



Lorient English Speaking Society Actors

Adele – So, I'm Adele. I'm the President of the English Speaking Society. We are a Society which plays theatre in English. Our play this year is 'Game of Tiaras'. It's a mix between 'Game of Thrones' and the Disney Princesses and also 'King Lear'

Rob – That's quite a mixture!

Adele – Yes

Rob – I guess it's slightly light hearted?

Adele – It's supposed to be tragic but in the end it's comic.

Rob – Tell me first about the English Speaking Society. We're at the University of Brittany (South) in Lorient. Are the students all language students – or are they...

Adele – No, there are scientific students.

Rob – We can hear them in the background.

Adele – Yes, also English students and History students.

Rob – All sorts of different people interested in speaking English – or is it the drama that they like?

Adele – Both.

Rob – How many people are in the Society?

Adele – We are twenty-one, yes, I think. We are lots.

Rob – What's your interest particularly in English?

Adele- Well, I have a degree in English Literature and I thought it was important to continue to speak English.

Paul-Emil – My name is Paul-Emil. I play Cinderella – a man version of Cinderella in 'Game of Tiaras'

Rob – A male version?

Paul-Emil. – Yes, a male version of Cinderella but still a princess.

Rob – What brings you into this society?



Paul-Emil - Well, I started three years ago. I played in ‘Charlie and the Chocolate Factory’ because I was new and I didn’t know anyone and I thought it would be great to start something and I love theatre so said ‘Why not?’ and last year I was President of the Association and I directed ‘The Secret Case of Sherlock Holmes’ so this year I wanted to play again.

Rob – And so are you an English student?

Paul-Emil – Yes, I am. Actually, I’m in third year of English.

Rob – What does the group bring to you in terms of speaking English?

Paul-Emil – It brings, of course, confidence with speaking English, with oral skills. It’s also a great way to relax after class. It’s a way to enjoy the time together and it’s also a way to, to help the first year improve because it’s first year, second year, third year and everything so we help the first year improve and we improve ourselves of course. And it’s also, yeah, a good hobby..

Anoushka - So, my name is Anoushka. I’m nineteen years old and I’m in first year of LOA. That’s Business and Language school in Lorient.

Rob – You’re also playing a very important role here in the play..

Anoushka – Yeah, I’m playing Snow White – that’s quite cool. I very like that role.

Rob – What brought you to this theatre group?

Anoushka – Well, last year I was here too but not in the same class so I watched them doing their rehearsal and then that made me join the, the group this year.

Rob – And are you having fun?

Anoushka – Yeah, a lot of fun. For me it’s mostly to have fun with friends. It’s also to help me to be more open to people- it helps me to speak English more. I want to have a job when we use languages very very often because I am French and Polish and I speak also English, German and Italian.

Rob – A very dramatic moment!

Anoushka – Yes.

Tristan – My name is Tristan. I am a part of this theatre play. it is only the second year I’ve played in such a theatre play because it’s really new for me you know so last year was my first play ever so there’s quite a bit of pressure especially considering I was like the main characters. Something like three hundred lines to learn – so quite a bit of pressure.

Rob – Are you studying English?



Tristan – Yes, that’s it. I’m at University studying English culture along with most of the other actors. Sorry about my accent by the way.

Rob – What roles are you playing?

Tristan – Ah, I play two characters. One is a dwarf for, uh, of Snow White..

Rob – You’re a big guy!

Tristan – Yeah, well, I wouldn’t say ‘big’. A lot of people in the play are far taller than me but I’m a bit too big for a dwarf. I also play a French soldier so wiz a great accent.

Rob – You’re going to speak English with a French accent?

Tristan – Yeah, that’s it. I hope it will be quite funny.

Rob – So far I’ve enjoyed watching. It’s lots of laughs.

Tristan – Ah, that’s great.

Rob – What do you enjoy about acting, in English?

Tristan – Well, first of all, it’s a great form of training for a, for an English course, because some of us don’t have the opportunity to speak English a lot with native speakers or things like that so it’s a good way to speak, to get used to the accent, to the tone of the voice and things like that and because it’s also a great, a great opportunity to be in a group of friends and just play along with each other, so..

Rob – It’s part of your studies..

Tristan- Yeah, yeah actually, it’s part of it in some roundabout way so..

Victorialine – My name is Victorialine I’m twenty years old and I’m (?) student in Lorient’s University studying British Arts – literature and stuff. I’m playing Belle in the show. You know it’s a rewriting of Shakespeare’s King Lear with Disney princesses. That’s why I’m Belle from ‘Beauty and the Beast’. I’ve been acting for quite a long time - actually since I was eight years old but I’ve been only acting in English for two years.

Rob – And is it particularly hard?

Victorialine – Well, of course it is because before thinking of actually acting you have to get all of the words and the expressions in, how to talk in English while acting at the same time so sometimes it’s quite hard but once you’ve got everything it’s super-cool.

Rob – Have you had any input from your teachers?



Victorialine– Yes, actually, every year there's an Irish lecturer who come in Lorient to make classes, It's really great that we have a native speaker to help us with pronunciation and speaking the most fluent way we can..

Rob – 'Cos there's a strong connection with Lorient and with Ireland isn't there because of the festival..

Victorialine – Yes, with Galway especially. The University of Galway and the University of Lorient have some sort of agreement so they exchange a lecturer each year plus you also have the French Speaking Society in Galway so they perform in French.

Rob – Do you think this helps you with your studies?

Victorialine – Oh yes, of course because it helps us with knowing about acting and also theatre and playwrights because it's not something we have the opportunity to study that much. We do lots of novels and short stories and poetry but it gives us the opportunity to see another side of literature so that's really great.