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| 1  5  10  15  20  25 | **Chapitre 1**  **Au bout du voyage**    28 juin 1642. Le château fort de **Tarascon** domine le Rhône dont **les flots** sont grossis par les dernières pluies du printemps. Au premier étage de la forteresse, dans une pièce aux murs décorés de tapisseries, deux lits ont été installés côte à côte. Deux hommes malades y reposent. Ils sont les plus puissants personnages du royaume de France : Louis XIII, le souverain, âgé de quarante et un ans, et le duc Armand de Richelieu, cinquante-six ans, **cardinal** et premier ministre.  « Eh oui, mon cher et fidèle Richelieu, nous voici, je le crains, au bout de notre voyage sur cette terre. Il est vrai que j'ai déjà échappé de peu à la mort. C'était à Lyon en septembre 1630. La fièvre me faisait **délirer** et je souffrais de ces affreuses douleurs de ventre qui ne m'ont pas quitté depuis mes vingt ans. Les médecins ont percé sept fois mon bras droit pour des **saignées** qui n'ont fait que m'épuiser, sans me guérir. Je suis allé aux toilettes quarante fois en une journée. J'étais si faible que j'ai bien cru mourir. »  Richelieu tourne vers le roi son mince visage dont les yeux restent **vifs**.  « Ce fut pour moi une grande inquiétude, Majesté. D'abord parce que je vous étais attaché ; ensuite parce que mes ennemis n'attendaient que votre mort pour me faire arrêter et exécuter. Il y avait contre moi votre frère Gaston, qui attendait votre **trépas** pour prendre votre place et n'a cessé de comploter contre vous. Il y avait Marie de Médicis votre mère, la reine Anne d'Autriche votre épouse et la plupart des grands seigneurs opposés à mes efforts pour **restaurer** le pouvoir du roi et la puissance de l'État. »    . | **Tarascon**: ville située au bord du Rhône, proche d'Arles  **les flots** : les eaux  **cardinal** : chef de l'Église catholique, électeur et conseiller du pape.  **délirer** : confondre la réalité et l'imaginaire à cause d'une forte fièvre  **une saignée** :  traitement qui consistait, dans  la médecine ancienne, à retirer du sang au malade à l'aide d'une grosse aiguille  **vif** :  faire des gestes dans tous les sens  **trépas :**  faire des gestes dans tous les sens  **restaurer :**  rétablir |

1 / À quel siècle se déroule ce récit ?

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2 / Quels sont les deux personnages historiques présentés ?

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3 / Quel est leur âge quand débute ce récit ?

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4 / Cite deux adjectifs qualificatifs qui caractérisent les deux personnages dans le premier chapitre.

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5 / Relis de la ligne 9 à la ligne 27. Quels sont les deux personnages qui parlent ?

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6 / Quel est le sujet de leur dialogue ?

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| 🞏 le mariage | 🞏 la naissance | 🞏 la mort | 🞏 l'enfance |

7 / Qui dit la première réplique ? Qui dit la seconde ?

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| Première réplique : | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Seconde réplique : | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |

8 / Recopie la phrase qui n'est prononcée par aucun des deux personnages.

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9 / À quoi sert ce dialogue ? (Plusieurs réponses sont possibles.)

🞏 À expliquer pourquoi les deux personnages vont se parler.

🞏 À évoquer la grande épidémie de fièvre de Lyon en 1630.

🞏 À montrer les liens d'amitié qui unissent les deux hommes.

🞏 À décrire le travail des médecins de cette époque.

🞏 À découvrir les ennemis du pouvoir du roi et de la puissance de l'État.