Atlanta tonight at ten.'

35 'Portland? To Atlanta?'

'Portland'll be safer than Oakland or San Francisco, and Atlanta's where Mai can get things organized for you right away.'

40 Mai handed him another envelope, explaining that it contained the name – Lum Loc – of the Vietnamese who would meet him at the Atlanta airport and drive him to an apartment.

'How will we recognize each other?' asked Conrad.

'You not recognize him,' said Mai. 'He recognize you. Baggage area.' [...]

Social Security card, driver's license, birth certificate, whatever you want, he get it.'

'He's gonna want \$570 cash,' said Kenny.

45 'I –'

'Don't worry, you got it.' With that, Kenny stood up and removed a doubled-over envelope from the back pocket of his jeans. 'Here. Count it.'

Tom Wolfe, *A Man in Full*, 1998.

NOTE IMPORTANTE AUX CANDIDATS :

Les candidats traiteront le sujet **sur la copie qui leur sera fournie** en respectant **l'ordre des questions** et en faisant apparaître la **numérotation** – (numéro et lettre repère le cas échéant, ex 9b). Ils composeront des phrases complètes à chaque fois qu'il leur est demandé de rédiger les réponses. Les **citations** seront précédées de la mention de la ligne.

I – COMPRÉHENSION DU TEXTE

1. In which country is the scene set? Pick out two clues from the text to justify your answer.
2. What major event is making the headlines of the local press? Justify with two elements taken from the text.
3. What important information does the reader get from the photo and its caption?
4. Is there any mention of a possible escape?
5. Why is Conrad frightened at the thought of being on the front page of the newspaper?
6. Why hasn't a search already begun?
7. Why did Kenny instruct Conrad to shave his mustache?
8. What role do Kenny and Mai play in the story? What do they provide Conrad with? Quote the text for justification.
9. Who is Lum Loc? What is his role in the story?
10. What can you say about Kenny and Mai? Choose two expressions among the following: 'worried', 'relieved', 'well-organized', 'selfish', 'have a sense of humour'.
11. "*The plaid shirt, chinos, and construction boots that had materialized beside the bed ...*" (l. 1-2). Using your own words, explain what the underlined expression means and what it suggests about Conrad's attitude throughout the scene.
12. Translate into French from l. 8 "*You look better!*" (...) to l. 11 (...) "*Kenny arrived*".

II – EXPRESSION PERSONNELLE

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

Les candidats de **série L** devront **obligatoirement traiter les DEUX sujets** (150 mots x 2 = 300 mots au total).

1. Would you have helped Conrad, knowing the circumstances? Why or why not?
2. A few weeks later Conrad writes to Kenny and Mai. Write the contents of the letter.