



1. What kind of document is this? Give details about the source.

2. Read the first paragraph and find these words in the text:

- une mauvaise réputation =
- au début =
- défaite =
- caractéristique (adj.) =
- à la suite de =
- enclin à =
- apparaître (fig.) =
- foirer, échouer =

3. Now read the first paragraph again and answer the questions below.

- What nationality is the author of the article? How do you know?
- What are Freedom Fries?
- "...in Canada, Vietnam and Algeria": what does the author refer to here?
- Explain the following sentence: "...the French did just this in 1940".

4. Now read the next three paragraphs and put the verbs in the right form.

The French get a bad rap in our military history books. Especially in the wake of anti-French sentiment in America during the early stages of the war on Iraq (remember Freedom Fries?), Americans are more apt to remember Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo than his success at Giza. France comes off, to many, as a country whose signature military move is to go belly over—in Canada, in Vietnam, in Algeria...everywhere. The major mistake of American popular opinion is that the French did just this in 1940, and laid down their guns in surrender to Nazi Germany. **This is where Leonard Cohen comes in.**

At the (urge) of General Charles De Gaulle's broadcast on BBC radio, thousands of French men and women (take) to the hills, and heroically (defy) the Nazi occupation in the north and the puppet government that (institute) at Vichy. By the time the allies (land) at Normandy, the French Resistance (organize) an irregular fighting force of over 100,000. Throughout the occupation, the Resistance (seek) to (weaken) the holds of Nazi Germany and the collaborationist Vichy government by (sabotage) railways, (assassinate) Nazi leaders, and (gather) and (communicate) military intelligence to England. It (be) dangerous work—the average life expectancy of a *pianiste*, or espionage radio operator, (be) six months.

Their struggle against the (occupy) forces historically (record) in two (survive) historical songs: "Le chant des partisans" and "La complainte du partisan." Cohen (hear) the latter on Canadian BBC radio – although in translation. The original (write) during the occupation by an FFF (*Free French Forces*) soldier named Emmanuel D'Astier de la Vigerie, and (put) to music by the singer Anna Marly. It then (translate) into English by Hy Zaret – then famous for (write) the Righteous Brothers' "Unchained Melody." Cohen then (record) the song for 1969's *Songs From a Room*. <http://consequenceofsound.net/2009/01/rock-history-101-leonard-cohen-the-partisan/>

5. Now listen to the song again and read the lyrics. Answer the questions:

- a- Who "poured across the border"?
- b- Who "was cautioned to surrender"?
- c- What did he choose to do?
- d- Why has he often "changed names"?
- e- Why has he "lost wife and children"?
- f- Why does he "have many friends"?
- g- Why did the old woman die "without a whisper"?
- h- Why is the man "the only one this evening"?
- i- What is the metaphor for the "wind is blowing"?