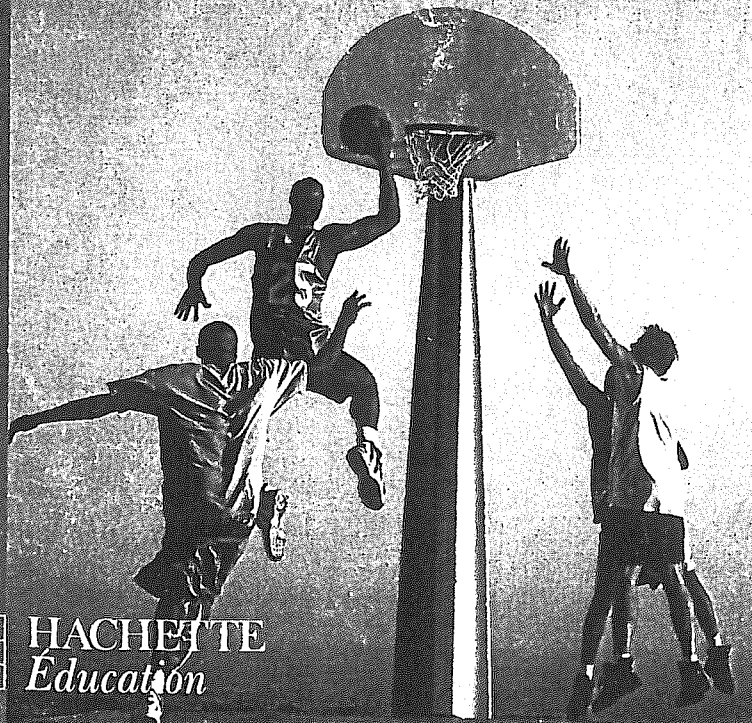


PREMIÈRE SÉRIES TECHNOLOGIQUES



IMPACT

Anglais



HACHETTE
Éducation

Mind Control

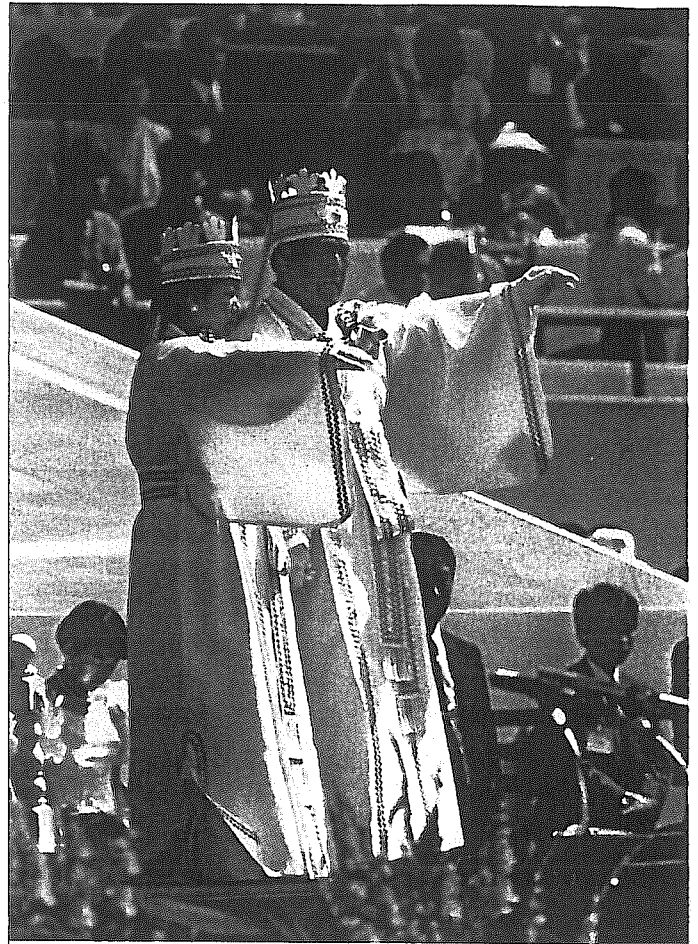
1 What Is a Cult?

A cult is a group or movement that uses mind control and devious recruiting techniques to manipulate its followers. Through calculated methods of persuasion, cults brainwash the people they have recruited into doing what the cult leader tells them to do. The goal of these manipulators is the acquisition of power or money, or both. Their victims risk mental slavery.

Everybody should be aware of a few misconceptions about cults:

- “Cults are easy to spot; members wear strange clothes and live in communes.” Some do, but most recruiters dress, talk and act normally: cult leaders don’t want people to know that they are being recruited into a cult.
- “Cults are full of weak, emotionally unstable people.” Not true. Many cult members are very intelligent, attractive and skilled. All sorts of people are involved in cults.
- “Cults are just religious fanatics.” Not necessarily true. A religious system is often used, but it is the manipulating techniques that make a cult.

1. Pick out the words with negative connotations in paragraph 1.
2. Find equivalents for these words in the rest of the text: *repérer – communautés – s’habillent – faibles – qualifiés – impliqués.*
3. Why is it important to know about the common misconceptions about cults?



Gemma/K. Kurita

POD LECTURE



Fanatics Are Nothing New

Read the statements below. Then listen to the recording and say whether they are true or false. Justify or correct when necessary.

1. The Puritans came to America in the 17th century.
2. The Puritans were persecuted.
3. They were coming from Holland.
4. The Pilgrim Fathers were Puritans.
5. Their rules were very strict.
6. Card playing was banned.
7. They enjoyed theatre plays.
8. They accused many women of being witches.
9. Salem is in New England.
10. Women who were considered witches were hanged.

2 Mind Control Techniques

In Britain alone, it is estimated that there are 500 active cult movements today, and the number may be 3,000 for the US. Cults brainwash people. Their techniques include:

- using hypnosis, disguised as relaxation or meditation;
- giving love and using peer pressure to suppress resistance;
- communicating subliminal messages in long, complicated lectures;
- removing clocks and watches to suppress a sense of time,
- encouraging child-like obedience;
- depriving people of sleep to lower resistance;
- using abusive language to increase vulnerability;
- making people go without eating or follow special diets, to deprive them of necessary nutrients;
- enforcing dress codes to remove individuality;
- singing repetitive chants for persuasion;
- using confession to destroy ego and reinforce the need for "salvation;"
- making members donate money to increase dependence,
- promoting acceptance of cult authority;
- isolating people from families, friends and society;
- arranging cult marriages and "families."

1. Find synonyms for the following in the document:

friends or colleagues – present but invisible or inaudible –

bad words – nourishing ingredients in a food – make stronger

2. Use information from the document and these adjectives to complete the sentences below:

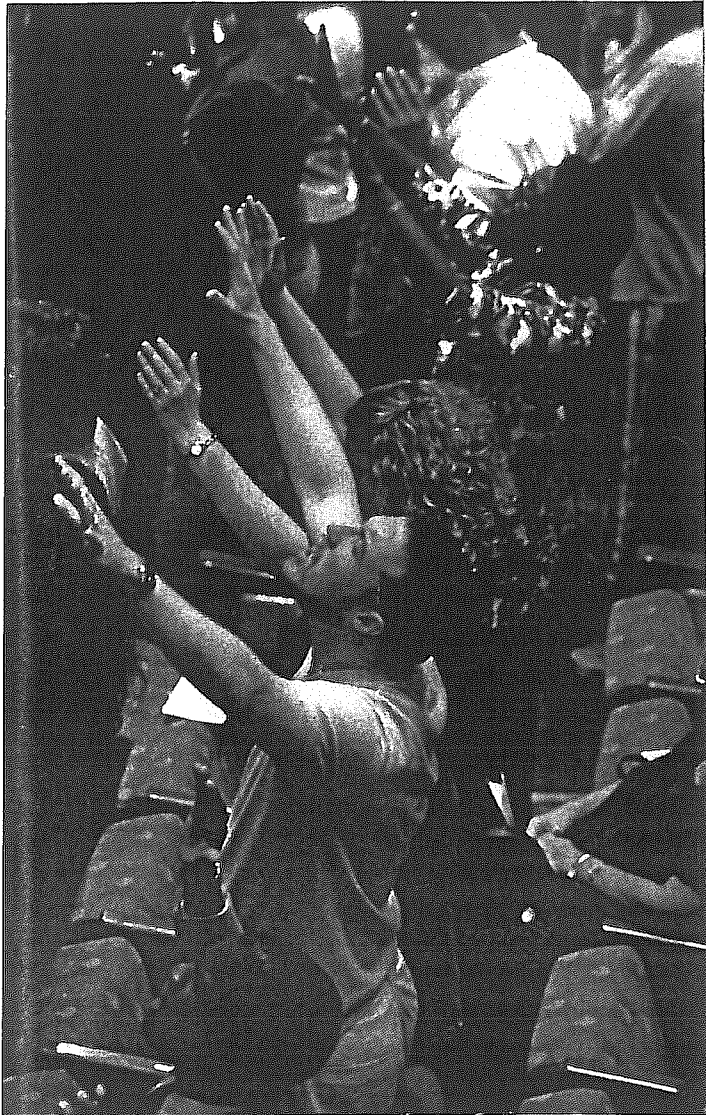
vulnerable – independent – curious – confused – obedient –

dependent – individualistic – self-assured – free – resistant –

physically weak – financially independent

• In order to make their members..., cults...

• In order to prevent their members from being..., cults...



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Action



Make a one-minute speech.

Today is *Beware of Cults Day* at school.

Prepare a speech to warn students against the dangers of cults. Start like this:

"If you have just met some incredibly friendly people who want to introduce you to a fantastic leader, beware!"

TEXT FILE 1

COMPREHENSION

Before you read

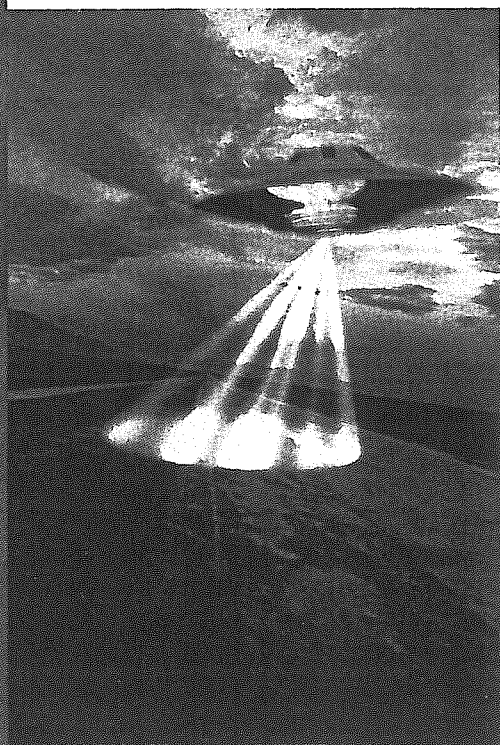
1. Judging from the pictures and the headline of the text, guess what the story is about.

Read lines 1 to 11

2. Check your guesses.

Read the whole text

3. Find the names of the cult and its founders, and the number of members.
4. Give as much information as possible about the two cult leaders and their faith.
5. In 1974, they were imprisoned. Why? What happened on their release?
6. Pick out all the elements from the text referring to the cult members' activities and beliefs.
7. Find as much information as possible about the suicides. Did the members all die at the same time?
8. Quote elements describing their feelings and beliefs before dying.
9. Who and how do preachers and cult leaders recruit? Find reasons why people join cults.
10. Cult leaders are described as "charismatic messiahs." Explain and give your opinion.



© Getty/Photographer's Choice/A. M. Rosario

COMPO DICTO



1. Listen to our recorded summary.

2. Use the words below to summarize the text.

- 39 – cult – found dead – mansion – San Diego
- committed – suicide – leader
- believing – angels – thought – picked – UFO – heaven
- men – victims – messiah – claimed – group suicide – leads – heaven
- naïve people – victims – preachers – cult leaders – Internet

3. Listen again and complete.

WORDS

1. Complete these sentences.

Lines 1 to 11

- a. To add or to mix is to l...
- b. Religious men living in monasteries are called m...
- c. A recompense for a service is a r...

Lines 12 to 27

- d. Your f... is what you believe in.
- e. When you go back to work after a pause you r... your work.
- f. A person who believes anything is g...

2. Choose the right meaning.

- a. hasten (line 8):
cause to happen faster – detest
- b. exclusive (line 16):
not willing to make friends – reserved for rich people
- c. devise (line 24):
invent – share
- d. fail (line 28):
come down – not produce the desired result
- e. hazard (line 32):
chance – risk

Action



Record a radio news item.

Prepare a short presentation about the mass suicide for the local radio station and record it.

A Spaceship to Heaven

1 First, they packed their suitcases neatly and dressed themselves
in black – shirts, pants and tennis shoes. Then, one by one
over a period of several days, they ate applesauce or pudding
laced with a barbiturate and chased it with vodka. Finally,
5 again one by one, they lay down on cots or bunk beds and,
joyously believing they were destined to rendezvous with a
*heaven-bound UFO, put plastic bags over their heads to
hasten death. Two members of the Heaven's Gate cyber-cult
remained alive to remove the plastic bags, drape the 37 bodies
10 in purple *shrouds and tidy up. Then, they killed themselves
the same way.

The 21 women and 18 men of Heaven's Gate, many of them
computer programmers who called themselves monks, are the most recent victims
of charismatic messiahs who claim that group suicide leads to spiritual rewards.

15 The Heaven's Gate commune, led by former *choirmaster Marshall Applewhite,
rented the huge mansion in the exclusive *Rancho Santa Fe area in October for
\$10,000 a month. Milton Silverman, the owner's lawyer, told reporters that the
celibate, *teetotalling, non-smoking tenants belonged to a religious computer group
and believed they were angels.

20 Applewhite, their 66-year-old leader who died with them, was the son of a
Presbyterian minister who worked as a choral director at the University of Alabama
in the 1960s. After a near-fatal heart attack, he left his wife and two children to
embark on a nomadic life with Bonnie Nettles, a nurse he met during his
convalescence. This is when they devised their own faith, called "The Process," in
25 which they presented themselves as heavenly messengers from outer space.

In 1974, they persuaded a group of Oregon townspeople to give away all their
possessions, and their children, and travel with them to Colorado to be picked up by
a spaceship. When the spacecraft failed to appear the following year, the pilgrims
became fed up. "Bo" and "Peep," as Applewhite and Nettles then called themselves,
30 were jailed briefly for possessing stolen credit cards. Afterwards, they resumed
preaching.

Experts suggest that now preachers are not the only hazard for naïve people; they say
cult recruiters use the Internet to impression gullible people.

Rae Corelli and Anne Gregor, *Maclean's*, April 1997



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- * heaven-bound UFO: an unidentified flying object flying to heaven
- * shroud: cloth for covering a dead body
- * choirmaster: a man in charge of a group of people singing together
- * Rancho Santa Fe is located outside San Diego
- * teetotalling: non-drinking (no alcohol)

GRAMMAR FILE

Les articles

- They believed they were destined to rendezvous with a heaven-bound UFO.
- They put plastic Ø bags over their heads to hasten Ø death.
- Two members of the Heaven's Gate cyber-cult remained alive to remove the plastic bags.
- The death of the Heaven's Gate cyber-cult members shocked a lot of Americans.
- Ø Experts suggest that now Ø preachers are not the only hazard for naïve people; they say Ø cult recruiters use the Internet to impression gullible people.

PRACTISE

- Justifiez l'emploi des articles en gras dans les phrases suivantes.
 - Ø Cults brainwash Ø people.
 - Many of the Heaven's Gate cyber-cult called themselves Ø monks.
 - A cult is a group or movement that uses Ø mind control and Ø devious recruiting techniques to manipulate their followers.
 - The French government has listed the cults they find the most dangerous.
- Corrigez l'erreur dans chaque phrase.
 - The cult leaders want power and money.
 - Cults resort to the mind manipulation to recruit their members.
 - The Moonies are quite popular in USA.
 - Gurus resort to the peer pressure to suppress resistance among their new members.
 - Cult members give money they earn to their gurus.
- Traduisez.
 - L'Église de scientologie est présente dans le monde entier.
 - Les sectes utilisent des méthodes de persuasion bien calculées.
 - Les méthodes de persuasion utilisées par les sectes sont variées et efficaces.
 - L'hypnose, dissimulée sous forme de relaxation ou de méditation, est une des techniques utilisées pour manipuler les adeptes des sectes.
 - Les gourous attendent une obéissance aveugle de leurs adeptes.
 - Les leaders privent les membres de leur secte de nourriture pour les rendre plus vulnérables.

OBSERVE

- Dans la phrase *a*, pourquoi a-t-on utilisé l'article *a* ?
- Dans la phrase *b*, justifiez l'emploi de l'article Ø devant *bags* et devant *death* (nom dénombrable ou indénombrable ? qui renvoie à une non-détermination, à une généralité, à une notion ?).
- Dans la phrase *c*, justifiez l'emploi de *the* devant *plastic bags*.
- Dans la phrase *d*, justifiez l'emploi de *the* devant le mot *death* (renvoie-t-il à quelque chose d'unique, est-il déterminé par *of* + groupe nominal ?).
- Dans la phrase *e*, justifiez l'emploi de l'article Ø devant *experts*, *preachers*, *naïve people*, *cult recruiters* et *gullible people*. Expliquez pourquoi on a l'article *the* devant *Internet*.

➔ Précis grammatical 16 17 et 18

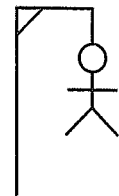
Action



Play the hangman game.

Work in pairs. You have 2 minutes to make up one sentence using at least 6 of the words below.

In turn, each group represents each word of their sentence with one dash ("_____") on the blackboard. The rest of the class tries to guess the sentence. Whenever the class is wrong, the hangman builds up.



Nouns & pronouns: I – girlfriend(s) – café – spider(s) – hotdog – plate – week – hair – soup – bread – me – her – customer(s) – salad – waiter – worm(s)

Verbs: invite – order – get – find – shout(ing) – look (at) – swallow – feel – be – have – go – run away – leave – wait (for) – drop – smile

Adjectives: nice – little – long – last – fat – huge – hot – cold – mad

EXPRESSION FILE



Action

Talk: Choose your survival kit

The situation

To prove to Guru Nahasi that you are worthy of entering the sect of the survivors, you must spend 2 weeks with three other applicants on a desert island and survive by your own means. You are only allowed to take five objects with you.

The procedure

1. Individually choose and rank five items you want to take with you. (3 minutes)
2. Work in pairs to agree on a common list. (6 minutes)
3. Discuss in groups of four to choose a common list giving reasons for your choice. Be careful, you only have 10 minutes, if no agreement has been reached before time is up, Guru Nahasi will not take you in his sect!
4. One student from each group then presents their group's choices to the teacher who decides who to take.

Action

Speak up: Manipulate your friends

As you need financial contributions from the class, you have decided to start your own phoney sect. Prepare a speech to convince the class to join in and give you money!

The procedure

1. Choose the name of your sect, your new nickname and what the aim of your sect will be.
2. Prepare the arguments you are going to use to convince your friends (notes only).
3. Practise your speech.
4. Make the speech in front of the class. You have to talk for at least 2 minutes.
5. Everybody votes to decide who will be the new class guru.

Action

Write rules

You have been elected "new class guru."
Write the rules of your new sect.

➔ Refer to your Workbook for guidelines.