Around The World In Eight Languages – Solution

Answer: ZAMENHOF Puzzle by Shuli Jones.

Steps:

First, identify each of the country's flags and the item that is next to their flag. Identifying the countries is easier because they are also named in the map below (eight flags, eight country names). They're listed in alphabetic order, which is also helpful – plus it tells you that you may need to put them into a different order later.

Brazil – roots
Denmark – gloves
France – flowers
Germany – drum
Holland -- lizard
Italy – hammock
Mexico – salt shaker
Peru – table

Next, associate each country with the language commonly spoken there. (You might think to do this since the title references eight languages, and there are eight countries.) Additionally, the flavor text mentions "talking to the locals" and "I always bought a souvenir", so translate that country's object into its language (using Google translate or another dictionary should give you these translations).

Brazil – Portuguese – raizes Italy – Italian – amaca Germany – German – trommel Peru – Spanish – mesa Denmark – Danish – handske Holland – Dutch – hagedis Mexico – Spanish – salero France – French – fleurs

Notice that each souvenir is the same length as its country's name (which is given on the map in Courier, a monospaced font). Line them up:

BRA**Z**IL RAI**Z**ES

IT**A**LY AM**A**CA

GER**M**ANY TRO**M**MEL

PERU

MESA

DE**N**MARK

HA**N**DSKE

HOLLAND

HAGEDIS

MEXICO

SALERO

FRANCE

FLEURS

Each country-souvenir pair shares exactly one letter in the same position. Take those letters in the travel order given by the arrows on the map to spell out the answer: **ZAMENHOF.**

(Note that L. L. Zamenhof was the inventor of Esperanto. Since the countries use Spanish twice, Esperanto is actually the eighth language referenced by the title.)