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| **ZHAW / Linguistik / MA AL** | **Eignungsprüfung Fachübersetzen** |
| **ENG–ITA** | **Richtung: B/C–A** |

**Angaben zum Ausgangstext**

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**Angaben zum Zieltext**

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**Erlaubte Hilfsmittel:** Alle (Erlaubt sind elektronische und herkömmliche Wörterbücher sowie
 Internet zu Recherchezwecken. Die Konsultation von Personen ist nicht
 erlaubt und führt zum Ausschluss.)

**Übersetzungsauftrag:**

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| Traducete questo testo per un volume miscellaneo di informazione e divulgazione sul tema “le lingue del mondo” da distribuire nelle scuole secondarie della Svizzera italiana.L’originale è tratto da:European Commission Directorate-General for Translation, (2011): Lingua Franca: Chimera or Reality? Bruxelles, Studies on translation and multilingualism |

**[**The intensification of exchanges in our globalised world has dramatically increased the need for a common language. More and more often this common language is English, considered by many to be today's *lingua franca* and only secondarily the mother tongue of specific communities of speakers. The issue, however, is extremely controversial and raises as many questions as it tries to answer. English is not the first language to play this role, other languages have been used as *lingue franche* in the past and others may

therefore acquire this status in the future. Moreover, the concept of *lingua franca* itself is often questioned.

Before examining the status of English in order to see whether it can be considered a *lingua franca* or, more precisely, today's *lingua franca*, the very concept of *lingua franca* needs to be defined more precisely. In addition, a review of other *lingue franche* can provide a clearer image of how they develop and disappear, as well as the needs they are supposed to meet, in relation to the present situation.

The *Encyclopaedia Britannica* defines the term *lingua franca* as follows:

Language used as a means of communication between populations speaking

vernaculars that are not mutually intelligible. The term was first used during the middle Ages to describe a French — and Italian — based jargon, or pidgin, that was developed by Crusaders and traders in the eastern Mediterranean and characterized by the invariant forms of its nouns, verbs, and adjectives.

In the *Larousse* we find:

Sabir utilisé dans les ports de la Méditerranée entre l'époque des croisades et la fin du XXe s.

Langue auxiliaire de relation utilisée par des groupes ayant des langues

maternelles différentes. (C'est par exemple le français et l'anglais dans leurs

usages diplomatiques, le swahili dans l'est de l'Afrique, l'anglais en Inde, etc.)

Whereas these two definitions largely overlap, the *Oxford English Dictionary* stresses the hybrid character:…**]**