

Crossroads

CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter, October 2009

Jousting... with a Difference!

For history buffs, Medieval Europe conjures up images of knights in shining armor and their code of honor, their pride and their chivalry. Beginning with legendary King Arthur and his round table in the 4th century, the romanticized knight has become an enduring symbol of early European history and culture.



A modern re-enactment of an event common in early medieval times – the joust.

Jousting, for sport or to settle a dispute and defend his honor (or that of a lady's), a knight, on horseback with lance and shield, would not hesitate to fight to prove his valor against his adversary – occasionally even fighting to the death!

Times change and by the end of the Middle Ages, jousting, and many of the traditions associated with knighthood, and, indeed, the knights themselves, had almost disappeared. Ironically, it is at this time – at the beginning of the 17th century - that a new form of jousting for sport emerged in the old Languedoc region of southern France. And it is still being practiced there today: Water Jousting!



Water jousting started in villages and port towns - the first tournament taking place in Agde in 1601. Sète held its first tournament in 1666 to celebrate the founding of a port there. By the 18th century, contests were pitting the town's young bachelors, in blue boats, against the red teams made up of married men. These days, Sète's annual tournament runs from April to September each year and is one of the biggest.



The most important event during the festival period, the *heavyweight grand prix*, attracts almost 20,000 spectators each year and takes place during the *Fêtes de la Saint-Louis*, at the end of August. The best jousts are among the most famous and esteemed people in Sète and are given honorary nicknames such as, "The Terrible" (Barthélémy Abenque), "The One Hundred Wins Man" (Vincent Cianni) and "The Unmovable" (Casimir Castaldo).

The "White Knights" who compete in these tournaments are made up of mostly local fishermen and dockworkers. But they are not the only ones. It is said that to be a true son of Sète, a man has to have jousted at least once in his lifetime. There is even a jousting school for children and a museum of the history of water jousting in Languedoc.



The White Knights of Sète



Net News

NET LESSONS: Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS?... Try our *lessons on the Internet!* It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *on-line!* Call for details: **089 9217595**

NET SITE OF THE MONTH:

Go here for info about Water Jousting in Sète:

http://www.languedoc-france.info/030414_sete.htm

NET NOTEBOOK: Don't forget to take a look at the Internet activity notebook in our open-house. You'll find games, news and English learning sites.

Some Thoughts for the Month



Joshua Says: I'm encouraged to see that some of you are already trying to support our new campaign by introducing your friends to Crossroads. Soon, we will have our list of "partners" to offer you also. With the benefits of our campaign and our partner project, I'm sure Crossroads will become an even better place to enjoy studying and developing your languages skills!

Junko Says: Okaido is going to have an open, free market on the 3rd of next month. It will be the longest of its kind in Sikoku and new participants are encouraged to join in – this can mean you! If any of our students have goods or items to sell – second-hand or new – you are welcome to offer them for sale. Please check with me in the office for the details if you want to join in.



Alessio Says: Hi people, after realizing that the autumn doesn't exist in Japan (it got so cold in just a week), I'm preparing myself for winter hoping it won't be very cold. A few days ago I went to Nihama for the famous festival. It started at night and my friends and I came back to Matsuyama at 9am!!! But, it was a very interesting festival. Danjiris are very detailed and prepared with great accuracy. The result is that they are really, really beautiful. By the way, I noticed that many Japanese were drinking sake, beer and cocktails during the festival. as we certainly did... :)

Greg Says: last month I took a day trip to Hiroshima with my family. It was great to get away for awhile, even if it was only for a day. We left Matsuyama at 5:30am and headed for an amusement park for the kids. They had a great time and didn't want to leave. Then we went to the Peace Park where we explained to my daughter what happened to the Dome and why. She had tears rolling down her face when she looked at the before and after photos of Hiroshima. It was a great learning experience for her, and for me listening to her thoughts.



Emilie Dit: Temps des typhons, temps incertain. Rester plus souvent chez soi. Savourer les journées chaudes d'automne bercées par un vent frais. Attendre patiemment l'été indien. Écouter les derniers grillons au loin. S'émerveiller sur la taille de la pleine lune. Manger son premier pot-au-feu japonais. Se régaler à l'idée du prochain...

NOTICE BOARD

BIG CAMPAIGN FOR OVERSEAS STUDY

The world's biggest language services organization, Switzerland's EF (English First), is having a big campaign right now. They are offering chances to go overseas at these great deals:

1. You will get a ¥10,000 reduction on course fees, if you apply for more than 3 weeks of study overseas with EF by the 30th of November 2009 - provided you leave by the 30th of September, 2010.
2. If you wish to study overseas for 18 months or more and you sign up 5 months in advance of going, you will be offered an extra 2 weeks tuition free! If you give over 3 months notice, you will be offered an extra week's tuition free. You will need to depart for the overseas school by the 30th of September, 2010.
3. Even further reductions are made for long-term students.

when you submit your application	Reduction Amount		Dead line for your Applications		
	Per AC/year 8-9 months	Semester 5-6 months	Course Stars in April 2010	Course Stars in June 2010	Course Stars in September 2010
6 months in Advance	60,000	45,000	by the end of Oct. 2009	by the end of Dec. 2009	by the end of Mar. 2010
7 months in Advance	70,000	52,500		by the end of Nov. 2009	by the end of Feb. 2010
8 months in Advance	80,000	60,000		by the end of Oct. 2009	by the end of Jan. 2010
9 months in Advance	90,000	67,500			by the end of Dec. 2009
10 months in Advance	100,000	75,000			by the end of Nov. 2009
11 months in Advance	110,000	82,500			by the end of Oct. 2009

SPECIAL NOTE: These offers are not only for schools in famous English speaking cities, but also for other foreign language courses in Paris, Rome, Barcelona, Munich, Shanghai, Beijing, Seoul and many more... If you are interested in one of these overseas study courses, you can get the details from our office.

OUR NEW 1+1 CAMPAIGN

The new campaign is starting to show some results, and we are happy some of you are getting behind us and introducing new students to our school. Please keep up the effort! We are happy to welcome any of your friends, family members or acquaintances on board, any time!

RECYCLE

The largest open market on Shikoku will be held along Okaido on the 3rd of November (next month). If any of you have items you have grown tired of and no longer need, you can recycle them at the market. Do you make any handycrafts, or other goods you would like to sell? - try the market! Perhaps someone may have use for your items and offer to buy them. If you are interest in participating in this market, please go to our office and ask for the details.



クロスローズの好きなコースで英語を学ぶ。

"GENERAL (ジェネラル) コース

英語+実践練習

60分 x 2回/週:

1学期-4ヶ月毎にレベルが上がる
クロスローズのメインプログラム

90分 x 1回/週:

忙しい方のための週1レッスン

プライベート(個人)

月2回からレッスン回数自由選択

セミプライベート(セミ個人):

月3回からレッスン回数自由選択

クロスローズで学べるその他の外国語

フランス語 - スペイン語 - ドイツ語 - イタリア語 - ロシア語 - 中国語 - 韓国語



COSMOPOLITAN (コスモポリタン) コース

英語+実技を通した実用練習、だから誰でも分かる、自然に上達する。

英語でギターを習う

英語で歌う

英語で料理

英語でマジック

ピアノ

英語劇

ヨガ

NET(ネット) レッスン

グループOR プライベート

レッスン料 ¥4,725/月~
詳細はお問合せ下さい



KIDS' (キッズ) クラス

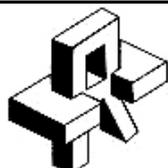
グループOR プライベート



MOTHER & CHILD

(マザー&チャイルド)

グループOR プライベート



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