

Edith has taken the devices along to the computing laboratory and John is carefully unpacking them and reading the instructions.

“Ah, I need to insert the batteries and then charge them up from the mains before we can use them.” says John.

“That could take a while I suppose.” says Edith.

“Yes, it is no point to try to rush it, it takes the time it takes and it is best to get them well-charged before using them rather than doing a bit and rushing to get started.”

“I am happy to accept your advice on the matter.”

Edith decides to go back to her office and do other work in the meantime.

“I’ll go back to my office until they are charged, ... please let me know when you are ready to try them out, I would like to observe what happens.”

Some time later, John telephones Edith to say that the batteries are charged.

“I’m on my way.” says Edith.

Edith arrives in the computing laboratory.

John switches on the yellow Locomotive device.

“Very jazzy!” says John.

There is a display and within it some logos of flags, with plenty of space after them, perhaps for more flags to be added. John selects English as the language to use.

John switches on the pink Locomotive device.

There is a display and within it some logos of flags, with plenty of space after them, perhaps for more flags to be added. John selects French as the language to use.

There is an animated buffering symbol displayed.

“Ah, it looks as if English is already loaded but to use French it needs to get data from elsewhere.” says John.

“Now, I will try to send a message from the yellow device to the pink device.”

John opens a new message on the yellow device and copies the destination address from the box of the pink device, explaining as he proceeds.

“Now, I need to use Choose a sentence and see what we have.”

“Ah, ... now I can select one of the sentences that are offered. ... Let’s have ‘Would you like a cup of coffee?’ as an example.”

Edith looks somewhat bemused by the choice of sentences that are available, but there we are.

John adds the InterJolly to the message. It appears in English in dark green.

John tries adding Bonjour in plain text before the InterJolly and the word is displayed in black. John adds Bye after the InterJolly and it too is displayed in black. John uses the cursor keys to move in the message and finds that the cursor behaves as if the InterJolly sentence is one character.

“I wonder if they have used one character for each InterJolly, or whether they use a string of characters and the display treats it as if it is one character.”

John sends the message to the pink device.

There is a noise and an on-screen notification that the message has been received.

John opens the message and there it is, with the InterJolly expressed in French, displayed in dark green so that it is clear which text is plain text that has gone through and which is text localized from an InterJolly.

“Excellent.” says Edith.

“I wonder how they do the encoding.” says John.

“Please investigate and let me know what you find please.” says Edith.