

BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

SESSION 2012

ANGLAIS

LANGUE VIVANTE 1

Série L

Durée de l'épreuve 3 heures – Coefficient : 4

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.
Ce sujet comporte 3 pages numérotées de 1/3 à 3/3.

Compréhension et expression	14 points
Traduction	6 points

No one tells us, girls who don't go on dates, that remembering can be almost as good as what actually happens. Mother climbs all the way to the third floor and stands over me in my bed, but I act like I'm still asleep. Because I just want to remember it awhile.

5 We'd driven to the Robert E. Lee for dinner last night. I'd thrown on a light blue sweater and a slim white skirt. I'd even let Mother brush out my hair, trying to drown out her nervous, complicated instructions.

"And don't forget to smile. Men don't want a girl who's moping around all night, and don't sit like some squaw Indian, cross your—"

10 "Wait, my legs or my ank—"

"Your ankles. Don't you remember anything from Missus Rheimer's etiquette class? And just go ahead and lie and tell him you go to church every Sunday, and whatever you do, do not crunch your ice at the table, it's awful. Oh, and if the conversation starts to lag, you tell him about our second cousin who's a city councilman in Kosciusko..."

15 As she brushed and smoothed and brushed and smoothed, Mother kept asking how I'd met him and what happened on our last date, but I managed to scoot out from under her and dash down the stairs, shaking with wonder and nervousness of my own. By the time Stuart and I walked into the hotel and sat down and put our napkins in our lap, the waiter said they'd be closing soon. All they'd serve us was dessert.

20 Then Stuart had gotten quiet.

"What...do you want, Skeeter?" he'd asked and I'd sort of tensed up then, hoping he wasn't planning on getting drunk again.

25 "I'll have a Co-Cola. Lots of ice."

"No." He smiled. "I mean...in life. What do you want?"

I took a deep breath, knowing what Mother would advise me to say: fine, strong kids, a husband to take care of, shiny new appliances to cook tasty yet healthful meals in. "I want to be a writer," I said. "A journalist. Maybe a novelist. Maybe both."

30 He lifted his chin and looked at me then, right in the eye.

"I like that," he said, and then he just kept staring. "I've been thinking about you. You're smart, you're pretty, you're"—he smiled—"tall."

Pretty?

35 We ate strawberry soufflés and had one glass of Chablis apiece. He talked about how to tell if there's oil underneath a cotton field and I talked about how the receptionist and I were the only females working for the paper.

"I hope you write something really good. Something you believe in."

"Thank you. I...hope so too." I don't say anything about Aibileen or Missus Stein.

40 I haven't had the chance to look at too many men's faces up close and I noticed how his skin was thicker than mine and a gorgeous shade of toast; the stiff blond hairs on his cheeks and chin seemed to be growing before my eyes. He smelled like starch. Like pine. His nose wasn't so pointy after all.

45 The waiter yawned in the corner but we both ignored him and stayed and talked some more. And by the time I was wishing I'd washed my hair this morning instead of just bathed and was practically doubled over with gratefulness that I'd at least brushed my teeth, out of the blue, he kissed me. Right in the middle of the Robert E. Lee Hotel Restaurant, he kissed me so slowly with an open mouth and every single thing in my body—my skin, my collarbone, the hollow backs of my knees, everything inside of me filled up with light.

The Help, Kathryn Stockett, 2010.

NOTE IMPORTANTE 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.

COMPREHENSION

1– Characters.

- **1.1** What is the narrator's name?
- **1.2** Who is Stuart?

2 – The action takes place in two different places. What are they?

3 – Find quotes which express the way the mother would like the narrator to behave in terms of:

- good manners (two quotes)
- conversation topics (two quotes).

4 – Mother and daughter.

- **4.1** According to the mother, what should a perfect wife wish for in life?
- **4.2** How are Skeeter's aspirations different from her mother's expectations?

5 – At the dinner table.

- **5.1** What is his reaction to Skeeter's plans for the future?
- **5.2** He tells Skeeter: "*You're smart, you're pretty*". Would you agree that this is the way Skeeter perceives herself?
- **5.3** What are they actually talking about? Compare to what the mother expected?

6 – To what extent is Skeeter a different person before and after the meeting?

7 – Why does the narrator pretend she is still asleep at the beginning of the extract?

EXPRESSION

Choose **one** of the two subjects, **A or B**.

A – To what extent would you agree that "*remembering can be almost as good as what actually happens*"?

OR

B – Skeeter chooses to be herself rather than conform to society's expectations. Is her choice the best way of achieving one's dreams?

TRADUCTION

Translate from "*The waiter yawned...*" to "*...filled up with light.*"