



Ma France en classe

Unité 23 : Bricolez

Activities based on this unit will help your learners to:

- *Talk about the work needed on an old house*
- *Explain their plans for the future*
- *Talk about the different craftsmen who work on a house*

Here are some suggestions for using the films and activities in the classroom. There are so many ways of exploiting the material; don't forget to let us know if you think of more.

Introducing Monsieur Bricolage

- Many visitors to France have come to know [Monsieur Bricolage](#) or [Leroy Merlin](#). Set the context for this topic by writing the name on the board or displaying the home page of the website. Choose some of the key words from the Vocabulary list (the ones most likely to be known already or cognates) and present them as a dictation.

Describing the house

- Encourage the group to start thinking in French by showing Video A as a silent movie, pausing from time to time to invite descriptions of the house or of what's happening. It builds confidence to exploit existing vocabulary and each learner can contribute at his/her own level.

Plans for the future

- Give out printed copies of the Comprehension Quiz and check that the questions are understood, before watching the film again. After viewing, encourage small groups to confer about the answers. Watch once more, pausing to confirm Quiz answers with the Flash presentation.
- Use the Comprehension Quiz text to highlight verbs in the future. There are just three examples; use them to invite descriptions of what the house will be like when it's finished, e.g. *dans la grange, il y aura un dortoir, la maison sera plus belle, le deuxième étage deviendra un appartement indépendant*.
- For plenty more practice with verbs in the future tense, play Pétanque online.

Calling in the professionals

- Before showing Video B, explain how to express the difference between doing the work yourself and getting it done by someone else, i.e. *faire + verbe*:
Nous allons repeindre les chambres.
Nous allons faire repeindre les chambres.
- Display the expression *Les artisans* and watch Video B, asking learners to listen out for names of different craftsmen. Some, being cognates will be easily recognised; others will need to be teased out.
Exploit the word families. Having found the names of the professionals, the learners can make educated guesses as to the work they do, so from,



le plombier

draw out

la plomberie

le maçon

la maçonnerie etc.

- Ask everyone to answer Stéphane's questions in the Jeu de rôle. There are just 3 questions and plenty of scope for different answers from everybody.
- Set each learner to work with a partner, imagining they have bought the house. Together they decide what they would do themselves and which jobs would they hand over to the professionals. For speaking practice, ask each couple to explain their plans to another pair of students, starting from the two prompts: *Qu'est-ce que vous allez faire ? and Qu'est ce que vous allez faire faire par les professionnels ?*

Consolidation

- Go over some key expressions with the Quiz Culturel. For a change, print it out and cut the left hand column into strips. Give one to each student. Then read out one at a time the expressions from the right hand column. Anyone who thinks their definition matches should read it out. Does everyone agree?
- The vocabulary presented in Solitaire will help to revise some of the key expressions used in the films. As a plenary towards the end of the session, write some of them on the board and invite different members of the group to make a sentence using each one. As each word is used, wipe it out.
- The Grammar notes will provide a handy reference about the formation and use of the future tense.

For more support

All the activities are available online:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/html/diy/activity.shtml>

All transcripts are available online:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/french/mafrance/html/diy/summary.shtml>