

ANGLAIS LV1

TRADUCTION DU FRANCAIS EN ANGLAIS

« Ses parents lui ont peut-être demandé de promener des invités de la dernière heure, » dit Bertille sans me quitter des yeux.

- Il serait venu s'excuser, » dit Salomé

Nous avions beau, ma mère et moi, afficher un calme désarmant et parler d'autre chose avec application, je me sentais assiégé. Salomé, appelant Lagny, tomba comme moi sur le répondeur. Tous les enfants s'étaient groupés autour d'elle. Je ne pus empêcher Jeannet de se pencher sur l'appareil et de confier à la bande magnétique une énergique protestation:

« Et alors, Gonzague, qu'est-ce que tu fiches ? On danse d'un pied sur l'autre en t'attendant.

– Lâcheur! cria Blandine de la même façon.

– Téléphone-moi, chéri, aussitôt que tu es rentré », dit enfin Salomé.

Je respirai : aucun ne s'était nommé. Consolation naïve, du reste : si nécessaire, un bon inspecteur n'aurait aucune peine à remonter jusqu'à ma fille.

« Qu'est-ce qu'il y a? » me souffla Bertille, profitant de l'intermède.

L'arrêt brusque d'une Fiat devant la maison me dispensa de répondre. Sortant de la voiture de sa mère, Marie Bioni – l'amie de Jeannet – traversait le jardin en courant, escaladait le perron en deux enjambées, poussait la porte :

« Tu parles d'un scandale! » dit-elle.

Hervé Bazin, *Cri de la Chouette*,

Livre de Poche, 1972

pp. 125-126

ANGLAIS LV1

TRADUCTION DE L'ANGLAIS EN FRANCAIS

For some time now I've been finding it hard to relax properly in my own apartment. If I'm alone at home, I get increasingly restless, bothered by the idea that I'm missing some crucial encounter out there somewhere. But if I'm left by myself in someone else's place, I often find a nice sense of peace engulfing me. I love sinking into an unfamiliar sofa with whatever book happens to be lying nearby. And that's exactly what I did this time... Or at least, I managed to read a couple of chapters of *Mansfield Park* before dozing off for twenty minutes or so.

When I woke up, the afternoon sun was coming into the flat. Getting off the sofa, I began a little nose-around. Perhaps the cleaners had indeed been in during our lunch, or maybe Emily had done the tidying herself; in any case, the large living room was looking pretty immaculate. Tidiness aside, it had been stylishly done up, with modern designer furniture and arty objects – though someone being unkind might have said it was all too obviously for effect. I took a browse through the books, then glanced through the CD collection.[...]

I was opening up a few cupboards in search of biscuits or a chocolate bar when I noticed what seemed to be a small notebook on the kitchen table. It had purple cushioned covers, which made it stand out amidst the sleek minimalist surfaces of the kitchen. Emily, in a big hurry just before she'd left, had been emptying and re-filling her bag on the table while I'd been drinking my tea. Obviously she'd left the notebook behind by mistake.

Kazuo Ishiguro, *Come Rain Or Shine*,
in *Nocturnes*, Faber and Faber, 2009
pp. 54-55

ANGLAIS

Expression écrite 1ère langue

Britain is turning in on itself. Cool Britannia, self-confident globalism and liberal internationalism - all belong to a bygone era. Finance has gone out of fashion. The time has come to pull up the drawbridge and pay the bills. Introspection and austerity are the leitmotifs of the new age. Things are going to get grim.

This week David Cameron's coalition government unveiled its plans to repair the large hole in the nation's public finances. The prescription is for public spending cuts bigger than anything seen since the end of the second world war. The task? To eliminate a budget deficit of about 10 per cent of national income.

Taxes are going up and living standards are set to fall. Half a million public sector jobs are to be lost. Pay is to be frozen and pensions reduced. Investment in the physical fabric of the nation - roads and railways, schools, hospitals and housing - has been slashed. The BBC will be shutting down channels. [...]

Britain is far from alone in embracing fiscal conservatism. Governments across Europe - and not just Greece and Ireland - have been running scared of the bond markets. The banking bust has left a sovereign debt crisis in its wake. The central bankers who blithely ignored the warning signs during the boom years are now the cheerleaders for austerity. [...]

Washington stands out among the western crowd, still more concerned with sustaining economic growth and job creation than with tidying the fiscal arithmetic. The Europeans tut-tut. Germany sides with China in wagging a finger at US profligacy.

Some of us thought the banks were to blame for the economic mess. Now we are told that spendthrift government has been the road to ruin. To suggest that John Maynard Keynes had something useful to say about managing demand during times of economic stress is to be branded a deficit-denier. [...]

Mr Cameron's government prefaced Mr Osborne's spending announcements with a review of Britain's defence posture. The prime minister called it a strategic assessment. The officials and service chiefs charged with implementation complain the exercise has been little more than crude cost-cutting. Either way, Britain emerges a diminished power.

The government is holding on to some of the emblems of global reach. The navy is to get two new aircraft carriers. The Trident nuclear deterrent will be modernised. But there are insufficient funds to properly equip the carriers with fast jets, so one will be mothballed almost as soon as it is completed. [...]

There were brighter spots in Mr Osborne's statement. Britain alone among the big industrial nations is sticking to its pledge to increase spending significantly on overseas aid. Some argue that gives Britain a lot more authority in the councils of global affairs than another squadron of fighter jets.

On the other hand, Mr Cameron intends to shrink the nation's diplomatic footprint. The Foreign Office faces a cut of about a quarter in its budget. Ambassadors have been told to put traditional diplomacy to one side; their first priority henceforth is to act as an on-the-spot sales force for exports and investment opportunities. Britain, the prime minister declares, is "open for business".

That is as it may be, but it is also largely closed to foreigners - a confusing message for the rising economic powers with which the government wants to build closer relationships.

The general election saw something of a backlash against the sharp influx of immigrant workers during 13 years of Labour government. Nothing can be done to stem the flow from other European Union states, so Mr Cameron has called a halt to immigration from elsewhere. The best and the brightest from the emerging nations will have to find more hospitable destinations.

It is hard to quarrel with Mr Cameron's decision to set a deadline for the withdrawal of British troops from Afghanistan. US president Barack Obama, after all, has done much the same. Building a shiny new democracy in Afghanistan was not an ignoble ambition. It has proved a hopeless one.

Quite a lot of people will tell you that a more general retreat from influence was also inevitable. Tony Blair's premiership was but a small detour on the long road of relative decline. Britain was living on borrowed time and borrowed money. Cool Britannia was a last post-imperial hurrah.

The world now belongs to China, India, Brazil, Turkey and the rest. Mervyn King, the governor of the Bank of England, talks of a coming decade of sobriety. Others remark - and rightly so - that rebuilding economic strength at home is anyway an essential precursor to securing influence abroad.

The deficit must be dealt with later if not sooner. Britain cannot indefinitely pretend it is possible to match continental European standards of welfare provision with US levels of taxation. A political choice has to be made. The lesson from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan was that even before the cuts military commitments were running far ahead of resources.

All of these things are true at least in part. On the other hand there must surely be a story of Britain's ambition that reaches beyond balancing the books. Mustn't there?

The Financial Times, October 22 2010

Répondre en **ANGLAIS** aux questions suivantes :
(environ 250 mots pour chaque réponse)

1. According to the author, how does the British government intend to deal with the country's current difficulties?

Answer the question in your own words

2. In your opinion, to what extent can the United Kingdom retain its influence in the world?

Justify your answer with relevant examples.