

## Worksheet 1

# Mimi's Gift

## *Expand your vocabulary*

This story is set in an exotic place - Paris. It also uses some unusual words, including several that have come to us from other languages.

**Task 1:** Can you explain the meaning of the following words:

- |                   |                     |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. accessories    | 11. equivalent      |
| 2. accustomed     | 12. frumpy          |
| 3. boulevards     | 13. icons           |
| 4. bravo          | 14. mannequins      |
| 5. cherie         | 15. mode            |
| 6. conciliatory   | 16. non-committally |
| 7. croissants     | 17. perceptible     |
| 8. dilemma        | 18. plaintively     |
| 9. distinguishing | 19. severity        |
| 10. distraught    | 20. siestas         |

**Task 2:** The author uses a number of metaphors in her story – words or phrases that express an idea in a way that is not literally true – but where the image strongly “expresses” the feeling. What do these metaphors mean?

1. The traffic **honked at her**.
2. Her adventure was becoming a **nightmare**.
3. Gulping back the tears and fighting off the desire to touch the beautiful clothes on her new **guardian angel**, Rose blurted out her story.
4. They were passing shop windows where mannequins **flaunted** the latest line in Paris mode.
5. **Fighting** past the luggage of departing guests, they moved to the hotel's lounge.
6. They had never been **enemies**, but there was a certain **coolness** between them.
7. They talked and laughed. **The ice had been broken**.
8. When at last the three of them found themselves high above the **city of light**, all **their spirits soared**.