

<b>SESSION PRINCIPALE</b>	REPUBLIQUE TUNISIENNE MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION ET DE LA FORMATION *** <b>EXAMEN DU BACCALAUREAT - SESSION DE JUIN 2008</b> ***	<b>ANCIEN REGIME</b>
<b>SECTIONS : LETTRES + ECONOMIE ET GESTION</b> <b>EPREUVE : ANGLAIS DUREE : 2 h COEF. : 2</b>		

## I - READING COMPREHENSION ( 14 marks )

### A Good Hand

1. Every evening in April of this year, at 8 p.m., countless people in Taiwan gravitated toward their television sets. Soon their eyes were riveted to the screen, which showed the story of how a man from a financially deprived family, who had lost both arms, one leg, and sight to one eye bravely overcame his handicap and lived out the values of his life. The program they were watching was *A Good Hand*, a 30-segment TV serial aired daily on the Tzu Chi Great Love TV channel. It was based on the true-life story of a man called Kun-shan. Now 46, Kun-shan sustained severe injuries in a work-related accident when he was 16 years old. His life completely changed after that. Yet, he refused to be defeated by the heavy blow. Deprived of his hands, he taught himself to paint with his mouth and even became an excellent painter.

2. Many people are familiar with his story, which has even been incorporated in middle school textbooks. Nevertheless, when people saw his life played out scene after scene, the impact was still great. "One night, Kun-shan, who was learning to draw with his mouth after he lost his hands, ran out of sharpened pencils", said Ho Yi, a viewer. "Because his family members were asleep, he didn't want to bother them. So he held a knife in his mouth, and slowly, strenuously, one difficult stroke after another, learned to sharpen a pencil. When I saw that scene, tears ran uncontrollably down my cheeks." "I'm impressed by Kun-shan's will-power and determination. I'm also impressed by his ability to focus on the positive, to look on the bright side," said Ms. Hsiao Chu-chen, director of *A Good Hand*. He says that he doesn't think very much of what he has lost – he only cherishes what he still has. In our eyes, he really lost a lot. Yet, he says that he still has one leg, one eye, and a short stump of arm."

3. With his "never lose hope" attitude, Kun-shan provides an excellent example for many to follow. That is why the Tzu Chi TV station decided to adapt his story into a serial. If people can look at Kun-shan, they may be inspired to cherish what they have and not be defeated by failure and disappointments in life.

Adapted from *A Good Hand* (a TV serial)  
by Wu Hsia-Ting



Sections : Lettres + Economie et Gestion ( session principale)

## QUESTIONS

1. Pick out complete sentences that show the following statements are false. (3 marks)

a – The story adapted by the Tzu Chi Great Love TV Channel is an imaginary one. (paragraph 1)

.....

b – Kun-shan's future was not affected by his accident . (paragraph 1)

.....

c – Ho Yi, a television viewer had no emotional reaction when she watched Kun-shan learning how to sharpen a pencil. (paragraph 2)

.....

2. Answer the following questions with reference to the text. (2 marks)

a – Why can we say that Kun-shan was poor ?

We can say that Kun-shan was poor because he comes .....

.....

b – Why can Kun-shan's story help other people ?

Kun-shan's story can help other people because it .....

.....

3. Complete the following summary with words from the text. (4 marks)

Every evening at 8 p.m, thousands of people gathered around their TV sets to watch *A Good Hand*, a daily ..... based on the story of a man who – despite the ..... of his arms, one leg and one eye – ..... his disabilities thanks to his determination and .....

4. What does the expression " the heavy blow " (paragraph 1) mean in this text ? (1 mark)

In this text, the expression " the heavy blow " means .....

.....

5. What does the word " He" underlined in the text refer to ? (1 mark)

He (paragraph 2) refers to .....

6. Find in paragraph 2 the words meaning nearly the same as : (2 marks)

a – with great effort = .....

b – loves = .....

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

How do you feel about Kun-shan ?

I ..... because .....

.....

## II – LANGUAGE (16 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with eight words from the box. (4 marks)

care – sharing – fear – surviving – flocked – them – sight – worse – pride – on .

War continues to inflict intense misery and terror on millions of inhabitants. Large numbers of people have ..... to cities where a common ..... is a dirty hut with ten people ..... a single room, with two or three mattresses between ..... and the rest sleeping ..... the floor. The lack of access to affordable, adequate health ..... only makes these desperate problems ..... Living in a climate of permanent ..... is also causing a lot of damage.

2. Circle the right alternative (4.5 marks)

Experts were shocked at the results of a study released last week. After four years of intensive ( **rehearsal** – **research** – **report** ) by more than 250 scientists, a multinational organisation ( **called** – **entitled** – **applied** ) the Arctic Council reported that the region has warmed twice as fast as the rest of the globe ( **over** – **at** – **from** ) the past fifty years. Arctic Ocean ice has become smaller by as ( **many** – **often** – **much** ) as 20%. And it's getting worse. By 2100, the report ( **performs** – **broadcasts** – **predicts** ) , temperatures could ( **rise** – **raise** – **arouse** ) further still, endangering indigenous Arctic ways of life, destabilizing roads ( **who** – **which** – **whose** ) support mining and oil drilling, disrupting ecosystems and ( **threatening** – **promoting** – **loathing** ) the very existence of some species, ( **furthermore** – **including** – **moreover** ) the polar bear.

**3. Put the bracketed words in the right tense or form. (4.5 marks)**

The greatest natural resource of any country is its children : no matter what the national challenge, from peace to **(poor)** ....., disease or the environment, education is always part of the **(solve)** ..... . Some learning comes from teaching, but a great deal also comes from **(explore)** ....., interaction and sheer curiosity. In fact, that is how people usually learn how **(walk)** ..... and talk, not by **( sit )** ..... in a classroom. We need **( involve )** ..... the children themselves, not just as **( learn )** ....., but also as instructors and coaches, for themselves and others. The key here is not so much what each child **( know )** ....., it is the point of view that he or she can bring to bear on a problem. And if such learning were supplemented by technology, computers and connectivity, it **( work )** ..... supremely well.

**4. Match the sentence parts in Column A with the appropriate ones in Column B to get a coherent paragraph. The sentence parts in Column A are in the right order. Be careful, there is an extra sentence part in Column B. Write your answers in the boxes below. (3marks)**

Column A	Column B
1. As the 21 <sup>st</sup> century begins, faster economic globalization is going	a) of the unavoidable trend towards worldwide uniformity.
2. More and more people are being encouraged	b) hand in hand with the growing use of English.
3. Many do not mind and see this as part	c) but is simply a means of reaching a wider audience.
4. Besides, they consider it as a means of	d) to use or send messages in English rather than in their own language.
5. From this point of view, the spread of English may be seen as a	e) threatening international relationships.
6. After all, the advance of English isn't aimed at killing off local languages	f) direct communication with each other.
	g) positive development which makes cultural exchange easier.

Answers	1 + ...	2 + ...	3 + ...	4 + ...	5 + ...	6 + ...
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### III – WRITING (10 marks)

1. There are six mistakes in the following paragraph. They have been underlined and numbered for you. Write the correction of each mistake in the space provided. (3 marks).

I have always been a keen gardener and there are very few tasks in maintain<sup>1</sup> the garden that I really dislike, but I have to say that keeping the garden free of rooted-deep<sup>2</sup> weeds has always been a tiresome task that I try to avoid. The trouble is the long<sup>3</sup> you leave them, the worse the job eventually become<sup>4</sup> and simply taking the tops of the weeds off means that the root will grew<sup>5</sup> back stronger and within a short while the job has to be do<sup>6</sup> again.

- 1.....  
2.....  
3.....  
4.....  
5.....  
6.....

2. Your friend's parents, Mr and Mrs Smith, offered to have you live with them in Canada in order to continue your university studies. They also suggested you settle down in Canada as it would be easy for you to find a job there. Write them a 12-line letter in which you either accept or decline their offer, stating the reasons for your decision. (7 marks)

N.B: DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME OR SIGN THE LETTER

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith,

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Yours,  
Sami(a)