

I -COMPRÉHENSION -EXPRESSION

1. a) Who are the characters present in the scene?

The characters present are Sam, Robert, Alicia and another woman.

- b) How are they related to one another?

Sam is Alicia's boyfriend. Robert is Alicia's father, and the woman is Alicia's mother.

2. Who is telling the story?

The story is told by Sam.

3. Who are the characters mentioned in the scene and how are they related to the narrator?

The characters mentioned are Sam's parents.

4. What is the main subject of conversation? (10-15 words)

The conversation is about Sam's choice of studies once he has finished secondary school.

(14 words)

5. a) What are the narrator's interests in the text?

The narrator is interested in skating.

- b) What isn't he interested in?

He isn't interested in studying.

6. a) What could Alicia's mother mean when she says: "*You haven't had the same advantages as a lot of people.*" (ll. 20-21)? (30-40 words)

Apparently, Sam's parents got divorced or his dad ran away some time ago, and for Alicia's mother, Sam was deprived of the love and support of a father, something people like Alicia got. (33 words)

- b) What is the narrator's point of view on the subject? Use elements from the text to support your answer. (40-50 words)

Contrary to Alicia's mother, Sam is quite glad his dad is not around ("my dad not being around was a good thing" ll. 24-25) since his opinion on school and studying is rather not encouraging, not to say negative ("what a waste of time it was getting qualifications" ll. 29-30).

For his Dad, it's not worth spoiling your time at school and good money can be made without diploma and qualification ("he's always made decent money." l. 28). (49 words)

7. a) What do Alicia's parents think about school? (Add one quotation to your answer)

Alicia's parents think school is very important. ("people like Alicia's parents are concerned, you're a bad person if you don't read and study." ll. 30-31)

b) What about Sam's father and mother? (Add one quotation for each character)

Sam's father thinks it is a wrong thing to do ("(...) people like my dad are concerned, you're a bad person if you do" ll. 31-32) **while his mother reckons studying really matters** ("She was desperate to go to college" l. 27)

c) In your own words, say what is really important for Sam. (15 words)

What is really important for Sam is to be a good person, regardless of diploma. (15 words)

8. " 'Go on, Mum. Try and finish the sentence in a way that doesn't piss Sam off.' " (ll. 40-41)

Choose **two** adjectives in the following list to qualify Alicia's attitude towards Sam, and include them in one sentence: critical supportive protective provocative ironical

Alicia is **critical** of the way her mother suggests Sam is not gifted for studying, and she is also **ironical** when she implies her mother might not be capable of finishing her sentence without hurting Sam's feelings.

9. Explain the sentence: "And I did, but that's not the same as saying I liked it." (l. 41-42).
(30-40 words)

Sam is perfectly aware of his lack of interest in learning and studying, or, to put it frankly, his lack of abilities, but still finds it hard to admit it or hear it in front of other people. (38 words)

Seuls les candidats de la série L traiteront cette question.

Translate from line 1 "At that family lunch..." down to line 6 " ...any future at all."

A ce repas de famille, où j'étais invité parce que je faisais partie de la famille, j'étais tranquillement dans mon coin, à m'occuper de mes affaires quand son père me demanda ce que j'allais faire après le brevet.

"Tout le monde n'est pas fait pour les études, Robert", déclara d'un trait la maman d'Alicia.

Vous voyez comment ça marchait ? Elle essayait de me protéger, mais ce dont elle essayait de me protéger, c'était d'une question quant à savoir si j'avais un avenir ou non.