

Hello!

Yay for days off! Roughly every 6 weeks, the schools in France get 2 weeks off so I spent my 'vacation' working in the Provence region of the south of France. We distributed invitations to our several events and also



performed some dramas in some of the public squares in the villages. I overcame my nearly 10-year-old fear of mime make-up (stemming from an unfortunate incident in college where gnats stuck to my white face on a warm autumn day) to perform skits with my teammates. Celeste and I also got an opportunity to share line dancing with the world in two international nights showcasing our talent in kicking up our heels.

My favorite part of the trip wasn't the destination, but the journey. I got to drive the whole way down and back (I LOVE to drive and I get sick if I ride)! The journey took us through some lower mountains, reminiscent of "my" Virginia mountains. One of my teammates happens to be a "mountain snob" and claims that it's only a mountain if it has snow at the top. She was disappointed that she didn't see any mountains though she saw some lovely hills.

On a whim, on the way back to Paris from the South, I took a few of my teammates to Switzerland because we'd never been and we wanted to color in



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another country on the map. I can now say that I've been in Geneva, Switzerland for a grand total of 2 hours. Though it was dark when we got there, we did get to see some "real" mountains on the way there.

Classes continue to go on. During the last French class, we reviewed all the vowels and tried to identify them in words. I would say a word and then break it down into syllables and they would have to identify the vowels. I'll use the word 'moto' (motorcycle) as an example. In the word 'moto', there are the syllables 'mo' and 'to' and the vowels are 'o' ('o' as in 'hope') in both syllables. It may sound like a simple concept but it's completely new to them.

Yays!

- I got accepted to do the CELTA (Cambridge English Teaching) program in January so I'll be leaving OM in January to do a one month intensive training program to learn how to teach English as a second language with the hope of getting a job teaching English.
- I got to see mountains.
- Yay for a GPS while driving!
- Things with David are looking up. He didn't even freak out when I flipped out because he didn't know who Oprah was.

Needs:

- Wisdom in ironing out details for the big transition.
- Wisdom for the team as the team will be going through transitions in January with me leaving and another girl coming.

In His hands,

Lisa