

5 Worksheet on Mediation (Conveying the Sense)

Text: Kevin Rudd: "Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples", from: Martin Arndt/Karl Sassenberg, *Australia and New Zealand - Down Under On Top*, Viewfinder Topics (München: Langenscheidt, 2011), pp. 10f.

A HOW TO DEAL WITH MEDIATION TASKS

- Read the task carefully, paying special attention to the communicative context: Who are you supposed to convey the sense of a text to? What does the other person need it for?
- Read the text thoroughly and mark its structure either while you are reading it or directly after the first reading.
- When writing your version of the text (in English or German, depending on what the task is), make sure you restrict yourself to the gist of the original; leave out unnecessary details.
- Translation is a special case of mediation. If the task requires a translation, pay attention to all the details and strive to produce an exact stylistic equivalent of the original text in the target language.
- Restate in your own words, rather than simply parroting the speaker.
- Avoid direct speech and giving your own opinion.
- Begin by giving the reason for your mediation, then name the original title, translate it and add the author's name.
- Use linking words/connectives.

B TASKS

1 MEDIATION ENGLISH – GERMAN

Text: Kevin Rudd: "Apology to Australia's Indigenous Peoples" (*Viewfinder Topic: Australia and New Zealand*, pp. 10f.)

1. A friend of yours heard about the various steps that have been made by the Australian governments to integrate the Aborigines. He asks you to sum up one of the greatest speeches ever held by an Australian politician, Kevin Rudd's apology to the Aborigines from February 2008. Read pp. 10-11, ll. 1-87 and summarize its content in German.

2. In order to find out more about Rudd's style, translate the paragraph from l. 38 to l. 66.
3. Comment on Rudd's style and rhetoric in this passage.

2 MEDIATION GERMAN – ENGLISH

Stephan Orth, „Aborigines feiern das "Sorry" ihres Premiers“, *SPIEGEL* Online, 13. Februar 2008

Source: <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/0,1518,535100,00.html> (Please copy and paste this hyperlink into your browser.)

An Australian exchange student wants to prepare his stay in Germany and to get an idea what German newspapers think about Kevin Rudd's famous speech. He asks you via e-mail to give him a short summary of the article he found on the Internet. Write it in English (c. 230–280 words).

Explanations

Darryl Towney: this is one of the most repeated quotes in connection with Rudd's speech –

Willy Brandts Kniefall: the Warsaw genuflection by the German chancellor Willy Brandt that occurred on July 12th, 1970 before a 'Warsaw Ghetto Uprising' monument has been seen as a vital step in bridging the gaps World War II had left between Germany and Eastern Europe

(Martin Arndt)