Hands trembling slightly from Parkinson’s disease, Professor Rodolphe Kasser picked up the ancient text and began reading in a strong, clear voice. The strange words were Coptic, the language spoken in Egypt at the dawn of Christianity. They had gone unheard ever since the early church declared the document forbidden for Christians. This copy somehow survived. Hidden in the Egyptian desert, it was finally uncovered late in the 20th century. In earlier times, few questioned how a priceless antiquity left its host country. Any visitor could simply pick up artifacts and send them abroad— that is how great museums like the British Museum and the Louvre acquired many of their treasures. However, shortly after the discovery, the document disappeared in the underworld of antiquities traders, one of whom left it for 16 years in a bank vault in New York. So by the time it reached Kasser, the papyrus—a form of paper made of dried water plants—was falling apart, its message almost being lost forever.

The 78-year-old scholar, one of the world’s leading Coptic experts, finished reading and carefully placed the page back on the table. “It is a beautiful language, is it not? Egyptian written in Greek characters.” He smiled. “This is a passage where Jesus is explaining to the apostles that they are on the wrong track.” The text has delighted him, and no wonder. The opening line of the first page reads, “The secret account of the revelation that Jesus spoke in conversation with Judas Iscariot. . . .”

After nearly 2,000 years, the most hated man in history is back. Everyone remembers the story of Jesus Christ’s close friend, one of the 12 apostles, who sold him out for 30 pieces of silver, identifying him with a kiss. Later, crazed with guilt, Judas hanged himself. He is the ultimate symbol of treachery. In Germany, for example, officials can forbid new parents from choosing the name Judas for their baby.

There is something threatening in the traditional portrayals of Judas. As Christianity distanced itself from its origins as a Jewish sect, Christian thinkers found it increasingly convenient to blame the Jews as a people for the arrest and execution of Christ, and to cast Judas as “the” Jew. The four Gospels, for example, treat Roman governor Pontius Pilate gently while condemning Judas and the Jewish high priests.

The “secret account” gives us a very different Judas. In this version, he is a hero. Unlike the other apostles, he truly understands Christ’s message. In handing Jesus over to the authorities, he is fulfilling his leader’s command, knowing fully well the fate he will bring on himself. Jesus even warns him: “You will be cursed.”

This message is shocking enough to raise suspicions of fraud. For example, an empty limestone box said to have held the bones of James, brother of Jesus, attracted massive crowds when it was displayed in 2002—but it soon turned out to be an ingenious fake. A Gospel of Judas is clearly more attracting than an empty box, but, so far every test confirms the document’s antiquity. Tests on five separate samples from the papyrus and the leather binding date the codex to sometime between A.D. 220 and 340. The ink appears to be an ancient recipe. And Coptic scholars say that the turns of phrase in the gospel indicate that it was translated from Greek, the language in which most Christian texts were originally written in the first and second centuries. “We all feel comfortable putting this copy in the fourth century,” one expert says, “and Kasser is sure enough to devote the end of his life to it.”
2. Composition

Írjon kb. 250-300 szavas fogalmazást **angol** nyelven az alábbi témáról a megadott szempontok felhasználásával.

**Katasztrófa helyzetek (árvíz, hóvihar)**

- társadalmi összefogás, szolidaritás
- önkéntesek, civil szervezetek szerepe
- adományok

3. Sight translation

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**SUSTAINABLE RICE PRODUCTION SYSTEMS AND FAMILY FARMERS**

More than a billion people depend on rice production for their livelihoods and more than 3.5 billion people depend on rice for at least 20 percent of their daily calories. Family farms are the main source of rice production – especially in Asia. In rice production systems, food security and prosperity have long been associated with the availability and diversity of both rice and fish. Traditional rice-fish systems and modern adaptations of these systems produce higher yields of rice along with fish production. In addition, since use of agricultural chemicals is minimized, wild biodiversity can flourish. Rice fields therefore harbour a rich level of biodiversity – from birds to crabs to insects – and are considered to be one of the most successful tropical rainfed systems.