

INTERMEDIATE. LESSON #7. L'HISTOIRE2

« Sa maman l'aimait très fort mais elle avait beaucoup de travail pour diriger son royaume. Il y avait les réunions, les papiers et puis ceci et puis cela. Elle n'était pas toujours là pour lui. Mais un jour, elle rencontre un monsieur charmant, un duc très gentil et très poli. Elle passe beaucoup de temps avec lui. »

A suivre.

TRANSLATION

- « His mom loved him very much but she had a lot of work to lead her Kingdom. There was meetings, paper work and this and that. She was not always there for him. But one day, she meets a nice man, a very nice and polite Duke. She spends a lot of time with him. »

To be continued.



In tales, when the story begins for true, we stop using the *imparfait* tense. Here we chose to use the present because it was easier. But, for real, French people often use another tense in fairy tales : the *passé simple*, which maybe is the more difficult tense to learn and about which we decided to speak later...



Diriger, mener : to lead.
Réunion (fém.) : meeting.
Papier (masc.) : paper, paper work.
Charmant, charmante : charming.
Duc (masc.) : duke.
Passer (du temps) : to spend (some time).



Be careful with some verbs such as *manger* or *diriger* (all the verbs that end with *-ger*).

To conjugate these verb at the *imparfait* tense, we do exactly the same as for the other verbs : we first conjugate them at the present tense with *nous* then we remove *-ons* and obtain the stem we'll use for the *imparfait*. We already saw that and it is always true.

But let's have a look at the *-ger* verbs :

manger → *nous mangeons* → *mange-*
diriger → *nous dirigeons* → *dirige-*

You can notice there is an *-e* at the end of the stem.

This *-e* is very important and we need to keep it with *je, tu, il et ils*.

In French, when we have « ga », it pronounces « ga » AUDIO ; an *-e* transforms the pronunciation : « gea » is pronounced « ja » AUDIO.

But we drop this *-e* with *nous* and *vous*.

TABLEAU

Je mangeais	Je dirigeais
Tu mangeais	Tu dirigeais
Il mangeait	Il dirigeait
Nous mangions	Nous dirigions
Vous mangiez	Vous dirigiez
Ils mangeaient	Ils dirigeaient



Translate in English :

1. Le roi avait une importante réunion.
2. Elle l'aimait beaucoup.
3. A suivre...

Conjugate the following verbs at the *imparfait* tense with the indicated pronoun :

1. Aimer (il)
2. Changer (tu)
3. Nager (elles)
4. Voyager (nous)
5. Partir (vous)

Voyager : to travel

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