

## SECONDA PROVA SCRITTA – ESEMPIO

**Indirizzo:** LI04 – LICEO LINGUISTICO

**Tema di:** LINGUA E CULTURA STRANIERA 1: INGLESE

### PART 1 – COMPREHENSION AND INTERPRETATION

*Read the texts for Question A and Question B and answer the questions below. Use complete sentences and your own words.*

#### Question A

- Startled, Ralph realized that the boys were falling still and silent, feeling the beginnings of awe at the power set free below them. The knowledge and the awe made him savage.
- "Oh, shut up!"
- 5 "I got the conch," said Piggy, in a hurt voice. "I got a right to speak."
- They looked at him with eyes that lacked interest in what they saw, and cocked ears at the drum-roll of the fire. Piggy glanced nervously into hell and cradled the conch.
- "We got to let that burn out now. And that was our firewood."
- He licked his lips.
- "There ain't nothing we can do. We ought to be more careful. I'm scared--"
- 10 Jack dragged his eyes away from the fire.
- "You're always scared. Yah-Fatty!"
- "I got the conch," said Piggy bleakly. He turned to Ralph. "I got the conch, ain't I Ralph?"
- Unwillingly Ralph turned away from the splendid, awful sight. "What's that?"
- "The conch. I got a right to speak."
- 15 The twins giggled together.
- "We wanted smoke--"
- "Now look--!"
- A pall stretched for miles away from the island. All the boys except Piggy started to giggle; presently they were shrieking with laughter.
- 20 Piggy lost his temper.
- "I got the conch! Just you listen! The first thing we ought to have made was shelters down there by the beach. It wasn't half cold down there in the night. But the first time Ralph says 'fire' you goes howling and screaming up this here mountain. Like a pack of kids!"
- By now they were listening to the tirade.
- 25 "How can you expect to be rescued if you don't put first things first and act proper?"
- He took off his glasses and made as if to put down the conch; but the sudden motion toward it of most of the older boys changed his mind. He tucked the shell under his arm, and crouched back on a rock.
- "Then when you get here you build a bonfire that isn't no use. Now you been and set the whole island on fire. Won't we look funny if the whole island burns up? Cooked fruit, that's what we'll have to eat, and roast pork. And that's nothing to laugh at! You said Ralph was chief and you don't give him time to think.
- 30 Then when he says something you rush off, like, like--"
- He paused for breath, and the fire growled at them.
- "And that's not all. Them kids. The little 'uns. Who took any notice of 'em? Who knows how many we got?"
- 35 Ralph took a sudden step forward.
- "I told you to. I told you to get a list of names!"
- "How could I," cried Piggy indignantly, "all by myself? They waited for two minutes, then they fell in the sea; they went into the forest; they just scattered everywhere. How was I to know which was which?"
- Ralph licked pale lips.
- 40 "Then you don't know how many of us there ought to be?"
- "How could I with them little 'uns running round like insects? Then when you three came back, as soon as you said make a fire, they all ran away, and I never had a chance--" "That's enough!" said Ralph sharply,
- and
- snatched back the conch. "If you didn't you didn't."
- "--then you come up here an' pinch my specs--"
- 45 Jack turned on him.
- "You shut up!"
- "--and them little 'uns was wandering about down there where the fire is. How d'you know they aren't still there?"
- Piggy stood up and pointed to the smoke and flames. A murmur rose among the boys and died away.
- 50 Something strange was happening to Piggy, for he was gasping for breath.

"That little 'un—" gasped Piggy— "him with the mark on his face, I don't see him. Where is he now?"  
The crowd was as silent as death.

"Him that talked about the snakes. He was down there—"

55 A tree exploded in the fire like a bomb. Tall swathes of creepers rose for a moment into view, agonized,  
and went down again. The little boys screamed at them.

"Snakes! Snakes! Look at the snakes!"

In the west, and unheeded, the sun lay only an inch or two above the sea. Their faces were lit redly from  
beneath. Piggy fell against a rock and clutched it with both hands. "That little 'un that had a mark on his  
face—where is—he now? I tell you I don't see him."

60 The boys looked at each other fearfully, unbelieving.

"—where is he now?"

Ralph muttered the reply as if in shame. "Perhaps he went back to the, the—" Beneath them, on the  
unfriendly side of the mountain, the drum-roll continued.

[789 words]

William Golding (1911-93), *Lord of the Flies* (1954)

1. **1**Where does the scene take place? Give three reasons for your answer.
2. **2**The beginning of the text introduces one of the main characters, Ralph. What is his role? Write three examples.
3. **3**Opposed to Ralph are the other boys. Why are they "falling still and silent" (Line 1)?
4. **4**What is the conch? What does it give Piggy?
5. **5**Why is it possible to state that Jack bullies Piggy?
6. **6**Piggy starts a "tirade" (Line 24). What does he complain about?
7. **7**Which of these nouns best describe the symbolic quality of Piggy's glasses? You can choose more than one option.  rationality –  weakness –  intellect –  hidden personality –  old age
8. **8**Why does Piggy suddenly feel uneasy? How do you explain these words? "That little 'un—" [...] "him with the mark on his face, I don't see him. Where is he now?" (Line 51)
9. **9**What is the main theme of the text? Give reasons.

## Question B

In 2008, I was one of the 1.5 million students who graduated from university in the US. [...] Whatever we expected then, the reality today is that as a generation, we have more debt, fewer children and quite a few scars.

A decade on, there has been quite a bit of handwringing about what's changed since the financial crisis.

5 And I'm convinced that the biggest fallout isn't the increased regulation, or the jailed bankers, but the impact it had on those of us who were just entering the workforce in 2008. [...]

In the decade since the recession, American women had 4.8 million fewer babies than demographers were expecting.

10 Prof. Johnson says part of the fertility decline is attributable to women in their early and late 20s having fewer children than expected – in other words, my classmates and those who came after us. [...]

"There were a group of women who were in their early 20s at the beginning of the Great Depression who never made up for the births that they didn't have.

"More of them are childless than any group of American women before or since."

15 The question, says Prof. Johnson, is if we too will simply forego births like the women of the Depression or if we're simply just waiting longer.

Nora Carroll graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas in 2008 and says she delayed starting a family due to the crash.

"I spent the last decade really concentrating on getting a stable career, saving enough money so I can purchase a house," she says.

20 "All of that just takes time. [...]" She is now expecting her first child.

[271 words]

Kim Gittleson, *BBC News*, 13 September 2018

1. **1**How many students graduated in the US in 2008?
1. **2**What has changed since the financial crisis?
2. **3**To what extent did the 2008 financial crisis affect a whole generation?
3. **4**What is the choice women may have to face, according to Professor Johnson?
4. **5**What did Nora Carroll, who graduated from the University of Nevada in 2008, delay? Why?
5. **6**How did Nora Carroll spend the last decade?

## **PART 2 – WRITTEN PRODUCTION**

### **Task A**

*'The world is my country, all mankind are my brethren, and to do good is my religion.'*

Thomas Paine (1737–1809)

Discuss the quotation in a 300-word essay. Support your ideas by referring to your reading and your personal experience.

### **Task B**

The lessons we take from the difficulties we meet can be fundamental to later success. Describe a time when you faced a challenge, a delay in your progress at school, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?

Write a 300-word essay about this topic.