

English-Chinese-English back translation exercise

Translate the following passages into Chinese, then pass the translation to your partner, who will translate them back into English.

1. Vocabulary overlap

B1. Borshch is made with beets, turnips, rutabagas, and carrots.

2. Unfamiliar words

B2. They make a really good BLT at that place on the corner.

3. Philosophical tangles and the question of tense

B3. We must not concern ourselves with what might have been.

4. Slang

B4. He was on the lam for two years, but the fuzz finally nabbed him.

5. Fancy prose

B5. Yet somewhere behind the face's expression of flaccid and weary disillusion, as behind the bland voice and the almost feminine mannerisms, there lurked something else: something shrewd, unpredictable, and despotic.

6. Poetry

B6

Oh, she doth teach the torches to burn bright

It seems she hangs upon the cheek of night

Like a rich jewel in an Ethiop's ear

Beauty too rich for use, for earth too dear.