

Translations

A major consideration in a world literature class is the concept of translation. We will be reading texts that were originally created in a language other than English. Languages tend to be very complex, so translating a text is no small task. Who translates? What choices are made? What audience do they have in mind? Your homework will involve an investigation into this topic.

First, you will need to take the following Italian lines and copy them into an assigned translation tool.

Nel mezzo del cammin di nostra vita
mi ritrovai per una selva oscura,
ché la diritta via era smarrita.

Here is a list of available free translation sites.

1. <https://www.freetranslation.com/>
2. <http://www.reverso.net/translationresults.aspx?lang=EN&direction=italian-english>
3. <http://www.online-translator.com/>
4. <https://translate.google.com/>
5. <http://www.bing.com/translator/>

Copy the literal translation down, and if it is confusing rewrite it so it makes sense. You must bring **BOTH** of these into class: typed.

Next, access the NPR show *Radio Lab* and listen to Season 13, Episode 1. You only need to listen to the first 16 minutes (though if you like, you may listen to the entire show!). <http://www.radiolab.org/story/translation/>

Once you have completed this, write a one page reflection on the idea of translations based on your three line translation and the Radio Lab show. You are informally reflecting, so contemplate, explore, question, and proofread!

This single page reflection should be double-spaced, 12 point, times font, is due next class day and worth 20 points. Be prepared to share.