

SESSION 2025

**AGRÉGATION
CONCOURS EXTERNE**

**Section : LANGUES VIVANTES ÉTRANGÈRES
ANGLAIS**

COMMENTAIRE DE TEXTE EN ANGLAIS

Durée : 6 heures

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Il appartient au candidat de vérifier qu'il a reçu un sujet complet et correspondant à l'épreuve à laquelle il se présente.

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Lady *Bella* having recovered her usual Cheerfulness, thro' the Satisfaction she felt at her Uncle's returning to Reason, and the Abatement she perceived in Sir *George*'s extreme Melancholy, mixed in the Conversation with that Wit and Vivacity which was natural to her, and which so absolutely charmed the whole Company, that not one of them remembered any of
5 her former Extravagancies.

Mr. *Glanville* gazed on her with a passionate Tenderness, Sir *George* with Admiration, and the old Baronet with Wonder and Delight.

But Miss *Glanville*, who was inwardly vexed at the Superiority her Cousin's Wit gave her over herself, wished for nothing more than an Opportunity of interrupting a Conversation in
10 which she could have no Share; and, willing to put them in mind of some of *Arabella*'s strange Notions, when she observed them disputing concerning some of the Actions of the antient *Romans*, she very innocently asked Sir *George*, whether in former Times Women went to the Wars, and fought like Men? For my Cousin, added she, talks of one *Thaltris*, a Woman, that was as courageous as any Soldier whatever.

Mr. *Glanville*, horridly vexed at a Question that was likely to engage *Arabella* in a Discourse very different from that she had been so capable of pleasing in, frowned very intelligibly at his Sister; and, to prevent any Answer being given to her absurd Demand, directed some other Conversation to *Arabella*: But she, who saw a favourite Subject started, took no
15 Notice of what Mr. *Glanville* was saying to her; but, directing her Looks to Sir *George*,

Though Miss *Glanville*, said she, be a little mistaken in the Name of that fair Queen she has mentioned; yet I am persuaded you know whom she means; and that it is the renowned *Thalestris*, whose Valour staggers her Belief, and of whom she wants to be informed.

Ay, ay, *Thalestris*, said Miss *Glanville*: It is such a strange Name I could not remember it; but, pray, was there ever such a Person?

Certainly, Madam, there was, replied Sir *George*: She was Queen of the *Amazons*, a war-like Nation of Women, who possessed great Part of *Cappadocia*, and extended their Conquests so far, that they became formidable to all their Neighbours.

You find, Miss, said *Arabella*, I did not attempt to impose upon you, when I told you of the admirable Valour of that beautiful Queen; which indeed was so great, that the united Princes,
30 in whose Cause she fought, looked upon her Assistance to be equal to that of a whole Army; and they honoured her accordingly, with the most distinguishing Marks of their Esteem and Acknowledgement, and offered her the chief Command of their Forces.

O shameful! cried Sir *Charles*, offer a Woman the Command of an Army! Brave Fellows indeed, that would be commanded by a Woman! Sure you mistake, Niece; there never was such
35 a thing heard of in the World.

What, Sir, said *Arabella*, will you contradict a Fact attested by the greatest Historians that ever were? You may as well pretend to say, there were never such Persons as *Oroondates* or *Juba*, as dispute the Existence of the famous *Thalestris*.

Why, pray, Madam, said Sir *Charles*, who were those?

Charlotte Lennox, *The Female Quixote*, edited by Amanda Gilroy and Wil Verhoeven, London, Penguin, 2006; Book V, Chapter VI (*Containing some Account of Thalestris, Queen of the Amazons, with other curious Anecdotes*), pp. 232-234.

INFORMATION AUX CANDIDATS

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

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Concours	Section/option	Epreuve	Matière
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