

LANGUE VIVANTE OBLIGATOIRE : ANGLAIS

Durée : 2 heures

Avertissement:

- *L'usage de tout système électronique ou informatique est interdit pour cette épreuve.*

L'épreuve comprend trois parties :

I – Thème : 6 points sur 20

II – Compréhension de l'écrit : 6 points sur 20

III – Expression écrite : 8 points sur 20

Vous indiquerez avec précision à la fin de la question de compréhension et à la fin de l'essai, le nombre de mots qu'ils comportent. Un écart de 10% en plus ou en moins sera accepté. Des points de pénalité seront soustraits en cas de non-respect de ces consignes.

I – Traduisez le texte ci-dessous en anglais.

L'évasion du gorille du zoo de Londres, le 13 octobre dernier, avait fait grand bruit. On vient d'apprendre que lors de son escapade il s'est offert un petit plaisir gourmand.

Le quotidien britannique *The Guardian* rapporte ce jeudi les détails de cette évasion. Kumbuka, un gorille au dos argenté, a ainsi profité de ses brefs instants de liberté pour engloutir cinq litres de sirop de cassis non dilué. Une quantité à relativiser lorsqu'on sait que Kumbuka pèse 184 kilos.

The Guardian détaille également la manière dont le gorille s'est échappé. Il n'a eu besoin de casser aucune fenêtre ni cadenas, mais a profité d'une porte déverrouillée temporairement par un employé du zoo, alors qu'une seconde n'avait pas encore été sécurisée. Ce dernier s'est alors retrouvé face-à-face avec l'animal. « Grâce à la relation étroite que partagent l'employé et le gorille, l'employé a pu rassurer Kumbuka, lui parlant calmement, afin de pouvoir quitter les lieux tranquillement », a expliqué le professeur David Field, zoologiste en chef du zoo.

Direct Matin, jeudi 20 octobre 2016

II – Lisez le texte ci-dessous et répondez en anglais à la question qui suit.

Science and maths aren't as important as you think – History of Art taught me more about life than biology

Rosie Millard, *The Independent*, 14 October 2016

Imagine being told you will never be given the chance to study the works of Charles Dickens at school, because learning about Victorian literature is “soft”, overtly “specialist” and not relevant. Actually, not just Victorian literature. Any literature – or music. Or actually, any creativity from the past. It's all just a bit posh and a bit silly. Furthermore Dickens, Mozart and Shakespeare have nothing to do with STEM, which as we all know is the key to a good career.

This is basically how the thinking goes on the study of History of Art, which has just been abandoned as a subject in English schools both at A Level and AS Level. Why? Because it is “specialist”. Because it necessitates the visiting of galleries. Because it is “soft”.

I did History of Art A-Level in the science lab. We sat on stools and looked at slides of the world’s masterpieces while our teacher Mrs Todd told us about the frescoes by Masaccio. *The Arnolfini Wedding* by van Eyck. Botticelli’s *Mystic Nativity*. In looking at these images, we learned about humanity, about history, about murder, theft, power, propaganda, and love. About philosophy, politics and radical thought. I don’t call that specialist – I call that life.

Because History of Art is not about looking at pretty pictures, or Christmas card-type visions of Madonnas and their bambinos. It really isn’t. Go to the National Portrait Gallery, and look at the pictures of the hatchet-faced Tudors. Go to the National Gallery, and look at the sheer erotica of *The Rokeby Venus*. Marvel at the working ethos evinced in Seurat’s bathers. I could go on. There are a lot of cultural issues to unpack from these canvasses.

About ten years ago I enrolled on the part-time “Survey” course, unofficially dubbed “from Plato to Nato” at the Courtauld Institute in London. We did everything: Greek sculpture, Gothic architecture to Damien Hirst. This is when I really grasped how vital History of Art is. It is essentially the history of a culture in a specific place; it is what society in Rome, Nairobi, Paris or Beijing at that time thought was important.

Radical politics, as evinced by the groupings of the Magi around a Nativity scene. Sexual politics, as seen in a woman on a swing. Paeans to industry, to patriotism, to religion, devotion, savagery, wealth, and escapism – the world’s galleries reveal the very heart and soul of human life, thought and emotion, poured out over thousands of years across the world on canvas, on wood, and in marble, bronze, terracotta and straw. And studying History of Art shines a light on it, just as studying biology helps you understand plants.

“Oh well” say the examining boards. “People can always pick up History of Art at university.” Really? Without an early grounding, why on earth would you ever choose History of Art? And without the confidence of seeing the subject provided at A Level, how could any student take the subject seriously?

Yes, you can pick up much from audio-guides. But closing the educative door for young people in the visual arts is criminal. All but the most determined autodidact will wander through the rooms at Glasgow’s Burrell Collection, the Walker in Liverpool, or the National in London, not knowing, because they will have no context. You will see solemn Madonnas clutching tiny babies. You will see a horse with no saddle, rearing. You will see a bunch of sunflowers. You will see wallpaper.

What does Rosie Millard think of the fact that History of Art has been abandoned as a subject in English schools? Answer in your own words ($\pm 10\%$).

III – Rédigez en anglais un essai en 200 mots ($\pm 10\%$).

Is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) really more important than History of Art? Justify your answer with examples.

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