

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

Date :	18.09.23	Durée :	14:15 - 16:45	Numéro candidat :	
Discipline :	Anglais - Analyse littéraire - texte inconnu		Section(s) :	CA / CA-LLCO / CA-MALA / CA-MALF / CA-MAT / CA-PSYA / CA-PSYF	

To Melancholy

Written on the banks of the Arun, Oct. 1785.

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When latest Autumn spreads her evening veil,
And the grey mists from these dim waves arise,
I love to listen to the hollow sighs,
Through the half-leafless wood that breathes the gale:
For at such hours the shadowy phantom, pale,
Oft seems to fleet before the poet's eyes;
Strange sounds are heard, and mournful melodies,
As of night wanderers, who their woes bewail
Here, by his native stream, at such an hour,
Pity's own Otway I methinks could meet,
And hear his deep sighs swell the sadden'd wind!
O Melancholy!--such thy magic power,
That to the soul these dreams are often sweet,
And sooth the pensive visionary mind!

Charlotte Turner Smith (1749-1806)

from Elegiac sonnets, and other poems. The first Worcester edition, 1795.

Glossary :

Pity's own Otway

a reference to the English poet Thomas Otway, who was known for writing about emotional subject matters. He died in utter poverty.

gale

a very strong wind

bewail

lament, bemoan

Answer the following questions in your own words as far as possible. Read all the questions **before** you start writing to avoid overlaps.

1. The speaker voices their fascination for a paradoxical phenomenon. Explain. (12)
2. How are poetic devices used to underline the themes of the poem? (10)
3. How does the speaker perceive the role of nature or natural phenomena? (8)
4. Comment on the poem's supernatural aspects. (7)
5. Which other characteristics attributed to Romanticism does the poem embody?
Name three. (8)

6. Personal opinion: Connecting with nature benefits our mental health. Discuss. (15)