

SECTION INTERNATIONALE BRITANNIQUE

CONCOURS D'ENTRÉE

Lycée International Victor Hugo, Colomiers: Wednesday 06/03/2024 14:00-16:00

Please read all the instructions carefully before beginning the test

Instructions

- This test lasts for two hours.
- There are two parts to the test, part A and part B. You must answer both parts.
- Please answer each part on separate answer sheets.
- You are advised to spend one hour on each part.
- You may use the paper provided to make notes and plan your answers.
- No dictionaries or reference books or any electronic device such as a mobile phone may be used during the test.
- You must not communicate with anyone during the test.
- If you have any questions, raise your hand.

Part A – Reading Comprehension (1 hour) (30 marks)

Read the passage below then answer the questions on the exam paper provided. Your answers must be given in your own words and in complete sentences. You must not lift vocabulary or extracts from the text unless you are using those to justify your answer(s). The number of marks awarded for each question is given in brackets.

Title: The Enigmatic Case of the Stolen Locket

In the quiet, unassuming town of Willowbrook, nestled between rolling hills and whispering forests, a mystery was afoot. The town's tranquillity was shattered when the news of the theft of a precious locket spread like wildfire. The locket, a family heirloom passed down through generations, belonged to the esteemed Winters family.

The Winters family, known for their philanthropy and community spirit, were prominent figures in Willowbrook. The locket, encrusted with precious stones and engraved with intricate patterns, had been the pride of the Winters family for centuries. It was an object of great sentimental value, holding memories and stories of generations past.

The theft of the locket sent shockwaves through the town. The residents, accustomed to a peaceful existence, were now gripped with fear and uncertainty. Who could have committed such a heinous act? The locket had been kept safe under lock and key, hidden away in the Winters' family vault, yet it had vanished without a trace.

As the town grappled with the loss of the locket, the authorities launched an investigation. Detective Harrison, a seasoned investigator with a sharp mind and keen eye for detail, was assigned to the case. He arrived in Willowbrook, determined to unravel the mystery and bring the culprit to justice.

The detective began his investigation by interviewing the Winters family and their staff. He questioned everyone who had access to the vault, meticulously examining their alibis and scrutinizing their statements. However, his efforts yielded no results. The Winters family and their staff were all accounted for during the time of the theft, leaving the detective at a loss.

As the days passed, the detective's frustration grew. He scoured the town, searching for any clues or leads that could point him in the right direction. He visited local businesses, questioned residents, and even enlisted the help of the town's amateur sleuths. Yet, the mystery of the stolen locket remained unsolved.

Weeks turned into months, and the detective was no closer to solving the case. The townspeople had lost hope, resigning themselves to the fact that the locket may never be recovered. However, Detective Harrison was not one to give up easily. He continued to pursue the case with **unwavering determination**.

Finally, a breakthrough came when a local shopkeeper reported a suspicious individual lurking around the town's outskirts. The detective immediately sprang into action, racing to the scene. There, he found the suspect, a young man with a troubled past. In his possession was the stolen locket, hidden away in a makeshift hideout.

The detective arrested the suspect, and the stolen locket was returned to the Winters family. The town rejoiced, grateful that justice had been served and the locket had been recovered. Detective Harrison was hailed as a hero, and the Winters family expressed their gratitude for his unwavering dedication to the case.

As the town returned to its peaceful existence, the mystery of the stolen locket remained a cautionary tale. The Winters family vowed to keep the locket safe, ensuring that it would never be stolen again. And Detective Harrison, ever vigilant, continued to serve and protect the town of Willowbrook, ready to face whatever mysteries may come his way.

Questions

1. In your own words, describe the town where the action is taking place. Give at least two details. (2)
2. What was the precious item stolen from the Winters family? (1)
2. In what ways was the stolen item valuable? (3)
3. In your own words describe detective Harrison's profile. (2)
4. The theft was described as a '**heinous act**', what does that mean? (2)
5. How did the detective ultimately solve the case? (1)

6. Why do you think the Winters family was so attached to the locket? (2)
7. What do you think motivated the young man to steal the locket? (2)
8. How do you think the detective felt when he was unable to solve the case initially? (1)
9. What do you think the townspeople learned from the experience of the stolen locket? (2)
10. What does the author mean when describing the detective's 'unwavering determination'? (2)
11. Translate the following extract taken from the text above into French:

The theft of the locket sent shockwaves through the town. The residents, accustomed to a peaceful existence, were now gripped with fear and uncertainty. Who could have committed such a heinous act? The locket had been kept safe under lock and key, hidden away in the Winters' family vault, yet it had vanished without a trace. (10)

Part B - Writing (1 hour) (40 marks)

Answer ONE of the questions below on a separate sheet:

Write at least 300 words on a separate sheet of paper. Please pay careful attention to spelling, punctuation, grammar and communication. You must organise your thoughts clearly and try to come up with your own conclusion on the chosen question.

1. Will all artists be eventually replaced by artificial intelligence?

Or

2. Do you agree with the sentiment expressed by the renowned physicist Albert Einstein, who once said, 'The world will not be destroyed by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything'?"

Or

3. Should school uniforms be compulsory across all schools in France?

Or

4. Sociologist Erving Goffman famously described social life as a series of performances, suggesting that individuals constantly manage their self-presentation in various social contexts. With the rise of social media platforms, how do you believe this notion of self-presentation and identity management has been transformed? Discuss the impact of social media on personal identity, relationships, and societal norms, considering both the positive and negative aspects of this digital age phenomenon.