

EXAMEN DE FIN D'ÉTUDES SECONDAIRES CLASSIQUES
Sessions 2023 – QUESTIONNAIRE ÉCRIT

Date :	06.06.23	Durée :	14:15 - 16:45	Numéro candidat :	
Discipline :	Anglais - Analyse littéraire - texte connu		Section(s) :	CA / CA-LLCO / CA-MALA / CA-MALF / CA-MAT / CA-PSYA / CA-PSYF	

PART ONE: Guided Comprehension (30 marks)

The Handmaid's Tale

Read the following excerpt and answer the questions below:

At last Ofglen speaks. "Do you think God listens," she says, "to these machines?" (...)
In the past this would have been a trivial enough remark, a kind of scholarly speculation. Right now it's treason.

"No," I say. (...)

5 She lets out her breath, in a long sigh of relief. We have crossed the invisible line together. "Neither do I," she says. (...)

We walk, heads bent as usual. I'm so excited I can hardly breathe, but I keep a steady pace. Now more than ever I must avoid drawing attention to myself.

"I thought you were a true believer," Ofglen says.

10 "I thought you were," I say.

"You were always so stinking pious."

"So were you," I reply. I want to laugh, shout, hug her.

"You can join us," she says.

"Us?" I say. There's an *us* then, a *we*. I knew it.

15 "You didn't think I was the only one," she says.

I didn't think that. It occurs to me that she may be a spy, a plant, set to trap me; such is the soil in which we grow. But I can't believe it; hope is rising in me, like sap in a tree. Blood in a wound. We have made an opening.

20 I want to ask her if she's seen Moira, if anyone can find out what's happened, to Luke, to my child, my mother even, but there's not much time; too soon we're approaching the corner of the main street, the one before the first barrier. There will be too many people.

"Don't say a word," Ofglen warns me, though she doesn't need to. "In any way."

"Of course I won't," I say. Who could I tell?

(282 words)

1. Situate the excerpt within its precise context. (5 marks)
2. Explain and comment on Offred's reactions in this extract. Which emotions does her use of language betray? (12 marks)
3. In how far will this exchange bring about a change in the relationship between Offred and Ofglen? How will their relationship unfold and evolve later in the novel? (7 marks)
4. To what extent does this extract reflect the similarities and differences between Offred and Ofglen? (6 marks)

PART TWO: Development Essay (30 marks)

Write a well-structured essay of 300-400 words on ONE of the following topics. Indicate the number of words used. (Do not include the quotations in your word count.)

- A. “The choices we make are ultimately our own responsibility.” Analyse how Macbeth takes decisions throughout the play.

- B. Discuss the theme of broken relationships in Macbeth.