**Oral Comprehension:**

Hello, I’m Charlotte, the English teaching assistant at Lycée Maurice Ravel. I’m 20 years old and I study French and History at Durham University, in the north of England. So it is because I study French that I am here in France this year, as I have to spend my third year of studies in a French-speaking country, to try and improve my oral skills. And obviously whilst I’m here I’ll try and help you, the students, with your English oral comprehension!

I live in a tiny village in the South-East of England, in the county of Kent. My village is called Nonington and is situated in between the two well-known cities of Canterbury and Dover. Canterbury is famous for its cathedral – where the Archbishop of Canterbury, the leader of the Church of England, head of the religion of Christianity, resides. And Dover is known for its port. The Port of Dover is the world’s busiest passenger port and this is where you would take a ferry, a big boat, to cross from England to Calais in France.

Despite my village being extremely small, it does have a primary school, which is where I went to school from the age of 5 to 11. It was a very small school though with only 70 pupils in the whole school and only 6 of us in my year! In Reception year there were 6 of us in my year – 3 girls and 3 boys – and by the time of my final year at Primary School, Year 6, our 6 person year group had developed into being 5 boys and just me as the only girl!

I then went to Secondary School in a nearby town called Sandwich (this town’s name is often very amusing to people). I studied the typical subjects taught in British schools, such as Maths, English, the Sciences, History, Geography etc. and I also learnt both French and Spanish. Following this, as I’ve previously mentioned, I became a student at Durham University. I’ve completed two years of study there already and next September I will return to do my fourth and final year of my degree.

In my free time, what I love doing most is playing sport. I have two main sports that I play and these are both fairly British sports: in summer I play cricket, and in winter I play hockey. I’ve played hockey since I was 9 years old and cricket since I was 10. I play both sports at my University and I also play cricket for Kent women, so, for the senior women’s team of my county, my region.

I love travelling and I’ve been very lucky to be able to visit many places through my sports, by going to different countries on sports tours. For example, I have been to South Africa, Abu Dhabi, The Netherlands and travelled all over Britain playing cricket and hockey.

Each year my family – my parents, my older brother Ben, and myself – we try to go on holiday somewhere. I would have to say that my favourite holiday was when we went to Australia for three weeks a few years ago. We were there for both Christmas and New Year’s, but it was the middle of their summer at this time so it was ridiculously hot! It was a very different experience compared to a British winter but I loved every minute of it and am hoping to return to Australia in the near future. We’ve also spent holidays in many European countries – France, Spain, Portugal, Holland, Italy and Greece, and when I was very little, when I was just 3 years old, I went to the Philippines. This is actually the country that my mum is from so I have lots of relatives there and that is definitely another country that I will try to visit again as soon as possible.

I’m not too sure what I’d like to do in the future, in terms of work. Journalism and the media in general interest me a lot, so I could envisage myself doing something related to this, particularly if it was linked to reporting on sport – that would be something I’d love to do! Anyway, we’ll just have to wait and see. For the time being, I’m very happy where I am in France this year and will be sure to make the most of the rest of my time abroad. Thanks for listening!