

**Epreuve du 1^{er} groupe****ANGLAIS**

“The eldest of three girls, I was nine years old when Mother left for Europe”, says Airen, who lives in the Philippines. “**She** promised us better food, better schooling, and a better home. I still remember the day she left. She hugged **me** and told me to take care of my sisters, Rhea and Shullamite. I cried for a long time.

“Four years later, Father left to join Mother. When he was with us, I tried to follow **him** wherever he went. When he said goodbye, my sisters and I clung to him until he boarded the bus. Once more I wept inconsolably for a time.

Shullamite, the youngest of the three girls, recalls : “When Airen was nine years old, she became my mother, so to speak. I took my problems to her, and she taught me how to wash my clothes, make my bed, and so on. When our parents phoned **us**, I sometimes tried to explain my feelings to them, but I couldn’t express myself clearly. I don’t think they always understood.

“People often asked me if I missed my parents. ‘Well, yes,’ I would reply. But quite frankly, I didn’t really remember my mother. She left when I was four, and I got used to being without her”

“When I was 16, “says Airen, my sisters and I finally set off to be reunited with our parents. I felt so excited ! But when we arrived, I found that we had grown apart from them”.

Rhea adds : “I kept my problem to myself. I was timid by nature and found it hard to show affection. In the Philippines, we lived with our uncle and aunt, who had three children of their own. Although our relatives cared for us, they were not like real parents”.

In conclusion, Airen admits: “We did not suffer when we were a poor family -- we never went hungry. But my sisters and I did suffer when we were left behind. Our family has been reunited for nearly five years now, but the years of separation have left their mark. We knew that our parents love us, but we wish they had made a different decision”.

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I. COMPREHENSION (8 points)**A. Tick the letter corresponding to the best answer****(3 pts)****1. The best title for the text could be :**

- a. Love or comfort
- b. Young adults’ revolt
- c. Living with your brothers and sisters
- d. Young mothers speak up

2. The three girls were not happy because they lacked :

- a. friends
- b. affection
- c. education
- d. food

3. “We wish they had made a different decision” is an expression of :

- a. Hope
- b. Regret
- c. Satisfaction
- d. Despair

B. Write True or False after these statements then justify with specific passages from the text (2 pts)

4. Love and affection are more important than material comfort
.....
.....

5. Airen and her sisters joined their parents three years after their father's departure.
.....
.....

C. Write from the text two phrases showing that the children were affected by the separation from their parents (1 pt)

6.
7.

D. Underline the correct word referred to (2 pts)

- 8. She refers to: mother / Airen / sister
- 9. Me refers to: mother / Airen / sister
- 10. Him refers to: mother / father / Rhea
- 11. Us refers to: girls / parents / relatives

II. LINGUISTIC AND COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE (7 points)

E. Reorder the words below so as to make meaningful sentences (2 pts)

- 12. abandoned / their parents / The sisters / felt / by
.....
- 13. The/ their mark/ separation/ have left/ years of

F. Complete the dialogue between Airen and a neighbor after the departure of her parents to Europe. Put the verbs in the right form or use relevant words according to the context (3 pts)

Neighbour : Why are you 14.young girl? (cry)
Airen : 15. Our parents have (go) away and left us.
Neighbour : Who do you live 16.....?
Airen : My two little sisters!
Neighbour : 17. have they gone?
Airen : To Europe ! Mother went first then Father followed her.
Neighbour : 18.cry anymore! Call your sisters and come to my house.
Airen : 19. !
Neighbour : You're welcome !

G. Turn the following sentences into the reported speech (2 pts)

- 20. "She became my mother".
Shullamite said that
- 21. "Do you miss your mother?"
Rhea was asked

III. WRITING : Choose one of the topics below (5 points)

- 1. As a reporter, interview the sisters' parents (father and mother) about their decision to go away and leave their young children behind.
- 2. Write about the importance of growing up with your own parents.