

Esperanta tradukseksercico

Here are some sentences in Esperanto (a made-up language invented by L. L. Zamenhof in the late 19th century), together with rather free translations into English.

- (1) la alta knabo malsaniĝis.
'The tall boy fell ill.'
- (2) ĉu li grandigis la grandecon de la dormejo?
'Did he increase the size of the dormitory?'
- (3) ankaŭ malaltaj knabinoj povas esti belaj.
'Short girls, too, can be beautiful.'
- (4) mia patro estas sana ĉar li ne trinkas vinon.
'My father is healthy because he doesn't drink wine.'
- (5) la bonaj monaĥinoj volis preĝi en la preĝejo.
'The good nuns wanted to pray in church.'
- (6) lerni la esperantan lingvon estas facila.
'It's easy to learn Esperanto.'
- (7) mi vidis ŝian onklon en la trinkejo.
'I saw her uncle in the bar.'
- (8) la beleco de la lingvo estas ĝia facileco.
'The beauty of the language is its simplicity.'
- (9) ĉu vi konas miajn onklojn?
'Do you know my uncles?'

Part I

Provide a short morpheme dictionary (a morphicon) of Esperanto based on the given examples, by listing all the morphemes you can find and giving their meaning or their grammatical function. It might help to know that there is no allomorphy.

All Noun roots end in a certain vowel. What is it?

All Adjective roots also end in a certain vowel. What is it?

What about Verb roots?

Part II

As best you can, write a phrase structure grammar that will generate the given sentences (or, if you are too advanced to write a phrase structure grammar, say whatever is necessary). Here is a good place for discussion. If you need any transformations, say why, and state them.

Part III

Extend your grammar to account for all the morphology.

Part IV

Translate the following five sentences into Esperanto:

1. Did her aunt know my mother?
2. His health deteriorated.
3. The boys can also learn difficult languages at school.
4. The monks adorned the church.
5. Does your mother want to put the boys to sleep?

Part V

Discuss anything interesting.

Part VI

For extra credit, I think the person who made up this problem made a mistake in the title. What do you think I think that mistake is?