



AMERIQUE DU NORD 2018

ANGLAIS LV1 (SERIE GENERALE)

I. COMPREHENSION ECRITE

DOCUMENT A

1) Age :65

2 previous occupations : veterinarian, raquetball player

What he does today : he operates a special kind of travel service

2)a. His clients are « lawyers, programmers, researchers, entrepreneurs and investors » (l.12-13)

b. They are all white, all male and all occupy executive positions.

3)a. According to the text, the travel service he offers include *staying at homeless shelters* (l.9), *visiting hobo jungles* (l.10), *exploring abandoned mine shafts* (l.10-11) and *walking across the Mexican desert* (l.11)

b. He offers risky adventures which are the complete opposite of the daily lives of the participants.

c. The clients probably choose Bo Keely Tours because they are bored with their rich comfortable lives and want to experience the thrill of danger.

4) a. No, in the first expression *hobo jungles* hobo refers to real homeless vagabonds, while in the phrase *executive hoboes*, it is used rather ironically by the journalist to describe Keely's clients.

b. The Keely package and its success reveal that, while outwardly successful, with *executive positions* and rewarding jobs such as *lawyers, programmers or entrepreneurs*, some people aren't satisfied with their *desk jobs* and want adventure and danger in their lives. It shows that Keely's clients are predominantly rich people who can afford *exclusive Aspen retreats* and yet want to see how poor people live.

LVA seulement

5) I would say that this article is written in an ironical and slightly disbelieving tone. Obviously, the journalist is puzzled with the *intriguing band of followers* (l1-2) which Keely attracts, but not impressed with them. He calls them *executive hoboes* (l.11) and is quite sarcastic about their desire to pay to see *how the other half lives* (header). The journalist is also quite critical of the fact that Keely's clients are almost all privileged members of society *almost exclusively white, exclusively male* (l.12). At the same time, Tim Murphy *wonders* (l.16) what they see in Keely and why they sign up for his package.

DOCUMENT B

6)

Type of transport : Flight (plane)

Country of departure : Australia

Duration : 13h

Sightseeing destination : Antarctica

General description : cold, dry windy

Elements of landscape : ice, icebergs, ocean, coastline

7) It is the most remote continent on Earth and people chose this destination because it is unique.

8) a. Children and their grandparents, elderly people, retired American scientists and people for whom this is a Christmas gift.

b. This trip is a unique opportunity, something *special* (l.13) which generates a lot of *excitement* (l.8). For many, it is a trip that they *have dreamed about* (l.32), a once in a lifetime opportunity.

9) The writer describes them as an elite club because only one company in the world offers flights over Antarctica. This means that relatively few people, *40,000 people* (l. 15) in *22 years* (l.15) can afford the flight compared with traditional destinations.

10) Even though some people dress up for an expedition with *a wool hat with ear muffs* (l.10), it is not really an expedition. In fact even very old people such as the *93-year-old Bondi woman* can go on this flight. People stay seated in the plane, cabin crew offer them *gin and tonics* (l.18) and all they can do is *squash noses against windows* (l. 21-22) and take pictures of the coldest continent on Earth.

LVA seulement

11) Antarctica Flights plays a lot on the uniqueness of the destination to promote this adventure. The company uses well known clichés, such as the giant penguin for a mascot in order to attract people and make them feel that they are part of an *elite club*. It offers a glimpse of something unique, a way to fulfill a dream for many passengers.

DOCUMENT C

12) The poster advertises an adventure film which takes place in space, on planet Mars, as we can see from the lunar landscape, the astronauts wearing spacesuits who are climbing a mountain and the space rocket in the background.

13) They reveal that this document is not really a promotional poster for an actual film since there are no actors, producers or directors listed in the credits at the bottom. Instead since this poster uses phrases like *you* and *your imagination*, I believe it is a sort of recruitment poster for NASA. Maybe they are looking for people to join their Mars exploration program.

DOCUMENTS A, B AND C

14. All three documents deal about travels, adventures and exploration. In documents A and B travel is presented as accessible, a way for rich bored men to break the routine of their lives and feel the thrill of fake danger in document A or as a rather passive adventure where all you have to do is sit in a plane drinking gin and tonics while an experienced pilot takes you over the most remote continent on Earth in Document B. However, Document C insists on the imaginary character of water on Mars and on the need for more efforts to get there.

II. EXPRESSION ECRITE

Non LVA Sujet 1 OU 2

1) When we talk about exploration, the first images which come to mind are that of fearless adventurers discovering places, going where no one else (or so they believe) has gone before, pushing back back the boundaries of terra incognita. And so, it seems that exploration and travelling are intimately related, but are they the same thing ?

In my opinion, exploration is a particular kind of travel, one that comes with a certain form of risk and also with the idea of doing something exceptional, something new. Exploring means facing the unknown, being intrepid and doing what most people fear to do. Travelling to a luxury hotel in Florida is not exploration, no matter how many

hours of flight it takes you to get there. It is merely travelling, going from one place to the other, with the intention of enjoying yourself, or perhaps of doing business.

Exploring means leaving your comfort zone, going where few people go in order to discover something. And sometimes, this something you discover can be yourself. Just like Keely's customers decide to leave the comfort of their rich lives to experience the dangers of hobo life for a time, sometime what people find when they go on an exploration is themselves. After all, there is a saying that goes you can only find yourself when you are truly lost. In this case, we are dealing with an inner exploration, mentally exploring parts of your personality that you had never considered before.

Finally, sometimes exploration does not require literal travelling. Sometimes, the only travelling required is through a microscope or a giant telescope and without ever leaving their lab, scientists and researchers push back the boundaries of knowledge and science. They ask the right questions and keep moving forward until they find the answers, or usually, until they raise more questions. But the intention is the same, to go beyond what we know in order to discover something new.

2) As we saw in Document B, original holidays tend to attract tourists. Whether it is flying over Antarctica, visiting North Korea, swimming with dolphins in Costa Rica or going bird watching in the Hebrides, people seek unusual holiday destinations. It might seem strange when you compare them with all-inclusive holiday packages in comfortable resorts by the beach, complete with swimming pools, smiling catering crew and air-conditioned accommodation. So what makes original holidays so popular ?

In my opinions, everybody wants their holidays to be original in some way, and by that I mean different. Different from their day-to-day life. In fact, for most people, daily life is fairly routine and boring, we get up, go to work, come home, maybe relax with friends or play with our children and then we repeat this process day after day after day.

When people are lucky enough to go on holidays, it usually happen only once or twice a year, so they want their trip to be memorable, to break the monotony of everyday life and to create lovely memories. Original holidays offer the added

advantage of being even more different from everyday life, and most of all, different from everybody else's holidays.

If I were slightly cynical, I would add that in today's society where social networks play such an important part, where people post dozens of pictures of their holidays for everyone else to see, like and share, being original gives you an edge and is a guarantee that you will get more likes, and be more popular than if you choose a commonplace destination.

Whether for good or vain reasons, choosing original holidays is a growing trend and travel services professional do their best to market their offers as unique, exceptional and unforgettable experiences.

LVA seulement, les 2 sujets

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2)

Mystery Flight over Antarctica : Worst idea ever

'I know what we could give Dad for his 60th birthday ! A sightseeing flight over Antarctica,' my sister said excitedly, 'he would love that !'

At first I thought she was joking. Sightseeing flights over Antarctica ? What would be the point ? I mean, seriously, 100 people sitting for hours in an air-conditioned plane, frantically taking bad pictures of icebergs on their iPhones, while sipping mojitos ? No one would be stupid enough to-

Oh wait, apparently it is really a thing, which has attracted over 40,000 lazy over-privileged passengers over the years. Well, hats off to Qantas' marketing team, because when you look past the tasteless penguin mascot and seriously examine the concept, how can sitting on a plane for thirteen hours -thirteen !- and squashing your nose against the window to look at the landscape be anything like a unique occasion to explore the most remote continent on Earth ?

The way I see it, all you are doing is burning fuel, releasing fine particles into the atmosphere and contributing to destroying the atmosphere and therefore the lovely icebergs you just admired from the comfort of your seat a minute ago. Stupid, wasteful and bad for the planet.

Emma Wilson, angry citizen