

- 5 Michel . dit : "Je suis très de ,
Monsieur".
Michel said: "I am very happy to meet you sir".

Fill in the blanks

1 – tellement de – si peu de – 2 – partez en voyage – 3 – avons
téléphoné – 4 – nous ont envoyé – 5 – a – heureux – vous
connaître –.

*Do you find that you are beginning to understand things
without needing detailed explanations? We hope so!*

37th LESSON

An evening at the theatre

- 1 Jean and Marie-Claude go to the theatre (for)
to see a play
- 2 which is called "Love, always love".
- 3 They arrive at the theatre at 8.15 (8 hours and
[a] quarter),
- 4 a quarter of an hour before curtain-up (the
lifting of the curtain).

NOTES (suite)

dans la matinée – in the morning. *Téléphonez-moi en fin
de matinée* – Telephone me towards the end of the
morning.

- (2) We have already seen *une pièce* meaning "a room". Here
is another meaning: *Une pièce de théâtre* – a play. (Note
also *une pièce de monnaie* – a coin; see Lesson 39, line 1).
- (3) *lever* – to lift, to rise. *se lever* – to get up. *le lever du soleil*
– the sunrise.

141 cent quarante et un

- 5 Ils trouvent leurs places et s'installent.
6 La pièce commence ; deux comédiens (4)
entrent en scène :
7 – Je t'aime, Gisèle. Tu m'entends ? Je
t'aime (5).
8 – Ah bon ? Mais moi je ne t'aime pas.
J'aime Pierre.
9 – Pourquoi ?
– Parce qu'il me donne des bijoux (6)
10 et toi, tu ne me donnes jamais rien.
11 À ce moment, Jean commence à ronfler
très fort. Il dort (7).

- 12 Un vieux proverbe dit : “Dieu aide les
fous, les ivrognes et les amoureux.”

6 ... komedeean entr... sen 9 ... parskeel... beezhoo 11 ... ronflay
... dor 12 ... eev-ronye...



- 5 They find their seats (places) and settle down (install themselves).
- 6 The play begins; two actors come (enter) on (in) stage.
- 7 – I love you, Gisèle. You hear me? I love you.
- 8 – Oh really? But (me) I don't love you. I love Pierre.
- Why ?
- 9 – Because he gives me jewels
- 10 and you, you never give me anything (nothing).
- 11 At this moment Jean begins to snore very loudly (strong). He [is] sleeping.
- *****
- 12 An old proverb runs (says): "God helps (the) madmen, (the) drunkards and (the) lovers."

NOTES (suite)

- (4) When we have to refer to a group containing both masculine and feminine nouns, the masculine form takes precedence. Here, for example, we have *un comédien* and *une comédienne* but we say *deux comédiens* (the word means "an actor"; "a comedian" is *un comique* or *un humoriste*). The same for the agreement of adjectives: *le mari et la femme sont très gentils*.
- (5) What better example of how to use the *tu* form of the verb than to declare your love for someone? (See Lesson 35, note 4). A simple basic rule is never to use *tu* unless you know the person reasonably well...
- (6) Another irregular plural. The singular is *bijou*. There are seven nouns like this – two more common ones are *genou* – a knee (*les genoux*) and *chou* – cabbage (*les choux*). All are masculine.
- (7) *dormir* – to sleep. *Je dors, tu dors, il/elle dort, nous dormons, vous dormez, ils/elles dorment. s'endormir* – to fall asleep.

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