



Richard Flamant's History lessons last century

Hello, my name is Richard Flamant. We speak about how I have study in France at the middle of the last century, a very old, old time. When I was a child at school, we just studied France and French. All the other country was enemy, big enemy, later enemy or nothing.

All of the story book begin by the same sentence, "*nos ancetres les Gaulois*". Every, every little boy and girl in France know that, "*nos ancetres, les Gaulois*". And all the little boy and girls in Africa in the colony, in the French colony, learn that "*nos ancetres, les Gaulois*". There are no Gaulois in Africa, but it's like that. But for us, the story begin with the Roman, with Jules Cæsar; before, nothing exists, no Greek, no, nothing. If I know the Greek now, it's by my will. And, we learn history by heart, we learn dates, all the dates of important for France. I remember many, many of that, and we have two dates: Charlemagne 1415, and Francois the First, Francois 1, fights Italy in 1515. It's very, very easy to remember 1515.

I don't know if in English it's the same, but we don't study the geography of the country in the history. Today it is more easy for all the people to know what's happen in the other country, what is the real story of their, of their country, of their neighbour with Internet and documentary TV. It's very easy now. But, I'm not sure because it was easy that the child are very interest by history. I don't know, I am not sure that the school give to the children the taste of history, wish to learn history, and to know the, the *ancetres* of the country where, where, where we live. This wish to learn can be solved by the genealogy: know, know his parents, his grandparents, his great-grandparents, where they live, how they live, what is your job. All that is a good thing to give a curiosity when you know your history, you know why you are.

