

English-German-English back-translation exercise.

Translate the following sentences into German, and then pass the translations to your partner, who will translate them back into English:

1. Vocabulary overlap

B1. All crows are black.

2. Unfamiliar metaphors

B2. Obama hit a grand slam with his speech on race.

3. Problems of gender

B3. A cat with a thorn in its paw ran by.

4. Slang

B4. It's crackers to slip a rozzler the dropsy in snide. [1930's slang meaning, roughly, it's crazy to give a policeman a bribe in counterfeit money]

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.