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| EAE 0422 A | Sujet Jury | Sujet Candidat | | Code Sujet | CLG 6 |
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Your main commentary should be focused on *adjectives*. Other topics may also be addressed.

5 Almost immediately changes came to the hotel. In the former dining room there was a false ceiling put in – paperboard squares supported by strips of metal. The big round tables were replaced by small square tables, and the heavy wooden chairs by light metal chairs with maroon plastic-covered seats. Because of the lowered ceiling, the windows had to be reduced to squat rectangles. A neon sign in one of them said WELCOME COFFEE SHOP.

10 The owner, whose name was Mr. Palagian, never smiled or said a word more than he could help to anybody, in spite of the sign. Just the same, the coffee shop filled up with customers at noon, or in the later hours of the afternoon. The customers were high school students, mostly from Grade Nine to Grade Eleven. Also some of the older students from the grade school. The great attraction of the place was that anybody could smoke here. Not that you could buy cigarettes if you looked to be under sixteen. Mr. Palagian was strict about that. *Not you*, he would say, in his thick, dreary voice. *Not you*.

20 By this time he had hired a woman to work for him, and if somebody who was too young tried buying cigarettes from her she would laugh.
 “Who are you kidding, baby face.”
 But someone who was sixteen or over could collect the money from those who were younger and buy a dozen packs.

25 Harry stopped eating his lunch there – it was too noisy – but he still came in for breakfast. He was hoping that one day Mr. Palagian would thaw out and tell the story of his life. Harry kept a file full of ideas for books and was always on the lookout for life stories. Someone like Mr. Palagian – or even that fat tough-talking waitress, he said – could be harboring a contemporary tragedy or adventure which would make a best seller.

30 The thing about life, Harry had told Lauren, was to live in the world with interest. To keep your eyes open and see the possibilities –

35 see the humanity – in everybody you met. To be aware. If he had anything at all to teach her it was that. *Be aware*.

40 Lauren made her own breakfast, usually cereal with maple syrup instead of milk. Eileen took her coffee back to bed and drank it slowly. She didn’t want to talk. She had to get herself in gear to grace the day, working in the newspaper office. When she got herself sufficiently in gear – sometime after Lauren went off to school – she got out of bed and had a shower and got dressed in one of her casually provocative outfits. As the fall wore on this was usually a bulky sweater and a short leather skirt and brightly colored tights. Like Mr. Palagian, Eileen managed to look different

45 from anybody else in that town, but unlike him she was beautiful, with her cropped black hair and her thin gold earrings like exclamation points, and her faintly mauve eyelids. Her manner in the newspaper office was crisp and her expression remote, but this was broken by strategic, vivid smiles.

50 They had rented a house at the edge of the town. Just beyond their backyard began a vacationland wilderness of rocky knobs and granite slopes, cedar bogs, small lakes, and a transitional forest of poplars, soft maples, tamarack, and spruce. Harry loved it. He said they might wake up one morning and look out at a moose in the backyard.

55 Lauren came home after school when the sun was already getting low in the sky and the middling warmth of the autumn day was turning out to be a fraud. The house was chilly and smelled of last night’s dinner, of stale coffee grounds and the garbage which it was her job to take out.