



National
Qualifications
EXEMPLAR PAPER ONLY

EP17/H/11

**French
Reading**

Date — Not applicable

Duration — 1 hour and 40 minutes

Total marks — 30

Attempt ALL questions.

Write your answers clearly, in **English**, in the Reading Answer Booklet provided. In the answer booklet you must clearly identify the question number you are attempting.

You may use a French dictionary.

Use **blue** or **black** ink.

There is a separate question and answer booklet for Directed Writing. You must complete your answer for Directed Writing in the question and answer booklet for Directed Writing.

Before leaving the examination room you must give your Reading answer booklet and your Directed Writing question and answer booklet to the Invigilator; if you do not, you may lose all the marks for this paper.



* EP 17 H 1 1 *

Attempt ALL questions

Read the whole article carefully and then answer, in English, ALL the questions that follow.

In this article, the writer discusses owning a second home in the countryside.

Une maison de campagne pour se faire des souvenirs

Comme 10% des Français, Michèle Manceaux, journaliste et écrivain, a acheté une résidence secondaire, à Rambouillet, à 35 km de Paris. «Les semaines sont denses et fatigantes: travail, ménage, famille. Quand on a tant de responsabilités pendant la semaine il faut profiter au maximum des week-ends pour vivre des moments précieux et pour changer d'air. C'est pour ça qu'on a acheté une maison à la campagne» dit Michèle.

Les maisons de campagne sont souvent achetées par des citadins qui sont locataires. Michèle raconte «Je ne suis pas née dans une famille assez riche pour posséder une maison de famille. Comme la plupart des Français j'ai grandi dans un appartement que mes parents louaient. Voilà pourquoi sans doute j'ai souhaité devenir propriétaire de quelques mètres carrés sur le sol français.» Psychologue et auteur, Patrick Estrade confirme: «Avoir une maison de campagne, c'est dire qu'on a des racines quelque part.»

Une qualité de vie retrouvée

Michèle a acheté sa maison après la naissance de sa première fille. «Mon mari a passé son enfance à la campagne. Alors il a toujours aimé la vie en plein air et il a voulu que sa fille échappe à la pollution de la grande ville. En plus nous sommes locataires de notre appartement à Paris, mais nous n'aurons jamais assez d'argent pour y acheter un appartement. Alors nous avons choisi d'acheter une maison à 35 km de Paris.» Un choix que Michèle et son mari, Philippe, ne regrettent pas. Pour eux leur maison principale c'est celle de la campagne. Tous les week-ends la famille part le vendredi soir et rentre le lundi matin. Une fois arrivés à la maison, ils peuvent passer le temps ensemble. Ils ont même trouvé du temps de jardiner et faire la cuisine.

Pourtant, posséder une résidence secondaire peut aussi apporter des inconvénients. «Tu n'as pas peur des bouchons le dimanche soir? Tu ne passes pas ton temps à faire les courses et le ménage?» Ce sont des questions que posent des amis et c'est vrai. . . Posséder une maison de campagne implique faire des kilomètres en voiture, avec un risque d'embouteillages. En plus il faut entretenir la maison. Deux maisons c'est deux fois plus de boulot! Mais malgré ces réserves sur place on oublie ces problèmes. Michèle raconte. «On a le sentiment de se retrouver au calme, loin du stress et de la vie de tous les jours.»

C'est une vie plus simple. L'hiver on allume le feu et on se couche sur le canapé, un livre à la main, une tasse de thé à proximité. A la campagne tout est permis et les enfants sont libres — ça ne fait rien s'ils font du bruit, quand il n'y a pas de voisins. Pendant la journée, les enfants disparaissent des heures dans le jardin ou partent faire de grandes balades à vélo ou bien ils jouent dans le grenier. Michèle et son mari n'ont pas voulu de télé. Le soir toute la famille se retrouve autour des jeux de société. C'est une parenthèse dans une vie intense.

Au bout de quelque temps ça change

Cependant, à partir d'un certain âge, les ados rejettent parfois ce qu'ils ont adoré comme enfants. Ils s'ennuient loin de leurs amis et n'espèrent qu'une chose: que les parents partent en week-end à la campagne et leurs laissent le champ libre à la maison. C'est à ce moment-là que Michèle a vendu sa maison: «Je commençais à être épuisée de ces allers-retours. Les copains venaient seulement en été, quand ils étaient sûrs d'avoir du beau temps. Il y avait de gros travaux à faire dans la maison et nous n'aimons pas faire le bricolage. Les enfants ne venaient plus, donc, pour toutes ces raisons, on a décidé de vendre la maison.»

Michèle Manceaux aurait bien gardé sa maison, mais c'était son rêve, pas celui de ses enfants. Alors elle l'a vendue en conservant les souvenirs des jours heureux.

Questions

MARKS

Re-read lines 1–12

1. The writer discusses the reasons why people want to own a second home.
 - (a) What reasons does Michèle Manceaux give for buying a second home?
Give **two** reasons. 2
 - (b) In what way did Michèle’s upbringing influence her decision to buy a house in the country? 1
 - (c) What reason does Patrick Estade give for people owning second homes? 1

Re-read lines 13–29

2. Michèle and her husband chose to buy a house in the country.
 - (a) What reasons do they give for this? Give **three** reasons. 3
 - (b) What questions do Michèle’s friends ask about having a second home in the country? 2
 - (c) Despite her friends’ concerns, for what reasons is Michèle happy with her purchase? 2

Re-read lines 30–45

3. The family enjoys the simple life in the country.
 - (a) Why are the children free to do what they like in the country? 1
 - (b) In what ways does the family spend their time in the country? State any **three** things. 3
4. In the end Michèle decided to sell the house.
For what reasons did she decide to sell the house? Give any **three** reasons. 3
5. Now consider the article as a whole.
What impression does the writer give about owning a second home in the country?
Give details from the text to justify your answer. 2
6. Translate the underlined section into English: (*lines 18–22*)
“Un choix que Michèle..... et faire la cuisine.” 10

[END OF EXEMPLAR QUESTION PAPER]



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Marking Instructions

These Marking Instructions have been provided to show how SQA would mark this Exemplar Question Paper.

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General Marking Principles for Higher French Reading

This information is provided to help you understand the general principles you must apply when marking candidate responses to questions in this paper. These principles must be read in conjunction with the detailed Marking Instructions, which identify the key features required in candidate responses.

- (a) Marks for each candidate response must **always** be assigned in line with these general marking principles and the detailed Marking Instructions for this assessment.
- (b) Marking should always be positive. This means that, for each candidate response, marks are accumulated for the demonstration of relevant skills, knowledge and understanding: they are not deducted from a maximum on the basis of errors or omissions.
- (c) Award a mark to each answer. Marks are not transferable between questions.
- (d) The marks available in this paper are as follows:
 - i) Questions 1-4 require candidates to provide answers based on comprehension of information from the text. The marks available for each question range between 1-3 marks.
 - ii) Question 5 is the overall purpose question. For this question candidates must draw meaning from their overall understanding of the text. There is a maximum of two marks available for reference to the text and detailed comment. 1 mark is given for reference to the text and basic comment. 0 marks will be given where candidates show little or no understanding of the overall purpose of the text.
 - iii) Question 6 is the translation. For this question candidates must translate the underlined section of the text. The section for translation will be divided into five sense units. For each sense unit, 2, 1 or 0 marks will be awarded: 2 marks for a full translation, 1 for partial translation, and 0 for an unsuccessful attempt.
- (e) For questions that ask candidates to **'state'** or **'give'**, candidates must give a brief, accurate response/name.
- (f) We use the term "or any other acceptable answer" to allow for the possible variation in candidate responses. Credit should be given according to the accuracy and relevance of candidate's answers. Candidates may be awarded marks where the answer is accurate but expressed in their own words.
- (g) For live reading Marking Instructions, there will be a process of illustrating other acceptable answers.

Marking Instructions: Reading

Question		Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
1	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> weeks dense and tiring/during week time is taken up with work, housework and family need to make most of weekends to live precious moments/get change of air 	2	<p>Markers should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding to award marks to candidates' responses.</p> <p>Markers should ignore extraneous material that does not contradict the answer</p>
1	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> her family was not rich enough to own/buy/afford a home/house she grew up in (a) rented apartment <p><i>Any one point from the above two for 1 mark</i></p>	1	
1	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> so that they have roots somewhere 	1	
2	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> husband spent childhood in country/loved being outside he wanted their daughter to escape pollution of the city they rent their apartment in Paris and will never be able to afford a flat there 	3	
2	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> are they not afraid of hold ups/traffic jams on a Sunday evening? do they not spend all their time shopping and doing housework? 	2	
2	c	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> when you are there you forget all your problems you find calm/you are far from the stress of everyday life 	2	
3	a	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> there are no neighbours 	1	

Question		Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance								
3	b	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • they disappear for hours in the garden • go for long bike rides • play in the attic • play board games <p><i>Any three points from the above four for 3 marks</i></p>	3									
4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children were bored away from their friends • children wanted parents to go and leave them at home • Michèle was fed up with journeys back and forward • friends only came in summer when weather was nice • house needed work done to it and they don't like DIY <p><i>Any three points from the above five for 3 marks</i></p>	3									
5		<p>Outline of possible response and evidence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the writer gives a balanced view of owning a second home in the country/the author is neither for or against owning a second home/the author gives both advantages and disadvantages <p>Possible evidence includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • advantages - you get time to relax at weekend/you escape stress of everyday life/children have more freedom and can make more noise • disadvantages - owning two homes is twice the amount of work/by a certain age children no longer want to go there/you get tired of travelling back and forward and getting stuck in traffic jams 	2		<p>A mark of 2, 1 or 0 will be awarded for this question. Markers should follow this advice:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Marks</th> <th>Commentary</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>The candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text. The answer clearly relates to the advice given in the “expected response” column.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>The candidate provides an answer that may contain some degree of misreading, but that offers evidence of some justification.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>0</td> <td>The candidate’s answer provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Marks	Commentary	2	The candidate provides a clear answer, with justification that shows an accurate reading of the text. The answer clearly relates to the advice given in the “expected response” column.	1	The candidate provides an answer that may contain some degree of misreading, but that offers evidence of some justification.	0
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0	The candidate’s answer provides information to be found in the text by simply re-stating answers to previous questions.											

Question	Expected answer(s)	Max mark	Additional guidance
6	<p>Translation</p> <p>Un choix que Michèle et son mari, Philippe, ne regrettent pas. A choice that Michèle and her husband, Philippe, do not regret.</p> <p>Pour eux leur maison principale c'est celle de la campagne. For them, their main home is the one in the country.</p> <p>Tous les week-ends la famille part le vendredi soir et rentre le lundi matin. Every weekend the family leaves on Friday night and comes back on Monday morning.</p> <p>Une fois arrivés à la maison, ils peuvent passer le temps ensemble. Once they have arrived at the house they can spend time together.</p> <p>Ils ont même trouvé le temps de jardiner et faire la cuisine. They have even found time to do the garden and the cooking.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>	<p>The translation into English is allocated 10 marks. The text for translation will be divided into a number of sense units. Each sense unit is worth 2 marks, which will be awarded according to the quality and accuracy of the translation into English. In assessing the candidate's performance, the descriptions detailed below will be used. Each sense unit will be awarded one of the marks shown.</p> <p>2 - Good: Essential information and relevant details are understood and conveyed clearly and accurately, with appropriate use of English</p> <p>1 - Satisfactory: Essential information is understood and conveyed clearly and comprehensibly, although some of the details may be translated in an imprecise or inaccurate manner. The key message is conveyed in spite of inaccuracies and weaknesses in the use of English</p> <p>0 - Unsatisfactory: The candidate fails to demonstrate sufficient understanding of the essential information.</p>

[END OF EXEMPLAR MARKING INSTRUCTIONS]