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AGREGATION EXTERNE D'ANGLAIS

ÉPREUVE HORS PROGRAMME

Première partie (*en anglais, durée maximale : 40 minutes*)

Vous procéderez à l'étude et à la mise en relation argumentée des trois documents du dossier proposé (A, B, C non hiérarchisés). Votre présentation ne dépassera pas 20 minutes et sera suivie d'un entretien de 20 minutes maximum.

Deuxième partie (*en français, durée maximale : 5 minutes*)

À l'issue de l'entretien de première partie, et à l'invitation du jury, vous vous appuierez sur l'un des trois documents du dossier pour proposer un projet d'exploitation pédagogique dans une situation d'enseignement que vous aurez préalablement définie. Cette partie ne donnera lieu à aucun échange avec le jury.

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DOCUMENT A

Arthur Miller. *The Crucible* [1953], Harmondsworth: Penguin Books Ltd., 1989, pp. 84-86.

DANFORTH [*cutting him off*]: Marshal, go into the court and bid Judge Stoughton and Judge Sewall declare recess for one hour. And let them go to the tavern, if they will. All witnesses and prisoners are to be kept in the building.

5 HERRICK: Aye, sir. [*Very deferentially*] If I may say it, sir, I know this man all my life. It is a good man, sir.

DANFORTH [*it is the reflection on himself he resents*]: I am sure of it, Marshal.

[HERRICK *nods, then goes out.*] Now, what deposition do you have for us, Mr. Proctor? And I beg you be clear, open as the sky, and honest.

PROCTOR [*as he takes out several papers*]: I am no lawyer, so I'll -

10 DANFORTH: The pure in heart need no lawyers. Proceed as you will.

PROCTOR [*handing DANFORTH a paper*]: Will you read this first, sir? It's a sort of testament. The people signing it declare their good opinion of Rebecca, and my wife, and Martha Corey.

[DANFORTH *looks down at the paper.*]

15 [PARRIS, *to enlist DANFORTH's sarcasm*]: Their good opinion!

[*But DANFORTH goes on reading, and PROCTOR is heartened.*]

PROCTOR: These are all landholding farmers, members of the church. [*Delicately, trying to point out a paragraph*] If you'll notice, sir - they've known the women many years and never saw no sign they had dealings with the Devil.

20 [PARRIS *nervously moves over and reads over DANFORTH's shoulder.*]

DANFORTH [*glancing down a long list*]: How many names are here?

FRANCIS: Ninety-one, Your Excellency.

PARRIS [*sweating*]: These people should be summoned.

25 [DANFORTH *looks up at him questioningly.*]

For questioning.

FRANCIS [*trembling with anger*]: Mr. Danforth, I gave them all my word no harm would come to them for signing this.

PARRIS: This is a clear attack upon the court!

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30 HALE [*to PARRIS, trying to contain himself*]: Is every defence an attack upon the court? Can no one – ?

PARRIS: All innocent and Christian people are happy for the courts in Salem! These people are gloomy for it. [*To DANFORTH directly*] And I think you will want to know, from each and every one of them, what discontents them with you!

35 HATHORNE: I think they ought to be examined, sir.

DANFORTH: It is not necessarily an attack, I think. Yet –

FRANCIS: These are all covenanted Christians, sir.

DANFORTH: Then I am sure they may have nothing to fear.

40 [*Hands CHEEVER the paper*]. Mr Cheever, have warrants drawn for all of these – arrest for examination. [*To PROCTOR*] Now, Mister, what other information do you have for us?

[*FRANCIS is still standing, horrified.*]

You may sit, Mr Nurse.

FRANCIS: I have brought trouble on these people; I have –

45 DANFORTH: No, old man, you have not hurt these people if they are of good conscience. But you must understand, sir, that a person is either with this court or he must be counted against it, there be no road between. This is a sharp time, now, a precise time – we live no longer in the dusky afternoon when evil mixed itself with good and befuddled the world. Now, by God's
50 grace, the shining sun is up, and them that fear not light will surely praise it. I hope you will be one of those.

[*MARY WARREN suddenly sobs.*]

She's not hearty, I see.

55 PROCTOR: No, she's not, sir. [*To MARY, bending to her, holding her hand, quietly*] Now remember what the angel Raphael said to the boy Tobias. Remember it.

MARY WARREN [*hardly audible*]: Aye.

PROCTOR: 'Do that which is good, and no harm shall come to thee.'

MARY WARREN: Aye.

60 DANFORTH: Come, man, we wait you.

[*MARSHAL HERRICK returns, and takes his post at the door.*]

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DOCUMENT B

The Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations. "Testimony of Langston Hughes (accompanied by his counsel, Frank D. Reeves) before the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, Tuesday, March 24, 1953", in *McCarthy Hearings (vol.2)*, Washington: U.S Government Printing Office, 2003, pp. 980-982.

Senator DIRKSEN. "Friday, November 15, 1940, at 12:15 promptly. Hear the distinguished young Negro poet, Langston Hughes, author of the following poem, and member of the American Section of Moscow's International Union of Revolutionary Writers," and the title is "Goodbye, Christ."

5 Mr. HUGHES. Yes.

Senator DIRKSEN. The reason I was curious about your asking for the book on which to hold your hand and may I say, sir, from my familiarity with the Negro people for a long time that they are innately a very devout and religious people—this is the first paragraph of the poem:

10 Listen, Christ, you did all right in your day, I reckon
But that day is gone now.
They ghosted you up a swell story, too,
And called it the Bible, but it is dead now.

15 The popes and the preachers have made too much money from it. They have sold you to too many.

Do you think that Book is dead?

Mr. HUGHES. No, sir, I do not. That poem, like that handbill, is an ironical and satirical poem.

Senator DIRKSEN. It was not so accepted, I fancy, by the American people.

20 Mr. HUGHES. It was accepted by a large portion of them and some ministers and bishops understood the poem and defended it.

Senator DIRKSEN. I know many who accepted the words for what they seem to convey.

25 Mr. HUGHES. That is exactly what I meant to say in answer to the other gentleman's question, that poetry may mean many things to many people.

Senator DIRKSEN. We will put all of it in the record, of course, but I will read you the third stanza.

30 Goodbye, Christ Jesus, Lord of Jehovah,
Beat it on away from here now
Make way for a new guy with no religion at all,
A real guy named Marx communism, Lenin Peasant, Stalin worker, me.

How do you think the average reader would take that?

35 Mr. HUGHES. Sir; the average reader is very likely to take poetry, if they take it at all, and they usually don't take it at all, they are very likely often not to understand it, sir. I have found it very difficult myself to understand a great many poems that one had to study in school. If you will permit me, I will explain that poem to you from my viewpoint.

Senator DIRKSEN. Of course, when all is said and done a poem like this must necessarily speak for itself, because notwithstanding what may have been in your

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40 mind, what inhibitions, whether you crossed your fingers on some of those words when you wrote them, its impact on the thinking of the people is finally what counts.

May I ask, do you write poetry merely for the amusement and the spiritual and emotional ecstasy that it develops, or do you write it for a purpose?

45 Mr. HUGHES. You write it out of your soul and you write it for your own individual feeling of expression.

First, sir, it does not come from yourself in the first place. It comes from something beyond oneself, in my opinion.

Senator DIRKSEN. You think this is a providential force?

50 Mr. HUGHES. There is something more than myself in the creation of everything that I do. I believe that is in every creation, sir.

Senator DIRKSEN. So you have no objective in writing poetry. It is not a message that you seek to convey to somebody? You just sit down and the rather ethereal thoughts suddenly come upon you?

55 Mr. HUGHES. I have often written poetry in that way, and there are on occasions times when I have a message that I wish to express directly and that I want to get to people.

Senator DIRKSEN. Do you know whether this poem was reprinted in quantities and used as propaganda leaflets by the Communist party?

60 Mr. HUGHES. No, sir, it was not. It was reprinted in quantities as far as I know, and used as a propaganda leaflet by the organizations of Gerald L. K. Smith and the organization of extreme anti-Negro forces in our country, and I have attempted to recall that poem. I have denied permission for its publication over the years. I have explained the poem for twenty-two years, I believe, or twenty
65 years, in my writings in the press, and my talks as being a satirical poem, which I think a great pity that anyone should think of the Christian religion in those terms, and great pity that sometimes we have permitted the church to be disgraced by people who have used it as a racketeering force. That poem is merely the story of racketeering in religion and misuse of religion as might have been seen through
70 the eyes at that time of a young Soviet citizen who felt very cocky and said to the whole world, "See what people do for religion. We don't do that." I write a character piece sometimes as in a play. I sometimes have in a play a villain. I do not believe in that villain myself.

75 Senator DIRKSEN. Do you think that any twelve-year-old boy could misunderstand that language, "Goodbye Christ, beat it away from here now"?

Mr. HUGHES. You cannot take one line.

Senator DIRKSEN. We will read all of it.

80 Mr. HUGHES. If you read the twelve-year-old the whole poem, I hope he would be shocked into thinking about the real things of religion, because with some of my poems that is what I have tried to do, to shock people into thinking and finding the real meaning themselves. Certainly I have written many religious poems, many poems about Christ, and prayers and my own feeling is not what I believe you seem to think that poem as meaning.

85 Senator DIRKSEN. I do not want to be captious about it, and I want to be entirely fair, but it seems to me that this could mean only one thing to the person who read it.

Mr. HUGHES. I am sorry. There is a thousand interpretations of Shakespeare's Sonata.

Senator DIRKSEN. Was this ever set to music?

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- 90 Mr. HUGHES. No.
Senator DIRKSEN. Do you know Paul Robeson?
Mr. HUGHES. Yes.
Senator DIRKSEN. Do you know him well?
Mr. HUGHES. No, sir, I do not, not at this period in our lives.
- 95 Mr. COHN. Did you ever know him well? You say "not at this period of my life." Was there ever a period in your life when you knew Paul Robeson well?
Mr. HUGHES. Before he became famous when we were all young in Harlem, I knew him fairly well, and at that time he was quite unknown and so was I. Since his rise to fame, I have not seen him very often.
- 100 Mr. COHN. Did you know he was a Communist when you knew him very well?
Mr. HUGHES. I would not be able to say if he ever was a Communist.
Mr. COHN. You still do not know he is a Communist?
Mr. HUGHES. I still do not.
- 105 Mr. COHN. Are you a little bit suspicious?
Mr. HUGHES. I don't know what you mean by suspicious.
Mr. SCHINE. Mr. Hughes, you are entitled to interpret your poems in any way you want to, and others will interpret your poems in the way they want to.
Mr. HUGHES. That is true.
- 110 Mr. SCHINE. I also should say that you should be entitled to consider the seriousness of not telling the truth before this committee.
Mr. HUGHES. I certainly do, sir. The truth in matters of opinion is as Anatole France said, like the spokes of a wheel, and my opinions are my own, sir.
- 115 Mr. SCHINE. Mr. Hughes, you know many witnesses come before a committee, and they are not guilty of a crime, and then to avoid embarrassment or for reasons that they may not understand themselves, they do not tell the truth. They are entitled to refuse to answer on the grounds of self incrimination, but sometimes they do not take that privilege, and when they have left the room they are guilty of perjury. I think you should reconsider what you have said here today
- 120 on matters of fact before you leave this room, because perjury is a very serious charge.
Mr. HUGHES. I am certainly aware of that, sir.
Mr. SCHINE. You do not wish to change any of your testimony?
Mr. HUGHES. No, sir, I do not.

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DOCUMENT C

Norman Rockwell. *Murder In Mississippi (Southern Justice)*. Illustration for "Southern Justice", LOOK Magazine, June 29, 1965. Oil on canvas, 134.5 cm x 106.5 cm, Norman Rockwell museum, Stockbridge, Massachusetts.

