

Devoir surveillé – Modalité avancée : may, might, would, shall

Exprimer la possibilité, la probabilité, la politesse et la volonté en anglais — programme de 1re LVA

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 – Exercice 1 — Compréhension écrite : The Bell That Rang at (4 Midnight pts)

Read the following text carefully, then answer the four questions in English. Use your own words whenever possible.

The Bell That Rang at Midnight

Until last spring, nobody in Ashcombe paid much attention to the old chapel on the hill. Its door had been locked since 1974, and the bell in the tower had been silent for fifty years. Then, on the night of 3 April, the bell rang eleven times.

The next morning, the whole village argued about it. Mrs Okafor, who lives closest to the hill, said that a fox must have climbed into the tower and knocked against the rope. Her neighbour laughed: a fox can't have pulled a rope that heavy. Teenagers might have broken in for a dare, someone else suggested — but the padlock was untouched, and the dust on the stairs had not been disturbed.

The vicar was supposed to have inspected the building every March. He admitted, rather quietly, that he had not been inside since 2019. « The frame may have shifted, » he said. « In a strong wind, a loose bell will swing on its own. »

There had been no wind that night.

By June the story had reached the regional newspaper, and visitors were arriving with cameras. Ashcombe, which used to be a village nobody could find on a map, was bound to enjoy the attention. Shops reopened. A café appeared. The bell has not rung since, and whatever happened that night, the villagers are unlikely ever to agree on it.

Glossaire : a vicar = un pasteur · a padlock = un cadenas · a dare = un défi · to swing = osciller, se balancer.

- a) a) How long had the chapel bell been silent before the night of 3 April? Quote the words from the text that give the answer. (1 pt)
- b) b) In your own words, explain in two sentences why the villagers could not agree on a single explanation. (1 pt)
- c) c) One short sentence in the text suggests that the narrator does not believe the vicar's explanation. Quote it and say what it implies. (1 pt)
- d) d) Explain the meaning of « was supposed to have inspected » in the text: what does this form tell us about what really happened? (1 pt)

Exercice 2 – Exercice 2 — Modal + have + participe passé**(4 pts)**

Complete each sentence with the modal suggested by the context, followed by have and the past participle of the verb in brackets. Each answer is worth 1 point.

- a) a) The dust on the stairs had not moved, so nobody ____ (enter) the tower. (déduction négative)
- b) b) The rope was very heavy, so a fox ____ (pull) it. (déduction négative)
- c) c) Someone ____ (be) inside the chapel that night — but we have no proof. (simple possibilité)
- d) d) The story reached the newspapers in June: a journalist ____ (hear) about it in the village. (quasi-certitude)

Exercice 3 – Exercice 3 — Habitude révolue, irréel du passé, semi-modaux**(4 pts)**

Complete each sentence with the correct form. Each answer is worth 1 point.

- a) a) When she was a child, Mrs Okafor ____ (spend) every summer in Ashcombe. (habitude révolue)
- b) b) If the vicar ____ (inspect) the chapel in March, he would have noticed the loose frame.
- c) c) Such a strange story ____ (attract) journalists sooner or later: it was inevitable.
- d) d) Ashcombe ____ (be) a village nobody could find on a map; today it has a café and a car park.

Exercice 4 – Exercice 4 — Traduction en anglais**(4 pts)**

Translate the following sentences into English. Each sentence is worth 1 point.

- a) a) Il a dû se tromper de chemin : il n'est jamais arrivé.
- b) b) Tu aurais dû me prévenir avant de partir.
- c) c) Si nous avions connu le risque, nous n'aurions jamais signé.
- d) d) Le train était censé arriver à six heures, mais il n'est jamais venu.

Exercice 5 – Exercice 5 — Expression écrite**(4 pts)**

You are a journalist sent to Ashcombe after the bell rang. Write an article of 130 to 160 words for the regional newspaper. Respect the four requirements below (1 point each).

- a) a) Longueur et format : 130 à 160 mots, avec un titre et au moins deux paragraphes. (1 pt)
- b) b) Langue : employer au moins quatre modaux du passé différents (must have, can't have, may / might have, should have, could have), correctement construits. (1 pt)
- c) c) Contenu : présenter au moins deux hypothèses opposées et expliquer pourquoi aucune n'est certaine ; employer au moins un semi-modal (was supposed to, was bound to, is likely to). (1 pt)
- d) d) Cohérence : utiliser des connecteurs (however, therefore, although, in fact) et conclure par un avis personnel nuancé. (1 pt)

Bon courage !