

**UFR Langues et Cultures Etrangères
Département d'Anglais**

**Licence LLCE Anglais – 1^{ère} année
UE102 – Civilisation du Monde Anglophone et Etude de
Textes**

Session 1 : janvier 2010

Durée : 2h – Aucun document autorisé

A. Civilisation du monde Anglophone.

1. Short Answer Questions

Respond to the following questions in English or French.

a) Give the names of the four regions that correspond to the letters on the map (4 pts) :



- b) True or False: The Republic of Ireland is part of the United Kingdom? (1 pt)
- c) What was the Statute of Westminster and in what decade was it drafted? (2 pts)
- d) Give the names of two official languages of South Africa. (1 pt)
- e) Explain, in a few sentences, what is meant when English is described as a 'helper language' or 'assistant language' in India. (2 pts)
- f) Who was James Cook? (1 pt)
- g) In a few sentences define "triangular trade" and explain its importance. (3 pts)
- h) In terms of decolonialization, arrange in order from first to last the following nations' independence from the United Kingdom: Hong Kong, India, Australia, and Kenya. (1 pt)
- i) What was the Norman Conquest? (1 pt)
- j) In a few sentences, explain what Niall Ferguson meant by "fingerprints of empire" in his essay about the sins and achievements of British colonialization. List three of these "fingerprints". (4 pts)

2. Commentary (/60 content ; /20 language)

Respond **in English** to the following questions (environ 100 mots par réponse)

1. Trade and Empire were intimately connected in the 18th Century. Comment on this assertion and on what it tells us about how the British Empire developed.
2. Explain Ulster's "identity crisis" today with respect to the Republic of Ireland and the European Union, according to Jason Walsh.
3. Drawing on the texts in the fascicule, explain what is unique about India's "national identity". What potential problems might this cause?

B. Etude de Textes.

In an essay of about 500 words, compare and contrast the *Mail's* and the *Guardian's* coverage of the news that the *Sun* had decided to withdraw their support for Gordon Brown and the Labour government. (The articles are reproduced on the following pages.)

Beleaguered Brown returns to the air day after TV interview blunder as he tries to end conference on a high

By [Tim Shipman](#)

Last updated at 4:18 PM on 01st October 2009

Gordon Brown was back on the interview trail today as he attempted to repair the damage after exploding with anger on live television yesterday.

A visibly rattled Prime Minister rounded on critics for being 'obsessed' with his personality and called one interviewer a 'political propagandist' for daring to ask awkward questions.

5 But as his political fightback faltered Mr Brown returned to the airwaves this morning, admitting 2009 had been the 'most difficult year' and said the 2010 election fight 'will be the toughest yet'.

In the conference hall in Brighton, he was given a significantly easier ride by Five's Andy Bell and the BBC's Nick Robinson than he suffered at the hands of Sky's Adam Boulton yesterday.



© MARK LARGE

10 **In the spotlight: Harriet Harman and Gordon Brown at the closing session of the Labour Party Conference today**

It came after Mr Brown's election hopes were dealt a serious blow by the decision of The Sun to ditch Labour after 12 years and support David Cameron's Tories.

15 The news overshadowed coverage of the Prime Minister's speech to the conference and squashed his hopes of a decisive bounce in the polls.

On the final day of the Labour conference the Prime Minister was also allowed the freedom not afforded to him yesterday to talk up his credentials on the economy.

'I've taken this economy through what has been some of the most difficult months in the history of this economy since the 1930s', he told Five News' Andy Bell.

20 Mr Brown added Labour would face a battle to win the next election: 'Of course, because we've had the most difficult year.

'Nobody could have predicted the scale of the economic crisis around the world.

'Nobody could have predicted we would have months dominated by, what I found, outrageous scandals on the part of some MPs who will not be standing at the next election'.

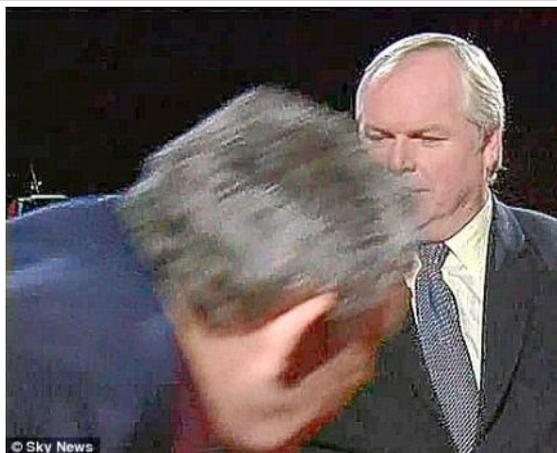
25 A YouGov survey last night showed Labour on 30 per cent, within seven points of the Tories.



Exasperated: Gordon Brown tried to storm out at the end of an interview with Sky's Adam Boulton because he was not allowed to talk about policy



30 **I've had enough of this:Mr Brown tries to take his leave**



But his microphone tethers him to his seat as Adam Boulton looks on

But it was not the breakthrough that Mr Brown needs – and most polling was done before readers saw the almost universally negative coverage of his speech in Brighton.

35 Senior party figures reacted with outspoken fury to what they saw as The Sun's betrayal.

Lord Mandelson was forced to deny several reports that he branded the paper's executives 'a bunch of *****' for changing sides.

The Business Secretary claimed he had used the phrase 'a bunch of silly chumps'.

40 He later used a fringe meeting to denounce Sun readers as 'losers' – a stance ill-conceived to win back the aspirational working class support.

Tony Woodley, chief of the union Unite, theatrically ripped up a copy of the newspaper on the conference platform, to loud cheers from delegates.

But it was Mr Brown's temperament that was under the closest scrutiny, days after he was forced to deny taking pills to help him cope.

45 In a succession of interviews he became highly agitated, declaring questions over his character off-limits.

Quizzed by Sky News, he said: 'We should be talking about policy issues and not just about these personality issues.'



Asset: Sarah Brown introduced her husband for the second year running

50 When pressed to admit that personality does matter in politics, he snapped at Boulton: 'It does obsess you.'

Mr Brown became more aggressive when asked why he has so far refused to sign up for televised election debates with Mr Cameron and LibDem leader Nick Clegg.

Visibly agitated, he told Mr Boulton, whose channel has vowed to host the debates: 'You are sounding a bit like a political propagandist yourself.'

55 The Prime Minister attempted to storm out of the Sky interview but when he stood up his lapel microphone was still attached, leaving him tethered to the spot.

It was then pointed out that he was due to conduct a BBC interview from the same chair.

Later footage appeared of Mr Brown walking into a door – which will do little to quell rumours that his eyesight is failing, claims Mr Brown dismissed at the weekend.

60 In an earlier Radio 4 interview, Mr Brown appeared morose when asked why voters don't feel they really know and understand him.

He said: 'I don't parade my private life around the place and I certainly don't want my family brought into situations where I've chosen to be a politician.'

65 The claim came less than a day after his wife Sarah introduced his conference speech, describing Mr Brown as 'my hero'.

Senior Labour figures spent the hours after The Sun's announcement loudly proclaiming their lack of concern. But they were privately shell-shocked.

Five Cabinet ministers, including Alan Johnson and David Miliband, went to a party thrown by The Sun's parent company, apparently to keep their own lines of communication open.

70 A senior MP told the Mail: 'People are saying the most unpopular man in town is the editor of the Sun but actually it's Gordon Brown. That's the problem. He has only himself to blame for this.'

Mr Brown tried to play down the setback. 'It's the British people that decide the election,' he said.

Others were less restrained. Deputy leader Harriet Harman told delegates: 'The nearest their political-analysis gets to women's rights is Page 3's News in Briefs. We are all angry about The Sun this morning but I say to you: don't get bitter, get better.'

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Document B

Brown: we can win without the Sun

Prime minister downplays tabloid's decision to abandon Labour as he rules out standing down before next election

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- **Andrew Sparrow** and **Hélène Mulholland**
 - guardian.co.uk, Wednesday 30 September 2009 09.54 BST
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The Sun newspaper, leading with a Sun Says comment headlined 'Labour's Lost It'.
Photograph: Dan Kitwood/Getty Images

The British people, not the Sun newspaper, will decide the outcome of the general election said Gordon Brown today after Rupert Murdoch's flagship newspaper delivered a psychological blow to Labour by declaring it is backing the Tories.

5 Brown also categorically ruled out standing down as prime minister and Labour leader before the general election, which must be held before 3 June 2010.

The Sun announced its move in a front-page editorial that hit the streets only hours after Brown made an attempt in his conference speech to inject self-belief back into his party, vowing to fight the election on the side of the "squeezed middle classes".

10 In an interview on GMTV, one of five broadcast interviews he did this morning, the prime minister sought to play down the decision by the paper that demonised Labour in the 1980s but switched allegiance before the 1997 election.

"It's the British people that decide elections. It's the British people that I'm interested in and it's the British people that I was talking about yesterday," he said.

"I think that Sun readers actually, when they look at what I said, will agree with what I said.

15 "Newspapers are entitled to their opinions. Obviously you want newspapers to be for you. But I've got an old-fashioned view. You look to newspapers for news, not propaganda. I don't think editorials will decide elections."

Lord Mandelson backed him up at a breakfast meeting in Brighton with the Unite union, warning the Sun that its readers would not want it to become "a Tory party fanzine".

20 The business secretary said: "The proprietor may have changed his mind, but I don't think the readers want the sun to set on New Labour. When the readers read back what the party did for them in the 1980s and 90s they will see pretty quickly that a return for the Tories is not in the interests of them or their families.

25 "The last thing the readers want is to see the newspaper being turned into a Tory party fanzine. They want a newspaper, not a propaganda sheet."

Although the electoral impact of the Sun's decision may turn out to be marginal, the paper's declaration will damage Labour's morale because it undermines efforts by Brown and his team to persuade the party it has a chance of winning.

30 Asked in a Sky News interview whether he could give an assurance that he would be leading the party at the election "in all circumstances", Brown replied: "Of course."

Brown, who appeared angered by the line of questioning in some of the exchanges, also said that he had made up his mind about taking part in a television debate with David Cameron, but that he did not want to make an announcement now.

35 Sky has been campaigning for a televised leaders' debate and, in two of his interviews, Brown said that he had made up his mind on this issue but that he did not want to make an announcement now because "this is not the time to talk about a debate".

When Nicky Campbell on BBC Radio 5 Live asked if he was unable to say what he would do because he was "dithering", Brown replied angrily: "I'm not. I never do, by the way."

40 On BBC Radio 4's Today programme, Brown said that his plan to offer free social care to the elderly in their homes would come into force next year and that it would cost £350m in the first year and £670m in the second year. He said that it would benefit 300,000 people.

On Radio 5 Live, Campbell asked Brown if he believed in God. Brown replied: "I'm a member of the Church of Scotland. My father was a minister. My personal views about religion are my own but clearly I'm a member of the church."

45 When Campbell asked him a second time if he believed in God, he said: "I do. Indeed I do."

Campbell also asked Brown if he believed that teenagers ought to stop having sex. Brown said that he wanted to cut the number of unwanted pregnancies, but he would not urge teenagers not to have sex.

"I'm not here to lecture individuals about their private lives," he said.

50 Brown also claimed that he did know his wife Sarah was going to speak about him at the conference until Monday and that he had not heard her speech until she delivered it.