



Pearson  
Edexcel

## Mark Scheme (Results)

Summer 2019

Pearson Edexcel GCE AS Level

In French (8FR0)

Paper 02 : Written Response to Works and  
Translation

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## General Marking Guidance

- All candidates must receive the same treatment. Examiners must mark the first candidate in exactly the same way as they mark the last.
- Mark schemes should be applied positively. Candidates must be rewarded for what they have shown they can do rather than penalised for omissions.
- Examiners should mark according to the mark scheme not according to their perception of where the grade boundaries may lie.
- There is no ceiling on achievement. All marks on the mark scheme should be used appropriately.
- All the marks on the mark scheme are designed to be awarded. Examiners should always award full marks if deserved, i.e. if the answer matches the mark scheme. Examiners should also be prepared to award zero marks if the candidate's response is not worthy of credit according to the mark scheme.
- Where some judgement is required, mark schemes will provide the principles by which marks will be awarded and exemplification may be limited.
- When examiners are in doubt regarding the application of the mark scheme to a candidate's response, the team leader must be consulted.
- Crossed out work should be marked UNLESS the candidate has replaced it with an alternative response.

### Translation

		Answer	Accept
1	French spelling rules	Les règles de l'orthographe française	
2	have now changed	ont maintenant changé	
3	in pupils' textbooks.	dans les livres scolaires des écoliers.	élèves
4	This reform	Cette réforme	
5	will only affect	n'affectera que	
6	4% of French vocabulary,	4% du vocabulaire français,	
7	but teachers might find it difficult	mais les enseignants pourraient la trouver difficile	professeurs d'école/maîtres
8	to apply	à appliquer	
9	and older pupils	et les élèves plus âgés	
10	could be confused.	pourraient être confus.	
11	Although some people are against these changes,	Bien que certains soient contre ces changements,	« des gens » for « certains » Bien qu'il en ait qui sont contre
12	others simply see them	d'autres les voient simplement	
13	as a natural development of the language.	comme une évolution normale de la langue.	un développement normal
14	Pupils used to make	Les élèves faisaient	
15	too many mistakes	trop d'erreurs	fautes
16	when writing	quand ils écrivaient	
17	and it is hoped that	et on espère que	
18	the new system will increase	le nouveau système augmentera	
19	their chances of	leurs chances d'	
20	getting better results.	avoir de meilleurs résultats.	obtenir de meilleures notes

## Indicative content

### 2: a

Boule de Suif's fellow passengers, outwardly the epitome of respectability, treat her with unfeeling contempt and cruelty to further their own ends whilst pretending their motives are honourable. Their behaviour thus underlines the themes of hypocrisy and cowardice expressed by Maupassant

- Towards the end of the tale, having used Boule de Suif to get them out of a difficult situation and save their own skins, they treat her cruelly as they leave the hotel. The contrast with Boule's behaviour on the initial journey is stark.
- The nuns pretend to be pious and explain that Boule's submission to the officer will help them in their mission but in fact they are interested only in saving themselves. Her act, they explain, is a bad means to a good end.
- The Count is an imposing figure who uses all his powers of persuasion to achieve the outcome they all desire. He pretends to be on Boule's side but argues that she will be doing a noble deed in succumbing to the officer.

### 2: b

Two friends, Morissot et Sauvage decide to go fishing in spite of the dangers of the Prussian occupation. Arrested as spies they are shot by the Prussian soldiers. This story starts really innocently and ends up in tragedy.

- Before the occupation, the two friends used to fish together, they used to go and enjoy the nice warmth of the new season. They enjoyed each other's company and have missed fishing together. They reminisce on how wonderful it was to go fishing on a nice day. They go from bar to bar drinking absinthe. Quite tipsy, Sauvage suggests going fishing in spite of the dangers of the war, they can get past the French outpost thanks to his acquaintance in Colombes.
- The significance of Sauvage's name in French is "wild", referring to the wilderness of the nature surrounding them. To him nature is a show. "Quel spectacle!" The significance of Morissot's name could be deriving from the word "sot" meaning stupid. Which leads us to think that stupidity led them to be arrested by the Prussian soldiers.
- They were aware of the political context, this makes their decision even more absurd. The Prussian officer asks for a password that they did not have. They therefore knew they were going to die. After their execution, the Prussian officer orders the fish they had caught to be cooked. Was going fishing worth dying for?

### 3a:

The book opens with the death of the author's father on 27<sup>th</sup> June 1967, two months after she has passed her CAPES in French language and literature. She goes to her family home to prepare for the funeral supported by her family, neighbours and close friends.

- The mass and burial take place, after which everyone meets up at the neighbourhood café for a meal. The narrator accompanies her mother in the administrative tasks related to the funeral then goes home. This is when she decides to write about the relationship she had with her father.
- Secondary school introduces the narrator to a totally different world. It is her opportunity to meet a more middle-class background and discover literature. This time marks a distancing between herself and her father. Coming back from summer camp, the narrator notices that her father has aged. She realises that they do not have very much in common. They almost become strangers.
- During her childhood, the author enjoys holidays at home with her friends, her father tries his very best to make a good impression and not embarrass her. The portrait of her father and her childhood of fragmented educational experiences end with the description of the agony, the state and the death of her father. The author draws a painful report on the relationship she had with her father during her childhood.

### 3b:

This novel has no bias, it is built on the description of the narrator's life. In fact, it tells the story of her life and her parents'. She talks about her studies, how her parents met, what they did during their working life. All of which is done in a natural and simple way with no personal emotion attached.

- The author's very personal style of writing shows the simplicity of their lives and also brings a feeling of inferiority. She describes the shame that her father feels when he jumps on the first-class carriage of a train with a second-class ticket. There is also this obsession with what the neighbours, the clients or the whole world are going to think of them. "Patois" was the only language of the grandparents, this was also a source of shame to the family as it was perceived as an "old and ugly" language.
- The novel is structured around the portrait of a father, based on his daily speech and gestures. The author questions her style of writing about her father, "J'écris lentement...j'ai l'impression de perdre au fur et à mesure la figure particulière de

mon père.” (P45). The novel is structured around themes of heredity, background and the world of work.

- The style of the author is original because she writes like she speaks. In standard novels the language is formal, here the author uses her own words, as well as words and expressions coming from her father and her mother’s background. She writes them in italics. “Toujours prêt à m’emmener au cirque, aux films *bêtes...*”(P65). Her style is original because she expresses herself in the same way in writing as in speech which reflects her parents’ background in a realistic manner.

#### 4a:

Phil, 16, and Vinca, 15, always have always spent their summer holidays in Brittany. Phil and Vinca are childhood friends. But this year Phil is coming to age.

- Phil notices Vinca is no longer a girl. When he is invited to Vinca’s family for a meal, Phil realises Vinca’s seductive talents. She has now a power of seduction, she is becoming a woman. Phil is attracted to her so is the Parisian family guest at the lunch table.
- One day Phil meets a pretty lady dressed in white (Mme Dalleray) who asks him for directions. He is flattered by the few words that were exchanged with the pretty stranger. Phil meets the lady again, she invites him to her house where he develops a sexual relationship with her. Phil is eager to be older (he wants to be 24 not 16). She initiates Phil to the game of physical love. Even if this relationship has no future, it is a very different experience for the teenager who is discovering the possibilities of his body as a man.
- Phil feels heartbroken when Mme Dalleray leaves but also feels guilty as he betrayed Vinca. But she forgives him, simply in the name of the love which unites them, a childhood and fraternal love, which becomes, in grief, the intimate love between a man and a woman. The last nights of their holiday mark the end of their childhood as they give up on their childhood games and fishing. Vinca gives herself to Phil, as both are now entering adulthood.

#### 4b:

Vinca and Phil traditionally spend their holidays with their respective parents in Brittany, Monsieur and Madame Audebert, Phil’s parents, rent half of the holiday house with Monsieur et Madame Ferret, Vinca’s parents.

- Phil's parents expect him to study, repeat his classes if he fails them, have a career and to enjoy it. That is why he wants to be 25 already so not to have to go through the process of studying and starting a career, so to not disappoint his parents also. Vinca has to take care of her sister, she is in future expected to take care of the house, direct the education of Lisette her little sister (she is only 8) and to take care of servant matters also.
- Vinca needs to prepare to be a good wife and to take care of a house, children and a husband. Phil does not. He tells Vinca she is a "slave" to her mother in accepting to help in the house in the way she is expected. Her mother has arthritis, her sister is only 8, Vinca contrary to Phil has empathy for her mother and wants to help.
- Phil questions Vinca's lack of ambition and he can barely be a man under his parents' expectations. He has this eagerness to grow up, he resents time and the fact that he is nearly free of his parents or nearly in love but not just quite yet. Vinca is patient with her parents and does not mind the 5 or 6 years she has to wait in order to get married. She is obedient to her parents. Phil is craving adventures but struggling in this long and hard passage to adulthood.

#### 5a:

Nature is a central theme. Marcel's father, Joseph, is a school teacher in Marseille. He and his family like to escape from the big city to live amidst nature in the wild countryside nearby.

- Life in the big city is very different from life in the country. When we are told at the start of the book, that their peasant friend, François, sometimes used to sleep in the ancient sheep pen on the plain leading up to the Taomé, we think of shepherds right back to ancient times, sleeping with their flocks. It is from Marcel's close friendship with the peasant boy Lili that he gets to know about the ideas and habits of the local people in comparison with his cosy life in the big city.
- Marcel and his father went hunting every morning, Lily was always waiting for them. Marcel's father used to buy traps sold as rat traps, but he refused to let Marcel have the bigger model to catch partridges as he argued that a trap was not a noble arm and that Marcel could also lose a finger. They used to set the traps while doing the beating. Finding the traps was exciting for Marcel as they sometimes found large thrush but sometimes to their disappointment a rat. All the hunting episodes are crucial to show how respectful Joseph, Marcel and especially Lily, were of the nature around them.



- In the afternoons, Marcel would go for a walk with Lily. Most often they lay chatting in whispers for hours. Lily knew everything about the countryside, he knew all the plants, where they were found, the weather, the different features of the landscape. He even knew where there were some vines that had escaped phylloxera. (The disease of the wine). Marcel imagined so many things from the sounds of a stone. Lily had less imagination and heard only the occasional bird song. Lily saw the more practical use of nature whilst Marcel saw it more as a treat for the senses.

### 5b:

The Pagnol family decides to walk to la Treille each Saturday, but the journey is long. Luckily, Bouzigue, an old pupil of Joseph, working on the Canal de Marseille, gives them a key enabling them to cross private properties as a short cut. The main protagonists have strong feelings about this infraction.

- Marcel's mother feels great fear and trepidation at illegally crossing the private properties. When they reach the final door, they discover it has been padlocked. They are confronted by the caretaker of the final property and his dog who has been watching them for some time and who decides to make an official report. He forces the family to open up on all their belongings, humiliating them and terrifying Marcel's mum and sister. Augustine hearing the guard shouting, and the threatening bark of his dog was very pale, trembling and forever inconsolable.
- Joseph has different fears from his wife, he is humiliated and fears to be given an official reprimand or worse to be dismissed by the inspector of academy. In his profession integrity and morality are extremely important and this incident would tarnish his reputation as a teacher. The source of his anxiety stems from the conflict between his integrity and breaking the law in order to have an easier journey for himself and his family.
- Luckily Bouzigue suffers from none of these dilemmas. He and two other employees confront the caretaker threatening him with prosecution for having unlawfully locked one of the company's doors, they then seized the report and destroyed it. Bouzigue reveals to the family that the owner was not a nobleman but made his fortune from cattle. On many occasions the family was welcome to cross the properties, on this occasion their fears became reality. However, Bouzigue made sure the family was treated with the respect they deserved in the end.

6a:

Lou is an isolated and private young girl who lives in a family wounded by the death of a child. After Thaïs, her little sister dies, her mother enters a deep depression and lives constantly in the dark whereas her father pretends to live with a constant smile on his face.

- Lou cohabits with her mother who develops a profound depression as she distances herself from the living world after the death of her baby. She is admitted to a psychiatric ward for a while and Lou is enrolled in an establishment for gifted children. Her mother is ill, absent and incapable of loving Lou. Her father does his best to keep the family together. He tries to be the stable parent in a family in perdition. They love each other and keep strong even though they both know that the atmosphere in the flat is often heavy.
- Lou also develops a complex relationship with No. Lou is intrigued by No who is her polar opposite. Lou develops an unusual friendship with No, a homeless young girl she meets in the streets whilst researching the topic of the homeless for a school project. No and Lou as the title suggests are progressively close, they will eventually live together, and look like each other. They are then a sort of couple, the entity of "No and I". The metaphor of the fox in the "Petit Prince" (P200) enables Lou to express her love for No, and perhaps her desire to find in her the sister she misses so much.
- Lucas is pushed into Lou's determined actions to win No's friendship, to "tame her" and to save her. Lucas helps her because he loves Lou. Their love will unravel with the pages of the book. Lucas is the gentle dunce of the class. Lou gradually shows she is seduced by his physique as well as his vision of the world. Lucas initially shows Lou an implicit attachment to her. As time goes by Lou also admits more and more her attraction to him. The last lines of the book show Lou's final transformation in her relationship with Lucas, they finally kiss. All in all, the characters' relationships with Lou show that opposites' attract.

6b:

Lou meets No, a homeless young girl, at the "Gare d'Austerlitz". She wants to interview homeless people in order to gather information for her school presentation. After the success of her presentation, Lou wants to see No again and learns more about her life and the reasons why she ended up in the street.

- No's mother was raped by 4 men and fell pregnant with her as a result. She has never wanted to touch No or look at her as a result. No had to therefore be brought up by her grandparents (her mother still living with them then). When

Suzanne, No's mother met a man who worked in Choisy-le-Roi, she left to live in Paris with him and left No behind.

- When No was 7 years old she discovered her grandmother dead and has to go and live with her mother and step father in Paris. Her step father takes really good care of her, playing with her but her mother is still very distant and resentful. She also is very jealous of the attention her boyfriend is giving No whilst he is feeling so sorry for her. This causes many disputes within the couple as a result of which Suzanne's boyfriend leaves. Suzanne starts drinking and mistreating No through neglect. No is eventually taken away from her mother by social services.
- No is truly alone, with no support network. Everyone who mattered has left her. Lou wants to save No. She offers her a home, encourages her to get a job, however, No finishes work later and later, prostituting herself to buy alcohol. No tries to establish contact with her mother but when she finally finds her, Suzanne refuses to open the door. As a result of this heartache, No is drunk more and more often and is asked to leave by Lou's parents. She is then taken in by Lucas, but things do not get any better, she is drunk and ill more and more often. Lucas' mother discovers No during a spot check of the flat and No has to leave as a result. No is therefore back in the streets, all alone once more.

#### Za:

*Une si longue lettre* deals with the themes of women in Senegal during the 1970s and 1980s, family and community life, Islam and polygamy, and death rituals. The various young characters portray these themes sometimes with conflicting views.

- The lifestyle in the community forces Mawdo to follow tradition and marry his first cousin Nabou, after being pressured by his mother. Aïssatou, his first wife, divorces him as a result which shows yet again the conflict polygamy can create between a man and his wife. Aïssatou, Ramatoulaye's best friend divorced Mawdo because she did not believe in polygamy, she left him a letter explaining her actions and conflicting views in their lifestyle. Ramatoulaye, also single disagrees with the traditional man and wife model.
- We can also see conflict between the older and the younger generations and their education. Usually, the conflict emanates from dated traditions that the youth is rebelling against. Arame, Yacine and Dieynaba, known as the "trio" are Ramatoulaye's daughters. They smoke, they drink, they party, and wear pants

instead of ladylike dresses. They represent the next modernised generation after liberation from France.

- Ramatoulaye's and Modou's eldest daughter Daba, is married, but is disgusted by her father's choice to take a second wife, especially one of her closest friends. Ibrahima Sall's views on marriage and commitment are very modern. He is a law student and gets Aïssatou pregnant. She is his first and possibly last and only love. He will marry Aïssatou if Ramatoulaye allows it. Lifestyles are changing, contrasting with the one chosen by Little Nabou who was raised in a very traditional Muslim custom and who will decide to be a second wife as per tradition.

### 7b:

Marriage is a predominant theme in this novel. Its impact varying from character to character and their views on the matter.

- Modou, Ramatoulaye's husband is well educated, handsome and charming. He still decides to marry Binetou and cuts all ties with his first wife and 12 children, for his own selfish desires. Mawdou, ex-husband of Aïssatou, is a doctor, therefore well educated. He still gives in to the family traditions and is pressured to take a second wife. This resulted in the end of the marriage with his first wife.
- Ramatoulaye does not reject Aïssatou's choice of divorcing her husband because she is educated and recognises how the choices made are done to enable her to be independent and free. It is education that enables Ramatoulaye to respect the path her friend took and not negate the friendship. Even though Ramatoulaye takes a different path in life, she understands her because she is educated.
- Little Nabou is a Midwife but is also a prisoner of her own traditions and accepts to become Mawdo's second wife. Marriage can be considered as a financial transaction which also involves the level of education of each party. Aïssatou enters into a relationship with a boy named Ibrahim Sall, whom she calls Iba, he is a poor student. He studies law and is hoping to better his social standing via education and therefore be respectable enough to get permission to marry the love of his life, Aïssatou.

### 8a:

The action takes place in France during the war in 1941. Joseph the narrator is 10 years old at the start of the book. He lives in Paris, in the 18<sup>th</sup> arrondissement.

- He is a happy little boy, the last of five. He is very close to his brother Maurice who is 2 years older than him. They both go to the Ferdinand-Flocon school. Joseph's father is of Russian origin, he is a self-made man who owns a men's hairdressers.
- One morning before school, Joseph's mother sews a yellow star onto the boys' jackets, but they do not really understand the meaning of this "medal". The yellow star changes the way they are treated at school. The teacher does not acknowledge Joseph and the other children tease him because of his Jewish background and make racist comments. Zérati, however, Joseph's friend wants the star and exchanges it against a bag of marbles.
- At the start of 1942, the family starts to feel insecure and in danger. As a result of the German occupation in Paris and the way the boys are treated at school, there is a sense of mounting insecurity in Paris which leads the parents to send their two younger boys alone to the south of France. They want the boys to go to Menton in the "zone libre" where their brother Albert and Henry already live. In order to survive the children are told by their parents to lie about their origins whenever they have to interact with others.

8b:

The Joffo boys are told by their parents they have to travel alone to meet their brothers in the south of France, they have to start a dangerous journey. This must be a very daunting prospect for a 10 and 12 year but one that is necessary if they are to survive the war.

- The boys catch a bus to Hagetmau where they will cross the border between occupied France and the free zone. Maurice shows resilience and business acumen. He knows they need money to cross, so he decides to earn money by helping people cross to the free zone. He shows incredible strength and ingenuity, thus enabling them to cross and make their way to Marseilles. They are finally reunited with their brothers in Menton. All their courage and resilience paid off.
- However, their courage is tested once again when they are arrested during a day trip in Nice and taken to the hotel excelsior where the SS have established their headquarters. For a week they are held in the hotel and repeatedly interrogated. In the midst of this very difficult situation, the boy's courage is once again tested. Thanks to the help of a doctor they are saved.

- The boys have to take the train to Dax and after a long journey, they pull in, and German soldiers board the train. The SS want to catch Jews trying to reach the free zone. The boys are scared and decide to sit next to a priest for protection as they do not have identity cards. When the soldiers ask them for their ID, the priest ensures their safety by saying they are with him. This was a very clever and brave move on the boys' part. One of many which will ensure their survival.

#### 9a:

During the winter of 1943-1944, Julien Quentin a student at Carmelite boarding school, in occupied France, returns from holiday to school. When Père Jean, the Headmaster, introduces three new pupils, everything changes.

- One of them is Jean Bonnet who is the same age as Julien. Like the other students, Julien at first despises Bonnet, who is a very quiet pupil and socially awkward. Julien is however very talented in arithmetic's and the piano, which Julien is very impressed and envious about. At this stage a friendship seems very unlikely.
- There is an increased sense of curiosity emanating from Julien for Jean. He spies on him at night and observes him. Jean wears his Kippa and preys at night when everyone is sleeping so not to attract attention on his Jewish origins. Jean is gradually more and more intrigued and after digging through Jean's locker, he learns the truth. His new friend's name is not Jean Bonnet but Jean Kippelstein. Although their relationship was difficult at first, they bond after a game of treasure hunt and a close friendship develops between them. Julien gradually starts to empathise with Jean and the Jews.
- When Julien's mother visits on Parents 'day, Julien asks to take Jean with him as his own mother cannot be there. As they sit around the table the Milice arrives and tries to expel a Jewish person from the restaurant. There is an empathy towards the Jews in Julien's family as Julien's mum says she has nothing against them at all and that the [Jewish diner appeared](#) to be distinguished.

#### 9b:

Joseph is the school's assistant cook. He is disabled and the students make fun of him on a regular basis because of it. This upsets him greatly.

- The students consider him as a second-class citizen, they do not respect him and consider themselves more important than him due to their wealthy social background. He is exposed for selling the school's food supplies to the students in

exchange for items like Jam. He implicates several students who are accomplices, including Julien and his brother, François.

- When Joseph is caught, Père Jean has no other choice but to dismiss him. Joseph being disabled has nowhere to go. His disability meant that he could not go to war. The school was his home, and his life. He felt it was so unfair that he should be punished when the students who were also involved were given no sanction at all. He found himself homeless and jobless, resenting the injustice of the situation and therefore resenting Père Jean himself. Although Père Jean is visibly distressed by the injustice, he does not expel the students for fear of consequences from their wealthy influential parents.
- On a cold morning in 1944, the Gestapo raid the school. Julien encounters the person who denounced them. Joseph took refuge with the Germans. They gave him a nice uniform, social standing. The Germans took him in when he had nowhere to go. He did his duty in helping them to arrest the Jews and the people who help them. He therefore was rewarded for it. His betrayal was an act of survival as well as an act of revenge. He therefore was instrumental in finding the Jews Père Jean was hiding.

#### 10 a:

France Dalens is the daughter of Aimée Dalens and Marc Dalens, a French colonial administrator in the Mindif district of northern French Cameroon. The main theme being racial discrimination, France depicts her experience of the relationships between colonials and the natives, through the eyes of a young girl.

- When Aimée invites Protée into her bedroom and asks him to fasten her complicated evening gown, they stand motionless, silent, staring ahead as if looking at themselves together in a mirror. This brings together the very real drama between Aimée and Protée, particularly the white woman's acknowledgement that she depends on the black servant's strength and protection. Boundaries are difficult to maintain in the colonial situation. The everyday intimacies of two races living side by side are tested. Protée in the outdoor shower enjoys a rare moment of freedom and privacy but the servant's showers are outdoor in full view of Aimée and France when they return to the house. Protée's privacy is therefore violated.
- When Jonathan Boothby visits there is a surge of activity in and around the house, giving the spectator insight into the Cameroonian social roles in a Colonial time and into the racial division between masters and servants. Viewers watch the

spectacle through the perspective of child France “crouching outside in her pyjamas”.

- The plane crash brings a group of unexpected French people to the house, amongst whom is Luc Segalen. He will openly cross colour boundaries, sleeping on the porch rather than indoors, bathing and eventually eating with the Africans rather than with European guests. Though Aimée is not interested in Luc's implied propositions. She is drawn to Protée, yet cannot have him because of the racial discrimination in society at the time. Aimée, therefore behaves with the visiting male, Luc, in such a way as to take revenge on Protée, whom she taunts because she cannot have him. One afternoon, Luc exposes Aimée's secret desire for Protée as a result of which a fight between Protée and Luc takes place. Protée emerges victorious and throws Luc and his baggage off the porch. Protée then rejects Aimée's sexual invitation with a glance thus rejecting the coloniser.

#### 10 b:

*Chocolat* emphasises a process of reflecting, reassembling and remembering the colonial past, through the eyes of young France. She is the daughter of Aimée and Marc Dalens, who was a French colonial administrator in northern French Cameroon. It explores the subtle and discreet workings of, power, desire, betrayal and dependency in colonial inter-relationships.

- The adult France carries her father's notebook and her return to Cameroon evokes bitter-sweet memories of her childhood. Her name France is surely symbolic suggesting the story operates on both a personal and national level. France is the primary story teller, she focuses on scenes from her childhood that the adult France remembers, overheard or been told about from what she read in her father's notebook. The central fact is that Protée is the best and most capable man in the district and that her mother and Protée feel a strong sexual attraction.
- The car scene triggers a film-long flashback, in which France recalls fragments of the Dalen's life in troubled colonial times. Her father a very influential man, entrusting the servants and especially Protée with the wellbeing and safety of his family whilst he is away on business. The servants having their living quarters outside as opposed to the colonials who lived inside shows a clear separation in lifestyle.
- The narrative frame and the long-extended flash-back define the film's narrative structure creating two distinct periods, postcolonial and colonial Cameroon. It also represents two different stages in her life. France as a young woman and as a pre-



teen. Creating an atmosphere of both an era gone and a daydream. Cameroon today is no longer under colonial influences but still has the remanence of a French legacy and France portrays this.

#### 11 a:

Cléo's personality is a complex one. The film has a strong feminine view point belonging to French feminism and raises questions about how women are perceived, especially in French society. The role of mirrors is prevalent to symbolize self-obsession, which Cléo embodies.

- Cléo Victoire is having a reading at the start of the film. She is told that a widow is devoted to her but also a terrible influence, her maid Angèle. She also sees that she has met a young man who got her in the music industry. She can also see a doctor. The fortune teller draws the hang man which means Cléo is ill, potentially with cancer. She then draws the death tarot card as a result of which Cléo requests the fortune teller to read her palm. After examining her palm, the fortune teller remains silent which leads Cléo to believe that she is doomed. Cléo is distraught but reminds herself that as long as she is beautiful, she is alive and that death is ugly.
- Cléo needs emotional support. She meets Angèle at a café and tells her all about her experience at the fortune tellers'. She cries in the café in spite of the people around watching. Cléo needs the support of her friends and wants to see her boyfriend but he is too busy and says he only has time to stop by for a kiss and that he will take her on holiday soon. He does not take her seriously. her friends are not getting her the emotional support she needs as they are not taking her seriously.
- She however finds comfort in meeting a soldier in the park. By a bridge on a river, Cléo meets Antoine, a soldier on leave from the Algerian war. He is scared to go back and fight. Antoine asks Cléo to accompany him to the station to return to war, in return, he will go with her to get her results. They are both scared. But in the end thanks to Antoine, Cléo realises her selfishness and is putting things in perspective. Once she hears that with two months of chemotherapy she will be cured, she is relieved. She is finally thinking of someone else and decides to now help Antoine [before he leaves.](#)

#### 11b

Florence also known as Cléo, is a popular singer wandering for two hours at the end of the afternoon in Paris observing the world around her.

- As Cléo waits for her medical results, she wanders in the streets of Paris. She is distraught from her visit to the fortune teller. After the visit she meets her maid Angèle at a café and tells her about her dreadful visit to the fortune teller, saying that if it is Cancer she will kill herself. Cléo and Angèle then decide to go hat shopping. It is summer but Cléo is focused on a black fur hat which does not suit the season. It is almost a reflection of her mood. She ends up buying the winter hat and wants to wear it at home but is reminded by Angèle that it is bad luck to wear a hat on a Tuesday. The hat is sent home by the shopkeeper and they make their way home in time for her rehearsal.
  
- Cléo leaves everyone back in her house as Bob the Pianist, Maurice and Angèle do not take her illness seriously and make fun of the situation. On her travels she passes street performers swallowing frogs and spitting them back out on a huge wave of water. In the café she plays her own song then leaves to the sculpting studio to visit her old friend Dorothee, who is posing nude for an artist. Cléo then takes Dorothee back home and on their way, they pass a crime scene where a man was killed. She also breaks a mirror when telling her friend about her illness. Which represents another bad omen on her travels. Her Lover works with films and jokingly shows a woman dying. All these are continuous reminders of her predicament. She finally makes her way to a park from her apartment and meets Antoine a soldier from the Algerian war.
  
- All of Cléo 's acquaintances have a meaning to her. The fortune teller giving her bad news, her maid claiming its bad luck to wear a hat on a Tuesday, her boyfriend only fleetingly stopping to the flat for a kiss and not really paying attention to her predicament, Bob and Maurice also joking about it. To boot, the car journey with Dorothee and the death they witness as well as the broken mirror are all affecting her vision of the world. However, meeting Antoine in the parc brings some perspective to her. He fears going back to war and does not want to die. They will mutually help each other to overcome their fears. Antoine will accompany Cléo to the hospital and support her, Cléo will accompany him to the station and support him.

### 12a

The opening scene where we see the two main characters for the first time is very dramatic. It sets the tone for the whole film. It portrays both the sadness of Philippe's condition and the happiness Driss provides him with, in spite of his condition.

- Our first impression of the two characters is one of complicity. They are having fun, speeding in a Maserati with very loud music and smoking. When the police stop them, Driss is immediately handcuffed, however both Philippe and Driss work together very well in order to escape this situation. Driss pretends he is speeding because of his employer having an attack in the car making the police feel guilty to have slowed them down. Driss wants to put Philippe's potential death in their conscience. Philippe plays

along. As a result, not only do they get out of trouble, but they are also escorted to hospital. This shows what a great team they make, and how resourceful and fun Driss is.

- The music chosen in this scene reflects the mood both characters are in. Happy, Jovial and ready to have some fun. "Earth, Wind and Fire" also can represent the senses Philippe has lost. The music makes him feel alive again. He can feel the earth, the wind and the fire. Smoking whilst listening to this music enhances Philippe's experience. Driss is awakening Philippe's senses and the music is a key contributor.
- The way the police is fooled adds a comical aspect to this scene. Philippe's situation is supposed to be sad. There is however nothing sad about the opening scene. Just fun and laughter. It is a great way for the producers to set the tone of the whole movie. It also delivers a strong message that any predicament can be overcome with a little fun. Fun is indeed a recurring theme in this film.

## 12b

Driss applies to a position in Philippe's household that he has no intention of getting. He knows that he will not be hired due to his poor background and the contrast between where he comes from and the rich area of Paris in which Philippe lives.

- Driss has just come out of prison for burglary. In order to be able to claim benefits, Driss needs to prove that he is trying to get work and that he has been rejected three times. Driss therefore applies to the most unsuitable positions. Who would hire a black person originating from the "banlieue". In Driss's mind there is no chance a rich employer would offer him a position due to the misconception people have of the banlieue. Philippe's friends are therefore worried about him when he decides to hire Driss as they do not believe anyone coming from the "banlieue" is a good honest person.
- Driss quickly shows Philippe a personality full of potential. First of all, he sees that Driss does not give Philippe's disability that much importance contrary to all the other candidates who seem to pity Philippe and even patronise him at times. Driss is very matter of fact and even forgets that Philippe is disabled. For instance, when he asks him to sign his paper or when he makes fun of him at the art gallery and refuses to give him chocolate. Driss jokes: "no arms, no chocolate". Philippe needs a strong person who does not pity him.
- Driss steals the "Fabergé" egg at the very beginning, risking his position. However, Philippe hires Driss because of this sense of fun and straight talking. This is the reason why he forgives him for stealing the egg as long as he returned it, Driss understands it

has sentimental value. Philippe, from the very beginning, sees in Driss a certain excitement that has been lacking in his life since the accident. This is why in the end, Driss was the best candidate for the position.

### 13a

This film is a musical biography describing the life of Édith Piaf, from her birth to her death, between New-York and Paris. The film depicts her younger years and where she is raised. Her childhood experiences will shape her adult life.

- The film opens in 1918 with Édith as a child, her mother is busking for change. Her mother is writing to her father, an acrobat, who is away in the trenches, to tell him she is leaving Édith with her mother in order to go and pursue her career as a singer. Her father returns to Paris and collects Édith to perform in the streets where he discovers her talents as a singer. Young Édith holds a hat for coins whilst her father is performing as a contortionist when a passer-by asks if she is part of the show. Prompted by her father, she starts singing the French national anthem in the most poignant way. A star is born that day.
- Leplée a night club owner approaches Édith in the street whilst she was singing. He invites her to audition in his nightclub as a result. He was very impressed and hired her giving her the opportunity to forge a name and a career for herself. But Soon Leplée is shot and the police suspects it was due to Édith's connections to the mafia. Desperate she turns to Raymond Asso, a songwriter, he teaches her to sing with her hands and launches her singing career.
- Édith has continued to lose people who were very important to her. Whilst very famous and performing in New York, she meets a French Boxer Marcel Cerdan whom she falls very much in love with. She loses him in a plane crash. As a result of all these shocks Édith develops a morphine addiction which will be a contributing factor to her demises in the end. Her life intertwined many successes and failures, both in private and professional life.

### 13b

Édith's life could be viewed as a tragedy. Her life was filled with hardships and on many occasions, life was not kind to her.

- Other than the abandonment from her parents and her poor health during her childhood. A significant hard time for her was to leave Titine who had cared for her like a mother for many years. The return of her father was a shock for both of them and it is heart breaking for them to be separated. This was Édith's rare time of stability in her life, in the most unusual place, a Brothel. Titine especially takes her under her wing and becomes very attached to her. Titine sings to Édith, plays with her, cares for her at times when she is

very poorly including when she contracted Keratitis, which induced temporary blindness. She was like a mother to her.

□ Her love life could also be seen as tragic. Marcel Cerdan, her soul mate, dying in a plane crash, exemplifies this tragedy. Édith pleaded him to shorten his trip home and come back to America to be with her. It is on this very trip, that Marcel dies. She will never recover.

- A lot of difficult times were sent to test her and, in many ways, this was relentless for her. This led to excessive consumption of alcohol and morphine which ultimately killed her.

#### 14a

Mondain is a cruel perverted boy who will have a tremendous impact on *Le Fond de l'Étang*. His detrimental impact on the school will eventually cause its closure.

- As soon as he arrives in the school, Mondain starts causing trouble by bullying others and generally being rebellious. He will ask Pépinot for money in order to grant him the right to go to bed, or corrupt Corbin to steal food in the kitchen at night. He also taunts Morhange insulting his mother, as a result of which they break into a fight.
- When all the school money disappears. Rachin automatically assumes Mondain has stolen the money and beats him. Mondain tries to strangle the Headmaster as a result of this injustice. Rachin calls the police despite not having any proof of his guilt. Mathieu discovers that Corbin had stolen the money. Rachin however refuses to have him back given his belief that he would be trouble one day anyway. Mathieu does feel this decision is unfair and has empathy for Mondain.
- Rachin leaves to receive an award from the board after claiming responsibility for the choir. Maxence and Mathieu take this opportunity to take the pupils out on a paper chase. In the meantime, Mondain returns and sets fire to the school with a cigarette. He is getting revenge for the injustice he has been a victim of. All in all, Mondain is responsible for the downfall of the school. Had Rachin listened to Mathieu, the school might still have been open.

#### 14b

Clément Mathieu, a failed musician, arrives at *Le Fond de l'Étang*, a French boarding school, for boys with disciplinary issues.

- He is a supervisor at the school. Mathieu discovers a school where children are treated ruthlessly by the Headmaster. It is soon apparent that their educational views are very different. Mathieu will be succeeding with the boys where Rachin has failed, thus proving that his kinder educational methods are more effective with the boys.

□ Mathieu is firm but fair with the boys and has respect for his colleagues. He shows them a way to get the pupils to be their best and make amends without Rachin's violent techniques. For instance, when Le Querrec injures Père Maxence, Mathieu keeps his identity secret from the Headmaster, knowing that the consequences would be brutal. Instead he brings the best out of Le Querrec and a sense of remorse, by getting him to nurse père Maxence. "Action, Réaction" is not always the best course of action. In this way, Mathieu is trying to lead by example and get his colleagues to adhere to more humane disciplinary techniques.

- It is obvious that Mathieu has a passion for music, as he is composing at night, once the boys have gone to bed. The boys are curious about Mathieu's activities and steal his music. Before bedtime, they sing rude songs about him, Mathieu therefore decides to teach them to sing. He forms the choir which channels their singing efforts. Morhange refuses to sing but Mathieu discovers later that he has a wonderful gift. Mathieu will guide Morhange to become a very successful musician. Something that he has never managed for himself.

### 15a

Seemingly in constant trouble at school, Antoine Doinel returns home at the end of every day to an unhappy home life. He starts skipping school and begins a downwards spiral of lies and then stealing.

- Antoine is unfairly punished in school by his teacher in French literature as he is falsely accused of plagiarism. The next day his friend René suggests that they skip school. Instead they go to the cinema and play pinball. The next day Antoine tells his teacher that the reason for his absence was his mother's death. When the teacher discovers that he has lied he is violently punished. In general, punishments have been ineffective as it does not improve his behaviour, on the contrary, Antoine rebels as a result.
- At school he has been typecast by his teacher as a trouble maker. His luck is not good. When a pinup calendar is passed from hand to hand in the class. It is in his hands that the teacher discovers it. He is therefore punished and sent to stand in the corner, as a rebellious act, he makes faces for his classmates and writes on the wall. He therefore has to copy the lament he wrote on the board many times on paper as another punishment. Rebellion and skipping school are his only way to deal with a school where he is misunderstood and labelled by his teacher and his peers.
- All in all, it might appear to us that the educational system is both brutal and unfair towards a boy who does take our pity. But There are moments of fun and joy. For instance, when a physical education teacher leads the boys on a jog Through Paris. Two by two they disappear until the teacher is at the head of only two or three boys. More physical education in Antoine's school life could have been beneficial. Instead, the

unfairness of it all leads him down a very dark path which eventually will cost him his freedom.

### 15b

A series of unfortunate events will eventually lead Antoine to end up in a juvenile detention home. Antoine is a resourceful boy growing up in Paris but heading towards a life of crime. Antoine is in his early teens and lives with his mother and step-dad in a crowded flat. He sleeps in the kitchen on a pop-up bed and has a difficult relationship with his mother. Antoine is neglected by them and misunderstood at school which led him towards crime and truancy.

- Antoine's teacher has no trust or confidence in his ability to do well at school. He has given up on him and does not believe at all in Antoine having any kind of potential. As a result of the teacher's unkind comments and sometimes unfair punishment, Antoine lies and skips school regularly which will lead him to get into trouble.
- Getting into trouble for plagiarism is the last straw for Antoine. He runs away from home and stays with his friend René; whose parents are also absent. The two boys wander the streets of Paris and for a time enjoy their freedom, until they decide to steal Antoine's step-father's typewriter from his office and sell it. When the boys fail to sell it, they decide to return the typewriter, but Antoine is caught at that very moment.
- His mother and step-father give up on him and want to place him in a juvenile centre. They therefore let him spend the night in a cell, along with prostitutes and criminals. They in turn, sign over all parental rights and wash their hands of him. His relationship with his mother is very distant and he is neglected by her. All in all, Antoine's family circumstances coupled with his problems at school have led him to a juvenile detention centre where he is supposed to be learning a trade. He however finally escapes to discover the sea for the first

