

Devoir surveillé – Pouvoirs et contre-pouvoirs

Axe culturel 2 — Espace privé et espace public : comment les citoyens résistent-ils au pouvoir et défendent-ils leurs droits dans le monde anglophone ?

Durée : 120 min – Sans document – Sur 20 points · Anglais (LVA) 1^{re}

Nom : _____ Date : _____ Note : _____ / 20

Les réponses doivent être rédigées et justifiées. Soigne l'orthographe et la présentation.

Exercice 1 – Compréhension écrite — The Chronicle asks a boring question (4 pts)

Read the following text carefully, then answer the four questions in English, in full sentences. The Chronicle had been printing the same eight pages for forty years. When the town council voted, behind closed doors, to sell the public library to a property developer, no national newspaper noticed. Maya Okonkwo, the Chronicle's only full-time reporter, did. She asked for the minutes of the meeting. The clerk told her they were not available. She asked again, in writing, quoting the town's own transparency rules. Three weeks later, a brown envelope appeared on her desk: eighteen pages of figures, and the name of a councillor who owned shares in the developer's company. The story ran on a Thursday. By Friday, two hundred people were standing outside the town hall with homemade signs. By the following Tuesday, the council had suspended the sale and opened an inquiry. The councillor resigned before the inquiry reported anything at all. Maya did not think of herself as a hero. "I asked a boring question about a boring document," she said later. "That is the whole job. Someone in power decides something quietly, and someone else asks, out loud, why." The Chronicle still prints eight pages. But the council now publishes its minutes online, within forty-eight hours, every single time.

- a) Who is Maya Okonkwo, and what does she do for a living ? Answer in one sentence. (1 pt)
- b) What decision had the town council taken, and why was the way it was taken problematic ? (1 pt)
- c) "A brown envelope appeared on her desk" : what does this sentence suggest about where the documents came from ? Justify. (1 pt)
- d) Explain in your own words what Maya means by "That is the whole job." (1 pt)

Exercice 2 – Langue — le lexique des institutions (4 pts)

Complétez ou traduisez. Un point par question.

- a) The ___ branch makes the law ; the executive enforces it. (un mot)
- b) The Supreme Court can strike ___ a law it considers unconstitutional. (une particule)
- c) Complétez : « Parliament exercises o_____ over ministers » (le contrôle, la surveillance).
- d) Traduisez : « Nul n'est au-dessus de la loi. »

Exercice 3 – Langue — faux amis et collocations (4 pts)

Choisissez, complétez ou traduisez. Un point par question.

- a) Choisissez : The committee will (control / check) the minister's expenses. Justifiez en trois mots.
- b) Traduisez en commençant par Actually : « En fait, le projet de loi a été rejeté par le Sénat. »
- c) Policy ou politics ? « Her immigration ___ was criticised by the whole press. »
- d) Traduisez : « une manifestation pacifique » puis « abuser de son pouvoir ».

Exercice 4 – Langue — les tournures d’analyse*(4 pts)*

Complétez, réécrivez ou traduisez les tournures de commentaire. Un point par question.

- a) a) Complétez : « This document ____ an extract from an article published in 2022. »
- b) b) Réécrivez avec le verbe suggest : « The cartoonist thinks the press is muzzled. »
- c) c) Complétez la tournure de nuance : « On the one hand, the law protects citizens ; on the ____ ____, it limits their privacy. »
- d) d) Traduisez l’ouverture de problématique : « Dans quelle mesure la presse est-elle un contre-pouvoir ? »

Exercice 5 – Expression écrite — a letter to the editor*(4 pts)*

A decision has been taken in your town without any public consultation : the town council has closed the only public swimming pool. You write a letter to your local newspaper. Respect the four requirements below ; each is worth one point.

- a) a) Write between 120 and 150 words, in the form of a letter to the editor (opening address, argued body, closing). (1 pt)
- b) b) Use at least four words or expressions from the chapter’s lexicon — for example accountable, oversight, transparency, whistle-blower, grassroots, civil disobedience, to hold to account — and underline them. (1 pt)
- c) c) Include one sentence of nuance built on « On the one hand... ; on the other hand... ». (1 pt)
- d) d) End with a rhetorical question beginning with « To what extent... ». (1 pt)

Bon courage !