

# BACCALAURÉAT GÉNÉRAL

SESSION 2018

ANGLAIS

LANGUE VIVANTE 1

Durée de l'épreuve : **3 heures**

Séries **ES** et **S** – coefficient : **3**

Série **L** Langue vivante obligatoire (LVO) – coefficient : **4**

Série **L** LVO et Langue vivante approfondie (LVA) – coefficient : **8**

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 5 pages numérotées de 1/5 à 5/5.**

<b>Compréhension</b>	<b>10 points</b>
<b>Expression</b>	<b>10 points</b>

## Document A

### “Technology destroys people and places. I’m rejecting it”, by Mark Boyle

I’ll never know how many people liked this article, shared it or found it irrelevant, anti-progressive or ironic. Nor will I get to read comments about my personal hygiene, or suggesting that a luddite<sup>1</sup> like me needs to embrace industrialism. [...]

5 The reason I won’t see any web reaction is because I live in a cabin – built with spruce, oak, hands, straw, Douglas fir, stubbornness, earth and knees – without electricity or so-called modern conveniences (I’ve never found doing the work to buy and maintain them particularly convenient).

10 From Wednesday, I’m rejecting the world of complex technology entirely. That means no laptop, no internet, no phone, no washing machine, no tapped water, no gas, no fridge, no television or electronic music; no anything requiring the copper-mining, oil-rigging, plastics-manufacturing essential to the production of a single toaster or solar photovoltaic system.

15 Having already rejected these industrial-scale, complex technologies, I intend to move fully towards what is pejoratively called primitive technology. [...] That probably sounds like I’ve given up a lot of stuff. But while I intend to be clear and honest about the difficulties involved over the coming months, especially in the digital age, I’m just as fascinated in exploring what lessons about life – myself, society, the natural world – I might learn; perhaps things my cyborg-mind cannot yet imagine. That was my experience of living without money for three fine years.

20 Rejecting technologies that my generation considers to be the basic necessities of life wasn’t done on a thoughtless whim. I already miss not being able to pick up the phone and talk to my parents. [...]

25 I decided to eschew complex technology for two reasons. The first was that I found myself happier away from screens and the relentless communication they generate, and instead living intimately with my locale. The second, more important, was the realisation that technology destroys, in more ways than one.

30 It destroys our relationship with the natural world. It first separates us from nature, while simultaneously converting life into the cash that oils consumerist society. Not only does it enable us to destroy habitat efficiently, over time this separation has led us to valuing the natural world less, meaning we protect and care for it less. By way of this vicious technological cycle, we are consciously causing the sixth mass extinction of species. [...]

*The Guardian*, 19 December 2016

<sup>1</sup> The Luddites were a group of English textile workers who protested the use of machinery in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

## Document B

### In Thoreau's footsteps

He retreated to a cabin by a pond and wrote *Walden*, the most influential guide to happy living ever. As his devotees (modestly) celebrate his bicentennial, our writer follows in the footsteps of Henry David Thoreau. [...]

5 In the century and a half since it was published in 1854, *Walden* – and by its grace Thoreau – have become bright stars in the constellation of American classics. A young visionary, holed up in a cabin on land owned by a wealthy friend, Ralph Waldo Emerson, details his dissatisfaction with the world around him and the encroaching Industrial Revolution. Against a world that gushed over competitive progress, Thoreau preaches a radical freedom as an antidote to “lives of quiet desperation” and crass consumer zeal. He exhorts men – women are almost entirely omitted – to give up everything that keeps them imprisoned in the “factitious cares and coarse labours of life”. [...]

10 To a modern reader, *Walden* reads like a combination of how-to-do minimalism and an inspirational poster. It is the ancestor of all the modern guides on how to live and eat and think purely – not by an author with a minder and a splashy book deal, but by a man hellbent on reminding everyone that “money is not required to buy one necessity of the soul”. [...]

*The Guardian*, 12 July 2017 (abridged)

## Document C

I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not, when I came to die, discover that I had not lived. I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear; nor did I wish to practise resignation, unless it was quite necessary. I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life, to cut a broad swath and shave close, to drive life into a corner, and reduce it to its lowest terms, and, if it proved to be mean, why then to get the whole and genuine meanness of it, and publish its meanness to the world; or if it were sublime, to know it by experience, and be able to give a true account of it in my next excursion. [...]

Henri David Thoreau, *Walden or Life in the Woods*, 1854, chapter 2

## NOTE AUX CANDIDATS

Les candidats traitent le sujet sur la copie qui leur est fournie et veillent à :

- respecter l'ordre des questions et reporter les repères (numéro ou numéro et lettre) sur la copie ;
- faire toujours suivre les citations du numéro de ligne.

Répondre **en anglais** aux questions.

### I COMPRÉHENSION DE L'ÉCRIT (10 points)

#### Document A

1. What has the author decided to do? Give two elements.
2. Say if the following statements are true or false. Quote from the text to justify.
  - A. The author will remain very active on social networks.
  - B. The author thinks living this new life will be easy.
  - C. The author made this decision very quickly.
  - D. The author has already tried to live away from the consumer society.
3. Pick out three elements showing that the author's lifestyle is close to nature.
4. What will this experience bring him?
5. According to the author, what is the impact of technology on our planet? Give three elements and justify by quoting from the text.

**Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent la question 6.**

6. Using elements from the text, comment on the author's personality and motivations.

#### Document B

7. Is Thoreau's *Walden* a famous novel? Support your answer with two quotes.
8. Select two adjectives in the following list to describe Thoreau's personality. Support your choices with one quote for each adjective.

*determined – selfish – idealistic – lazy – greedy*

9. In your own words, explain what Thoreau's motivations were. Give two elements.

**Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent la question 10.**

10. According to the article, is *Walden* still relevant in today's world?

### **Document C**

11. Pick out two elements from the text showing that Thoreau promotes a simple life.

**Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent la question 12.**

12. What strikes you as the main characteristic of Thoreau's life project? Support your answer with quotes from the text.

### **Document A, B and C**

**Tous les candidats traitent la question 13.**

13. How is progress viewed in the three documents?

## **II EXPRESSION ÉCRITE (10 points)**

Afin de respecter l'anonymat de votre copie, vous ne devez pas signer votre composition, citer votre nom, celui d'un camarade ou celui de votre établissement.

**Seuls les candidats des séries ES, S, et ceux de la série L qui ne composent pas au titre de la LVA (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent l'un des deux sujets suivants.**

1. Mark Boyle gives a speech on Buy Nothing Day (an international day of protest against consumerism) to tell about his experience and motivations. Write the speech. (300 mots  $\pm 10\%$ )

OU

2. What would your definition of a simple life be? (300 mots  $\pm 10\%$ )

**Seuls les candidats de la série L composant au titre de la LVA (Langue Vivante Approfondie) traitent les deux sujets suivants.**

1. You've been invited to spend a day with Mark Boyle in his cabin. Write an account of your experience. (150 mots  $\pm 10\%$ )

ET

2. Discuss this statement from document A: "[Technology] destroys our relationship with the natural world" (l. 27). (300 mots  $\pm 10\%$ )