

## COMPREHENSION

*Read the whole text carefully before answering the following questions.*

1. Where does the scene take place? (country, precise location) Can you guess the name of the place? **(15-20 words)**
2. Sum up the situation in the passage from line 1 to line 55 (" ..my first American sunshine"). **(10-15 words)**.
3. "The note was gone before I saw it missing" (l. 2-3) implies: (Copy the correct answer)
  - a) the narrator had not put money in his passport.
  - b) the dollar note fell down on the floor.
  - c) the officer was corrupt and had taken the money.
4. Focus on the questioning (from l. 4: "Then came the catechism.." down to l. 39: ".. .sir"?).
  - a) Quote two sentences that show the narrator already knew what he was going to be asked.
  - b) Quote two questions that were not expected.
  - c) "He read my latest name" (l. 18): what does "latest" imply? (Copy the correct answer)
    - c1) the narrator was travelling under a false identity.
    - c2) the narrator had an old-fashioned name.
    - c3) the officer found it difficult to read the narrator's name.
  - d) (ll. 27-37) What does the officer want to make sure of? **(15-20 words)**
  - e) Why is the narrator asked to read? **(10-15 words)**
5. What does the narrator say about himself in the first part of the text (ll. 1-37) (name, country, city of origin, reason for coming)? **(30 words)**
6. What does the sentence "She's in my dreams" (l. 23) seem to imply? Copy the correct answer.
  - a) He does not really care about his wife anymore.
  - b) He misses his wife a lot.
  - c) He is not married.
7. How does the narrator feel while reading? What do we learn about his real family? **(20-30 words)**
8.
  - a) Pick out one sentence showing the narrator believes in the American Dream.
  - b) Show that the narrator's answers make him a perfect immigrant. **(30 words)**
9. What does "*Slán leat*" (l. 50) reveal? **(20 words)**

10. Rephrase "Speakee American, bub?" (l. 53) in standard English.

11. TRUE or FALSE? Justify your answer with one quotation from the text.

The man the narrator meets takes advantage of newcomers.

Seuls les candidats de la série L répondront aux questions 12. 13 et 14.

*Read the whole text again.*

12. In your own words explain in what way the three characters are dishonest. Include elements from the text in your answer. **(50-60 words)**

13. Explain in your own words: "I was a clean sheet". **(15-20 words)**

14. Traduction: Translate into French from line 62 down to line 64: *"He must have been good, this lad, to be allowed on the island, right under the portico. I studied him closely, the movie suit, the hat, the hidden accent. I handed him my cardboard suitcase. It was empty."*

## **EXPRESSION**

Les candidats de la série S choisiront de traiter l'UN des deux sujets au choix (200 mots).

Les candidats de la série L devront obligatoirement traiter les DEUX sujets (300 mots au total, soit environ 150 mots pour chaque sujet).

**Sujet 1.** Imagine what happened to the narrator before the beginning of the text. You may choose to include dialogues.

**Sujet 2.** Is it possible to start a new life all over again? Can you really live without your past? Give examples.