

Complete the bibliographical notes in my copybook. The following year, Mrs Drif was arrested and condemned to 20 years of hard labour for "terrorism". She spent five years in prison before she was finally released upon independence. Here is an extract from her book: For nearly five years, I was the only Arab girl at the French primary school, with my long braids and long skirts reaching to my ankles, among the little European girls with their short hair and their little dresses above the knee. The difference between me and these girls even extended to the foods we ate at ten o'clock in the playground: they pulled out a brioche, a croissant, sometimes a chocolate croissant or a baguette with jam. As for me, I had my Algerian treats—maqrouta, mbardja, msemena or matlou with our family's honey. Completed my primary-school years as an excellent student, finishing tied for first place in my class with my classmate Roselyne Garcia. I considered Roselyne a dear friend until we reached the sixth-grade entrance exam, a major test that marked the passage from childhood to adolescence. We were in school the day the results were announced. I, Zohra Drif, daughter of the Arab qadi, managed to rank among the first students in the region, whereas my best friend Roselyne, the daughter of Tissemsilt's baker and an excellent student, had failed. I was as shocked as the rest of the school at Roselyne's results. When we parted to go home, I told her, still crying, "You know, Roselyne, everybody knows you're an excellent student. It was an accident."