

Recovery Reading Activity – Grade 8

Topic: Language, Identity, and Translation

Activity 1: Organize the Text

The paragraphs below are mixed. Number them (1–5) to form a coherent text.

A. As the discussion continued, the focus began to shift. Instead of analyzing the quality of the translation, people started concentrating on the translator’s identity, including their background, gender, and personal experiences. This created a situation in which the work itself became less important than the person producing it.

B. However, many professional translators disagreed with this perspective. They explained that translation requires a combination of skills, including linguistic accuracy, cultural awareness, and creativity. In their view, limiting who can translate a text based on identity is an excessive restriction that could reduce opportunities and limit artistic expression.

C. Supporters of this idea argued that translation is not just a technical process but also an artistic and emotional one. They claimed that a translator must understand the cultural and personal background of the author in order to recreate the original message faithfully. Without this connection, they believed the translation could lose its meaning and impact.

D. In conclusion, the controversy highlights a complex issue in modern society. It shows the tension between the importance of representation and the value of professional skill. While there is no simple answer, the debate encourages us to reflect on how we evaluate artistic work and the role identity plays in that process.

E. The debate began when a well-known poem was translated into several languages after gaining international attention. Shortly after, criticism appeared on social media questioning whether the chosen translators were the “right” people for the task. This situation quickly developed into a larger discussion about language, identity, and artistic responsibility.

Answers: 1. ___ 2. ___ 3. ___ 4. ___ 5. ___

Activity 2: Vocabulary

Match the words with their definitions.

- a. faithfully
- b. awareness
- c. restriction
- d. impact
- e. controversy
- f. perspective
- g. evaluate

- 1. ___ a strong public disagreement or discussion
- 2. ___ a particular way of thinking about something
- 3. ___ to judge or form an opinion about something
- 4. ___ a limitation or control on actions
- 5. ___ understanding or knowledge of a situation
- 6. ___ with accuracy and loyalty to the original
- 7. ___ a strong effect or influence

Activity 3: T / DT / DK

- a. Translation is only a technical skill. ___
- b. Identity influenced people's opinions. ___
- c. All translators agree on identity. ___
- d. Social media played a role. ___
- e. There is one correct answer. ___
- f. Professional skills are important. ___

Activity 4: Critical Thinking

Answer in 2-4 sentences:

1. Why did the debate move away from quality?

2. What are the two main positions?

3. What is your opinion? Why?
