

Compréhension de l'écrit et expression écrite

Le sujet porte sur l'axe 1 du programme : **Identités et échanges**

Il s'organise en deux parties :

1. Compréhension de l'écrit ;

2. Expression écrite.

Afin de respecter l'anonymat de votre copie, vous ne devez pas signer votre composition, ni citer votre nom, celui d'un camarade ou celui de votre établissement.

Texte 1

“Did you know that the U.S. accepted more immigrants last year than all other countries in the world combined – and that half of them settled in California? And that’s legal immigrants, people with skills, money, education... The ones coming in through the Tortilla Curtain down there, those are the ones killing us. They’re peasants, my
5 friend. No education, no resources, no skills – all they’ve got to offer is a strong back, and the irony is we need fewer and fewer strong backs every day because we’ve got robotics and computers and farm machinery that can do the labor of a hundred men at a fraction of the cost.” He dropped his hand in dismissal. “It’s old news.”

10 Delaney set the milk down on the floor. He was in a hurry, dinner on the stove, Jordan in the car, Kyra about to walk in the door, but in the heat of the moment he forgot all about it. “I can’t believe you”, he said, and he couldn’t seem to control his free arm, waving it in an expanding loop. “Do you realize what you’re saying? Immigrants are the life-blood of this country – we’re a nation of immigrants – and neither of us would be standing here today if it wasn’t.”

15 Jack worked a little grit into his voice: “That’s not the point. Times have changed, my friend. Radically. Do you have any idea what these people are costing us, and not


Modèle CCYC : ©DNE
 Nom de famille (naissance) :
 (Suivi s'il y a lieu, du nom d'usage)

Prénom(s) :

N° candidat : N° d'inscription :

(Les numéros figurent sur la convocation.)

Né(e) le : / /



1.1

just in terms of crime, but in real tax dollars for social services? Well, you ought to. You must have seen that thing in *the Times* a couple of weeks ago, about the San Diego study?” Delaney shook his head. He felt his stomach sink.

20 Delaney was trying to organize his thoughts. He wanted to tell Jack that he was wrong, that everyone deserved a chance in life [...], but he didn’t get the chance.

Tom Coraghessan Boyle, *The Tortilla Curtain*, 1995

Texte 2

Twenty-five years ago this week, I became a United States citizen. I will always remember September 16th, 1983, as one of the greatest days of my life. Like other newcomers to this country, I came here for my shot at the American Dream. Growing up in a small village in Austria, where if I worked hard I might be fortunate enough to follow in my father’s footsteps and become a policeman, I knew America was the Promised Land. It was the place to go if you wanted your dreams to come true. With hard work and determination, and because the American people were so generous and welcoming, I have succeeded beyond my wildest imagination.

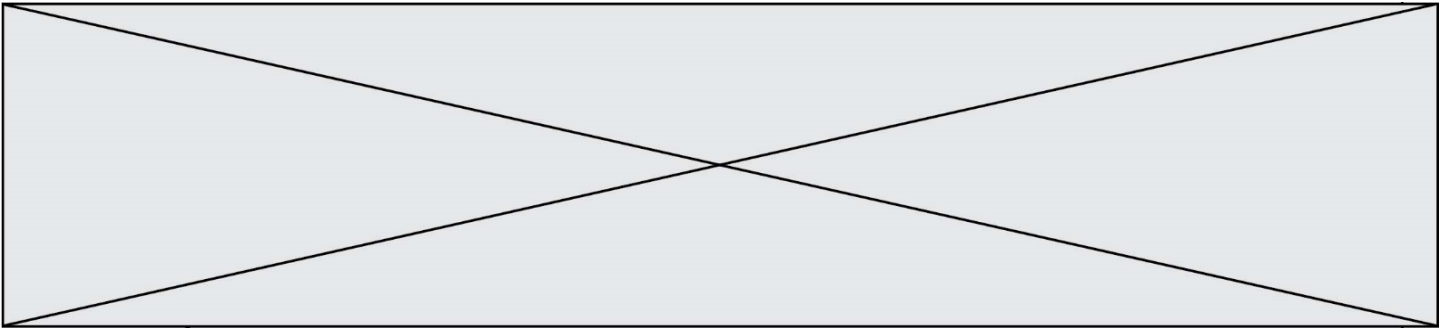
5 I understand the immigrant yearning for freedom and opportunity. But I also believe immigrants have a responsibility to America as well. It is not enough to come here and take the best this nation has to offer without giving something back. To truly succeed as an American citizen, you have to do more.

15 First, learn the English language and blend into the American culture, even as you honor and remain proud of your own heritage. I came here in 1968 speaking only a little English. To make it in business and Hollywood, I knew I had to take English lessons, speech lessons, accent-removal lessons – anything to improve my chances of success. And I happily did it all.

20 Second, participate in the political process. In Austria, I was surrounded by countries like Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia where citizens did not have the right to vote. Not everyone can become Albert Einstein, but as Martin Luther King Jr. said, “Anybody can be great, because anybody can serve.”

Democracy is not a spectator sport. To keep it strong and to effect real change, you have to be involved. Learn about some of the sacrifices Americans have made over the years to build and preserve the greatest democracy in history.

25 Finally, give something back. Many immigrants come from cultures where service is not stressed. I was no different. In fact, it was not until I met my wife, Maria, and her



parents, Sargent and Eunice Kennedy Shriver, that I discovered the true value of service. I had the ultimate opportunity to give something back to California when I was elected governor in 2003.

Arnold Schwarzenegger, *Learn English, Participate in Politics, and Give Back*, in *US News*, 2008

1. Compréhension de l'écrit (10 points)

Give an account of the two extracts, **in English**, focusing especially on:

- The nature of the two texts and their common theme;
- The different points of view on the immigrants;
- The nature of the American population;
- The responsibility Americans and immigrants have in order to keep the "American Dream" alive.

2. Expression écrite (10 points)

Vous traiterez **en anglais**, et en 120 mots minimum, **l'un des deux sujets suivants au choix** :

Sujet A

Alejandra is a young talented Mexican dancer who dreams of moving to the USA to become famous. She decides to expose her situation in a letter to Arnold Schwarzenegger. She hopes he will sponsor her for legal immigration. Write her letter.

Sujet B

To what extent would you say Arnold Schwarzenegger is representative of the typical immigrant to the USA?