

SESSION 2007

**BREVET DE TECHNICIEN SUPÉRIEUR**

**VENTES ET PRODUCTIONS TOURISTIQUES**

**E2 : COMMUNICATION EN LANGUES  
VIVANTES ETRANGERES :**

**ANGLAIS**

**Durée : 1 heure 30**

**Coefficient : 1,5**

L'usage du dictionnaire est interdit.

**CALCULATRICE ET TRADUCTEURS ELECTRONIQUES INTERDITS**

*Dès que le sujet vous est remis, assurez-vous qu'il est complet.  
Ce sujet comporte 3 pages numérotées de 1/3 à 3/3.*

DOCUMENT 1

**Inside Istanbul: Introduction**

This cosmopolitan city is stretched out on 7 hills. Partially in Europe with the other half in Asia, it is separated by a beautiful body of water called the Bosphorus that stretches from the Marmara Sea in the south to the Black Sea in the north.

Istanbul has seen great empires rise and fall. It was once best known as Constantinople, while it was the capital of the Eastern Roman Empire. Now as the biggest city of the Republic of Turkey, it is a modern city in an ancient setting. Scattered among the historic mosques, churches, castles, palaces, bazaars, fountains and underground cisterns you will find award winning luxury hotels, gourmet restaurants, large modern shopping malls and tea gardens. Here you can visit the sultan's harem at Topkapi Palace, experience the magnificent Byzantine mosaics at the Hagia Sophia church, marvel at the blue mosaic tiles inside the enormous dome of the Blue Mosque, and then grab lunch at McDonald's or Burger King. You can also cross over to Asia taking one of the two modern bridges or go on a cruise across the Bosphorus, but you will find most of the main attractions on the European side.

Visiting the Grand Bazaar is a must while in Istanbul. With 64 streets, 22 gates and over 4000 shops, it is one of the world's largest covered markets. Leather goods, carpets, jewellery, pottery, exotic spices and much more is sold at this marketplace which dates back to 1400's.

To paraphrase Oscar Wilde, "If I have but one place to visit on earth, please make it Istanbul."

Extracts from *Istanbul City Guide* on the Internet.

## DOCUMENT 2

**Istanbul**

I approach Istanbul today as I did when I first saw the city more than half a lifetime ago, taking a ferry from a suburban village on the Bosphorus, the incomparably beautiful strait that divides Europe from Asia. On the way, I pass beneath two bridges that link the European and Asian sides of Istanbul, the only city in the world that spans two continents.

Between the scimitar<sup>1</sup>-shaped inlet of the Golden Horn and the Sea of Marmara is the old city of Stamboul, known first as Byzantium and later as Constantinople—after its celebrated emperor. The chronicler Procopius more than 13 centuries ago described the city, its seven hills today crowned with the monuments of two world empires, as being "surrounded by a garland of waters." As the ferry approaches its berth<sup>2</sup>, I can see the former Byzantine cathedral of Hagia Sofia on the First Hill and the Süleymaniye Mosque dominating the Fourth Hill—imposing edifices erected a thousand years apart.

Stepping ashore, I find myself at the epicenter of all the city's tumultuous life, the quay thronged with shoppers from the Spice Bazaar and the street markets around Yeni Cami (called the New Mosque because it was founded only four centuries ago). Fish sandwiches are sold from boats. Loudspeakers blare the latest songs. Peddlers sell sunglasses on bright summer days and umbrellas when it pours.

Midway through the 27th century of its turbulent existence, the city has survived sieges, sacks, conquests, civil wars, riots, plagues, fires, earthquakes, and the modern construction necessitated by a population that has mushroomed from less than a million to more than nine million in 75 years. It has retained its identity through successive changes of name, population, language, religion, and political status, its character and spirit enduring through the centuries as if it had an ageless soul. As the French traveler Petrus Gyllius remarked in the mid-16th century: "It seems to me that while other cities are mortal, this one will endure as long as there are men on Earth."

This is my Istanbul,

**By John Freely**

The *National Geographic Traveler* – July / August 2006

Notes: (1) scimitar = *cimeterre (sorte de sabre)*  
(2) berth = *poste d'amarage*

**TÂCHE À ACCOMPLIR**

A. Read the article and the accompanying information and answer the following question:  
“What makes Istanbul such a fascinating destination?”

100 words – 8 points

B. Using the article from the National Geographic Traveler as your model, describe your favourite city or region.  
Explain your choice and give arguments that will encourage readers to travel there.

200 words 12 points