

Corrigé

1. The action takes place in the USA (Maine is a state; McCarthy was an Republican U.S. Senator from the state of Wisconsin from 1947 to 1957 who, during the Cold War, led an active campaign against communism; Senator is an American term referring to someone working in the U.S. Senate (located in the north wing of the Capitol, in Washington D.C.)

(Toutes les réponses correctes seront acceptées.)

2.

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|---|---|
| Wally / Angel / Nurse Edna / Mrs Grogan / the stationmaster | like watching TV |
| Homer / Candy / Dr. Larch | disapprove of TV. |
| Mrs Goodhall / Dr. Gingrich | belong to the orphanage board of trustees |
| Nurse Caroline / Dr. Larch / Nurse Edna / Nurse Angela / (Mrs Grogan) | are in favour of Socialist ideas. |
| Senator McCarthy / Mrs Goodhall / Dr. Gingrich | are against Socialist ideas. |

3. « The reception was very poor up there » means that the image on the TV screen in St Cloud's (in the state of Maine) was of bad quality and that it was difficult or unpleasant to watch TV there. The place where St Cloud's was located was probably too remote to get good reception at the time.

2 other passages refer to it :

- "Thank God it did not come in clearly" (line 7)
- "straining to see Senator McCarthy through the television's snow and zigzagging lines" (lines 11-12).

4. Not only did Dr. Larch decide to give the TV set to the stationmaster because they could not receive a clear image (reason 1) in St Cloud's, but also because he did not approve of TV at large / he mistrusts this new invention (reason 2). Nurse Edna et Mrs Grogan had become addicted to it (reason 3), and he believed that it was unhealthy for the children to watch (reason 4). He called it 'the idiot box' as he considered it uninteresting and only made for stupid, plain or not very clever people (reason 5) like the stationmaster.

The reason of propaganda can also be accepted (cf. "worse than organised religion", line 16. The idea of 'brainwashing', however, does not refer to watching TV and can therefore not be given here as a reason.)

(Toutes les réponses correctes et compréhensibles seront acceptées.)

5. Nurse Caroline means that, as she dislikes Senator McCarthy's ideas, and as Dr. Larch mentioned his apparent ill health ('a drunk'), she wished the man dead as soon as possible so that McCarthyism and the right-winged ideas which it developed and with which she disagreed might be washed up from the American political chessboard once and for all. Indeed it is not a very honourable thought for a nurse whose aim in life is more to save people than to wish them dead. (NB: It is noticeable that McCarthy is often acknowledged to have died of alcoholism.)

6. Wally is obviously not in favour of McCarthyism either (he calls the man a 'right-wing nut'), hence his wish that Angel might understand the vacuity or the danger of such ideas as McCarthy's by listening to him on TV. He believes that Angel can disagree with such ideas by himself, and that he should be aware of them, of the ins and outs of McCarthyism.

7. "Pink" or "Red" are derogatory or pejorative terms referring to Socialists or Communists in the 1950s, at the time of the Red Scare led by Senator McCarthy. The orphanage board of trustees, and particularly Mrs Goodhall and Dr. Gingrich, side by McCarthyism and disapprove of Nurse Caroline being a Socialist. They would like to get rid of her, as they consider that her mere presence is a disgrace to the institution they are in charge of, by investigating her political past and charging her with being a communist spy for example, as happened to be the case for some Americans during the Red Scare, who were sentenced to hefty fines or imprisonment on ground of unpatriotic activism – hence Mrs Goodhall's 'glow of hope' (line 38).

8. "They're all too old, they'll be easily brainwashed" (line 41) : the people working in St Cloud's, (e.g. Dr. Larch, Nurse Edna, Nurse Angela and Mrs Grogan.)

as they say in Maine (line 43) : one, people in general living in Maine

"they'll be asking us to denounce things." (lines 44-45) : the members of the board of trustees / réponses également acceptées : the government / the police / the FBI

9. Each character bear a grudge against a different enemy: Nurse Angela would complain about abortion laws, Dr. Larch's direct opponents are Republicans and of course the board of trustees he depends on, and Nurse Caroline fulminates against Capitalism. However, even each character seems to be targeting a different person or group of people, they all rally at unison against the board of trustees who could well turn them down and against McCarthy's proponents. They understand that fight and unity are better than flight and disagreement when in a predicament / when in jeopardy.

10.

Si Mme Goodhall fut au début / d'abord soulagée d'apprendre que quelqu'un de "nouveau" / de "neuf" avait envahi / investi St Cloud, elle fut agacée / irritée de découvrir que Sœur Caroline approuvait Dr Larch. Cela amena Mme Goodhall à faire une enquête / à enquêter / à mener son enquête sur Sœur Caroline, dont les références professionnelles / médicales / comme infirmière étaient parfaites / impeccables / irréprochables, mais dont les activités politiques donnaient / donnèrent à Mme Goodhall une lueur d'espoir.

Barème

1. Bonne réponse 0,5 + bonne justification 0,5 → 1 point au total
2. 0,5 point par ligne correcte (2,5 points maximum, 0 points minimum).
Ligne incorrecte : 0.
3. 2 points pour la réponse + 1 point pour la citation, même partielle) → 3 points au total
4. 1 point + 1 point par bonne raison → 2 points au total
5. 2 points
6. 2 points
7. 2 points
8. 0,5 points par bonne réponse → 1,5 points au total
9. 2 points
10. 1 point par phrase → 2 points au total