

STRATEGY GROUP: Cognitive

STRATEGY SET: Analyzing and reasoning

STRATEGY: Transferring

This strategy means directly applying previous knowledge to facilitate new knowledge in the target language. Transferring works well as long as the language elements or concepts are directly parallel, but most of the time they are not! It can lead to inaccuracy if learners transfer irrelevant knowledge across languages.

Reading *German*, Erwin finds that it is easy to understand through transfer from English the *German* names for most of the months of the year.

Mildred is reading a French article about a scandal involving a *notaire*. An American notary is a clerk who has certain official rights such as stamping and sealing legal papers. On the basis of incorrect transfer, Mildred thinks that a French notaire is the same thing, but she finds out later that a notaire is a trained lawyer with a much higher level of education and professional status than a typical American notary.