

A polyglot meeting

RP Received Pronunciation 

Transcription taken from

Alex's phonetic thoughts

<http://alex-ateachersthoughts.blogspot.it/2012/07/plilt-mit.html> (visited 22-Aug-12)

Make a phonemic (broad) transcription of the following passage:

1. Last Thursday I met up in Rome with two Italian polyglots. Their names are Luca Lampariello and Luca Toma.
2. Luca Lampariello (pictured left) is thirty-two and comes from Rome. On his blog, The Polyglot Dream, we read that he's been learning languages for almost twenty years. Apart from Italian, he speaks English, French, Spanish, German, Dutch, Swedish, Russian, Portuguese, Chinese, and is in the process of "acquiring" (as he calls it) Japanese and Romanian.
3. He claims that languages cannot be taught, they can only be learned:
"In the last 2 years I had some sort of revelation. I had always been absorbing languages without really wondering why what I did was so effective. I just did it. Then I started 'cogitating', thinking, and I ended up looking for information on the 'language learning' issue from a scientific point of you. The more I read the more I figured out that only one conclusion is possible: languages cannot be taught, they can only be learned".
4. Luca has his own YouTube channel where he posts videos of him speaking in several languages. In one of them he can be heard interviewing Richard Simcott, a famous polyglot from the United Kingdom. In another, he talks about his American accent: what do you think of his pronunciation? Does he sound convincing?
5. Luca Toma (pictured right) is thirty-six years old and comes from the south of Italy. As we learn from this blog post, Luca graduated in Japanese Language and Literature at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice in 2000. Since then, he has been combining his passion for translation with his quest for new methods for teaching foreign languages. He works as a translator from Japanese into Italian and lived in Tokyo for about 10 years. He has also worked as an Italian language teacher in Tokyo and as an associate lecturer in Japanese and Italian at Oxford Brookes University.
6. I heard him speak English: his pronunciation is a bit Italian-accented but he has an excellent command of the language.



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ə pɒlɪglɒt mi:tiŋ

1. la:s θɜ:zdeɪ aɪ met ʌp ɪn rəʊm wɪð tu: ɪtæljən pɒlɪglɒts. ðeə neɪmz ə Lu:kə lɑmpəriello ən Lu:kə to:mə.
2. Lu:kə lɑmpəriello (pɪktʃəd left) ɪz θɜ:ti-tu: əŋ klɑ:mz frəm rəʊm. ʊn ɪz blɒg, ðə pɒlɪglɒt dri:m, wɪ rɪ:d ðæt hɪz bɪn lɜ:nɪŋ læŋgwɪdzɪz fər ɔ:lməʊst twenti ʤɪəz. əpɑ:ʔ frəm ɪtæljən, hɪ spɪ:kz ɪŋɡlɪʃ, frentʃ, spæniʃ, dʒɜ:mən, dʌtʃ, swɪ:dɪʃ, rʌʃn, pɑ:tʃu:ʒɪz, tʃaɪni:z, ən ɪz ɪn ðə prəʊses əv "əkwa:riŋ" (əz i kɔ:lz ɪt) dʒæpəni:z ən rumeɪniən.
3. hɪ kleɪmz ðəʔ læŋgwɪdzɪz kænəʔ bi tɔ:t, ðeɪ kən əʊnli bi lɜ:nd:
"ɪn ðə la:s tu: ʤɪəz aɪ hæd sm̩ ɔ:t əv revəleɪʃn. aɪ əd ɔ:lwəz bɪn əbzɔ:bɪŋ læŋgwɪdzɪz wɪðaʊʔ rɪəli wʌndrɪŋ waɪ wɒt aɪ dɪd wəs səʊ ɪfektɪv. aɪ dʒʌs dɪd ɪt. ðen aɪ stɑ:tɪd 'kɒdʒɪteɪtɪŋ', θɪŋkɪŋ, ən aɪ endɪd ʌp lʊkɪŋ fər ɪnfəmeɪʃn ʊn ðə 'læŋgwɪdz lɜ:nɪŋ' ɪfʊ: frəm ə sɑ:ntɪfɪk pɔɪnt ə vʒu:. ðə mɔ:r aɪ red ðə mɔ:r aɪ fɪgəd aʊt ðəʔ əʊnli wʌŋ kəŋkluzɪŋ ɪz pɒsəbl: læŋgwɪdzɪz kænəʔ bi tɔ:t, ðeɪ kən əʊnli bi lɜ:nd".
4. lʊ:kə hæz ɪz əʊn ʤʊ:tʃu:b tʃæŋl weə hɪ pəʊss vɪdɪəʊz ʊv ɪm spɪ:kɪŋ ɪn sevrəl læŋgwɪdzɪz. ɪn wʌn əv ðəm hɪ kəm bi hɜ:d ɪntəvju:ɪŋ Rɪkɑrd Sɪmkɒt, ə feɪməs pɒlɪglɒt frəm ðə ʤʊnɑ:tɪd kɪŋdəm. ɪn ənʌðə, hɪ tɔ:ks əbaʊt ɪz əmərɪkən æksnt: wɒʔ dʒu θɪŋk əv ɪz prənʌntsɪeɪʃn? dæz i sɑʊnd kən vɪntsɪŋ?
5. Lu:kə to:mə (pɪktʃəd raɪt) ɪz θɜ:ti-sɪks ʤɪəz ʊld əŋ klɑ:mz frəm ðə sɑ:θ əv ɪtəli. əz wɪ lɜ:n frəm ðɪs blɒg pəʊst, lʊ:kə grædʒueɪtɪd ɪn dʒæpəni:z læŋgwɪdz ən ɪtrətʃə əʔ ðə kɑ' fɒskəri ʤʊ:nɪvɜ:səti əv venɪs ɪn tu: θɑʊznd. sɪnts ðen, hɪ əz bɪŋ kəmbeɪnɪŋ ɪz pæʃn fə trænʒleɪʃn wɪð ɪz kwɛst fə nʒu: meθədʒ fə tɪ:tʃɪŋ fɔrən læŋgwɪdzɪz. hɪ wɜ:ks əz ə trænʒleɪtə frəm dʒæpəni:z ɪntu ɪtæljən ən ɪvɪd ɪn təʊkɪəʊ fər əbaʊʔ ten ʤɪəz. hɪ əz ɔ:lʒəʊ wɜ:kt əz ən ɪtæljən læŋgwɪdz tɪ:tʃər ɪn təʊkɪəʊ ənd əz ən əsəʊʃɪət lektʃərər ɪn dʒæpəni:z ən ɪtæljən ət ɒksfəd brʊks ʤʊ:nɪvɜ:səti.
6. aɪ hɜ:d ɪm spɪ:k ɪŋɡlɪʃ: hɪz prənʌntsɪeɪʃn ɪz ɪtæljən-æksentɪd bət i hæz ən eksələnʔ kəmə:nd əv ðə læŋgwɪdz.

