

## Baccalauréat de l'enseignement général Madagascar Session 2002

### ANGLAIS – SÉRIES : C - D

TEXT

THE FAMADIHANA

Winter is back... But the entire village feels warm today. The family – in its widest sense – is gathered. This is an opportunity which should not be missed since it will only happen every seven years. It is winter and time for the exhumation or « famadihana » (turning of the bones). It is also called « bemenaka », literally « with a lot of oil », as a reference to the very greasy food offered to the guests.

According to our beliefs, a Malagasy person never dies, but just becomes a « razana » (ancestor) who can see, hear and listen to us. And, why not protect and bless us. Omnipresent, he is next to us every day. Sometimes through dreams. And the « bemenaka » is only one facet of these Malagasy habits, customs and beliefs which remain incomprehensible to foreigners when they see such joy a few metres from the family vault...

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### QUESTIONS

- I. READING COMPREHENSION (7 pts)
- A – Find in the text (0,5ptx2)
- 1 . the equivalent of « tomb ».
  - 2 . the antonym of « far from ».
- B – Choose the one best answer. (0,5ptx2)
- 1 . According to the text
    - a) nobody dies in Madagascar .
    - b) foreigners do not understand Malagasy people.
    - c) Malagasy people will continue living after death.

2 . Malagasy people

- a) believe that their « razana » can help them in their life.
- b) like eating greasy food.
- c) practise exhumation every year

C – Fill in the blanks with words from the text. (0,5ptx2)

- 1 . We must .....our environment if we want to survive
- 2 . Christian people believe that God is .....in their life

D – Answer the following questions. (1ptx2)

- 1 . How can Malagasy people and their ancestors communicate ?
- 2 . The « bemenaka » is a Malagasy custom which remains incomprehensible and full of contradictions to foreigners. Why ?

E – Scrambled summary. To summarize the text, put the sentences in order. (2pts)

- It is an important event for Malagasy people
- The whole family come to
- because they believe that their ancestors
- celebrate the exhumation.
- protect and bless them.

II. LANGUAGE TEST (7 pts)

A – Grammar

Fill in with the appropriate grammatical items. (0,5ptx6)

Do you know that tobacco comes ..... America ? It first arrived in Britain in about 1565. Later on King James I ..... reigned in England for 22 years ..... not like it. .... he wrote a little book ..... try and convince people .....to smoke.

B – Language Functions.

Complete the following dialogue

(1ptx4)

Alice is in hospital and Gladys comes to visit her.

Gladys : Hello ! I'm sorry to hear you're not well

Alice : Thank you for coming to see me.

Gladys : ..... ?

Alice : I have a fever . My head aches and I often feel dizzy

Gladys : ..... ?

Alice : For a few days, I hope.

Gladys : ..... ? (Offering help)

Alice : Would you mind opening the window ?

Gladys : (After opening the window) Is that o.k ?

Alice : .....

Gladys : You're welcome .

III. WRITING

(6 pts)

What are the advantages of practising sports ? (about 30 words)