

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL - SESSION 2007

ÉPREUVE	ANGLAIS LV.1	DURÉE : 3 heures
SÉRIE	L	COEFFICIENT : 4
<i>Ce sujet comporte 4 pages numérotées de 1/4 à 4/4.</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.

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In my class Bob Stein never sat at a desk. It could have been his bulk but I think he found comfort perched on the deep capacious windowsill in the back of the room. As soon as he was settled he smiled and waved. Good morning, Mr. McCourt. Isn't this a great day?

5 Through all the seasons of the school year he wore a white shirt open at the neck, the white collar lapped over the gray collar of his double-breasted jacket. He told the class that the jacket once belonged to Orson Welles¹ and if he ever met Welles they'd have something to talk about. If it weren't for the jacket, he wouldn't know what to say to Orson Welles as his interests were completely different from the
10 actor's.

He wore short pants that were long pants cut off at the knees and, no, they did not match the jacket so there was no connection with Orson Welles.

He wore gray socks so heavy they lumped in woolen piles over his yellow construction boots.

15 He carried no bag, no books, no notebooks, no pen. He joked that it was partly my fault because of the excited way I once talked about Thoreau² and how you should simplify, simplify, simplify and get rid of possessions.

When there was a written assignment or a test in class he asked me if by any chance he could borrow a pen and some paper.

20 Bob, this is a writing class. It requires certain materials.

He assured me everything would be all right and advised me not to worry. He told me from the windowsill the snow was appearing on my head and I should enjoy the years left to me.

No, no, he told the class. Don't laugh.

25 But they were already in hysterics and so loud I had to wait to hear him again. He said that in a year from now I'd just look back at this moment and wonder why I wasted my time and emotions on his lack of pen and paper.

I had to play the part of stern teacher. Bob, you could fail this class if you don't participate.

30 Mr. McCourt, I can't believe you're telling me this, you of all people with your miserable childhood and everything, Mr. McCourt. But it's OK. If you fail me I'll take the course again. No big hurry. What's a year or two one way or the other? For you, maybe, it's a big thing but I'm only seventeen. All the time in the world, Mr. McCourt, even if you fail me.

35 He asked the class if anyone would like to help him out with pen and paper.

¹ Orson Welles: a famous American film director. He directed and starred in Citizen Kane (1941)

² Henry D. Thoreau: an American writer, philosopher and naturalist.

There were ten offers but he took the one closest so that he wouldn't have to climb down from his windowsill. He said, See, Mr. McCourt? See how nice people are. Long as they carry these big bags you and I will never have to worry about supplies.

40 Yes, yes, Bob, but how is that going to help you next week when we have the big test on *Gilgamesh*³?

What's that, Mr. McCourt?

It's in the world-literature book, Bob.

45 Oh, yeah. I remember that book. Big book. I have it at home and my dad's reading the Bible parts an' all. My dad's a rabbi, you know. He was so happy you gave us that book with all the prophets an' everything and he said you must be a great teacher an' he's coming to see you on Open School Night. I told him you were a great teacher except you have this thing about pens and paper.

Cut it out, Bob. You haven't even looked at the book.

50 He urged me again not to worry as his father, the rabbi, often talked about the book and he, Bob, would be sure to find out all about Gilgamesh and anything else that would make the teacher happy.

Again the class erupted, embracing one another, high fiving.

I wanted to erupt, too, but I had to maintain teacher dignity.

55 Across the room, over the giggling and gasping and laughing, I called, Bob, Bob. It would make me happy if you read the world literature book yourself and left your poor father in peace.

He said he'd love to read the book cover to cover but it did not fit into his plans.

And what are your plans, Bob?

I'm going to be a farmer.

Franck McCourt. *Teacher Man*. Fourth estate, 2005

³ *Gilgamesh: the heroic story of a tyrannical Babylonian king (2000 BC). The story inspired biblical and Greek writers.*

Vous traiterez les questions dans l'ordre, en indiquant clairement leur numéro sur votre copie. Vous répondrez aux questions en anglais et par des phrases complètes. Vous accompagnerez les citations de la mention de la ligne.

COMPRÉHENSION-EXPRESSION

1. Identify the two protagonists and explain how they are related to each other. What sort of narrative is it? Justify.
2. Focus on lines 1 to 22. Pick out three characteristics concerning Bob Stein's physical appearance and his behaviour. (40 words).
3. Read from line 24 to line 44 (...*"you know"*). Name the two things that the teacher expects from Bob. Explain in your own words how Bob satisfies both demands (30 words).
4. Read from line 43 to line 59. Has Bob started reading about Gilgamesh? Explain why or why not.
5. How many strategies does Bob use to attract the attention of the other students. Explain what they are (40 words).
6. How does Mr McCourt deal with Bob's behaviour? Explain in your own words. (40 words).
7. How does the class react during the exchange between Bob and the teacher? (40 words)
8. What two techniques are used by the narrator to make the reader visualise the scene? (20 words)
9. **Expression:** Le candidat traitera les deux sujets.
 - a) After class that day, one of the students comes home and relates Mr. McCourt's lesson to his parents. Write the dialogue. (150 words)
 - b) *"Simplify, simplify, simplify and get rid of possessions"* (line 17). What do you think of this view of life? (150 words)

TRADUCTION

Translate from *"He asked the class..."*(l. 35) to *"...worry about supplies."*(l.38).