

EXERCICES

1. Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques, dormez-vous ? 2. À quelle heure vous levez-vous le matin ? 3. Il leur montre les places 4. et ils s'installent. 5. Ils ne me donnent jamais rien. 6. Montrez-lui le billet.

EXERCISES

1. Brother Jacques, Brother Jacques, are you sleeping? 2. (At) what time do you get up in the morning? 3. He shows them the seats 4. and they settle down. 5. They never give me anything. 6. Show him/her the ticket.

TRENTE-HUITIÈME (38^e) LEÇON

Le Septième Art (1)

- 1 La France possède une longue tradition cinématographique, et le “septième art” est bel et bien (2) vivant aujourd’hui.
- 2 Beaucoup de gens, surtout les citadins, vont deux – et parfois trois fois par semaine au cinéma,

PRONONCIATION

1 ... settiem...

NOTES

- (1) A common device in French is to substitute a word referring to an attribute for the thing that is actually meant (technically, this is known as “metonymy”). Here, instead of saying “the cinema”, we use a very common

Fill in the blanks

- 1 Il ne rien.
He never gives her (or him) anything.
- 2 Je ai donné notre adresse.
I gave them our address.
- 3 Il s' au théâtre.
He always falls asleep in the theatre.
- 4 . . . fils et . . fille sont et
His (her) son and his (her) daughter are tall and good-looking.
- 5 Elle . . . répond : "Je ne . ' . . . pas".
She answers him: "I don't love you".

Fill in the blanks

1 – lui donne jamais – 2 – leur – 3 – endort toujours – 4 Son – sa – grands – beaux 5 – lui – t – aime –.

38th LESSON**The seventh art**

- 1 France has a long filmic tradition, and the "7th art" is well and truly alive today.
- 2 Many people, particularly city dwellers, go two – and sometimes three times a week to the cinema,

NOTES (suite)

substitute: "the seventh art". This use of metonymy is particularly widespread in the press (see also line 5).

- (2) *bel et bien* (lit. beautiful and well) is used for emphasis, rather like our expression "well and truly". *Elle est bel et bien morte* – She's well and truly dead. Note the lack of agreement.

- 3 et les metteurs en scène (3) et comédiens français sont très appréciés par le public.
- 4 Le choix de films est énorme – comédies, aventures, policiers, dessins animés, films noirs (4) – et des nouveautés sortent chaque semaine.
- 5 Naturellement, il y a aussi beaucoup de films étrangers dans nos “salles obscures” (5),
- 6 qu’on peut voir en version originale ou en version française (c’est-à-dire doublés). (6)
- 7 Deux rendez-vous annuels s’imposent pour les cinéphiles : (7) le festival de Cannes avec sa Palme d’Or
- 8 et la remise des Césars (8) ; ces prix récompensent le meilleur du cinéma de l’année (meilleur film, meilleur scénario, etc.).

3 ... metteur ohn senn... komaydienh... 4 ... dessahn animay...
 7 ... simpohz... 8 ... sayzarh... pree ray-kompohns...

NOTES (suite)

- (3) A good example of how nouns are derived from verbs. From the verb *mettre*, to put, we get *un metteur en scène* (lit. a putter in stage), a film director; and *la mise en scène* (lit. the putting in stage), the direction. (Remember that *un comédien* means an actor, see Lesson 37, note 5).
- (4) Two important words for film lovers: *un dessin animé* (lit. an animated drawing) is a cartoon film. (A cartoon in the press, etc.: *un dessin humoristique*). The concept of *le film noir* has no real translation. It basically refers to crime or gangster thrillers which are long on atmosphere. Many English-speaking film lovers call this... *film noir*.

- 3 and French directors and actors are greatly
(very) appreciated by the public.
- 4 The choice of films is enormous – comedy,
adventure, crime, cartoons, gangster – and
new ones (novelties) come out each week.
- 5 Naturally, there are also many foreign films
in our “dark rooms”
- 6 which can be seen in [the] original version or
in [the] French version (that is to say dubbed).
- 7 Two annual get-togethers are a must for film
buffs: the Cannes Festival with its Golden Palm
- 8 and the presentation of the Césars; the (those)
prizes reward the best of the year’s cinema
(best film, best screenplay, etc).

NOTES (suite)

- (5) Another example of metonymy (see note 1): *les salles obscures* (lit. the dark rooms) is used – always in the plural – to mean cinemas.
- (6) Before going to see a foreign film in a French cinema, you should check the listings to find out whether it is being shown in *VO* (*version originale*, i.e. the original soundtrack with French subtitles) or in *VF* (*version française*, i.e. dubbed into French). Most big cities in France offer a choice of *VO* or *VF* for box-office hits.
- (7) The classical origins of French are evident in many everyday words. Here, for example, we have the suffix *-phile* (from the Greek *philos*, or friend). With its Anglo-Saxon roots, English would translate this as “lover”: for example *un bibliophile* – a book-lover; *un cinéphile* – a film-lover or movie-buff. The opposite is *-phobe* (from *phobos*, or fear). *un xénophobe* : someone who hates foreigners. It is important to note that such constructions are not considered to be particularly formal or elitist. You will find them in everyday usage.
- (8) *les Césars* are France’s answer to the Oscars. The awards, founded in 1976 to encourage the French film industry, take the form of statuettes awarded for best film, best director, etc. They are named for the sculptor who designed them.

- 9 – Et maintenant, le moment que nous attendons tous : le César du meilleur metteur en scène. Cette année le prix est attribué à... Michel Bonnaud !
- 10 Essayant (9) de rester décontracté, l'heureux gagnant répond :
- 11 – Merci, je suis très ému, mais aussi très surpris car je n'ai pas tourné un seul film depuis [N-1] dix ans.
- 12 – C'est justement pour ça que le jury vous donne cette récompense.

10 ... eu-reu ganyohn... 11 ... ay-mioo... 12 ... zho-ree

EXERCICES

1. Le cinéma est bel et bien vivant en France. 2. Elle va trois fois par semaine à la piscine. 3. J'ai beaucoup aimé le scénario mais pas la mise en scène. 4. Est-ce que le film passe en VO ou en VF ? 5. David est un vrai francophile.

ELLE VA TROIS FOIS PAR SEMAINE À LA PISCINE.



EXERCISES

1. The cinema is well and truly alive in France. 2. She goes three times a week to the swimming pool. 3. I really liked the screenplay but not the direction. 4. Is the film in the original language version or dubbed into French? 5. David is a real Francophile (i.e. he really loves France and all things French).

- 9 – And now the moment we've all been waiting for: the César of the best director. This year the prize goes to... Michel Bonnaud!
- 10 Trying to remain relaxed, the happy winner replies:
- 11 – Thank you. I'm deeply (very) moved, but also very surprised because I haven't made (turned) a single film for ten years.
- 12 – That's exactly why the jury is giving you this award (reward).

NOTES (suite)

- (9) This is the present participle of the verb *essayer* (to try). Most present participles of all three verb categories end in *-ant* : *aller* → *allant* ; *vendre* → *vendant* ; *finir* → *finissant*. For an example of how the present participle is used as an adjective, look at the word *vivant* in line 1 (living, alive).

Fill in the blanks

- 1 Et maintenant le moment
And now, the moment we've all been waiting for.
- 2 Elle est très et très
She's very moved and also very surprised.
- 3 Il . . ' un film quinze ans.
He hasn't made a film for fifteen years.
- 4 calme, il a ouvert la lettre.
Trying to remain calm, he opened the letter.
- 5 le meilleur
This prize rewards the best screenplay.

Fill in the blanks

1 – que nous attendons tous 2 – émue – aussi – surprise 3 – n'a pas tourné – depuis – 4 Essayant de rester – 5 Ce prix récompense – scénario.