SESSION DE 2008

CONCOURS EXTERNE
DE RECRUTEMENT DE PROFESSEURS AGRÉGÉS

SECTION LANGUES VIVANTES ÉTRANGÈRES :

ANGLAIS

COMPOSITION DE LINGUISTIQUE

Durée : 6 heures

L’usage de tout ouvrage de référence, de tout dictionnaire et de tout matériel électronique est rigoureusement interdit.

Dans le cas où un(e) candidat(e) repère ce qui lui semble être une erreur d’énoncé, il (elle) le signale très lisiblement sur sa copie, propose la correction et poursuit l’épreuve en conséquence.

De même, si cela vous conduit à formuler une ou plusieurs hypothèses, il vous est demandé de la (ou les) mentionner explicitement.

NB : Hormis l’en-tête détachable, la copie que vous rendez ne devra, conformément au principe d’anonymat, comporter aucun signe distinctif, tel que nom, signature, origine, etc. Si le travail qui vous est demandé comporte notamment la rédaction d’un projet ou d’une note, vous devrez impérativement vous abstenir de signer ou de l’identifier.

Tournez la page S.V.P.
Tonight, I find myself here in a guest house in the city of Salisbury. The first day of my trip is now completed, and all in all, I must say I am quite satisfied. This expedition began this morning almost an hour later than I had planned, despite my having completed my packing and loaded the Ford with all necessary items well before eight o’clock. What with Mrs Clements and the girls also gone for the week, I suppose I was very conscious of the fact that once I departed, Darlington Hall would stand empty for probably the first time this century – perhaps for the first time since the day it was built. It was an odd feeling and perhaps accounts for why I delayed my departure so long, wandering around the house many times over, checking one last time that all was in order.

It is hard to explain my feelings once I did finally set off. For the first twenty minutes or so of motoring, I cannot say I was seized by any excitement or anticipation at all. This was due, no doubt, to the fact that though I motored further and further from the house, I continued to find myself in surroundings with which I had at least a passing acquaintance. Now I had always supposed I had travelled very little, restricted as I am by my responsibilities in the house, but of course, over time, one does make various excursions for one professional reason or another, and it would seem I have become much more acquainted with those neighbouring districts than I had realized. For as I say, as I motored on in the sunshine towards the Berkshire border, I continued to be surprised by the familiarity of the country around me.

But then eventually the surroundings grew unrecognizable and I knew I had gone beyond all previous boundaries. I have heard people describe the moment, when setting sail in a ship, when one finally loses sight of the land. I imagine the experience of unease mixed with exhilaration often described in connection with this moment is very similar to what I felt in the Ford as the surroundings grew strange around me. This occurred just after I took a turning and found myself on a road curving around the edge of a hill. I could sense the steep drop to my left, though I could not see it due to the trees and thick foliage that lined the roadside. The feeling swept over me that I had truly left Darlington Hall behind, and I must confess I did feel a slight sense of alarm – a sense aggravated by the feeling that I was perhaps not on the correct road at all, but speeding off in totally the wrong direction into a wilderness. It was only the feeling of a moment, but it caused me to slow down. And even when I had assured myself I was on the right road, I felt compelled to stop the car a moment to take stock, as it were.

I decided to step out and stretch my legs a little and when I did so, I received a stronger impression than ever of being perched on the side of a hill. On one side of the road, thickets and small trees rose steeply, while on the other I could now glimpse through the foliage the distant countryside.

I believe I had walked a little way along the roadside, peering through the foliage hoping to get a better view, when I heard a voice behind me. Until this point, of course, I had believed myself quite alone and I turned in some surprise. A little way further up the road on the opposite side, I could see the start of a footpath, which disappeared steeply up into the thickets. Sitting on the large stone that marked this spot was a thin, white-haired man in a cloth cap, smoking his pipe. He called to me again and though I could not quite make out his words, I could see him gesturing for me to join him. For a moment, I took him for a vagrant, but then I saw he was just some local fellow enjoying the fresh air and summer sunshine, and saw no reason not to comply.

“Just wondering, sir”, he said, as I approached, “how fit your legs were.”

“I beg your pardon?”

The fellow gestured up the footpath. “You got to have a good pair of legs and a good pair of lungs to go up there. Me, I haven’t got neither, so I stay down here. But if I was in better shape, I’d be sitting up there. There’s a nice little spot up there, a bench and everything. And you won’t get a better view anywhere in the whole of England.”

“If what you say is true,” I said, “I think I’d rather stay here. I happen to be embarking on a motoring trip during the course of which I hope to see many splendid views. To see the best before I have properly begun would be somewhat premature.”

The fellow did not seem to understand me, for he simply said again: “You won’t see a better view in the whole of England. But I tell you, you need a good pair of legs and a good pair of lungs.” Then he added: “I can see you’re in good shape for your age, sir. I’d say you could make your way up there, no trouble. I mean, even I can manage on a good day.”

I glanced up the path, which did look steep and rather rough.
“I’m telling you, sir, you’ll be sorry if you don’t take a walk up there. And you never know. A couple more years and it might be too late” – he gave a rather vulgar laugh – “Better go on up while you still can.”

It occurs to me now that the man might just possibly have meant this in a humorous sort of way; that is to say, he intended it as a bantering remark. But this morning, I must say, I found it quite offensive and it may well have been the urge to demonstrate just how foolish his insinuation had been that caused me to set off up the footpath.


**QUESTIONS**

1. Give a phonemic transcription of the following passage: *For a moment, I took him for a vagrant, but then I saw he was just some local fellow enjoying the fresh air and summer sunshine, and saw no reason not to comply.* (ll. 35-36). Indicate word stress, weak forms and linking r’s when appropriate. Do not indicate assimilations.

2. Give phonemic transcriptions for the following words: *necessary* (l. 3), *wandering* (l. 7), *unrecognizable* (l. 16), *wilderness* (l. 24), *foliage* (l. 30), *wondering* (l. 37), *gestured* (l. 39), and *premature* (l. 45). Do not justify your answers.

3. Give the stress patterns of *completed* (l. 1), *anticipation* (l. 9), *responsibilities* (l. 12), *continued* (l. 14), *familiarity* (l. 15), *aggravated* (l. 23), *anywhere* (l. 41), and *humorous* (l. 53). Use 1 for primary stress, 2 for secondary stress and 0 for zero stress. 3 may be used to indicate tertiary stress. Do not justify your answers.

4. Determine and justify the stress patterns of *Darlington Hall* (l. 5) and *cloth cap* (l. 34). Use 1 for primary stress, 2 for secondary stress and 0 for zero stress. 3 may be used to indicate tertiary stress.

5. Using examples from the text, account for the different possible realisations of <ng>.

6. Comment on the value of the stressed vowels in *acquaintance* (l. 11), *said* (l. 46) and *again* (l. 46).

7. Determine and justify the realisations of <ou> in *doubt* (l. 9), *neighbouring* (l. 13), *through* (l. 30), *course* (l. 31), *though* (l. 34), *could* (l. 34) and *rough* (l. 50).
8. Discuss one possible pronunciation difference between Southern British English and General American in each of the following words: what (l. 4) and sitting (l. 33).

9. “I mean, even I can manage on a good day.” (ll. 48-49).
   i. Determine tonality (tone-unit boundaries), tonicity (tonics, nuclei) and tones. Do not justify your answers.
   ii. Given that this is a chunk of informal speech, what kind of assimilation may occur?

ANALYSE LINGUISTIQUE

(les réponses seront rédigées en français)

1. Le candidat analysera les segments de texte indiqués ci-après par un soulignage :
   a. I cannot say I was seized by any excitement or anticipation at all (l. 9);
   b. I found it quite offensive and it may well have been the urge to demonstrate... (l. 55);
   c. ... the urge to demonstrate just how foolish his insinuation had been that caused me to set off up the footpath. (l. 55).

2. À partir d’exemples choisis dans l’ensemble du texte, le candidat traitera la question suivante :

   Les repérages temporels.

   Aussi bien pour l’analyse des segments soulignés que pour le traitement de la question, le candidat fondera son argumentation sur une étude précise de formes tirées du texte. Il procédera, à partir de ces formes, à toutes les manipulations et comparaisons jugées utiles, en se référant à leur contexte.