

Module Traduction | Thème N°2 | Proposition de traduction

It was gone 10 o'clock when César and Sylvain came back. At that moment [By then / By that point] there was only Mr. Henry left in the Café who was **absorbed in / immersed in** a particularly interesting conversation with Lourges. The customs officer, one little glass after another, had made his partner tipsy. And the latter, for the sake of business, willingly went along with him. And while Mr. Henry was talking about his ambitions and plans for the future, Lourges, on the other hand, asked him questions about Germaine, with some shrewdly chosen sentences which, little by little, **enabled/allowed** him to clear up the obscure details. Lourges was interested in Germaine. She was the kind of woman that he liked – young, plump and sturdy. She had beautiful sparkling eyes, which for a connoisseur were **the sign of / the mark of** a sensual and lively woman. She looked honest. And that, in these circles, made her even more attractive. Finally, Lourges thought he had detected that she was not altogether indifferent to him. By means of few insidious questions, he managed to find out that she used to rent a room at Mrs Jeanne's, that she had got married and that she was said to be a responsible woman. She had a husband who earned a lot of money and whom she seemed to love. All these obstacles served only to rouse Lourges even more.

When César and Sylvain entered the café, Lourges barely paid attention to these newcomers who went straight to the kitchen, as usual. He regretted it afterwards, indeed, Mr. Henri added :

“Well, did you see him? That's her husband”.

Lourges quickly turned round, but it was too late; Sylvain had already left.