



WATCH & LEARN: ARTS & LIFESTYLE

HOW WE LIVE: FRENCH CULTURE

LOTTERY FOR FRENCH HERITAGE (3:55 min)

VIDEO Script & Vocabulary (page 1 of 2/v1007)

INTERMEDIATE (B1 - B2) AND ABOVE

- ◊ Read the script and note new vocabulary
- ◊ Write three sentences using new vocabulary
- ◊ Prepare for the discussion questions

Starting Off

A lottery has been organized aimed at using the earnings for the restoration and maintenance of France's innumerable heritage sites which are falling into disrepair.

- 1 Read the **Video Script** below. The words in **bold** are defined in the **Vocabulary** section. Look up any new words in a dictionary.
- 2 Go to the **Your Turn** section at the end of this document. Practice using new words and expressions from the video script to prepare for your next class.
- 3 Look at the **Discussion Questions** and prepare your responses for the next class.

Video Script:

TV News Journalist: Our focus report today looks at how the French can now have a little **flutter** to **salvage** some of their country's **decaying** heritage. This weekend a **host** of buildings which are usually **off-limits** to the public will be fully unlocked and free to enter for the open-door weekend. Many of these sites are in desperate need of funds to help restore them or keep them **ship-shape**. The government thinks it's found the answer with a new lotto game and set of scratch cards. Valérie Gauthier and Claire Paquelin explain.



Voiceover: Hidden behind these walls is the **sumptuous** home of a 19th century French writer and world traveler. The extravagant Pierre Loti decorated a room in his house in France with features from mosques he visited on his trips.

Aurélie Jacquet, Museum Curator: (French spoken with English sub-titles) Above us you can see **damp** patches. We've had to **take off** the ceramic tiles to stop them **falling off** and breaking.

Voiceover: Insects have eaten away part of the wooden ceiling Pierre Loti brought home from Syria.

Jacquet: You can see where the insects infested the wood significant parts have been lost. It's like a **wafer**! That's a bit worrying if you imagine the whole ceiling is in that state.

Voiceover: Downstairs it's even worse. A local councilor tells us the town can't **afford** the 12 million euros needed to restore the house.

Florence Lecossois, Rochefort Town Councillor: (French spoken with English sub-titles) 12 million euros, that's double what the town invests in basic public services during the whole year. So it's impossible.

Voiceover: The ceiling will be fully restored thanks to a new fund-raising **scheme**. President Emmanuel Macron has asked Stephane Bern, a well-known host of TV history shows, to **run** a heritage mission to save French buildings and monuments. Two hundred and sixty-nine have been selected to receive funding.

Video Script continued on next page...

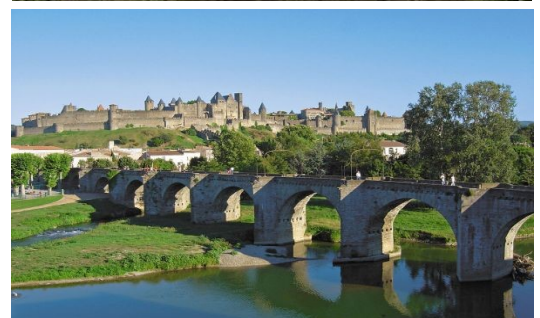
Discussion Questions:

- ◊ Do you think it's important that the French protect their historic heritage sites?
- ◊ Who should be responsible for protecting a country's historic sites?
- ◊ Do you like the idea of holding a lottery directed at raising money for this purpose?

Vocabulary:

- **flutter** - a small bet (wager, gamble)
- **salvage** - preserve from potential loss
- **decaying** - deteriorating
- **host** - a large number of things
- **off-limits** - private; closed to the public
- **shipshape** - in good order; trim and neat
- **sumptuous** - splendid and expensive-looking
- **damp** - slightly wet
- **take off** - remove
- **falling off** - dropping unexpectedly
- **wafer** - a thin, light, crisp biscuit
- **afford** - have sufficient money to pay for something
- **scheme** - a large-scale systematic plan or arrangement for attaining some particular object or putting a particular idea into

Vocabulary continued on next page...





- ◊ Read the script and note new vocabulary
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Video Script continued...

Stephane Bern: (French spoken with English sub-titles) It is up to the government to pay, but so much money is needed to save our heritage. The government can't afford it. Local public funding has been **cut**. Private property owners don't have the money. So we need to find other solutions.

Voiceover: Stephane Bern has started a nation-wide lottery. Tickets cost three euros and scratch cards are on sale for 15 euros each. The **jackpot** is 1.5 million euros. Back in Pierre Loti's home town, we asked locals if they'll **take part**.

Various townspeople: It's a good idea to get people involved. Are you going to play? Oh...no. I don't spend money on things like that. 15 euros...That's a bit **pricey**. I'm all for it. Me too. Mr. Macron needs to increase our pensions then we'll take part.

Voiceover: Some are **put off** because out of the 15 euros it costs to buy a scratch card, only 1 euro and 52 cents will go to restoring buildings and monuments.

Cécile Lage, Lottery Organizer: It's not a lot because more than two-thirds of the cost of the scratch card will finance the winnings. People who play want to win *and* contribute to a good cause. So it's important that the jackpot is **enticing** otherwise nobody will take part.

Voiceover: As well as castles, forts and abbies, France's scientific heritage will also receive funding. In Marseille this building is home to a unique device that measures the **tide**...

Vocabulary continued...

- **cut** - reduce
- **jackpot** - a large cash prize in a game or lottery, especially one that accumulates until it is won
- **take part** - participate in something
- **pricey** - expensive
- **put off** - repelled
- **enticing** - attractive or tempting; alluring
- **tide** - the alternate rising and falling of the sea, usually twice in each lunar day at a particular place, due to the attraction of the moon and sun

Your Turn! Using new vocabulary is the best way to learn and remember it.

- 1 Choose three words or expressions from the video that are new to you and write a sentence using each one in the box below.
- 2 Try to use them in a context that is familiar to you to help you retain them.
- 3 Please ask for feedback on your sentences in the next lesson.

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____
