

SESSION 2016

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## AGRÉGATION CONCOURS EXTERNE

Section : LANGUES VIVANTES ÉTRANGÈRES  
ANGLAIS

COMPOSITION DE LINGUISTIQUE

Durée : 6 heures

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*L'usage de tout ouvrage de référence, de tout dictionnaire et de tout matériel électronique (y compris la calculatrice) est rigoureusement interdit.*

*Dans le cas où un(e) candidat(e) repère ce qui lui semble être une erreur d'énoncé, il (elle) le signale très lisiblement sur sa copie, propose la correction et poursuit l'épreuve en conséquence.*

*De même, si cela vous conduit à formuler une ou plusieurs hypothèses, il vous est demandé de la (ou les) mentionner explicitement.*

**NB :** *La copie que vous rendrez ne devra, conformément au principe d'anonymat, comporter aucun signe distinctif, tel que nom, signature, origine, etc. Si le travail qui vous est demandé comporte notamment la rédaction d'un projet ou d'une note, vous devrez impérativement vous abstenir de signer ou de l'identifier.*

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INFORMATION AUX CANDIDATS

Vous trouverez ci-après les codes nécessaires vous permettant de compléter les rubriques figurant en en-tête de votre copie

Ces codes doivent être reportés sur chacune des copies que vous remettrez.

Concours	Section/option	Epreuve	Matière
EAE	0422A	103	0333

## COMPOSITION DE LINGUISTIQUE

What a preposterous belief it was (the sage had asserted) that the hedonist could be a happy man!

Oh dear!

Why had Morse ever considered the pleasure of a little glass? The wages of sin was death, and the night before was seldom worth the morning after (some people said). All mortals, Morse knew, were ever treading that narrow way by Tophet flare to Judgement Day, but he now prayed that the last few steps in his own case might be deferred at least a week or two.

Then, suddenly as it had come, the pain was gone, and Morse opened his eyes once more.

The clock behind Sister's desk (as earlier and darkly rumoured, Nessie was going to be on the night-shift) was showing 7.30 when the visitors began to filter through with their offerings stashed away in Sainsbury or St Michael carriers, and, some few of them, with bunches of blooms for the newly hospitalized.

Life is, alas, so full of disappointments; and it was to be an unexpected visitor who was to monopolize Morse's time that evening. Bearing a wilting collection of white chrysanthemums, a sombre-looking woman of late-middle age proceeded to commandeer the sole chair set at his bedside.

'Mrs Green! How very nice of you to come!'

Morse's heart sank deeply, and took an even deeper plunge when the dutiful charlady mounted a sustained challenge against Morse's present competence to deal, single-handedly, with such crucial matters as towels, toothpaste, talcum-powder, and clean pyjamas (especially the latter). It was wonderfully good of her (who could deny it?) to take such trouble to come to see him (*three* buses, as Morse knew full well); but he found himself consciously *willing* her to get up and *go*.

At five minutes past eight, after half a dozen 'I-really-must-go's, Mrs G. rose to her poorly feet in preparation for her departure, with instructions for the care of the chrysanthemums. At last (at last!), after a mercifully brief account of her latest visit to her 'sheeropodist' in Banbury Road, Mrs G. dragged her long-suffering feet away from Ward 7C.

On several occasions, from her father's bedside, Christine Greenaway had half-turned in the course of her filial obligations; and two or three times her eyes had locked with Morse's: hers with the half-masked smile of understanding; his with all the impotence of some stranded whale.

Just as Mrs Green was on her way, a white-coated consultant, accompanied by the Charge Nurse, decided (inconsiderately) to give ten minutes of his time to Greenaway Senior, and then in some *sotto voce* asides, to confide his prognosis to Greenaway Junior. And for Morse, this hiatus in the evening's ordering was getting just about as infuriating as waiting for breakfast in some 'Fawltly Towers' hotel.

Then Lewis came.

Never had Morse been less glad to see his sergeant; yet he *had* instructed Lewis to pick up his post from the flat, and he now took possession of several envelopes and a couple of cards: Morse's shoes (his other pair) were now ready for collection from Grove Street; his car licence was due to be renewed within the next twenty days; a ridiculously expensive book on *The Transmission of Classical Manuscripts* now awaited him at OUP; a bill from the plumber for the repair of a malfunctioning stop-cock was still unpaid; the Wagner Society asked if he wanted to enter his name in a raffle for Bayreuth *Ring* tickets; and Peter Imbert invited him to talk in the new year at a weekend symposium, in Hendon, on inner-city crime. It was rather like a cross-section of life, his usual correspondence: half of it was fine, and half of it he wanted to forget.

At twenty-three minutes past eight, by the ward clock, Lewis asked if there was anything else he could do.

50 'Yes, Lewis. Please *go*, will you? I want to have five minutes with – ' Morse nodded vaguely over to Greenaway's bed.

'Well, if that's what you want, sir.' He rose slowly to his feet.

'It *is* what I bloody want, Lewis! I've just *told* you, haven't I?'

55 Lewis took a large bunch of white seedless grapes (£2.50 a pound) from his carrier-bag. 'I thought – we thought, the missus and me – we thought you'd enjoy them, sir.'

He was gone; and Morse knew, within a second of his going, that he would not be forgiving himself easily for such monumental ingratitude. But the damage was done: *nescit vox missa reverti*.

60 The bell rang two minutes later, and Christine came across to Morse's bed as she left, and handed him six large photocopied sheets.

'I hope this is what you wanted.'

'I'm ever so grateful. It's – it's a pity we didn't have a chance to...'

'I understand. I *do* understand,' she said. 'And you will let me know if I can do anything else?'

65 'Look... perhaps if we—'

'Come along now, *please!*' The Charge Nurse's voice sounded to Morse almost as imperious as Nessie's as she walked quickly around the beds.

'I'm so grateful,' said Morse. 'I really am! As I say it's...'

'Yes,' said Christine softly.

70 'Will you be in tomorrow?' asked Morse quickly.

'No – not tomorrow. We've got some librarians coming from California—'

'Come along now, *please!*'

75 Mrs Green, Sergeant Lewis, Christine Greenaway – now all of them gone; and already the medicine-trolley had been wheeled into the ward, and the nurses were starting out on yet another circuit of measurements and medicaments.

And Morse felt sick at heart.

It was at 9.20 p.m. that he finally settled back against his piled pillows to glance quickly through the photocopied material Christine had found for him. And soon he was deeply and happily engrossed – his temporary despondency departing on the instant.

Colin Dexter, *The Wench is Dead*, London, Pan Books, 1990, pp. 79-83

## PHONOLOGIE

*(Les réponses seront rédigées en anglais)*

In this section, candidates are asked to provide phonemic transcriptions (also known as "broad phonetic transcriptions") of isolated word units or larger extracts from the text attached. Regardless of the origin of the text, they are free to base their transcriptions either on Southern British English or on General American, to the exclusion of any other variety of English. The chosen standard should be explicitly stated from the start, and deviations clearly justified with reference to the text.

Transcriptions are expected to conform to the standards set out in either of the following reference works: J.C. Wells, *Longman Pronunciation Dictionary* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition), Harlow, Pearson Education Limited, 2008; or D. Jones (eds P. Roach, J. Setter & J. Esling), *Cambridge English Pronouncing Dictionary* (18<sup>th</sup> edition), Cambridge, Cambridge University Press, 2011.

Please note that, when applicable, stress is to be indicated in all transcriptions. Unless explicitly required, no mention of intonation patterns is expected in the transcriptions.

Candidates must organise and structure their answers so as to avoid unnecessary repetition.

## QUESTIONS

1. Give a phonemic transcription of the following passage:  
*Bearing a wilting collection of white chrysanthemums, a sombre-looking woman of late-middle age proceeded to commandeer the sole chair set at his bedside.* (ll. 14-16) Use weak forms where appropriate.
2. Transcribe the following words phonemically: *talcum-powder* (l. 20), *wonderfully* (l. 21), *hiatus* (l. 35), *sergeant* (l. 38), *possession* (l. 39), *plumber* (l. 42), *unpaid* (l. 43), *symposium* (l. 45), *engrossed* (l. 79).
3. a) Determine the stress pattern of each of the following words and account for it: *disappointments* (l. 13), *preparation* (l. 25), *inconsiderately* (l. 33), *prognosis* (l. 34), *monumental* (l. 57).  
b) Give the stress pattern of: *half-masked smile* (l. 30), *white-coated consultant* (l. 32). Do not justify your answers.
4. a) Account for the pronunciation of <a> in the following words: *sage* (l. 1), *flare* (l. 6), *glad* (l. 38), *ward* (l. 48), *chance* (l. 62).  
b) To what extent is the pronunciation of the stressed vowel in the following words irregular: *behind* (l. 9), *especially* (l. 20), *told* (l. 53).  
c) Account for the pronunciation of the digraph <ea> in the following words: *dear* (l. 3), *pleasure* (l. 4), *least* (l. 7), *earlier* (l. 9), *bearing* (l. 14), *heart* (l. 18).



5. a) Identify two connected speech processes likely to occur in the following sequence: *the hedonist could be a happy man* (ll. 1-2).  
 b) Comment on the pronunciation of the letter *n* in the following words: *malfunctioning* (l. 43), *unpaid* (l. 43), *wanted* (l. 44).  
 c) Briefly account for the different phonetic realisations of /t/ in *time* (l. 14) and *starting* (l. 74).
6. Indicate tone-unit boundaries, tonics (nuclei) and tones in the following extract. Do not justify your answers.  
*'I'm so grateful,' said Morse. 'I really am! [. . .]'*  
*'Yes,' said Christine softly.*  
*'Will you be in tomorrow?' asked Morse quickly.*  
*'No – not tomorrow. We've got some librarians coming from California —'* (ll. 68-71).

## ANALYSE LINGUISTIQUE

*(Les réponses seront rédigées en français)*

### 1. Le candidat analysera les segments du texte indiqués ci-après par un soulignage :

- a) What a preposterous belief it was (the sage had asserted) that the hedonist could be a happy man! (ll. 1-2)
- b) bunches of blooms for the newly hospitalized (ll. 11-12)
- c) who was to monopolize Morse's time that evening (ll. 13-14)

### 2. A partir d'exemples choisis dans l'ensemble du texte, le candidat traitera la question suivante :

Les formes en *-ing*

*Aussi bien pour l'analyse des segments soulignés que pour le traitement de la question, le candidat fondera son argumentation sur une étude précise des formes tirées du texte. Il procédera, à partir de ces formes, à toutes les manipulations et comparaisons jugées utiles, en se référant à leur contexte.*