

Document

Let us strike the key-note, Coketown, before pursuing our tune.

It was a town of red brick, or of brick that would have been red if the smoke and ashes had allowed it; but as matters stood, it was a town of unnatural red and black [...]. It was a town of machinery and tall chimneys, out of which interminable serpents of smoke trailed themselves for ever and ever, and never got uncoiled. It had a black canal in it, and a river that ran purple with ill-smelling dye, and vast piles of building full of windows where there was a rattling and a trembling all day long, and where the piston of the steam-engine worked monotonously up and down, like the head of an elephant in a state of melancholy madness. It contained several large streets all very like one another, and many small streets still more like one another, inhabited by people equally like one another, who all went in and out at the same hours, with the same sound upon the same pavements, to do the same work, and to whom every day was the same as yesterday and to-morrow, and every year the counterpart of the last and the next.

Charles Dickens, Hard Times, 1854

Classe de T^{ale} LLCER (Art et contestation + Ancrage et héritage)

Visées communicationnelles

- Décrire une ville industrielle typique du XIX^{ème} siècle, à laquelle a abouti la Révolution Industrielle...
- ... qui déshumanise ceux qui y vivent...
- ... par le biais d'une monotonie et d'une répétitivité omniprésentes

Structures envisagées

- caractère typique : WOULD + V,
- thématisation du sujet patient : BE + V-EN (voix passive),
- moyen : BY + V-ING.

	Repérages	Inférences	Questions
Accès au sens	Première phrase du premier paragraphe : mot avec majuscule <i>Coketown</i>	nom propre	Lieu ou personne ?
	Première phrase du second paragraphe : mots répétés <i>town</i> (x 3), <i>red</i> (x 3), <i>brick</i> (x 2)	It's a town of red brick => lieu Décomposition du nom : <i>coke</i> (type de charbon) + <i>town</i> => ville industrielle	Qu'en dit-on ?
	Mot répété le plus souvent <i>same</i> (x 5)	Tout est pareil => répétitivité	Vue positivement ou négativement ?
	Co-texte droit de la répétition <i>same hours</i> <i>same sound</i> <i>same pavements</i> <i>same work</i> <i>same as yesterday and to-morrow</i>	Uniformité sur domaines très différents => monotonie géographique (uniformité) + monotonie temporelle (répétition incessante)	
Analyse littéraire	Monotonie (cf. dernière phrase, la plus longue du texte : accumulation d'éléments identiques) ▪ géographique (uniformité) ▪ utilisation de pluriels généralisants ou d'indénombrables (<i>machinery and tall chimneys, vast piles of buildings full of windows</i>) ▪ répétition de <i>like one another</i> dans la phrase la plus longue de l'extrait ▪ temporelle (répétition incessante) ▪ <i>interminable</i> ▪ <i>for ever and ever</i> ▪ <i>never</i> ▪ <i>all day long</i> ▪ <i>every day</i> ▪ <i>the same as yesterday and to-morrow</i> ▪ <i>every year</i>	Cette monotonie omniprésente peut pousser à la folie (<i>melancholy madness</i>)	Confirmation de la connotation négative ?
Accès au sens	Couleurs + co-texte (gauche ou droit) <i>unnatural red</i> <i>a black canal</i> <i>a river than ran purple</i>	<i>unnatural</i> + <i>unnatural colors for a canal / a river</i> => contre nature / toxique	
Analyse littéraire	Toxicité (en plus de ce qui a été repéré) ▪ <i>serpents of smoke</i> ▪ <i>ill-smelling dye</i>	Horreur face au spectacle d'une ville industrielle, qui apparaît telle un monstre (cf. références aux animaux / à un bestiaire : <i>serpents, elephant</i>) qui finit par les tuer . Le monstre se repaît de la vie humaine.	

Enrichissement de la langue des élèves

The text is about Coketown. It is an industrial town.	The text is about Coketown, a typical industrial town,
It's always the same.	which is depicted as extremely uniform and monotonous.
It's very repetitive: people have the same jobs, and work at the same time	In such a town, people would be expected to work identical jobs with the same hours.
You can hear the same sounds in the streets. Those streets are all the same.	The same sounds would be heard throughout identical streets, be they large or small,
Again, the days are always the same.	and any sense of time would be lost in an endless repetition of the same day.
In this town, people always see the same things: chimneys, machines, buildings, streets, etc.	People would be driven mad, living in such an industrial town. It would entail being drowned into a multitude, by becoming part of an unvarying landscape of chimneys, machinery, and interchangeable buildings and streets,
They repeat the same day again and again.	as well as by experiencing the same day over and over again.
There are unnatural colors because of the pollution.	Besides, the town would be colored in unnatural hues, due to emissions.
This pollution is in the water and in the air, and it's dangerous for the health.	The health of its inhabitants would be jeopardized by being exposed to toxic waste and pollution which would be discharged into canals and rivers, as well as in the air.
The town is like a monster and it destroys people because it forces them to be all the same.	The industrial town is likened to a horrific beastly monster, which would feed off the life of those living in it by annihilating all individuality.

Trace écrite résultante

The text is about Coketown, a typical industrial town, which **is depicted** as extremely uniform and monotonous. In such a town, people **would be expected** to work identical jobs with the same hours. The same sounds **would be heard** throughout identical streets, be they large or small, and any sense of time **would be lost** in an endless repetition of the same day. People **would be driven** mad, living in such an industrial town. It **would entail being drowned** into a multitude, **by becoming** part of an unvarying landscape of chimneys, machinery, and interchangeable buildings and streets, as well as **by experiencing** the same day over and over again.

Besides, the town **would be colored** in unnatural hues, due to emissions. The health of its inhabitants **would be jeopardized by being exposed** to toxic waste and pollution which **would be discharged** into canals and rivers, as well as in the air. The industrial town **is likened** to a horrific beastly monster, which **would feed off** the life of those living in it **by annihilating** all individuality.