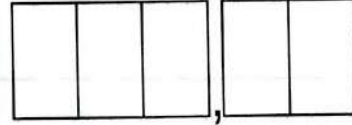PIL English: Anglophone Culture and Civilization
Teacher: Jane Blevins
July 3, 2014, 11 AM to 1 PM
REDA

Student Name_____

COMBETTE
Elise

Point breakdown by section	TOTAL
	40
Listening Comprehension 1	4
Listening Comprehension 2	9
General Knowledge	10
Reading Comprehension 1	5
Reading Comprehension 2	5
Reading Comprehension 3	5
Essay	14
Overall Total	52

TOTAL:

52/60 x 20=	
17,3	20

great job !

Listening Comprehension 1 (10 points)

You are going to listen <u>twice</u> to the first 15 seconds of a report about Game of Thrones. You will need to complete the task below. Before the listening comprehension starts, you have 1 minute to read through the task.

In the transcript below the emphasized words are missing. Please fill them in:

Lisa Joiner with __you__ and __this__ __time__ we're behind

the __scenes__ with __NCIS__ ...

Speaker 1: What did you __do__ ?
Speaker 2: Why are you ____ into ____ ? That's a ____ ____ but in
____ ____ (interruption)
Speaker 2: ____ ____ !

Narrator: It's __time__ for ____ to ____ the ____ !

Listening Comprehension 2: (10 points)

You are going to listen <u>twice</u> to a two-minute report about the Game of Thrones. You will need to complete the task below. Before the listening comprehension starts, you have 1 minute to read through the task.

In answer to the question "Which other character would you like to play?" the Game of Thrones cast gives their answers.

1. Who does speaker 1 (Denaris, the Mother of Dragons) want to play?

__Speaker 1 wants to play Tyrion Lanister__

2. Why does speaker 2 (Tywin Lanister) want to play Tyrion?

__Speaker 2 wants to play Tyrion because he's the most complete and wonderful character to him.__

3. Who does Speaker 3 (Arya) want to play and why? (name at least 1 reason)

__Speaker 3 wants to play Denaris because she looks like her own character Arya, she's strong, independant.__

4. Who does Speaker 4 (Brianne of Tar) want to play?

__Speaker 4 wants to play Jaime or Surcy Lanister.__

5. Why does speaker 6 (the Hound) want to play Tyrion?

__Speaker 6 wants to play Tyrion because he's intelligent, and he thinks he "has balls".__

(no questions on speaker 7, Surcy Lanister)

6. What kind of character would speaker 8 (Jon Snow) like to play?

Speaker 8 would like to play evil characters like Geoffrey

7. Speaker 9 (Tyrion) reveals what about the character he wants play ? (Jaime)

_____

8. Why does speaker 10 (Sansa Stark) like Jaime's character so much?

She thinks he's a complex character, a "bad guy gone good".

9. Why would Speaker 11 (Jaime Lanister) like to play Geoffrey character ?

Speaker 11 would like to play Geoffrey because he's evil and he thinks it's fun

10. Why does speaker 12 (Ygritte) like Geoffrey so much?

Speaker 12 likes Geoffrey very much because he's evil and brilliant.

II. General Knowledge 10 points

+10

Match the following people or ideas with the words or descriptions (letters)

1. Martin Luther King, Jr. i.	a. non denominational
2. Manifest Destiny h.	b. Whole Earth Bible
3. Stewart Brand b.	c. Creationism
4. Jonathan Edwards f.	d. Red Scare
5. Pastafarians g.	e. Tamany Hall
6. Steve Jobs j.	f. Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God
7. Intelligent Design c.	g. Flying Spaghetti Monster
8. Boss Tweed e.	h. Go West Young Man!
9. Joseph McCarthy d.	i. Civil Rights Pioneer
10. Megachurch a.	j. Inventor and entrepreneur

Reading Comprehension (5 points each text or 1 point per question)

Read the following texts and answer the questions

Watergate Landmark to be Destroyed (Boston Globe, June 30, 2014)

PARKING GARAGES rarely provoke much nostalgia, and when a Virginia suburb approved a plan to demolish the one where Bob Woodward met with Deep Throat, almost no one but journalists cared. The structure in Rosslyn, just across the Potomac River from Washington, D.C., played a unique role in US history, hosting Woodward's clandestine meetings with his secret source, who decades later was revealed to be FBI official Mark Felt. The information

Woodward received at spot 32D and published in The Washington Post helped drive President Richard Nixon from office. But even if Watergate sites don't excite preservationists, they may soon want to spare a thought for parking garages: Changes in the way we use cars may soon make them obsolete — or at least much less central to American life.

By the early 1970s, parking garages had assumed a unique dual role — after dark, they were noirish, undersupervised places, perfect for clandestine meetings; by day, they were dull, utilitarian structures that commuters used without thinking twice about it. It seems inconceivable that a fixture as common as parking garages would disappear, but past generations likely said the same thing about, say, open sewers. Giant garages only came to exist because most people use cars inefficiently, leaving them idle for much of the day. But technological innovations are beginning to change that. Car ownership rates are declining . Current trends point toward fewer cars on the road, heavier use of the ones remaining, and less overall demand for spaces.

Already there are signs that car-sharing and similar services have reduced parking demand. The Boston Redevelopment Authority has relaxed requirements for parking spaces in some new developments, citing a 14 percent drop in vehicle registrations since 2008. Indeed, in Rosslyn, there are no plans to replace the garage that Woodward made famous; a developer plans to build a residential tower and commercial space on the site instead.

For now, Virginia should make an effort to document the historic garage for posterity — perhaps with the 3-D interior-imaging devices now beginning to appear. But at some point, a parking garage here and there may need to be preserved. Otherwise, Americans of the future may never believe that such buildings took up so much prime real estate — or that one of them could play a starring role in 20th-century history.

1. The main goal of this article is to_____

a) describe how important parking garages are to American Society today
b) discuss new facts about the Watergate Scandal
c) Urge lawmakers not to destroy Parking garages
d) inform the reader that a landmark in Watergate will soon be destroyed and make some conjectures about the future of the parking garages

2. The parking garage in Rosslyn is important because

a) This is where Bob Woodward met his secret source for information during Watergate
b) It is one of the last structures of its kind in Virginia
c) The architecture of this parking garage is unique
d). It dates from the 1970s which is quite old for a parking garage

3. In the 1970s parking garages were

a) popular meeting places

b) increasingly overcrowded
c) unused at night
d) ideal for secret meetings because there was low supervision

4. According to the author, parking garages came about because

a) far more people owned cars in the 1970s compared to today
b) owners needed parking away from sunlit areas
c) people used their cars less efficiently then than now
d) streets were too narrow to park cars in the 1970s

5. The author believes that people should begin to document and photograph parking garages because

a) they are worthy landmarks that should be preserved
b) future generations may need proof they existed
c) parking garages look like artwork when photographed
d) many parking garages are historically significant

Text 2: Mega churches in America (ABC news, June 13, 2014) (5 points)

From super-sized drinks to SUVs to big-screen TVs, cineplexes and houses in the suburbs — even Americans themselves — just about everything in the United States has been getting steadily larger.

Even churches.

While Americans have been shying away from religion, and church attendance has been slipping, at least one brand of worship has been bucking the religious trend, getting bigger in every way.

Mega-churches, giant houses of worship that draw congregations of up to 20,000 to weekend services, are thriving, and super-sized houses of worship have become fixtures of America's religious landscape, in spite of criticism from some traditionalists that they are a sort of "religion lite."

"They're still growing very quickly, and there's a lot of them that are springing up," says Brad Smith, head of the Leadership Network, a private foundation that works with churches nationwide and oversees the Large Church Network.

Food Courts, Rock Climbing and Jesus

Mariners Church, located in the affluent suburbs south of Los Angeles, is embarking on a 10-year expansion project with a 4,000-seat worship center, an artificial lake, food court, coffee house, and recreational attractions including a rock-climbing wall and jumbo video screens.

Willow Creek Community Church, the Chicago-area congregation that has led the mega-church phenomenon over the past three decades, draws up to 20,000 worshippers every weekend to its mammoth facility.

It too features its own bookstore and coffee house, among other services. Its $70 million expansion plan includes a new 7,200-seat auditorium.

The Numbers Add Up

The overall percentage of Americans who get their religion in a big way is still small compared to those who get it in a more traditional setting. But small is only relative when congregations number in the thousands.

Of the 300,000 to 400,000 churches in America, between 5 percent and 10 percent average more than 1,000 members, according to numerous studies.

Not all of them fit the mega-church mold, leaving the number of Americans who regularly attend a mega-church between 2 million and 5 million, instead of the 6 million to 12 million that might be expected.

The growth comes as overall church attendance has slipped nearly 20 percent in the past 10 years, according to Barna research, a polling firm that focuses on religious issues. Barna says 40 percent of the nation goes to church on a typical Sunday, down from 49 percent in 1991.

Size Is an Attraction

At least part of the appeal of mega-churches is their sheer size.

"I think they really do resonate with who we are as a large, mass society," says Scott Thumma, a professor at the Hartford Seminary in Connecticut, who has studied mega-churches extensively.

"As long as we idolize Britney Spears and go to major rock concerts, we're going to appreciate that sort of 'quality worship,'" he says.

Mega-churches also often have a virtually complete social environment, featuring sports and recreation facilities such as basketball courts, pools, or roller-skating rinks. Some have movie theaters and retirement homes built into their complexes.

6). According to the author mega churches

a) are on the rise in the US
b) are declining as religious interest declines
c) are surprising scholars because of their numbers
d) all attract over 20,000 people to church every Sunday.

7) In this article the author

a) wants the reader to join a mega church
b) is against mega churches and wants to highlight their absurdity
c) is informing the reader about recent mega church development in the US
d) has doubts about the mega church but wants to be fair

8) According to the article around

a) 12 million people attend mega churches every Sunday
b) 400,000 people attend mega churches in the cities
c) between 2 and 5 million people attend mega churches
d) 60 percent of the American population attend churches in the US

9) Compared to 1991 figures,

a) Church attendance has decreased
b) Church attendance has increased
c) Church attendance has remained steady
d) more people go to church but there are fewer statistics to prove it

10. According to Scott Thumma, one reason Americans go to mega churches is

a) they are tired of small traditionalist churches
b) mega churches have many attractions that are part of American pop culture already
c) smaller churches require greater sacrifices from its members
d) they are getting older and like the facilities mega churches offer

Text 3: Teacher Notes on Political Machines (http://www.enotes.com/homework-help/discuss-activities-urban-political-machines-noting-462065) 5 points

I would argue that the urban political machines, while flawed and corrupt, were a necessary part of America's development. That is, I believe that they did more good than bad for our development.

Of course, political machines were corrupt. They took taxpayer money and spent it enriching the members of the machines. They extorted (stole) money from people who wanted to do business with the cities. They often tolerated various sorts of crime in return for bribes. All of these are things that are objectionable and are bad for the development of a country.

However, the political machines also did things that were important for the development of our country. Let us look at two such things. First, the machines provided a welfare system for poor immigrants that might otherwise have been missing. This was a time when American governments did not really believe in providing public assistance even though many people needed it. The machines provided this assistance, even if they did so in exchange for votes. Second, the machines provided the immigrants with a way to feel that they were a part of the US political system. Immigrants would not likely have gotten much representation in city governments had it not been for machines. Machines gave them a way to get involved with American politics. This allowed them to feel more as if they were a part of the country rather than feeling separate and alienated. This was a very important thing because it helped create the "melting pot" effect that has made our society as united as it is.

In these ways, machines did do bad things that hurt the country, but they also performed necessary services that helped immigrants assimilate during a time when large numbers of poor immigrants were coming to this country.

11) The author of this text wants to

a) convince the reader that political machines were corrupt
b) show the reader that political machines manipulated immigrants
c) help the reader see how flawed the American political system is

d) show the reader that political machines were both good and bad for America

12) American politicians in the 1800s_____

a) were very concerned about the effect immigrants had on the economy
b) made sure all immigrants were enrolled in a political machine
c) ignored immigrants' problems
d) used political machines to found a welfare state

13) One positive effect of political machines was_____

a) to reduce crime in immigrant communities
b) provide employment for immigrants
c) make immigrants feel included in the political process
d) keep immigrants from open revolt through heavy policing

14) The author states that political machines helped America become a

a) police state
b) welfare state
c) better democracy
d) a melting pot

15) based on the information provided in this article, political machines' overall role was

a) mostly negative
b) mostly positive
c) neutral
d) necessary for America's development

Essay (15 points) Please choose one of the following topics and write an essay on it. Your essay must be at least 150 words (1/2 page).

1) Compare and contrast the presidential and parliamentary systems of government. Discuss each system's drawbacks and advantages.

2) How has information technology changed the way we live today? Discuss concisely and clearly the different stages of information flow (beginning with the explosion of information introduced by the printing press) discussed in class and identify at least one extremely popular or present cultural phenomenon resulting from IT that was not present ten years ago.

+14 excellent essay

The way we live today and have access to information is the outcome of centuries of evolution of the information technology, leading us to the world we know nowadays. through a path of information explosions. *odd but poetic*

The printing press, invented by Gütenberg during the 16th century, represents the first explosion of information in History; indeed, before this invention, the sacred texts such as the Bible were the only sources of knowledge. However, people didn't have access to the Bible, it was read by priests during services so that the information was held by the elite of a society, while laymen were maintained in their ignorance. The printing press made the Bible, first, and then other documents, possible to reach by everyone: it allowed a greater access to information.

A second and even greater explosion of information came about in the 20th century. Indeed, the ideas of up-to-date information and links to it were born with the Whole Earth Bible written by Stewart Brand, which contained phone numbers related to specific information. These ideas inspired Steve Jobs, creator of Apple, who developed them and led to the internet that we know nowadays and which our generation was moulded by: everyone can reach information and knowledge, and everyone can build his own opinion in order to build himself. The internet shattered elitist supremacy and developed criticism: people started questioning authority, such as the Pastafarians, a group that makes fun of creationism by worshiping the "Flying Spaghetti Monster". *a stretch but an interesting idea*

Several cultural phenomenons result from information technology, such as Wikipedia, a website gathering knowledge brought by everybody in the internet and checked by experts, or social networks like facebook or Twitter, where people share their life with people they're related to; these two phenomenons are both huge plateforms of communication and knowledge representing our society as a result of this evolution.