

1 Temps du verbe.

1. He has never been a soldier. He never was a soldier.
2. I have read *Hamlet*. I read *Hamlet* when I was 12.
3. Have you finished the Coke ? – Yes, I have, and I have forgotten to buy some more. / Yes, I finished (did finish) it, but I have bought some more.
4. He was sick. He was being sick
5. He was being polite. You are being a gentleman today.
6. “It isn’t very long since I spoke to her on the phone. Actually, I think it was the day before she disappeared. She sounded fine, but she told me she felt she was being followed by an old blind man with a beard. I remember what she said very well. ‘I can’t believe it,’ she said. ‘Every time I turn around in the street, that blind man is there, following me.’ I told her she was having visions, and I suggested she should try a bit of yoga and relax. She hung up on me, and now I realize she must have been telling the truth. Nobody’s heard of her since !”
7. It’s the first time I have eaten tofu. It was the first time I had eaten tofu.
It’s the first time I’ve been hiding. It was the first time I had been hiding.
8. It was in June 1996 that I passed my A levels.
It was at that moment that I understood.
9. “To him, it brought murder, to Major Sholto it brought fear and guilt, to me it has meant slavery for life.”
10. I’ll call you when I am back.
Tell me when you will come. Tell me when you come.
11. I forget which of the two sisters went to America.
12. I have known him for over ten years.
13. He looked like someone who has been caught redhanded.

2 Les modaux.

1. It is quite normal that he should think so.
2. I was preparing my Ph.D. then : every night, I would work until one o’clock.
3. I thought you might (do that).
4. She could swim when she was six. He was able to swim to the shore.
5. ““You will drive, no doubt ?” ‘Yes, I shall drive.’”
6. You should see a doctor. You ought to see a doctor.
7. You don’t need to go. You needn’t go.
How dare you say that ? How did he dare to say that ?
8. You may have a point here.
9. You may go, if you want to. You can go, it’s not raining anymore.
10. “Mother, I wish you would tell me what’s happened.” (T. Williams, *The Glass Menagerie*)
11. I’m afraid you’ll have to be on your own this week-end.
12. He must be at home. He must have been at home.
13. May I go to the movies ? – You might, if you had finished your homework.
14. I’d rather you came. It was time I went home.

3 Le verbe. Syntaxe.

1. He swam across the river. We drove there. You can sail to England.
She switched on the ignition and drove away.
2. She sounded kind on the phone.
It smelt strange / It felt strange.
3. You do know that !
Well, if you do think so, there's nothing more for me to say.
4. I was sold this carpet £ 250. This bed has been slept in. Charles was asked this question.
5. It would take time for anyone to understand. It is not a good idea for you to do it.
6. I don't see any reason for it to stop / why it should stop.
7. I only read the report yesterday.
8. What are you talking about ? What are you looking for ? Whom did you take it from ?
9. Not only did I see him, I even spoke to him.

4 Le nom.

1. He had only one piece / item of luggage.
Twelve pieces of furniture had to be moved.
2. These trousers don't fit me, I'll choose another pair.
3. He has given me very little information. He hasn't given me much advice. I can give you only one piece of advice.
4. I ate a piece of fresh fruit.
5. The police are on the case. The staff are always at hand for any information.

5 Idiomatismes et pièges classiques. Orthographe, typographie.

1. The moment when he was to come.
2. They came with their wives.
We could see the faces of the enemy (glowing) in the night.
3. He was a doctor. When I was a child, I wanted to be a fireman.
4. We've met before, haven't we ? You know him, don't you ?
5. You can carry this, can you ?
6. If someone tells you that, they are wrong.
A visitor can park his or her car in front of the hotel.
7. He broke his leg.
8. He climbed Mount Everest.
9. He is English. He speaks English.
He's a Socialist, and a Christian.
10. Happy birthday, Mister President.
11. "Good morning, Mr. Smith."
"Good morning?"
"Good morning," he said.

6 Techniques de traduction.

1. I'm hiding from justice. The window on the street. A quotation from Shakespeare. A French teacher. I'm afraid of how he will react.
2. Do you know his phone number ? Let's stop for gas.
3. Transposition culturelle : Three miles further, there was a pub. One could have a drink there, play darts, and there was a cigarette vending machine/vendor. Without any originality, I asked for a pint and sat down at a table. Three yards from me, I saw someone order a burger/fish and chips.