

# BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

**SESSION 2011**

**ANGLAIS**

**LANGUE VIVANTE 1**

**Séries ES - S**

Durée de l'épreuve 3 heures – Coefficient : 3

*L'usage de la calculatrice et du dictionnaire n'est pas autorisé.*

Dès que ce sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.  
Ce sujet comporte 4 pages numérotées de 1/4 à 4/4.

Compréhension et traduction	10 points
Expression	10 points

There were lots of fathers in the playground that morning, and lots of children seeking attention and not getting any. Most nannies, it would appear, had the day off on Sundays, and the deal was that fathers got to spend quality time with their children in the playground while the mothers stayed at home and did whatever it was they couldn't do the rest of the week when their nannies were looking after the children. In practice this seemed to mean that the children were left mainly to their own forlorn, bewildered devices while the fathers, heavily freighted not just with newspapers but also pint-sized paper cups from Starbucks and Coffee Republic, attempted to do on the playground benches exactly what they would have done at home, given the chance.

Coriander wanted to go on the see-saw next. While he was pushing her up and down, Benjamin looked across at a pair of diminutive swings in the corner and watched a curious drama unfold. There were two little girls on the swings, but neither of them was doing any swinging. One of them, a grave-looking toddler with pale eyes and brown ringlets, was sitting bored and motionless while her father leaned against the metal frame of the swing and scoured the pages of the *Herald Tribune*. The other girl – not at all dissimilar in looks and colourings – was trying to give her swing some much-needed momentum with thrusts of her own body, but hadn't got the hang of that move yet. 'Daddy, Daddy!' she started calling, but her father didn't hear her, and besides, he had a cappuccino in one hand and, in the other, a mobile phone on which he seemed to be talking to a business colleague in Sydney. Both the girls' swings were completely at rest when this second father, concluding his call, took a final swig from the coffee cup, tossed it in the rubbish bin, lifted one of the girls into his arms and headed off in the direction of the playground gate. What interested Benjamin about this situation was that he had *not* picked up the girl who had addressed him as 'Daddy'. She remained in one of the stationary swings, staring with mounting distress at the receding figure of the man who was presumably her father. Meanwhile the *Herald Tribune* reader read on, happily unaware that his own daughter was in the process of being benignly abducted.

Neither of the adults seemed likely to notice the mistake, and the little girls seemed too stunned to say anything.

Jonathan Coe, *The Closed Circle*, 2004.

NOTE IMPORTANTE AUX CANDIDATS :

Les candidats traiteront tous les exercices **sur la copie** qui leur sera fournie et veilleront à :

- respecter l'**ordre des questions** et reporter la **numérotation** sur la copie (numéro de l'exercice et, le cas échéant, la lettre repère ; ex. : 1a, 1b, etc.)
- composer des phrases complètes à chaque fois qu'il leur est demandé de rédiger. Le **nombre de mots** indiqué constitue une exigence minimale. En l'absence d'indication, les candidats répondront brièvement (moins de 20 mots) à la question posée.
- faire précéder les citations éventuellement demandées du **numéro de ligne** dans le texte.

**COMPREHENSION**

1 - Where does the scene take place?

2 - How many characters are there in the second paragraph? How are they connected?

3 - What day of the week is it?

4 – Answer the following questions:

- 4.1 What would the fathers normally do at home?
- 4.2 Why are they in the playground? What are they supposed to do?
- 4.3 Why aren't the mothers in the playground?

5 -

- 5.1 Find three quotes showing that the children aren't happy with this situation.
- 5.2 Would you agree that the children are spending "quality time" with their fathers?

6 -

- 6.1 How is Benjamin different from the other two fathers? Illustrate your answer using the text.
- 6.2 What are the two fathers busy doing?

7 – Say whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE and justify your answers using the text.

7.1 The two girls don't look alike.

7.2 Their fathers' attitudes are similar.

8 - What is the "mistake" referred to at the end? Why is the word "mistake" well-chosen?

**9** - What does the narrator imply about how some fathers and mothers perform their parental duties?

**10** - Translate: from line1 “There were lots of fathers...” to line 5 “...when their nannies were looking after the children.”

### **EXPRESSION**

Choose one of the two subjects, A or B:

**A** - Imagine what happens next. Continue the story. (300 words)

OR

**B** - Discuss the importance of spending “quality time” in a family, illustrate your answer with examples based on your experience. (300 words)