

<i>900 exercises in vocational communication</i>	Notes for teachers	C3 / 31
<i>General aim</i>	C: UNDERSTAND A MESSAGE	
<i>Level of difficulty</i>	3	
<i>Intermediate aim</i>	3: APPROPRIATE A MESSAGE	
<i>Operational aim</i>	1: Structure a message from elements found and summarise it or give a short presentation.	
<i>Pre-requirements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ability to read semi-complex sentences - Ability to write a simple message of several lines. 	
<i>Number of exercises</i>	6	
<i>Summing-up exercise</i>	C3/31-1.6	
<i>Comments</i>		

Read the following text carefully:



Sir Alexander Fleming

Alexander Fleming's extraordinary discovery

Alexander Fleming was born in Scotland, on 6 August 1881. His childhood was spent with his 8 brothers and sisters on the family farm. The Fleming children loved the animals and plants around their farm.

Later, Alexander became a doctor in London and specialised in the study of germs and contagious diseases. At that time, at the beginning of the 19th century, many people still died of infectious diseases like tuberculosis, pneumonia, typhoid or syphilis.

Very quickly, Fleming made several important discoveries in the fight against diseases caused by germs. But it was in 1927 that he made his most extraordinary discovery. And quite by chance! What happened?

On his return from his holidays, Fleming noticed a curious substance, in his laboratory, on a plate contaminated by germs. It was just mould, like the mould you find on very stale bread. And Fleming noticed that this mould had destroyed the germs! He called it "penicillin" and said: "Sometimes you find things you are not looking for". He tested his discovery on animals, but without harming them, as he always cared for living creatures. Unfortunately he did not have the means to preserve the penicillin, nor to manufacture it.

It was only ten years later, with the help of two scientists, Florey and Chain, that Fleming managed to manufacture penicillin. This was in 1940. This amazing discovery saved a lot of wounded soldiers during the war.

Following on from Fleming's discovery, many other antibiotics have been produced. Penicillin is one of the most important medical discoveries. In 1945, Fleming received the Nobel Prize for medicine, which he shared with the two scientists who helped him.

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Look at the text on page 1 again, and answer the following questions.
Make full sentences, as your answers will be used again later...

1. What was Alexander Fleming's profession?

→

2. What did he discover in 1927?

→

3. What does penicillin do to germs?

→

4. Why couldn't Fleming market his discovery straight away?

→

5. Which two scientists helped Fleming make penicillin on an industrial scale?

→

6. What prize did Fleming, Florey and Chain receive and in which year?

→

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Here are the answers that you probably gave on page 2.
Compare these answers with your own.

- 1. Fleming was a doctor, specialised in the study of germs and contagious diseases.**
- 2. He discovered penicillin.**
- 3. Penicillin destroys germs.**
- 4. He could not market his discovery immediately because he did not have the necessary means to preserve penicillin or manufacture it.**
- 5. The two scientists who helped Fleming manufacture penicillin are Florey and Chain.**
- 6. He received the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1945 and he shared it with the two scientists who helped him.**

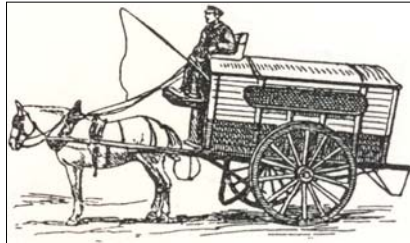
You are now going to sum up the discovery of penicillin, using the answers above as a guide. Write about fifteen lines.

SHOW YOUR WORK TO THE TEACHER

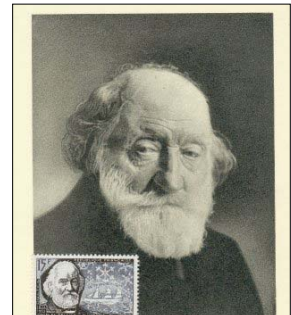
Read the following text carefully:



Ferdinand Carré



Delivery of ice in the 19th century



Charles Tellier

The inventors of cold storage

In the past, to preserve food, the inhabitants of large towns would have huge blocks of ice delivered. This ice was made and kept in the town's "ice stores". These blocks of ice were brought in wagons drawn by horses. You can imagine that the process was not very practical...

If today we can preserve food in refrigerators or freezers, it is thanks to two engineers.

First of all, Ferdinand Carré invented the first refrigerating machines, from 1857 to 1862. Then, he managed to freeze meat at -30°C in 1875. He also suggested using very low temperatures for conditioning the air in theatres and music halls!

At the same time, in 1868, Charles Tellier imagined a whole series of machines to preserve meat at low temperatures. In 1876, he equipped a ship, the "Frigorifique": for the first time he managed to transport, from France to Argentina and back, meat preserved by cold storage processes. During an official banquet on the ship, he gave passengers the preserved food to eat. But the big farming companies in France fought against Tellier's initiatives and the transport of foreign merchandise.

Charles Tellier was nicknamed "the father of cold storage". But he was also interested in:

- compressed air
- tarring roads
- the use of oxygen for medical purposes.

In spite of all his inventions, he died at the age of 85 in great poverty...

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Look at the text on page 1 again to answer the following questions.
Make complete sentences, as your answers will be used again later...

1. How did we preserve food before the invention of refrigerating machines?

→

2. Which engineer invented the first refrigerating machines?

→

3. What did he succeed in doing in 1875?

→

4. Who was the second engineer to make machines for preserving meat?

→

5. What did “The Frigorifique” transport from France to Argentina and back and in which year?

→

6. How did they prove that the meat brought back in the ship was edible?

→

7. What modern machines were Ferdinand Carré and Charles Tellier behind?

→

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

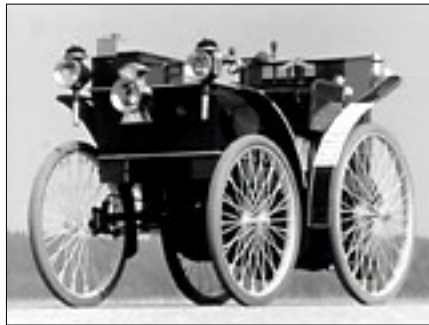
Here are the answers that you probably gave on page 2.
Compare these answers with your own.

- 1. To preserve food, people had huge blocks of ice delivered.**
- 2. The engineer who invented the first refrigerating machines was Ferdinand Carré.**
- 3. He managed to freeze meat at -30°C .**
- 4. The second engineer to make machines for preserving meat was Charles Tellier.**
- 5. “The Frigorifique” transported meat preserved using the procedures invented by Charles Tellier in 1876.**
- 6. The products brought back on the ship were eaten in an official banquet.**
- 7. They were behind modern refrigerators and freezers.**

You are now going to sum up the discovery of cold storage, using the answers above as a guide. Write about fifteen lines.

SHOW YOUR WORK TO THE TEACHER

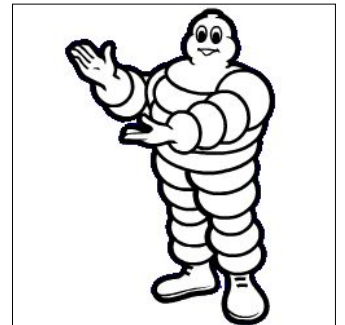
Read the following text carefully:



Car with tyres



The Michelin brothers



The Michelin Man

The Michelin brothers

The Michelin brothers were the sons of an industrialist from Clermont-Ferrand, an industrial town in the centre of France. His factory manufactured farm machinery and then rubber. The father had an idea to fix bands of rubber to light horse-drawn vehicles. At this time, wheels were still made of wood.

The year is 1833. The two sons of this industrialist do not yet work in their father's factory. Edward was studying art in Paris. André was working in the map-making department of the French Interior Ministry.

Some years later, the factory nearly had to close. The two brothers took over the management. That was when everything changed ... Edward took up his father's idea and perfected Dunlop's invention. In 1891, he imagined tyres that could be easily removed in case of a puncture. It was with these tyres that a bicycle won a 1200 km race with a lead of 8 hours!

The two brothers then manufactured tyres for horse-drawn cars and then for automobiles. But people did not believe in them until the Marseille-Nice automobile race. A steam car of 2500 kilos mounted on rubber tyres did the race at 60 kph. It was an absolute record for the time! Then, in 1931, the Michelin brothers fitted a train with their tyres. It was the "Micheline" which could travel at 107 kph.

But that was not all. In 1900, André, the ex-map-maker, created the Michelin Guide. It is still widely used today. He then proceeded to make a series of maps of France and of some foreign countries: the Michelin maps. In 1911, he had the idea of numbering roads, putting up road signs and signposts.

The Michelin brothers also created in their factory a model organisation for the welfare of the workers and their families (good quality housing, clinics, crèches, swimming pools, sports fields, a theatre, a cinema, etc.). They always had two objectives: an efficient work organisation and a better way of life for their workers.

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Look at the text on page 1 again to answer the following questions.
Make complete sentences, as your answers will be used again later ...

1. Whose sons were the Michelin brothers?

→

2. What was manufactured in their father's factory?

→

3. What idea did Edward Michelin have when he took over his father's factory?

→

4. How fast did the first automobile on tyres travel?

→

5. What did André Michelin create thanks to his first profession?

→

6. What did the Michelin brothers set up for the welfare of their workers and their families?

→

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE

Here are the answers that you probably gave on page 2.
Compare these answers with your own.

- 1. The Michelin brothers were the sons of an industrialist from Clermont-Ferrand.**
- 2. In the father's factory, they manufactured farm machinery and then rubber.**
- 3. When Edward Michelin took over his father's factory, he had the idea of tyres that could be removed easily in case of a puncture.**
- 5. The first automobile on tyres could travel at 60kph .**
- 6. Thanks to his first profession, André Michelin created road maps.**
- 7. For the welfare of the workers and their families, the Michelin brothers created a model organisation.**

You are now going to sum up the initiatives of the Michelin brothers, using the answers above as a guide.
Write about fifteen lines.

SHOW YOUR WORK TO THE TEACHER

Here is the report of someone who witnessed an accident. Read it carefully.

It was 11 o'clock in the morning. I was waiting to cross Bridge Street. An old lady was next to me, also waiting, with her little dog on a lead. She was standing on the pavement. The light had just gone red and two cars stopped. The old lady stepped off the pavement with her dog behind her.

Just then, a white van came up really fast in the bus lane. It went through the red light and drove over the old lady's **foot**. It slowed down a bit, then accelerated and **hit a parked car**. Then it disappeared down Bridge Street.

Help arrived very quickly: the fire brigade and an ambulance. The old lady could not walk on her foot. A doctor who was passing by stopped and said she had probably **fractured her foot**. She didn't want to get into the ambulance because she didn't want to leave her dog alone in the street. I took the dog with me and I wrote my name, address and phone number on a piece of paper. I live just here. The old lady thanked me profusely before getting into the ambulance. I'll look after her dog until she gets back home.

1. Sum up where the van went in 3 or 4 sentences, using the key words underlined to help you.

2. Sum up in 2 or 3 sentences the damage caused by the white van, using the key words in bold type to help you.



LOOK AT THE ANSWERS FOR C3/31-1.4
OR
SHOW YOUR WORK TO YOUR TEACHER

Here is the report of someone who witnessed an accident. Read it carefully.

It was 11 o'clock in the morning. I was waiting to cross Bridge Street. An old lady was next to me, also waiting, with her little dog on a lead. She was standing on the pavement. The light had just gone red and two cars stopped. The old lady stepped off the pavement with her dog behind her.

Just then, a white van came up really fast in the bus lane. It went through the red light and drove over the old lady's **foot**. It slowed down a bit, then accelerated and **hit a parked car**. Then it disappeared down Bridge Street.

Help arrived very quickly: the fire brigade and an ambulance. The old lady could not walk on her foot. A doctor who was passing by stopped and said she had probably **fractured her foot**. She didn't want to get into the ambulance because she didn't want to leave her dog alone in the street. I took the dog with me and I wrote my name, address and phone number on a piece of paper. I live just here. The old lady thanked me profusely before getting into the ambulance. I'll look after her dog until she gets back home.

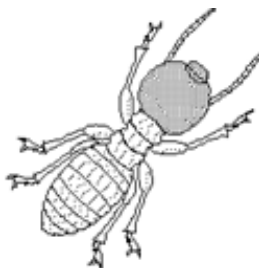
1. Sum up where the van went in 3 or 4 sentences, using the key words underlined to help you.

The van was driving in the bus lane on Bridge Street.
It went through the red light and drove over an old lady's foot.
It drove off and disappeared down Bridge Street.

2. Sum up in 2 or 3 sentences the damage caused by the white van, using the key words in bold type to help you.

The van drove over an old lady's foot, and probably fractured it.
The van then hit a parked car.





A curious event

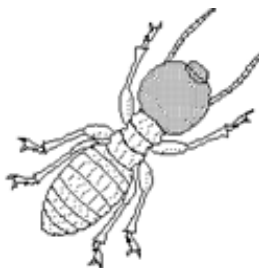
In the 19th century, something surprising and fairly dramatic happened in several towns in the north of France: an invasion of tropical termites ...

These insects were on a ship that was coming back from San Domingo. Very soon, entire streets had been attacked by these insects that nobody could see. Some houses collapsed! The termites were about to invade the whole country and eat everything that was eatable (for termites!) in their passage! Fortunately, the water in a canal stopped their progress.

Later, it was discovered that the archives and all the administrative paperwork had been reduced to confetti in each town the termites had passed through. The cause of this catastrophe was a tiny insect, only three or four millimetres long.

Sum up this text in two or three sentences.

**LOOK AT THE ANSWERS FOR C3/31-1.5
OR
SHOW YOUR WORK TO YOUR TEACHER**



A curious event

In the 19th century, something surprising and fairly dramatic happened in several towns in the north of France: an invasion of tropical termites ...

These insects were on a ship that was coming back from San Domingo. Very soon, entire streets had been attacked by these insects that nobody could see. Some houses collapsed! The termites were about to invade the whole country and eat everything that was eatable (for termites!) in their passage! Fortunately, the water in a canal stopped their progress.

Later, it was discovered that the archives and all the administrative paperwork had been reduced to confetti in each town the termites had passed through. The cause of this catastrophe was a tiny insect, only three or four millimetres long.

Sum up this text in two or three sentences.

Summary in 3 sentences:

In the nineteenth century, an invasion of termites that had come from a boat from San Domingo devastated several towns in the north of France. After destroying many houses, they attacked the archives, which they reduced to confetti. They would have invaded the whole country if the canal had not stopped their progress.

Summary in 2 sentences:

In the nineteenth century, an invasion of termites devastated several towns in the north of France, destroying the houses and reducing the archives to confetti. They would have invaded the whole country if the canal had not stopped their progress.

***A friend of yours has had an idea for elderly people.
This is what she has told you about it:***

A lot of retired people live alone and have a dog or a cat as a pet. Living with an animal helps you feel less lonely. Also, with a dog, you have to take them out regularly. It's a good opportunity to meet people, to talk a little, to exchange stories with other dog-walkers ... This short walk is sometimes used for food shopping, for example. So many older people never leave their homes and don't cook themselves hot or balanced meals!

But older people who have a pet are frightened of something happening to them which would prevent them from looking after the animal: a stay in hospital, for example, or having to go into a home ... You can also meet old people who have lost their pet and are worried about taking another one for fear of leaving it on its own one day.

Nowadays we live to be much older, and there is a huge risk of solitude. So a pet can change your life!

I've created a small "help and friendship network". It aims to help old people in this situation. In the network, there are of course old people. But there are also people who live with an animal, or who simply like animals, or who want to be of service from time to time... This is a private initiative on a very small scale. Once a month I organise small meetings that I prefer to call "tea parties" since they take place at about 4pm. Everyone brings a box of biscuits, or makes a cake... The aim is also for people to meet. Then they see each other again to go for a walk, or help each other if necessary.

Our first "tea party" was on 17 November. Six people came, two of them with their dogs. The second was on 18 December. Seven people came, three of them with their dogs. The next one will be in January.

Your friend has prepared a little poster with a photo at the top and her contact details at the bottom. She asks you to help her write a text to sum up her idea and invite people to the next "tea party", on 20 January. Write this text on the next page, under the photo.

THE EXERCISE CONTINUES ON THE NEXT PAGE



My name is Mrs Jean Dyer and I live at 15, Park Road in Pontefract. I am a retired teacher, I have a cat and two dogs and I help at a refuge in the area by collecting old blankets, leads, collars, toys, and so on.

*For information about our little network, you can phone me on
Home: 72 04 21 04 46 Mobile: 21 60 13 39 86*

**LOOK AT THE ANSWERS FOR C3/31-1.6
OR
SHOW YOUR WORK TO YOUR TEACHER**



Dear animal lovers,

I recently created a small “help and friendship network”, for our neighbourhood, to bring together retired people who live alone with their pets.

Once a month we will get together at my flat, just to get to know each other, to have tea and to see how we might help each other if necessary.

Our first “tea party” was on 17 November and six people came, two of them with their dogs. The second was on 18 December and 7 people came, three of them with their dogs. The next “tea party” will be on 20 January at 4pm in my flat.

My name is Mrs Jean Dyer and I live at 15, Park Road in Pontefract. I am a retired teacher, I have a cat and two dogs and I help at a refuge in the area by collecting old blankets, leads, collars, toys, and so on.

***For information about our little network, you can phone me on
Home: 72 04 21 04 46 Mobile: 21 60 14 39 86***