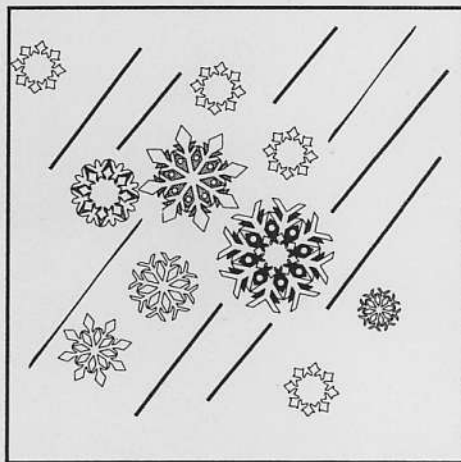
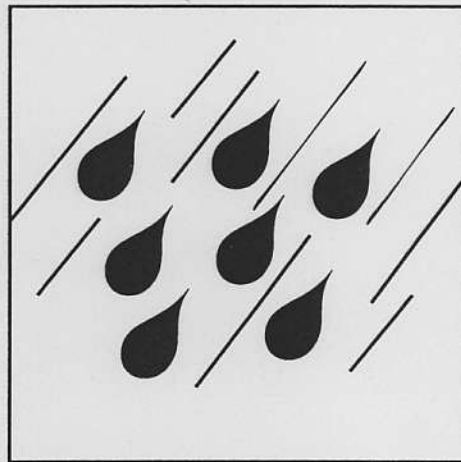


ORAL FRENCH EXAM: SHORT ANSWER

Figure 3.8, provided by Sandra Howard of Marin Catholic High School in Kentfield, CA, is a good example of a short, easy-to-grade oral exam with visual cues, to test activities in the passé composé tense and weather in the imparfait.

FIGURE 3.8 DISCOVERING FRENCH ROUGE UNITÉ 3 EXAMEN ORAL

Why *didn't* these people do the following things?



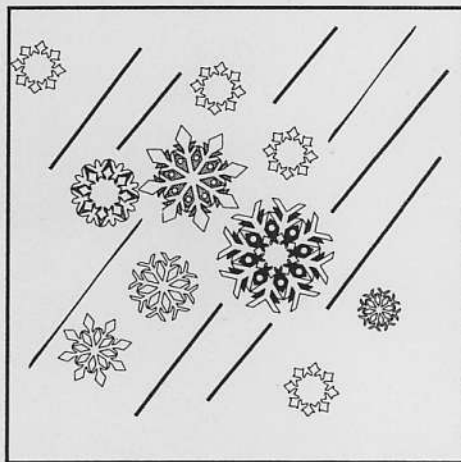
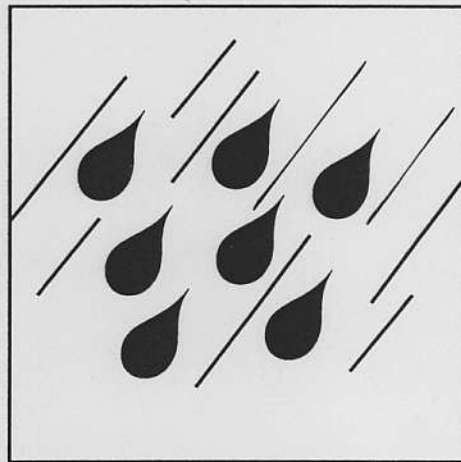
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Each "testee" is allowed to look at his story for up to two minutes before beginning to talk. The second student gets story #2 and is looking at it while the first student talks. When the first student finishes, he sets down story #1, goes to get the third student who picks up story #1 and looks at it while the second student is talking, and so forth.

I do half the class one day and half the class the next day, with very little disruption of my classroom. I use a different tape for each period, so after school I grade an entire class on one tape.

Figure 3.7 is a copy of the rubric Susan uses to evaluate these performances, and which she shares with the students before the evaluation.

FIGURE 3.7 ORAL RUBRIC

| <i>Comprehensibility</i> | <i>Vocabulary</i> | <i>Correctness of language</i> | <i>Risk-taking, signs of improvement</i> |
|--|---|---|---|
| <p>5</p> <p>Story was easy to understand. It was a complete story, with a beginning, middle, and end.</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Lots of detail. A wide variety of vocabulary words (more than just from current lesson.)</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Good pronunciation. Almost no grammar mistakes. Language flowed smoothly.</p> | <p>5</p> <p>Story was creative, told with expression. You used transition words, inserted colorful comments. You found a way to communicate entirely in French.</p> |
| <p>3</p> <p>Story was fairly easy to follow, but there were a few rough spots (hesitation or groping for words.)</p> | <p>3</p> <p>You used the vocabulary necessary to tell the story. The basic vocabulary was used correctly.</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Mostly correct, but you had some difficulty with pronunciation or grammar.</p> | <p>3</p> <p>Some vocal expression and creativity. The story was told correctly some elaboration.</p> |
| <p>1</p> <p>Story was difficult to follow. Speech was very choppy.</p> | <p>1</p> <p>The story lacked needed words or misused words.</p> | <p>1</p> <p>Little attempt made to pronounce correctly. Significant errors in usage or grammar.</p> | <p>1</p> <p>Monotone. You resorted to English. You only did the minimum to get by.</p> |

Contributed by Susan Gross

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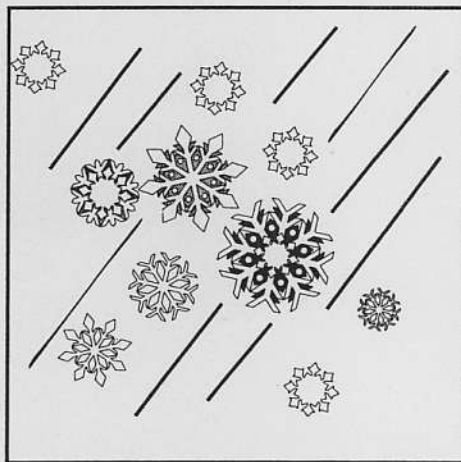
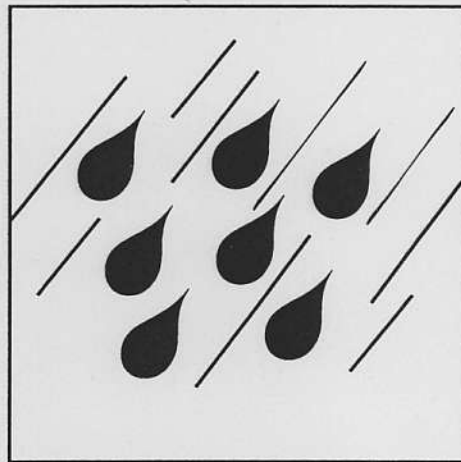
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