

The legend of the Devil's Bridge in Ceret



Designed by the French delegation :

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Mobility in Poland

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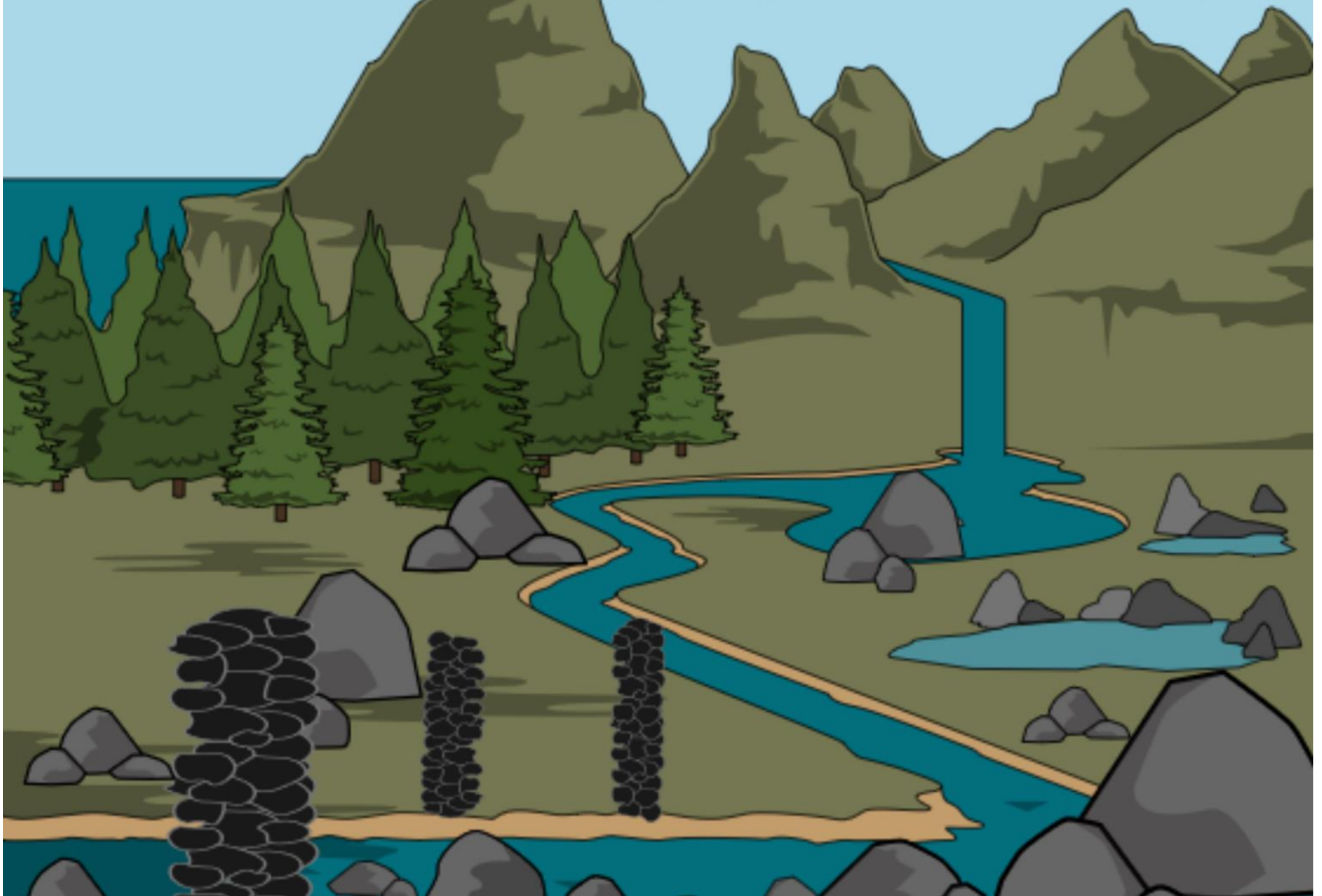


In the XIVth century...

The inhabitants of Ceret need a bridge. Engineer, will you build one for us?



The bridge was to be made of stone to resist the bad weather. The building was going well when one day...





... a terrible storm broke the bridge down.

The bridge was once more nearly finished when they heard an strange and deafening noise...



**A crack formed and
the bridge collapsed!**



The Ceretans were
furious...

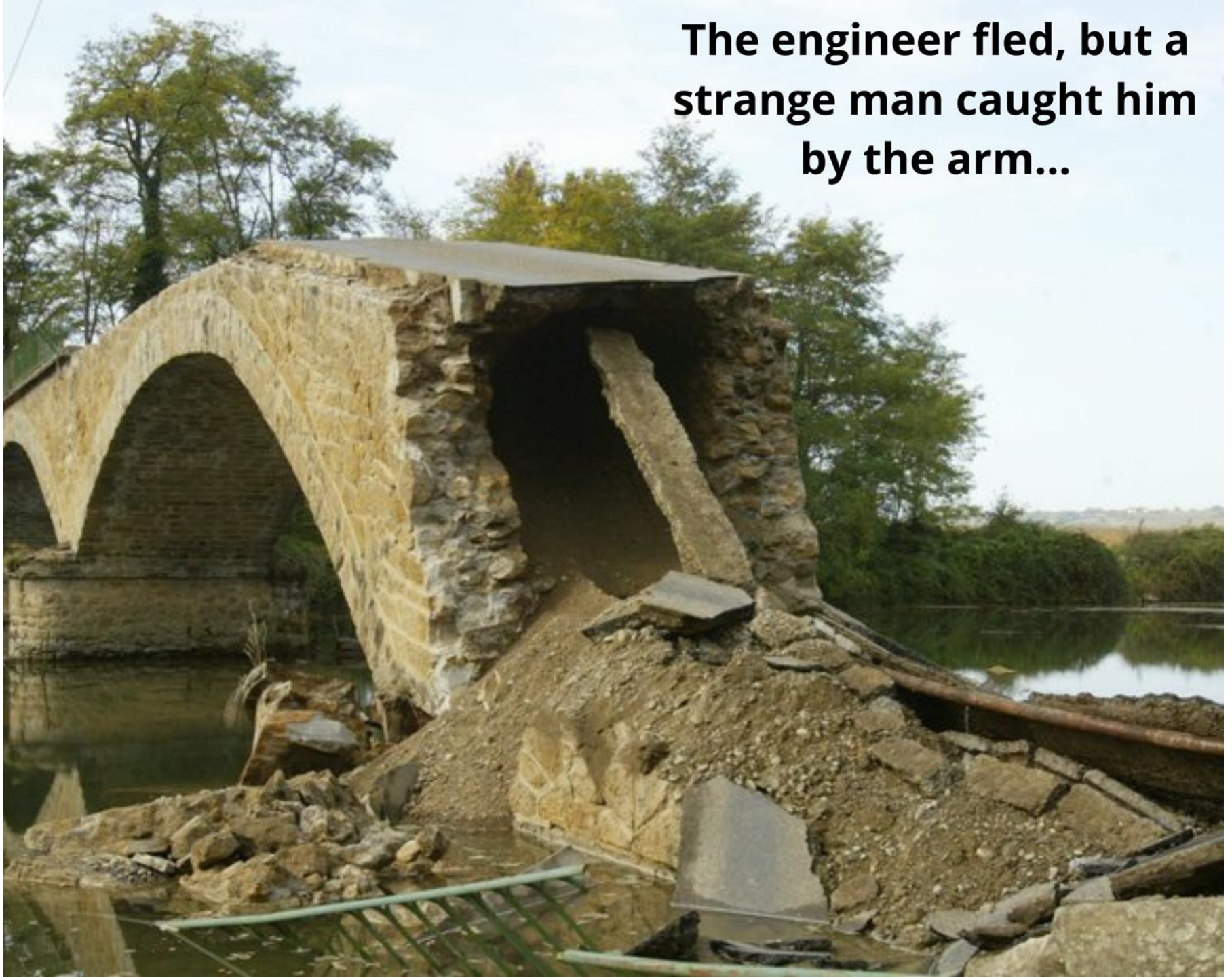
*It's your fault!
Now you have six
months to finish the
bridge or you'll be
hanged by the neck!*




The engineer worked hard, very hard! But once again, when the bridge was nearly finished, a storm broke out and took the bridge away.



**The engineer fled, but a
strange man caught him
by the arm...**





*I can rebuild the
bridge before midnight,
but you must give me
the first living creature
who'll cross it!*

I ... I accept!

It was nearly midnight, the bridge was nearly finished..
Just a stone was missing. The engineer had an idea. He
didn't want the devil to take anybody.



He tied a pan to a cat's tail, and let it free to cross the bridge.
The cat, scared, started to run...



Thinking it was a knight, the devil rushed forward...and caught the cat.






*You have cheated me,
engineer!
I am betrayed!*

And he vanished.



Ceret's bridge was never finished, as no engineer managed to fit the last stone in... Since then, it is known as the Devil's bridge.

A photograph of a stone bridge in a village. The bridge is made of rough-hewn stones and has a cobblestone path on top. A sign is attached to the bridge, reading 'Pont du Diable' and '14e Siècle'. In the background, there are houses with tiled roofs and mountains under a hazy sky.

Pont
du Diable

14^e Siècle