

Name: _____

Date: _____



Unit 1 • Inside Out and Back Again

Cycle 1

Student Workbook and Fluency

Purpose Question: Is being bilingual a superpower?

Focus Vocabulary:

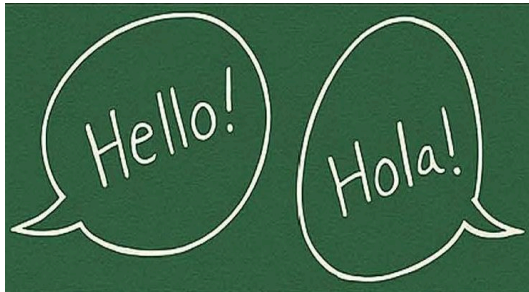
translation

language

translator

Daniel Tries Something New

By Holland White



Many people speak two languages. That is called bilingual. (9)



Some people speak one language. Others speak two. (17)



Daniel speaks Vietnamese and English. He uses Vietnamese at home. (27)



He learned English at school. One day he helped his mom read a recipe. (41)



He felt proud to be a translator. Later, he saw a word in Spanish he didn't know. (58)



Daniel felt unsure of his translation. But he kept trying. Now he wants to learn more! (74)

Discussion Questions

Day 1:

- What does it mean to be bilingual?

Day 2:

- How do you use your bilingual skills?
- Do you think bilingualism is a superpower?

Sources:

[Speaking of Psychology: The benefits of being bilingual, with Viorica Marian, PhD](#)

Purpose Question: Is being bilingual a superpower?

Focus Vocabulary:

translated

translator

Angel the Translator

By Holland White

Angel is in 5th grade. (5)

He feels proud to help his family. (12)

He fills out forms. (16)

He gives directions. (19)

He even talks to people at the bank. (27)

At home, Angel's family speaks Spanish. (33)

His parents are learning English, but they work long hours. (43)

They count on Angel to help. (49)

Sometimes, Angel gets tired. (53)

He knows many words in both English and Spanish, but not always the same ones. (68)

He feels disappointed when he can't find the right word. (78)

He feels unsure if he translated something right. (86)

One day, Angel wants to go on a field trip. (96)

The permission slip is in English. (102)

Angel tries to read it, but some parts are too hard. (113)

He gets a premonition — a strong feeling he might need help. (124)

He worries the school might distrust him if he fills it out wrong. (137)

He sees a hard part about “submitting” forms online. (146)

He feels stuck. (149)

At last, he asks his teacher. (155)

She makes a new copy in Spanish, Arabic, and English. (165)

Angel smiles. (167)

He is unafraid to ask now. (173)

He is not the only helper anymore. (180)

Discussion Questions

Day 1:

- What does it mean to be bilingual?

Day 2:

- How do you use your bilingual skills?
- Do you think bilingualism is a superpower?

Sources:

[Speaking of Psychology: The benefits of being bilingual, with Viorica Marian, PhD](#)

Purpose Question: Is being bilingual a superpower?

Focus Vocabulary:

translated

language

Learning and Translating

By Holland White

Many people around the world speak more than one language. (10)

In fact, over half of the world's population is bilingual or multilingual. (22)

In the United States, fewer people know more than one language, but those who do can gain many benefits. (41)

Speaking two languages can improve how fast your brain solves problems. (52)

You can connect with more people and understand their points of view. (64)

You can also add new words and ideas to your thinking. (75)

Kevin speaks both Vietnamese and English. (81)

His family uses Vietnamese at home, and he learned English at school. (93)

He once translated a chicken and dumpling recipe into Vietnamese so his mom could make it. (109)

She even added fish sauce — and it tasted even better! (119)

One day, Kevin got discouraged when he didn't know a Spanish word. (131)

He felt uncertain about trying a third language. (139)

He read the subtitles on his friend's Spanish shows. (148)

He looked for short words he knew. (155)

Now Kevin wants to learn even more. (162)

His teacher said knowing two languages can make learning a third easier. (174)

Being unafraid to try helps too! (180)

Discussion Questions

Day 1:

- What does it mean to be bilingual?

Day 2:

- How do you use your bilingual skills?
- Do you think bilingualism is a superpower?

Sources:

[Speaking of Psychology: The benefits of being bilingual, with Viorica Marian, PhD](#)

[So, You Want To Be A Translator? \(February 9, 2021, American Translator's Association Blog, Sarah Lindholm\)](#)

Purpose Question: Is being bilingual a superpower?

Focus Vocabulary:

translation

language

translator

Day in the Life of a Translator

By Holland White

Did you know that translation is a profession with global demand? (11)

Translators are individuals who rewrite texts or speech from one language into another. (24)

Their job is unlike any other because it requires attention to both meaning and culture. (39)

Some translators work remotely, completing assignments for international companies. (48)

They might reformat directions, submit revised scripts, or discard incorrect drafts. (59)

Every sentence must be checked for tone and clarity. (68)

Miriam's aunt, for instance, is employed as a translator at the United Nations. (81)

Official documents are submitted to her daily in English and French. (92)

These are translated into Arabic. (97)

Her work must not be misinterpreted, as even a small error could undermine diplomacy. (111)

Although machine translators—such as apps or voice tools—are widely used, they often fail to capture idioms or intent. (131)

Important subtext may be misunderstood or unrecognized. (138)

Because of these challenges, human translators remain essential. (146)

Their work substantially improves understanding and reduces miscommunication. (154)

In fact, their careful language choices help promote peace across borders. (165)

Discussion Questions

Day 1:

- What does it mean to be bilingual?

Day 2:

- How do you use your bilingual skills?
- Do you think bilingualism is a superpower?

Sources:

[Speaking of Psychology: The benefits of being bilingual, with Viorica Marian, PhD](#)

[So, You Want To Be A Translator? \(February 9, 2021, American Translator's Association Blog, Sarah Lindholm\)](#)

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Text: _____

Fluency Self-Assessment Tracker

Paired Reading Routine

Words Per Minute

Use a timer and record how many words you read in 1 minute.

	Day 1	Day 2	Change (+/-)
WPM			

Fluency Reflection: Rate Yourself

Color in or circle the stars to show how you felt about your fluency. (1-3 stars)

Dimension	Day 1	Day 2	Notes
Reading Accuracy	☆ ☆ ☆	☆ ☆ ☆	
Clarity & Pacing	☆ ☆ ☆	☆ ☆ ☆	
Expression & Meaning	☆ ☆ ☆	☆ ☆ ☆	

What I noticed about my reading

One thing I improved from Day 1 to Day 2:

One goal I have for next time:

Tips for Growth

- ✓ **Accuracy:** Tap each word with your finger as you read.
- ✓ **Clarity:** Take a breath at punctuation marks.
- ✓ **Expression:** Imagine the speaker's feelings.

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

Focus Words

community (noun) comunidad, مجتمع, сообщество, 社区

- a group of people who live in the same area or share something in common

language (noun) idioma, لغة, язык, 语言

- a system of words or signs that people use to communicate

benefits (noun) beneficios, فوائد, преимущества, 好处

- good or helpful results or effects of something

bilingual (adjective) bilingüe, ثنائي اللغة, двуязычный, 双语的

- able to speak and understand two languages

translator (noun) traductor, مترجم, переводчик, 翻译员

- a person who changes words from one language into another

voice (noun) voz, صوت, голос, 声音

- the sound a person makes when speaking; also someone's way of expressing ideas

believe (verb) creer, يؤمن, верить, 相信

- to think that something is true or real

shape (verb) formar, يشكّل, формировать, 塑造

- to influence or give form to something

actions (noun) acciones, أفعال, действия, 行动

- things that people do

translation (noun) traducción, ترجمة, перевод, 翻译

- the process of changing words from one language into another

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lesson 1.01

Today's Guiding Question:

What does it mean to be part of a language learning community?

Text:

"Why We Still Need Human Translators"

Passages:

Focus Words Practice

- **community** (noun): a group of people who support and share with one another.
- **language** (noun): the words and systems we use to communicate with others.
- **benefits** (noun): the good things or advantages you get from something.

Your own sentence with a Focus Word:

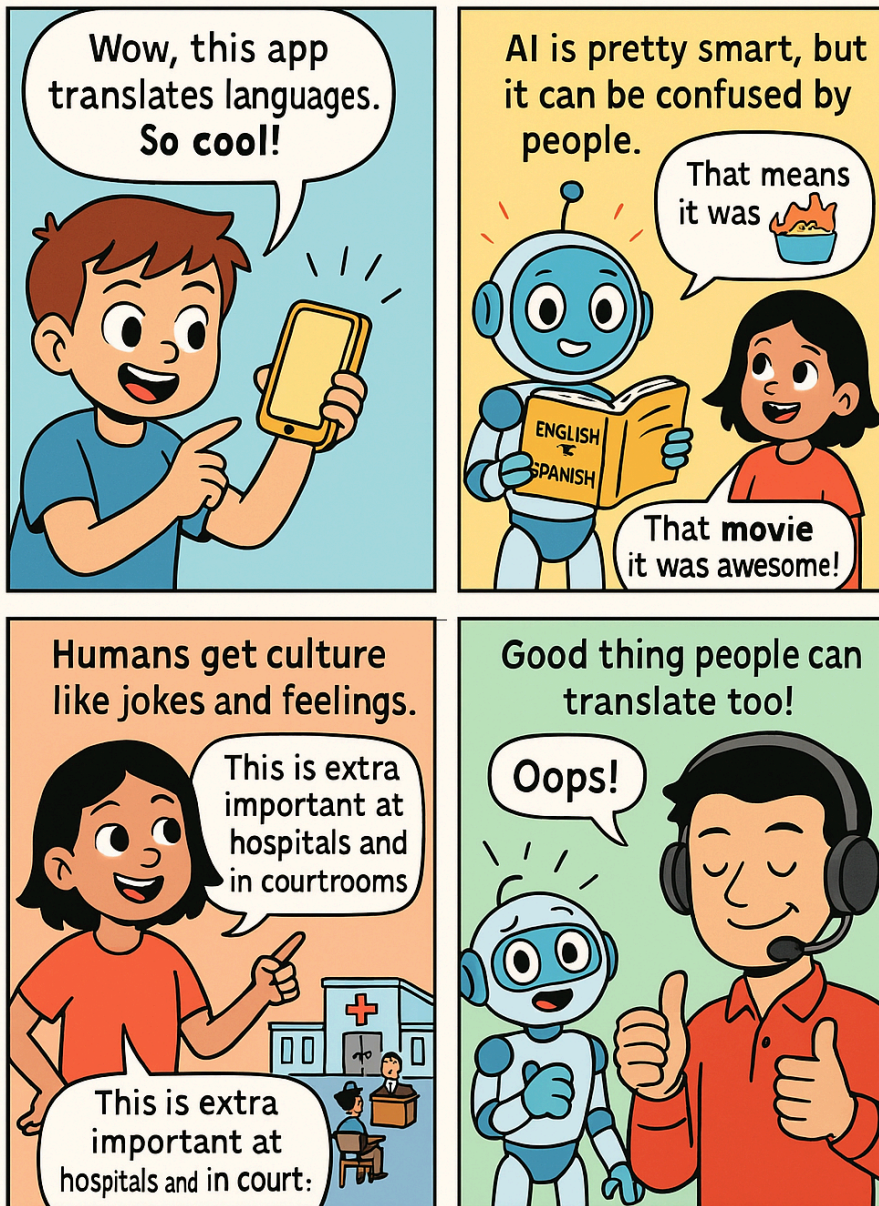
"Our classroom is a **community** because _____."

"I use **language** to _____ so I can _____."

"One **benefit** of reading fluently is _____ because
_____."

Text Talk

Why We Still Need Human Translators (Even with Super Smart AI!)



Word Power

- **AI (Artificial Intelligence)** – When computers act like they can think
- **Machine Translation** – Computers changing words from one language to another
- **Culture** – The traditions, beliefs, and ways people do things

Why We Still Need Human Translators (Even with Super Smart AI!)

Fluency Level: C / Lexile: ~890L

Have you ever used Google Translate or Duolingo? Pretty cool, right? You type something in one language, and—bam!—you get it in another. Some apps even talk for you in real time! It feels like we’re living in the future.

So... if apps can do all that, why are people still getting paid to **translate**, or **to change one language to another**?

Here’s the thing: AI is smart, but it’s not perfect. We still need **translators, who are people who rewrite texts or speech from one language into another**.

First, computers don’t always “get” people. If someone says, “That movie was fire,” a human knows it means “awesome,” not that the theater caught on fire. But AI might get confused and totally mess it up.

Second, humans understand the culture of a **community**. They know when to be funny, serious, polite, or casual—things AI can’t always figure out. This matters *a lot* in places like hospitals, courtrooms, or during important meetings. Human translators make careful language choices when translating official documents.

Also, not every language has enough data for AI to learn from. That means it can be great at Spanish or French... but not so great at languages like Zulu or Khmer. Humans? They’re amazing at all of it.

Even big tech companies and international companies still hire real people with **language** skills to be translators. Why? Because humans catch mistakes, sound more natural, and keep the message friendly. These are the **benefits** of human translators.

So, if you speak more than one language, you’ve got a superpower—one that even robots can’t steal.





Sources:

NPR: “If AI is so good, why are there still so many jobs for translators?”

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Group Discussion

Use your assigned role to help answer Today’s Guiding Question: **What does it mean to be part of a language learning community?**

 Active Listener Tracks peer ideas, tracks ideas.	 Thought Sharer Shares ideas aloud with text support.	 Language Bridge Builder Connects English and home language.	 Reflective Thinker Monitors understanding and prepares gist.
I heard ____ . I heard you say ____ , and I think ____ . I heard you say ____ . I agree/disagree because ____ .	Há feels ____ . I think Há feels because ____ . I believe Há is ____ because on page ____ it says ____ .	In my language, we say ____ . In [language], community is ____ . It means ____ . A similar word in [language] is ____ . It helps me understand because ____ .	I noticed ____ . What I understood was ____ . Based on what we read, I understood that ____ , and this connects to ____ .

Exit Ticket

- I helped someone understand by _____.
- One way I used language today was _____.
- Next time, I will try to _____ to support our community.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lesson 1.02

Today's Guiding Question:

What are the short vowel sounds in English words?

Vowel Pattern Word Sort

Cut out the word cards below. Read each word aloud. Sort them into the correct column for **a, e, i, o, u**.



cast	chop	nut
pen	cut	fan
pig	stun	hen
dog	hat	pot
cup	left	shrug
bed	six	gum
spin	boss	

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

a	e

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

i	o
u	

Vowel Log

Choose one word for each short vowel sound. Write it in the chart below. Add another word you know with the same sound.

Letter	Example from Sort	My Own Example
a		
e		
i		
o		
u		

Passage Scavenger Hunt

Look through your assigned passage (A, B, C, or D).

- Highlight **3 words** that have short vowel sounds.
- Share one example with your partner.

Exit Ticket

- One way I will remember the short vowel sounds is _____.
- Next time I see a new word, I can check for _____.

Lesson 1.03

Today's Guiding Question:

What does a translator do, and why is their work important?

Text:

"Why We Still Need Human Translators"

Passages:

Focus Words Practice

→ **Bilingual** (noun/adjective): a person who can speak and understand two languages well.

→ **Translator** (noun): a person who changes written or spoken words into another language.

→ **Meaning** (noun): what a word, sentence, or idea is trying to say.

Your own sentence with a Focus Word:





"Being **bilingual** helps me _____ and _____."

"A **translator** helps people understand _____ in _____."

"We have to understand the **meaning** so we can _____."

Group Discussion

Use your assigned role to help answer Today's Discussion Question: **Do you ever translate for others? How does translating make you feel?**

 Active Listener Tracks peer ideas, tracks ideas.	 Thought Sharer Shares ideas aloud with text support.	 Language Bridge Builder Connects English and home language.	 Reflective Thinker Monitors understanding and prepares gist.
I heard ____ . I heard you say ____ , and I think ____ . I heard you say ____ . I agree/disagree because ____ .	Translating makes me feel ____ . Translating can make me feel ____ because ____ . I believe translating can make someone feel ____ because ____ .	In my language, we say ____ . In [language], translate is ____ . It means ____ . A similar word in [language] is ____ . It helps me understand because ____ .	Translating makes me think ____ . What I understood was ____ . What I understood was that ____ because ____ .

Getting the Gist!

Write a sentence that shows the most important idea from today's reading.

Model:

Translators help people from different cultures understand each other by changing language carefully in ways that AI can't.

Now try your own (You may draw, translate, or discuss first to help plan your sentence):

Exit Ticket

- I helped someone understand by _____.
- One way I used language today was _____.
- Next time, I will try to _____ to support our community.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lesson 1.04

Today's Guiding Question:

How do prefixes help us understand the meaning of a word?

Prefix Practice

Prefixes are parts added to the beginning of words. They change the meaning of the word.

Today's prefixes:

- **un-** = not or opposite
- **dis-** = not or opposite
- **sub-** = under or below

Practice:

Write each word, circle the prefix, and underline the base word. Then write the meaning.

1. unhappy = un + happy = not happy
2. dislike = _____ + _____ = _____
3. submarine = _____ + _____ = _____
4. dishonest = _____ + _____ = _____
5. submit = _____ + _____ = _____
6. unknown = _____ + _____ = _____

Challenge: Add one example from your home language that uses a similar prefix.

Shared Writing: The Work of a Translator

Fill in the blanks with words from the Word Bank.

Word Bank:

help talk miss check pick guess list
unlock discuss submit understand dislike

The Work of a Translator

Translators do important work. They _____ words from one language to another so more people can _____ what is said. Some work online, while others _____ papers for school or work. One translator told me she likes to _____ hard words and find the best ones to match. Good translators do not just _____ or _____. They _____ ideas and _____ the best choices. They may have to _____ their work more than once or _____ others see what the message really means. Even if people seem to _____ someone's ideas or words, they may just _____ what the person is truly trying to say. That is why translators matter.

Exit Ticket

- I noticed that adding un-, dis-, or sub- to a word can change it by _____.
- This can help me when I read because _____.

Lesson 1.05

Today’s Guiding Question:

Why do translators need to think carefully about language?

Text: "Why We Still Need Human Translators"	Passages:
---	------------------

Focus Words Practice





→ **careful** (adjective): paying close attention so something is done correctly or respectfully

Your own sentence with a Focus Word:

“A translator has to be **careful** when _____ because _____.”

Group Discussion

Use your assigned role to help answer Today’s Guiding Question: **Why do translators need to think carefully about language?**

 Active Listener Tracks peer ideas, tracks ideas.	 Thought Sharer Shares ideas aloud with text support.	 Language Bridge Builder Connects English and home language.	 Reflective Thinker Monitors understanding and prepares gist.
I heard ____ . I heard you say ____ , and I think ____ . I heard you say ____ . I agree/disagree because ____ .	I think a translator needs to think carefully because ____ . Translators need to think about ____ . I believe a translator needs to think carefully about language because on page ____ , it says ____ .	In my language, we say ____ . In [language], language is ____ . It means ____ . A similar word in [language] is ____ . It helps me understand because ____ .	I noticed ____ . What I understood was ____ . Based on what we read, I understood that ____ , and this connects to ____ .

Translation

TRANSLATE Questioning Card

At the word-level:

- What words do I know that look like this word in English or in another language?
- What other words do I know that mean the same thing?

At the phrase-level:

- Did the order of the words change when I translated the text? How so?
- Are there more words or fewer words? If so, why?

At the meaning-level:

- Does my translation capture the 'spirit' or 'feeling' of the original text? Why or why not? Could the words be translated word-for-word? Why or why not?

Use these questions to think about your own translation or a classmate's translation:



Complete the translation table: Adjective/ Noun

English Phrase	Translation (Home Language)	Adjective Placement	Meaning/Tone Difference
careful language choices			
international companies			
official documents			

- In English _____, but in [my language] _____.

Exit Ticket

- Translating helped me notice that _____
_____.
- One way translation helped me understand English better today was _____
_____.

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lesson 1.06

Today's Guiding Question:

How can a translator shape people's actions?

Text:

"How Can Translators Shape People's Actions?"

Passages:

Focus Words Practice

→ **shape** (verb): to form or influence something in a certain way

→ **actions** (noun): the things that someone does

Your own sentence with a Focus Word:

"A translator can **shape** _____ by _____."

"The translator's **actions** affected _____."

Page intentionally left blank for printing purposes.

Text Talk

How Can Translators Shape People's Actions?

Fluency Level: Lexile ~960L

Word Count: 340

During a time called the Vietnam War, which lasted from 1955 to 1975, people in the country of Vietnam were caught in a long and painful conflict. The war was between North Vietnam and South Vietnam, which was supported by the United States and others who wanted to stop Communism.



As soldiers fought with weapons, others used a different kind of tool: language. One of the most powerful voices of the war didn't come from a general—it came from a translator on the radio.

Her name was Trịnh Thị Ngọ, but American soldiers knew her as Hanoi Hannah. She worked for North Vietnam and spoke English on the radio to U.S. troops. She was bilingual, using both Vietnamese and English. Every day, she translated news reports, shared emotional messages, and played sad music. She even read the names of American soldiers who had died and said where they were from.



Hanoi Hannah's job was to make soldiers feel scared, homesick, or unsure about why they were fighting. Her careful language choices impacted soldiers' actions, even changing their minds about fighting. She believed her words could make them leave the war and go home. Some soldiers laughed at her, but others said her messages made them think.

Trinh Ngo learned English by listening to the radio. She was a careful speaker, using her voice to send strong messages. She believed in her work and saw language as a way to fight—not with bombs, but with ideas.





Hanoi Hannah's story shows how a translator can shape people's actions. By using bilingual skills and choosing words carefully, translators can stir emotions, change opinions, and even affect history.

Sources:

[Hanoi Hannah: Communist Vietnam's best-known propagandist revisited](#)

Group Discussion

Use your assigned role to help answer Today's Guiding Question: **How can a translator shape people's actions?**

 Active Listener Tracks peer ideas, tracks ideas.	 Thought Sharer Shares ideas aloud with text support.	 Language Bridge Builder Connects English and home language.	 Reflective Thinker Monitors understanding and prepares gist.
<p>I heard you say a translator can ____, and I think ____.</p> <p>I heard you say ____ . I agree/disagree because ____ .</p>	<p>I think a translator can shape people's actions because ____ .</p> <p>I think she influenced ____ because ____ .</p> <p>I believe she shaped actions because it says ____ .</p>	<p>In my language, we say ____ .</p> <p>In [language], shape is ____ . It means ____ .</p> <p>A word like shape in my language is ____ .</p>	<p>I learned ____ .</p> <p>What I understood was ____ .</p> <p>Based on what we read, I understand that ____, and this connects to ____ .</p>

Getting the Gist!

Write a sentence that shows the most important idea from today's reading.

Model:

"During the Vietnam War, translators used their language to fight and win the war."

Now try your own (You may draw, translate, or discuss first to help plan your sentence):

Exit Ticket

- Today, I supported my understanding by _____
_____ (using a partner, drawing, asking a question, looking at the graffiti wall).
- Next time, I will _____ to understand the text better.

Lesson 1.07

Today's Guiding Question:

How can we break English words apart to read them?

Word Breaker Strategy Practice:

Word Breaker Strategy #1 – Peel Off Prefixes

1. A prefix is a part added to the beginning of a word.
2. Peel off the prefix → read the base word → blend them together.

Word breaker: Peel off prefixes

Example:  unhappy

unmask

distrust

unbutton

unfold

disobey

subtext

disinfect

unfit

dishonest

unravel

unclog the sink

display

unzip the backpack

subjective

distract your mom

unplug

a time of unrest

unathletic

disband the pack

Practice Fluency!

With your partner, complete the Partner Fluency Routine.

Passages:

Level A	Daniel Tries Something New	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 2
Level B	Angel the Translator	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 4
Level C	Learning Languages and Translating	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 6
Level D	A Day in the Life of a Translator	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 8

Exit Ticket

- I learned that to read words, I can _____.
- I learned that fluency is important because _____.

Lesson 1.08

Today’s Guiding Question

How did Hanoi Hannah’s voice shape people’s beliefs and actions?

Text: “How Can Translators Shape People’s Actions?”	Passages:
---	------------------

Focus Words Practice

- **voice** (noun): the sound or tone used to communicate; can express emotion and meaning
- **believe** (verb): to think something is true or important





Your own sentence with a Focus Word:

“Her **voice** made people feel _____.”

“She **believed** that her words could _____.”

Group Discussion

Use your assigned role to help answer Today’s Guiding Question: **How did Hanoi Hannah’s voice shape people’s beliefs and actions?**

 Active Listener Tracks peer ideas, tracks ideas.	 Thought Sharer Shares ideas aloud with text support.	 Language Bridge Builder Connects English and home language.	 Reflective Thinker Monitors understanding and prepares gist.
I heard ____ . I heard you say ____ , and I think ____ . I heard you say ____ . I agree/disagree because ____ .	Hannah changed ____ . I think she changed ____ because ____ . I believe Hannah shaped actions because it says ____ .	In my language, we say ____ . In [language], voice is ____ . It means ____ . A similar word in [language] is ____ . It helps me understand because ____ .	I learned ____ . What I understood was ____ . Based on what we read, I understood that ____ , and this connects to ____ .

Getting the Gist!

Write a sentence that shows the most important idea from today's reading.

Model:

"Hanoi Hannah used translation and her voice to change what soldiers felt and believed about the war."

Now try your own (You may draw, translate, or discuss first to help plan your sentence):

Exit Ticket

- What language-learning strategy helped you understand Hà's response today?
 - ☐ I used the visuals on the slide.
 - ☐ I asked a partner to translate.
 - ☐ I thought about a time I felt curious, too.
- Next time, I will _____ to support my understanding.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Lesson 1.09

Today's Guiding Question:

How do people use language to help others?

Practice Fluency!

With your partner, complete the Partner Fluency Routine.

Find your fluency passage. Both partners will read for one minute. Record WPM Chart on page 11.

Passages:

Level A	Daniel Tries Something New	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 2
Level B	Angel the Translator	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 4
Level C	Learning Languages and Translating	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 6
Level D	A Day in the Life of a Translator	Cycle 1 • Fluency • Page 8

Shared Writing: Drafting

Return to your passage. Circle one **emotion word** (how the person felt) and underline one **action word** (what the person did).

Partner Talk:

- “I circled the word _____ because it shows the character felt _____.”
- “I underlined _____ because it shows the character did _____.”

Now, complete the writing task:

Level A/B: Complete the sentence frame.

“_____ felt _____ because _____.”
_____.

Level C: Write 2–3 sentences about how Daniel responded when things got hard.

Prompt: How did Daniel respond when things got hard?

Sentence Frames:

- “When Daniel didn’t understand, he...”
- “This shows he...”

Word Bank:

→ tried / read / subtitles / nervous / kept going / learn

Your Response:

Level D:

Prompt: How did the narrator grow from being treated unfairly?

Use two pieces of evidence.

Sentence Frames:

→ “At first _____, but then _____.”

→ “I know this because _____. This shows _____.”

→ “It suggests _____.”

Your Response:

Exit Ticket

- Something I did as a writer today was _____.
- One thing that helped me write was _____.

Lesson 1.10

Today's Guiding Question:

How do translators use special language to influence people's thoughts and feelings?

Text:

"How Can Translators Shape People's Actions?"

Passages:

Translation

TRANSLATE Questioning Card

At the word-level:

- What words do I know that look like this word in English or in another language?
- What other words do I know that mean the same thing?

At the phrase-level:

- Did the order of the words change when I translated the text? How so?
- Are there more words or fewer words? If so, why?

At the meaning-level:

- Does my translation capture the 'spirit' or 'feeling' of the original text? Why or why not? Could the words be translated word-for-word? Why or why not?

Use these questions to think about your own translation or a classmate's translation:



Translate the phrase below.

Phrase	Home language translation	Word order notes	Tone/meaning in translation
careful language choices			

Exit Ticket

Complete this sentence to reflect on how translation helped your thinking:

- Today, I used translation to understand _____.
- This helped me see _____ more clearly.
- Next time, I will _____ to support my language learning.