

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

Date :	20.09.23	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.

I wish this story were different. (...) I wish it were about love, or about sudden realizations important to one's life, or even about sunsets, birds, rainstorms, or snow.

(...) [B]ut in the meantime there is so much else getting in the way, so much whispering, so much speculation about others, so much gossip that cannot be verified, so many unsaid words, so much creeping about and secrecy. (...)

I'm sorry there is so much pain in this story. I'm sorry it's in fragments, like a body caught in crossfire or pulled apart by force. But there is nothing I can do to change it. (...)

Nevertheless it hurts me to tell it over, over again. Once was enough: wasn't once enough for me at the time? But I keep on going with this sad and hungry and sordid, this limping and mutilated story, because after all I want you to hear it, as I will hear yours too if I ever get the chance, if I meet you or if you escape, in the future or in Heaven or in prison or underground, some other place. What they have in common is that they're not here. By telling you anything at all I'm at least believing in you, I believe you're there, I believe you into being. Because I'm telling you this story I will your existence. I tell, therefore you are.

So I will go on. So I will myself to go on. I am coming to a part you will not like at all, because in it I did not behave well, but I will try nonetheless to leave nothing out.

(274 words)

1. What does Offred want her story to be, and why isn't it that? Refer closely to the text. (12 marks)
2. Offred says that she will come to a part that the reader will "not like at all, because in it [she] did not behave well." What exactly is she referring to? (10 marks)
3. What does this excerpt say about storytelling? (8 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.)

1. “Lady Macbeth is not a rational individual.”

Discuss this statement while keeping close reference to the text.

OR

2. “*Macbeth* is a timeless tale of political intrigue interspersed with adventure to entertain us all.”

Is this a reliable representation of the play?