

# BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

SESSION 2012

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**ANGLAIS**

Séries **L** et **S**

LANGUE VIVANTE 2

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Série **L**

Durée 3 heures – Coefficient 4

Série **S**

Durée 2 heures – Coefficient 2

*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	10 points
Expression	10 points

Adam now leapt over the fence of the triangle on to the Embankment pavement as if it were the most natural, unconcerned thing in the world. Conscious of the new reward advertisements, he was not wearing his raincoat nor carrying his briefcase. He was wearing his tie, however – in an effort to look presentable – and he had his wallet, credit cards and mobile phone on him. His dense, growing beard made him look vaguely disreputable but he hoped the suit and the tie would counterbalance this. He had a strange confidence in his invisibility in the city – he was already a long way from the man pictured in that wedding photo, so widely disseminated: nobody was going to connect this new version of Adam Kindred with that one. He was also aware that he had £18.78 on him – all his cash.

He had thought about using his card to extract more cash from the many cash machines he passed but he had sensed instinctively that the only way to avoid detection in a modern twenty-first-century city was to take no advantage of the services it offered – telephonic, financial, social, transportational, welfare-related and so on. If you made no call, paid no bills, had no address, never voted, walked everywhere, made no credit card transactions or used cash-point machines, never fell ill or asked for state support, then you slipped beneath the modern world’s cognizance. You became invisible or at least transparent, your anonymity so secure you could move through the city – uncomfortably, yes, enviously, prudently, yes – like an urban ghost. The city was full of people like him, Adam recognized. He saw them huddled in doorways or passed-out in public parks, begging outside shops, sitting slumped and wordless on benches. He had read somewhere that every week in Britain some 600 people were reported as missing – almost 100 people a day – that there was a population of over 200,000 missing people in this country, enough to fill a sizeable provincial city. This lost, vanished population of Great Britain had just gained a new member. Nobody appeared able to find these missing people unless they themselves wanted to be found and gave themselves up or returned home – they just seemed to disappear, swallowed up – and Adam thought it shouldn’t be too difficult to join their number as long as he didn’t make any foolish mistakes. He tried not to think how he was going to survive when his money ran out tomorrow or the next day.

He Tubed to Rotherhithe and, emerging from the Underground station, asked a mother with two young children where he could find St Botolph’s Hospital.

‘St Bot’s?’ She pointed. ‘Just head down to the river. Can’t miss it.’ [ . . . ]

Adam followed signs to the reception atrium and stepped into a space that reminded him more of a huge convention hotel in Miami or an airport terminal.

[ . . . ] The mood was calm and unhurried – like an ante-room to heaven, Adam thought, as he wandered deeper into the atrium, his ear now picking up some inoffensive jazzy music. Nobody asked him who he was or what he was doing here; he imagined he could live in this building for days, unnoticed, as long as he drew no attention to himself. But then he saw the CCTV cameras everywhere – small and discreet, barely moving this way and that – nothing was that simple any more.

He went to a desk set beneath a superimposed blue neon ‘i’ where a girl in an apricot overall smiled welcome at him. The name badge on her breast read ‘Fatima’.

'I'm looking for Dr Philip Wang', he said, and she typed Wang's name into her computer. He watched carefully to see if any alarm or curiosity registered on her face but there was none. He might have asked for Dr John Smith.

45 'Felicity de Vere Wing, level six,' she said.

'Thank you, Fatima.'

Following Fatima's directions, Adam headed towards a cluster of glass and steel columns that contained the scenic elevators serving the nine floors of St Botolph's.

William Boyd, *Ordinary Thunderstorms*, 2009

### NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

**Les candidats traiteront le sujet sur la copie qui leur sera fournie et veilleront à :**

- **respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter la numérotation sur la copie ;**
- **faire précéder les citations de la mention de la ligne (numéro et lettre repère, le cas échéant ; exemple : 8b) ;**
- **composer des phrases complètes à chaque fois qu'il leur est demandé de rédiger la réponse ;**
- **respecter le nombre de mots indiqué. En l'absence d'indication, les candidats répondront brièvement à la question posée.**

#### I. COMPRÉHENSION

1. How much does the reader learn about the main character and his present situation from line 1 to line 9? Answer in your own words. (20 words)
2. Where is the main character? Justify with at least two elements from the text.

#### From line 1 to line 28

3. What is his purpose? Answer in your own words.
4. What has he already done to achieve this? Answer in your own words and justify with two quotes.
5. a) Line 18: "... like an urban ghost" What kind of person is an "urban ghost"?  
b) Has the main character become one yet? Justify your answer.
6. How does he feel about the decision he has made? Answer in your own words and justify with two quotes (20 words, quotes not included).

**From line 29 to the end.**

7. a) Where is the main character going? What for?  
b) How does he feel about this place? Answer in your own words (30 words).

**Read the whole text again.**

8. What can we infer about the kind of life he used to have? Justify with three elements from the text (40 words, quotes not included).
9. Line 18: "*The city was full of people like him.*" Explain in your own words who these different people are and how he relates to them (40 words).

## **10. Traduction**

**Seuls les candidats de la série L réaliseront cet exercice.**

Translate into French from line 43 ("*He watched . . .*") down to the end of the text ("*. . . of St Botolph's*").

## **II. EXPRESSION**

**Les candidats de la série S choisiront de traiter l'UN des deux sujets au choix (200 mots, +/- 10%).**

**Les candidats de la série L devront obligatoirement traiter les DEUX sujets (300 mots au total, soit environ 150 mots, +/- 10% pour chaque sujet).**

**Sujet 1 :** Imagine a sequel to the story.

**Sujet 2 :** Modern technologies enable us to remain connected to the rest of the world. Discuss.