



## *Visit to Romania - Students at Collège Paul Eluard*

Elaine: I'm with some students from Collège Paul Eluard to find out about their recent visit to Romania - a country I've never been to so I wanted to find out more about it. So could we start over here.

Hello, I'm Gael.

Elaine: And Gael, can you tell me how you travelled to Romania?

Gael: We used different types of transport to go to Romania - car, trains, metro, bus and 'plane. From St Brieuc to Paris we used the train and after the metro to the hostel. We used the 'plane from Paris to Cluj with a stop in Munich. For some of them, it was the first time to take a 'plane.

Elaine: Well, that sounds a very complicated journey. I think it probably took quite a while and lots of moving from one airport to station and crossing Paris, in itself, is difficult. Good. Accommodation - over to you?

My name is Malo.

Elaine: Where did you stay, Malo?

Malo: The name of the city in Romania is Alba Iulia and in this city with a castle. We were received in a family. We had already received Romanians in our home before. We already knew them. It was easy...

Elaine: Easy - yes. That must have helped - having met them before, then to stay in a family who you already know so they weren't strangers, because it's quite an adjustment. And now what about food? We're going over here.

My name is Enora. We taste the local food but we didn't like everything - soup, vegetable and pizza party

Elaine: So - you had pizza though, so that was something you recognised, but maybe it was slightly different to the pizza that you get here.

Enora: Yes.

Elaine: And I think because of the country, it's not a very wealthy country, they do eat and grow (or grow and eat, let's say) a lot of vegetables because that is what they have to live on. But it's always good to try. Always good to go somewhere and try something as long as you didn't have to eat sheep's eyes - which you might have to if you went to Morocco. The food was ??? then - and where did you visit?

Enora: We visited ?????? and the Castle of Dracula. It's a middle ages castle - not so scary.



Elaine: Not so scary? I would think the castle of Dracula would be pretty scary to me, so I think you were very brave people to not be scared, but then, you know, you're young and tough. OK. That sounds a very good mix of places to visit and Mael, I think, back to you now. You're going to tell us something about the people and the country.

Mael: My name is Mael. People in Romania were nice and always wanted host families to please us. Some gave us gifts before we left. We were in host families ??? We have seen poor villages, lagging behind France and the development. We saw small tractors horses There were many flocks of sheep.

Elaine: So, it's a country of contrasts of... you were with, say, wealthy families but there were very poor people working in the fields. So, what we call 'an eye opener' to see how other people live and maybe realise how lucky you are to live where you do. I think that's the point of visiting these countries. What gifts did you get, Mael? Can you remember?

(Teacher clarifies in French that Mael did not get a gift and then asks Malo).

Mael: No.

Elaine: What did you get Malo?

Malo: Chocolate and shoes.

Elaine: OOh. Chocolate and ...

Malo: Shoes.

Elaine: Shoes. Oh, that's interesting! An interesting combination. Good chocolate?

Malo: No.

Elaine: Not so good as here. OK. And Enora?

Enora: Someone has gifts.

Elaine: You'll have to go back again and say 'I've come back for my gift' but Gael will have to make sure he has his passport in order. Gael, back to you. Tell us about the people.

Gael: We had difficulty talking with the families who did not speak French. I had problems getting through Customs because I have Canadian passport. If you have to do it again we'd go back and on the top of that the trip was free for families. It was a good opportunity to do this trip with a lot of from the Department of Cote D'Armor.

Elaine: So, they had to dig deep into their pockets to finance you. Good. It's good because it's a very worthwhile experience, and you are very lucky to have been able to participate in such an exchange and, Mael, I think you had something else to say?



Mael: There was also an artistic event with two artists participating in the Exchange. One French and one Romanian that each at Bon Repos was also in the project.

Elaine: Right. And Finally now that we're back to Gael again - I think you have a little story to tell us about your passport.

Gael: Yes. In Munich it was high time to get the 'plane because my passport is a Canadian passport and at the Customs is not recognised?

Elaine: They didn't want you in Romania. Canadians in Romania.

Gael: No.

Elaine: Let's check beforehand. No. I don't think we're going to let him in. How did they overcome the problem?

Gael: Oh, he just says 'You can go.'

Elaine: OK. It was high time. It was high time.

Teacher High time to go to the 'plane.

Elaine: It's always difficult running through airports because people get in your way. So did you all, just to finish, did you all enjoy the trip?

(Answers) Yes.

Elaine: Yes - it was positive. Good. And would you think of going again?

(Answers) Yes.

Elaine: Excellent. Well, thank you very much for taking time...

(Teacher asks in French who had their first flight and what their impressions were)

Elaine: That was the first time that Malo and Enora had flown in a 'plane. Were you nervous?

Enoa: Yes. A little.

Elaine: A little. That's understandable.

(French speech).

Gael: It was a good experience because it's my first time in a 'plane.



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Malo: It a good experience.

Gael: It was.

Malo: It was a good experience.

Elaine: Yes. How long was the flight?

(Talking in French)

Enoa: Three hours and two hours.

Elaine: Because you changed, you had to change 'planes.

Gael: Yes.

Elaine: That's always a problem. If the one you're on is late and then you've got.....

(Teacher asks what they saw from the plane)

Enora: We have seen the mountains.

Elaine: The mountains? You saw the mountains?

Enoa: The Alps.

Elaine: Ah. The Alps. Right. Very, very exciting. Particularly if it's the first time. But, well done! Well, I'd like to thank you all for taking time this morning because I know you are officially on holiday, and I think there was some fiesta going on last night looking at the make-up still on Gael's face. So, I'm sure you probably did not want to get up this morning. No. Well thank you very much and I wish you the very best of luck and continue your studies in English and you'll be able to hear yourselves when the programme goes out. And also 'thank you' to Madame Le Lac your teacher who took time out to go with you, and had all the worry of looking - making sure she arrived with as many students as she left here with and nobody got left behind.

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