

**ANGLAIS – LV1****Durée : 2 heures****Séries ST2S – STI – STL : *coefficient 2*****Série STG****« Communication et gestion des ressources humaines » : *coefficient 3*****« Mercatique » : *coefficient 3*****« Comptabilité et finance d'entreprise » : *coefficient 3*****« Gestion des systèmes d'information » : *coefficient 2***

Séries STI, STL	Compréhension : 12 points	Expression : 8 points
Séries STG, ST2S	Compréhension : 10 points	Expression : 10 points

***Vous devez rédiger toutes vos réponses sur une copie en respectant strictement l'ordre des questions. Vous indiquerez clairement et en détail la numérotation de celles-ci.***

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

I guess it's fair to say there were two distinct phases to my life in West Virginia: everything that happened before October 5, 1957 and everything that happened afterward. My mother woke me early that morning, a Saturday, and said I had better get downstairs and listen to the radio. "What is it?" I mumbled from beneath the warm covers. High in the mountains, Coalwood could be a damp, cold place even in the early fall, and I would have been happy to stay there for another couple of hours, at least.

"Come listen," she said with some urgency in her voice. I peeked at her from beneath the covers. One look at her worried frown and I knew I'd better do what she said, and fast.

I threw on my clothes and went downstairs to the kitchen, where hot chocolate and buttered toast waited for me on the counter. There was only one radio station we could pick up in the morning, WELC in Welch. Usually, the only thing WELC played that early was one record dedication after the other for us high school kids. Jim, a year ahead of me and a football star, usually got several dedications every day from admiring girls. But instead of rock and roll, what I heard on the radio was a steady *beep-beep-beep* sound. Then the announcer said the tone was coming from something called *Sputnik*. It was Russian and it was in space. Mom looked from the radio to me. "What is this thing, Sonny?"

I knew exactly what it was. All the science-fiction books and Dad's magazines I'd read over the years put me in good stead to answer. "It's a space satellite," I explained. "We were supposed to launch one this year too. I can't believe the Russians beat us to it!"

She looked at me over the rim of her coffee cup. "What does it do?"

"It orbits around the world. Like the moon, only closer. It's got science stuff in it, measures things like how cold or hot it is in space. That's what ours was supposed to do, anyway."

"Will it fly over America?"

I wasn't certain about that. "I guess," I said. [...]

All day Saturday, the radio announcements continued about the Russian *Sputnik*. It seemed like each time there was news, the announcer was more excited and worried about it. There was some talk as to whether there were cameras on board, looking down at the United States, and I heard one newscaster wonder out loud if maybe an atomic bomb might be aboard. Dad was working at the mine all day, so I didn't get to hear his opinion on what was happening. I was already in bed by the time he got home, and on Sunday, he was up and gone to the mine before the sun was up. According to Mom, there was some kind of problem with one of the continuous miners<sup>1</sup>. Some big rock had fallen on it. At church, Reverend Lanier had nothing to say about the Russians or *Sputnik* during his sermon. Talk on the church steps afterward was mostly about the football team and its undefeated season. It was taking awhile for *Sputnik* to sink in, at least in Coalwood.

Homer H. Hickam, *Rocket Boys*, 1998

<sup>1</sup> Continuous miners : engins utilisés pour creuser des tunnels.

### NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

Les candidats traiteront tous les exercices sur la copie qui leur sera fournie et veilleront à :

- respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter la numérotation sur la copie (numéro de l'exercice et, le cas échéant, la lettre repère ; ex. : 1a, 1b, etc.)
- faire précéder les citations éventuellement demandées du numéro de ligne dans le texte.

### GENERAL COMPREHENSION

1/ Where does the story take place?

- a) What state?
- b) What town?
- c) What country?

2/ When does it take place?

- a) What date?
- b) What time of day?
- c) What day?
- d) What season?

3/ The characters:

- a) Who is present?
- b) Who is only mentioned?

### DETAILED COMPREHENSION

1/ Something important has happened: explain in 10 to 20 words.

2/ Is the mother relaxed or anxious? (Justify your answer by quoting from the text and indicate the line.)

3/ Does the narrator understand what is happening? (Justify your answer by quoting from the text and indicate the line.)

4/ Did he get all his knowledge from the radio? (Justify your answer by quoting from the text and indicate the line.)

5/ How much does he know about the *Sputnik*? Give two details.

6/ "We were supposed to launch one this year too. I can't believe the Russians beat us to it" (l. 21)

Who do the pronouns which are underlined refer to?

- a) the Russians
- b) the Europeans
- c) the Americans

7/ Which adjective(s) best correspond to each character?

PESSIMISTIC - SCARED - INDIFFERENT - ENTHUSIASTIC - QUIET

- a) the radio announcer (2 adjectives)
- b) the newscaster
- c) the reverend
- d) the churchgoers

### **EXPRESSION**

Vous traiterez les **DEUX** sujets:

1/ The next day, the narrator decides to talk to his father about what happened. Write the dialogue. *(80 words)*

2/ Can you think of a historical event that changed people's lives? *(120 words)*