

WORLD LANGUAGE

Esperanto League for North America, Inc • Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530 • (415) 653-0998

Issue 3-4, 1989

WORLD LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGE PROBLEMS

English Competency Studies in Europe

The Bulletin of the London Esperanto Club reported that an international ad agency's survey of Europeans' level of comprehension of English netted some interesting results.

The agency asked a representative sample of adults in different countries about their ability to understand English, and then tested them to see how accurate this self-judgement was.

The test given was in the form of recorded phrases and sentences which the participants were asked to interpret. The findings showed that the difference between the actual ability to understand English and their perception of their ability was significant. For example, in the Netherlands, less than 50% was able to translate a given phrase, and in Italy only 6%.

In Belgium, 6% of the French speaking Belgians succeeded in the translation, whereas 46% of the Dutch speaking Belgians succeeded.

For more information about this study, interested parties are directed to write to : Peter Oliver, 3 Monks Court, Powers, Hall End, Witham, Essex CM8 1LP, Britton. (*Esperanto*, May 1989)



In a letter from Walter Klag, printed in *Monato*, a study conducted by the ad agency Lintas in 1987-88 found that only 28% of the Dutch, 15% of the Germans, 3% of the Italians and 1% of the Spanish can comprehend written English. The author of this letter concludes that between 1 and 3 percent of Europeans in fact can speak English. (*Monato*, June, 1989)

Problems of Translation

The average person would think that a text translated from one language to another — let's say English to Spanish — would be suitable for any group of people that speaks that language. However, people

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Expanded Issue!

from different regional areas may use one word in several different ways. Let us show you some examples:

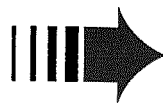
The word for "down payment" in Mexico is "enganche." Puerto Rico uses the word "pronto", and in Cuba the word is "fondo."

An amusing example of regional differences is the word "Guagua." This is the word for "bus" in Puerto Rico, but it means "baby" in Peru or Chile. Furthermore the word "guagua" does not exist for Mexicans. Their word for "baby" is "bebe" and the word for "bus" is "camion" or "autobus."

Also, Cubans and Puerto Ricans refer to orange juice as "jugo de china" (translated as juice of the fruit, *china* = orange). However, in Mexico this same item if seen in print would be translated to: "the juice from the country of China."

These three examples are just a few of the many differences that could cause confusion and misunderstanding of a translation if not done properly.

Another matter to take into consideration when making a translation is the subject matter. Is the work of a technical nature or relatively easy to comprehend and translate? What is the level of education of the target market? When translating advertising or promotional literature for the average homemaker, we have to select grammar that can communicate the idea without boggling the mind of the reader. Whereas, with more technical material, more precise and specific verbiage is needed to make the text understandable. (reprinted with permission from the newsletter of The Kaspi Group, the Foreign Language Communications Agency, June 1989)



Latin in Italian Schools?

In a report taken from the Esperanto periodical *La Eta Gazeto* (The Little Magazine), G. Valle tells of a proposal of the Italian Chamber to introduce Latin as a compulsory language in Italian schools.

Italians opposing this bring up the fact that Latin is very difficult to learn and that the expected benefits from learning Latin to date have not panned out. According to the author, after 6 years of high school and college Latin, very few can actually use the language. (*La Eta Gazeto*, September, 1989)

Britain May Fight Language Plans

Britain is considering taking the European Commission to the Court of Justice over plans to encourage every British schoolchild to become trilingual and every firm to provide language training at work.

Mr. Renneth Baker, the Education Secretary, is seeking support from France and Germany to stop two EEC draft directives which would commit the community to spending 160 million British pounds (roughly 250 million U.S. dollars) from 1990 on language training. The rest would come from international funds. (from *The Guardian*, March, 15, 1989 and reprinted in *The Esperanto Teacher*, Summer 1989)

INTERNATIONAL ESPERANTO NEWS

Moscow News Appears in Esperanto

The magazine *Moskovskie Novosti* (Moscow News) has published a test sample in Esperanto. This edition, titled *Moskvaj Novaĵoj* is an experiment and further editions and the cost will depend on the comments received by the editors.

Please send your letters, comments, etc., to: Jegor Jakovlev, Chief Editor, *Moscow News*, Gorki str. 16/2, Moscow, USSR.

South Korean Esperanto Movement

The Esperanto movement in South Korea is expanding and is reflected in the increasing number of

Esperanto periodicals being offered. The main periodicals are : *La Espero el Koreio*, *La Lanterno Azia*, and *Mondo de Universitato*.

ELNA is currently looking into offering these periodicals as part of its Subscription Service in 1991 (*La Espero el Koreio*, July–August 1989)

NATIONAL ESPERANTO NEWS

Friends of Esperanto

The participants of the 1989 ELNA Convention in Chicago voted to accept the proposal of the Central Office to initiate a new form of support by non-Esperantists.

Known as a "Friend of Esperanto", this allows non-Esperantists to show their support for Esperanto as the solution to the world language problem without actually becoming a member of ELNA.

"Friends" will receive 4 issues of the ELNA update and a copy of the ELNA Book Service Catalog, but are not eligible for the members discount. The number of "Friends" will be reported separately from actual members in the report of the Director of the Central Office to the ELNA Congresses. If a "Friend" wants to upgrade to actual membership in ELNA before the end of the calendar year, they may do so by requesting the upgrade from the Central Office and sending in the difference between the "Friend of Esperanto" fee and membership fee.

ELNA members are encouraged to sign up their friends who are supportive of the Esperanto movement as a "Friend". Copies of the "Friends of Esperanto" flyer and special order blank may be obtained from: ELNA, P.O. Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530.

Harry Harrison Named Honorary Member

The participants of the 1989 ELNA Convention unanimously voted to make world famous science fiction writer Harry Harrison an honorary member of ELNA in recognition of his work for Esperanto in general and his support of ELNA specifically by mentioning ELNA in several of his books.

NEW BOOKS

(see catalog for ordering instructions.)

Bhagavad-Gita, tio estas, Sublima Kanto pri la Senmorteco, trans. Francisco Valdomiro Lorenz. The well known fragment from the "Mahabharata" (The great war of the Children of Bharata) is now available in an excellent Esperanto translation. Possibly the oldest poem in the world, certainly of epic proportions. 96p. paper. Brazil. BHA001 \$3.50.

La Domaĉo, P. Anselmo. Stressful crime novel in perfect Esperanto. 1989. 24p. paper + cassette. W. Germany. DOM001 \$12.50.

Esperanto en Lingvolaboratorio, H. Berman. Book of language exercises, useful for beginners and advanced students. 1973. 75p. paper. W. Germany. ESP003 \$3.75.

Fabeloj de Fratoj Grimm (cassette), H. Berman reads fairy tales of the Grimm brothers. W. Germany. FAB004 \$8.50.

Facila Numero de Esperanto (cassette), H. Berman reads the text of the beginner's edition of the U.E.A. *Esperanto* magazine. W. Germany. ESP099 \$8.50.

Inversa Vortaro de Esperanto, B. Pabst. Words ordered by the last letter of the word instead of the first. Not only useful for poets, but also for linguists. Includes all the roots from the P.I.V. and the Esperanto Bild-vortaro. Detailed introduction. 1989. 112p. paper. W. Germany. INV003 \$12.25.

Karlo (cassette set), H. Berman reads the famous book *Karlo* by Edmond Privat. Because the book uses only around 500 word roots, it is especially suited for beginners. Two tape set. W. Germany. KAR005 \$17.00.

Kumeŭaŭa, (cassette set), H. Berman reads the whole text of the well-known book by T. Sekelj. Three tape set. W. Germany. KUM001 \$25.50.

Parolado en la Unuiĝinta Naciaro, Mihail Gorbacov. The famous speech of the General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union at the U.N., in December 1988. 1989. 30p. paper. USSR. GOR006 \$0.75.

Konstrui Novan Ponton, Wan Yun. Beautifully illustrated book for children about the cooperation between a squirrel, a rabbit, a chimpanzee and an elephant. 1982, 40p. paper. China KON018 \$1.25.

Kristana Agendo, Francisco C. Xavier. trans. A.R.A. Costa. A book rich in advice for the daily life, useful not only for Christians. These short quotes could be used in teaching Esperanto to Christian groups. 102p. paper. Brazil. KRI003 \$2.95.

Kromosonoj, Lorjak. Are parental traits hereditary through artificial insemination? Well, we will see in this light, amusing book. 1989. 155p. paper. Belgium KRO001 \$7.95.

La Kvina Evangelio, Han Riner. trans. R. Laval. A new viewpoint on the life of Jesus Christ. First published in 1910, this book by Henri Ner, enjoyed great success throughout the world. 144p. paper. France. KVI005 \$3.00.

Laŭdo de l' Stulteco, Erasmo de Rotterdamo, trans. Gerrit Berveling. Number 24b in the East-West series of UEA. This book aimed at being amusing, but it proved to be more educational and serious, than entertaining, although the irony, satire, and parody is not lacking. 1988. 111p. paper. The Netherlands. LAU004 \$15.95.

La Luzidoj, Camoes. trans. Leopoldo H. Knoedt. The national epic of the Portuguese published in the East-West series (Number 14). This excellent translation is made better by its high quality binding and beautiful etchings. 1980, 463p. bound. Brazil. LUZ001 \$24.95.

La Marvirineto (book), H. C. Anderson. trans. I. Schleicher. Excellent and beautifully illustrated translation of the most well-known H. C. Anderson story. 1962. 53p. bound. Denmark. MAR006 \$10.95.

La Marvirineto (cassette set). H. Berman reads the entire text of H. C. Anderson's book listed above. Two tape set. W. Germany. MAR007 \$17.00.

Mia Spektro, N. Kurzens. Complete collection of a Latvian poet including original poetry written in and translated into Esperanto. Collection spans 1931-1935. Expanded version of the book which appeared in 1938. 1985. 131p. paper. Canada. MIA003 \$5.00.

Mistero, P. Anselmo. Agreeable adventure-some novel. Not only for young people, but for all who have finished a beginners' course. 1988. 32p. paper. + Cassette. W. Germany. MIS008 \$13.95.

"O" kaj Aliaj Rakontoj, Damir Mikulic. Collection of short stories, mostly science fiction. 1988. 217p. paper. Yugoslavia. OKA001 \$7.25.

Oktavia, Seneca. trans. Gerrit Berveling. Nero, emperor of Rome, well-known for his cruelty and insanity, also caused many tragedies among his own family. This play focuses on the interaction between his wife and his concubine. 1989. 60p. paper. Belgium OKT001 \$4.75.

La Optimisto-Biblio, K. Bolo. On the right hand pages you will find wise sayings and proverbs ordered by theme. On the left hand you will find illustrated dialog. 1989. 163p. paper. W. Germany. OPT001 \$12.00.

Populara Vortareto, A. Lopez Luna. Unusual dictionary, whose descriptions are not the usual one would find. This dictionary is not lacking in irony and satire, tragedy and warning. A useful booklet. 1986. 104p. paper. Argentina. POP001 \$6.50.

Proverboj de Marko kaj Lazaro Zamenhof, red. Adolf Holzhaus. Collection of 13,155 proverbs collected by Zamenhof and his father. This is an excellent reference book, not only for the Esperantist, but for any speaker of Russian, French, German, or Polish. 1980. 704p. paper. Finland. PRO002 \$40.00.

Ses Voĉoj Kremaj, Six famous Esperantists recite their own and others' literary works. Speakers include: Tibor Sekelj, Ans J. Bakker-ten Hagen, Teo Jung, Victor Sadler, Kalman Kalocsay, Simo Milojevic. Text: 18 pages. paper + cassette. Japan. SES001 \$7.50.

Socilingvistikaj Aspektoj de la Internacia Lingvo, diversaj. Full report of the International Symposia in honor of the Esperanto Centennial, occurring August 1986. Bi-lingual edition (Japanese-Esperanto) containing the speeches of the above mentioned symposium. 1986. 205p. paper. Japan. SOC004 \$19.95.

Sur la Vojo de la Analiza Skolo, R. Sulco. One of the most important books about the "Analiza Skolo"; articles about grammar, correct, "fundamenta" Esperanto with two detailed indexes. 1987. 279p. paper. W. Germany. SUR007 \$21.50.

Tio, Kion Mi Kredas, Jean Rostand. trans. Pierre Berlot. Sincere, Optimistic praise of

rationalism, tolerance and democracy from the pen of one of the members of the French Academy. 1962. 39p. paper. France. TIO001 \$2.95.

Trigroša Romano, B. Brecht. Socially critical novel based on the earlier "Three Penny Opera". About beggars, thieves, and murderers whose society mirrors and parodies upper class society. Excellent value. 1977. 374p. bound. E. Germany. TRI001 \$6.50.

Vere aŭ Fantazie, Claude Piron. Short stories in easy Esperanto by one of the most loved and prodigious Esperanto authors. Based on the assumption that you already know 405 of the most common Esperanto words (list included!), this text gradually increases your vocabulary. At the end of each story is a list of new words. 1989. 216p. paper. Brazil. VER005 \$12.00.

Verkoj de Heinrich Heine, red. Adolf. Holzhaus. Bilingual (German-Esperanto) collection from the works of Heine, with notes and photographs. 1973. 317p. bound. Israel. VER011 \$12.95.

T-SHIRTS, CAPS,

T-Shirts: Beautiful Kelly Green Esperanto T-shirts. Specify small, medium, large, or extra large. \$6.75.

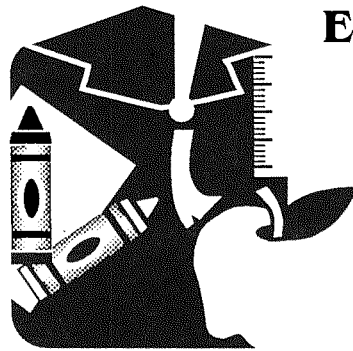
Caps: Baseball caps, same shade of green as the T-shirts above. One size fits all. HAT001 \$5.25.

Luggage Straps: High quality luggage straps to protect your luggage from opening in transit. Sturdy, dark green material with "Esperanto La Internacia Lingvo" in black. Heavy duty plastic buckles. Name tag with room for personal information. LUG001 \$15.00.

Esperanto Flag: 12 inch X 19 inch nylon Esperanto flag, extremely durable, suitable for outdoor use. FLA001 \$15.00.

Buttons: \$1.00 each. Large buttons with phrases or words in Esperanto: Ho Ve! = PIN052; Saluton! = PIN053; Pacon! = PIN054; Ni Estu Amikoj! = PIN055.

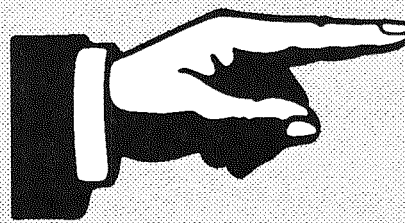
LUGGAGE STRAPS, & BUTTONS



Esperanto Handbook for Teachers

A 31-page booklet aimed at providing background material for anyone planning to teach Esperanto in a formal or informal educational setting. Covers ways of incorporating Esperanto with other subjects such as geography or history, hints for effective lessons, and a list of resources and suggested reading for further study. Simple, but useful tool.

Available from ELNA. \$1.75 (includes shipping)
CA residents must add applicable taxes. Code: ESP075



Save money by sending a postcard for a free list of damaged or discontinued books, records, etc., available from ELNA at substantial discounts. Address your postcard to: ELNA Book Service, Special List, P.O. Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530. Include your return address.

The previous pages reveal but a small sample of the many exciting things going on with Esperanto in the world today. Help support the Esperanto movement in the United States by joining ELNA as a member or become a "Friend of Esperanto", distributing information in your area, and sending the names of people you think would like to hear about Esperanto to: ELNA Update, P.O.Box 1129, El Cerrito, CA 94530.