EXAMEN DE FIN D'ÉTUDES SECONDAIRES – Sessions 2024 **QUESTIONNAIRE**						
Date :	**16.09.24**		*Horaire :*	**14:15 - 17:15**	*Durée :*	**180 minutes**
Discipline :	**ANGLA**	*Type :*	**écrit**	*Section(s) :*	**GA3D / GACV / GIG / GIN / GSE / GSN / GSO**	
				Numéro du candidat :		

Part A: Essential Articles and Short Stories (30 marks)

Dictionaries are NOT allowed for this part!

Essential Articles (15 marks)

Refugee Children – fleeing from danger into danger

1) Explain why a large number of refugees is underaged by referring to examples from the text. (8 marks)

The class ceiling is worse than the glass ceiling ever was

2) According to the author, what benefits do people of privileged backgrounds receive in the workplace? (7 marks)

Short Stories (15 marks)

The Third and Final Continent, by Jhumpa Lahiri

3) The narrator's arrival to America happens on the day of the Moon landing. Explain the importance of this event in the story. (7 marks)

The First Seven Years, by Bernard Malamud

4) Why does Feld fail to realise Sobel's positive characteristics as well as the latter's love form Miriam? Why does Feld finally approve of their relationship? (8 marks)

PART B Text Analysis and Essay (30 marks)

You are allowed to use a dictionary

Ozempic has won, body positivity has lost. And I want no part of it

Someone told me to try Ozempic last Thanksgiving. I had already lost over 23 kgs in nine months by making lifestyle adjustments and had solved my developing health problems. I had taken initiative and gotten healthier on my own. For the first time, I was comfortable with my body. After you lose a significant percentage of your body mass, your metabolism slows down to conserve what's left, making further weight loss increasingly difficult. So, on a food-centered holiday, my relative urged me to look into the hot new miracle drug. She was taking it for diabetes and was quick to sing the drug's praises. She meant well, but I felt ashamed. Other people still assumed that I wasn't happy.

I have been fat my entire life. Cognizant of the pitfalls of diet culture, losing weight seemed futile. My weight crept up, and up, and up. Finally, after a physical exam in 2021, my blood sugar reached the prediabetic range. I became determined to make changes – but I had to walk a tightrope: changing my body, while resisting the impulse to hate the body I presently had.

A year later, my blood sugar was back within normal range. I'd restored my health and lost weight without self-hatred or developing disordered habits. Thus, unsurprisingly, I find the explosive entrance of Ozempic into the cultural mainstream infuriating. The media report on healthy people using the injectable drug to whittle themselves down, pursuing thinness at any physical cost.

For a while, cultural conversation about fatness was vaguely progressive. The discourse around dieting had shifted: there was a growing attitude of self-acceptance. People were pushing back against fatphobia, emphasizing balance over restriction, and society generally rejected poisonous narratives around food and appearance everyone was raised with. As a fat person, I felt less openly despised.

In retrospect, I was naive. It mostly serves mass consumption and benefits advertisers as it only asks us to feel *better about ourselves*. It is purely an exercise in self-absorption and the goal is still to find yourself lacking, to get you to want, to buy – and whether companies use Kendall Jenner's body or Lizzo's confidence to sell you shapewear doesn't matter. However, any social progress that is being pushed mostly by market-driven forces will simply disappear.

Now, the headlines ask us "could thin be in again?" With the resurgence of thinness-as-aspiration, advertising agencies seemed ready to disrupt the newfound positive relationships people had with their bodies. Not enough of us bothered to ask ourselves: why are the bodies we are born with being subjected to the same trend-focused language fashion is?

The Ozempic moment lays bare how much our society hates fatness, and the extreme measures physically healthy people resort to achieve skinniness. During the brief period of so-called body positivity, brands were

quick to capitalize on the body positivity moment. We believed their sudden interest in us was anything other than profit-driven cynicism. How naive we were.

On that Thanksgiving Day, I wasn't interested in pharmaceutical intervention, but sometimes I think I should lose more weight. However, this drug would completely rewire my most basic impulses. Ozempic is new and its long-term effects aren't yet clear, but it is pretty much universally agreed upon that once you stop taking the drug, the weight will come back.

Side-effects include vomiting, nausea and diarrhea that can land you in the emergency room. The excitement surrounding it has caused shortages, meaning diabetics who actually need Ozempic can't procure it. The rapid weight loss causes you to lose muscle mass and can make you look older as facial skin sags and wrinkles surface.

Ultimately, thinness is not accessible to everyone – both for reasons of genetics and economic inequality. Knowing this, we need to do the work of accepting that bodies come in different sizes, and learning to not treat people differently based on their looks. We need to achieve *actual* body positivity, instead of the corporatized, self-absorbed version.

Abridged and adapted text: published by The Guardian on 8th June 2023, written by Rachel Pick

671 words

I. Comprehension Questions

Answer the following questions in your own words.

1) Why was the author offended by a relative suggesting she use Ozempic, a weight-loss drug? (4m)

2) According to the author, why has the body positivity movement failed? (6m)

3) What are the risk factors involved in taking Ozempic? (5m)

II. Development Question (15 marks)

Write a structured essay of 250 words (+/- 10%) on the following topic. Do not copy arguments from the text. Indicate the number of words used at the end of the essay.

Discuss how social media impact young people's self-image.