Explication de texte


Explication de faits de langue

Le candidat proposera une analyse linguistique des segments soulignés dans le texte.
To finish the Felicity of this Part, I must not forget, that the Devil had
5 play’d a new Game with me, and prevail’d with me to satisfie myself with
this Amour, as a lawful thing; that a Prince of such Grandeur, and
Majesty; so infinitely superior to me; and one who had made such an
Introduction by an unparallel’d Bounty, I could not resist; and therefore,
that it was very Lawful for me to do it, being at that time perfectly single,
and uningag’d to any other Man; as I was, most certainly, by the
unaccountable Absence of my first Husband, and the Murther of my
Gentleman, who went for my second.

10 It cannot be doubted but that I was the easier to persuade myself of
the Truth of such a Doctrine as this, when it was so much for my Ease,
and for the Repose of my Mind, to have it be so.

In Things we wish, ’tis easie to deceive;
What we would have, we willingly believe.

Besides, I had no Casuists to resolve this Doubt; the same Devil that
put this into my Head, bade me go to any of the Romish Clergy, and
under the Pretence of Confession, state the Case exactly, and I should see
they would either resolve it to be no Sin at all, or absolve me upon the
easiest Pennance: This I had a strong Inclination to try, but I know not
what Scruple put me off of it, for I could never bring myself to like having
to do with those Priests; and tho’ it was strange that I, who had thus
prostituted my Chastity, and given up all Sence of Virtue, in two such
particular Cases, living a Life of open Adultery, should scruple any thing;
yet so it was, I argued with myself, that I could not be a Cheat in any
thing that was esteem’d Sacred; that I could not be of one Opinion, and
then pretend myself to be of another; nor could I go to Confession, who
knew nothing of the Manner of it, and should betray myself to the Priest,
to be a Hugonot, and then might come into Trouble; but, In short, tho’ I
was a Whore, yet I was a Protestant Whore, and could not act as if I was
Popish, upon any Account whatsoever.

But, I say, I satisfy’d myself with the surprizing Occasion, that, as it
was all irresistable, so it was all lawful; for that Heaven would not suffer
us to be punish’d for that which it was not possible for us to avoid; and
with these Absurdities I kept Conscience from giving me any considerable
Disturbance in all this Matter; and I was as perfectly easie as to the
Lawfullness of it, as if I had been Marry’d to the Prince, and had had no
other Husband: So possible is it for us to roll ourselves up in Wickedness,
till we grow invulnerable by Conscience; and that Centinel once doz’d,
sleeps fast, not to be awaken’d while the Tide of Pleasure continues to
flow, or till something dark and dreadful brings us to ourselves again.