

Before the Story:

Say: When Karen first arrived in Northern Africa, she did not understand what most people were saying. Language school has helped her to speak, write, and understand French. (Show photo.)

Share the Story:

Language School Adventures

Karen was running a little late one morning for language school. It was almost 9:00 a.m., and she was still in the taxi on her way to class. "Are we almost there?" she asked the taxi driver. "Oui, oui!" he replied. Traffic was really heavy in the city and they were going as fast as they could. Karen jumped out of the taxi and ran to class. She made it just in time! "Bonjour, Karen!" greeted her teacher. "Bonjour!" she replied. Karen sat down and took a deep breath, "I made it!" she said to herself.

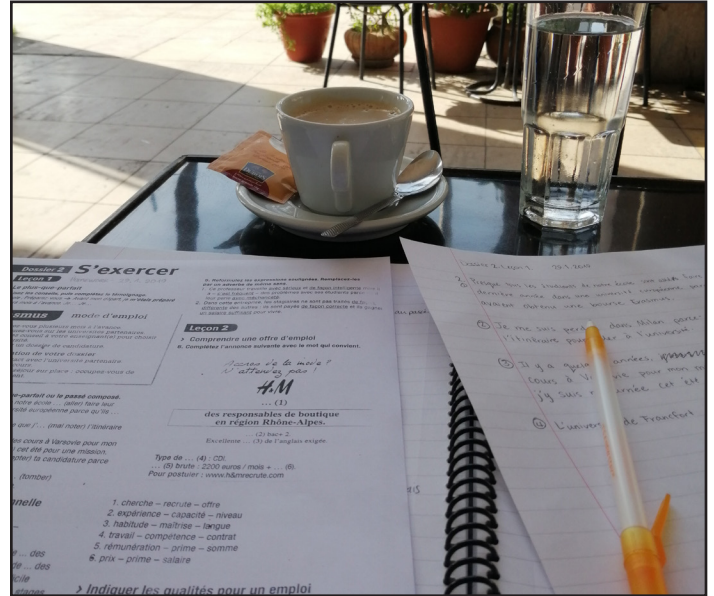
It was a long morning in language school. Karen started at 9:00 a.m. and it was 11:00 a.m. before they got a break. "I think it is time for some tea," Karen said to her friend Thomas. "Oui, yes it is! Let's go to the break room and brew some tea." Thomas replied. After a cup of tea, it was time to return to class and finish the lesson for the day.

At 12:15 p.m., it was time for a lunch break. Karen loves lunchtime because she eats with her teachers and classmates. They all gather around a table with a dish of chicken tagine [ta ZHEEN] Everyone grabs a spoon and digs in. It is a great time of laughing, eating, and speaking French. It is exciting to speak the language that the people in her church speak. It is great to walk down the streets and understand what all the signs say. Karen can communicate with people at the grocery store and at the café.

Yesterday, when she was helping at her church with a family that needed assistance with food and housing, Karen was able to speak to them in their native language of French. Karen was able to give them a food basket and direct them to a shelter for housing. Every day Karen realizes more and more that people everywhere are more alike than they are different. She knows that we all have much in common and God loves each and every one of us!

After the Story:

- Ask:** What language is Karen learning to speak?
- Say:** Karen is working hard to learn the main languages that are spoken in Northern Africa so she can help people who have moved to her country. Many of these people are poor, need food, housing, clothes, and even medical care. Speaking their language helps them feel welcome in a foreign country.
- Pray:** Thank you, God, for language school and all the people who are helping Karen learn the French language. Thank you that Karen can speak the language that her church uses.



Learning Activity:

Learn French Phrases

Link: Top 25 French Phrases

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qh2QuQhf5t8>

- Ask:** What language do we speak? Have you ever heard anyone speaking another language?
- Say:** One of the main languages people speak in Northern Africa is French. When people migrate to Northern Africa, they need to learn the French language so they can communicate.
- Say:** We are going to watch a video that will teach us some of the French phrases people need to learn. Let's listen and then see if we can say them.
- Show Top 25 French Phrases.
- Pray for all the people who need to learn a new language when they move to a new country.

Meet the Field Personnel:



Karen is a CBF field personnel appointed to pastoral ministry in Northern Africa. (Karen's last name and exact location are withheld for safety reasons.) She helps migrants and refugees find a better life and a more promising future.