

Session 2005

BACCALAUREAT GENERAL

ANGLAIS

Série L et S

Langue Vivante 2

Série L :

durée 3 heures - coefficient 4

Série S :

Durée 2 heures - coefficient 2

Compréhension :	10 points
Expression :	10 points

L'usage du dictionnaire et des calculatrices est interdit.

Avant de composer, le candidat s'assurera que le sujet comporte bien 4 pages numérotées de 1 à 4.

When Rachel arrived at her father's table, the senator was on his cellphone talking loudly about one of his recent successes. He glanced up at Rachel only long enough to tap his Cartier and remind her she was late.

I missed you, too, Rachel thought.

Her father's first name was Thomas, although he'd adopted his middle name long ago. Rachel suspected it was because he liked the alliteration. Senator Sedgewick Sexton. The man was a silver-haired, silver-tongued political animal who had been anointed with the slick look of a soap opera doctor, which seemed appropriate considering his talents of impersonation.

'Rachel!' Her father clicked off his phone and stood to kiss her cheek.

'Hi, Dad.' She did not kiss him back.

'You look exhausted.'

And so it begins, she thought. 'I got your message. What's up?'

'I can't ask my daughter out for breakfast?'

Rachel had learned long ago her father seldom requested her company unless he had some ulterior motive.

Sexton took a sip of coffee. 'So, how are things with you?'

'Busy. I see your campaign's going well.'

'Oh, let's not talk business.' Sexton leaned across the table, lowering his voice. 'How's that guy at the State Department I set you up with?'

Rachel exhaled, already fighting the urge to check her watch. 'Dad, I really haven't had time to call him. And I wish you'd stop trying to -'

'You've got to make time for the important things, Rachel. Without love, everything else is meaningless.'

A number of comebacks¹ came to mind, but Rachel chose silence. Being the bigger person was not difficult when it came to her father. 'Dad, you wanted to see me? You said this was important.'

'It is.' Her father's eyes studied her closely.

Rachel felt part of her defenses melt away² under his gaze, and she cursed the man's power. The senator's eyes were his gift - a gift Rachel suspected would probably carry him to the White House. On cue³, his eyes would well with tears, and then, an instant later, they would clear, opening a window to an impassioned soul, extending a bond of trust to all. *It's all about trust*⁴, her father always said. The senator had lost Rachel's years ago, but he was quickly gaining the country's.

'I have a proposition for you,' Senator Sexton said.

'Let me guess,' Rachel replied, attempting to refortify her position. 'Some prominent divorcee looking for a young wife?'

'Don't kid yourself, honey. You're not that young anymore.'

Rachel felt the familiar shrinking sensation that so often accompanied meetings with her father.

'I want to throw you a life raft,' he said.

'I wasn't aware I was drowning.'

'You're not. The President is. You should jump ship before it's too late.'

'Haven't we had this conversation?'

'Think about your future, Rachel. You can come work for me.'

'I hope that's not why you asked me to breakfast.'

The senator's veneer⁵ of calm broke ever so slightly. 'Rachel, can't you see that your working for him reflects badly on me? And on my campaign.'

Rachel sighed. She and her father had been through this. 'Dad, I don't work for the President. I haven't even *met* the President. I work in Fairfax, for God's sake!'

'Politics is perception, Rachel. It *appears* you work for the President.'

Rachel exhaled, trying to keep her cool. 'I worked too hard to get this job, Dad. I'm not quitting.'

Dan BROWN, Deception Point, 2004.

¹ comebacks : answers

² melt away : disappear.

³ on cue : at the right moment.

⁴ trust : confidence

⁵ veneer : appearance.

NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

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

- a) respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter la numérotation sur la copie (numéro et lettre-repère le cas échéant, ex. : 14 c) ;*
- b) faire précéder les citations de la mention de la ligne ;*
- c) composer des phrases complètes à chaque fois qu'il est demandé de rédiger la réponse.*

COMPREHENSION

1. a) In which country does the story take place? (10 words maximum).
b) Justify your answer by quoting two elements from the text.

There are two characters present in the scene.

2. What are their names ? (15 words max.)
3. How are they related to each other? (10 words max.)
4. What are they doing in the passage? Specify the time and place of their meeting. (15 words max.)
5. a) What is the male character's position in society? (10 words max.)
b) Considering his position, what does he want to become? (10 words max.)
c) Give two different quotations from the text to support your answer in b).
6. A message is mentioned line 12.
a) Who sent it? (5 words max.)
b) Who received it? (5 words max.)
c) Using elements from the text, write the contents of the message, including indications of time, place and purpose. (20 words max.)
7. a) What are the two subjects of the characters' conversation? (25 words max.)
b) Justify your answers with two quotations from the text. (One quotation for each subject)
8. a) Which is the dominant character? (10 words max.)
b) Justify with two elements referring to this character.
c) What does this character want the other to do at the end of the passage? (15 words max.)
d) Does the other character agree to this request? (10 words max.)
e) Justify your answer by quoting from the text.

9. How would you qualify in one sentence the relationship between the two characters throughout the passage? (10 words)

Focus on Rachel.

10. Rachel's mood changes several times.

For each adjective in the list below, pick out at least one relevant quotation from the text.

irritated - self-restrained - ill-at-ease - determined

11. a) Focus on line 4, line 12 and lines 31-32. Why are the sentences partly written in italics? (15 words max.)

b) "*It's all about trust*" lines 31-32. Explain why the notion of trust is important. (25 words max.)

TRADUCTION

Seuls les candidats de la série L réaliseront cet exercice.

Traduire en français le passage de '*Rachel!*' (ligne 9) à '*... for breakfast?*' (ligne 13)

EXPRESSION ECRITE

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 **(300 mots au total, soit environ 150 mots pour chaque sujet)**.

Sujet 1: A year later, the two characters meet again. Write their conversation.

Sujet 2: Do you think a politician's family life should be of public concern?