

**BACCALAUREAT
SESSION 2009**

SÉRIE A1 — Coefficient : 4

SÉRIE A2 — Coefficient : 2

Durée : 3 h

LANGUE VIVANTE 1: ANGLAIS

Cette épreuve comporte trois (03) pages numérotées 1/3, 2/3 et 3/3.

Do all the activities of this examination paper on your answer sheet.

PART ONE : READING 40%

Read the text below and do the tasks that follow.

We can no longer « wait »

This text is an excerpt from "Letter from Birmingham Jail" by Martin Luther King Jr. a response to a published statement of his fellow clergymen from Alabama in 1963.

One of the basic points in your statement is that the action that I and my associates have taken in Birmingham is untimely...

05 We know through painful experience that freedom is never voluntarily given by the oppressor; it must be demanded by the oppressed. Frankly, I have yet to engage in a direct-action campaign that was "well timed" in the view of those who have not suffered unduly from the disease of segregation. For years now I have heard the word "Wait!". It rings in the ear of every Negro with piercing familiarity. This "Wait" has almost always meant "Never." We must come to see, with one of our
10 distinguished jurists, that "justice too long delayed is justice denied."

We have waited for more than 340 years for our constitutional and God-given rights. The nations of Asia and Africa are moving with jetlike speed toward gaining political independence, but we will creep at horse-and-buggy pace toward gaining a cup of coffee at a lunch counter. Perhaps it is easy for those who have never felt the stinging darts of segregation to say, "Wait." But when you have
15 seen vicious mobs lynch your mothers and fathers at will and drown your sisters and brothers at whim; when you have seen hate-filled policemen curse, kick and even kill your black brothers and sisters; when you see the vast majority of your twenty million Negro brothers smothering in an airtight cage of poverty in the midst of an affluent society; when you suddenly find your tongue
20 twisted and your speech stammering as you seek to explain to your six-year-old daughter why she can't go to the public amusement park that has just been advertised on television, and see tears welling up in her eyes when she is told that Funtown is closed to colored children, and see ominous clouds of inferiority beginning to form in her little mental sky, and see her beginning to distort her personality by developing an unconscious bitterness toward white people; when you have to concoct
25 an answer for a five-year-old son who is asking: "Daddy, why do white people treat colored people so mean?" ; when you take a cross-country drive and find it necessary to sleep night in the uncomfortable corners of your automobile because no motel will accept you; when you are humiliated day in and day out by nagging signs reading "white" and "colored"; when your first name becomes "nigger," your middle name becomes "boy" (however old you are) and your last name becomes "John", and your wife and mother are never given the respected title "Mrs." ; when

Tournez la page S.V.P.

- 30 you are harried by day and haunted by night by the fact that you are a Negro, living constantly at tiptoe stance, never quite knowing what to expect next, and are plagued with inner fears and outer resentments; when you are forever fighting a degenerating sense of “nobodiness” – then you will understand why we find it difficult to wait. There comes a time when the cup of endurance runs over, and men are no longer willing to be plunged into the abyss of despair. I hope, sirs, you can
- 35 understand our legitimate and unavoidable impatience.

Adapted from *Why we can't wait* by Martin Luther KING Jr., pp. 80-81-82.

COMPREHENSION CHECK

A. The words and expressions of column A are in the text. Match them with their synonyms or meanings in column B according to the text. Example: 1. excerpt – i. extract

A	B
1. excerpt (L. 1)	a. for no reason
2. clergymen (L. 2)	b. angry crowds
3. unduly (L. 7)	c. very fast
4. delayed (L. 10)	d. flowing, pouring down.
5. jet like speed (L. 12)	e. deform, pervert
6. mobs (L. 15)	f. badly
7. curse (L. 16)	g. postponed
8. welling up (L. 21)	h. frightened, obsessed
9. distort (L.22)	i. extract
10. mean (L. 25)	j. call evil on someone
11. haunted (L. 30)	k. men of God

B. Give short answers to the following questions .

1. What is the author's view about how to gain freedom?
2. What is segregation said to be?
3. Why does not Martin Luther King Jr. like the word “wait”?
4. According to King, which of these two struggles obtain quicker results, the fight for independence in Asia and Africa or the one for civil rights in America?
5. How do the police treat the Blacks?
6. What feelings may coloured children develop face to racial segregation?
7. Which people are called “John”, the white or the coloured? Who calls them so?
8. Why don't the white call coloured women “Mrs”?
9. What constant fight do Negroes have to undertake?
10. What does Martin Luther King Jr. expect from his fellow clergymen?

PART TWO: WRITING 40%

Do only one of the following two tasks.

Task 1 (25 lines) :

As an activity of the English Speaking Club of your school, you are asked to give a presentation on the following topic “Foreigners are harassed in one way or another, in some African countries. Give examples of situations you or someone you know experienced.”

Task 2 (25 lines):

“There are too many armed conflicts around the world today, and the causes are numerous and similar”, wrote a journalist of an international magazine.

As a student of English, write an article to be published in WEST AFRICA, an African Magazine showing the major causes of wars in Africa and suggesting some solutions.

PART THREE : LANGUAGE IN USE 20%

- A. Select the appropriate words from the box to fill in each of the numbered gaps in the text. There are more words than gaps. Write down your answers like this : Example: 1 – grew.

between – would be – how – grew – what – everyone – all right –
recurring – like – looking – to break – humour - sighing

I have had my share of harrowing ordeals. As my legs (1) weaker, falling down became a (2) problem. More than once, I fell backward and split my scalp open. My muscles would lock up, so I would fall down (3) a tree. Those around me (4) horrified and rush to my aid. But I would often make a joke (5) the tension. I have always tried to maintain a sense of (6) What else could I do? I could get angry about (7) difficult my life was becoming but (8) good would that have done?

One night when I was out with my wife and two friends, I suddenly fell backward and hit my head. I remember the three concerned faces (9) down at me and one of my friends asking if I was (10)

“Yes” I said “but I’m seeing stars.”

“Are you serious?” my friend asked.

“Really, look,” I replied, pointing to the sky. “They’re beautiful.” (11) laughed.

- B. Select the appropriate words from the box to fill in each of the numbered blank spaces in the text. One word can be used more than once. Write down your answers like this :
Example: 1 – like.

in – for – on – to – but – beyond – who – only - like

What is it (1) to be a refugee? Try to imagine you are living (2) peace, but suddenly your whole world changes. Overnight, neighbours become enemies. Soldiers are coming who will loot and burn your home. You have ten minutes to pack and flee (3) your life. You can take (4) one small bag since you will have (5) carry it (6) many miles. What will you put in it?

You leave amid sounds of gunfire and artillery.

You join others (7) are also fleeing. Days pass, you shuffle (8) hungry, thirsty and unbelievably tired.

To survive, you must drive your body (9) exhaustion.

You sleep (10) the ground. You forage in a field for something to eat. You approach a safe country, (11) border guards will not let you cross. Then search your bag and seize everything of value. You find another checkpoint and cross the river.