

EXAMEN DE FIN D'ÉTUDES SECONDAIRES – Sessions 2024**QUESTIONNAIRE**

Date :	23.05.24	Horaire :	08:15 - 11:15	Durée :	180 minutes
Discipline :	ANGLA	Type :	écrit	Section(s) :	GED / GSH / GSI
				Numéro du candidat :	

PART I: READING (20 marks)

Copy only the numbers / letters / words asked for onto your answer sheets. Do not copy questions!

Text 1: Veganuary has completely changed my life – but has the vegan bubble now burst?

“I couldn’t live any other way now,” says Matthew Glover. “I can’t unknow what I know.” Glover decided to turn vegan nearly 13 years ago after stumbling across a video documenting cruelty in the egg and dairy industries. (---1---)

Veganuary, which encourages people to eat a plant-based diet for the month of January, kicked off its 10th campaign at the start of 2024. It was co-founded by Glover and his wife, Jane Land. The idea was to promote veganism in a “nonjudgmental and fun” way. What began around the kitchen table in the couple’s home near York is now a global movement. (---2---)

Veganuary has been great news for retailers and restaurants, for whom January was traditionally a quiet period. (---3---) This explosion of new products and dishes each January even took Glover and Land by surprise. A 2023 survey found 85% of participants had reduced their consumption of animal products since doing Veganuary, “with 23% becoming vegan, 43% reducing consumption by at least half and a further 20% by at least a quarter”.

(---4---) He for example recalls going to a restaurant in France: when everyone else was served cheesecake for dessert, he was presented with a plate of lettuce. “I support all and any attempts to cut back,” he says. Of course, lots of people largely revert to their former diets when Veganuary is over, but Glover has made peace with that. “It’s not just for vegans; it’s for the vegan-curious,” he says.

Although Veganuary signups keep rising, they are no longer doubling year on year as they did in the early days. “The pace of growth has levelled off; progress has slowed,” Glover admits. Indeed, some analysts think the UK reached “peak vegan” in 2019. (---5---) A recent survey highlighted a resurgence in the popularity of dishes such as shepherd’s pie and macaroni cheese.

Has the vegan bubble burst? According to Catherine Shacklock, the market is simply “maturing”. Glover agrees, pointing out that in many countries, plant-based sales are still growing. In the UK, though, the market may have become saturated. “Too many startups are competing with established companies that have launched vegan lines and with supermarkets that are investing in own-label plant-based ranges,” he says. (---6---) He nevertheless remains optimistic that consumers will pay more attention to the links between diet and carbon footprint.

(525 words; adapted from theguardian.com; Rachel Dixon; 4th January 2024)

Read the article carefully, and then fill the gaps in the text with the missing sentences. There is one sentence more than you need! (6 marks, -1.5)

A)

Not anymore: 820 vegan products were launched in January 2023, with 790 vegan menus added to chain restaurants.

B)

Glover himself does not condemn people who struggle to go fully vegan as this can be difficult depending on where you are.

C)

“We’ve lost some brands and we’ll lose some more in the next 12 to 24 months,” Glover says.

D)

Since those heady days, Covid and the cost of living crisis has spurred some people to return to familiar comfort food.

E)

Despite the advances, countless people still have a hard time cutting out meat, fish, eggs and dairy.

F)

That recording changed his life – and led to the phenomenon that is Veganuary.

G)

Participants have signed up from every country in the world except Vatican City and North Korea.

Text 2: Censoring imagination: why prisons ban fantasy and science fiction

Incarceration removes people from friends and family. Most prisoners are unsure of when they will be released, and inside prisons people aren't supposed to touch each other, talk in private or share belongings. Perhaps this is why literature on magic, fantasy and science fiction is often so popular with incarcerated people.

When deprived of human intimacy and other ways of finding a deeper meaning in life, many prisoners like to turn to books and fantastical stories, which provide perhaps a necessary escape from life behind bars. Without it, some prisoners would probably lose all hope. A somewhat fulfilling life seems near impossible as a consequence. Many prisoners, potentially with decades of time to do ahead of them, escape through ideas.

Which is why it's especially cruel that U.S. prisons ban many different types of literature. As a new report shows, books banned in prisons by some states dwarf all other book censorship in school and public libraries. Prison censorship robs those behind bars of everything from exercise and health to art and even yoga, often for reasons that are astonishingly difficult to believe.

The strangest category of bans, however, is still the one on magical and fantastical literature. Looking through the lists of titles prison authorities have gone to the trouble of prohibiting people from reading you find *Invisibility: Mastering the Art of Vanishing* and *Practical Mental Magic*. These books have all been banned for "safety and security reasons." Nearly every list of banned titles in US prisons contains books on magic.

Courts affirm that magical thinking is dangerous. For example, a local court upheld a ban on the *Dungeons and Dragons* role playing game for incarcerated people because prison authorities argued that such "fantasy role playing" creates "competitive hostility, addictive escape behaviors, and possible gambling."

Incarcerated readers say the censorship they experience oppresses their thoughts and intellectual freedoms. One inmate, Leo Cardez, for example says, "the books are how we escape, we cope, we learn, we grow. For many, too many, the books are our only companions."

Let's not forget that incarceration itself remains a controversial kind of punishment. Some people think that imprisonment already means that you have to live a life in a confined and injurious environment. Others believe that it is important to keep potentially dangerous offenders away from the rest of society. Regardless of what your own view is, we should all agree that we want incarcerated people to be able to imagine a different life. Whether it's imagining themselves or their lives differently, creativity of thought is a tool to build a better life for everyone. Censoring the imagination will not benefit anyone – both inside and outside of prisons.

(445 words; adapted from lithub.com; Moira Marquis; 7th December 2023)

Read the text and identify the expressions that match the following definitions. Give one word only unless indicated otherwise. (8 marks, -1.5)

1. (noun) the things that a person owns
2. (phrasal verb) to take something pleasant or necessary away from someone
3. (adjective) causing someone to feel satisfied and useful
4. (verb) to make something seem small or unimportant compared with something else
5. (adverb) in a way that is very surprising
6. (noun) aggressive or unfriendly feelings or behaviour
7. (adjective) causing or likely to cause harm and damage
8. (verb) to be useful to somebody or to improve their life in some way

Text 3: Gen Z want to work 'lazy girl jobs'. Who can blame them?

In the mid-2010s, I worked in a cafe in London. Every day I'd make a few coffees, gossip idly with customers and then take home my little sack full of generous tips. Even though I've had jobs more suited to my genuine interests since, that cafe job was one of my favourites, mainly because of the pure leisure of it. I got paid more or less the same as I did later, as an editor at a major media publication. But I was relaxed and never checked my emails.

Young women have taken to calling these sorts of jobs – as in, jobs that are undemanding but well enough paid, with little passion involved – “lazy girl jobs”. Mostly the term refers to menial office jobs: people on computers, sending a few emails and taking home a comfortable salary. On TikTok, the #lazygirljob hashtag currently has about 14m views and there are uncountable posts. The posters appear to be unanimously women.

While the phrase “lazy girl job” might be relatively new, an anti-work, anti-ambition sentiment has been brewing among gen Z for a while. These are the twentysomethings who, disillusioned with hustle culture and burnout, would rather just make a solid wage and enjoy life. They can always look for meaning outside of career stress.

There are stats to back this attitude: according to a recent survey, just 49% of gen Z say work is central to their identity, in comparison with 62% of millennials. Plenty of #lazygirljob posts echo this sentiment: “Realising at this age that I don't care about building a 'career'. I just want to make some money and work as little as possible,” reads one.

It's a shift reflected in pop culture, too. Consider the films and TV shows that millennials were spoon-fed growing up: *Sex and the City*, *The Devil Wears Prada*, *Legally Blonde*. These were stories about high-flying, stressed yet sexy women who “had it all.” A decade or two late and the mood has substantially shifted. Young people are more interested in shows such as *Sex Education*, in which interpersonal dynamics are prioritised over careers.

Lazy girl jobs obviously have a certain appeal, but they aren't within reach of a lot of people. There's an inherent privilege in being able to land one of these jobs, which aren't necessarily accessible to those who aren't university-educated or to those who face recruitment bias.

While it's depressing that making a living from our passions is becoming practically impossible, any move away from our careers having to be our entire identity can only be a good thing. The days of asking people, “So, what do you do?” might finally be over. Maybe we're moving a little closer to something more like, “So, what are you into?”

(458 words; adapted from theguardian.com; Daisy Jones; 9th July 2023)

Decide whether the following statements are true or false (T/F) according to the article. If the information is not given in the article, the statement is considered false. (6 marks, -1.5)

1. The author found her job at a cafe a rewarding experience due to the high-paced environment that made her grow as a person.
2. There is evidence that a small proportion of people using the #lazygirljob hashtag are in fact men.
3. The anti-work sentiment among gen Z is characterised by a strong commitment to hustle culture and a belief that making a career the central focus of life is essential.
4. There is a clear correlation between the different generations and their favourite films and series.
5. The text suggests that it's relatively easy to be hired for a "lazy girl job" because the applicant wouldn't require a lot of skills.
6. The author of the article welcomes the potential shift away from defining individuals by their careers in favour of a more diverse understanding of personal interests.

PART II: SHORT STORIES (20 marks)

Answer the **TWO** questions on the short stories with close reference to the texts studied in class.

1. Dip in the Pool – Roald Dahl (10 marks)

Explain the reasons why the protagonist decides to participate in the auction.

AND

2. The First Seven Years – Bernard Malamud (10 marks)

Discuss the theme of parental expectations and hopes in the story.

PART III: ESSAY (20 marks)

Write a well-structured essay of 250-300 words on one of the following topics. Clearly indicate which topic you have chosen. Please indicate the number of words used.

1. Creativity is no longer a valuable skill. Discuss.

OR

2. Arguing can improve relationships. Discuss.