

Avant de lire *Le véritoscope*

Reading Strategy

MAKE PREDICTIONS Read the title and subtitles and predict what this reading is about. After reading, decide whether you need to revise your prediction.

Your prediction _____

How close was your prediction? _____

What You Need To Know

In the reading, Monsieur Dumas is described as a **bricoleur de génie**. The French word **bricoleur** (*do-it-yourselfer*), is someone who engages in **bricolage**. Both words come from the verb **bricoler**, which means *to tinker* or *to fiddle*. The French have a long history of being excellent **bricoleurs**, and there are many stores in France that cater to them. The BHV, a large department store on the right bank in Paris, has an entire floor devoted to products for do-it-yourselfers, gives workshops on **bricolage**, and even has a café called the Café Atelier, whose motto is “Parlons bricolage!”.

Bricolage can also have a negative connotation, though, as in our English term “jury-rigged”.