

Thérèse Desqueyroux François Mauriac

Thérèse is seen leaving the law court after her case of poisoning her husband has been thrown out. For the first two thirds of the novel we see her going back over the events which lead to her ending up there. The novel is set in the sun-parched Landes of the southwest of France early in the 20th century before women have gained the vote and life for a thinking woman is challenging there. Thérèse is a complex character whose motivations we can never be quite sure that we have uncovered and the novel repays close reading.

French to English vocabulary

In order to make it easier for an English speaking audience to access the novel, the 28 page French to English vocabulary assumes a fairly lower starting point and a considerable amount of relatively high frequency words are given. Chapter and page numbers are given for navigation purposes.

Table with 2 columns: French terms and English translations. Includes items like 'Un sac de billes', 'Le livre de poche', 'French street looking', 'Instrument', 'Le topiste', 'Aurélien élève', 'Le pas de la porte-the door step', 'Catherine une (f) calut in', 'Marsant-Rains', 'Wacke-figs', 'Rien à voir-nothing like', 'Agne agnès', 'Une plombe-a lump of lead?', 'La descente-the stairs', 'Un compagnon-companion', 'Toutou one of the leading Russian revolutionaries', 'Un artisan-craft worker', 'Le tonner-to fade', 'Le front-forehead', 'Le jouir-cher', 'Aéro-to laugh', 'Candide-to wobble along', 'Proseur-to stroke', 'La serge-material', 'Un stage-face', 'Un compagne-companion', 'Toutou one of the leading Russian revolutionaries', 'Un artisan-craft worker', 'Le tonner-to fade', 'Le front-forehead', 'Le jouir-cher', 'Aéro-to laugh', 'Candide-to wobble along', 'Proseur-to stroke', 'La serge-material', 'Un stage-face'.

Summary with verb gap fill and additional vocab

Keeping track of the plot of the story can be difficult for young students of French so the 6 page summary is designed to help them learn the details. Written with a focus on the action, the majority of the verbs are given as an infinitive to fill in with either the present tense or range of past tenses.

Table with 2 columns: French text and English translations. Includes items like 'Les devoirs rapidement expédiés, les 2 garçons (filles) à l'aventure dans le quartier. Mais tout à coup, sur l'avenue, [arriver] à grands business aux hautes bottes crées et brillantes; à SS [entrez] se faire couper les cheveux chez le père juifs, coiffeur juif. Dehors les enfants [rigoler]', 'Albert, le grand frère, coiffeur également [s'approche] de l'un des Allemands sous le regard apesant des autres clients et [commence] la coupe tout en lui faisant la conversation. Le père [entamer] la coupe du deuxième Allemand quand soudain [arriver] Samuel le brocanteur. Celui-ci, éberlué, [faire] demi-tour en voyant les SS et bientôt, tout le quartier [être] au courant que le père juifs [coiffeur] les soldats Allemands.', 'Une fois les coupes terminées, un des soldats [déclarer] à l'Allemand: "C'est un coiffeur juif!"', 'Expédier-to polish off', 'Filer-to go off, to rush', 'Ouvrir-to push', 'Brillante(s)-shiny', 'Se faire couper les cheveux-to have a hair cut', 'Rigoler-to laugh', 'S'approcher-to go near', 'Le regard-look', 'Apeuré-frightened', 'La coupe-the cut', 'Entamer-to start', 'Le brocanteur-secondhand goods dealer', 'Éberlué(s)-dumbfounded', 'Faire demi-tour-to turn back', 'Être au courant-to be aware of'.

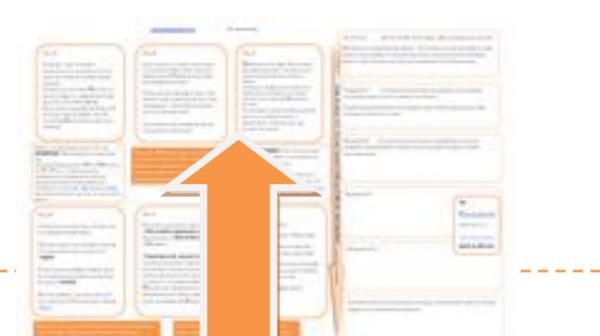
Character guide with translation exercises

Encouraging students to talk with confidence about the characters in the novel is challenging. The comprehensive list of adjectives appropriate to this novel makes this more straightforward. Students translate sentences which demonstrate templated ways of saying what particular character traits reveal.

Table with 2 columns: Adjectives and their English translations. Includes items like 'Amable', 'Austère/Severe', 'Bégayeur/Stutterer', 'Calculateur/Calculating', 'Calme', 'Courageux/Brave', 'Indifférent/Indifferent', 'Endurant', 'Infatigable', 'Entrepreneur', 'Inscrutable'.

Essay planning tool and sample essay

The essay planning tool takes the principle of the spider diagram for planning an essay. A flow chart shows the way it needs to be built up and this links through to a completed 400 word sample essay on the same topic to provide a model for future efforts.



Click the purchase tab to find out how to get these resources for your students

The comprehensive tools and exercises to accompany this novel are designed to give you as a teacher the freedom if you wish to have several texts on the go in a class. NEW The No et Moi resource also contains a worksheet linked to each of 12 AS topic based on the content of pages of the novel so that it can be used as a "trainer" text in Year 11 or 12.

Direct and Indirect Speech exercises

A two part exercise. In the first, the student works out in which situation each quotation was made. In the second part, the student makes a reported speech version of the utterance manipulating the tenses and pronouns. A useful exercise for evidencing without giving the exact words.

Exercise diagram showing direct and indirect speech examples and instructions. Includes a list of situations: 1. Le compte qui conduit les garçons en calèche, 2. Monsieur Sabatagny aux deux frères au moment de leur départ de Miossen Nouvelle, 3. Un des camarades de classe de Jo à Paris, 4. Le colonel après avoir répondu à Paris.

Exposé creation guide

The generic exposé creation guide is designed to give students a starting point for building up an oral or written exposé. Such heading as "Cause and Effect" and "Empathy" are just two of the many writing frames which will help begin the process of getting opinions down on paper.

Complex block containing 'ORAL-LE TRACBUSTI' and 'THEMES DE LA NOUVELLE' sections with writing frames and themes.

Themes of the novel ThèmezRus

The student is given a collection of quotations to match to six suggested themes. Some of the quotations may be appropriate to more than one. After thinking out what goes where he is then encouraged to discover his own examples from the text.

Complex block containing 'THEMES DE LA NOUVELLE' section with a list of themes and matching exercises.

The A Factor

This exercise is designed to demystify the constructions which make for getting high marks for quality of language. The present participle, passive and subjunctive are all introduced with exercises all using the context of the novel. PowerPoints are available for the passive and subjunctive, both using AS topics as subject matter.

Complex block containing 'ALF The "A" Factor' section with exercises on the present participle, passive, and subjunctive.

Multi-tense exercise « The Tensinator »

The "Tensinator" takes a particular verb and gives an example of it in each tense with a context relevant to the novel. There are two examples; students are then asked to create their own. The aim of this exercise is to pull together understanding of how tenses relate to one another.

Complex block containing 'the Tensinator' section with a table of verb tenses and examples.