

# Babel Fish

by Rick Rubenstein (inspired by a puzzle by Saxifrage at the Vancouver NPL convention)

The *Hitchhiker's Guide* series features the amazing Babel Fish, which, from its natural habitat inside a person's ear, feeds on any language drifting by and excretes whatever language its host speaks, thus providing universal translation.

In tribute, I have taken choice English proverbs (all from Wikipedia) and, using AltaVista's aptly-named Babel Fish translation engine, translated each from English to German, German to French, French to Italian, Italian back to English, English to Portuguese, Portuguese to French again, French to Dutch, and Dutch back once again to English. (Alas, Vogon was not available.)

Your task is to try to guess the original proverb from the resulting gibberish.

The results are arranged alphabetically by what I (somewhat arbitrarily) considered the first "interesting" word in the original proverb.

All the proverbs are reasonably well-known (at least well enough that I had heard of them). Since a single proverb often exists in various forms and phrasings, consider any close guess a correct guess. Occasionally a foreign word or two slipped out the end untranslated, so some foreign language skills may come in handy.

Some of these will be easy (but I hope still funny); others are probably well-nigh impossible.

Enjoy!

1. The activities do bankruptcy more with a lot of noise of what words.
2. the possession is, she must assess better and lost when has everyone that never do not assess have.
3. Improved only never postpones.
4. improved, of end delicate remain and imbecille are thought, to eliminate to its opening deouvrir and a lot to the doubt.
5. The best fire cupboard loves sad.
6. If is not break, the rule is not.
7. They are not possible and also have mangiargli its cake.
8. He gives does not form to his to dinanzi of imperlare to the varkens.
9. Horses which are not modified in the cord of the resources.
10. Polli is not counted, for those ausgebruetet change themselves.

11. They must crawl, that he for can go.
12. in late devastates.
13. Not ritagliate consonance nose to bunch his ace.
14. Request of the private hour of the hope for action of desperation.
15. Several recommendations for several peoples.
16. The majority of patients of catti give forms to the doctors.
17. fact to others, since toi.
18. The first bird receives the propeller without target.
19. To the bed and soon the types raise soon a man in hygienically on the manner, rich and intelligently.
20. The empty containers give forms to the part largest of the noise.

21. To Matti it is human; necessarily the discharge goettlich is.
22. A donor of imperfect synchronisation is also in a straight line two times each day.
23. The deep increases of knowledge despise.
24. If not continuations initially, tried, still venture themselves.
25. A friend in the need is in the costume a friend.
26. He within refuses, refuses outside.
27. given re-enter a fish and to a man by a day; a man for has informed depêcher and re-entry during a duration of living.
28. All those who switch on themselves, are not them a gold.
29. That that has run, circulates.
30. To gramme it has surrounded more and greener in the other side of to.

31. Large eiken of the small increase of capezzoli themselves.
32. it is impressive, with impressive manners.
33. Types expenditure of rapidity.
34. It is a sick wind which supports no connections.
35. you have a lot of chains in fire.
36. Alleskoenner are landladies no person.
37. If you its opening closed, not - worn out he determines its foot.
38. Found as for the floor with the dogs, which are awoken above with pulci.
39. Not observed a horse of the present in the opening.
40. observed, that that you have jumped.
41. The trough of labbro of the ships taken off.

42. Menzogna can be half around the world, for that truth which you receive on their cargos.
43. A mount of a frame of the mole.
44. he has given form to hay, when the sun will seem.
45. Since form its bed, conséquemment have given, which you detrouver have had.
46. The society assesses unfortunately.
47. As the lake things, more modifying what remains they, the same.
48. The effort of the effort to an effort never does not bring them in the war.
49. Absolutely no man is a console.
50. Sufficient field so that bring no cat in balance.
51. Zero which follows as the event.

52. He cancels risk, profit the zero.

53. Troedel of people are a treasure of another man.

54. His rueber of the stage, until this large Ms sings.

55. You the which the satisfied Pfeifer, appointment the melody.

56. A currency of hundred for zerstossen.

57. A currency of hundred that is preserved, is a currency of hundred reached results.

58. AbbildungIST with dignity miles of the words.

59. Bevoelkeren he aulequel own makes in the greenhouses of rock will not be played that.

60. There are places such as the house.

61. The practice forms sticking out.

62. You do not put charette the part for the horse.
63. A rock of paper does not apprehend foam.
64. The bank of the oriented directives is break outside.
65. They cancel my later part and cancelams his.
66. If the close-cropped shoe, the capacities place.
67. Since you conséquemment have been collecting canaleta of the tap.
68. The piles and the rocks are possible mis boneses, but of the words leave not to wound it never.
69. The only expenditure stupid is that what does not wonder itself.
70. They can inform no old dog concerning new return.
71. thought, that that you have spoken.



72. completely thought, an action of the place.
73. The time has as the gift.
74. More in a lot of damages they koeche the minestra.
75. The witness two is better.
76. Ingiustizie two form none to a right-hand side.
77. Expenditure, not foretell.
78. Such as distant water which is removed of the later part of a duck.
79. The frodatore profit by winning never never and.
80. the left-hand side to lalaquelle without sin the first rock are game.
81. The complete work and signs do not lift blunted of the boy.
82. Ulcere of blood fêz the attention of a mud never.