

ARTISTS

Three artists were boasting about their work, each trying to be better than the other.

"Some time ago," said the first, "I painted a piece of wood in imitation of marble. I did it so well that when it was thrown into the water it sank immediately to the bottom."

"Why, that's nothing," said the second, "last winter I painted a picture of a snowy landscape, and yesterday when I hung a thermometer next to it, it at once fell from twenty degrees above to twenty degrees below zero."

"Not worth speaking of!" said the third. "That picture I painted of the famous millionaire was so lifelike that it had to be shaved regularly twice a week."

boast: prahlen
each: jeder
paint: malen
imitation: Nachahmung
marble: Marmor

bottom: Grund
why: Ei!
landscape: Landschaft
at once: sofort
above: über

below: unter
worth: wert sein
lifelike: lebensecht
shave: rasieren
twice: zweimal



A LESSON FOR THE TEACHER

A teacher was giving a lesson on the circulation of the blood. "If I stand on my head," he told his class, "the blood runs down into my head, doesn't it?" Yes, sir," the class replied. "Then," said the teacher, "why doesn't the blood run into my feet when I stand on my feet?" "Please, sir, it's because your feet aren't empty."

circulation of the blood: Blutzirkulation

reply: antworten

empty: leer

WHY SHOULD HE?

It was a very hot day, and the captain had been lecturing his men on their duties as soldiers. When he had finished, he wanted to see how much they remembered of what he had said, so he asked one of them, "Private Smith, tell me now, why should a soldier be ready to die for his country?" Private Smith, who had been more than half asleep during the lecture, scratched his head for some time, not knowing what to reply. Then at last a happy smile crossed his face, and he answered, "You're quite right, captain, why should he?"

captain: Hauptmann
lecture: Vortrag halten
duty: Pflicht

private: Gefreiter
ready: bereit
die: sterben

scratch: kratzen
reply: antworten
quite right: ganz recht

Translate:

1. Das Holzstück sank auf den Grund. ... *The piece of wood sank to the bottom.*
2. Das Thermometer fiel auf zwanzig Grad unter Null.
3. Wenn ich auf meinem Kopf stehe, läuft das Blut in meinen Kopf hinunter.
4. Sein Kopf ist nicht leer.
5. Was sind deine Pflichten?
6. Warum sollten Sie bereit sein?
7. Wir wussten nicht, was antworten.
8. Du hast ganz recht.

Make the sentences negative:

- The artists were boasting. ... *The artists weren't boasting.*.....
- I painted a picture.
- The picture was very lifelike.
- The teacher was giving a lesson.
- I stand on my head.
- It's my duty.
- Why should he answer.
- It was a very hot day.