

# Ana Helps Her Dad

A Story About Translating

**Skill-Building Activity #2**  
**TIES CLB 3/4 Language Brokering Module**

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**How to cite (APA):** Centre for Immigrant Research. (2020). *Language Brokering Module: Ana Helps her Dad CLB 3-4*. The Immigrant Education Society (TIES).

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## Acknowledgements

This activity was part of a project, **Immigrant Family-based Interpreters Emotional Wellness Supports**, one of the projects building on ongoing research conducted by TIES Centre for Immigrant Research about Child Language Brokering.

### For More Information:

<https://www.immigrantresearch.com/development/immigrant-family-interpreters-supports>

<https://www.immigrantresearch.com/research/child-language-brokering>

This project was funded through the City of Calgary's Change Can't Wait Initiative.



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This is Ana. She's thirteen years old, and she speaks English well. She also speaks French. Ana moved to Calgary two years ago.



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This is Ana's dad, Franco. He speaks French but he doesn't speak English very well yet. He wants to learn more English and more about Canada.





Ana often helps her family at home. She cleans sometimes and cooks delicious cookies.





Franco is proud of his daughter because she is so kind and helpful. He often tells her thank you for helping the family.





Franco often doesn't understand English on TV or the radio. He wants to understand the news and important information, but also jokes and TV shows.





When Franco doesn't understand, Ana sometimes helps him. She translates from English to French. Sometimes, she doesn't know all the words but she tries her best.





Franco is really happy when Ana helps him.  
He tries to remember to always say thank you.





One day, they go to meet Ana's teacher at school. Franco can't understand what the teacher says. He really wants to understand.





He asks Ana if she can help him. He asks her if she can translate what the teacher says, like she does at home.



Yes, Dad. I  
can help.



Ana is comfortable with her teacher.  
She wants to try to translate.



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Can you  
speak slowly,  
please?



Franco doesn't want Ana to feel stressed, so he asks the teacher to help too.



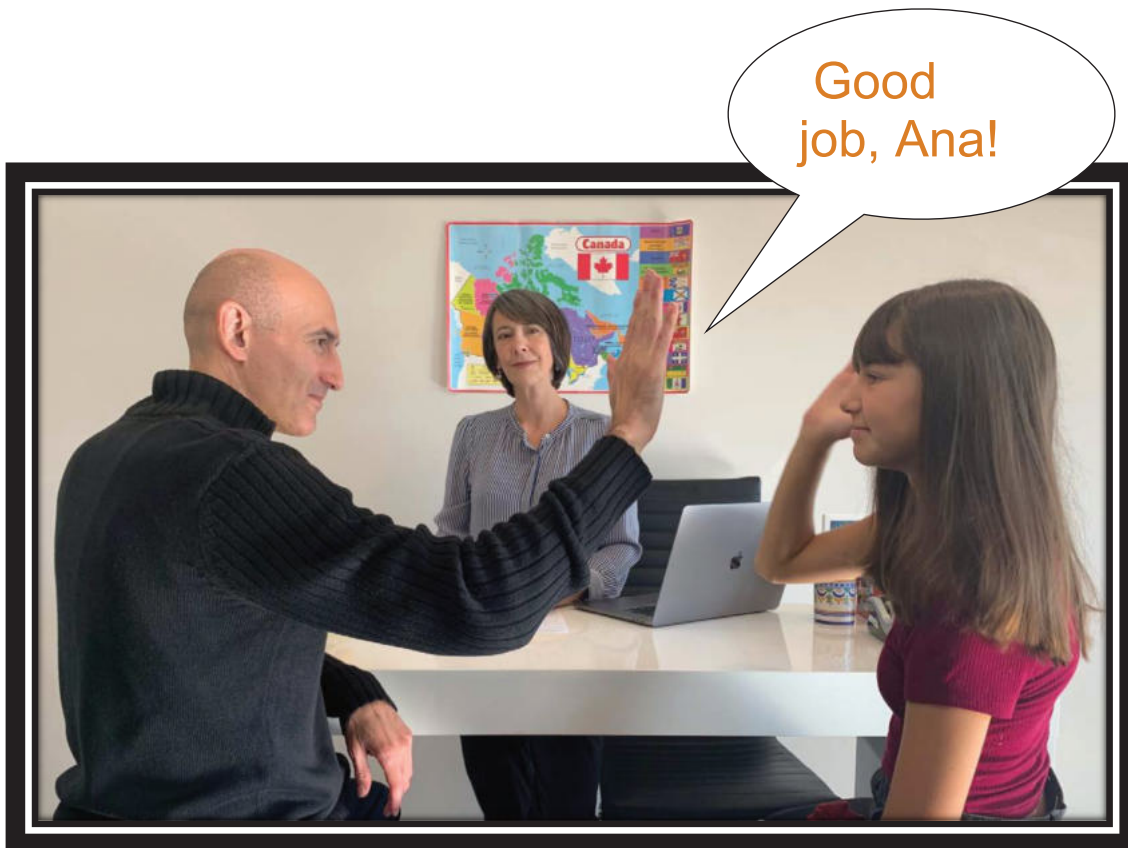
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Ana understands everything the teacher says.  
She translates. It's no problem for her.



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Franco is really proud of Ana. He tells her she is doing a great job.



Sorry!



Then Ana doesn't know one word the teacher says. She doesn't know how to translate it.





Franco doesn't want Ana to feel stressed. He wants to help Ana. He checks his phone to find the word.





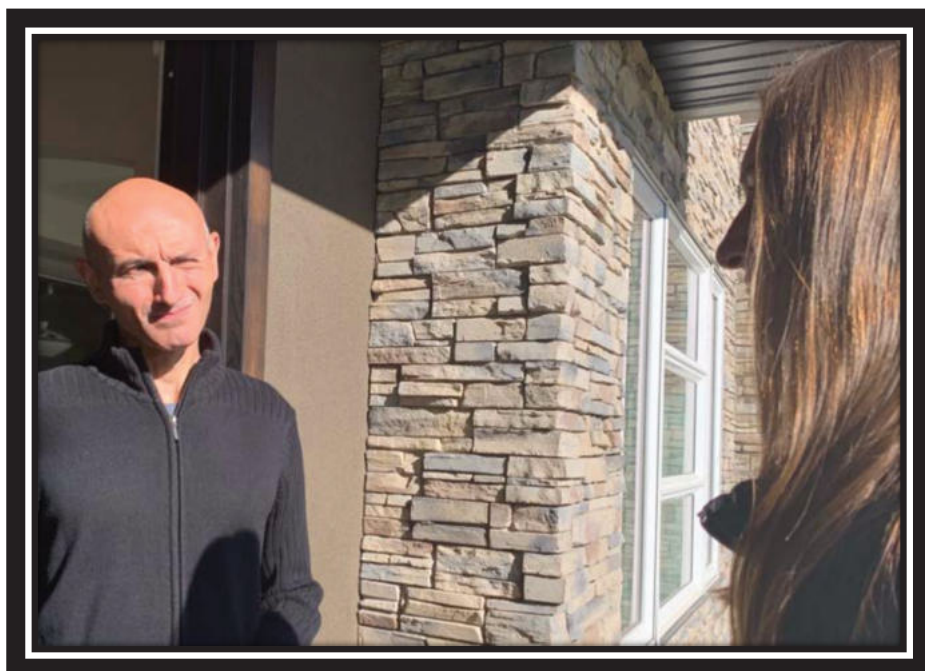
Ana and Franco learn a word together.  
They both feel happy.





Later at home, the neighbor knocks on the door.





Franco can't understand what the neighbor is asking.



I'm sorry,  
Dad. I am not  
comfortable.



Franco asks Ana if she can translate. But Ana can't understand the neighbour very well and doesn't feel comfortable.



That's  
okay, Ana.



Franco doesn't mind, of course. It's no problem.  
He only wants Ana to translate if she is comfortable.



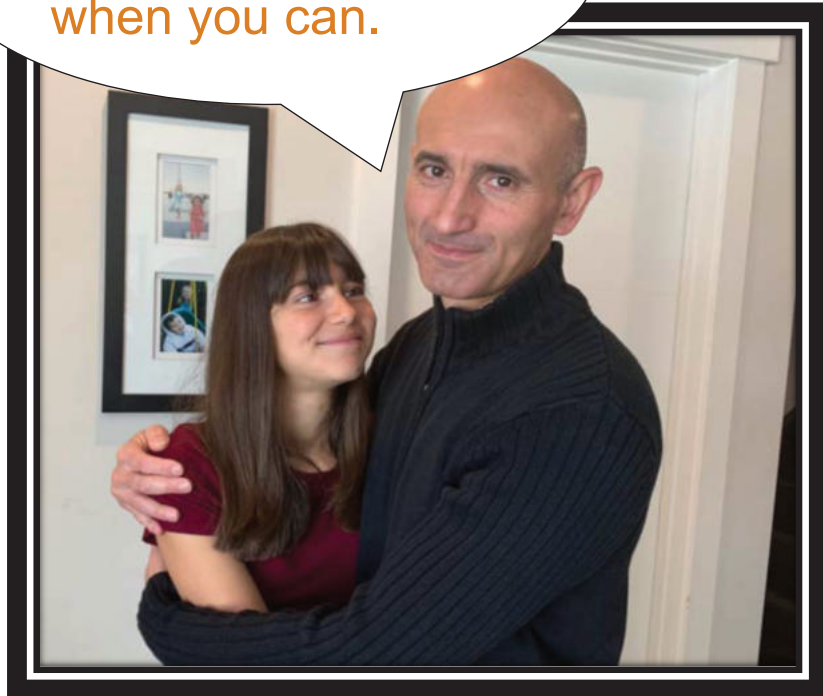
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Franco has a friend who speaks English very well. He calls his friend and asks him to translate.



Thank you, Ana.  
You help me  
when you can.



After the neighbour leaves, Franco talks to Ana. He tells her that he is always proud of her. He tells her that it's no problem when she can't translate.



Can you teach me  
about hockey too?



Franco tells Ana that he wants to learn more English, and he also wants to learn more about Canada. He asks if she can help him.



Can you teach me  
about our culture?



Ana says yes. She also says that she wants to learn more about where she was born. She asks Franco to teach her.





Ana and Franco learn together.  
They help each other.



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