

*Read the text. Use Google or whatever other tools, if needed, to understand everything.*

*Write down unfamiliar words with a translation (notebook).*

*Then compose the same text in Estonian. Don't follow the exact same order of words as in the original. Still – don't leave anything out! And the main thing – the translated text should be nice and pleasant to read. Oh yeah – and you may also add something if you like to make the text even more readable.*

---

Years ago, anthropologist Margaret Mead was asked by a student what she considered to be the first sign of civilization in a culture. The student expected Mead to talk about fishhooks or clay pots or grinding stones.

But no. Mead said that the first sign of civilization in an ancient culture was a femur (thighbone) that had been broken and then healed. Mead explained that in the animal kingdom, if you break your leg, you die. You cannot run from danger, get to the river for a drink or hunt for food. You are meat for prowling beasts. No animal survives a broken leg long enough for the bone to heal.

A broken femur that has healed is evidence that someone has taken time to stay with the one who fell, has bound up the wound, has carried the person to safety and has tended the person through recovery.

"Helping someone else through difficulty is where civilization starts", Mead said.

We are at our best when we serve others. Be civilized.