

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL - SESSION 2007

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|---|---------------------|-----------------|
| ÉPREUVE | ANGLAIS LV.2 | |
| SÉRIE L | Durée : 3 heures | Coefficient : 4 |
| SÉRIE S | Durée : 2 heures | Coefficient : 2 |
| <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.

| Barème | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Compréhension du texte | 10 |
| Expression personnelle | 10 |

TO : Susan_inseattle@yahoo.com
FROM : Gemma.343@hotmail.com
SUBJECT : runaway dad

5 Susan, you wanted news. Well, I've got news. Although you might be sorry you asked for it. It looks like my dad has left my mam. I'm not sure how serious it is. More as and when.

Gemma xxx

10 When I first got the call, I thought he'd died. Two reasons. One: I've been to a worrying number of funerals over the past while – friends of my parents and worse again, parents of my friends. Two : Mam had called me on my mobile ; the first time she'd ever done that because she'd always persisted in the belief that you can only call a mobile *from* a mobile, like they're CB radios or something. So when I put my phone to my ear and heard her choke, 'He's gone,' who could blame me for thinking that Dad had kicked the bucket and that now it was only her and me.

'He just packed a bag and left.'

15 'He packed a... ?' It was then that I realized that Dad mightn't actually be dead.

'Come home,' she said.

20 'Right...' But I was at work. And not just in the office, but in a hotel ballroom overseeing the finishing touches to a medical conference (*Seeing the Back of Backache*). It was an enormous deal which had taken weeks to pull together; I'd been there until twelve-thirty the previous night coordinating the arrival of hundreds of delegates and sorting out their problems. (Relocating those in non-smoking rooms who had slipped and gone back on the fags in between booking their room and showing up for it, that sort of thing.) Today was finally Day Zero and in less than an hour's time, two hundred chiropractors would be flooding in, each expecting

25 a) a name-badge and chair

b) coffee and two biscuits (one plain, one fancy) at 11 a.m.

c) lunch, three courses (including vegetarian option) at 12.45 p.m.

d) coffee and two biscuits (both plain) at 3.30 p.m.

30 e) evening cocktails followed by a gala dinner, with party favours, dancing and snogging (optional).

In fact when I'd answered the mobile I thought it was the screen hire guy, reassuring me he was on his way. With – this is the important bit – the screens.

35 'Tell me what happened,' I asked Mam, tom as I was between conflicting duties. *I can't leave here ...*

'I'll tell you when you get home. Hurry. I'm in an awful state, God only knows what I'll do.'

That did it. I snapped my phone closed and looked at Andrea, who'd obviously figured out something was up.

40 'Everything OK?' she murmured.

'It's my dad.'

I could see on her face that she too thought that my father had bucked the kickit (as he himself used to say). (There I am talking like he actually is dead.)

'Oh, my God... is it... is he...?'

45 'Oh no,' I corrected, 'he's still alive.'

'Go, go, get going!' She pushed me towards the exit, clearly visualizing a deathbed farewell.

'I can't. What about all of this?' I indicated the ballroom.

50 'Me and Moses'll do it and I'll call the office and get Ruth over to help. Look, you've done so much work on this, what can go wrong?'

The correct answer is, of course : just About Anything. I've been Organizing Events for seven years and in that time I've seen everything from over-refreshed speakers toppling off the stage to professors fighting over the fancy biscuits.

55 'Yes, but...' I'd threatened Andrea and Moses that even if they were dead they were to show up this morning. And here I was proposing to abandon the scene – for *what* exactly?

60 What a day. It had barely started and so many things had already gone wrong. Beginning with my hair. I hadn't had time to get it cut in ages and, in a mad fit, I'd cut the front of it myself. I'd only meant to trim it, but once I started I couldn't stop, and ended up with a ridiculously short fringe. [...]

65 I'd no idea what to expect when I got to my parents' house. Obviously, something was wrong, even if it was just Mam going loola. I didn't think she was the type, but who can ever tell with these things? *'He just packed a bag...'* That in itself was as unlikely as pigs flying. Mam always packs Dad's bag for him, whether he's off to a sales conference or only on a golf outing. There and then I knew Mam was wrong. Which meant that either she *had* gone loola or Dad really *was* dead. A surge of panic had me pressing my foot even harder on the accelerator.

Marian Keyes. *The Other Side of The Story*. Michael Joseph Ltd. 2004

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.

I – COMPRÉHENSION - EXPRESSION

1. Who is the narrator? Make a list of the other characters, give their names whenever possible. How are they related?
2. Focus from line 7 to the end. Name the two places where the action takes place.
3. line 7: "When I first got the call." Whose call is she talking about? What is it about?
4. Establish the chronology : name the two events which took place before and the two events which took place after the phone call.
5. What is the narrator's job? What are the various tasks she must perform? (40 words).
6. Lines 45 to 55: in the list below, which adjective would you choose to describe :
 - the narrator's relationship with her colleagues;
 - her colleagues' relationship with her?

Indifferent, permissive, bossy, understanding, ill at ease, condescending.
Justify in your own words.
7. Explain what the narrator means by "*conflicting duties*" (l.33). (20 words).
8. Find in the text the expressions meaning : "*die*" and "*become crazy*".
9. In what state of mind is the narrator at the end of the text? What conclusion does she come to and why? (30 words)
10. *Translate from line 57 "What a day..." to line 60 " ... ridiculously short fringe."*

II - EXPRESSION

- Les candidats de **série S** choisiront de traiter **l'UN des deux sujets**, au choix (200 mots environ).

- Les candidats de série L devront **obligatoirement traiter les deux sujets** (150 mots environ x 2 = 300 mots au total).

1. Some time later the narrator writes Susan a letter to tell her what really happened. Write the letter.
2. Is it easy to balance private life and working life? Discuss.