



AP[®] French Literature 2006 Free-Response Questions

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2006 AP[®] FRENCH LITERATURE FREE-RESPONSE QUESTIONS

FRENCH LITERATURE

SECTION II

Total time—1 hour and 40 minutes

Section II counts for 60 percent of the total grade on the examination. Questions 1 and 2 count equally.

Question 1

(Suggested time—50 minutes)

Read carefully the text below. Then write a separate answer in French to each of the questions that follow it. Be sure to use your time effectively so that you can answer each of the questions fully.

Nos mains au jardin

Nous avons eu cette idée
De planter nos mains au jardin

Branches des dix doigts
Vers Petits arbres d'ossements¹
5 Chère plate-bande.²

Tout le jour
Nous avons attendu l'oiseau roux
Et les feuilles fraîches
A nos ongles polis.

10 Nul oiseau
Nul printemps
Ne se sont pris au piège³ de nos mains coupées.

Pour une seule fleur
Une seule minuscule étoile de couleur
15 Un seul vol d'aile calme
Pour une seule note pure
Répétée trois fois.

Il faudra la saison prochaine
Et nos mains fondues comme l'eau.

—Anne Hébert

"Nos mains au jardin" from *Oeuvre poétique 1950-1990*,
Anne Hébert, Éditions du Boréal/Seuil, Montréal, 1992.

1 "bones"

2 "flower bed"

3 "trap"

1. Comment est-ce que la structure et le mouvement du poème communiquent l'évolution des sentiments du poète?
2. Discutez les relations entre le "nous" et la nature dans ce poème.

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Question 2

(Suggested time—50 minutes)

Write a well-organized essay in French on the topic given below, restricting your comments to the scope of the question. Avoid mere plot summary. (Note that you are to write on only one work.)

De nombreuses œuvres littéraires ne cherchent pas seulement à nous divertir mais essaient également de nous éduquer et contiennent des leçons implicites ou explicites. Identifiez les principales leçons que nous pouvons tirer d'une des deux œuvres suivantes et montrez comment l'auteur nous persuade de la validité de ces leçons.

L'École des femmes
Candide

STOP

END OF EXAM