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| EXAMEN D'ADMISSIBILITE ECRIT Seconde Section Internationale | SESSION 2015 |
| | Feuille 1/3 |
| ANGLAIS | DUREE : 2h30 |

Vous écrierez directement vos réponses sur les copies prévues.
 Vous devez rendre **la totalité des documents** à la fin de l'épreuve en les plaçant dans votre copie.

Read the following passage carefully, and answer all the questions

Nichole Burnell

1 "The mind is kind," Dr. Robeson told me, touching my forehead with his soft pink cool fingertips, which I couldn't move away from, so I just glared up at him.

5 I'm lucky, they all say, because I can't remember the accident. Lucky that it's like a door between rooms, and there was one room on the far side, and that room I remember fine, and another on the near side, and I remember it too. I'm still in it. But I don't have any memory of passing through, I don't remember the accident, and that's counted lucky by everyone.

10 "Don't even try to remember," Daddy said, and got up from his chair by the window and looked out at the hospital parking lot. I think it was snowing out. He was probably worried about the drive home.

15 Mom, seated in a chair next to the bed, kept patting the back of my hand and not looking at me and said, "You just think about getting well, Nichole, that's all."

20 By then I knew I was as well as I would ever be again, and Dr. Robeson had told me that just to stay like this I would have to work very hard. So shut up, Mom, go to hell. To live like a slug, I was going to have to work like someone trying to become an Olympic ski jumper. To feed myself, to go to the bathroom, to bathe, to get in and out of bed, to put my clothes on and take them off, to change channels on the TV or do schoolwork – for me to do these things as well as a three-year-old, I'd have to work out for years, maybe the rest of my life, in a room with pads on the floor and walls to keep my bones from breaking when I fell off the parallel bars or one of the shiny new exercise machines.

25 Anyhow, this was the room I woke up in after the accident, a hospital room, a weepy Mom and embarrassed distracted Daddy room, a doctor and nurse room, a room with a physical therapist who yells at you for your own good and another guy who's supposed to massage you. One room led into

30 the next, but they were all the same. Even when I finally went home to my own room.

35 Daddy drove, with me in front next to him, and Mom and my new wheelchair, folded up beside her, in the back. It was spring already, late April, with only patches of snow left in the woods and on the mountains, a few old dry dirt-covered mounds along the sides of the road and at the edges of parking lots. No leaves on the trees yet, but you could see a light green haze and in some places a reddish glow over the branches where the buds were coming. At the edge of town, the fairgrounds was mostly under water and mud, but here and there in the field in front of the grandstand the snow melt had begun to recede, and yellow wet chunks of old dead grass had appeared. What happened to winter? I wondered. It was like I'd gone to Florida for the worst of it. Wouldn't that have been nice?

40 I was incredibly glad to be out of the hospital, though. I was sick of Dr. Robeson and had started calling him Dr. Frankenstein, even to his face, which of course he thought was cute. It wasn't cute; I did it because I felt like a monster and Dr. Robeson had created me out of all these different body parts. I couldn't walk as good as Frankenstein's monster, I couldn't walk at all, though I could talk fine; but I felt ugly like him and out of it, different from everyone else. I could really understand why the monster had turned on all the dumb villagers. Sometimes when one of the nurses came into the room and chirped like a birdie at me, "And how are *we* this morning?" I'd go, "*Argh-guh-guh!*" and cross my eyes and flop my head back and forth like a spastic.

50 The first thing I noticed, when Daddy opened the car door and pushed the wheelchair up next to it, was the ramp he'd built. It was made of wood and way too wide and sloped from the ground up to the front porch beside the regular people's steps. My very own entrance, like for a circus elephant.

"How do you like it, Babes?" he said.

60 "The ramp?" I swung myself out of the car seat and lurched into the wheelchair. No way anybody was going to lift me up and set me down.

"Yeah. Pretty slick, eh?" He got behind the chair and pushed me over to the bottom of the ramp and stopped so we could examine it more closely.

65 "It's okay," I said. "Rudy and Skip can use it for skateboarding."

"They better not," Daddy said. "I made it for you."

"Thanks. Thanks a lot."

COMPREHENSION (20 points)

Answer the questions in order. Make sure you respect the number of words specified. When the number of words is not specified, answer in one sentence. "In your own words" means you have to reformulate the ideas of the text.

1. The narrator is Nichole Burnell. What is the composition of her family?
2. Approximately how old do you think Nichole is? Explain briefly in your own words.
(approximately 20 words)
3. a) Where is Nichole :
 - from the beginning to line 31?
 - from line 32 to line 53?
 - from line 54 to the end?
b) When is the scene set?

c) Explain in your own words Nichole's current situation and the events that led to this situation (what and when).
(approx. 20 words)
4. Explain in your own words why Doctor Robeson says "The mind is kind." (line 1).
(approx. 20 words)
5. a) Select two quotations that you think best show how the narrator sees herself.

b) What three adjectives of your choice would you use to describe how the narrator feels about her own situation? Justify each adjective by explaining in your own words.
(approx. 50 words)
6. a) How do the characters mentioned in the text treat Nichole?
(approx. 30 words)

b) How does Nichole behave with these people? Explain in your own words, giving at least two different examples.
(approx. 50 words)
7. How does the writing in this extract reflect the narrator's personality? (tone, vocabulary, sentence structure...)
(approx. 50 words)

WRITING (20 points)

Treat BOTH subjects. *On the whole, you should write approximately 300-350 words. Please indicate the number of words you used at the end of each subject.*

Up to ten points are available for the content of your answer, and up to ten points for the quality of the writing.

1. Continue the scene after the final line of the text in a logical and appropriate way. (150-200 words)
 - You should remain in the same narrative voice, and include some dialogue.
 - You may introduce characters not already present in the scene.
2. Are you afraid of change?
(150-200 words)