

Partie I : EXPRESSION ÉCRITE (12 points) - question 1 (4 points), question 2 (8 points).

*Vous indiquerez avec précision à la fin de chaque réponse, le nombre de mots qu'elle comporte.*

Partie II : THÈME (8 points)

**Partie I : EXPRESSION ÉCRITE (12 points)**

Americans have long had a reputation for being terrible tourists. In the years leading up to the pandemic, we got even worse. Not more boisterous or more badly dressed. But — driven by cheap flights and cruises, an explosion of vacation rentals and social media-fueled FOMO \* — we were flooding the world, and wrecking it.

Countless people benefit from and depend on tourism. But travelers have also contributed to climate change, destroyed coral reefs, and driven residents out of cities once praised for their livability. In 2019, passenger planes blasted record amounts of carbon emissions into the air. That same year, Mount Everest was so overwhelmed with trash that China closed the base camp on its side of the peak to tourists without climbing permits. The Louvre got so jammed that workers walked out in protest.

Then the pandemic forced a reset. Now that we are traveling again, we have a chance to usher in a better era. We can stop loving destinations to death, and to do that, we need to travel less — and more carefully. The last time you planned a vacation, you probably spent a lot of time on research. You may have compared hotel costs and restaurant ratings, or tried to judge the cleanliness of a campground or the walking distance to ski lifts.

What if, in addition to asking how to maximize our enjoyment, we spent some time considering a different question: What impact will my presence have?

Travelers have to do research to get the answer. But if millions of people can scour Facebook, Twitter and other platforms for #travelinspiration, we can mine these sources for context, too. A search for “overtourism” on Twitter, for example, offers some useful information about fragile destinations to avoid.

Approaching travel this way requires a mind-set shift. It may be more pleasurable to browse photos of five-star hotels than it is to review Friends of the Earth’s annual Cruise Ship Report Card. But there is a payoff: caring about the places we travel to and the people who live there can make us feel more connected to them.

Some simple changes in how we plan travel can help. Rather than follow the crowds, the hashtags or the influencers, look to old-fashioned sources of inspiration, from places mentioned in favorite books to memories of childhood holidays. You could even take that dusty globe off your shelf to get ideas.

Ask yourself what kind of trip you’re looking for — a beach escape? a culinary adventure? — then seek out a lower density version of the hot spot you initially had in mind. Skip Yosemite National Park and try Pinnacles National Park, a few hours away. Travel during the off-season, stay in small inns and guesthouses, and explore the area’s cuisine as much as possible, to keep your dollars in local hands.

One surprising way to be a more conscientious traveler is to book a group tour — with a responsible operator. Tours may get a bad rap from travelers who prize independence and authenticity, but some operators steer visitors away from overtouristed areas and use their deep local knowledge to support off-the-beaten-track small businesses, says the managing director of the Sustainable Tourism Asset Management Program at Cornell University. “The kind of company you want to pick can show you how they’re measuring the impact of their travel,” she said. “That’s an important area where the consumer will have an impact.”

Governments and corporations have the most power when it comes to managing tourism, says Ms. Epler Wood, but they almost always opt for a more-is-more approach. Decisions about, say, how many flights can land in Maui are often disconnected from the desires and welfare of local communities. That’s why our own choices as travelers are so crucial.

Just as some of us are trying to stop stuffing our closets with disposable fast fashion, let’s stop gorging on cheap travel. Planning fewer, longer, more meaningful trips can mean more enduring memories — and destinations.

**Adapted from Sara Clemence, *The New York Times*, Sept. 29, 2021**

*\*FOMO = Fear Of Missing Out*

1. How could Americans be better tourists, according to Sara Clemence? *Answer the question in your own words. (80 words +/- 10%)*
2. To what extent is sustainable tourism possible in your opinion? *Illustrate your answer with relevant examples. (180 words +/- 10%)*

## **Partie II : THÈME (8 points)**

Les Romani possédaient évidemment une bonne partie du littoral, et ces étendues stériles de roches et de sable dont personne n'aurait voulu quelques années plus tôt valaient maintenant une fortune. César n'entendait nullement s'embêter à les exploiter lui-même quand il lui suffisait de les louer pour obtenir l'argent dont il avait besoin en se donnant simplement la peine fort modeste de tendre sa main avide. Philippe était bien plus intelligent que son père, et d'une paresse moins radicale. Il fit rénover d'anciennes bergeries qui menaçaient de s'écrouler et les transforma ainsi en bucoliques résidences de vacances, il fit construire une paillote sur la plage, il eut l'idée de génie de clôturer et de baptiser "parkings", payants, bien sûr, chacun de ses terrains disposant d'un accès à la mer, et il ouvrit dans la haute ville un magasin de souvenirs, un restaurant et un cabaret...

**Jérôme FERRARI, *Nord Sentinelle – Contes de l'indigène et du voyageur* (Actes Sud, 2024)**