

# Speak the Culture: France

November 2008

## Notes

## Quiz Questions

Q. Name the French winner of the 2008 Nobel Prize for Literature.

A.

Q. When the Papal See was moved to France in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, which city became home to the popes?

A.

Q. Why did more than 60 French people with the surname Bougon take a TV production company to court recently?

A.

Q. Who is Bertrand Delanoë?

A.

Q. Which foreign author and playwright died in the Hotel d'Alsace doss house on the Left Bank, Paris, in 1900?

A.

Q. Why did pop star Lââm find herself caught up in a national row recently?

A.

Q. Before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, farmers in Gascony wore *tchangues* to tend their flocks of sheep. What were *tchangues*?

A.

Q. Which actor, often referred to in relation to his famous father, died recently, aged 37?

A.

Q. Why was Mathias Guerrand-Hermes, heir to the Hermes fashion fortune, arrested in New York earlier this month?

A.

Quiz questions written  
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In association with  
[thisfrenchlife.com](http://thisfrenchlife.com)

Q. Paris' newly opened centre for modern art, Centquatre, launched at a cost of €100 million, is located in a former what?

A.

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## Quiz Questions and Answers

**Q.** Name the French winner of the 2008 Nobel Prize for Literature.

**A.** Jean-Marie Gustave Le Clézio

**Q.** When the Papal See was moved to France in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, which city became home to the popes?

**A.** Avignon.

**Q.** Why did more than 60 French people with the surname Bougon take a TV production company to court recently?

**A.** They complained that *Les Bougon* (translates as 'grumpy'), a comedy about a family of liars and miscreants, was giving them a bad name. The case was dismissed.

**Q.** Who is Bertrand Delanoë?

**A.** Mayor of Paris.

**Q.** Which foreign author and playwright died in the Hotel d'Alsace doss house on the Left Bank, Paris, in 1900?

**A.** Oscar Wilde.

**Q.** Why did pop star Lââm find herself caught up in a national row recently?

**A.** The French-Tunisian performer sang *La Marseillaise* at the football match between France and Tunisia and was drowned out by booing, to the deep consternation of President Sarkozy.

**Q.** Before the 19<sup>th</sup> century, farmers in Gascony wore *tchangues* to tend their flocks of sheep. What were *tchangues*?

**A.** Stilts (it died out after Napoleon II began a drainage programme).

**Q.** Which actor, often referred to in relation to his famous father, died recently, aged 37?

**A.** Guillaume Depardieu.

**Q.** Why was Mathias Guerrand-Hermes, heir to the Hermes fashion fortune, arrested in New York earlier this month?

**A.** He allegedly punched the captain of an Air France flight and grabbed his testicles on board a flight between Paris and the US.

**Q.** Paris' newly opened centre for modern art, Centquatre, launched at a cost of €100 million, is located in a former what?

**A.** Funeral parlour.

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