

Latin is known (1 be) the language of ancient Rome. With the spread of Roman power Latin seems (2 can) to every part of the known ancient world and became the dominant tongue of Western Europe. The colloquial speech of cultured Romans is certain (3 find) in the comedies of Plautus, the letters of Cicero, the Satires of Horace, etc. It is characterized by freedom of syntax, by the presence of numerous interjections, and by the frequent use of Greek words.

The colloquial speech of polite society is not (4 confuse) with the language of the poor and uneducated classes, which shows a greater **disregard for** syntax, a love of new words, and a striving for simplicity, especially in word order.

Latin is also known (5 be) the language of letters in Western Europe in the Middle Ages. Even for the people in general, Latin continued (6 be) a living language, because the church was likely (7 provide) a huge mass of ecclesiastical literature both in prose and poetry. The language, however, underwent many essential changes, but it happened (8 change) far less during this period than did either French or English.

In the 15th and 16th centuries New Latin, also called modern Latin, came into being. Almost all books of importance were written in Latin at this time, and Latin used (9 be) the medium of diplomatic intercourse among European nations.

Not until the end of the 17th century did Latin stop being used as **an international** tongue. During the 18th and 19th centuries, however, it remained the language of classical school. The Roman Catholic **Church** is known still (10 use) Latin as the language of its official documents.

#### e. *Feed in English, print out French*

Once upon a time, according to a much-told story, a computer was set a task. It was supposed (1 translate) 'traffic jam' into French and then back into English. The machine was heard (2 buzz) and (3 click), it was seen (4 blink) its lights and eventually it came up with 'car-flavoured marmalade'. Machine translation is sure (5 come) a long

way since then. Computer translation systems seem (6 appear and 7 use) in many parts of the world. Not surprisingly the E.U. happens (8 involve). With so many official languages, translating and interpreting are reported (9 take) up more than fifty percent of the Community's administrative budget. But although the efficiency of machine translation is improving rapidly, human translators are unlikely (10 make) redundant. On the contrary, people and machines work together in harmony. Today's computers are considered (11 be) of little value in translating literary works, where subtlety is vital, or the spoken word, which tends (12 be) ungrammatical, or important texts, where absolute accuracy is essential. But for routine technical reports, working papers and the like, which are known (13 take) up so much of the translation workload of international organizations, computers are likely (14 play) an increasing role. The method of operation will probably (15 be) for the machine (16 make) a rough version, which the translator is supposed (17 edit) then, correcting obvious errors, and where necessary referring back to the original.

If machines can (18 translate) languages, could they ever (19 teach) languages? Yes, say enthusiasts, although they doubt that the teacher could ever (20 replace) totally by a machine in the classroom. **Good** old teachers know best!