

## Did Eva Actually See the Grape? A Translation Challenge

Have you watched the MMLL sample lecture *Did Eva Actually See the Grape?* It is a challenge to show different levels of language properties which a translator needs to consider in a particular context. Please find below some related questions and suggestions for independent research:

- 1) Have you ever used a text corpus? They can be a useful language resource for translators.
  - 2.1) Using a dictionary, search engines or an online encyclopedia, find what a “text corpus” is
  - 2.2) Go to <https://www.linguateca.pt/COMPARA/>, read the “COMPARA - Home” page and answer: What is a bidirectional parallel corpus?
  - 2.3) Following the website instructions, do a simple search on the word “manga”. Make sure you click on the “From Portuguese to English” tab
  - 2.4) You are going to find 32 occurrences. Analyse all English translations and find 4 different meanings for “manga”. Which one is the most common?
  - 2.5) Do the same with the word “banda”
- 2) Check Greengo Dictionary, a compilation of Brazilian slang translated into English. Based on *Did Eva Actually See the Grape?*, how would you describe their work? Which levels of language properties do they prioritise? Meaning? Form? Context? How do they manipulate these levels? Why is it funny?

<https://www.facebook.com/greengodictionary/>

<https://twitter.com/greengodict>

<https://www.instagram.com/greengodictionary/>

- 3) Different meanings behind numbers in different cultures is mentioned in the lecture. Read why the number 24 is avoided by male Brazilian football players and how this is linked to discrimination:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jogo\\_do\\_Bicho#Cultural\\_impact](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jogo_do_Bicho#Cultural_impact)

- 4) Portuguese Communication Exercises (University of Texas at Austin) is a compilation of video clips in which native speakers of Portuguese from various locations demonstrate several language tasks (as how to talk about the weather or describe the plot of your favourite film). Watch the videos on Basic Colours and compare Portuguese and English vocabulary and language structures. After clicking on a picture, you can watch the videos and play with the buttons on the top right (E: translation into English; P: transcription in Portuguese; N: none)

<http://www.laits.utexas.edu/orkelm/ppe/beg03.html>

- 5) Watch translator Daniel Hahn talking about “The Cat Sat on the Mat”, language flavour and texture:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTuWODqc2vg>