

REPUBLIQUE TUNISIENNE MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION ◆◆◆	EXAMEN DU BACCALAUREAT SESSION DE JUIN 2012		
	Epreuve : ANGLAIS	Durée : 2h	COEFFICIENT : 2
SECTION : LETTRES		SESSION PRINCIPALE	

Le sujet comporte 4 pages numérotées de 1/4 à 4/4

A. READING COMPREHENSION (15 marks)

THE TEXT

1. I remember vividly when I got "the look". My hair was grimy and my clothes smelled from having been worn for three straight weeks. I buried my unshaven face into my jacket as I stepped onto the train in New York. It was holiday time and the train was packed, but it was my home at night during the winter of 1983-84. I was exhausted from walking so much, searching for a job. A seat opened up between two passengers and I sat down. A well-dressed woman gave me "the look."

2. How did I know what "the look" was? Well, I used to give it before I was homeless—a mocking stare that told the person that he or she wasn't fit to move normally in society. I was conditioned at a very young age to view all homeless people as worthless alcoholics and drug addicts. They were not human—they were thugs and murderers and a burden to society. Or so I thought. Until I got "the look." I was desperate. I begged and applied for any part-time job, even washing my hair in a toilet so I would look presentable for an interview.

3. Some 27 years later, Anthony Ziccardi, the Vice President of a publishing house, felt strongly enough about my story that he agreed to publish the semi-autobiographical *Necessary Heartbreak: A Novel of Faith and Forgiveness*, which I had based in part on my experience. Since the publication of the book, I have been stunned to hear from so many people who have suffered the degradation of homelessness. I sit here in front of my laptop, with a roof over my head. I hear their cries and worries through e-mails and letters.

4. Despite great efforts, like many others, I was no longer able to pay rent. Uncontrollable circumstances led me to the shelter of the train those winter nights: the loss of my mother from cancer just before I graduated from college the year before and a falling-out with my father with whom I'd always had a difficult relation. So before you give anyone "the look", take a moment to glance inside that human being's soul. He or she has a story to tell, but it might not necessarily be the one you've been conditioned to believe.

Michael Sullivan (adapted)

WWW.CNN.com

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. Tick (✓) the right alternative (1 mark)

The text is mainly:

- a) narrative
- b) descriptive
- c) argumentative

2. Tick (✓) the most appropriate title to the text. (1 mark)

- a) A success story
- b) A mocking stare
- c) A hard winter

3. The following statements are false. Correct them with details from the text. (3 marks)

- a) The writer used to sleep in a park. (paragraph 1)
.....
- b) When he was homeless, Michael was totally careless about his appearance.(paragraph 2)
.....
- c) Michael had no school degrees.(paragraph 4)
.....

4. Focus on paragraph 4 and list three facts that led Michael to homelessness .(3 marks)

- a).....
- b).....
- c).....

5. Find a word in the text that nearly means: (2 marks)

- a) crowded (par.1)
- b) amazed (par.3).....

6. What do the following underlined words in the text refer to? (2 marks)

- a) their (par.3) refers to.....
- b) one (par.4) refers to

7. Answer the following question. (1 mark)

After the publication of the book, how did Michael communicate with the homeless people?
.....

8. Circle the appropriate option. (1 mark)

When Michael says:" Before you give anyone the look, take a moment to glance inside that human being's soul"; he is expressing:

- a) advice
- b) warning
- c) reproach

9. Give a personal justified answer to the following question.(1 mark)

Do you think that homeless people are a burden to society?

I think that homeless people

because.....

B. WRITING (15 marks)

1/ Use the notes below to write a biography of Albert Einstein. (5 marks)

Birth	March 14, 1879. Ulm, Germany
Education and Childhood	Disrupted by father's repeated failures at business A school dropout No employable skills
Achievements	Most influential physicist- 20th century Developed specific and general theories of relativity
Awards	Nobel Prize in physics in 1921(explanation of the photoelectric effect)
Death	April 18, 1955,Princeton New Jersey ,USA

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2/ You have recently read: "... brain drain has always been taking from the poor and giving to the rich."

In **reaction** to what you have read, you wrote a 12-line **letter** to your brother Sami- a qualified biologist residing and working in Canada- **to persuade** him to come back home and to contribute to the progress of Tunisia. **(10 marks)**

Do not write your name or sign the letter

Dear Sami,

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**Yours,
Selim(a)**

C. LANGUAGE (10 marks)

1/ Circle the right alternative (3 marks)

Do you enjoy learning? Is it a pleasure to discover new things, or do you associate the word "learning" (**in / for / with**) being sat behind a desk at school , being fed information you have (**any / no / none**) control over..? Happily, as adults we can choose what we want to learn and the skills we want to develop. Learning should be a (**lifelong / lifeless / lifelike**) venture that should feature in all stages of your life. Even (**employment / retirement / enrolment**) should be an opportunity to try new things rather than letting it all (**gone / going / go**) because you are no longer doing paid work. Recognizing that learning is not just about books can make the process enjoyable for many. Learning gives you opportunities to discover new skills and (**require / acquire / inquire**) knowledge.

2/ Fill in the blanks with eight words from the box (4 marks)

curious / country / largest / interactive / status / city / fun / more / share / over

The Edinburgh International Science Festival is a public celebration of all the wonders, inventions and innovations of the world of science and technology. Each year hundreds of scientists and technologiststheir passion with the public through a programme of engaging, and accessible talks, workshops, shows and exhibitions. Family friendly events, activities for children and ground-breaking insights from industry experts attract.....minds of all ages and backgrounds. For two weeks every spring, thebecomes a playground with events happening in.....twenty venues. The world's first science festival and Europe'scontinues to astound and amaze confirming Edinburgh's as home to the Enlightenment.

3/ Supply the right tense or form of the bracketed words (3 marks)

Biotechnology, or biotech, will have the biggest impact on our lives in the future. Just as the 19th century (see)..... the industrial revolution and the 20th century is known as the information age, the 21st century will (remember)..... as the biotech era, where working with the human(gene)..... code was commonplace, yet had the power to change society. It will start slowly as laboratory advances (length)..... our lifespan and improve the quality of our lives. With a deeper understanding of the body, it is likely that (science).....will grow replacement organs, eliminating transplant rejection. The body's own cells will be forced to repair brains (ravage)..... by diseases.