

## ACTIVITY 1

### BE THE MAESTRO OF EL HISPANIÉS!

After his dismissal from the legion, **Claudius Nonpossumus** decides to become a *recortadore* under the name of 'El Hispaniés'. *Recorte* is an artistic sport in which the *recortadore* performs acrobatic figures in front of a bull in a bullring, without ever injuring the animal. To consolidate his reputation, El Hispaniés wants to immortalise his exploits in comic strips. He would like to recruit a professional illustrator. However, he has no knowledge of this art form. So he hires you as a teacher to introduce him to the vocabulary of comic strips.

- 1 Looking at the excerpts from *Asterix at the Olympic Games*, suggest a simple definition for each term to make it easier for El Hispaniés to learn.
- 2 On your own or with a friend, create an assignment and its answer key to test El Hispaniés's understanding. Your test could have several types of questions: Multiple choice questions, table to complete, true-false questions, fill-in-the-blanks, word clouds, drawings using cartoon vocabulary, etc.
- 3 Ask your friends to have a go at the test.

#### EXCERPTS FROM ASTERIX AT THE OLYMPIC GAMES

R. Goscinny & A. Uderzo, *Asterix aux Jeux olympiques*, 1968, Hachette Livre.



#### A LITTLE BACKGROUND

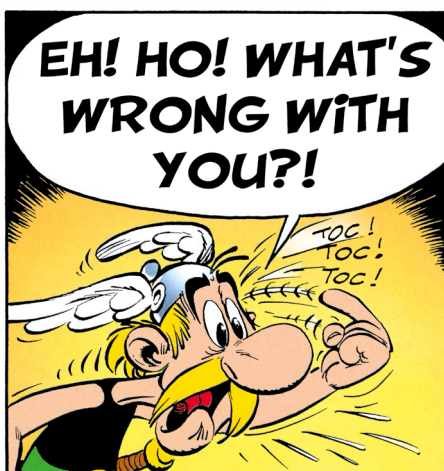
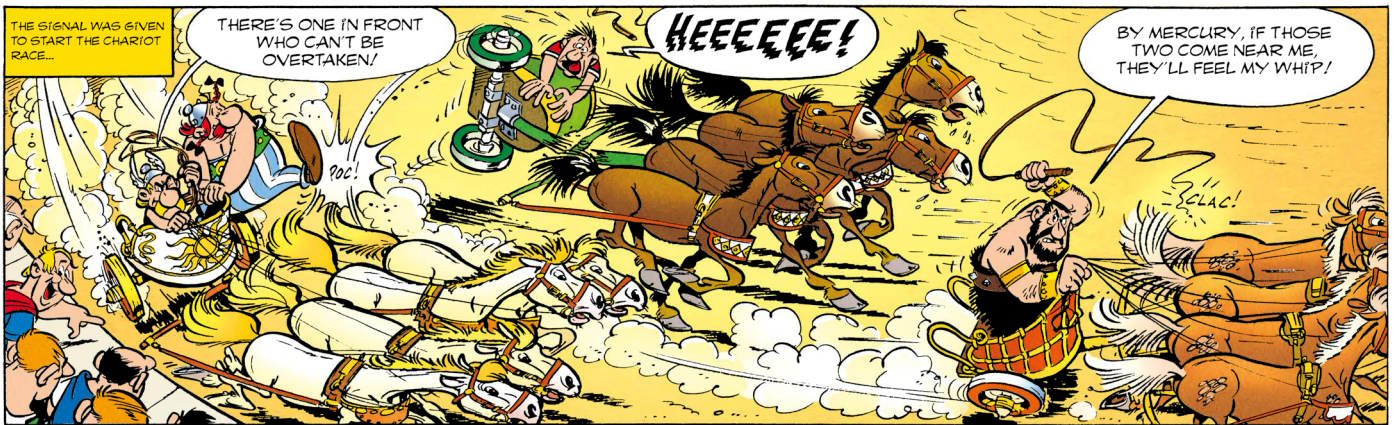
Rodolphe Töpffer is regarded as the inventor of the comic strip with *The Adventures of Mr. Obadiah Oldbuck* (1837). Subsequently, the comic strip developed thanks to masterpieces such as *Little Nemo in Slumberland* by Winsor McCay (1905). It became extremely popular in the 1930s with the creation of heroes (Astérix, Lucky Luke, Tintin) and superheroes (Batman, Spiderman, Superman). Since then, its success has continued, thanks to manga, comic books, the variety and quality of its themes, new digital forms and numerous film adaptations.

Page

**Latraviata**, the famous Roman tragedienne, has commissioned you to create an innovative *fabula* to open her tragedy planned for the **Caesar's** birthday. The tragedienne asks you to tell a story illustrated with drawings. **Latraviata** requires you to use the five stages of the narrative framework (initial situation, disruption, twists and turns, balancing event, final situation) to structure your entertainment.



- 1 Use the four boxes below, in any order, to create a story.
- 2 Create and add a fifth panel to start or end your story.
- 3 Write your story, then turn it into a notebook.
- 4 Narrate what you have created to your classmates.



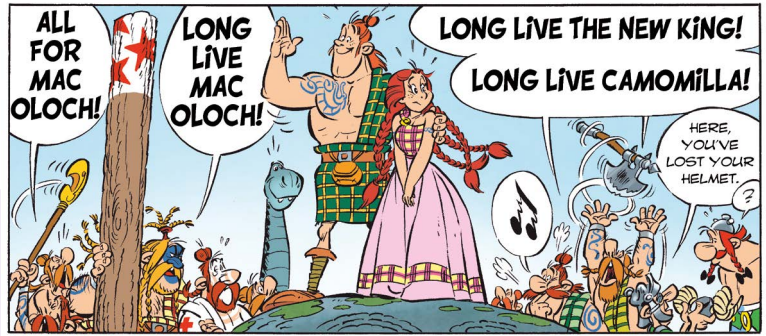
A LITTLE BACKGROUND

Although Roman theatre drew its inspiration from Greek dramaturgy, it managed to break free from it through a number of innovations. Roman playwrights used a large number of actors who specialised in specific roles. There are different forms (tragedy, short comedy, etc.) and different themes (mythology, satire, love, morality, history, etc.). The great Latin playwrights were Pacuvius (*Atalanta*) and Seneca for tragedy (*Medea*) and Plautus (*The Captives*) and Terence (*Phormion*) for comedy.

INVESTIGATION 1

King Mac Oloch is saddened. A thief has stolen the gold earrings he was planning to give to Camomilla, his queen. He suspects three individuals from Normandy: **Trabaf**, **Dantaf** and **Batdaf**.

An anonymous informant has sent him a riddle with a drawing of the culprit. Unable to understand the message, the Scottish sovereign asks **Astérix** to use his ingenuity to decipher the enigma.



☀️ Help the Gaul to solve this puzzle by finding the elements indicated by the enigmatic text in the drawing below.

RIDDLE

1. With blond locks and flowers in her arms, she's beautiful and full of charms. An old-fashioned word for a young girl.

→ Keep the first letter of this word.

2. It blossoms under the sun's kiss and dances in the breeze. It is given on romantic, happy or sad occasions. It can be used to heal or perfume. In the picture, a figure holds it tenderly.

→ Keep the first letter of this word.

3. Water and bubbles, it keeps your clothes squeaky clean. In the picture, a woman is doing this activity.

→ Keep the second letter of this verb.

4. Standing tall, its green canopy shelters our hero in the picture.

→ Keep the first letter of this word.

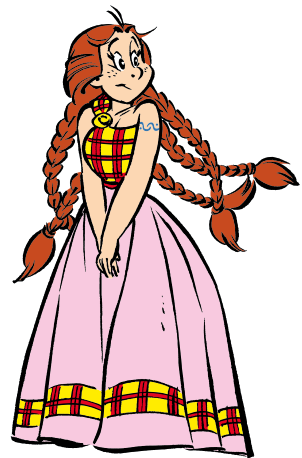
5. It removes the traces of everyday life under the guidance of a male or female hand.

In its rhythmic dance from right to left and left to right, it gets rid of dirt. In the picture, it is standing still, and taller than its handler.

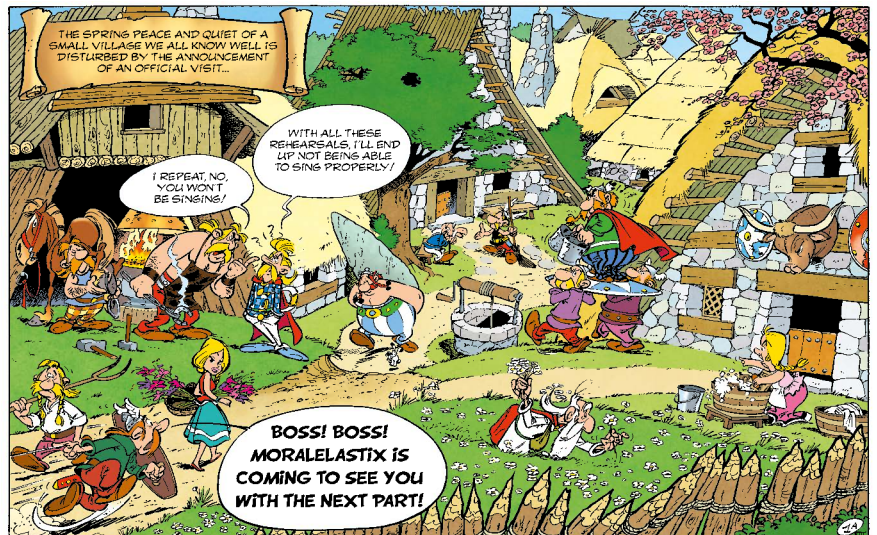
→ Keep the first letter of this word.

6. Used for repairs and crafts, it strikes again and again with a metallic clang. In the image, it is standing and lying down.

→ Keep the first letter of this word.



☀️ After the sixth clue, Astérix found the thief by changing the order of the letters! Were you able to do so too?



# ACTIVITY 3 LEAD THE INVESTIGATION!

## INVESTIGATION 2

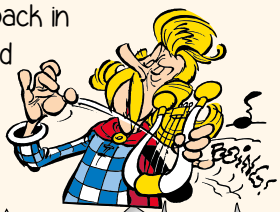


**Cétautomatix** is upset because access to his forge is blocked by menhirs. Who played this trick on him? Is it **Ordralfabétix** or **Agecanonix** with whom he often clashes? Is it **Assurancetourix** who he stopped from singing? **Cétautomatix** confides in **Astérix**: "I closed the forge at around 8 pm and then went to the banquet. When I went back at a quarter past midnight, 45 minutes after the storm had started, my forge was blocked by monoliths." Near the menhirs, **Astérix** sees footprints and small holes in the muddy ground. **Astérix** asks the suspects exactly this question: "What did you do last night?" The three Gauls have an alibi, but one of them has lied!

- 1 Analyse the images carefully, examine the statements and complete the table to identify the two clues that point to one of the suspects.
- 2 Write a short explanatory text to reveal the identity of the culprit, using the clues gathered in the table.

### Assurancetourix's alibi:

"I was at the banquet at around 8.30 pm, then I headed off into the forest to play the lyre and sing. Unfortunately, as soon as I hit my first notes at 11.30 pm, the rain started to fall. So I turned back in the downpour around half past midnight without going to the forge."



### Agecanonix's Alibi:

"I went to the banquet at around 9 pm, but I was bothered by a stomach ache. So I returned home at around 10 pm. By the time the prank was played, at midnight, I was already asleep. In any case, I didn't go near the forge."



### Ordralfabétix's alibi:

"Yesterday, I was extremely busy. My wife and I took the shop's inventory. Exhausted, I went to bed around 10 pm. As a result, I didn't leave my fishmonger's shop and couldn't get to the forge."



### Investigation table

Clues identified by Astérix	.....
Question asked by Astérix	.....
Time of the prank	.....
Assurancetourix's alibi	.....
Agecanonix's alibi	.....
Ordralphabetix's alibi	.....



### A LITTLE BACKGROUND

The Gauls were a Celtic people who excelled at craftsmanship. They were highly skilled in metallurgy and gold, iron and bronze smithing (jewellery, weapons, tools, metal sculptures, coins, etc.). They were adept in a number of areas, including stone (altars, steles, monoliths, etc.), textiles (woollen and linen garments, etc.), leather (shoes, belts, etc.) and wood (furniture, houses, fortifications, etc.). They were creative and invented polishing soap, wooden barrels and trousers (known as 'braies') among other things.



**AT PARC ASTÉRIX**

Do one of the activities below.

- A** In the form of a comic strip containing at least two panels or two sketches, draw (or sketch) your visit to Parc Astérix or depict two aspects that you enjoyed (décor, attraction, etc.).
- B** As a journalist, you will be asked to report on the wonders of Parc Astérix (variety of themes, wealth of activities, beauty of the scenery, brilliance of the attractions, etc.). Take notes and photographs. Back in class, write a 35-line text and choose photographs to illustrate the splendour of Parc Astérix.

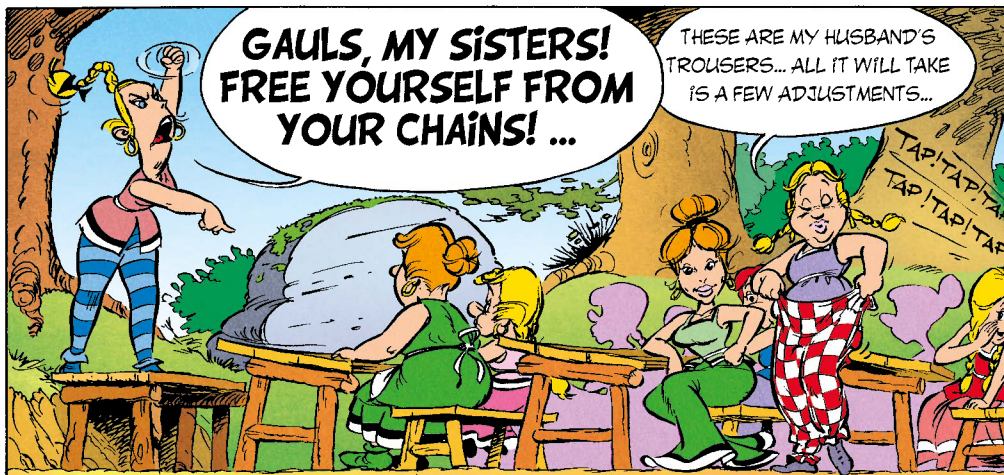


**IN COMICS**



Following the feminist speech by **Maestria** in favour of gender equality (image 1), **Bonemine** the wife of **Abraracourcix** (image 2), and Mrs **Agecanonix** the wife of **Agecanonix** (image 3), are angry with their husbands.

- 1** With a friend, write up the comic argument of one of the couples, dramatising it using stage directions (character movements, tones, non-verbal gestures, etc.). You should also think about staging your text.
- 2** Perform your production in front of your classmates.



1



2



3

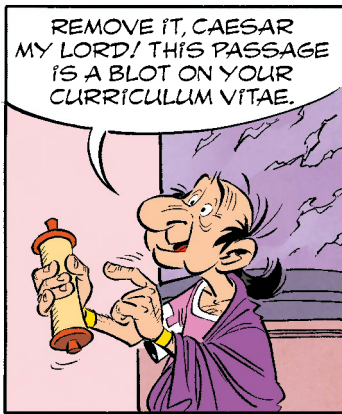
## PARC ASTÉRIX PROMOTIONAL POSTER AND EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH OBÉLIX

### SUBJECT 1

Caesar tasks **Caius Saugrenus**, the ambitious economist, with promoting Parc Astérix. **Caius Saugrenus** is counting on you to create a poster encouraging people to visit Parc Astérix.



- 1 Your poster or leaflet should contain the name 'Parc Astérix' and a catchy, salesy title. In addition, a star attraction and character must be depicted.
- 2 Present your work orally, describing it and justifying your choices.



### SUBJECT 2

**Bonus Promoplus**, the publisher of *Caesar's Commentaries on the Gallic War*, has decided to publish an interview with **Obélix**. The latter talks about his fall into the magic potion, his friendship with **Astérix**, his affection for **Falbala**, his taste for banquets, his satisfaction at beating up Romans, and his frustration at being banned from drinking magic potion.

- 1 On behalf of Bonus Promoplus, hold an exclusive, close-up interview with Obélix. This interview is either a 30-line text or a comic strip with several panels.
- 2 Present your work orally by describing or reading from it. Justify your choices.