

SESSION 2026

**AGRÉGATION
CONCOURS EXTERNE SPÉCIAL**

**Section : LANGUES VIVANTES ÉTRANGÈRES
ANGLAIS**

COMPOSITION

Durée : 7 heures

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

Vous rendrez deux copies distinctes pour chacune des deux parties du sujet que vous aurez choisi.

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

Si vous repérez ce qui vous semble être une erreur d'énoncé, vous devez le signaler très lisiblement sur votre copie, en proposer la correction et poursuivre l'épreuve en conséquence. De même, si cela vous conduit à formuler une ou plusieurs hypothèses, vous devez la (ou les) mentionner explicitement.

**NB : Conformément au principe d'anonymat, votre copie ne doit comporter aucun signe distinctif, tel que nom, signature, origine, etc. Si le travail qui vous est demandé consiste notamment en la rédaction d'un projet ou d'une note, vous devrez impérativement vous abstenir de la signer ou de l'identifier.
Le fait de rendre une copie blanche est éliminatoire.**

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 quel que soit le sujet choisi (civilisation ou littérature).

► **Composition en anglais (1^{ère} partie) :**

Concours	Section/option	Epreuve	Matière
EAD	0422A	101A	7411

► **2^{ème} composition (2^{ème} partie) :**

Concours	Section/option	Epreuve	Matière
EAD	0422A	101B	0313

Sujet de littérature

Première partie

Rédigez en anglais un commentaire du texte suivant :

They had met. They had been once more in the same room!

Soon, however, she began to reason with herself, and try to be feeling less. Eight years, almost eight years had passed, since all had been given up. How absurd to be resuming the agitation which such an interval had banished into distance and indistinctness! What might not
5 eight years do? Events of every description, changes, alienations, removals,—all, all must be comprised in it; and oblivion of the past—how natural, how certain too! It included nearly a third part of her own life.

Alas! with all her reasonings, she found, that to retentive feelings eight years may be little more than nothing.

10 Now, how were his sentiments to be read? Was this like wishing to avoid her? And the next moment she was hating herself for the folly which asked the question.

On one other question, which perhaps her utmost wisdom might not have prevented, she was soon spared all suspense; for after the Miss Musgroves had returned and finished their visit at the Cottage, she had this spontaneous information from Mary:

15 “Captain Wentworth is not very gallant by you, Anne, though he was so attentive to me. Henrietta asked him what he thought of you, when they went away; and he said, ‘You were so altered he should not have known you again.’”

Mary had no feelings to make her respect her sister’s in a common way; but she was perfectly unsuspecting of being inflicting any peculiar wound.

20 “Altered beyond his knowledge!” Anne fully submitted, in silent, deep mortification. Doubtless it was so; and she could take no revenge, for he was not altered, or not for the worse. She had already acknowledged it to herself, and she could not think differently, let him think of her as he would. No; the years which had destroyed her youth and bloom had only given him a more glowing, manly, open look, in no respect lessening his personal advantages. She had
25 seen the same Frederick Wentworth.

“So altered that he should not have known her again!” These were words which could not but dwell with her. Yet she soon began to rejoice that she had heard them. They were of sobering tendency; they allayed agitation; they composed, and consequently must make her happier.

30 Frederick Wentworth had used such words, or something like them, but without an idea that they would be carried round to her. He had thought her wretchedly altered, and, in the first moment of appeal, had spoken as he felt. He had not forgiven Anne Elliot. She had used him ill; deserted and disappointed him; and worse, she had shewn a feebleness of character in doing so, which his own decided, confident temper could not endure. She had given him up to oblige
35 others. It had been the effect of over-persuasion. It had been weakness and timidity.

He had been most warmly attached to her, and had never seen a woman since whom he thought her equal; but, except from some natural sensation of curiosity, he had no desire of meeting her again. Her power with him was gone for ever.

40 It was now his object to marry. He was rich, and being turned on shore, fully intended to settle as soon as he could be properly tempted; actually looking round, ready to fall in love with all the speed which a clear head and a quick taste could allow. He had a heart for either of the Miss Musgroves, if they could catch it; a heart, in short, for any pleasing young woman who came in his way, excepting Anne Elliot. This was his only secret exception, when he said to his sister, in answer to her suppositions,

45 “Yes, here I am, Sophia, quite ready to make a foolish match. Any body between fifteen and thirty may have me for asking. A little beauty, and a few smiles, and a few compliments to the navy, and I am a lost man. Should not this be enough for a sailor, who has had no society among women to make him nice?”

50 He said it, she knew, to be contradicted. His bright, proud eye spoke the happy conviction that he was nice; and Anne Elliot was not out of his thoughts, when he more seriously described the woman he should wish to meet with. “A strong mind, with sweetness of manner,” made the first and the last of the description.

55 “This is the woman I want,” said he. “Something a little inferior I shall of course put up with, but it must not be much. If I am a fool, I shall be a fool indeed, for I have thought on the subject more than most men.”

Jane Austen, *Persuasion*, 1818. Chapter VII. Ed. Patricia Meyer Spacks. New York: Norton, 1995, pp. 40-42.

Annexe 1

The most notable shift for rhetorical purposes in *Persuasion* comes fairly early. When Anne first meets Captain Wentworth after their years of separation that follow her refusal to marry him, she is convinced that he is indifferent. The major movement of *Persuasion* is toward her final discovery that he still loves her; *her* suspense is thus strong and inevitable from the beginning. The reader, however, is likely to believe that Wentworth is still interested. All the conventions of art favor such a belief: the emphasis is clearly on Anne and her unhappiness [...]. Anne learns (chap. vii) that he has spoken of her as so altered “he should not have known her again!” [...] And suddenly we enter Wentworth’s mind for one time only [...]. The necessary point, the fact that Frederick believes himself to be indifferent, has been made, and it could not have been made without some kind of shift from Anne’s consciousness.

At the end of the novel, we learn that Wentworth was himself deceived in this momentary inside view [...].

Wayne Booth, “Control of Distance in Jane Austen’s *Emma*”, in *The Rhetoric of Fiction*. Chicago: Chicago University Press, 1961; second edition, 1983, p. 251.

Annexe 2

In *Persuasion*, the reader is confronted with one of the most radical novels to focus on the women's point of view to that date, challenged finally by *Jane Eyre* twenty-seven years later. The narrative style of *Persuasion* is a much more interior narrative than any of Austen's other novels, and the prose is also unique in the way that it follows and meanders with Anne's thoughts and perceptions in a style that looks to be borderline stream of consciousness. Compared to the impeccably plotted and shrewdly narrated linear form of *Pride and Prejudice* or the prose of *Sense and Sensibility* where even the most personal and emotional moments are imparted through the eyes of an objective narrator, even the narrative tone of Anne's voice in *Persuasion* reveals a reassessment by Austen of the innate value of a heroine's emotional life.

Claire Eileen Tarlson, "Jane Austen, *Persuasion*, and the Pursuit of Happiness,"
Lethbridge Undergraduate Research Journal 1.1 (2006), pp. 4-5.

Deuxième partie

L'expression de la quantité

À partir d'exemples choisis dans le passage compris entre la ligne 1 (« They had met. ») et la ligne 38 (« ... was gone for ever. »), vous traiterez en français le sujet ci-dessus de manière structurée.

Vous établirez une classification cohérente des formes choisies pour illustrer votre propos et étudierez le fonctionnement de ces formes. Une analyse des différents types d'emplois et des éventuelles caractéristiques communes à tous ces emplois devra structurer votre démonstration. Par le biais de manipulations et de comparaisons, vous proposerez également des micro-analyses en contexte.

Sujet de civilisation

Première partie

Rédigez en anglais un commentaire du texte suivant :

Let me say first that I accept the nomination of the Democratic Party.

I accept it without reservation and with only one obligation, the obligation to devote every effort of my mind and spirit to lead our Party back to victory and our Nation to greatness.

I am grateful, too -- I am grateful, too, that you have provided us with such a strong platform
5 to stand on and to run on. Pledges which are made so eloquently are made to be kept. "The Rights of Man" -- the civil and economic rights essential to the human dignity of all men -- are indeed our goal and are indeed our first principle. This is a Platform on which I can run with enthusiasm and with conviction.

And I am grateful, finally, that I can rely in the coming months on many others: On a
10 distinguished running-mate who brings unity and strength to our Platform and our ticket, Lyndon Johnson; on one of the most articulate spokesmen of modern times, Adlai Stevenson; on a great fighter -- on a great fighter for our needs as a Nation and a people, Stuart Symington; on my traveling companion in Wisconsin and West Virginia, Senator Hubert Humphrey; on Paul Butler, our devoted and courageous Chairman; and on that fighting campaigner whose support I now
15 welcome, President Harry Truman.

I feel a lot safer with all of them on my side. And I'm proud of the contrast with our Republican competitors. For their ranks are so thin that not one challenger has dared to put his head up in the last twelve months.

I am fully aware of the fact that the Democratic Party, by nominating someone of my faith,
20 has taken on what many regard as a new and hazardous risk -- new, at least since 1928. The Democratic Party has once again placed its confidence in the American people, and in their ability to render a free and fair judgment and in my ability to render a free and fair judgment.

To uphold the Constitution and my oath of office, to reject any kind of religious pressure or obligation that might directly or indirectly interfere with my conduct of the Presidency in the
25 national interest. My record of fourteen years in supporting public education, supporting complete separation of Church and State and resisting pressure from sources of any kind should be clear by now to everyone. [...]

One-third of the world may be free, but one-third is the victim of a cruel repression, and the other third is rocked by poverty and hunger and disease. Communist influence has penetrated
30 into Asia; it stands in the Middle East; and now festers some ninety miles off the coast of Florida. Friends have slipped into neutrality and neutrals have slipped into hostility. As our keynoter reminded us, the President who began his career by going to Korea ends it by staying away from Japan.

35 The world has been close to war before, but now man, who's survived all previous threats
to his existence, has taken into his mortal hands the power to exterminate his species seven times
over.

Here at home the future is equally revolutionary. The New Deal and the Fair Deal were
bold measures for their generations, but now this is a new generation.

40 A technological output and explosion on the farm has led to an output explosion. An urban
population revolution has overcrowded our schools and cluttered our cities and crowded our slums.

A peaceful revolution for human rights, demanding an end to racial discrimination in all
parts of our community life, has strained at the leashes imposed by a timid executive leadership.

45 It is time, in short -- It is time, in short, for a new generation of leadership. All over the
world, particularly in the newer nations, young men are coming to power, men who are not bound
by the traditions of the past, men who are not blinded by the old fears and hates and rivalries --
young men who can cast off the old slogans and the old delusions.

The Republican nominee, of course, is a young man. But his approach is as old as
McKinley. His party is the party of the past, the party of memory. His speeches are generalities
from Poor Richard's Almanac. Their platform -- Their platform, made up of old, left-over
50 Democratic planks, has the courage of our old convictions. Their pledge is to the status quo; and
today there is no status quo.

For I stand here tonight facing west on what was once the last frontier. From the lands that
stretch three thousand miles behind us, the pioneers gave up their safety, their comfort and
sometimes their lives to build our new West. They were not the captives of their own doubts, nor
55 the prisoners of their own price tags. They were determined to make the new world strong and free
-- an example to the world, to overcome its hazards and its hardships, to conquer the enemies that
threatened from within and without.

Some would say that those struggles are all over, that all the horizons have been explored,
that all the battles have been won, that there is no longer an American frontier. But I trust that no
60 one in this assemblage would agree with that sentiment; for the problems are not all solved and
the battles are not all won; and we stand today on the edge of a New Frontier -- the frontier of the
1960's, the frontier of unknown opportunities and perils, the frontier of unfilled hopes and unfilled
threats.

Woodrow Wilson's New Freedom promised our nation a new political and economic
65 framework. Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal promised security and succor to those in need. But the
New Frontier of which I speak is not a set of promises. It is a set of challenges.

It sums up not what I intend to offer to the American people, but what I intend to ask of
them. It appeals to their pride -- It appeals to our pride, not our security. It holds out the promise
of more sacrifice instead of more security.

70 The New Frontier is here whether we seek it or not.

Beyond that frontier are uncharted areas of science and space, unsolved problems of peace
and war, unconquered problems of ignorance and prejudice, unanswered questions of poverty and
surplus. It would be easier to shrink from that new frontier, to look to the safe mediocrity of the
past, to be lulled by good intentions and high rhetoric -- and those who prefer that course should
75 not vote for me or the Democratic Party.

But I believe that the times require imagination and courage and perseverance. I'm asking
each of you to be pioneers towards that New Frontier. My call is to the young in heart, regardless

of age -- to the stout in spirit, regardless of Party, to all who respond to the scriptural call: “Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be [thou] dismayed.”

John Fitzgerald Kennedy, “Democratic National Convention Nomination Acceptance Address”, delivered 15 July 1960, Memorial Coliseum, Los Angeles.
<https://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/jfk1960dnc.htm>

Annexe 1

But the most important effect of the frontier has been in the promotion of democracy here and in Europe. As has been indicated, the frontier is productive of individualism. Complex society is precipitated by the wilderness into a kind of primitive organization based on the family. The tendency is anti-social. It produces antipathy to control, and particularly to any direct control. The tax-gatherer is viewed as a representative of oppression. Prof. Osgood, in an able article, has pointed out that the frontier conditions prevalent in the colonies are important factors in the explanation of the American Revolution, where individual liberty was sometimes confused with absence of all effective government. The same conditions aid in explaining the difficulty of instituting a strong government in the period of the confederacy. The frontier individualism has from the beginning promoted democracy.

Frederick Jackson Turner, “The Significance of the Frontier in American History”, paper read at the meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago, 12 July 1893.
<https://nationalhumanitiescenter.org/pds/gilded/empire/text1/turner.pdf>

Annexe 2

Well, let’s first examine what our opponents offered in Los Angeles two weeks ago. They claimed theirs was a new program, but you know what it was? It was simply the same old proposition that a political party should be all things to all men, and nothing more than that, and they promised everything to everybody, with one exception: They didn’t promise to pay the bill.

And I say tonight that, with their convention, their platform and their ticket, they composed a symphony of political cynicism which is out of harmony with our times today.

Now, we come to the key question: What should our answer be? Some might say do as they do—outpromise them because that’s the only way to win. I want to tell you my answer.

I happen to believe that their program would be disastrous for America; it would wreck our economy; it would dash our people’s hopes for a better life—and I serve notice here and now that whatever the political consequences we are not going to try to outpromise our opponents in this campaign.

Richard Nixon, “Address Accepting the Presidential Nomination at the Republican National Convention in Chicago”, July 28, 1960.

Annexe 3

On top of this, Kennedy's margin in Congress was exceedingly nominal. The figures looked fine—64 Democrats to 36 Republicans in the Senate, 263 to 174 in the House—but were deceptive. For one thing, in a number of states Kennedy had run behind the Democratic candidates for Congress. “The people in Congress do not feel that they owe the President anything,” a Democratic Congressman told *U.S. News and World Report*. “A good many of them were elected in 1960 in spite of his presence on the ticket rather than because his name was there. They feel that they have more of a mandate for their point of view than he does for his program.” Moreover, the apparent Democratic majorities in both House and Senate included many members of the old anti-New Deal coalition of conservative Democrats and Republicans. “Some Democrats,” as the President observed in 1962, “have voted with the Republicans for twenty-five years, really since 1938 . . . so that we have a very difficult time, on a controversial piece of legislation, securing a working majority.”

He could never escape the political arithmetic. The Democrats had lost twenty seats in the 1960 congressional election, all from the North, nearly all liberal Democrats, nearly all defeated because of the religious issue. Many times in the next two years Kennedy desperately needed these twenty votes. Without them he was more than ever dependent on the South. The old Confederacy was represented by ninety-nine Democratic Congressmen and twenty-one Democratic Senators. This meant in the House that, if the administration carried every northern, western and border Democratic vote, which it rarely did, it would still require a minimum of fifty-five southern votes to preserve a Democratic majority. It meant that he had hardly more Democratic Congressmen from the northern and western states (132) than from the border states and the South (131). Moreover, the old Confederacy, by virtue of seniority, controlled most of the critical committee chairmanships and thereby had further leverage over legislation. The legislative progress of the New Frontier was thus largely in the hands of aging men, mostly born in another century, mostly representing rural areas in an urban nation (and, indeed, mostly coming from states where less than 40 per cent of persons of voting age had cast ballots in the 1960 election).

Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., *A Thousand Days. John F. Kennedy in the White House*.
Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1965, pp. 708-709.

(Arthur Schlesinger was a Democrat who supported John F. Kennedy during the 1960 primary campaign and worked as his speechwriter, then becoming ‘Special Assistant’ to the president).

Deuxième partie

Nature(s) et emploi(s) de *TO*

À partir d'exemples choisis dans le passage compris entre la ligne 1 (« Let me say first... ») et la ligne 38 (« ... this is a new generation. »), vous traiterez en français le sujet ci-dessus de manière structurée.

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