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La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"degree

1. Each of the steps on the threefold scale by which gradable adjectives and adverbs are compared; this scale as a feature of an adjective or adverb.

The three degrees are positive, comparative, and superlative:

good, better, best; soon, sooner, soonest."

Sylvia CHALKER & Edmund WEINER, *The Oxford Dictionary of English Grammar*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1994, p. 106.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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Excerpt 1

We looked at each other, and his big eyes were as round and green as crab apples. We looked back down, and Tyler's mouth had gaped open wide enough to let drool fall out. We knew what he was holding. It was small, too small to be a grown-up's, but I've watched about fifty million CSI and Bones reruns with Big.

Joshilyn Jackson, *A Grown-Up Kind of Pretty*, 2012

Excerpt 2

In fact, this is probably one of the commonest ways in which patients describe themselves. They are often fully aware that their problem has no basis in present reality and so, because they are unable to do anything to overcome it, they believe that they must be stupid. And the longer the situation continues and the greater the number of vain attempts at dealing with it, the more stupid they feel. Being able to look back, by means of regression, and discover that their condition has a logical and rational cause, takes away that feeling of stupidity and prevents the patient condemning himself to a lifetime of inevitable failure.

Ursula Markham, *Hypnosis Regression Therapy*, 1991

Excerpt 3

After a long, satisfied drag he studies Joel. "You are taller now than before. You are very tall, in fact." Does Heinz like tall men? He doesn't say. He exchanges glances with one of the Turkish kids. "Do you know him?" Joel asks. "Hansaplatz is a village." Heinz seems even quieter than the first night, or perhaps he is stoned.

"Where Johannes Brahms Was Born", *Red Cedar Review*, 2011

Excerpt 4

Most scientists do agree that a BMI over 27 increases risk for many people. But their risk also depends on other factors, including their waist/hip ratio, notes Dr. Despres. By the BMI method, over three-quarters of our survey respondents weighed more than the optimal (healthiest) weight. (See "Fit or Fat?" on page 66.) At the other end of the scale, 2 percent were underweight. And what about underweight? Excessive thinness is less common than overweight in the United States.

"Hit your perfect weight", *Prevention*, Nov 1994, Vol. 46, Issue 11

Excerpt 5

She leaned closer, half-convinced he had just died. "What did you say?" she asked. She didn't want to touch him. His eyes opened and Mara was so startled, she reared back. "Find Kirk McGarvey," he said. "Bring him here. He'll know." She knew the name, of course: He was the near legendary former director of the CIA [...].

David Hagberg, *Castro's Daughter*, 2012

Excerpt 6

It is the individuation by demonstratives that provides a basis for a unitary system of spatio-temporal relations in which every particular has a unique place and in which we ourselves provide the main point of reference. By comparison, impersonal descriptive references lack the same individuating force and are frequently ambiguous and misleading. The phrase "the tallest man in England" will fail to individuate any person if the class of tallest men in England happens to have more than one member. This is not to say that particulars can not under any circumstances be contextually individuated via "impersonal" descriptions. In a vast majority of cases such descriptive references are accepted as perfectly adequate.

Edo Pivcevic, *The Concept of Reality*, 1986

Excerpt 7

The commissions are to strive to ensure that no constituency varies from this quota by more or less than a quarter of it. By reason of their rates of population decline vis-à-vis England and their fixed minimum number of seats, the Scottish and Welsh quotas are smaller than that of England. Shifts in population can soon make a nonsense of the best efforts of the boundary commissions and it is not at all unusual for the largest constituency to be over three times the size of the smallest.

Harry Calvert, *An Introduction to British Constitutional Law*, 1985

Excerpt 8

It wasn't as opulent as her father's, but five times larger than any home his family had ever lived in, a scaled-down version of her father's Greek temple stucco. He recalled hearing the story from other crew workers a few years back - she'd decided she wanted a place of her own, so Daddy had built his little princess her own mini-mansion complete with a small fountain in front. He grimaced, realizing his own sense of size was getting distorted. The fountain was small compared to the one in front of Henry's place, [...].

Toni Blake, *The Red Diary*, 2004

Excerpt 9

This cheeky Miss Jones showing up flinging commands about was something new. Truth be told, he'd never met a woman as unmanageable, which made him admire her a great deal. It also made his blood hot for her. She was a challenge, that one. And Stephen never turned aside from a challenge. Hadn't he risen to the challenge of being named an Impossible Bachelor not long ago with his three best friends, Harry, Nicholas, and Charlie?

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And he'd come out of Prinny's ridiculous albeit amusing wager unscathed, unmarried, and as unrepentant a bachelor as he'd ever been.

Kieran Kramer, *Cloudy with a Chance of Marriage*, 2011

Excerpt 10

Along the way, both companies used technology to become more productive. They are not alone. As Michael Zinser, a partner with the Boston Consulting Group noted, America has led the industrial world in productivity growth since 1972. Today, each American worker makes 2.5 times more product than he or she did 40 years ago. A Timken worker checks a bearing to ensure machines are meeting specs. Manufacturing technology played an important role in this. Robots, for example, have become less expensive and easier to use.

"Leveraging Knowledge", *Mechanical Engineering*, Jan 2012, Vol. 134, Issue 1

Excerpt 11

The amount of meat was never specified, but football fans throughout Scotland had no doubts, it must have been Caledonia's most famous culinary repast: a pund o' mince. Alan Rough is the typical anti-hero. Although he stumbled into football as much by accident as design, he rose to become one of Scotland's most charismatic players.

Stuart Cosgrove, *Hampden Babylon: Sex & Scandal in Scottish Football*, 1991

Excerpt 12

And since Americans are much more religious than Europeans, the percentage of atheists and agnostics among European scientists is probably significantly higher. The different sciences provide differing reasons for skepticism about religion. For physicists, introducing God as a cause would interfere with or contradict their extremely powerful explanatory models that go all the way back to the Big Bang.

"Science vs Religion DEBATE", *Humanist*, Jul/Aug 2010, Vol. 70, Issue 4

Excerpt 13

The computer industry also demonstrates a downright un-English enthusiasm for the common market. Nothing, it seems, comes out of Brussels without being accompanied by hundreds of press releases from the computer industry. The Maastricht Treaty? No problem. It was available on a floppy disk before any paper deigned to print it. The latest issue to get the industry in a tizzy is VAT.

What Personal Computer: The Ultimate Guide to Choosing and Using, 1993

Excerpt 14

The twins [...] were fraternal and not in any way similar. Wally had a harelip and a slight air of menace about him, like a boy who is just waiting for you to turn your back. In truth, he was the sweeter of the two, the more innocent. A miscoded gene had given him a cleft palate, and though surgery had mostly corrected it, there was still a quality to his face that seemed off-kilter, imprecise, vulnerable. His twin, Alex, fair-haired, comparatively angelic looking, had gotten into some trouble recently for fighting.

Noah Hawley, *The Good Father*, 2012

Excerpt 15

Buying an inexpensive water-heater wrap adds insulation and allows the water heater to run less. And lower your water heater temperature to 120 degrees – plenty hot but lower than many water heaters are set on right now. Option C: More Efficient Heating. Be sure you're generating heat in the most efficient way possible. There are cheap solutions and expensive ones. On the cheaper end, is your furnace clean and working properly? Make sure it has had its annual cleaning and that includes replacing the air filter. Also be on the lookout for leaky ductwork, Callahan says. Symptoms include an increase in energy usage or an increase in dust in the home. If you have an older system, consider replacing it with one of today's more energy-efficient models. While an upfront expense, you'll immediately use less energy.

"Don't let old man winter empty your wallet", *Saturday Evening Post*, Nov/Dec 2008, Vol. 280, Iss. 6

Excerpt 16

There are thirteen pear trees. There are ten apple trees and forty trees of figs, then fifty rows of grapevines, for wine. The northernmost pear tree is unfortunate, squat and stumpy, like an unattractive woman.

"The Letters of Odysseus to Kalypso", *New England Review*, 2011

Excerpt 17

Her brow furrowed briefly in concentration, and gradually, almost like a slow blush, a faint golden tint began to mount in her cheeks, and her hair slipped from its colorless white into pale blonde. "Color is a quality of light," she explained quite calmly even as the bronzing of her skin and the darkening of her hair continued, "and since I can control the light from within me, so can I also control my color – indeed, by thus altering the light rather than suppressing it entirely, I can lessen the pain. A most happy solution for me [...]."

David Eddings, *The Shining Ones*, 1993

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La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"Intensifier

A word (adverbial or adjectival in function) which has a typically heightening effect on the meaning of another element in a sentence; for example, *very* increases the strength of the following word in *The book was very interesting*. The term is also sometimes used to refer to words which intensify 'downwards', reducing the meaning of an associated element; for example, *hardly* decreases the force of the following word in *The food was hardly sufficient*."

David CRYSTAL, *An Encyclopedic Dictionary of Language and Languages*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1994, p. 189.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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Excerpt 1

But last week Mr. Hauer told New York magazine that the campaign's depiction of her role was "simply a lie." The campaign's Web site said that Mrs. Giuliani had "coordinated the efforts at the Family Assistance Center on Pier 94." Indeed, others were at least equally involved in that effort. Rosemary O'Keefe, who was then director of the Community Assistance Unit, said Mrs. Giuliani had helped during the first two days at the pier. "Judith was a very important part in the very beginning," Ms. O'Keefe said in an interview.

"Onetime Giuliani Insider Is Now a Critic From Outside", *New York Times*, 22 May 2007

Excerpt 2

"In my case, generally a well-used pair of walking shorts, as I'm not so fond of embarrassing accidents." Dagger laughed. "Well, you could make an exception for Davra..." Now that was the nature of the man. "I'd need to know her a wee bit better," I replied. "She hasn't made a move on you yet?" Dagger seemed astounded. "No. I'm not very tall, my voice is a bit high, and I tend to lecture, so it's no surprise." "Hmm. She has a purpose in life and she knows what it is." "She's an excellent roboticist." Dagger shrugged. "That too. Emma seems more my type." Dagger laughed.

"Loki's Realm", *Analog Science Fiction & Fact*, Jul/Aug 2007, Vol. 127, Iss. 7/8

Excerpt 3

As big as a Gutenberg Bible, the old book smelled like any incunabulum – mummified vellum and ancient powdery leather – but when he lifted it, felt far too light for its size. He opened the cover and saw why. All the text had been razored out, leaving only the margins intact. Filling the hollow space were feathery ashes, gray dust and tiny, hardly visible fragments of fire-polished bone. For a long minute he stood shaking his head over the strangest coffin ever devised. Queen hadn't only had Belsky cremated, she'd buried what was left of the magician inside his own book, then kept the remains where she could watch them.

"Scatter My Ashes", *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, Mar/Apr 2011

Excerpt 4

"That was the first time I had really broken things," she says, "and it felt so good." That night, they smashed about two boxes of champagne glasses. Afterward, she felt "fucking great". Aguilera has hardly been cleansed of anger since that day, nor is she such an unconflicted soul that she is unable to conjure up plenty of other feelings (bitterness, paranoia, insecurity, a desperate need for approval) [...].

"Has anyone seen Christina?", *Rolling Stone*, 14 Nov 2002

Excerpt 5

Other countries that have fairly substantial reserves include Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Nigeria, and Algeria. "It is hardly politically a smart move to rely on these countries for supplies," notes Martin Blunt [...]. Russia, for instance, has twice used its gas resources as a political weapon by turning off supplies to its European neighbors, most recently last winter. Moreover, even if U.S. companies wanted to buy Russian gas, not much would be available in the short term. While Russia pipes a lot of gas to Europe, it hasn't gotten heavily involved in the LNG market so far.

"Can Natural Gas Break Our Oil Habit?", *U.S. News & World Report*, 1 Apr 2009, Vol. 146, Iss. 3

Excerpt 6

The surprisingly successful new addition to the luxury hotel sweepstakes is the ultramodern Grand Hyatt Berlin, in Potsdamer Platz, Berlin's entirely new, most futuristic section. The lobby is cold and forbidding, although a recent overhaul makes it a little less so than before, but the rooms are spectacular - if you like minimalist modern. The health club is terrific.

"Berlin", *Town and Country*, Apr 2001, Vol. 155, Iss. 5251

Excerpt 7

Between it all – singing, acting, and traveling around the world – there's scarcely time left to catch her breath. But that suits her just fine. "You can really only enjoy life when you're extremely busy," she says. "Maybe that's why my style is so schizo. I just need a nap!"

"Joséphine De La Baume", *Harpers Bazaar*, Feb 2011, Iss. 3590

Excerpt 8

Photograph: Two years ago, this would have been cute. Now it's hot. HAT: MISS GUMMO. Ghosting is when a dude pulls back... or just disappears. Rude. But depending on how you play it and whether or not you even want Casper that badly, you may be able to turn things around.

"What to Do When a Guy Ghosts", *Cosmopolitan*, Feb 2012

Excerpt 9

More than two thirds of those polled (69 percent) said the U.S. should no longer be at war in Afghanistan, compared to 53 percent just four months ago. Americans increasingly are sensing that the war isn't going well: 68 percent think it is going somewhat badly or very badly. While Republican support for the war is also dropping, Republicans are more inclined to support keeping U.S. forces in Afghanistan [...].

"Century marks", *The Christian Century*, 18 Apr 2012

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Excerpt 10

I had buried my husband while I was still fairly young and not withered. I had buried someone who was young and not quite dead. Still, I always thought I would have my Clancy Jane. I had Dorothy and her family. They lived right next door. Who would have ever thought it? Now that she was grown and married, she talked down to me as if my mind was gone. Suddenly she was an expert on everything. Queenie said it was a shame, a doggone shame.

Michael Lee West, *Crazy Ladies*, 1990

Excerpt 11

Yet despite my criminal tendencies, this week's news that Kenneth Clarke is planning to curb police powers against drivers has rather worried me.

Today, London: News Group Newspapers Ltd, 1992

Excerpt 12

For too many of us, snacking has become so automatic that our brains barely register the hand-to-mouth motion. And it's not as if we're all reaching for diet-friendly apples: A 2010 study from the University of North Carolina found that most of us eat nearly 600 calories a day – roughly a third of our food – in snacks rather than meals.

"Snack Food Nation", *Prevention*, Feb 2012

Excerpt 13

So, we got around the physical limitations pretty easily. KING: What was your major? ELLISON: Cognitive neuroscience, which was pretty much a combination of biology and psychology. KING: And what – and you're going for your masters now. What do you want to do with that Brooke? ELLISON: Actually, I got my masters in public policy at the Kennedy School of Government, and now, going for my Ph.D. in political psychology, which is almost like a melding of my undergraduate work and my graduate work. It's really fascinating. It kind of looks at decision making and how people come to collective decisions. And it's really – it's quite an interesting field. And I might go into academia, that's kind of a forerunning option for me.

"Interview With Brooke Ellison", *CNN*, King, 18 Oct 2004

Excerpt 14

I had presented at various conferences in the field of chemistry but apparently I was not academically sufficient enough to handle chemistry on a doctorate level at a predominantly white university. Was I intelligent enough? I would like to think so, but I left a chemistry PhD program because I felt as if I was not intelligent enough, or better yet, was made to feel as if I were not intelligent enough to handle chemistry on the doctoral level. All my life I had been a person that took calculated risks. I actually enjoyed beating the odds when the deck was stacked against me. I beat the odds of graduating in the top five percent of my class in high school.

"A dream deferred: the experience of an African American student in a doctoral program in science", *Education*, Spring 2008

Excerpt 15

The dinner guests arrive twice. They ascend the stairs and walk through the wide doorway, and then they arrive again – the same guests, seen from a higher camera angle. This is a joke and soon we will understand the punch line: The guests, having so thoroughly arrived, are incapable of leaving. Luis Bunuel's "The Exterminating Angel" (1962) is a macabre comedy, a mordant view of human nature that suggests we harbor savage instincts and unspeakable secrets. Take a group of prosperous dinner guests and pen them up long enough, he suggests, and they'll turn on one another like rats in an overpopulation study.

"The Exterminating Angel", *Chicago Sun-Times*, 11 May 1997

Excerpt 16

"It's still happening" she says of the parish's growth. "I don't think we've had a non-growth month or decline since we began. Last year we averaged 62 new families a month." Super-size us. While its growth is extraordinary, St. Matthew is not the only parish in the United States that is bursting at the seams.

"Where 20,000 or 30,000 are gathered...", *U.S. Catholic*, Apr 2012

Excerpt 17

The superrich households (the top onetenth of the top 1 percent) received 37 percent of all the economic gains made during 2010. The rest of the top 10 percent received all the other gains.

"Century marks", *The Christian Century*, 18 Apr 2012

Excerpt 18

He made a speech once before the White House photographers' association and in the middle of a quiet, thoughtful passage on their impressive ability to get the picture even when surprising and shocking things are happening, he quickly, smoothly brought his thumbs to his ears, twirled his fingers, rolled his eyes and continued talking. [...] When your detractors' main criticism of you is that you're a bit of an idiot, it doesn't really help to give them idiot pictures, but Reagan didn't mind. On long rides home from summits in Europe or Asia on Air Force One, [...] when he saw a George Shultz or Paul Nitze sound asleep with his head back and his mouth hanging open, he'd quietly lean down and pantomime, "George, please, America has been invaded?"

"The light-hearted president", *Saturday Evening Post*, Sep/Oct 2002, Vol. 274, Issue 5

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La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

« Pour étudier la combinaison *quite* + *adjectif/verbe*, il est nécessaire d'opérer une distinction entre les adjectifs et les verbes qui recouvrent une notion gradable et ceux qui recouvrent une notion non-gradable. Il apparaît en effet, comme l'ont du reste fait remarquer de nombreux grammairiens, que *quite* signifie *moderately* lorsqu'il précède un adjectif ou un verbe gradable, mais qu'il veut dire *absolutely*, *completely*, lorsqu'il précède un adjectif ou un verbe non-gradable. »

Eric GILBERT, « Quite, rather », *Cahiers de recherche grammaire anglaise*, Tome 4, 1989, p. 15.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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Excerpt 1

There are several disabled parking spaces in Haslemere; most of these are quite close to the main town centre.
The Alton Herald, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 2

They're not bad, in fact within the self-imposed limited parameters they're quite good. But when it comes down to it, they're just another extension of the posing and preening junk-culture metal showing now on MTV heavy rotation.

Sounds Magazine, 1990, BNC

Excerpt 3

She settled for, 'It's been a lovely evening...' and was content when he took the hint. 'You would like for us to return to your hotel?' It was early still, but, while she had quite enjoyed his company and having someone else to converse with in her own language, an early night seemed quite a good idea. 'Do you mind?' she asked.

Jessica Steele, *West of Bohemia*, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 4

'Obviously it is not acceptable to have cigarettes for sale on the trolley service and the Ladies Committee has been asked to remove them,' he said. He added: 'It's not happened. The hospital is quite adamant that it is not our policy to encourage smoking or allow cigarettes to be sold'.

The Belfast Telegraph, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 5

It is one thing to mistake and misrepresent Jesus, clothed in all his humility as Son of Man; it is one thing to misread his parabolic teaching, coming as it does in riddles. But it is quite another thing to see the truth clearly and wilfully to reject it; quite another thing to ascribe the power of the Holy Spirit to the devil – which is what the scribes were doing.

Michael Green, *I Believe in the Holy Spirit*, 1985

Excerpt 6

'If you look over in the corner, there's a little ante-room with a single bed – intended, so I believe, to accommodate a child.' Shiona followed his gaze and saw the ante-room door that had quite escaped her notice before. Then once more she snapped her eyes back to Jake. 'That's still not good enough,' she protested.

Stephanie Howard, *Battle for Love*, 1991

Excerpt 7

She stood up. 'And now, if you've quite finished, I'll go.'

Joanna Neil, *The Waters of Eden*, 1993

Excerpt 8

I think they had both been so wrapped up in themselves they had quite forgotten my existence.

Hammond Innes, *Isvik*, 1991

Excerpt 9

I used to dream of being the next John McEnroe. I'd practise my strokes against the garden wall for hours on end (and play tennis too!). In the end, I never quite mastered the backhand, but I got the tantrums down to a tee (you cannot be serious! – Ed).

Zzap 64! Magazine, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 10

'You won't even notice I've gone.' He spoke without embarrassment. 'That's not quite fair,' she said cautiously. 'It's not as though you're not quite busy yourself. You haven't had much time for domestic life of late, have you?'

Margaret Drabble, *The Radiant Way*, 1988

Excerpt 11

'Being brought in for big games without any warning is something I'm used to. It's nothing that intimidates me. In fact, I quite enjoy the big occasions. The match in Genoa last season was probably the best night of my football life, with the atmosphere there. That's something I thrive on and it's something I can handle quite well mentally.'

John Griffith, *Liverpool Echo & Daily Post*, 1993

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Excerpt 12

'Elaine never said who your father was. The meeting between her and your mother was really quite brief –' Juliet stood up angrily and walked rigidly across to the window.

Alice Grey, *Hearts in Hiding*, 1993

Excerpt 13

"Mm, funny enough I don't like it in there well I suppose I might get something in"

"They have some quite nice ones as well don't they?"

"Yes"

"Tim was quite taken with that big card that he had for his birthday"

Recorded conversations, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 14

Fiona still wore her peach-coloured bridesmaid's dress, very long and smooth-looking. There were flowers in her hair, which made her look quite good. Rory suspected she looked so good because she didn't live here any more; she lived in London, and Aunt Ilsa had got her a job working for a television company.

Iain Banks, *The Crow Road*, 1993

Excerpt 15

Rosanna, this has very little to do with you. I rather admire you. Except for your taste in men, of course.

As the World Turns, 2005, SOAP

Excerpt 16

The humour is clever – daft but not really slap-stick – and the writers obviously put a lot of time into making sure it works. Another favourite is *The Bill* which is usually starting when I get in from training. I quite like the way the programme tends to finish but leaves a few questions unanswered. That way they leave things to your imagination.

Liverpool Daily Post & Echo: Arts section, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 17

Now I could tell she was really quite drunk. I wasn't even offended; just disgusted with her. The pictures others carry of you — it's not even funny.

Timothy Mo, *The Redundancy of Courage*, 1991

Excerpt 18

"One day, he came to lunch with me, and I became quite drunk while he stayed determinedly sober. Over coffee back at the office I tried to pull myself together and sell him a traded option in copper which would, as it turned out, have made him quite a lot of money."

Alexander Davidson, *The City Share Pushers*, 1989

Excerpt 19

I encountered a lot of very drunk people in Prague, more than in any other city I have visited except perhaps Belfast.

Walter Perrie, *Roads that Move*, 1991

Excerpt 20

It was quite a big decision to pick a girl from year nine. She's quite brilliant, absolutely the right choice, but I think there were some rather put-out mothers in the year above."

Carrie Adams, *The Stepmother*, 2009

Excerpt 21

The left side of the face was visibly reddening, quite a feat considering how overly rouged her cheeks already were.

Warren Hammond, *Kop Killer*, 2012

Excerpt 22

MIKE: I got him in the car, brought him over here before he even knew it was happening. He didn't even have time to think. MICHAEL: Hmm. I quite admire that.

The Young and the Restless, 2005

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La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"Finally, limit adjectives (e.g. *dead*, *true* and *identical*) are only marginally gradable as they fulfil only one criterion of the criteria traditionally used for gradability, i.e. they accept degree modifiers (Paradis 1997: 64). Most limit adjectives have what Warren (1992: 19) calls *fixed reference*: language users tend to agree both on the meaning of the adjective and on its application. A dead body is usually a dead body for all language users. This characteristic reflects the complementary nature of limit adjectives: they are conceptualized in terms of 'either-or'. They can thus be described as being associated with a definite boundary and, in consequence, they combine with totality modifiers, as exemplified by *completely dead* or *almost identical*."

Hannele DIEHL, "I quite fancy this: *quite* as a degree modifier of verbs in written British English", *Working Papers in Linguistics*, vol. 4, Lund: Lund University Press, 2004, p. 8.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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Excerpt 1

Though he did manage to bring back Claude's notebooks, which Claude had given to him after Claude's first death in the Forest – before he was dead once and for all, absolutely and completely dead, as the Mbuti put it.

Robert Hellenga, *Snakewoman of Little Egypt*, 2010

Excerpt 2

Yes, and their teeth were perfect, or were made to be; yes, and they had cosmetic surgery if necessary or nearly necessary; [...]

Joyce Carol Oates, *Ladies and Gentlemen*, 1990

Excerpt 3

You know the rules, Sabrina: we only use contacts if it's absolutely necessary. We can handle this ourselves.

Alastair MacNeill, *Death Train*, 1989

Excerpt 4

I'm trying to protect the island, and when I finally get a chance to show how totally necessary and important that is, people ignore it.

Anna North, *America Pacifica*, 2011

Excerpt 5

Mom and Dad came home the other night and your totally weird cat was all bored while you were in Vegas and we were stuck watching him. Did you know he is so fat and afraid of everything?

Maureen Lipinski, *A Bump in the Road: from Happy Hour to Baby Shower*, 2009

Excerpt 6

An apparition: a beautiful young indian girl, totally naked, walks out of the jungle. She is pregnant and holds a child. We begin to hear Indian music, played on a flute.

1492: *Conquest of Paradise*, 1992

Excerpt 7

Eventually I had to confess to my wife because I could not stand the humiliation of entering my house half naked everyday. "Grace, I hear that my suit has been confiscated by a certain man," I began rather casually, [...].

Mahala Siphiwo, *Trying to Hide the Guilt that Filled my Heart*, 2009

Excerpt 8

It was a completely clear gem, but when the Sun struck it, the white light shattered into a myriad of colored shards, strewn with the azure ones across the pages of Meredydd's book.

Maya Kaathryn Bohnhoff, *The Meri*, 1992

Excerpt 9

Nevertheless, this is not to say I did not gain a fairly clear impression of what was taking place within the room. In effect, the American gentleman was putting forward the view that M. Dupont was being manipulated by his lordship and other participants at the conference; [...]

Kazuo Ishiguro, *The Remains of the Day*, 1989

Excerpt 10

Very well, but I want to make it quite clear this is your responsibility.

Constantine Hermetech, *Storm*, 1991

Excerpt 11

'Can't you understand? All the harassment she's been receiving from your father made her desperate. Getting pregnant was her only way of escape!' Luke was unmoved and spoke harshly. 'I want the name of the man who made her pregnant. I want it now!'

Thomas Hayden, *The Killing Frost*, 1991

Excerpt 12

After a moment, the door swung open and a woman stood staring with big eyes in a pale face, her apron unable to conceal the fact that she was heavily pregnant.

Iris Gower, *The Shoemaker's Daughter*, 1992

Excerpt 13

I have a little flat... No, that's not strictly true; it's a room with shared bathroom and kitchen.

Emma Richmond, *Love of my Heart*, 1993

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Excerpt 14

And so, in true Arien fashion, she had decided to take the bull by the horns. Standing with her feet firmly planted in the centre of that luxurious carpet, she had made her position absolutely clear.

Eleanor Rees, *Hunter's Harem*, 1992

Excerpt 15

On the other hand, the inspector's belief that I would never be punished proved only too true when I returned to London and the inquest was held. The evidence that it was an accident brought about by bullies was overwhelming.

Noel Barber, *The Other Side of Paradise*, 1992

Excerpt 16

In addition, I no longer saw any of my old friends while I was up in London and my Hampstead flat felt rather empty without them.

Michael Falk, *Part of the Furniture*, 1991

Excerpt 17

Violet was stone-cold sober now.

Thomas Healy, *It Might Have Been Jerusalem*, 1991

Excerpt 18

On and off stage, drunk or sober, Gus moves like a star, always aware of people watching him, each move carefully calculated.

Geeta Kothari, *I Brake for Moose*, 2004

Excerpt 19

Danny is as always too busy, too motivated, too ambitious. In a nutshell, too English.

Lynne Pemberton, *Platinum Coast*, 1993

Excerpt 20

Anne felt that she considered her a green fool, and Mabel was indignant that Hetty was very ready to accept the 'perks' of the job, such as the cakes and bread given to the staff by Mrs Dyson, and the extra money from Mr Dyson, but was always on the alert for any infringement of her rights.

Elizabeth Murphy, *A Nest of Singing Birds*, 1993

Excerpt 21

'I'll find you some ear-rings,' he promised, 'and the car will come for you at six, ready or not.' 'I'll be ready,' she told him.

Celia Brayfield, *The Prince*, 1990

Excerpt 22

I mean, Elaine was so young, and so unready for motherhood.

Alice Grey, *Hearts in Hiding*, 1993

Excerpt 23

'You do understand that all of this is total crap?' Greg says. 'All your stuff about blue-collar people drinking beer - those are stupid clichés. Social class in this country, and socioeconomic status, is much more complicated than that - and much more interesting.'

Perri Klass, *Double Whammy*, 2003

Excerpt 24

'And if the British know enough about you, as they probably do, they will begin to police you. Good.' 'Good?' Alexander Rokovssky reflected. 'Yes, in some ways,' he said. 'You are a perfect red herring,' she said. 'Let them police you.'

Mary Jane Staples, *Sergeant Joe*, 1992

EAE 0422 A	
Code Sujet	LLG 15
Sujet Jury	
Sujet Candidat	
Page Sujet	1 / 3

La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"It seems natural to assume that adjectives which are conceptualized in terms of an unbounded range on a scale, e.g. *nice*, or in terms of an extreme point, e.g. *amazing*, or a limit, e.g. *sufficient*, select different types of degree modifiers. *Nice* is scalar and it is therefore natural that such an adjective selects modifiers which are capable of indicating a subrange on the scale of 'niceness', e.g. *very nice*, *fairly nice*. *Amazing* and *sufficient*, on the other hand, both involve reference to something extreme and absolute and, therefore, require modifiers which can reinforce the extreme point on the absolute limit, e.g. *absolutely amazing*, *quite sufficient*."

Carita PARADIS, *Degree Modifiers of Adjectives in Spoken British English*. Lund: Lund University Press, 1997, p. 41.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

Code sujet	LLG 15
Page Sujet	2 / 3

Excerpt 1

My wife and I finally decided that moving would be the answer. A fourth bedroom would be rather nice, and it would be cheaper to move than extend the kitchen and add a bedroom.

Milton Keynes, *Do It Yourself Magazine*, 1992

Excerpt 2

Shock, but after a while their limbs'll start trembling and they become very confused, now a person, a perfectly nice person, oh, you know, always very helpful and kind can suddenly become aggressive and they really do become aggressive and, if they go to violence their strength, oh where they get it from god only knows, but they could literally throw a person across the room.

Transcript from a British Red Cross first aid course, 20/10/1992, BNC

Excerpt 3

Many practices have applied to run health promotion clinics for managing stress, which are thinly disguised counselling sessions. The clinic fee is almost sufficient to cover a counsellor's sessional fee, thus costing the practice a minimal amount.

British Medical Journal, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 4

It is an illusion that the Arctic is dark in winter. The snow is so white that it reflects any available light. Above us there is a full moon and the light that is forcing its way between the clouds is quite sufficient to provide a picture. The picture is in black and white – there is never enough night light for colours to emerge – and this adds to the unreal quality.

Richard Sale & Tony Oliver, *Arctic Odyssey: Travelling Arctic Europe*, 1991

Excerpt 5

There's this big brass band set up in the middle of the station with these people sitting in chairs with their instruments all silvery and shiny. It sounds really nice, the music they're making – it's all loud and echoey. They're playing Christmas songs – I know cos I heard this one at school before.

Nigel Watts, *Billy Bayswater*, 1990

Excerpt 6

While the construction of dams, reservoirs and drainage channels has changed the character of the landscape, many irrigation schemes, through mismanagement, have created problems of salinisation and waterlogging that counteract the beneficial effects. In extreme cases, irrigation systems have been abandoned, contributing further to land that is annually lost to agriculture.

A. M. Manion, *Global Environmental Change*, 1991

Excerpt 7

It is, indeed, a rarity when initial enthusiastic ideas, plans, ideals and logistics fall into place with almost absolute perfection. Talent plays but a small part in the proceedings.

Mick Middles, *The Smiths*, 1988

Excerpt 8

This was tremendously exciting news for us, but it also confronted us with the dilemma of attempting to make two films with a budget and film stock barely sufficient for one. This would mean spending very little on food, saying goodbye to our "emergency contingency fund", and shooting a usable-film ratio of six to one, as opposed to the more realistically recommended twelve or even fifteen to one.

Lorne Blair, *Ring of Fire*, 1988

Excerpt 9

To make matters worse, the newt, like other amphibians, lacks a mechanism for drinking with its mouth. It has to absorb all the liquid it requires through its skin. It must also keep its body moist to help it breathe. Its lungs are relatively simple and not totally sufficient for its needs, so its oxygen intake, like the mudskipper's, is supplemented by absorption through its wet skin.

David Attenborough, *Life on Earth*, 1988

Excerpt 10

'Listen,' repeated Mr Chan. 'There's more than one radio playing. There're dozens.' Mr Chan punched out the shattered windscreen and fresh, cold air flowed into the Glory. The sight that met their eyes was truly amazing. Dozens of Glories were parked around the Monument, which was lit livid white by their blazing headlights. The racket from the radios was incredible.

Anthony Masters, *Traffic*, 1991

Code sujet	LLG 15
Page Sujet	3 / 3

Excerpt 11

We conclude that, for Titus, not only place but also time fails to recognize the customary separation of the living from the lifeless. We turn now to foregroundings which are less easy to recognize, because they are less absolute, and do not fit into the traditional rhetorical categories.

Michael H. Short & Geoffrey N. Leech, *Style in Fiction*, 1987

Excerpt 12

'Touring with Deep Purple in America in 1985 was pretty amazing. But I think we blew it in a big way. We were playing to 25,000 people a night, but we had no album out or anything – it was a complete shambles.'

Guitarist Magazine, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 13

Light hit his face as hard as the stinging raindrops. Then it abruptly disappeared, and all he could see were entrancing coloured patterns chasing each other about the glowing darkness like tropical fish. The pain was so unexpected, so absolute, that he had no name for it and fell over without a sound, like a baby, too shocked to make any fuss.

Michael Dibdin, *Ratking*, 1989, BNC

Excerpt 14

Work with teachers and students producing materials of their own is a very important part of resource provision, and librarianship training is less sufficient here (but see "Production: one mode of acquisition" in Chapter 6). Equally, question 5 is properly best answered, neither by a librarian nor by an ILEA media resource officer, but by an experienced teacher with a leadership role in curriculum development and methodology.

Norman Beswick, *Resource-Based Learning*, 1984

Excerpt 15

'We also place great emphasis on the confidence-building which comes through theatre and things like self-presentation, teamwork, personal responsibility, working to dead-lines – we've seen some fairly amazing changes in many of the women we've worked with. What we try to do is help them to stop being victims.' Such an approach is not only humane and constructive, Ford argues, it is also cost-effective.

The Scotsman: Art section, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 16

And now she was saying with the same delight, about someone else, 'Absolutely.' Then after a long pause she added, 'Absolutely nice. But do I love him? Yes. But why? Ah, there's the rub.'

M. Wandor, V. Miner, Z. Fairbairns, M. Roberts & Sara Maitland, *Tales I tell My Mother*, 1978

Excerpt 17

Pollution expert Michael Bradley said that oil companies were "all of a sudden doing some very amazing refinements to gasoline", because they feared that the substitution of alternatives such as methanol would be made compulsory.

The Environment Digest, 1985-1994, BNC

Excerpt 18

I've also been collecting a whole load of old Electro-Harmonix pedals while I've been on the road in the States, and they just sound so amazing compared to all these digital pedals! I've got a Small Stone phaser, a really old silver-coloured Big Muff fuzzbox, and a truly weird thing called The Zipper, which is like an early touch-wah.

Guitarist Magazine, 1992, BNC

Excerpt 19

[...] this is your way of working back rather than try and remember every little detail because a lot of them are similar, easy to get confused between them but you think well hey what would happen, what happens with an acid and a base, what happens with an acid and an alkali, now those two are virtually identical they they are more or less identical.

Tutorial lesson: GCSE chemistry tutoring session, 1993, BNC

Excerpt 20

It struck me that she was less brilliant than her sister, both mentally and physically, but also, perhaps as a consequence, less conceited.

Robert Goddard, *Into the Blue*, 1990

Excerpt 21

He said he had never come across a clearer, more perfect case, with so many vital details so well remembered.

And thus will I freely sing, 1989, BNC

EAE 0422 A	
Code Sujet	LLG 16
Sujet Jury	
Sujet Candidat	
Page Sujet	1 / 3

La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"(24) 'I suppose the truth is you can keep a thing under for *so long*, but then it bobs up again.' (C. Palliser, *The Sensationlist*, p. 129)

(25) '[...] You and Rachel were *so kind*.' (I. Murdoch, *The Black Prince*, p 88)

(26) '*Things flow about so here!*' she said at last in a plaintive tone, [...] (L. Carroll, *Through the Loooking-Glass*)

In these sentences the reference term, although not directly recoverable from the context or the situation, is also presupposed. The speaker uses *so* as if the hearer knew, or could know, the degree which is being referred to. In exclamative sentences like (25) or (26) this degree is implicitly high."

Paul LARREYA, "On the semantics of SO and AS", *Sigma* 17-18, 1996, p. 121.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

Code sujet	LLG 16
Page Sujet	2 / 3

Excerpt 1

All that buff paint – it was so unbabylike; a nursery should have some pink and blue and lemon in it, like sugared almonds.

Claire Rayner, *The Meddlers*, 1991

Excerpt 2

The little girl would always remember that moment, and the picture of her mother, so beautiful and so elegant in her top hat and long dark riding habit, mounted side-saddle on her famous grey hunter.

Charlotte Bingham, *In Sunshine or in Shadow*, 1992

Excerpt 3

'Did you ever live in a big house?' 'Not as big as this. But in Durham we had three rooms and a toilet outside and a little garden where you could sit in the summer.'

Catherine Cookson, *The Tag Nymph*, 1992

Excerpt 4

'Right you are, Father,' he said, as he re-tightened all round. 'That ought to do it.' His face streaked with sweat, Jos straightened up. 'By gum,' he said. 'I'm not as young as I used to be. Do you want to give us a hand, lad?'

Chris Kelly, *The Forest of the Night*, 1991

Excerpt 5

The mute when applied to the trumpet produces, when the instrument is blown softly, a far-away effect which, though not nearly so poetical as the sound of a soft muted horn, is nevertheless beautiful and intriguing.

Jacob Gordon, *Orchestral Technique: A Manual for Students*, 1982

Excerpt 6

Jed shook his head. Creed smiled. Not so much a smile, perhaps, as a slackening around his mouth.

Rupert Thomson, *The Five Gates of Hell*, 1991

Excerpt 7

There have been turnarounds both flashier and faster, but few so surprising as this Nebraska farm-equipment manufacturer's 10-year transformation.

Susan Greco, *The Decade-Long Overnight Success*, 1994

Excerpt 8

Another senior police officer who more than once captured the headlines, James Anderton, Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, decrying' the rot that has now taken a firm hold in the fabric of our society', was so moved as to describe crime as Britain's 'Top Growth Industry'.

Geoffrey Pearson, *Hooligan: A History of Respectable Fear*, 1983

Excerpt 9

'Write my memoirs?' she said, and smiled, but such a smile as Erika had never seen on her grandmother's face before: wry, mocking, and, shockingly, cynical.

Peter Carter, *Bury the Dead*, 1986

Excerpt 10

Most of the game is mental – being able to keep your head clear and retain a certain outlook on life should mean that bad times are neither so frequent nor so lengthy as they would be if you start examining your technique or doubting your ability.

The Cricketer, 1992

Excerpt 11

How that boy could eat! And yet he was always as thin as a rake.

Kristien Hemmerechts, *Long Ago*, 1997

Excerpt 12

Julian Hayman was in his office at the extremity of the ground floor. The room was as elegant as its occupant. It had no windows; neither did Hayman. 'Well, well, well,' he drawled. 'Long time, soldier.' He held out a languid hand. 'What brings you to my humble shop?'

Frederick Forsyth, *The Negotiator*, 1989

Excerpt 13

"Are you okay?" Becka asked. "Am I too heavy?" "No, you're fine. Light as a feather." She blushed. "That's because we've had nothing to eat at base camp except rice and fish for the last five days."

Brian Keene, *Castaways*, 2009

Code sujet	LLG 16
Page Sujet	3 / 3

Excerpt 14

By the time the dam is finished in 2019, it will flood an area larger than New York City, wiping out dozens of villages, including Tang Hpre, where the Kachin woman lives. From the riverbank she points to a white sign on a nearby hill. "The water will rise that high. Can you imagine living under that threat?"

Brook Larmer, *Land of Shadows*, 2011

Excerpt 15

They are sitting by the eye of the stream where it looks up at the sun before it weeps down the mountainside. I am above them, so high I hear the small birds sing below me. So high that I can not hear them speak.

Alice Ellis, *Unexplained Laughter*, 1985

Excerpt 16

Then I was falling, so fast that I felt quite breathless.

Clare West (ed.), Jonathan Swift, *Gulliver's Travels*, 1993

Excerpt 17

Above the twin peaks, in the calm sea of sky, a shimmering cascade of light augured the sunset. "It is so beautiful a planet," Ken whispered.

Audrey Borenstein, *Evanescence*, 1994

Excerpt 18

'One night,' he said, 'the mob came. They shouted round the house and the servants ran to my mother, they were so frightened. My father picked me up. "Get dressed," he said, "put on your warmest things.'"

Tanith Lee, *Dark Dance*, 1993

Excerpt 19

I reckon Marie is really pretty – prettier than Sara. Sara had summat wrong with her eyes, and to tell the truth, she wasn't pretty at all. But she had nice hair – not so long as Marie's, but just as shiny. It was sort of orangery, not black like Marie's, but it was real nice too.

Nigel Watts, *Bill Bayswater*, 1990

Excerpt 20

James was much shorter than she had imagined, with thinning, poker-straight brown hair and a paunch. Elaine, his wife, was much taller than him, with shoulder-length blonde hair and long legs carrying a well-rounded body.

Lynne Pemberton, *Platinum Coast*, 1993

Excerpt 21

Compared to this little middle-aged lot, we didn't get to first base! It was so fascinating to observe that I was very sorry when the party broke up, and even more so when Margaret did not ask her old pal Richard to stay on for supper with us after the Rolls drove away.

Lucille Andrews, *Hospital Circles*, 1986

Excerpt 22

VICTORIA: I mean, his wife leaves him and Cassie's accident and – we are so not talking about this right now.
CODIE: Come on. Why not?

The Young and the Restless, 2003

Excerpt 23

'No, the murder of Lord Woodleigh was conceived here on Capri, I am believing. Perhaps because something called a stoup in a church was not so interesting enough as he had thought.' 'What on earth,' Arabella Buckley said, 'has the stoup to do with murder?'

Tim Held, *A Classic English Crime*, 1990

Excerpt 24

"Do you consider yourself a rich man?" Not as rich as some. "But you would be able to pay the ransom without difficulty, assuming the money was allowed into the country?"

Magdalen Nabb, *Death in Springtime: A Florentine Mystery*, 1989

Excerpt 25

It was good to be out. It was always good, the more so because he spent a great deal of time trapped indoors by his choice of work, a choice governed by his wish to acquire a useful little nest-egg in a relatively short time. He would have preferred an outdoor job.

Mary Jane Staples, *Sergeant Joe*, 1992

EAE 0422 A	
Code Sujet	LLG 03
Sujet Jury	
Sujet Candidat	
Page Sujet	1 / 3

La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"Very [...] is the most common booster and also the most lexically bleached. Therefore it is not surprising that it occurs with all kinds of scalar adjectives [...] It also combines with limit adjectives, which are modulated to scalar ones by very [...], and with extreme adjectives or strong scalar adjectives [...]. In combination with very, the force of these adjectives is clearly weakened."

Carita PARADIS, *Degree Modifiers of Adjectives in Spoken British English*. Lund: Lund University Press, 1997, p. 83.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

Code sujet	LLG 03
Page Sujet	2 / 3

Excerpt 1

So if you want to play that game, we can play that game for a very long time.

ABC_ThisWeek, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 2

Things could get very ugly without warning.

Fantasy & Science Fiction, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 3

What was highly desirable yesterday might not be very important tomorrow or next year.

Anatoly Ruvinsky, *Genetics and Randomness*, 2009

Excerpt 4

I swung the door open and stepped into a very empty room. The bathroom. I pushed open the bathroom door and looked into the tiny cubicle. Also empty. There was no one home. Stella was gone.

Rick Fontes, *The Case Of The Very Hot Car*, 2012

Excerpt 5

Mr. Jackson, what she's accusing you of is a very horrible thing, and I'm just thinking it must be very hard for you.

ABC_DayOne, 1993, Glowbe

Excerpt 6

New Zealand English is very like Australian English.

John Wells, *Accents of English*, 1982

Excerpt 7

I think she's a very, very brilliant person, and as a senator in New York, she has done a great job. Everybody loves her.

CNN_Situation, 2007, Glowbe

Excerpt 8

I would help him take his breakfast in his room as he wore this very dressing gown, his hand shaking with tremor and age as he held the coffee cup, the drops slipping from his trembling lower lip onto the silk, for at the end he could barely hold the cup without help. 'It's all right,' I would tell him, 'no need to be embarrassed.' Then he would blush like a boy and sometimes cry and I would hold his old head to my breast and stroke the gray locks. He was so very tired, you see, so very exhausted with every bit of it.

New England Review, 2003, Glowbe

Excerpt 9

I always like to hear, Nance, you talk sports because, I mean, I didn't even know you had that side. Really, it's so very, very, very impressive.

NBC_Today, 2012, Glowbe

Excerpt 10

Down further to the south here into Utah, we're looking at very strong winds that will blow the snow around. Northwesterly winds 15 to 20 miles per hour. Gusts ever higher than that. So, that's going to make travel more treacherous and limit visibility. So while the snow, Drew, is great news for those of you that are looking to get some spring skiing, unfortunately getting there isn't going to be so easy. GRIFFIN: Yes, that's very true.

CNN Newsroom, 2011, COCA

Excerpt 11

"I don't mean to be critical. Please forgive me." "You don't need to apologize, Doc. I try very hard to hide it, but basically I'm a coward." "That's awfully hard on yourself." "It's awfully true."

Thomas Quell, *The Princess and the Prophet: Guardians of the Light*, 2003

Excerpt 12

Items are presented using a 3-point scale from 0 (not true) to 2 (very true or often true) and respondents assess how true each item is for them currently (i.e., within the past six months).

Adolescence, 2009, COCA

Excerpt 13

So Very Absolutely True

(Advert), < pinterest.com >, accessed 2015

Excerpt 14

The water was very clear so that you could see all the way down to the bottom. While we were in the water, a huge fish just swam right by us!

< erinsseattleadventures.wordpress.com >, accessed 2015

Code sujet	LLG 03
Page Sujet	3 / 3

Excerpt 15

And in the meantime, also, my team found that in - from chimpanzees in Gabon, and then from the zoo in Antwerp, the town that I was working, that some chimpanzees carry a virus that is very, very similar to the one that we find in people.

NPR_Science, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 16

The usual chitchat occurred, less annoying tonight because it was the very last time.

Fantasy & Science Fiction, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 17

Oxford is not short of lecture theaters, but this was a special one. It was in the University Museum of Natural History, and it was the very room where in 1860 a famous debate was held on the subject of evolution.

Humanist, 2008, COCA

Excerpt 18

Phil Plait, accomplished scientist, author of the Bad Astronomy blog, and several bestselling books like "Death from the Skies", gave what has come to be a very discussed talk about not being a dick.

< skepticnorth.com >, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 19

On February 15th, 1745, Georgiane appeared for the first time as Blanch in the veteran Colley Cibber's egregious Papal Tyranny in the Reign of King John, a much botched and mangled version of Shakespeare's King John.

Cyril Hughes Hartmann, *Enchanting Bellamy*, 1956

Excerpt 20

Investigation revealed loss of control was due to reversed elevator controls. TOUCH DOWN, NOSE UP. Misjudgement of flare-out for a landing was cited as the primary cause of a well-botched short-field landing.

The AOPA Pilot, 1962

Excerpt 21

Opposite on the east side a similar area was occupied by lavatories; but here the dome and outer walls have fallen, and a very botched repair makes it difficult to see what was the original arrangement.

John Freely, *A History of Ottoman Architecture*, 2011

Excerpt 22

"Why, it's hundreds and hundreds of people here who think the monarchy is frightfully important," she says. Every year, on April 21, the members of the Monarchists League hold a dinner in honor of the Queen's birthday.

Timothy Egan, *The Good Rain: Across Time & Terrain in the Pacific Northwest*, 2011

Excerpt 23

This self-inflated, technologically oriented culture that we're in can provide a kind of egoistic pleasure, but at the same time it's a terribly false and isolating state of mind to be in.

David Jay Brown, *Conversations on the Edge of the Apocalypse: Contemplating the Future*, 2005

Excerpt 24

'Alida Slade's awfully brilliant; but not as brilliant as she thinks,' would have summed it up; though she would have added, for the enlightenment of strangers, that Mrs Slade had been an extremely dashing girl; much more so than her daughter.

Various, *The Wordswoth Collection of Classic Short Stories*, 2007

Excerpt 25

And after he left, she was forced to recognize how she'd changed as well, her determined cheerfulness and willful ignorance, her ability to read the newspaper and then push the unpleasantness from her mind (how typical, how bourgeoisie, how very American, she thought now), as though the world wasn't shifting very much at all, as though everything wasn't crumbling beneath them.

Literary Review, 2008, BNC

Excerpt 26

The little hedgehog smoothed her quills and tried to look dignified. She so wanted her first day as Official Dog Chaser to go well. It was a very great responsibility.

Stephen Lawhead, *A Tale of Annabel Hedgehog*, 1990

EAE 0422 A	
Code Sujet	LLG 11
Sujet Jury	
Sujet Candidat	
Page Sujet	1 / 3

La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"Inherently gradable adjectives are typically involved in the relation of **antonymy**. The adjectives *large* and *small* are examples of antonyms, representing points on a scale of size. Degrees may be expressed by premodification of the adjective, e.g. *larger*, *very large*, *quite small*, etc. [...]

Opposites, of the **complementary** type [...], such as *true* and *false*, are not typically gradable."

Gordon TUCKER, *The Lexicogrammar of Adjectives: A Systemic Functional Approach to Lexis*. London/New York: Cassell, 1998, p. 58.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

Code sujet	LLG 11
Page Sujet	2 / 3

Excerpt 1

He was tall and very large, though there wasn't a spare ounce of fat discernible over his entire form. The largeness of appearance came from the breadth of his shoulders, the muscles that his charcoal gray morning suit – no matter how finely tailored – could not completely hide and the long length of his strong legs encased in gray woollen trousers. It was not the elegant, thin frame of a refined man, but the brute and efficient form of a dockworker.

Kristen Callihan, *Firelight*, 2012

Excerpt 2

We were flying across there, you know, going almost 80 miles an hour, getting drowsy, pulled off, and immediately saw a big purple truck and a big guy out walking a very small dog.

NPR_Daybreak, 2004, COCA

Excerpt 3

A horrific photo of a Corvette which has crashed into a large truck is being circulated with a story about how this was the result of texting. Is this story true or false?

< wafflesatnoon.com >, 2012, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 4

WANTED: DEAD OR ALIVE

< pmtutor.net >, 2011, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 5

Sam and I got along beautifully; like kindred souls, really. Once I told him the long, sad (and totally false) story of my life, he took to me like a big brother. "Gar," he told me more than once, "we're two of a kind."

Analog Science Fiction & Fact, 2003, COCA

Excerpt 6

A locksmith is quite right to ask for ID before allowing access to a building or vehicle.

Denver Post, 2012, COCA

Excerpt 7

The Ellsworth compound was an immense and fanciful brick mansion built in the late 1800s, considered one of the most spectacular homes in Pacific Heights. A vine-covered wall fronted the house, and four attached buildings, built as servants' quarters, wrapped around the corner of Vallejo and went halfway down Ellsworth Place.

James Patterson, *11th Hour*, 2012

Excerpt 8

I remembered the horror of drowning in the tentacled grip of a gigantic sea monster. I recalled being flayed alive by the fireball of an exploding starship.

Ben Bova, *Orion and King Arthur*, 2012

Excerpt 9

I think pointing to an elected official who is either African-American or Latino doesn't necessarily tell you whether that person was the candidate of choice of Latino voters. And, also, though, your point is very true that Latinos and other minority voters can be very diverse in their candidate preferences.

NPR_TellMore, 2011, COCA

Excerpt 10

Bernie decided that the person was obviously male. And obviously dead. Unless he didn't need to breathe air. His legs were visible, but his chest and head were floating face down in green beer.

"Maybe he was drinking and fell in," Bernie suggested.

"And maybe the cow really did jump over the moon," Brandon told her.

"There is a chance it could have been an accident," Bernie countered.

"A very small chance," Brandon allowed. "An infinitesimal chance."

Isis Crawford, *A Catered St. Patrick's Day: A Mystery with Recipes*, 2012

Excerpt 11

It is not improbable that they are algae of an extremely minute size, and the evidence so far obtained would lead us to regard them as complete individuals rather than the reproductive cells of some larger organism.

A. C. Seward, *Fossil Plants: A Text-Book for Students of Botany and Geology*, 2011

Excerpt 12

I found that what looked like a speck of ink was really a minute intertwining of two Chinese symbols. Even the people who were smuggling the documents had obviously missed it, once the documents had left the hands of the forger.

Cosmopolitan, 1962, books.google.fr

Code sujet	LLG 11
Page Sujet	3 / 3

Excerpt 13

Elsewhere in the same room, the Titian Room, are more paintings, furniture, fabrics, and bibelots, plus a rather fine and rather gigantic mid-sixteenth-century Persian carpet.

Andrew McClellan, *Art and Its Publics: Museum Studies at the Millennium*, 2008

Excerpt 14

The man was walking slowly, limping slightly and leaning on his cane. His right leg was stiff and somewhat immobile.

Craig Parshall, *Missing Witness*, 2004

Excerpt 15

And in still another sense, the Bush administration's broad-brush attack on "the French" seemed terribly ungrateful to the many pro-American French commentators and politicians in France.

Ella Shohat & Robert Stam, *Flagging Patriotism: Crises of Narcissism and Anti-Americanism*, 2013

Excerpt 16

Upon seeing this, the priest and Protestant both agree that the customs of the witch doctor seem to be very ridiculous and very illogical. They both seem to chuckle at the ignorance of primitive man.

Donald A. Wheeler, *Origin of Life, Man and God in That Order*, 2012

Excerpt 17

Morse shook his head slowly. The man's head lay in a large sticky-looking stain of dark red blood, and to Morse George Jackson appeared very, very dead indeed.

Colin Dexter, *The Dead of Jericho*, 2008

Excerpt 18

Though the daughter of a mortician, she had never seen such a corpse. The body was so completely dead – simply emptied of life – and yet so untouched. His skin had not yet turned waxy and unreal, and he wasn't terribly bloody. Instead, the body was rumpled, a misshapen scattering of broken bones sealed over by skin and a blue jogging suit.

Susan Woodring, *Goliath*, 2012

Excerpt 19

Cricket was not just the most British sport; it was also one of the most elite sports.

John M. Carroll, *Edge of Empires: Chinese Elites and British Colonials*, 2009

Excerpt 20

What I don't want is a coop that's a big, red painted thing with that funny octagonalish roof. Know what I mean?

< theartofdoingstuff.com >, 2011, accessed 2015

Excerpt 21

Olympia Hotel: Not bad, friendly-ish staff, location is OK. A bit dated.

< www.tripadvisor.com >, accessed 2015

Excerpt 22

I say, "Well, ya know sometimes it flares up and we will need to get you in." The trainee nods knowingly as well, both just shaking their heads like bobbedolls. Then the family comes, two daughters at first, both fairly roundish, probably 300 lbs.

Rade B. Vukmir, *The ER: A Year in the Life*, 2005

Excerpt 23

Madame Reverdy was the wife of a hotel keeper. I say was because she is dead not awfully dead but still dead.

Gertrude Stein, *The Geographical History of America*, 2013

Excerpt 24

And people my age, well all they read is prescription labels and the obituaries. That's not quite true. Nor is it quite false. Why do they print the obits so small?

Literary Review, 2010, Glowbe

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La leçon se déroule en anglais. Elle est suivie d'un entretien en français.

SUBJECT:

"[A]djectives cannot be rigidly categorized as either gradables or nongradables, or as exclusively scalar, extreme or limit adjectives, because there is a great deal of flexibility in the semantic make-up of adjectives, allowing for modifications."

Carita PARADIS, *Degree Modifiers of Adjectives in Spoken British English*, Lund: Lund University Press, 1997, p. 59.

Discuss.

Candidates will use relevant excerpts from the following corpus to address the above topic.

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Excerpt 1

This morning's "Washington Post" had a very interesting article about how Bain functioned under Romney, which said basically they were into double-crossing.

ABC This Week, "Roundtable; bain backlash", 2012, COCA

Excerpt 2

She was absolutely devastated. Crying fits, you know, yelling, cursing, screaming.

ABC 20/20, "One Moment in Time; the Life of Whitney Houston", 17/02/2012, COCA

Excerpt 3

True or false: Boys are better at math than girls? No way! There isn't any difference in math ability between genders.

Parenting. School Years, "The Gender Divide", May 2012

Excerpt 4

The old man had on a corduroy shirt and a green tie and was gesturing with both hands, telling the woman some story out of his own old time when he was young.

Kent Haruf, Plainsong, 1998

Excerpt 5

Deep inside I feel that this world we live in is really a big, huge, monumental symphonic orchestra.

Ebony, "Michael Jackson: Crowned in Africa, Pop Music King Tells Real Story of Controversial Trip", vol. 47, issue 7, 1992

Excerpt 6

Officials of the Board of Foreign Missions of the United Church of Canada sent letters to Members of Parliament and to Prime Minister Mackenzie King in opposition to Bill No. 135 (Clause 5) proposing to disfranchise "all persons whose racial origin is that of a country at war with Canada." 30 Opponents of the Bill argued that those "who were born in this country are no more responsible for what the militarists of the country of their racial origin have done, or are doing, than are Canadian citizens of any other racial background. Why, therefore, discriminate against them and not against Canadians whose ancestry is German, Italian, Finnish, Hungarian, Romanian, or Bulgarian?"

American Review of Canadian Studies, 2004, COCA

Excerpt 7

Now the fact that communication's been cut off, a lot of the roads have been washed away has made it quite difficult for people to get into these areas.

Fox O'Reilly, Personal Story, 2004

Excerpt 8

In Hungary, a few years ago, some women who asked to be allowed to study theology were eventually told by the ecclesiastical authorities that this was quite impossible, because there was no women's toilet in the Catholic academy.

America, 1992, COCA

Excerpt 9

To describe this fire afterward, the cool soldier, General Hancock, could find no other but the word terrific. "Their artillery-fire," he says, "was the most terrific cannonade I ever witnessed, and the most prolonged... It was a most terrific and appalling cannonade—one possibly hardly ever paralleled."

John Esten Cooke, A Life of General Robert E. Lee, 2006

Excerpt 10

I made changes, and then sent the novel in pieces to Susan Golomb, and she went over what I sent her and I made changes based on her very excellent advice, and then I sent her the revisions.

Writer, "Advice from first-time novelists", Vol. 122, Issue 8, Aug 2009

Excerpt 11

"The British don't think that calling for a pax Americana is a very British thing to do.... The American thing to do is to have it while calling for something else."

National Review, 1990, COCA

Excerpt 12

A happy employee is a productive employee. How true, how true! Morale may not be everything, but it is an important factor in high productivity.

Journal of Environmental Health, 1997, COCA

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Excerpt 13

Sunday school environmentalism refers to ideas that, on the face of it, look very "green" or "environmentally friendly" but in reality are at best reductionist and of minor importance, often merely useless, and at worst more harmful to the environment.

< rationalwiki.org >, accessed 2015

Excerpt 14

Again, the author's fertile imagination, as he describes the strange group of gorilla-men in Tarzan and the Golden Lion: Of almost gigantic stature, the creature was walking erect with the stride of a man.

Robert W. Fenton, *Edgar Rice Burroughs and Tarzan: A Biography of the Author*, 2003

Excerpt 15

Then at our reception, I realized that one of my husband's friends was completely drunk. Like, he was totally bombed by the end of cocktail hour.

ABC_GMA, 2007, COCA

Excerpt 16

He was a sergeant, in his early thirties, very drunk, with the build and colouring of a Springbok loose forward. Jack got out of bed, not quite sober yet himself, and opened up the back bar for the sergeant and his two off-siders.

World Literature Today, 2004, COCA

Excerpt 17

You go back and you take a newspaper like "The New York Times", obviously a fairly sober, austere, serious publication, from September 12 right through the end of the year. They produced a special section every day which was called "A Nation Challenged".

CNN_Intl, 2003, COCA

Excerpt 18

On November 16th, Hyuna uploaded the photo through her Twitter and wrote, "Two lumps of the moon, looking for coffee all over". ("Lump of the moon" usually refers to a big or a very round face that one might think of when you think of a full moon.) In the photos, the girls can be seen making their cute poses on the streets along with the crowd.

< www.kpopnews.info >, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 19

Max looked back at his leg, the bandage still fairly red and Ally would be along soon enough to change it. It was getting better and it was pretty amazing that he hadn't bled out or anything yet, but he was definitely not ready to put any weight on it yet.

< <http://sheakoshan.net> >, 2012, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 20

Bobby Jindal is running for governor, so we finally have a chance at some competent leadership. And since (extremely blue) New Orleans is down to about 100,000 people – a fair chunk of whom are here illegally and probably won't vote, and because the rest of the state is fairly red, he's got an excellent chance to win.

< hotair.com/archives >, 2007, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 21

The law is the foundation of the state. Where the law is not respected by any branch of the government the resulting situation can be extremely disastrous to the whole of society and the very structure of the government could be shaken and shattered when that happens.

< www.colombotelegraph.com >, Glowbe, accessed 2015

Excerpt 22

How Bond behaves bears no more relevance to real life than, say, Batman. But if you're going to judge him, then there's quite a lot in Skyfall that paints Bond as a cold, callous man who is a bit dead inside because of the cumulative pressure of his job.

< reciperifle.blogspot.com >, 2012, Glowbe, accessed 2015