

Brief synopsis of the book.

Juliette Noël is a beautiful typist/ secretary who works for a newspaper in wartime Lyons after moving from Paris. She lives with her aunt Aline and her aunt's adopted son José. Juliette is a resistance worker, a courier. We follow her during the very cold Christmas period as she finds possible safe houses in the countryside, catches a bus and then a train to Lyons. She is carrying secret documents and money. Her contact, Dr Arnold, sends her to Avignon to meet Célestin to warn of six forthcoming arrests. She and Célestin spend Christmas day wandering through the beautiful city and pretend to be lovers, reading lovers' graffiti on walls. Celestin is called away and Juliette is to return via Valence where she is to meet someone and on home to Lyons which she dislikes but now knows very well. After a short time with her family she goes to a house but is warned off as the Germans are searching it and takes refuge in Dominique's house. The doctor is to expect Celestin from Avignon and Juliette is to meet him at the station. She takes Célestin to a hotel room where he reads a message Juliette gives him which he then burns. As she leaves the hotel, she realises she is being followed. Two men stop her and want to know when she will meet her "lover" Celestin again. No such meeting has been arranged but she pretends it's near the Opéra. She finally manages to escape by diving into a "traboule", but is now compromised. She warns the doctor that Celestin is in danger and goes to the doctor's. Arrangements are made for Célestin to leave the country, for Juliette to stay in the countryside and Aunt Aline and José to be kept safe. Celestin and Juliette say good bye but clearly have feelings for each other.

This novella, written and secretly published during the war, gives us an insight into Juliette's hopes and dreams, the courage of resistance workers, the privations and difficulties for the civilian population during the Nazi occupation, both at home and when travelling. We also have a very contrasting view of "dingy" Lyons and "free" Avignon.

	Description of activity and suggested uses	Skills covered
Activity 1	<p>A cloze exercise</p> <p>A cloze exercise 10 words from a review of the novel have been removed. The students are required to find those 10 words from a list of 15 words which they have been given and to replace them in the correct location in the text</p>	<p>Students need some knowledge of the book to understand the review.</p> <p>Reading skills. They need to make sense of what has been written</p> <p>Grammatical skills – Although this is not a deliberate test of grammar but of content, students need to understand the grammar of the language as this will help them evaluate whether their choices are correct.</p>

Les Amants D'Avignon

Activity 2	<p>Students are asked to translate a French review of “Les Amants d’Avignon” into correct English.</p> <p>One possible version is given but teacher or pair input will be needed to evaluate both the correctness and the appropriateness of the translation.</p>	<p>Translation from French into correct English.</p> <p>reading and understanding.</p>
Activity 3	<p>Compare and contrast two reviews of “Les amants d’Avignon”</p> <p>Students are asked to state which of two reviews they prefer and then to write their own review, perhaps making use of information or ideas from the reviews they have read.</p> <p>Teacher/ pair input will be required to correct the review.</p>	<p>Reading and understanding Analytical skills.</p> <p>Writing skills in French Writing clear, concise passages in correct French</p> <p>Self-evaluation and self-correction. This exercise can be both an individual task or can be completed by pairs or groups. The students’ reviews can form the basis of class discussions.</p>