

## CORRECTION SUJET ANGLAIS SERIE S/ES/L LV1 PONDICHERY 2014.

### COMPREHENSION

#### DOCUMENT A

1

a) The main character, Lorcan, is 37 years old, works in the conservation room of the Ulster Museum in Belfast, Northern Ireland, as an art restorator.

b) The character's family and family background : his father and mother ran a pub in a small town in the countryside presumably. They also had a farm and farmlands to look after. We can guess they have always been hard-working simple people, not at all connected to any artistic environment.

#### 2 Places.

-the Crowing Cock pub : the family pub, the place where the main character grew up and helped his parents as a young boy.

-Tailorstown : his hometown, a small town inhabited by country people.

-Belfast : city where he attended university, graduated, started working as a painter and printer and eventually still works.

-the Ulster Museum : his working place .

3

a) "This is not me". His dreams have always been to become an artist and to live off his art (painting) and imagination. His mother expected him to take over the family business (pub and farm) but she had no choice but to accept her son's vocation.

b) "But he'd won the day nonetheless". He obviously managed to convince his mother to let him try his luck as an artist. He started studying in Belfast, rented the farm and lands and hired a bartender for the pub to help his mother deal with the business.

4

a) he is an art restorator. His work consists in working on the canvases of famous painters. His task requires great concentration and meticulousness. He cleans the canvas, refreshes the colours, the pigments used but he doesn't modify the way the painting has been made . He doesn't add or change any element of the painting. His work implies great mastery and artistic skills, but not creation.

Quote l. 26 : "he laid a speck of cadmium on a soupçon of white and blended the minute quantities to the required hue before taking the brush to the canvas again."

b) The main character expresses bitterness (l.20) and frustration (l.34/36) when reflecting on his job. He has a prestigious , well-paid job .He is allowed to work on masterpieces (l. 23/25). His mastery and skills seem to be unquestioned but yet he didn't become a true artist and he doesn't create his own masterpieces. He mentions his "quest for perfection" l.34, a quest which has prevented him from becoming a true artist.

## DOCUMENT B

5

a) The two main characters are Adam Walker and Jim, the narrator. They used to belong to the same group of friends at college.

b) They met 38 years before , the narrator received Adam Walker's manuscript and the letter in 2007, so they met in 1969.

c) Besides having been close during their college years, they share the same passion for writing.

6 Adam Walker wrote the letter to Jim. He needs his help, some literary advice because he can't finish his book.

7 -**doubtful** about his capacity to have written something worth reading.

- **scared** about not being able to overcome his writing problems.

8

a) When they were at college, Jim believed that Adam Walker was a gifted and promising young writer. He had expected him to publish books or short stories in magazines. But as far as he knows, nothing of the sort happened and he figured out that Adam had turned his back on writing.

b) Jim has become a writer, a successful and renowned one . Adam has been able to follow his career through book reviews and lecture announcements.

## DOCUMENT A AND DOCUMENT B

9 You had to bear in mind the following facts before answering :

-document A, main character : a young man who dreamt of becoming an artist but who failed because he couldn't reach perfection and only became an art restorator, a job nonetheless connecting to painting and in which he succeeded.

-document B : Adam Walker : probably tried all his life to finish a book, might also be obsessed with the idea of perfection and seems to be struggling with the same paralysis in completing his work. The difference with Lorcan is that he doesn't live from his art.

10 The narrator, Jim, has made it, is living off his art, has become a writer and has no problem finishing a book, as opposed to the two other characters in document A and B.

### Question 11 (candidats LVA only)

Both texts insist on the importance of the mind and the imagination in the act of creation. The artist is struggling to express himself and reach perfection .

In text A the urge of creation appeared in childhood (l. 2 "I have an imagination") and it couldn't be silenced (l.3 " The young defiant artist was unrepentant") .

Painting is described as difficult (l. 19 "toiling over his own canvases"), rewarding (l. 35 "the chase was excellence and that realization was his prize") , even if for that character it goes along with frustration (l.34 "the quest for perfection, that unattainable moving target").

In text B, writing is portrayed as an never-ending process (l.21 "a still-not-finished draft of the first chapter"), a journey in creation which is met by obstacles that seem difficult to overcome (l. 22 "a wall of struggle and uncertainty", l. 24 "the courage to climb over it or tear it down").

## **EXPRESSION**

### **SUJET 1**

sujet de discussion et d'argumentation. Evitez les réponses normandes : oui, non, oui et non.... Prenez parti, donnez des exemples et essayez de structurer votre réponse (Intro, deux ou trois paragraphes, une conclusion).

Les réseaux sociaux et les portraits que l'on écrit de soi-même et de ses goûts personnels. Définir ce que l'on entend par le reflet de la réalité, ce qui est omis, inventé, arrangé, est-ce un problème, un danger....

### **SUJET 2**

Vous écrivez une lettre qui reprend le modèle du document B. Vous devez vous créer un problème (problème technique, inspiration, scénario...), expliquez ce que vous tentez de faire, vos objectifs. Votre ton est formel et exprime le respect ou l'admiration envers la personne à qui vous écrivez.

## **CANDIDATS LVA**

### **SUJET 3**

Sujet d'argumentation et de discussion au sujet de l'acte artistique : peut-on être un artiste épanoui et vendu? Faire de l'argent avec ses créations et être un artiste innovateur est-il possible?

### **SUJET 4**

question plus personnelle. On vous demande de parler de vous. Quelles sont les limites que vous seriez prêt à atteindre/franchir pour parvenir à réaliser votre rêve? Il faut définir l'idée de limite (notion de sacrifice, de quête...) et l'idée d'accomplir un rêve.