

2011 CAPE FRENCH

Unit 2 Paper 03 Section B

Essay

Write an essay, in ENGLISH, of 350–400 words on ONE of the following themes. You MUST refer in detail to ONE named text. This text must NOT be the same one on which you answered in Section A. All quotations MUST be cited in FRENCH.

Question 8: To what extent can the text that you have studied be considered a teaching guide for a young political leader?

~~Response~~

Politicians in most societies are elected ^{so that they can} ~~to~~ respond to concerns of a society and ~~to~~ ^{assume} responsibility for the wellbeing of the members in ^{said} society. In Romain's novel, *Gouverneur de la Rose*, the protagonist, the novel's hero and the leader of change, Manuel, would be a fine example to young politicians of how to deal with ~~a~~ societal issues. Manuel ^{is} (although not a politician) was an enlightened peasant with a vision, a desire for unity and a willingness to make sacrifices for his community - all exemplary traits that young politicians should attempt to emulate.

Any young leader must be a visionary and must be unafraid to present radical ideas to aid the people. Manuel had three radical notions that set him apart from the other peasants - the ideas about irrigation, Socialism and religion. While the peasants, including his mother, believed that the answer to the barren earth was prayer and religion, Manuel knew that «ce qu'il faudrait, c'est l'arrosage». He was resisted by the society's ~~not~~ ^{were} traditional beliefs and they ~~are~~ indeed horrified by his "blasphemy". His "girlfriend", Anaise asked him «tu n'a pas peur de désrespecter les vieux de Guinée?» and his mother ^{was} ~~is~~ horrified by his nonchalance to religion. Manuel, however, did not give up on his radical ideas that encouraged change and this is crucial for any young politician to follow.

Political leaders ^{should never} ~~often~~ consider themselves the "be all

and end all of society's development. Politicians must empower the people, unify them and create sustainability plans ^{that can} ~~for~~ last after their term is over. Manuel knew the value ^{and power} in empowering his people as he said to Anneise « à cause de notre ignorance, nous ne savons pas que nous sommes une force ». He placed a strong value on unity, even threatening, « s'il n'y a pas de réconciliation, l'eau restera là où elle est ». These show that he was not a "divide and rule" ~~political~~ leader, like the rural police, Hilarion, but he, (as any young politician should) wanted to foster cooperation and build strength in the society through unity. Manuel's desire to build schools showed that he knew that education would have far-reaching, long-lasting impacts which teaches young politicians to think into the future and form sustainability plans.

A mark of a true leader is his selflessness and willingness to make sacrifice for the greater good, ^{his ability to} and ~~to~~ not be intimidated by opposition. Manuel was threatened ^{by} ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~the~~ Hilarion who told him « tu causes toutes sortes de paroles » but ~~he~~ ^{and this showed how genuine his desire to help the peasants was} « il n'était pas inquiet ». He refused to let Hilarion's threat stop him from ^{serving} ~~helping~~ the people. Manuel's ultimate mark of his unwavering desire to develop the community was his death. Even on his death bed, he did not want to say who killed him ^{among the peasants} so that the feud would not start again. Like any true, selfless leader, Manuel understood « ce qui compte, c'est le sacrifice de l'homme » and he was willing to die for his society.

Gouverneurs de la Rosée depicts a man, undoubtedly not perfect, but a selfless visionary who saw value where others did not - value in ^{the} earth, in unity and in sacrifice. This

Question.....

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Page 3

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328
makes the novel and its tragic hero perfect guides for any
young politician as they demonstrate the route untapping a society's power.

Comments:

Knowledge and Understanding

The candidate displayed an excellent understanding of the themes of the text. The candidate showed that he/she had grasped the underpinnings of the work and was not simply retelling the events of the text. The candidate demonstrated an excellent personal response to the themes which was required at this level.

Application

The candidate selected relevant examples and citations to support each point that was made. Citations/quotations were all relevant, concise and succinct. The candidate did not retell the story but analysed the issues that were discussed in the text.

Organization of Information

The introduction was brief and clearly outlined the direction in which the essay was heading. There was a logical development of points. The candidate, after making each point, refocused our attention on the question that was asked. The candidate did not include irrelevant information. There was a clear introduction, development of points in each paragraph and a conclusion.

This essay, based on the aforementioned comments, was graded as excellent in each of the three categories.