



EXAMEN NORMALISÉ 1<sup>er</sup> SEMESTRE

❧ Janvier 2008 ❧

Niveau : TC

Matière : Anglais

**Text :**

When I was offered the unique opportunity to explore Thailand's Kang Krachan National Park with a group, I accepted immediately. My friend Patricia, however, wasn't too thrilled about the idea. "You shouldn't go. It's too dangerous !" she said. But I took no notice. I knew that exploring Kang Krachan would pay off. Abandoning the bustling streets, the crowds and the constant running around for a while was something I needed to do. It was an opportunity I couldn't turn down.

**2**

As soon as our journey began, we quickly realised that we should have rented a car, instead of using public transport which took us only to the perimeter of the reserve. We then had a fifteen kilometre walk on a dirt road to the main lodge. Several hours later, when we were exhausted, a pickup truck passed by and the driver offered to give us a lift. We were very grateful ! We all spent a quiet evening playing with a tamed Giant Hornbill. This strange bird actually helped us put the difficulties of the day behind us.

**3**

The next day wasn't the greatest as I was feeling a bit under the weather. Although I probably should have stayed in bed, I decided to continue the trek with the rest of the group. After surviving an uncomfortable drive, the unbearable heat and the blinding sun, we finally reached the highest point in the rainforest, which was also our starting point. At first, the walk was easy. But as we ventured deeper into the jungle, things became more difficult. Our path was barely visible, and all we could see was monkeys jumping from tree to tree over our heads. Hours later, we reached our destination, and all I could think about was getting some sleep.

**4**

Luckily, we quickly found a place to set up camp. I was told that I would be on guard that night. To be honest, I wasn't really sure that I was guarding the camp from and I was pretty upset because I wasn't going to get a good night's sleep. But, as I sat there alone in the wilderness, I was suddenly overcome by a feeling of tremendous peace ; it was a wonderful feeling, indeed ! I could hear myself think and I felt like the whole world was mine. However, this inexplicable feeling of tranquillity was suddenly interrupted by a scary, growling noise which had me on my feet in a split second !

**5**

Our guide found me sitting next to the fire with a horrified look on my face. He tried to calm me down and offered to show me where the growling was coming from. I was hesitant, but decided to follow him ; after all, he knew what he was doing. Nonetheless, I still felt the need to take precautions. So, I took a large piece of wood with me, just in case a wild animal jumped in front of us. I could hear my heart pounding as we approached the bushes. The guide smiled as he bent down and picked up a leaf with, believe it or not, a tiny brown frog on it ! That was the "villain" that had scared me ! I gave the frog an evil look and its response was a deep-throated growl. I felt really silly as we returned to the camp.

**6**

For three days we explored the area, and soon the camp started to feel like home. Our daily routine meant that we were up at the crack of dawn. We didn't have much variety in our diet. Fish and rice for dinner, topped with a local fish sauce. Although it wasn't really a treat, it kept us going during our day's walk.

7

It was things like the lush vegetation, the wild life and getting closer to nature that made the trip so fascinating. That was Kang Krachan for me. Suffering under the burning sun with wild animals on the prowl wasn't that bad, after all. It was an experience that inspired me and, in the same way, might inspire anyone who tries it.

(6,5 pts)

**I/- Reading Comprehension:**

3,5 pts

**A- Match the following headlines with the paragraphs :**

A- Putting up with the challenges of the jungle.

B- Impressive in every way.

C- Keeping eyes and ears open.

D- Making up for a hard day on the road.

E- Leaving the city behind.

F- Too small for such a big fuss.

G- Not much of a choice.

1 —————>

3 —————>

5 —————>

2 —————>

4 —————>

6 —————>

7 —————>

2 pts

**B- Are these statements true or false ? justify.**

**1-** The guide helped one of the explorers to find the source of the growling noise.

.....

**2-** Food variety made the trip so exciting.

.....

1 pt

**C- Find words or expressions that mean the same as :**

**1-** refuse : .....

(Para 1)

.....

**2-** very early in the morning : .....

(para 6)

## II/- Language:

(7,5 pts)

2 pts

### A- Put the verbs in brackets in the correct tense :

- 1) Jan ..... (**not/go**) abroad since a business trip in 1998.
- 2) Tom and Lydia (**get**) ..... married next Saturday. They (**spend**) ..... their honeymoon in Florida.
- 3) “When I (**reach**) .....the office yesterday, the manager (**leave, already**) .....,” says Robert.

2 pts

### B- Fill in the blanks with the appropriate word from the box. Give the correct form.

*touch down - take on - get in - turn up - leave out - settle in - turn down - get on.*

- 1) “I always feel ..... in my new school though I’ve made new friends,” says Cathia.
- 2) Emily was extremely happy when the plane finally ..... at the airport.
- 3) When Mr Charles .....at the meeting, most of the members had already left.
- 4) Mrs Carter is a sociable person. She .....well with all her neighbours.

3 pts

### D- Complete the unfinished words appropriately. The number of letters is indicated.

- 1) “A young man was arrested at the **c** - - - - - yesterday because they found drugs in his suitcase,” says an officer.
- 2) “Our **j** - - - - - to the jungle was so exhausting. We had to walk for miles to reach the camp,” says Elen.

3) The poor lady had a miserable life in a small h - - in the suburbs of a village in India.

0,5 pt

**D- Express it differently :**

Ali : "You look ill. I'd advise you to see a doctor."

You : " .....

(6 pts)

**III/- Writing :**

*Your English-speaking asked you in his/her e-mail about the job you would like to have in the future. Write back to tell him/her about it and your reasons for choosing it.*

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....