

Remplissez
très lisiblement
l'en-tête à gauche
et le talon ci-dessous.

NOM : _____
Prénoms : _____

N° D'INSCRIPTION
CENTRE D'EXAMEN : _____

BACCALAURÉAT TECHNOLOGIQUE

SESSION 1999

ANGLAIS

LV1 (STI, SMS, STL et STT CG-IG)
LANGUE RENFORCÉE (STT ACA-ACC)

La calculatrice et le dictionnaire sont interdits.

COEFFICIENT 2

DURÉE 2 HEURES

GANTERET

Ce cahier est destiné à recevoir vos réponses. Vous le remettrez à la fin de l'épreuve. Ne vous en servez pas comme d'un brouillon. Il n'est pas prévu de vous en fournir un second. Vous ne pouvez pas utiliser de feuilles supplémentaires.

I fell in love with it at first sight, parked outside the showroom, low and streamlined, sculpted out of what looked like mist with the sun shining through it, a very very pale silvery grey, with a pearly lustre. I kept finding reasons to drive past the showroom so that I could look at it again, and each time I felt a pang of desire.

5 I knew I could walk into the showroom and buy the car without even having to think if I could afford it. But I hesitated and hung back. Why ? Because, when I couldn't afford a car like that, I disapproved of cars like that : fast, flash, energy-wasteful – and Japanese. I always said I'd never buy a Japanese car, not so much out of economic patriotism (I used to drive Fords which usually turned out to have been made in Belgium or Germany) as for emotional reasons. I'm old enough to
10 remember World War Two, and I had an uncle who died as a POW¹ working on the Siamese² railway. I thought something bad would happen to me if I bought this car, or that at the very least I would feel guilty and miserable driving it. And yet I coveted it. It became one of my "things" – things I can't decide, can't forget, can't leave alone. Things I wake up in the middle of the night worrying about.

15 Can you believe it ? While war raged in Yugoslavia, thousands died daily of AIDS in Africa, bombs exploded in Northern Ireland and the unemployment figures rose inexorably in Britain, I could think of nothing except whether or not to buy this car.

I began to get on Sally's nerves. "For God's sake, go and have a test drive, and if you like the car, buy it," she said. (She drives an Escort herself, changes it every three years after a two-minute
20 telephone conversation with her dealer, and never gives another thought to the matter.) So I had a test-drive. And of course I liked the car. I loved the car. I was utterly seduced and enraptured by the car. But I told the salesman I would think about it. "What is there to think about ?" Sally demanded, when I came home. "You like the car, you can afford the car, why not buy the car ?" I said I would sleep on it. Which meant, of course, that I lay awake all night worrying about it. In
25 the morning at breakfast I announced that I had reached a decision. "Oh yes ?" said Sally, without raising her eyes from the newspaper. "What is it ?"

"I've decided against," I said. "However irrational my scruples may be, I'll never be free from them, so I'd better not buy it." "OK," said Sally. "What will you buy instead ?" " I don't really need to buy anything," I said. "My present car is good for another year or two." "Fine," said Sally. But
30 she sounded disappointed. I began to worry again whether I'd made the right decision.

David LODGE, *THERAPY*, (Penguin, 95).

¹ POW : *Prisoner of War*

² Siam, now Thailand , was occupied by the Japanese during WWII.

1.COMPREHENSION

GENERAL COMPREHENSION

Tick the right statement(s) :

- One day the narrator noticed a car and decided to buy it.
- He wanted to buy the car for his wife.
- He followed his wife's advice and bought the car.
- After careful consideration he finally resisted the impulse to acquire a new car.
- He needed to buy a new car.
- He would have liked to buy the car because he found it beautiful.

DETAILED COMPREHENSION

A. True or False ?

Justify your answers by quoting precisely from the text :

	True	False
- At first the narrator was not particularly attracted to the car.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- The narrator was not rich enough to buy the car.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- The narrator was unable to make a decision.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- He had always refused to buy a Japanese car so far.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- The narrator soon realized that he was absolutely obsessed with the car.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- His wife advised him to buy it if he wanted to.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- She took much interest in his final decision.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		
- Once he had made a decision he forgot about the car.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<hr/>		

B. The narrator has fallen in love with the car. Pick out three expressions illustrating this.

C. Tick the narrator's reasons for not buying the car :

- He can't bring himself to buy a Japanese car.
- It might be too expensive to keep.
- He wants to resist temptation.
- He is far too poor to afford it.
- His wife strongly disapproves of it.
- He decides to buy another car.
- He would feel ill at ease.
- The car would bring him bad luck.

D. Pick out the sentence expressing the emotional reason which stops him from buying it :

E. Quote the passage which shows that his obsession makes him feel guilty :

F. Vocabulary : find in the text equivalents of these words and expressions :

- 1) using more fuel than is needed (§2) _____
- 2) desired ardently (§2) _____
- 3) statistics (§3) _____
- 4) went up (§3) _____
- 5) to irritate (§4) _____
- 6) sleepless (§4) _____

