

UN GROUPE D'ÉLÈVES DE TERMINALE CRÉE UN JEU DRAMATIQUE EN ANGLAIS

Lycée de TALENCE

Quand cette décision fut prise en accord avec notre professeur d'Anglais, nous n'avions rien hormis notre imagination et notre foi pour réussir. Il fallait tout d'abord se fixer des buts, le bac étant la sanction de notre travail.

1° *Ecrire la pièce en Anglais* (entraînement écrit qui semble extrêmement profitable, puisque des progrès se font sentir sans qu'aucun travail ne soit imposé).

2° *Répéter* (entraînement oral).

3° *Jouer* (ce qui nécessite la maîtrise de soi et la volonté).

— Nous entamons en ce moment, la première partie de notre élaboration, réservant le reste pour le deuxième trimestre.

— Notre groupe formé de huit élèves s'est étudié ; tentant de construire une intrigue qui convient à tous. Après quelques essais, nous devons reconnaître notre échec, dû en partie au manque de cohésion et à l'absence d'une autorité dirigeant le groupe. Malgré notre désir de ne rien imposer, nous nous sommes réunis à cinq pour rebâtir la pièce, tentant de modeler les personnages suivant le caractère de chacun. Nous sommes à présent décidés à ne pas continuer la démolition de toute idée nouvelle. Sans doute de nombreux changements de détail seront-ils apportés, mais nous conserverons cependant le thème principal de la réalisation.

Malgré son importance, l'écriture semble constituer la partie la moins attrayante qui soit. Nous essayons d'improviser le plus souvent possible, l'initiative personnelle ne remplaçant le travail du groupe qu'en cas d'échec de celui-ci. Les retours en arrière, les modifications que nécessitent ces tentatives sont cependant très éprouvantes et contribuent à diminuer l'enthousiasme général.

Conscients des difficultés, nous multiplions les réunions, tentant d'avancer rapidement, méthodiquement, prêts à éliminer tous les obstacles qui viendraient à surgir et persuadés ainsi d'aboutir au but fixé.

Cet optimisme que nous ressentons tous et qui semble croître n'est tempéré que par la difficulté de construire notre groupe, aussi bien dans la pièce que dans la vie du lycée. Les efforts que nous faisons contribuent à nous unir, alors que la facilité et le manque de volonté pardonnant toutes les faiblesses ne nous conduiraient qu'à un échec. Malgré l'ampleur et la difficulté de la tâche, à cause de ce que nous désirons profondément exprimer, grâce aux adultes qui nous conseillent et qui sont devenus nos amis, nous sommes persuadés de notre réussite finale.

Nous donnons en annexe le début de notre journal de bord rédigé en anglais.

Monday October 12th

We decide to write an English play. We are 13, but only 9 are willing to appear on the stage. We think that it will be good to act out our own personalities and we begin to think of a play, which will show us as we are in our lives.

First we must see and know our characters, quickly described.

Friday October 13th

- *Daniel* : always dreaming and unconcerned he looks out of this world.

- *Sylvie* : full of fantasy, of life.

- *Maryse* : has her heart on her sleeve and is rather talkative, very gay and without shyness.

- *Denis* : (Patrick in the play) passionate, proud of himself, selfish, doing things by fits and starts. Can be cynical at times.

- *Nicole* : will probably be a knot of intrigues in the action. She is femininity. Sweetness or unconcern incarnate.

- *Samuel* : (Samy in the play) bites his nails very nervous, is a good friend, square minded.

- *Philip* : is intellectual, artist. He lives for his ideas.

- *Françoise* : (Nancy in the play) is indecisive (because she thinks very much). However, she has her own ideas.

- *Emmanuel* : is handsome, calm, full of distinction.

In the afternoon

In their real life, Denis and Philip have many discussions about religion, art, etc... Denis and Emmanuel don't like each other and they tell frankly each other. Perhaps, these things can be found in the play. We want to show a young group, a group of students, with its problems and its hopes. Sylvie can be the friend of the group. She has her feet on the earth: for instance, she works and she has her home where the group likes to gather. Philip has many ideals but particularly a religious ideal : he wants to show what a church student must be for him. Denis may be a medicine student and like these students, may be realist and say things that are hard to hear and to understand, there is too much truth in them. Samy gives good pieces of advice. There is an opposition between Françoise and Nicole.

Thursday October 16th

We must find the story of the play : Denis knows Françoise (Nancy). They

flirt together. But Denis is tired of Françoise. Why doesn't he change ? Françoise a friend : Nicole who knows none in the group. She is indifferent and she laughs at Denis at the beginning: he makes her nervous. Emmanuel arrives and although he is not interested by Nicole, Denis is jealous because Nicole prefers Emmanuel. Maryse arrives, on the next morning and Sylvie who is her friend tells her what is happening. Maryse will try to understand. Françoise (Nancy) will be loved in Denis.

Friday October 16th

A teacher is missing, we gather to work on the play. The persons will arrive by group of affinities. Françoise (Nancy) and Nicole, Sylvie, Samy and Philip will be on the stage. But the story is not enough : it involves only four or five persons. What about the others ? Are we too many ? An idea !... Samy had an accident just before coming. And a person of his family has been hurt and in hospital. He is anxious about her and he tells it to Philip and Sylvie. Sylvie exits. Françoise and Nicole arrive. Samy recognizes Nicole : she is the author of his accident. He is angry with her, but it seems that she does not recognize him. Is he really the author of his accident ? Samy will speak with her, only in the middle or at the end of the play. Philip is the best friend of Samy. He knows that Françoise (Nancy) is unhappy because Denis does not love her. He tries to explain this to Denis and he seems to be too much of a moralist, he delivers a long lecture and Denis is angry. All our play seems to be good. But at the beginning we wanted to make situations of every day life and we understand, now, that we are making a play of "boulevard" and that we are going to adapt our personalities to the play. It is not good : we must find an other idea. We are so enthusiastic that it is not a difficulty for us. We are full of hope and we decide to continue our work which is good after all.

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