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AGRÉGATION EXTERNE D'ANGLAIS

ÉPREUVE HORS PROGRAMME

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

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 mn*)

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

Ben Okri, *Infinite Riches*, London, Phoenix, 1998, pp. 103-106

The old woman laughed now, standing up because she had unfurled the full length of tapestry she had been weaving. And the wind in contemplation rushed across the full length of cloth with all its stories of trees and animals and plants. The wind smoothed out the annals of the origin of human beings, from
5 their beginnings in the silver egg which the great god put in space and which hatched into millennia of stories. There were tales of exile and war, the birth and descent of the gods, the hubris of mankind, the flood, and the cycle of vanities. And there was the end which all true stories threaten: the second deluge of fire. It illuminates the choice that has to be made between blindness and vision.
10 Blindness leading to the apocalyptic. But vision postponing it so long as we can keep to the bright side of all creation, and to the shining original dream.

The wind seemed in love with the tapestry of stories and fates which the old woman had been weaving all her days isolated in the forest. And when the beautiful girl with the wooden leg saw the tapestry, she wept. The weaving was
15 not yet complete, but the end was in sight. The tapestry was admired not only by the wind but also by the sun, by the birds who were her servants, the animals she had tamed, and the spirits she had befriended. The splendour of the old woman's labours made the girl weep, for she too had been woven into the cloth of fates. And as the old woman laughed, the white man whom the liverish spirit
20 had entered said:

'Listen, Harry, I'm feeling sick. It's as if I've got live eels inside me.'

'Quite so,' his colleague said absent-mindedly as he commanded his nine woodcutters to resume their assault on the great sacred iroko.

'Look, Harry, you believe in *Zeitgeist*, and the residing spirit of a place.
25 You used to like the great German Romantics.'

'So, what of it?'

'I tell you, Harry, this place has a weird spirit to it. And I feel bloody awful. And I feel drunk as a kite and I haven't had a drop to drink. It's the damn heat, Harry, the heat's gone mad, Harry.'

30 'Quite so, quite so. Have some whisky or something, old chap.'

The man with the spirit in him staggered to the jeep. His African servant rushed forward to help him.

'Don't touch me, you ugly creature,' he screamed.

The servant ignored the remark and helped him into the jeep. He spread
35 himself out on the back seat, his feet on the door. Then he opened a flask of whisky, and drank, and the liverish spirit expanded in him, sitting sideways, a mischievous expression on its woebegone face.

Drunk on the heat, he was suddenly invaded by hallucinations. He saw bats with the faces of pale white women, owls with binoculars round their necks,
40 and he shouted:

'Damn you, Harry! Damn your imperial dreams, Harry! We've been trying to cut down this tree for a whole month. It's destroyed our saws, blunted our axes, exhausted our workers, taxed our patience, and we haven't even dented its

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African face, Harry!’

45 ‘Shut up, old chap, and mind your language with the natives,’ snapped his friend.

50 And the possessed man, drunk on hallucinations, fell into hysterical laughter. His laughter tickled the air. The forest began to laugh as well, distorting the original laughter. The hyenas took it up and played their variations on it. As did the wolves, the trees, the frogs, the spiders, the lost dogs, the hidden leopard, and even the two deranged men, with the sacred grove spinning in their eyes.

55 As they fled past the trees, the two men saw beings they last glimpsed in their childhood. Women who walked upside down in a serene realm of sepia. Old men with yellow eyes flying through a silvery air. Old women with one eye each in the middle of their heads. A horse with the face of a village chief. Spirits with many heads all talking and singing at once. A stomach without a body, rolling along an ancient path, followed by the most beautiful girl in the world. The two men saw these forgotten sights of childhood and laughed even harder. The forest distorted their laughter, sifted it, sanitized it, and the white man with the spirit in

60 him sat up in the jeep, his eyes clearing for an instant, and said:

 ‘Africa is laughing at us, Harry.’

 And the old woman said:

65 ‘Stop weeping, girl. Go and prepare food, but first help me to fold this cloth.’

 The girl with the wooden leg didn’t move. The two mad men, still fleeing, stopped laughing.

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DOCUMENT B

Source: The National Archives. [Filestore.nationalarchives.gov.uk](https://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk)

SECRET

C. (53) 154

13th May, 1953

CABINET

5 **CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE GOLD COAST AND NIGERIA**

MEMORANDUM BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

The Gold Coast

10 On 12th February, 1952, the Cabinet approved a number of constitutional changes, including the use of the title of Prime Minister, in the Gold Coast (C.C. (52) 16th Conclusions, Minute 6). These changes, proposed in C. (52) 28, took effect in March 1952.

15 2. During my visit to the Gold Coast in June, 1952, the African Ministers, against a background of some carefully prepared "spontaneous" demonstrations, were at pains to impress upon me that they and the country wanted something which they variously described as "freedom," "self-government now" and "Dominion status." After a series of discussions, during which I was able to bring home to them, or at any rate to the Prime Minister (Dr. Nkrumah), a certain number of home truths, I authorised the issue of the following communique: —

20 "During his visit to the Gold Coast the Secretary of State had meetings with the Ministers. The Prime Minister and other representative Ministers made clear their wish for self-government within the Commonwealth.

25 "There was discussion on the meaning of this term and of what constitutional changes were involved. It was agreed by the Secretary of State that when proposals for constitutional change had been formulated by the Gold Coast Government after consultation with the Chiefs and people of the Gold Coast they would be examined and discussed between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Gold Coast."

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[...]

30 10. I have informed the Governor, who has now returned to the Gold Coast, that there are certain matters on which Her Majesty's Government are not prepared to negotiate. Her Majesty's Government will insist on retaining responsibility for external affairs and defence including the police, and the post of Attorney-General must remain a non-political appointment in the Public Service: the rest is open for manoeuvre.

35 11. The position of officers from the United Kingdom, who still hold most of the senior appointments in the Gold Coast Service, is safeguarded by the present constitutional instruments under which the Governor can protect their conditions of service and prospects of a career. Political advance has outstripped the pace at which Africans are being trained to occupy responsible posts in the Gold Coast
40 Service and there is now increasing pressure to hasten the process of Africanisation of that Service by expedients which would lower its standards and prejudice the normal prospects of overseas officers. The Governor has advised me that, notwithstanding that pressure, there is good hope that the existing safeguards of overseas officers can be retained at the next stage of constitutional
45 advance. If, however, existing safeguards had to be modified I should feel obliged to insist that the Gold Coast Government should forthwith introduce a scheme giving, as an addition to normal pension, adequate compensation for loss of career. To reassure the Public Service I propose to issue a statement to this effect as soon as the Governor advises me that this would be opportune; the
50 statement would also include my undertaking to offer transfers to overseas officers in the Gold Coast whenever suitable vacancies occurred in other Colonial territories.

55 12. The situation is fluid and we are dealing in the Gold Coast with volatile human material. It is therefore impossible to forecast events very far ahead. But if agreement on constitutional changes were reached and a new Legislative Assembly, elected by universal adult suffrage, met about mid-1954, its first act might well be to demand complete self-government as a member of the Commonwealth. In that event the Governor hopes that the position could be held for a period which might last as long as three or four years while the country was
60 prepared for greater responsibility and consideration was given to its form of association with the Commonwealth. –

Nigeria

65 13. I have taken into account the possible repercussions of these developments on West Africa, particularly in Nigeria, and have consulted the Governor of Nigeria about them. At one time he was apprehensive lest they should quicken still further the demand for political advance in the Southern Regions and thus lead to divisions, and strife, between the South and the conservative North. But as my colleagues will be aware, the latent discord between the three Regions has already been brought to the surface by recent
70 events in Nigeria and in particular by the debate on 31st March in the House of Representatives on a private member's motion about the attainment of self-government in 1956.

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75 14. As I informed the House of Commons on 22nd April, the situation in
Nigeria is complicated and will require further patient and careful study. But I am
clear that the present cumbersome constitution will have to be radically revised
and that the best hope of preserving the unity of the territory will lie in seeking
to reach agreement on some modified and looser form of association at the
Centre. The Governor agrees that this would probably have to be coupled with
80 some measure of political advance—for example, the widening of the
responsibilities and functions of Ministers—but that the arrangements at the
Centre would have to be such as to satisfy the North that their interests were
effectively safeguarded.

85 15. A further constitutional advance in the Gold Coast will not make a
difficult situation in Nigeria any easier. But by and large Nigeria's future will, I
think, be settled by events in Nigeria; and in any case I see no alternative but to
proceed in the Gold Coast on the lines I have described which, as the Governor
has advised me, represent the minimum concessions if we are to secure peaceful
and ordered progress by successive stages.

Conclusion

90 16. My colleagues will wish to take note of the position now reached in
both territories. When the final proposals of the Gold Coast Government are
received later this year I will consult them again. I may need to consult them
before long about Nigeria.

O. L.

*Cabinet Office, S.W.1,
13th May, 1953.*

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DOCUMENT C

The doctor starting his morning rounds by railroad, Ilorin (Kwara, Nigeria), October 1912

<http://www.unitedijaw.com/amalgamation.htm>



The doctor starting his morning rounds by railroad, Ilorin, October 1912.