

JUNE 2013

◆ LIFE'S A BEACH AT TRANSLATION ACES! ◆

Some collect **shells** as a summer hobby; we like collecting names for **shell games**!



The **shell game**, a well-known swindling trick where a small ball or some such item is quickly and deftly shifted from under one of three **shells** or cups to another in order to fool the spectator (the 'mark') guessing its location, is one of the oldest and most widespread forms of sleight-of-hand. Tricksters have been performing this entertaining con all over the world for thousands of years.

It is thought that the game dates back at least to Ancient Greece and even can be seen in European paintings of the Middle Ages. This confidence game was already in use by the turn of the 15th century. A game called *Thimblrig* is referred to in England in 1670, originally played using sewing thimbles.

This ruse became popular in the US during the late 1800s using walnut shells to hide a pea, then taking on the name **shell game**. The trick itself became so notorious on street corners worldwide, from the foot of the Eiffel Tower to peanut farm crossroads outside Dakar, that the term is now used figuratively to describe dishonest actions that are purposely done to deceive or scam people, and not one word need be spoken -- in any language!



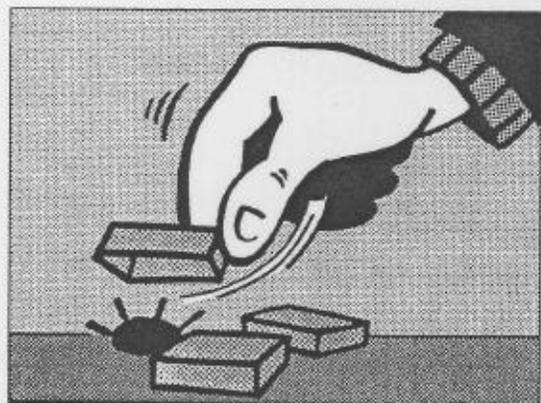
The Conjurer by Hieronymus Bosch, ca. 1502

- (GB) The Fish is Hooked: Child's play! Any fool can see where the ball is!
- (F) Le poisson mord: un jeu d'enfant! Le cours de la boule est bien évident.
- (E) Parece un Juego de niños, la posición de la bola está clara.
- (I) Il trucco è molto semplice. Dove andrei la pallina è logico!
- (J) 引っかける: 「玉のある場所を見つけるなんて、簡単じゃないか。」
- (GUS) Рыба на удочке: Детская игра! Движение шарика ясное.



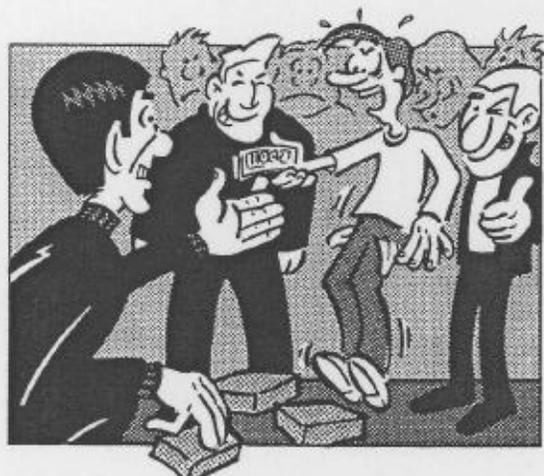
- (D) Der Fisch an der Angel: Kinderspiel! Der Lauf der Kugel ist doch klar.

- (GB) Sleight of Hand: Whoops! The ball has disappeared into thin air!
- (F) Le truc du prestigitateur: paf! La boule disparaît dans sa main.
- (E) El truco: sin dars cuenta, la bola, se esfuma el dinero. Una imprudencia que la ha salido cara.
- (I) La pallina viene nascosta nella mano.
- (J) トリック: 手品のように玉を手のひらに隠します。
- (GUS) Трюк фокусника: Хлоп – шарик исчез в руке.



- (D) Der Taschenspieler-Trick: Schwupp – die Kugel verschwindet in der Hand.

- (GB) The Let-Down: Ball gone – Money gone! A high price to pay for being gullible.
- (F) La guigne: la boule partie – l'argent perdu. Un prix élevé pour de l'imprudence.
- (E) Ha picado. Desaparecida la bola, se esfuma el dinero. Una imprudencia que le ha salido cara.
- (I) La pallina scompare i soddipure. Questo il prezzo per l'imprudenza.
- (J) だまされる: 指差した所に玉はありません。
- (GUS) Промах: Шарика нет – денег нет. Большая цена за легкомыслие.



- (D) Der Reinform: Kugel weg – Geld weg. Ein hoher Preis für Leichtsin.

Excerpt from a flyer handed out by police in Berlin

Ask us about mistakes in these translations and how to prevent them in the future!

◆ **THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHT** ◆

We recently translated a list from Farsi of names of Iranian public, semi-public and non-governmental universities, research centers, faculties, schools and institutes of higher education accredited by the Iranian Ministry of Sciences, Research and Technology

اسامي دانشگاه‌هاي دولتي،
وابسته و موسسات آموزش
عالي غيردولتي- غيرانتفاعي،
پژوهشگاه‌ها، پژوهشکده‌ها،
دانشکده‌ها، آموزشکده‌ها،
مجتمع‌هاي آموزش عالي،
مدارس عالي ومراكز آموزش
عالي مورد تاييد وزارت علوم،
تحقيقات و فناوري به شرح
ذيل مي باشد:



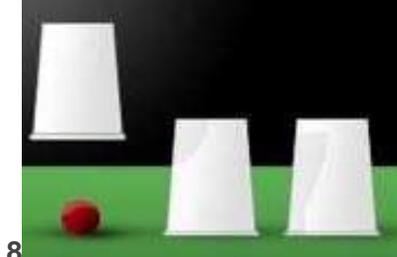
◆ **FEATURE** ◆ **Lingua Quiz!**

1. MIX & MATCH these **shell** phrases with a photo:

- (a) Shell structure
- (d) Shell shock
- (g) She sells

- (b) Shell steak
- (e) Shell fish
- (h) Shell game
- (j) Shell script

- (c) Sea shell
- (f) Nutshell
- (i) Bandshell



2. MIX & MATCH what the **shell game** is called where:

- (a) Thimblorig
- (b) Le bonneteau
- (c) Trile
- (d) Напёрстки
- (e) Hütchenspiel
- (f) Find-the-lady
- (g) Tre scatolette
- (h) Cups-and-balls
- (i) Three-card marney

- 1. Lyon
- 2. Liverpool
- 3. Lanzarote
- 4. Leipzig
- 5. Lake Ladoga
- 6. Lake Louise
- 7. Livorno
- 8. Little Italy
- 9. Liège

ANSWERS:

1. (a) = 1; (b) = 2; (c) = 6; (d) = 9; (e) = 5; (f) = 3; (g) = 6; (h) = 8; (i) = 4; (j) = 7
2. (a) = 2 & 6; (b) = 1 & 9; (c) = 3; (d) = 5; (e) = 4; (f) = 2, 6 & 8; (g) = 7 & 8; (h) = 2, 6 & 8; (i) = 2 & 8