Bone Marrow Donation

Mr. Müller writes: *"Next week I will go to Cologne to donate bone marrow for a sick person. I'm a little bit excited about this. I thought it would be a good idea to discuss this in class. So I have put together some information about this, which I found on the Website of the UK's National health service"*

From the NHS Website: A bone marrow donation is a relatively simple medical procedure.
Sick or damaged bone marrow can be replaced by donated bone marrow, which helps treat and often cure many life-threatening conditions, including:
• bone marrow failure
• leukemia – cancer of the white blood cells
• non-Hodgkin's lymphoma – cancer of the lymphatic system
• certain genetic blood and immune system disorders
After the donation, as long as the transplant is successful, the new bone marrow will begin to make healthy blood cells and the person having received the donation will start to get better.

What is bone marrow?
Bone marrow is a spongy tissue found in the empty centres of some bones. It contains stem cells which produce blood cells:
• red blood cells – which carry oxygen around the body
• white blood cells – which help fight infection
• platelets – which help stop bleeding

The need for donors
Ideally, bone marrow should be donated by a close family member, such as a brother or sister, because there needs to be a close match between tissue types. However, only around one in three people have a close relative with a matching tissue type.
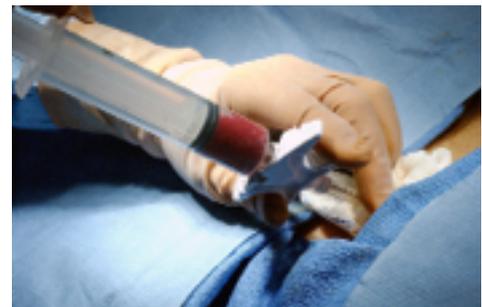
Bone marrow donation
In my case the donation will be performed by removing bone marrow from my hip bones.
Although this is not a surgical operation, it is usually carried out under a general anesthetic to stop people from feeling any pain during the procedure.
(…) You will usually need to stay in hospital for 12 to 24 hours to make sure you have recovered fully from the general anesthetic.

Source: http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Bone-marrow-donation/Pages/How-is-it-performed.aspx

1) Bone Marrow is removed from the donor.
2) The hip.

Instructions
1) Read the text!
2) Underline words you do not know.
3) Write down the words you do not know into the table below.
4) Together with your neighbor try to guess the meaning of these words from the context.
5) Try to guess the meaning from another word you know. Write down your guess.
6) Look it up in the internet. Use the services suggested. You and your neighbor decide who looks up which word.

Vocabulary Exercise

word	guess	dictionary	remark
bone marrow			wikipedia
lymphatic system			wikipedia
spongy			Meriam Webster
tissue			Leo
oxygen			Leo
anaesthetic			wikipedia
hip			Meriam Webster
gradually			Leo
leukaemia			Leo
non-Hodgkin's lymphoma			wikipedia

Use the following online services:

LEO
Is an online dictionary, with many languages. There is a good English – German section. You can find it at: **http://dict.leo.org/** You can easily research words and there is a forum where people discuss difficult translations.

There is a mobile version: **http://pda.leo.org** and there are apps for iOS and Android.

Meriam-Webster
Is an English-to-English dictionary and offers English explanations to words you can type in. They provide service in which the computer reads out the word, you if you want to know how something is pronounced you can use it as well.
http://www.merriam-webster.com/

Wikipedia
Wikipedia was not designed as a dictionary. However you can use it to better understand things. Go to the English wikipedia: **http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page** then enter the word you don't know in the search field. You will get an English language explanation. If you find it easier to know about the issue in German, go and click on the German language article down left.

Google Translate
Using google translate can help you get a first impression of a text. But it can be misleading. Neither the translation software nor the dictionary are the solution of language hurdle. Google Translate works by analyzing huge amounts of written text that is available in different languages, like the bible, UN Security council resolutions,… . From this it forms a statistical model how which word is translated. Google guesses what translation is probable from the previous translation it knows. It cannot determine meaning or sense.