I knew something was odd at home when, after we had eaten our dinner; my dad followed my mum, Carl and me into the living room to sit down. This usually did not happen. Dinner was just an interruption from my dad's jobs around the house. On Sundays after church Dad was always fixing, painting, adjusting or mending. He was always, "in the middle of a job", that required his full, silent concentration and a monkey wrench. If I ever asked him what he was doing he'd say, "Fixing something, so don't come bothering me now."[...]

But this was not the only strange thing. It used to be strange for us to go into the living room at all. It was always kept for best with Mum's carefully embroidered runners on the sideboard and school photographs of Carl and me smiling and showing our teeth in various stages of hideous development. [...] Now we were adults, however, we could go in the room any time we pleased, our parents convinced that we would no longer damage one of the glass ornaments or spill out tea on the furry fireside rug. But as I walked into the room I saw six, maybe seven of my mum and dad's boxes piled up in a corner. My eye was drawn to them because they were out of place and nothing was ever out of place in that room. The boxes were also full, sealed across the top, bottom and sides with wide brown tape.  
"What are these doing here?" I asked, going over to them. I turned round and watched as Dad looked at Mum, Mum looked at Carl, Carl looked at Dad and then back at Mum. But nobody looked at me.  
"What's going on?" I looked at them all one by one. Then another strange thing happened: my dad spoke first.  
"Sit down, Faith" he said. He began to finger the knuckles on his hand, feeling each one in turn. He used to do this when it was time to discuss the "could do better" bits in my school report. I began to get scared.  
"No, I won't sit down." I wasn't sure why I said that but I felt like someone in a film who was about to be told something that would make **them** scream and pull at their hair. Unfortunately everyone else sat down and I had to stay standing. Nobody spoke so I placed my hands on my hips.  
Dad started, "Your mum and me", then faltered. He began again, "Me and your mum", and stopped. He went back to, "Your mum and me." I looked at my mum who was looking at her knees and pulling imaginary hairs off her skirt, while Dad continued to stutter his various permutations. He was onto, "We", when I said, "What?" [...].  
"Come, Wade", Mum said, looking impatiently at my dad who had still not completed a sentence.  
"Your mum and me are thinking of going back home", Dad said finally.  
I thought of our old council flat where Carl and me had grown up. Although we had lived in Crouch End for years, it was the crumbling flat in Stoke Newington that I thought of as home. The blue door with the silver number twenty-three and a knocker that could be heard anywhere in the flat. With the drain-pipe in the bathroom, where bathwater from the flats above could be heard rushing through. My bedroom with its council-pink walls and tiny bed where I put my discarded teeth under the pillow and the tooth fairy would replace them with a sixpence.  
I thought in that moment that my parents had somehow lost all their money. That Mum was having to leave her job as a district nurse; the old folk cured, the district cutting back. That Dad's business - which he had built up so carefully with sixteen-hour days, including Saturdays and Sundays, and evenings spent writing invoices in his best handwriting in a little blue book - had after all gone bust. I thought they were having to move out of the house. The house in a proper street that they were so proud of they sent pictures of it to relatives with invitations to come and stay.  
"You going back to the flat?" I asked.  
Carl sniggered and I knew I was wrong.  
"No, Faith," Mum said. "We're thinking of going home to Jamaica"  
And my reaction was, "For a holiday. Fantastic! How long for?"  
"Not for a holiday, Faith," Dad said hesitantly. "Your mum and I are thinking..." He held up his hand, "Only thinking, mind, of going back there to live. To get a little place and live."

Andrea Levy, *Fruit of the Lemon*, 2000.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 2020/2021 | **End-of-term exam n° 01** | **Allotted time:** 2 hours  **Level:** 3rd Year Arts |

Name: ………………………………………………………………………………………………. Class: 3rd Year Arts …. N°: ….

**I- COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS** (15 marks) **/20**

**1- Tick the right alternative.** (2 marks)

1. The text is typically:

argumentative narrative expository

1. The speaker, in the text, is mainly:

Carl father Faith mother

**2- Who are the other characters? Give their names and occupations when possible. Say how they are related to the speaker.** (3 marks)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Characters** | **Occupations** |
| ………………………………………………………………….. | ………………………………………………………………….. |
| ………………………………………………………………….. | ………………………………………………………………….. |
| ………………………………………………………………….. | ………………………………………………………………….. |

**3- Pick out two elements showing that the narrator is no longer a child.** (2 marks)

1. ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
2. ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**4- What does the underlined word, in the text, refer to?** (1 mark)

**them** refers to: ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**5-** **Select two words from the list below to characterise the narrator's attitude and feelings:** (2 marks)

**absent-minded / excluded / frightened / relaxed**

**6- What do the parents want to tell the narrator?** (1 mark)

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**7- What does the word "home" mean for the narrator?** (1 mark)

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**8- Retrace the family’s history by filling in the blanks with exact words from the last part of the text.** (2 marks)

The narrator's parents must have been born into a poor family in …………………………………… (1), in the West Indies. Thus they felt the need to emigrate to Britain to improve their standard of living. The father set up his own ………………………… (2), and worked long hours, which enabled them to move from a council flat to a house. This shows they have climbed the social ladder, which is every immigrant's dream.

**9- Give a personal-justified answer to the following question.** (1 mark)

What’s the best definition to **“family”** [according to your way of thinking?](https://www.powerthesaurus.org/according_to_my_way_of_thinking/synonyms)

According to my way of thinking ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………..

**II- WRITING** (15 marks)

**1- Develop the following notes into meaningful sentences. Keep the same order of words, add prepositions, linking words and put the words in the right form/tense…** (5marks)

1. I wish/ can talk /my parents /honest .……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………
2. Unfortunately / be no /communication/ us

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. All they do /be / give orders /everything

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. Life/ become difficult / the closest persons/ not /understand you

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

1. What can /do /have/ better relationship?

………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

**2- Essay** (10 marks)

**Write a 12-line article about how establishing clear, flexible and fair family roles is key to a successful family functioning.** (Members take their responsibilities seriously. Otherwise, if roles aren’t fairly spread among the family members, some members become overburdened, etc.)

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

……………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

…………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Adherence to task and content adequacy: /4 marks

Lexical appropriacy and grammar accuracy: /4 marks

Mechanical accuracy (punctuation, capitalization and spelling): /2

**III- LANGUAGE** (10 marks)

**1- Circle the right alternative.** (3 marks)

Although there have always been differences between the generations, the drastic differences that the term implies were not much in evidence until the twentieth century. Before that time, society **(had not been/was not/is not)** (1) very mobile. Young people typically lived near their extended families, worshiped in their **(childhood/child/children)** (2) churches, and often worked on the family farm **(but/so/or)** (3) in a family business. With the advent of television and movies, young people were exposed to cultural influences alien to their own families and cultures. (**Performs/Performers/Performances)** (4) like Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, and James Dean won adulation from the younger generation but were often **(met/meeting/meet)** (5) with derogation from the **(oldest/older/old)** (6) generation. Then came the 1960s, civil rights and the Vietnam War exposed a more serious chasm between young and old.

**2- Put the bracketed words in the right form or tense.** (3 marks)

Today single parent families have become even more common than the so-called "nuclear family" consisting of a mother, father and children. Today we **(see)** …………………………………… (1) all sorts of single parent families: headed by mothers, fathers, and even by a grandparent **(raise)** …………………………………… (2) their grandchildren. Life in a single parent household—though common—can be quite **(stress)** …………………………………… (3) for the adult and the children. The single parent may feel **(overwhelm)** …………………………………… (4) by the responsibilities of juggling caring for the children, maintaining a job, and keeping up with the bills and household chores. And typically, the family's finances and resources are **(consider)** …………………………………… (5) reduced following the parents' breakup. Single parent families deal with many other pressures and potential problem areas that other families may not face. If family members are still overwhelmed and having problems, it may be time to consult an expert or a licensed mental health **(profession)** …………………………………… (6)

**3- Fill in the blanks with eight words from the box below.** (4 marks)

|  |
| --- |
| *inspired /heart/ better /photography/ about/worse / advice /changed/ control /there* |

In the beginning I felt having a child would hold me back and keep me from doing the things I was passionate about. It was just a matter of time before that perspective completely ……………………………… (1) and I realized just how much motherhood would in fact enrich my life and propel me further. I knew in my……………………………… (2) as soon I fully accepted being a mother I could embrace it. I’ve taken immense pleasure in documenting through ……………………………… (3) my son's different stages of growth. The more he has become his own little person, the more I am……………………………… (4) by the authenticity and innocence he brings to my images, and these are the qualities that bring me the most joy with my photography. My ……………………………… (5) would be to first understand that everyone's situation is different and to try and not compare with other mothers. In my case, it was ……………………………… (6) finding balance, peace and contentment within circumstances in life that I had no ……………………………… (7) over. I had to learn to let go. When I was at my lowest it was hard to see beyond it, but with time things always get ……………………………… (8), and they will.