

PÄDAGOGISCHES INSTITUT DES BUNDES IN WIEN

“Communication at Work”

Arbeitswelt Englisch

*Lehrer/innenfortbildung für die unten angeführten fett gedruckten
Bundesländer*

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Course Report

By

Lamberto Bozzi

Inspector of the Ministry of Education,
University and Research - Italy
lambozzi@tin.it

1

A time-honoured Russian proverb says
(Albert Speer found out in grim *Spandau*)
The sharing of a *pud* of salt is how
One gets to know a man and all his ways

2

And the process may be a long affair,
A *pud* of salt is almost thirty pounds,
Luckily in Salzburg this mineral abounds
And is breathed, so to speak, with the air

3

Those who are lucky enough to spend
a week in the city of science, poetry and art
Home to likes of Doppler, Trakl and Mozart
Can quickly make many a trusted friend

4

Maybe that's the reason why the P I
Or in short the Pedagogical Institute,
Run by people pedagogically acute

Who know friendship to be the strongest tie,
 Organized “Communication at Work”
 A seminar and threw in Salzburg as a perk

5

They invited five European teachers: a pair
 Came from those Baltic states flat and cool
 Of recent years rid of the Russian Bear
 One was from Spain one from Istanbul
 And a co-citizen was the Italian guest
 Of the baritone Wolf Mozart loved best
 Lastly a Scotswoman known to ply her way
 Between Brussels and the kingdom of Norway

6

The native participants had pride of place
 As experts in vocational education
 Experts in teaching English face to face
 And all obviously teachers by vocation

7

the venue was at the *Zum Hirschen* Hotel
 (where they, alas, would serve *kein bier vor vier*)
 Between the station and *Schloss Mirabel*
 So as to have downtown at hand and near

8

But after *vier* or in plain English four o’ clock
 All over old Salzburg orderly and baroque
 Good beer is available in great quantity
 And is best quaffed in good company

9

The splendidly proportioned *Schloss Mirabel*
 Where a lot of Bishops chose to dwell
 has a dream garden good for a leisurely stroll
 And was once defended by the Hero of Tyrol

10

In Shakespeare's time a gentleman Italianate
 Was looked down on as a devil incarnate
 But Italianate Salzburg looks up to heaven and actually
 Has the only *Campo Santo*, or Holy field, outside Italy

11

The Provincial Parliament

Salzburg has a well housed provincial Parliament
 And smart politicians ready to explain
 To eager teachers their short and long term aim
 In the pursuit of the citizens' betterment

12

Festung Ohensalzburg

In the Salzburg fastness
 The things that strike you
 Are its whitewashed vastness⁴
 the breathtaking view
 on plain, mountain , glen
 and the *hangman's* den

13

E-learning

from Seville to Riga from Rhodes to Dieppe
 teachers and administrators seem to agree
 E-learning in all its facets is going to be
 A goal to be reached slowly, step by step
 And in teaching as in the other arts
 One is never on his way until one starts

14

The Notebook

A notebook for the English of Business

To be used for a very practical end
Shows the P I is not willing to miss
any opportunity and any trend

15

European Certificate in Language Teaching to Adults

In Austria once a land of many a voice
Do you realize Mandy Jore who
Gave *certificates* to adults before you?
None other than a man called James Joyce.
He gave English lessons in Pola for a fee
To naval officers of the *k.u k.* monarchy

16

Obertrum Catering School

We were served soft drinks, aperitifs and sekt
Prior to a meal with dishes cooked *perfekt*
At *Obertrum*, a spot quiet and bucolic,
In a dream school for hotelmen and cooks,
worthy of good note in all catering books,
It was just super, it was hyperbolic.

17

Textbooks

Before me I have this handy green book
Just about the size of a foolscap
Soft to the touch and with a pleasant look
Which gives good English, like good beer, on tap

It's a book of a series I warmly recommend
As it's a means to reach a serious end:
To put learners – which makes all the difference-
In their own trade's frame of reference.

And it's a work summing up on the whole

The Seminar's communicative goal

1.

Albert Speer (Mannheim 1905-London 1981), "Spandauer Tagebücher".
Wien: Ullstein, 1978. Seite 517

„Der neue sowjetische Direktor macht keine unangenehmen Eindruck. Ich sagte das Naumow. Aber statt einer Antwort zitierte er ein russischer Sprichwort, nach dem man einen Mann erst kenne, wenn man mit ihm zusammen ein Pud Salz verbraucht habe. Ich schlug in der Bibliothek nach. Ein russisches Pud wiegt 16,4 kilo“ (22.10.1959)

3.

Christian Doppler (Salzburg 1803–Venezia 1853) was a mathematician and a physicist. The Doppler effect is named after him.

Georg Trakl (Salzburg 1887-Cracow 1914), a poet whose verses are tortured and gloomy.

Es ist ein Stoppelfeld, in das ein schwarzer Regen fällt.
Es ist ein brauner Baum, der einsam dasteht.
Es ist ein Zischelwind, der leere Hütten umkreist -
Wie traurig dieser Abend.

.....
(De Profundis)

5.

Luigi Bassi (Pesaro 1766 – Dresden 1825).

Mozart schrieb für Bassi die Titelpartie des "Don Giovanni"

Pesaro, der Geburtsort Rossinis (1792-Passy 1868), ist die Hauptstadt der mit Urbino verbundenen Mark oder Provinz Pesaro-Urbino

8.

Of course, life isn't only *beer and skittles*. The Seminar schedule was varied and alternated cultural and professional visits with conferences and groupwork. I was impressed with the relaxed atmosphere of the session and the way teachers worked interacted.

9.

Andreas Hofer, a.k.a. *Sandwirt*, Sankt Leonhard, Meran 1767- Mantova 1823). Hofer headed the Tyrolean insurrection against Napoleon and his Bavarian allies. He was executed in Mantua and is buried in the Hofkirche, Innsbruck.

11.

During the reception at the Provincial Parliament the participants were given an overall view of the Salzburg region. I was particularly interested in the research done in the treatment of wood as my hometown has a thriving furniture industry.

12.

It seems the house was never used by the city hangman. A real hangman's house could certainly be seen from the fastness with the help of a pair of binoculars: Hitler's (Braunau 1889-Berlin 1945) Kehlsteinhaus a.k.a. the "Eagle's Nest" near Berchtesgaden.

14.

The *notebook* was interesting and well presented. I noticed the Austrian participants were particularly pleased with the lecturer for his linguistic skill.

15.

The decisions of the Pädagogisches Institut are worthy of notice. The Euroлта Coordinator present at the Salzburg Seminar has been invited to give a speech at the Regional Conference on "Language Learning and Mobility in Europe" which will take place in Pesaro on September 14, 2002.

Both the (excellent) P.I. web site:

www.pib-wien.ac.at/content/organ/argen/bw/argeengl/start.htm

and the Euroлта (ICC International Certificate Conference – ICC Teacher Training Accreditation Scheme) web site:

www.icc-europe.com/accreditation.htm

have been inserted in the /normativa/ file of the language web site in the domain of the Liceo scientifico "Marconi", Pesaro:

www.lsmarconi.it

>Centro Risorse Territoriale

There's a P.I. branch in the bilingual Province of Bolzano/Bozen, in Alto Adige/Süd Tirol. The Inspector of German there and I regularly meet in Rome and once the City of Hamburg invited us to visit a number of schools of the *Land*. I had the opportunity to contact her before and during my stay in Salzburg.

16.

James Joyce (Dublin 1883-Zürich 1941), who spent many years in and around Trieste as a language teacher, criticized the "Imperial Regio (k.u.k.) Governo" before 1914 and regretted its collapse after 1918. Joyce and his family spoke Italian at home. Italian was one of the many languages spoken in the dual Monarchy in those days (many more than the languages spoken in the EEC today). I've been trying in vain to obtain a list of the 190 words used in the Austrian-Hungarian Common Army: the 90 words of the command language and the 100 words of the service language (István Deák "Beyond Nationalism – A Social and political History of the Habsburg Officer Corps, 1848-1918. 1990, Oxford University Press, Inc.)

17.

The Obertrum Catering School looks too good to be true and the students are treated very well indeed. A busload of them once left Obertrum around midnight to have breakfast in Venice in the morning and drive back home on the same day. The students were so happy about the trip they asked (and obtained) to go further afield in future.

18.

English on Tap is the title of a textbook. Austria is the only country where English may be also served, so to speak, vom Fass.

*

I highlighted the professional and human aspects of the P.I. Seminar during a talk I had with one of the Education Minister's advisors in Rome on June 27.

