



BRANCHE	SECTION(S)	ÉPREUVE ÉCRITE
<b>ANGLAIS</b> <b>textes connus</b>	<b>A</b>	<i>Durée de l'épreuve :</i> 2h30 <i>Date de l'épreuve :</i> 9 juin 2020

## PART ONE : Guided Comprehension (30 marks)

Read the following excerpt from *The Handmaid's Tale* and answer the questions below.

What we are supposed to feel towards these bodies is hatred and scorn. This isn't what I feel. These bodies hanging on the Wall are time travellers, anachronisms. They've come here from the past.

What I feel towards them is blankness. What I feel is that I must not feel. What I feel is partly relief, because none of these men is Luke. Luke wasn't a doctor. Isn't.

I look at the one red smile. The red of the smile is the same as the red of the tulips in Serena Joy's garden, towards the base of the flowers where they are beginning to heal. The red is the same but there is no connection. The tulips are not tulips of blood, the red smiles are not flowers, neither thing makes a comment on the other. The tulip is not a reason for disbelief in the hanged man, or vice versa. Each thing is valid and really there. It is through a field of such valid objects that I must pick my way, every day and in every way. I put a lot of effort into making such distinctions. I need to make them. I need to be very clear, in my own mind.

I feel a tremor in the woman beside me. Is she crying? In what way could it make her look good? I can't afford to know. My own hands are clenched, I note, tight around the handle of my basket. I won't give anything away.

Ordinary, said Aunt Lydia, is what you are used to. This may not seem ordinary to you now, but after a time it will. It will become ordinary.

(277 words)

- 1) Briefly situate this passage. (4 m.)
- 2) Why does Offred describe the executed men as 'time travellers, anachronisms'?  
What does the execution of these men show us about Gilead? (10 m.)
- 3) What type of imagery does Atwood use to describe the bodies and what is her purpose in doing this? (10 m.)
- 4) Comment on Offred's state of mind as presented in this passage. (6 m.)

**PART TWO : Development (30 m.)**

***Macbeth***

Write a well-structured essay of between 300-400 words – quotations excluded – on ONE of the following topics. Indicate the number of words used.

TOPIC A

'Macbeth is a tyrant, but he never loses his noble qualities.' Discuss.

OR

TOPIC B

Analyse the role and function of children in Macbeth.