

### Achieving Against the Odds

1 I was hungry, tired and so cold that my feet had become completely numb. I had been given  
2 a coat by the Congolese charity but had no socks and only light shoes. There was no one  
3 who spoke French at the bed and breakfast, and I felt completely alone. I wished I had never  
4 come to England.

5 I was taken to my room and given some cereal, bread, milk, tea, drinking chocolate and  
6 coffee. There was a kettle in my room but I had never seen a kettle before in my life because  
7 in Congo we boil water on the fire. I did not know what to do with it. First I tried sprinkling  
8 some powdered chocolate on the cold water but the powder stayed at the top and I couldn't  
9 drink it, so I just had some cold milk. I didn't like the taste because in Congo we never have  
10 fresh milk – it is always powdered so the fresh milk tasted strange to me. I had never seen  
11 cereal before and just ate it on its own without the milk. It was sugary and crunchy and I ate  
12 it all up because I was so hungry. Even today I like to eat cereal without milk.

Author: Helene Ramazani  
Title: Achieving Against The Odds  
Publisher: Our Lives Press  
ISBN: 978-0-9554373-8-0

