

**EAE**

**0422 A**

SUJET JURY

SUJET CANDIDAT N°

CODE SUJET : LLG 8

**La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français**

**SUBJECT :**

Concerning the metaphorical usage of prepositions, Quirk and al. (*A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language*, 1985, p. 685.) remark:

"One may perceive a stage- by-stage extension of metaphorical usage in a series as (a) to (d):

- (a) in shallow water [purely literal]
- (b) in deep water [also metaphorical: 'in trouble']
- (c) in difficulties [The noun is not metaphorical, but the preposition is]
- (d) in a tough spot [in a difficult situation; the preposition is analogous to that of (c), but another locative metaphor is introduced by the noun. The result is a phrase that could not occur in a literal sense, because spot would then require *at* or *on* (dimension type 0)]."

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus in order to address the above topic.

**Excerpt n°1**

In a book published in 1974, *Mystery of the Ancients*, Craig and Eric Umland claimed that the aliens were still among us, in the form of the Maya.

John Grant, *The great unsolved mysteries of science*, London: Quintet Publishing Ltd, 1990.

**Excerpt n°2**

This is the myth in a nutshell and its presence is invoked in the exhibition simply by the reminder that the paintings were executed with the nude model directly in front of the artist.

*Women's Art Magazine*. Townsend, S. London: Women artists slide library, 1992.

**Excerpt n°3**

Lord Justice Dillon said that it was not in doubt that if the copy was privileged in relation to the employee's, then claims because obtained for the purpose of advice in relation to those claims, it retained its privileged condition in respect of the subsequent claims now being advanced by the bank.

*Electronic edition of Independent 03/10/1989*. London: Newspaper Publishing plc, 1989.

**Excerpt n°4**

Vitali Gogol actively cultivated an air of sophistication, aided in this by the premature age lines wrought in his visage due to long immersion in deep space and in the warp.

*Inquisitor*. Watson, Ian. London: Boxtree, 1993.

**Excerpt n°5**

'It is an accepted practice in dire situations such as this that the board is replaced or supplemented by a new board charged with the function of restoring the fortunes of the company and the confidence of customers,' the letter says.

*Electronic edition of Independent 03/10/1989*. London: Newspaper Publishing plc, 1989.

**Excerpt n°6**

If Marcos was cynical, he was no more so than the American foreign policy which kept him in power and in clover for 20 years.

*Electronic edition of Independent 06/10/1989*. London: Newspaper Publishing plc, 1989.

**Excerpt n°7**

Certainly almost all of the characters that Burdon lists have been shown to be of selective importance either in clover or in some related species, though sometimes under very specialized circumstances.

*Evolution from molecules to men*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1985.

**Excerpt n°8**

Parents may be too busy to attend to them or not fast enough in their reactions and understanding of what is required and so the child tantrums in desperation and anger.

*Behaviour problems in young children*. Jo Douglas, London: Routledge & Kegan Paul plc, 1992.

**Excerpt n°9**

In London, the big plane tree stuck in the pavement outside Mrs Parvis's house had three white rings painted round its black trunk so people could see it even in the dark.

*Paper faces*. Anderson, Rachel. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1991.

**Excerpt n°10**

The trick here, and in the scores of near-novels that have followed in its wake, is to make the reader, or disciple, imagine that he or she is just as erudite into the bargain: no need to struggle through Dante or The Song of Roland when it is all there in one fat detective story.

*Electronic edition of Daily Telegraph, 11/04/1992*. London: Newspaper Publishing plc, 1992.

**Excerpt n°11**

And maybe somebody would come to your door and say their wee boy or their girl was making their first communion, and they were in dire straights and couldn't buy anything for them, and you would more or less have to give them your book to help them out, but you would go with them so that they didn't go over the score and get just exactly what they needed, you know, and just hope that they had enough money to pay you at the end of the quarter, you know.

BNC, Oral history project interview (Leisure). Recorded on 15 November 1990.

**Excerpt n°12**

'Whenever I used to feel on top of the world, I would just open my mouth and sing, and not care too much about what came out,' remembered Kylie.

*Kylie Minogue: the superstar next door.* Sasha Stone,. London: Omnibus Press, 1989.

**Excerpt n°13**

On top of the familiar arguments against nuclear power, the PWR had added a mixture of nationalism and dislike for American economic imperialism.

*Melt down: collapse of a nuclear dream.* Aubrey, Crispin. London: Collins & Brown Ltd, 1991.

**Excerpt n°14**

Jason Donovan, the singer and actor, won £200,000 libel damages against the magazine *The Face* yesterday after a High Court judge had urged jurors not to 'go over the top' with their award.

*Electronic edition of Daily Telegraph, 11/04/1992.* London: Newspaper Publishing plc, 1992.

**Excerpt n°15**

In the five seasons under his command at the Kennington Oval, from 1952 to 1956, Surrey won five County Championships in a row.

*Electronic edition of Daily Telegraph, 15/04/1992.* London: Newspaper Publishing plc, 1992.

**Excerpt n°16**

A bear had broken loose amongst the stews; a whore was being whipped outside the gates of St Thomas's Hospital; two butchers who had sold putrid meat were riding back to back on some old nag, their hands tied behind them, the rotten offal they had sold fastened tightly under their noses.

*The White Rose Murder.* Clynes, Michael. London: Headline Book Publishing plc, 1992.

**Excerpt n°17**

In spite of the best efforts of the health service, we had been unable to persuade the public that by far the bigger danger was of children not being inoculated.

*Ministers decide.* Fowler, Norman. London: Chapman Publishers Ltd, 1991.

**Excerpt n°18**

Most commonly, mura-muras are asked to send rain, for it is well known that if one is offended he will hold up a huge bark dish to the heavens and catch all the rain on its way to earth, out of spite.

*Myths, gods and fantasy: a sourcebook.* Pamela Allardice, Bridport, Dorset: Prism Press, 1990.

**Excerpt n°19**

He drained his glass to the dregs, and felt a pleasant, warming, unmistakable sensation rising to his cheeks.

*Little victims.* Barnard, Robert. London: Corgi Books, 1993.

**Excerpt n°20**

If they were down to the last dregs of their confidence after their Hillsborough defeat it did not show and it took Kelly's superb reflexes to deny Newell after only three minutes.

*East Anglian Daily Times.* Ipswich: East Anglian Daily Times Company, 1993.