

# BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

**SESSION 2014**

**ANGLAIS**

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LANGUE VIVANTE 1

Série **L** – Durée de l'épreuve : 3 heures – coefficient : 4

Série **L** Langue Vivante Approfondie (**LVA**) – Durée de l'épreuve : 3 heures – coefficient : 4

Séries **ES-S** – Durée de l'épreuve : 3 heures – coefficient : 3

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

Dès que ce sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.  
Ce sujet comporte 6 pages numérotées de 1/6 à 6/6.

## **Répartition des points**

Compréhension de l'écrit	10 points
Expression écrite	10 points

## Lisez les documents A et B

### Document A

Only one year ago the Smithforks were like families in East New York, Brooklyn. They lived in a brownstone house, built in 1880, that, except for plumbing and electricity, had not had much done to it since then. Their mom, Anne, loved architectural history, and she couldn't bear to modernize old buildings. To her, adding conveniences to a building meant losing its original character. "Think of the family that built this house," she would say. "Think how proud they were of this paneled wall, even if it has termites in it." She had painted the old oak floors of their Brooklyn house green, and that's how they had stayed-warped and green—the entire time the Smithforks lived there.

Maybe the best thing about their Brooklyn home was that they had a yard. It wasn't much of a yard, so small and their mom said she could mow the lawn with her tweezers. Still, it was a piece of the earth that was theirs, and they could go outside whenever they wanted.

Now they were Manhattanites. It seemed everyone lived in apartments here, stacked on top of one another just like the moving boxes. Worst of all, their mom was too busy to spend her days with them the way she always had. She was meeting with interior decorators and shopping for furniture, and she hired Maricel, a stern woman from the Philippines, to be their nanny. Maricel was efficient and professional and used to working with families more structured than their own.

Their father wasn't strict at all. Mr. Smithfork used to be poor and now was rich. After college, when his friends went to work for investment banks on Wall Street, Bruce Smithfork couldn't pull himself away from games—specifically video games. Not only was he good at playing them, he liked to invent them. He started a company in their Brooklyn basement called LeCube, and his game, the PeeWee, was a big seller.

Then something happened that changed everything. Bruce Smithfork sent the PeeWee to one of his friends for his fortieth birthday. His friend, who worked on Wall Street, liked it so much, he told Mr. Smithfork that his game was better than any game he had ever played, and Mr. Smithfork should take his company to the public, giving the family a lot of cash and allowing the company to be traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

Within weeks, their Brooklyn living room filled with men in suits. They spread long rolls of paper on the scuffed-up table and punched numbers into calculators. They drank a lot of coffee.

Finally the day came when the men in suits left and Mr. Smithfork rang the bell at the New York Stock Exchange. The kids couldn't believe it when he came home and said, "Hey, we're millionaires!" He swung their mom, Anne, around, and they all went out to eat at a diner. They ordered whatever they wanted and didn't take home the leftovers. After that, Bruce Smithfork went to work every day in a Manhattan office and wore a suit. He had real employees, rather than his own kids, to test his games on. He had shareholders who insisted his company grow and make more and more money.

Anne Smithfork spent most of her time getting ready to move the family out of Brooklyn. She searched Manhattan for the perfect apartment; she shopped for furniture and curtains and schools for children. She was rarely around during the day anymore.

Maureen Sherry, *Walls Within Walls*, 2012

## Document B

[*Miles Heller is a young New Yorker living in Florida.*]

5 He is twenty-eight years old, and to the best of his knowledge he has no ambitions. No burning ambitions, in any case, no clear idea of what building a plausible future might entail for him. He knows that he will not stay in Florida much longer, that the moment is coming when he will feel the need to move on again, but until that need ripens into a necessity to act,  
10 he is content to remain in the present and not look ahead. If he has accomplished anything in the seven and a half years since he quit college and struck out on his own, it is this ability to live in the present, to confine himself to the here and now, and although it might not be the most laudable accomplishment one can think of, it has required considerable discipline and self-control for him to achieve it. To have no plans, which is to say, to have no longings or  
15 hopes, to be satisfied with your lot, to accept what the world doles out<sup>1</sup> to you from one sunrise to the next—in order to live like that you must want very little, as little as humanly possible.

20 Bit by bit, he has pared down<sup>2</sup> his desires to what is now approaching a bare minimum. He has cut out smoking and drinking, he no longer eats in restaurants, he does not own a television, a radio, or a computer. He would like to trade in his car for a bicycle, but he can't get rid of the car, since the distances he must travel for work are too great. The same applies to the cell phone he carries around in his pocket, which he would dearly love to toss in the garbage, but he needs it for work as well and therefore can't do without it. [. . .] His rent is low, since he lives in a small apartment in a poor neighborhood, and beyond spending money  
25 on bedrock<sup>3</sup> necessities, the only luxury he allows himself is buying books, paperback books, mostly novels, American novels, British novels, foreign novels in translation, but in the end books are not luxuries so much as necessities, and reading is an addiction he has no wish to be cured of.

Paul Auster, *Sunset Park*, 2010

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<sup>1</sup>to dole out = to offer

<sup>2</sup>to pare down = to reduce

<sup>3</sup>bedrock = basic

## NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

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

- respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter les repères sur la copie (lettre ou lettre et numéro ou lettre, numéro et lettre). Exemples : **A.** ou **A.1.** ou **A.1.a.** ;
- faire toujours suivre les citations du numéro de la ligne ;
- recopier les phrases à compléter en **soulignant** l'élément introduit.

**Répondez en anglais aux questions**

## COMPRÉHENSION DE L'ÉCRIT

### Document A

**Tous les candidats traiteront les questions suivantes.**

**A.** Say whether the following statements about the place where the family lived in Brooklyn are **Right** or **Wrong**. Justify your choice by quoting from the text.

1. It was old and very much in its original state.
2. It was in good condition.
3. It made them feel at home.
4. It made them feel closed-in.

**B.** Indicate in two sentences the two main changes which occurred in the family's situation.

**C.** Choose the right statement to explain how these changes happened. Justify with a quotation.

1. The father went to work for an investment bank.
2. The family won the lottery.
3. The mother became a successful interior decorator.
4. The father invented a successful video game.
5. They sold the house and got a lot of money for it.

**D. 1.** Quote two elements from the text that show how these changes affected Bruce Smithfork.

2. Quote two elements from the text that show how these changes affected the children.

## **Document B**

**Tous les candidats traiteront les questions suivantes.**

**E.** Choose the two adjectives which best describe Miles Heller. Justify your choice by quoting from the text.

*AMBITIOUS – DEPRESSED – IMPATIENT – SERENE – FRUSTRATED – LAZY – AUSTERE*

**F.** Give at least three elements to describe the place where he lives.

**G.** What is the only activity he values? Answer in one sentence.

## **Documents A and B**

**Tous les candidats traiteront la question suivante.**

**H.** In your own words briefly compare and contrast Anne Smithfork's and Miles Heller's lifestyle choices.

**Seuls les candidats des séries S et ES et ceux de la série L qui ne composent pas au titre de la LVA (Langue vivante approfondie) traiteront la question suivante.**

**I.** Which of Bruce Smithfork and Miles Heller has more control over his life? Justify with elements from the text.

**Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue vivante approfondie) traiteront la question suivante.**

**J.** Briefly comment on the characters' evolution in terms of spatial and social mobility.

## EXPRESSION ÉCRITE

**Tous les candidats traiteront la question suivante.**

One evening the Smithforks and their children talk about their new life and how they feel about it. Write their conversation. **(150 mots au moins)**

**Seuls les candidats des séries ES, S et L et ceux de la série L qui ne composent pas au titre de la LVA (Langue vivante approfondie) traiteront le sujet suivant.**

To what extent can material possessions contribute to happiness? **(150 mots au moins)**

**Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue vivante approfondie) traiteront le sujet suivant.**

To what extent do you believe the “*ability to live in the present*” (document B, l. 6-7) can be a key to a happy life? **(150 mots au moins)**