



PODCAST TRANSCRIPT

Episode 68:

Title: Christmas in 1022

Duration: 17:14

How to use this transcript:

1. Print this transcript:

We try to reduce our paper consumption, but we really recommend that you print out this document.

2. Write on it and take notes:

Circle, highlight and note anything that you want. We have even provided space for you to do so!

3. Listen first **without** the transcript:

Don't worry about understanding every single word. Just focus on training your ears to the sound of English.

4. Listen again **with** the transcript:

Listen a second time with the transcript, pausing whenever you want to

00:00	<p>Welcome to <i>The Déclic Anglais Podcast</i>, THE podcast for motivated learners of English. If you would like to improve your listening comprehension skills, you have come to the right place. This podcast is like a steppingstone (<i>un tremplin</i>) that will help you understand more advanced materials in English. There is a transcript (<i>une transcription</i>) available for this and every episode of this podcast. You can download the transcript in the description of this episode, or go to www.declicanglais.com/podcast.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
01:03	<p>AH Christmas! It's almost here. Love it or hate it, you can't avoid Christmas. I am not ashamed to say that I love Christmas. But the entire Christmas holiday, or Christmas period, has different meanings to different people. Christmas can vary enormously from country to country, from region to region, and even from family to family.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
01:41	<p>Christmas is many things for many people. The festive season (<i>la période des fêtes</i>) is a time of feasting (<i>des festins</i>): food, food and more food. For some people it's all about the decorations, the lights, the Christmas tree. Father Christmas bringing presents to all the good children. Oh yes, the presents - a large part of it is also about the presents, especially in the West. On average, we spend hundreds, maybe even thousands of euros on presents for friends and family. Without a doubt, consumerism plays a role in modern Christmas.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

02:42	<p>So, maybe you saw the title of this episode and thought:</p> <p><i>“Noël en 1022 ? N’importe quoi !... Tom a sûrement fait une faute de frappe. Il voulait écrire 2022.”</i></p> <p>Ah-hah, no dear listeners, I am indeed talking about the year 1022, one thousand years ago. Because Christmas is now a very old tradition, thousands of years old. And in that time, Christmas has changed enormously. It wasn’t always about presents and lights and Father Christmas. What was Christmas like one thousand years ago? What did Christmas look like for our ancestors who lived in the year 1022?</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
03:51	<p>So, in this episode, I would like to invite you on a journey, a journey back in time, one thousand years to England in the Middle Ages (<i>le Moyen Âge</i>). So please, come into my imaginary time machine (<i>ma machine à voyager dans le temps</i>). Welcome aboard! Make yourself comfortable. Now, let’s imagine I enter the date into the imaginary control panel (<i>tableau de bord</i>): December 1st, 1022 into the machine, and now, the destination: England... **time machine noise** Off we go, into the past! **time machine noise**. Back, back, back we go through time. Through the two World Wars, through the time of Napoleon, the Revolution, Louis XVI. Finally, here we are in December 1022. Alright, dear listeners let’s open the door, and take a look outside.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

05:27	<p>Ah, the world outside our time machine is very different to the modern world. The modern United Kingdom does not yet exist. The island of Great Britain contains many independent kingdoms like England, Scotland and the Celtic kingdoms of Wales. And these countries are constantly at war (<i>en guerre</i>). Political stability is non-existent.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
06:04	<p>Ok, let's take a step outside the time machine and take a look around. The obvious points first: no vehicles! No cars and buses, no planes in the sky. And of course, there's no electricity. So, you can forget about your Christmas lights! They have candles (<i>des bougies</i>), but candles are actually very expensive in the year 1022. And people do not have much disposable income (<i>revenu disponible</i>). During the Middle Ages people don't stay up until 11 PM in the winter. Oh no, they can't afford to burn all those candles! (<i>Ils ne peuvent pas se permettre de brûler toutes ces bougies</i>). So, when the sun goes down and it gets dark in the evenings, people go to bed.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
07:24	<p>The people sound different, too. 1022 is still in the Anglo-Saxon period of English history, before the Norman invasion in 1066. And so the English spoken at this time sounds totally different to today.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

07:47	<p>But, what about the Christmas stuff? Well, sorry to disappoint you, dear listeners, but on the 1st December 1022, things are very boring. There are no Christmas parties, there are no Christmas foods like cakes and sweets, no Christmas markets. And there are certainly no Christmas feasts (<i>des festins</i>). Why?</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
08:26	<p>Well, actually, Advent (<i>la période de l'Avent</i>), was a time of fasting (<i>le jeûne</i>) during the Middle Ages. No parties, no celebrations, and no luxurious pleasures like cakes and chocolate (indeed, there was no chocolate in Europe one thousand years ago). People in 1022 are very religious compared to 2022. Christmas literally means "the mass of Christ" (<i>la messe du Christ</i>). The primary focus of Christmas in 1022 is the birth of Jesus Christ. So, advent in 1022 is much like Lent (<i>le carême</i>), the period of fasting that comes before Easter.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
09:32	<p>Alright, so from the 1st December to Christmas Eve (<i>la veille de Noël</i>), nothing much happens. But what about the morning of Christmas Day, the 25th December? Do people wake up to presents under the Christmas tree? I'm afraid not, no. Again, sorry to disappoint. Christmas trees will not appear in the British Isles for another eight hundred years.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

<p>10:09</p>	<p>On Christmas morning in 1022, people go to church. Like I said, people are far more religious in 1022 than in 2022. So, in the morning before dawn (<i>l'aube</i>), they go to mass (<i>à la messe</i>). This mass marked the end of Advent, and the start of Christmas. After this, everyone, finally would party! **applause** And not just for one day, but for twelve days! The twelve days of Christmas! In the Middle Ages, the Christmas celebrations run for twelve days. Feasting, drinking, partying, games, and fun!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>11:23</p>	<p>Now the exact nature of partying and feasting depends on your social status and how much money you have. But if you are a rich nobleman, an aristocrat, you are expected to eat and drink until you can barely walk (<i>jusqu'à ce que vous puissiez à peine marcher</i>). In the year 1226, King Henry III of England ordered 40 salmon, venison (<i>le chevreuil</i>), boar (<i>du sanglier</i>). And that was just to begin! The richest people here in 1022 also eat peacock (<i>le paon</i>), it is quite a delicacy.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
<p>12:27</p>	<p>Now, the wealthy lords and ladies are expected to be charitable during the festive season. So, the commoners (<i>les roturiers</i>), the peasants usually have some free time to celebrate Christmas. And some wealthy lords and ladies may even invite some common folk to come and join a feast.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

12:59	<p>What do you drink during all of these festivities? Well, once again it depends on your level of personal wealth (<i>votre richesse personnelle</i>). If you are a poor commoner (much like me!) you will be drinking ale, or beer. And also wassail, which is a hot drink made of cider and various spices, much like mulled wine (<i>du vin chaud</i>). And talking of wine, the richest members of society will be drinking wine. They will be drinking casks of wine (<i>des fûts de vin</i>), cask after cask of wine.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
13:52	<p>Now, even in 2022, everybody loves to have fun and play games. Well, people in 1022 are no different, and they especially love some fun and games around Christmas time. A tradition called mumming was a popular activity through the Middle Ages. When someone goes mumming, they dress up (<i>Ils se déguisent</i>), and then go house to house. They sing special songs, and tell jokes.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
14:35	<p>Role reversal (<i>l'inversion des rôles</i>) is also a fun activity at Christmas in 1022. Here you will find servants exchanging places with their lords and ladies. So for one evening, the servants live like nobles and can order their masters to bring them wine and food. You can also find men dressed as women; women dressed as men. And children can also ask their parents to do embarrassing tasks like singing a silly song.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

15:20	<p>So, there you have it, dear listeners. Christmas one thousand years ago in the Middle Ages was very different. Most people didn't have much in the way of material possessions, but it seems that this didn't stop them from having a really good time at Christmas. The people of 1022 deprived themselves of luxury and certain comforts for one month before Christmas, before finally going crazy for an entire twelve days!</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>
16:05	<p>Now, dear listeners. I'm afraid that I must get back into the time machine and return to the present day. I have podcasts to write and students to teach! If you would like to do some online exercises relating to this episode, join the Déclic Anglais Club. This is our online learning platform where you can practice all areas of your English. Just go to www.declicananglais.com for more information.</p> <p>Enjoy the festive season, everyone. Eat, drink, and be merry! Bye for now.</p> <p><i>(Ecrivez vos notes ici).</i></p>

How did it go?

Take a moment to revisit the notes that you took.

List here 3 words or expressions (minimum) that you would like to remember from this podcast. We recommend that you consult a free, online dictionary like www.wordreference.com to ensure that you have the correct definition and context.

WORDS/EXPRESSIONS THAT I WANT TO REMEMBER:

1.

2.

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