

Corrigé du bac 2019 : Anglais LV1

Séries S-ES-L – Polynésie

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

SESSION 2019

ANGLAIS

LANGUE VIVANTE 1

Durée de l'épreuve : **3 heures**

Séries **ES** et **S** – coefficient : **3**

Série L langue vivante obligatoire (LVO) – coefficient : **4**

Série **L** LVO et langue vivante approfondie (LVA) – coefficient : **8**

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

Compréhension	10 points
Expression	10 points

I COMPREHENSION DE L'ÉCRIT (10 points)

DOCUMENT A

A. Find the corresponding information about Ferguson's grandfather.

1. Birth name: Reznikoff (l. 7).
2. Year of birth: 1881 (l. 12).
3. Year of death: 1923 (l. 23).
4. Place of birth: Minsk (l. 2).
5. Nationality: Bielorussian/Russian (l. 2)
6. Native language: Yiddish (l. 15).

B. What was his route to America?

1. **Minsk – Warsaw – Berlin – Hamburg – New York**
2. ~~Hamburg – Warsaw – Berlin – Minsk – New York~~
3. ~~Minsk – Warsaw – Berlin – China – New York~~

C. Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Justify with a quote.

1. Ferguson's grandfather already spoke English when he arrived in New York.
False: "English was still an alien tongue to Isaac Reznikoff in 1900" (l. 9-10).
2. When he was in America, Ferguson's grandfather only lived in New York.
False: "Chicago where he had been employed" (l. 25).
3. Ferguson's grandfather made a fortune in America.
False: "he never earned more than nickels and dimes" (l. 30).

D. 1. What changed for Ferguson's grandfather on Ellis Island?

On Ellis Island, Ferguson's grandfather had to change his name because it did not sound American enough.

2. Explain in your own words why and how this change took place. (30 words).

At first, another Russian Jew told him he should change his name and suggested Rockefeller. However, when he got questioned by the immigration official, Ferguson's grandfather could not remember his new name and so, when the clerk heard Yiddish words, he thought his name was Ferguson, which became his official name.

E. Would you say that Ferguson's grandfather succeeded in America (family life/professional life)? (30 words).

We could say that Ferguson's grandfather succeeded in America because he met his wife, had kids and found a job. However, he was very poor and died at a very young age.

F. (Filière L LVA uniquement)

What does this story tell us about the American Dream? (50 words).

This story tells us that the America Dream is achievable after a long trip to New York. There, you can meet people and find a job. However, America is not a perfect place: first, you have to forget about your former identity and you will not necessary be rich. Besides, it is a violent country, as the character's death shows.

DOCUMENT B

G. What kind of document is it?

- ~~1. an extract from a novel~~
- 2. an economic report**
- ~~3. a report about American history~~

H. Focus on the first paragraph:

1. What expression in the paragraph explains what "upward mobility" (lines 1-2) is?

"Upward mobility" is the "continuing ability of all Americans to move up the economic ladder" (l.8)

2. Pick out words or expressions describing the American Dream. (three elements)

Several words or expressions describe the American Dream: "unwavering optimism" (l. 3-4) and "individual and national success" (l. 6), "meritocracy" (l. 9).

3. What does this dream mean to people inside and outside the United States? Explain in your own words. (30 words).

To people inside and outside the United States, this dream means that the country is a land of opportunities and that everyone can progress and succeed if they are willing to work.

- I. Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Justify with a quote from the text.

1. The reality of the American Dream is questioned today.

True: “new data suggest that this once solid ground may well be shifting” (l. 6-7).

2. In the United States, it is easier to climb the social ladder today than in the past.

False: “The last thirty years has seen a considerable drop-off in median household income growth compared to earlier generations” (l. 11-12).

J. (Filière L LVA uniquement)

According to the authors, why is economic mobility essential in the lives of American people? Explain in your own words. (30 words)

According to the authors, economic mobility is essential in the lives of American people because it gives them optimism about the future, and ensures the improvement of everyone’s living conditions.

DOCUMENT C

- K. What do the elements in the central part of the mural make you think of?

The central part of the mural can make us think of Latin America, due to the flowers and works of art.

- L. Focus on the slogan. “UR” means “YOUR” on the Internet and in text messages. Why do you think the street artists used it in this slogan?

We could suggest that the street artists used “UR” in the slogan in order to appear friendly and to be understood by as many people as possible.

- M. What is the message sent to the immigrants coming to Arizona? Explain in your own words. (30 words).

The message sent to the immigrants coming to Arizona is that they are welcome and that many elements of their cultures are recognized and promoted in Arizona.

N. (Filière L LVA uniquement)

Two languages are used in the mural (English and Spanish). What does it reveal?

The fact that both English and Spanish are used in the mural suggests that most immigrants come from South America, that is to say Spanish-speaking countries.

DOCUMENT A, B et C

- O. In your own words, compare and contrast the visions of the American Dream in these three documents. (80 words).

The visions of the American Dream are different, depending on the documents. At first, the mural promotes diversity and shows that new people are welcome and that they will achieve their goals in their new country.

On the contrary, the economic report spreads the news that economic mobility is not ensured and that climbing up the social ladder is not always possible. Moreover, the character from the first document arrived in America in order to succeed and even though he met people and found work, he still had to change his identity and lived among poverty and violence. In conclusion, we could assert that the picture conveys an idea of optimism which is qualified along the two texts.

II. EXPRESSION (10 points)

Il y a trois sujets différents selon la filière du candidat (S, ES, L LVA ou L LVO).

- Les candidats des séries S, ES et L LVO doivent traiter le sujet **1 ou 2**.
- Les candidats de la série L LVA doivent traiter les sujets **2 et 3**.

- 1. Twenty years after their first encounter, Ferguson’s grandfather (document A) meets the “Russian Jew” mentioned in line 7. Imagine and write their conversation. (300 words +/- 10%)**

Indications pour la rédaction :

Il s’agit ici de bien maîtriser le document A et ses éléments principaux, afin d’imaginer une conversation entre son personnage principal et une personne à propos de laquelle nous avons peu de détails. Les codes de la conversation en anglais devront être respectés, et notamment la ponctuation : on ferme les guillemets après chaque prise de parole, et il n’y a pas de tiret.

Proposition de correction :

At the end of his working day, Ferguson’s grandfather went to the shop at the corner of the street, in order to buy some corned-beef and leeks for dinner. He saw a man staring at him, as it happens all the time, but he actually thought that

he could be the Russian Jew he met in Ellis Island when he first arrived, in 1900. They were in the same situation. In fact, he could not believe it, as it was about 20 years ago. How could they see each other again? That was impossible, he thought. Suddenly, he heard:

“Hey! Oh it’s you! How are you doing, Rockefeller?”

Ferguson’s grandfather was amazed at his old mate’s memory.

“Good god! Do you remember me?!”

“Oh yes I do. How are you doing, Rockefeller? It’s been a long time”, he repeated.

The Russian man seems quite surprised and amazed.

“Your English is quite good, isn’t it?”

“Thanks? Yes, I’ve to say it’s better now. And I speak a bit French too, as my wife comes from the South of France.”

“This is amazing”, he replied. “Unfortunately I still haven’t found someone to share my life with... I guess it’s because I work too much. You need, the factory, the long days at work... Anyway, I think I could not afford to feed a whole family of three or even two, but I still hope... I strive to make ends meet, you know what I mean. That’s the land of hope and glory, you know what they say!”

Ferguson’s grandfather invited his mate to join the family for dinner. That would be the perfect opportunity to explain how he did become Mister Ferguson!

2. In 2012, Joseph Stiglitz, the famous American economist, declared: “The U.S. worked hard to create the American dream of opportunity. But today, that dream is a myth.” (300 words +/- 10%).

Indications pour la rédaction :

Cette question invite à analyser la déclaration de Joseph Stiglitz. Il s’agit de comprendre qu’il oppose la situation actuelle à une époque révolue, qui était plus positive. N’hésitez pas à détailler l’idée de « American dream of opportunity » et de « myth », tout en montrant ce qui a changé. Le tout devra être rédigé dans une mangue de qualité, au sein de paragraphes argumentés.

Proposition de correction :

In 2012, Joseph Stiglitz, the famous American economist, declared: “The U.S. worked hard to create the American dream of opportunity. But today, that dream is a myth.” That way, he opposed two times in American history. As we saw all along the second document, America has been built on the idea of the American dream. It means that everyone could succeed in building a new life in this country and that work and talent would ensure everyone good living conditions, or even prosperity. This represents the myth of the self-made man, someone who achieves success by his own hard work, which comes up the social and financial ladder by one’s self. That is the reason why many immigrants

came to Ellis Island, as the main character from the first document, who leaves Minsk and tries to make a living in America, the “land of hope and glory”. Indeed, at the moment Ferguson’s grandfather arrived, there were a lot of jobs available, in all kinds of sectors.

Nonetheless, integration became more and more difficult and rejection often occurred. To go further, we may add that there is a gap between the rich and the poor and also a gap between several sectors. For example, we can see that the main character from the first document struggled to feed his family and did not have a very interesting job. For this reason, we might argue that the American dream is not that perfect. Actually, this idea is also conveyed all along the second document, as the economists evoke the fact that the reality of the American Dream is questioned today as in the United States, it is more difficult to climb the social ladder today than in the past.

3. **“You need an American name for your new life in America, something with a good American ring to it”. (document A, lines 8-9). Discuss this quotation. (250 words +/- 10%)**

Indications pour la rédaction :

Il s’agit ici de bien analyser l’affirmation, tout en ayant en tête le cheminement du personnage principal, pour expliquer en quoi il peut être important de changer de nom pour s’intégrer. Des connaissances sur le nom suggéré sont les bienvenues, mais le plus important sera le développement, argumenté et enrichi de connecteurs logiques.

Proposition de correction :

As the main character leaves his country, he has to discover a whole different world and must even change his own identity in order to embrace a brand new culture. In fact, he is from Minsk and does not really speak English. At the immigration center, on Ellis Island, he meets another Russian Jew who tells him: “You need an American name for your new life in America, something with a good American ring to it.”

This piece of advice could be useful for Mister Reznikoff, as we might suppose his name would sound very curious and strange to most people. To go further, we may say that it could be detrimental to his success. That is the reason why the Russian Jew suggests a new name: Rockefeller. This name sounds familiar to most Americans, as John Davison Rockefeller is a very wealthy business magnate which created a huge company. Last but not least, he is widely considered the wealthiest man in American history. Besides, we could suggest that taking on a new name is a strategic decision that would bring our character some luck. Moreover, taking on a new name helps forgetting about the past and all miseries in order to build a whole new life; which is more, it also helps

integrating a new society. Actually, the character will not be named Rockefeller, but Ferguson will do.