



518297-LLP-2011-IT-ERASMUS-FEXI

## TEACHER-ASSISTED EXERCISES TO NIELS GEIGER'S GUIDE TO KEYNES AND GERMAN TRANSLATIONS OF HIS WORKS, ESPECIALLY THE *GENERAL THEORY*

1. Search library catalogues and databases such as JSTOR's Data for Research for central notions of or related to Keynes, such as the titles of his books, especially the *General Theory*, or specific terms, e.g. 'effective demand', 'liquidity preference', 'animal spirits', etc. Are there recognizable trends and/or fluctuations in how often the respective terms are used/quoted per year? If you spot any breaks in trend lines or significant fluctuations, try to connect and explain these by concurrent publications by other great economists around the same year, which may have sparked or squelched interest in Keynesian ideas.
2. Search library catalogues and both national and international journals for reactions to translations of Keynes's writings into your native language. Were the translations well received? Did the reviews and reactions primarily deal with the content of the translations, i.e. Mill's theory, or was (and, possibly, is) there discussion about problems or weaknesses of the respective translation?
3. Particularly discuss the results of the previous exercise in context of Harald Hagemann's EE-T research paper on the German translation of the *General Theory*. Can you relate specific comments or reviews to the controversies on the preface?
4. If possible, work on exercise 2 (and, in extension, exercise 3) in a group of international students from different European countries. How were the translations of Keynes's writings received in other countries? Were there similar controversies surrounding translations, or the prefaces/introductions to go along with them, as in the German case? Compare and analyze your results.
5. Take a closer look at the two different translations of the *General Theory*, the 1936 one and the latter one from 2006. How were specific notions (effective demand, liquidity preference, animal spirits, etc.) and their explanations translated in the two editions? If you spot any differences, do they also carry different meanings? With regard to the translation of 'animal spirits', also compare the 2nd edition of the new translation from 2009.
6. Use the subject index of the 2009 edition of the 2nd translation of the *General Theory* to search for keywords. Then try to find these again in the earlier translation. Answer the same questions as in exercise 5.
7. Is the EE-T database complete with regard to German translations of Keynes's works? Or are all entries correct with respect to the base editions, publication years, etc.? If you think there are missing entries or if you spot any mistakes, use library catalogues to make or suggest new ones or corrections to already existing entries.