

## Valki

Džanen, so hin o valki? Oda nane peršo abo dujto baro mariben! Le valkendar pen kerenas varekana o khera. Akana hin but materiala te kamel manuš te ačhavel o kher, al'e varekana oda avka na has. Mek anglal o lole cehl'i, so pen labaren, pen kerenas o cehli la čikatar. Oda has phari but'i u but Roma o valki kerenas. Nekbuter pre Slovensko andre romane osadi. Le chulajen na has kana o valki te kerel, bo pen kerenas l'inaje, sar has kerad'ipen. O chulaja phirenas te kerel pro mal'i ta denas e but'i le valkenca le Romenge. Has oda but but'i u o valki kerelas cali famel'ija. Peršes o murša chanenas bari chev andre phuv, kaj has e jal'i čik, čhivenas andre o pañi, prithovenas mek o phusa, o mochos, o dzara le bal'ičendar, abo cikne kaštora. Uštarenas andre čik u phirenas odoj dži akor, kim e čik na chudelas pro pindre. Sar cirdenas avri šuko pindro, ta has e čik kisno. Pal'is e čik thovenas andre kaštuñi forma, andre savi peršo čhivenas e poši. E čik andre mištes kikidenas u pal'is e forma lenas het u e valka has kerd'i. O valki pen thovenas jekh paš aver pre phuv u mukhenas pen pandž abo šov d'ivesa te šut'ol avri. Pal šov d'ivesa len pale visarenas the mek duj abo trin d'ivesa šut'arenas pro kham. Kampelas len pal'is mek duj kurke te šut'arel pro than, kaj nahas o kham. Pal'is pen bikenenas le gadženge. The but Roma penge le valkendar ačhavenas o khera.

## **[Translation for the teacher]**

### **Valki**

Do you know what is “valky”? This is not the First or the Second World War ! In the past they used to make houses from them.. Today, there exist many materials when somebody wants to build a house, but in the past it was not like that. Before red bricks which are baked, bricks were made from mud. It was heavy work and many Romani did it. Mostly in Slovakia, in Romani settlements. Farmers had no time to make bricks . because these were made in summer when it was hot. Farmers went to fields to work, and the work with valki was left to the Romani . Men dug a big pit in the ground where there was clay, they put water into it, added straw, moss, pig hairs or small pieces of brushwood. They stepped down into the pit and tramped as long as the clay did not stick to their feet. When their feet were dry, the clay was ready. Then they placed the clay into a wooden form where they had put some sand before. They pressed the clay well, took off the form and the brick was ready. Valki were placed one next to another and were left to dry for five or six days.. After six days, they were turned and left in the sun to dry for two or three more days. Then it was necessary to leave them to dry in a place out of the sun for two more weeks. This was a lot of work and it was the whole family that made the valki. Even some Romani built their houses from the valki.