



Shipwrecked en France



Play in French for Beginners

This production is presented mainly in present, present perfect, immediate future and future tenses, but does contain some conditional and imperfect tenses and some imperative and subjunctive for differentiation.

Hi Student

Dear Student

You will be watching a play called Shipwrecked en France

The play is in English and French, but please do not worry about not being able to understand all the French.

We understand that you will be a little nervous about your ability to follow the story, but the French parts of the script contain lots of words and phrases which you have come across in class.

We are not expecting you to understand every single French word, but just pick out the words you know, watch the action, gestures and sentiment and you will have no problem understanding what is going on – trust us!

You will be amazed how much French you actually know.

When the play starts we want you to sit back, relax and remember this play is funny and it is there to help you.

Director

The Play

Shipwrecked en France

Max, a curious and slightly over-confident boy is on holiday with his parents in France.

Bored of sunbathing and determined to have an adventure, he goes off with his inflatable dinghy into the sea.

But when a strong current pulls him far down the coast, Max ends up stranded far far down the coast.

To get back, Max must walk for miles along the coastline. Everyone he meets on his long walk back only speaks French but Max's French is only basic.

Along the way each encounter is funny, challenging, and full of misunderstandings as Max tries to communicate with his broken French, some wild gestures, and a lot of guesswork.

As he journeys on, Max begins to grow in confidence — not just in his language skills, but in himself. But he knows his mum will be frantic with worry - or perhaps she hasn't even noticed he's gone!

A playful, fast-paced adventure that blends comedy, French Language and culture, and courage.

Extract 1# from the play

This is a scene from the play.

Max I am on holiday. What is “holiday” in French? Oh yes, I remember it is **Vacances**.

Emilie **Vacances? Vous êtes allés en France depuis l'Angleterre?**

Max **Oui, de l'Angleterre à la France.**

Emilie **De l'Angleterre à la France, dans ça ?** (points at his little boat)

Max (laughs) No, I didn't come from England in this boat. I came by plane. (mimes a plane)

Emilie **Avion!**

Max **Oui Avion, with my parents... Avec mes parents.**

Emilie **Où sont tes parents ?**

Max **Mes parents ?** Currently somewhere a million miles up there (points up the coast)

Oh, you have a dog? Wow, that is a really big..erm **chat**.

Emilie **Chat!** (laughs) **Non, c'est un chien. C'est Bruno.**

Max **Un gros chien.** (goes upto the dog) **Bonjour Bruno....**

Emilie **Non!**

Dog growls and barks

Max He is not very friendly. Please excuse me, but I have a long walk. Nice to meet you - and your dog. **Au revoir**

Emilie **D'accord, au revoir (off) Allez Bruno !**

Extract 2# from the play

This is a scene from the play.

Claude (a fisherman) (to Max) **Tu aimes aller à la pêche ?**

Max Oh, erm...I have never tried it. I don't know -**Je ne sais pas.**

Claude **Comment t'appelles-tu ?**

Max Max

Claude **Je suis Claude.**(points the fishing rod) **Allez, c'est l'heure d'aller pêcher !**

Max No, sorry but I need to go...

Claude **Allez !**

Max Well.... okay - just a short time.

Claude **Super ! Tiens ça. Avec les deux mains. Parfait. Tu pêches ici et moi je pêche là.**

Max Now what? Erm....**et?**

Claude **Maintenant, on attend que les poissons mordent. Allez, mes amis poissons, venez vers Claude. Max !**

Max Oui?

Claude **Hier, j'ai attrapé un très gros poisson.**

Max Oh, great.

Claude **Oui, il était aussi gros que ça. Non, il était aussi gros que ça !**(laughs)

Max (laughs) Wow! A big dinner! Did you eat it? Erm... **Manger le poisson?**

Claude **Manger le poisson ? Non. Je déteste le poisson.** (laughs)

Max You're a fisherman who hates fish!

Claude **Mais je suis un excellent pêcheur. Tu comprends. Je suis un excellent pêcheur.**

Max (he fishing rod moves) Oh I have a catch! Claude - what do I do? Help!

Claude **Je vais chercher le filet.**

Max (pull up his rod and there is a fish) **Il est énorme !**

Claude **Waouh, un gros poisson ! C'est génial.**

Max Yeah! I caught a fish!.

Claude **D'accord.**

They fish again

Max Now I need to catch some chips! hahahah
Claude **Max, où habites-tu ?**
Max **J'habite en Angleterre.**
Claude **Tu as quel âge ?**
Max Oh Wait! I got another one. Claude, get the net.
Claude **Encore un poisson ! Bravo.** (getting slightly jealous)
Max **Deux poissons.**
Claude **Tu es doué.**