

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

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|--------------|---|---------|---------------|--|--|
| Date : | 08.06.23 | Durée : | 08:15 - 10:45 | 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.

I stand a moment, emptied of air, as if I've been kicked.

So, she's dead, and I am safe, after all. She did it before they came. I feel great relief. I feel thankful to her. She has died that I may live. I will mourn later.

Unless this woman is lying. There is always that.

5 I breathe in, deeply, breathe out, giving myself oxygen. The space in front of me blackens, then clears. I can see my way.

I turn, open the gate, keeping my hands on it a moment to steady myself, walk in. Nick is there, still washing the car, whistling a little. He seems very far away.

10 Dear God, I think, I will do anything you like. Now that you've let me off, I'll obliterate myself, if that's what you really want; I'll empty myself, truly, become a chalice. I'll give up Nick, I'll forget about the others, I'll stop complaining. I'll accept my lot. I'll sacrifice. I'll repent. I'll abdicate. I'll renounce.

15 I know this can't be right, but I think it anyway. Everything they taught at the Red Centre, everything I've resisted, comes flooding in. I don't want pain. I don't want to be a dancer, my feet in the air, my head a faceless oblong of white cloth. I don't want to be a doll hung up on the Wall, I don't want to be a wingless angel. I want to keep on living, in any form. I resign my body freely, to the uses of others. They can do what they like with me. I am abject.

I feel, for the first time, their true power.

(274 words)

1. Situate the excerpt within its precise context. (4 marks)
2. Explain and comment on Offred's state of mind. In how far do her syntax and word choice in this extract reveal her emotional state? (12 marks)
3. In how far does this excerpt contradict Offred's earlier attitude towards Gileadean oppression and tyranny? (8 marks)
4. Explain the main ideas behind the teachings dispensed to the handmaids at the Red Centre. (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. Macbeth and Lady Macbeth are equally guilty of the crimes committed. Discuss.

- B. Examine the gradual deterioration of the relationship between Macbeth and Lady Macbeth throughout the play.