

FINAL CHALLENGE

Translation text due: Monday May 15 at midnight (11:59pm) China time

Translator's note due: Wednesday May 17 at midnight (11:59pm) China time

For your **final challenge**, you may do any of the following:

- 1) Retranslate a challenge that you think wasn't attempted successfully;
- 2) Revise, and translate more of, a text that you think was translated fairly successfully;
- 3) Pick a challenge off the **menu for Challenge 2** that wasn't attempted;
- 4) Translate a text of your own choosing.

For the **translation** itself, you may work **individually or as a group**. (I encourage you to work with classmates! Having more than one "pair of eyes" on a text often yields a better product.)

However, for the **translator's note**, each student must work **individually**.

If you are choosing your own text, please write a brief (3-5 sentence) **scenario** explaining the (hypothetical) **purpose** and **target audience** of your translation (where might we imagine this being published? how will it be read? by whom? for what purpose?)

Length: **Translation:** ~1000-1500 words / ~1500-2000 字 (roughly the same length as the excerpts we've worked on for Challenges 1 and 2)
Translator's note: 800-1000 words (please respect the word limit)

Grading: I will grade both translation and translator's note using the same rubrics I used for Challenge 1 and 2. For how the course grade will be calculated, see [this document](#) (bottom of 3rd page)

ADVICE AND REMINDERS

Parallel texts: Don't forget that **parallel texts** (similar texts of the same genre in the **target** language) can be especially helpful when dealing with a genre you're not already deeply familiar with. If you're not sure how to go about finding an appropriate parallel text, ask me—I can help you.

Informants: Don't forget to budget time to consult **informants**, either to ask questions about the original or to get feedback on your drafts. Remember, WLS coaches can be very helpful for this!

L2 translation: If you're translating into your **second language (L2)**, unless your L2 writing is of near-native proficiency you will likely need **heavy involvement** from a native speaker who is willing to spend time with you to ensure that you're expressing yourself accurately and authentically. If you don't have a way to get such input, think twice before attempting L2 translation!

Scenario: As a translation's effectiveness depends greatly on its **purpose**, I will base my judgments of your translation on the **scenario** you write. Do the strategies you adopt make sense, given the scenario you've outlined? So take your scenario seriously; think carefully about it.

Translator's note: In addition to showing me that you can describe the subtle nuances of language clearly in writing, you might consider using your translator's note to present an **argument** for why you translated the text the way you did. This can be particularly helpful if your text is one for which the meaning of **readability**, **accuracy**, or **style** may be highly debatable. If you do this, I'll take the argument you present into account when grading your translation.