Holiday Music Comparison

Core French 8

**Vive le vent**

**By Francis Blanche (US, 1948)**

**REFRAIN**
Vive le vent
Vive le vent
Vive le vent d’hiver
Qui s’en va sifflant soufflant
Dans les grands sapins verts, Oh !
Vive le temps
Vive le temps
Vive le temps d’hiver
Boule de neige et jour de l’an
Et bonne année grand-mère

Sur le long chemin
Tout blanc de neige blanche
Un vieux monsieur s’avance
Avec sa canne dans la main
Et tout là-haut le vent
Qui siffle dans les branches
Lui souffle la romance
Qu’il chantait petit enfant

**REFRAIN**

**BRIDGE**

Joyeux joyeux Noël
Aux mille bougies
Qu’enchantent vers le ciel
Les cloches de la nuit. Oh !

Vive le vent
Vive le vent
Vive le vent d’hiver
Qui rapporte aux vieux enfants
Leurs souvenirs d’hier.

Et le vieux monsieur
Descend vers le village
C’est l’heure où tout est sage
Et l’ombre danse au coin du feu.
Mais dans chaque maison
Il flotte un air de fête
Partout la table est prête
Et l’on entend la même chanson. Oh !

**REFRAIN + BRIDGE**

Boule de neige et jour de l’an
Et bonne année grand-mère.

**Translation from French**

**REFRAIN**

Long live the wind,

Long live the wind,
Long live the winter wind,
Which goes whistling, blowing
In the big green Christmas trees, oh!

Long live the weather,

Long live the weather,
Long live the winter weather,
Snowballs and new year's day
and happy new year Grandma!

Along the long path
All white from the white snow
An old man advances
With his cane in his hand.
And all above the wind
Which whistles in the branches
Blows on him the romance
That he sang as a young child, oh!

**REFRAIN**

**BRDIGE**

Merry, Merry Christmas
To the thousand candles
Which delight toward heaven
The night's bells.
Long live the wind,

Long live the wind
Long live the winter wind
Which brings to old kids
Their memories of yesterday, oh!

And the old man
Goes down toward the village,
It's the time when everyone is good
And the shadow dances near the fire.
But in each house
There's a festive air
Everywhere the table is ready
And you hear the same song, oh!

REFRAIN + BRIDGE

Snowballs and new year's day
and happy new year Grandma!

**Jingle Bells**

**James Lord Pierpont (France, 1857)**

Dashing through the snow
On a one horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go,
Laughing all the way
Bells on bob tail ring,
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to ride and sing
A sleighing song tonight

**REFRAIN**

Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh

A day or two ago,
I thought I'd take a ride,
And soon Miss Fanny Bright
Was seated by my side;
The horse was lean and lank
Misfortune seemed his lot
We got into a drifted bank,
And then we got upsot.

**REFRAIN**

Now the ground is white
Go it while you're young
Take the girls tonight
And sing this sleighing song
Just get a bob tailed bay
Two-forty as his speed
Hitch him to an open sleigh
And crack! you'll take the lead

**REFRAIN**

**COMPARING SONG VERSIONS**

1. Describe what the English version is about in your own words
2. Describe what the French version is about in your own words
3. What are two ways that the French and English versions of this song are the same?
4. What are two ways that the French and English versions of this song are different?
5. Do you think direct translations are often used when songs are adapted from one language to another? Explain.