

LANGUE VIVANTE IANGLAIS**TEXT: ALZHEIMER'S? No Cure, But Hope**

William BAYSE, a former NASA engineer, had an awesome memory - at least until he started showing signs of Alzheimer's six years ago. But last spring, BAYSE, then 64, barely responded to his four children. Then he got into a trial for an experimental pill, the first of a possible new class of Alzheimer's drugs-which he was told to take with his regular pills of dementia. "In four months he was joking with the kids," says his ex-wife Harriette.

That drug, memantine, moved a step closer to market last week, when the New England Journal of Medicine published a major study showing that it helped slow cognitive and functional declines in 126 patients with moderate to severe Alzheimer's, versus 126 on placebo. "It's the first treatment for advanced stages of the disease", says lead author Barry REISBERG, professor of psychiatry at New York University. The drug helped patients continue basic activities like dressing and bathing themselves.

In a second study, presented last week at the American Academy of Neurology, memantine combined with a standard Alzheimer's drug actually improved patients' cognitive abilities somewhat - at least for the six-month trial. Benefits were starting to diminish by the end.

Is memantine a cure ? No. but it could be patients' best hope so far. Expect it to reach the market in mid 2004.

By Anne UNDERWOOD, *Newsweek*, April, 14<sup>th</sup> 2003, p6.

**LANGUE VIVANTE I**

**Epreuve du 2<sup>ème</sup> groupe**

**I READING COMPREHENSION: (08 points)**

**A- Read the text to fill in the chart below. (02,5 points**

Patient's name	2- .....	Drug's name	Drug's impact on patients
1- .....	Alzheimer's	3- .....	4- ..... 5- helps patients continue basic activities 6- .....

**B – Multiple choice answers: choose the right answer (01,5 points)**

7-“A former NASA engineer “is someone who”:

- a) Used to work for NASA as an engineer.
- b) Forms engines at NASA.
- c) Trains people to become engineers at NASA.
- d) “Advises NASA to create engines.

8- “Bayse barely responded to his four children” means :

- a) He refused to speak with them.
- b) He hardly spoke to them.
- c) He started to hate them
- d) He happily spoke to them.

9- Bayse started showing signs of Alzheimer's in .....

- a- 1997
- b- 2000
- c- 2003
- d- 2001

**C- True or False, justify by quoting from the text. (01, 5 points)**

10-Before suffering from Alzheimer's disease, Bayse had a very good memory.

.....

11- The drugs Bayse took proved to be efficient.

.....

12- Finally a remedy to Alzheimer's was found.

.....

**D- Answer the questions. (01 point)**

13- What name of a season is mentioned in the text? .....

14- What are the two illnesses that Bayse was suffering from?

..... ; .....

**LANGUE VIVANTE I**

**Epreuve du 2<sup>e</sup> groupe**

**E- Referencing : What or who do the underlined words refer to ? (01,5 points)**

- 15-He was joking with the kids (line 5) =.....
- 16- It helped slow (line 7) =.....
- 17 Bayse, then 64 (line 2) =.....

**II LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE (06 points)**

**F- Rewriting: Rewrite the sentences without changing their meanings.**

- 18- He went to see a doctor when his pain increased  
 Not until .....
- 19- Why can't people go to hospital when they are ill?  
 I wish .....
- 20- Doctors make us improve our health.  
 We .....
- 21- As environment is dirty people lack health.  
 The ....., the .....
- 22- Bayse barely responded to his four children  
 Hardly .....

**G- Ask questions corresponding to the underlined words or groups of words. (02 points)**

- 23- Many people suffer from diabetes.....?
- 24- Some people never go and see doctors.....?
- 25/26- Bayse barely responded to his four children .....?

**H- Put the verbs in brackets in the right tenses or forms ( 01,5 points)**

- 27- If she regularly .....her pills, she'd recover (take).
- 28- The doctor would rather we .....this food if we want to stay healthy (not eat)
- 29- Some tablets prevent patients from..... (suffer)

**III- ESSAY: Choose one topic and write about it 150 -200 words. (06 points)**

- 1- Today, we notice the development of many illnesses.  
 What are the causes of this phenomenon? Propose a solution.
- 2- Do you agree on the statement that AIDS is a punishment that God inflicts on unfaithful husbands and wives? Why or why not?

LANGUE VIVANTE IEpreuve du 2<sup>e</sup> groupeANSWER KEYI – READING COMPREHENSION**A- (2,5 points)**

- 1 = William BAYSE  
 2 = disease / illness  
 3 = Memantine  
 4= Helped slow .....declines  
 5= Improved patients' cognitive abilities.

**B- (0,5 x 3=1,5 points)**

- 7=a  
 8=b  
 9=a

**C- (0,5 x 3=1,5 points)**

- 10=True;" William BAYSE .....had an awesome memory ..... six years ago."  
 11= True: "in four months.....with the kids."  
 12= False; "Alzheimer's, no cure, but hope."

**D-(0,5 x 2=1 point)**

- 13= spring  
 14= Alzheimer's and dementia

**E-(0,5 x 3=1,5 points)**

- 15= Bayse's children  
 16- memantine  
 17- (last) spring

II LINGUISTIC COMPETENCE**F- (0,5 x 4=2,5 points)**

- 18= not until his pain increased did he go to see a doctor.  
 19= I wish people could go to hospital when they are ill.  
 20= we are made to improve our health by doctors.  
 21= the dirtier the environment (gets), the less healthy (it is) / people are / get  
 22= Hardly did BAYSE respond to his four children.

**G-(0,5 x 4=2,5 points)**

- 23 = what do many people suffer from?  
 24= How often do some people go and see doctors?  
 25 = how often did BAYSE respond to his four children?  
 26 = who did BAYSE barely respond to? (Accepter **whom**)

**H = (0,5 x 3 = 1,5 points)**

- 27 = took  
 28 = didn't eat  
 29 = suffering

III ESSAY:

The marking is left at the examiner's appreciation.