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EDITORIAL

And the Phoenix is rising from its ashes.

This is the story of a mythical bird that died but rose from its ashes. And this can be, to a certain extent, the story of the Faculty of Letters at Beni Mellal. This institution was going straight forward to the bottom like a wrecked ship. Fortunately, there have been active people who refused to accept the accomplished fact, who believed that there should be some issue somewhere, and who saw that ACADEMIC life should continue in spite of everything.

This is evidently an allusion to the recent, bustling activity of the Faculty of Letters, Beni Mellal, after months of funerary silence. First, there was the organizing of the national colloquium on Edward Said by the RCCC, English Department; then the students of our Department organized their own Cultural Day; the students of the Department of Arabic did the same; the French Department organized a series of conferences given by invitees from inside and outside the city of Beni Mellal; and the Tadla Studies Institute (Department of Arabic) inaugurated its 'First Meeting of Creative Poets.' At another level, the local office of the SNESSUP was recently elected after a long period of deadlock and a quasi-gap in this domain.

After such stagnation and the beginning of a pseudo-revival, it becomes crystal clear

to the people in this institution that it is better for our Faculty of Letters to reactivate its human, administrative, and material resources in the direction of producing art, doing scientific research, and organizing cultural and literary manifestations, instead of wasting our time in sophistry quibbles.

The Editor

CONTENTS

Editorial: ...	1
Didactic Page: Onomatopoeia in Poetry ...	2
The Poet's Corner:	
'Farewell' and 'O, Leila...' by Redouan SAÏDI...	3
Book Review...	4
My Pungent Quotations:	
'Thus Spoke ... Virginia Woolf' ...	5
Call for Papers:	
<i>Edward Said: The Man and the Scholar</i>	5
Ramadan Prize for Mellali Writers in English: 1425/2004 Edition...	6
Proverbs of the Moment: ...	6
Universal Declaration of Human Rights: 26 th and 27 th articles...	6
Creative Pens:	
'Old Lion of the Atlas and the Three Bulls' by Khalid Chaouch...	7
Word Puzzle: Looking for Clues among Landscapes ...	8
Crosswords (N° 20)...	8

⇒ **PEN CIRCLE**

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Writing the five-paragraph essay

The five paragraph essay measures a student's basic writing skills, and is often a timed exercise. Use this Guide to help you practice and succeed at this form of writing. Getting started means getting organized.

Analyze the assignment; determine what is required: With a highlighter, note important words that define the topic. Then organize your plan. For example, you have been given this writing prompt:

You have a present that was really memorable. It could have been given for an important occasion or just for no reason at all. Tell us about the present and why it was memorable. Include the reason it was given, a description of it, and how you felt when you got it.

The objective is to write a narrative essay about a present you were given. The subject is a memorable present. The three main subtopics are: 1/- the reason it was given, 2/- a description of it, 3/- and how you felt when you got it

Outline your five paragraph essay; include these elements:

<p><u>Introductory</u> Paragraph General Topic Sentence: memorable present 1. Subtopic One: the reason it was given 2. Subtopic Two: a description of it 3. Subtopic Three: how you felt when you got it (Transition)</p>	<p><u>First Supporting</u> Paragraph: Restate Subtopic One Supporting Details or Examples Transition</p>	<p><u>Second</u> Supporting Paragraph: Restate Subtopic Two Supporting Details or Examples Transition</p>	<p><u>Third Supporting</u> Paragraph: Restate Subtopic Three Supporting Details or Examples Transition</p>	<p><u>Closing or Summary</u> Paragraph: Synthesis and conclusion of the thesis rephrasing main topic and subtopics.</p>
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Write the essay! Think small, then build the full essay gradually. Divide your essay into sections and develop each separately.

The Introductory Paragraph

- **The opening paragraph sets the tone:** It not only introduces the topic, but where you are going with it (the thesis). If you do a good job in the opening, you will draw your reader into your "experience."
- **Write in the active voice:**It is much more powerful. Do that for each sentence in the introductory essay. Unless you are writing a personal narrative, do not use the pronoun "I."
- **Varying sentence structure:** Avoid the same dull pattern of always starting with the subject of the sentence.
- **Brainstorm to find the best supporting ideas:** The best supporting ideas are the ones about which you have some knowledge. If you do not know about them, you cannot do a good job writing about them. Don't weaken the essay with ineffective argument.
- **Practice writing introductory paragraphs on various topics:** Even if you do not use them, they can be compared with the type of writing you are doing now. It is rewarding to see a pattern of progress.

Supporting Paragraphs

- **Write a transition to establish the sub-topic:** Each paragraph has to flow, one to the next.
- **Write the topic sentence:** The transition can be included in the topic sentence.
- **Supporting ideas, examples, details must be specific to the sub-topic:** The tendency in supporting paragraphs is to put in just about anything. Avoid this: the work you have made above with details and examples will help you keep focused.
- **Vary sentence structure:** Avoid repetitious pronouns and lists ; avoid beginning sentences the same way (subject + verb + direct object).

The Ending or Summary Paragraph

- **Restate the introductory thesis/paragraph** with originality: Do not simply copy the first paragraph
- **Summarize your argument** with some degree of authority: this paragraph should leave your reader with no doubt as to your position or conclusion of logic
- **Be powerful** as this is the last thought that you are leaving with the reader.

Edit and revise your essay

- **Check your spelling and grammar:** Subjects and verbs agree, and verb tenses are consistent
- **Examine your whole essay for logic:** Avoid gaps in logic, or too much detail.

Review individual sentences

- **Use active verbs to be more descriptive:** Avoid passive constructions and the verb "to be"
- **Use transitional words and phrases:** Avoid sentences beginning with pronouns, ("There are.....")
Example: "There is a need to proofread all works" becomes "Proofreading is a must."
- **Be concise:** though vary the length and structure of sentences

Ask a knowledgeable friend or your teacher to review and comment on your essay

Pen Circle n° 21	p.3.
The Poet's Corner	
<p>This corner is devoted to all kinds of attempts by all students in poetry or poetic criticism. Such writings should be typed, or presented in handwriting as clear as possible, and submitted to the Department office. Attempts either published or not, will not be returned.</p>	<p>My country is full of unfairst[*] And everyone has pains and fears I decided to go away And never come back from today Waving to everyone goodbye While it was pouring from the sky I started stomping down And my face turned brown Passing across a coral reef Looking for some relief Since I've never been employed Though my diplomas are acknowledged I was looking for a place Where I could find no face Because I dislike much To keep with people in touch I feel as if I were bare When work opportunities are rare I've heard a voice Saying you'll never rejoice This is a law And you must withdraw I turned ill And had no will To claim for my right When there was no light I was leaning against a palm Thinking deeply calm Deciding to go away Even if it was a wintry day.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Ali El-Azouzi, (2nd Year)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">What Must Be Felt</p> <p><i>Everyday, when all the people go to bed, the ghost of death grizzles my hair and tears my being. What if I cease to be tonight, this hour or that moment? No one can know but Allah the merciful.</i></p> <p>I have fears that I might cease to be Before living what I dreamed to see: Doing good, feeling good, and wishing good, For all creatures; and even giving food To those who, without asking, just nod. I suffocate at night with tossing. Oh, God! Help my missing. A moon beam pierces my ear: "What do you wish, dear? To sleep and rest like others?" Says he, like the voice of a father. In deep silence, I answer: What a does a wanderer, in a hot day, Want but fresh water? The eye with slumber does quarrel, And the heart with obsession becomes frail. For security I want to travel, But show m first the way To reach my blessing without delay." "Daughter, stand and pray. Death isn't a guess that knocks at doors Before entering or excuse! For day and night, do fuse; Work hard, and charity do refuse; Suppress anger, be not arrogant This is the cue not to be afraid From night nor from death. God bless you and show you the path."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Fatima-Zahra OUBANAS, (4th Year.)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Notice to our young poets and storytellers</u></p> <p>The process of creative writing is governed by some basic rules that should be observed to a certain extent. As a novelist has to grasp the art of fiction and master the language in which he/she writes, a poet is entitled to do likewise and acquire the basics of poetic writing. The first step in acquiring such arts is most probably extensive readings – in classical, modern, and postmodern literature – without being enmeshed in a net of simple imitation or blinkered emulation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Editors.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">My Miserable Life</p> <p>I left my room heading for the west Looking for somewhere best</p>	

^{*} 'Unfair' is an adjective; it doesn't need an 's'. (The editors).

My Sweetheart

O you, my sweetheart!
May I bathe in your sparkling shines,
And enlighten my mind, spirit, and heart?
All my dreams and hopes lie
Upon your magnificent sight.
I'm lost, except that the rising shines
Of your soul's bright
Are guiding me with your hands.
Your friendship is a golden gift
Cherished above all life's treasures
May I tour garden have an invite
Where I can freely smell and pluck flowers.
Like a gloomy winter night sky
My eyes break into tears.
But after seeing you in light,
Like a nightingale, I will fly.
Without the passion of your kind heart
I'm tumbled into an abyss of darkness.
To the English Department sight,
I'll harshly declare my keen desires
If ever I am asked why.

Hicham Ech-channouri,

(4th year, Lit. option)

Reality Bites

Even if we are young, we imitate big men's life.
Life is like a sharp knife.
Open your eyes; don't cross the line!
You'll put yourself in jail without a sign.

(A little businessman to a student)

Come on! Try this job and get a life
It's good for you to make a living
Oh! You'll get a wife.
I ensure you, you will do fine.
Your jacket will be softer than mine.

Just give up these sweet candies
In streets, in clubs, and don't forget parties.
You need them to be so great,

You may share free ones with your mate.

I bet you'll be famous and popular
Unlike what you are now as a scholar.
When you just beg for French stick
With those old clothes full of ink.

Be with us, just like us, and live in paradise;
Oh man, we'll buy you a car, just choose the size.
Here are the keys of the new house.
It's so beautiful, just fits you, sweet mouse!

(The student replies)

Is this the job I'm supposed to do?
Who couldn't do it is just a bozo!
I've never dreamt of getting a wife,
Nor putting an end to my miserable life.

I'll be in the public eyes doing my business
Unlike at school, where I've done just a mess.
It will help me to save my soul in society
And put me out of poor life and others' pity.

(After a few months)

Hello! Hello! This is me, the mouse.
No! I am in jail, not in a dirty house.
Come pick me up from here; I can't stand the handcuffs.
You, silly..., you never told me about cops.

(The businessman replies)

Listen kid! We gave you all what you need.
Excuse me! I've got children and a wife to feed.
You stand alone; just be patient.
Couple of years and you'll be independent.

(After signing out from jail)

Excuse me! That's my house. Who are you?
None but a lucky guy not like you.
Don't believe them; they're all tricky.
All the dreams seem easy but they are spooky.

I wish I didn't listen to them.
My friend is a teacher now; he has got wisdom.
So take my words and don't fool around!
Don't leave the school that will make you so proud!

Ahmed Karmaoui,
(2nd Year)

Pen Circle n° 21	p. 5.
<p data-bbox="384 230 544 259">Creative Pens"</p> <p data-bbox="188 271 770 846">You teach me that when the winds blow, I should not hide beyond the shadow. You teach me that when happiness flies, I should not repent and cry. You teach me why birds sing cheerfully in the sky, As though there is nothing to end their joy. You teach me that every morning when I leave my house, I should not forget to take my rose. You teach me that life is a flower; There are thorns and blossoms.</p> <p data-bbox="188 909 635 947">Abed Elaziz Khourdifi, (2nd Year.)</p>	<p data-bbox="863 230 1445 618">different meanings and different spellings. You have probably had trouble distinguishing between ‘principle’ and ‘principal’, ‘capital’ and ‘capitol’, and other such pairs. The following is a list of pairs that sound alike and other pairs that can be confusing even though they are not pronounced exactly alike:</p> <ol data-bbox="863 629 1445 1160" style="list-style-type: none">1. <i>already</i> (adv.): before this time <i>all ready</i> (adj.): all are ready (or wholly ready)2. <i>altar</i> (n.): a table or stand in a church <i>alter</i> (v.): to change3. <i>altogether</i>: entirely <i>all together</i>: everyone in the same place4. <i>born</i> (adj. and v.): given birth <i>borne</i>: carried5. <i>brake</i> (n.): device to stop a machine <i>break</i> (v.): to fracture, to shatter. <p data-bbox="975 1193 1445 1279">Suggested by Lahcen Elmakhloufi, (2nd Year)</p>
<p data-bbox="188 1010 699 1048">The trap of homophones and the like</p> <p data-bbox="188 1111 770 1339">It is better for us, users of English as a foreign language, to distinguish between homophones that abound in the English language. These words present difficulties because they sound alike and but have</p>	

Pungent Quotations

In this column, we present a selection of quotations by prominent figures of art, literature, politics, history, philosophy, science, etc. Any suggestion or contribution is cordially welcome.

They said about...
SCHOOL

- “ ”
Cyril Connolly, *Enemies of Promise*.
- “ ”
“ ”
William Shakespeare (1564-1616)
- “ ”
William Blake (1757 – 1827), *The Schoolboy*.
- “ ”
Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882),
Representative Men.
“Every schoolmaster, after the age of forty-nine, is inclined to flatulence, is apt to swallow frequently and to puff.”
Harold Nicholson (1886-1968), *The Old School*.
- “ ... ”
Richard Mulchaster (1530?-1611)
Positions.
- “ ”
Richard Pacet, *De Fructu*, 1517.

References:

J. M. & M. J. Cohen, *The Penguin Dictionary of Modern Quotations*. Harmondsworth, Middlesex: Penguin Books Ltd., 1980 (2nd edition).
R. J. Mitchell and M. D. R. Leys, *A History of the English People*. London: Pan Books Ltd., 1950.
Frank Muir, *The Frank Muir Book. An Irreverent Companion to Social History*. London: Corgi Books, 1978.

Selected by Khalid Chaouch.

*** CULTURAL NEWS ***

Conference Announcement

Beni Mellal, 14-15 Februray, 2005

The **Research Centre on Culture and Communication**, English Department, Faculty of Letters, Beni Mellal, will organize on February 14-15, 2005, a national conference on:

Edward Said: The Man and the Scholar

This conference will be an attempt to cover and deliberate the multifarious facets of this extraordinary figure’s intellectual, cultural, and political inventions and inter-ventions. One of the contemporary world’s extraordinary and prolific intellectuals and

critics, Edward Said did not receive merited intellectual attention.

In an attempt to present and disseminate his ideas and views, this conference hopes to gather lecturers and researchers with a strong interest in Said. Participants are expected to bring up Saidist perspectives on a range of subjects that accommodate history, politics, society, media, literature, and culture.

The Organizing Committee

Ramadan Prize for Mellali Writers in English (1426/2005)

Pen Circle organizes the annual competition in creative writing for **all students of the English Department**. So we are very pleased to invite you to **Ramadan Prize for Mellali Writers in English**. (By the word 'Mellali' we simply mean students belonging to this Faculty, regardless of their origin!) The correctors will take into consideration the different semesters to which the candidates belong. In this way, the latter will have equal chances to get the prizes. In addition to the important rewards, the three winners will have their names and their attempts published in the next issue of **Pen Circle**.

For Semesters 1 and 3:

The contest consists in writing a short poem or a **one-paragraph** essay (of about 150 words) on any topic they like.

For For Semester 5 and 4th Year:

The contest consists in writing a **five-paragraph** essay (on any topic they like), a short poem, or a short story (of about 250 words.)

Needless to say that contributions of High Schools students are also warmly welcome. All contributions should be submitted to any member of the Editorial Board of Pen Circle or sent to its email address (chahin60@yahoo.com) before November 20th, 2005.

Good luck!

Pen Circle

Cadi Ayyad University
 Days of Student Creativity:
Marrakech, 24-26 February, 2005

List of Mellali Winners

We can be proud of our Department students. The number of prizes they have won only reflects the creative talents that we have in this Faculty. So let's just give them a nice hand, and they'll do better in all fields. The following is a list of such winners:

- In narrative writing:

“The Benefits of Education” (3rd Prize)

A short story by English Department student, Saida Oufatti.

- In audio-visual presentations:

“A Student View on the Dept. of English and the Faculty of Arts, Beni Mellal” (1st Prize)

A visual report by English Department students:

Laila Derkaoui,
 Abderrahmane Modakkir,
 Fatima Ezzahra Oubanas,
 Hicham Ech-chanouri, and
 Brahim Mouslih.

- In singing:

“أعطني الناي و غني ”
 “Aatini annaya wa ghanni” (1st Prize)

A song by French Department student, Houda Moulali.

- In the field of drama:

‘Tragedy of a Tiger,’ (2nd Prize)

A play under the direction of professor Nouredine Bourima.

Pen Circle

Proverbs of the Moment

CORRUPTION and BRIBERY

- ❖ A bribe will enter without knocking.
- ❖ Gifts blind the eyes.
- ❖ The unrighteous penny corrupts the righteous pound.
- ❖ The rotten apple injures its neighbours.
- ❖ He who lives with cats will get a taste for mice.
- ❖ Power corrupts.
- ❖ Fish begin to stink at the head.
- ❖ No man ever became thoroughly bad all at once.
- ❖ He, whose father is a judge, goes safe to his trial.
- ❖ Little thieves are hanged, but great ones escape.
- ❖ Keep not ill company, lest you increase the number.
- ❖ Who keeps company with the wolf, will learn to howl.
- ❖ A good name is better than riches.

Other Proverbs of the Moment

The following proverbs are suggested by Lahcen Makhloufi, Second Year student.

CONSCIENCE

- ❖ Conscience is a cutthroat
- ❖ Conscience is a thousand witnesses.
- ❖ Do right and fear no man.
- ❖ A quiet conscience sleeps in thunder.

Vegetables					
ENGLISH	FRENCH	ARABIC	ENGLISH	FRENCH	ARABIC
Artichoke	Artichauts	خرشوف	Melons	Melons	بطيخ أصفر
Asparagus	Asperge	الهليون	Mint	Menthe	نعناع
Aubergines	Aubergines	باذنجان			
Bean	Fèves	فول	Mushroom	Champignon	فطر
Haricot bean	Haricot blanc	فاصولياء لوبيا			
Kidney bean	Haricot rouge	---			
French bean	Haricot vert	---			
Broccoli	Brocolis	قنبيط	Okra	Gombo	البامية
Brussels Sprouts	Choux de Bruxelles		Onion	Oignons	بصل
Cabbage	Choux	كرنب	Parsley	Persil	بقوننس
Cantaloupe	Cantaloup	شمام أخضر	Pea	pois	بازلاء
Carrot	Carottes	جزر	Pepper	Poivre	فلفل
Cauliflower	Choux fleurs	قرنبيط	Potato	Pomme de terre	بطاطس
Celery	Céleris	كرفس	Pumpkin	Citrouille	قرع كبير/يقطين
Chard		شمندر	Radish	Radis	فجل
Chinese Beans			Rhubarb	rhubarbe	
Coriander	Coriandre	كزبرة	Rosemary	romarin	إكليل الجبل / حصى البان
Corn			Salsify	Salsifis	لحية التيس
Cucumber	Concombre	خيار	Sesame	Sésame	سمسم
(cucumber, cantaloupe, pumpkin, squash, watermelon, and gourds)					
Dandelion	Pissenlit		Shallots	Echalotes	تشكلون
Eggplant	Aubergines	باذنجان	Spinach	Epinards	سبانخ
Endive	Endives				
Fennel	Fenouil	بسباس	Sweet Potato	Pommes douces	
Garlic	Ail	ثوم			
Ginger	Gingembre	زنجبيل	Taro	taro	قلقاس
Gourds	Courges	قرع			
Herbs	Herbes	أعشاب	Tarragon	Estragon	طرخون
Kale	Chou	كرنب	Thyme	Thym	زعر
Kiwifruit	Kiwi		Tomatillo		
Kohlrabi		أبو ركة، الكرنب الساقى	Tomato	Tomates	طماطم
Leek	Poireau	الكرات	Turnip	Navets	لفت
Lettuce	Laitue	خس	Watercress	cresson	حرف
Marjoram			Watermelon	Pastèques	بطيخ أحمر

20 Clues, n° 21

**Looking for Clues among
POLITICAL Terms**

The answers to the 20 clues below are hidden in terms at the end of each line. To find them cross off some of the letters in each term, reading from left to right.

Example:

– rest **SIT** **SUMMIT**

(The clue ‘**SIT**’ is obtained by crossing off some letters in the word ‘**SUMMIT**’)

1. inhabitant..... **PRESIDENT**
2. opposite of virtue ... **VICE-PRESIDENT**
3. sir **MINISTER**
4. prefix of repetition **CONGRESS**
5. deep containers **POLITICS**
6. song of grief **PARLIAMENT**
7. suffering..... **CAMPAIGN**
8. have **BUDGET**
9. to guide **LEADER**
10. possessive pronoun..... **ECONOMY**
11. watch **SPEECH**
12. rests **VISITS**
13. search an area **SCANDAL**
14. outside **OFFICIAL**
15. to attempt **MINISTRY**
16. personal pronoun **HEAD**
17. to inform **INTELLIGENCE**
18. barrier..... **CONFERENCE**
19. amount of..... **SUMMIT**
20. policeman..... **CORRUPTION**

20 Clues to n° 20:

1. resident 2. vice 3. Mr. 4. re 5. pots 6. lament 7. pain 8. get 9. lead 10. my 11. see 12. sits 13. scan 14. off 15. try 16. he 17. tell 18. fence 19. sum 20. cop.

CROSSWORDS (N° 21)

1- Said of literature or trends emerging after the colonial period. 2- Naked 3- Medieval system of lords and vassals – Exclusively. 4- Association of the teachers of English (in Morocco) – hard black wood. 5- Indefinite article (reversed) – Interjection used to express surprise, pain, etc. – Cloth covering for the foot. 6- What remains after fire – Save our souls! – Possessive adjective – Old English. 7- Belonging to the Middle Ages. 8- Global phenomenon. 9- Yahoo in disorder – Abbreviation of transport – 60 seconds. 10- Iraqi famous prison – Monosyllabic answer. 11- Half a ‘slogan’ – Unheard of – Unbound. 12- Aged 13,

16 or 19 – Charges to be paid for enrollment at a university.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1														
2														
3														
4														
5														
6														
7														
8														
9														
10														
11														
12														

A- Article – To be put on the head. **B-** Large seas – Small sack or container (reversed). **C-** An American state of the west – The insect which explores the hairs of some human beings. **D-** Rise and fall of the sea caused by the gravitational pull of the sun and the moon – Internet powerful research engine. **E-** Since – English romantic poet. **F-** American state of the south-west. **G-** opposite of buying. **H-** The beginning – Abbreviation for ‘identification’ (reversed) – Honey insect. **I-** Without feeling, as through fear or cold – Thin fog – Half-‘WRIT’. **J-** Abbreviation for ‘identification’ (not reversed) – To long for something. **K-** Same as eons – Find in ‘VOTE’ – Away from. **L-** Find it in ‘CANYON’ – Purpose or intention – Prefix of repetition. **M-** Extra Large – Punctuation mark – Double vowels. **N-** Wooden bar put on the necks of two animals to hold them together – Monosyllabic answer.

Clues to ‘CROSSWORDS’ N° 20:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	P	O	S	T	C	O	L	O	N	I	A	L		
2		C		I		K		N	U	D	E		X	
3	F	E	U	D	A	L	I	S	M		O	N	L	Y
4	M	A	T	E		A		E	B	O	N	Y		O
5		N	A		A	H		T		S	O	C	K	
6	A	S	H		S	O	S		H	Y			O	E
7	N			G		M	E	D	A	E	V	A	L	
8		G	L	O	B	A	L	I	Z	A	T	I	O	N
9	H	A	O	O	Y		L		E	R		T	R	
10	A	B	U	G	R	A	I	B		N	O			Y
11	T		S	L	O		N	E	W		F	R	E	E
12		T	E	E	N	A	G	E	R		F	E	E	S