

1.8 Speaks twelve-halves tongue

Each of these lines is a normal crossword clue, but uses only words of length 6. Each clue has an answer which also has length 6. The clues and their solutions are:

- Bearer parent → Mother
- (Mostly) binary sexual aspect → Gender

- Liquid making metals smooth, shined → Polish
- Quebec tongue → French
- Fringe; bounds → Border
- Kansas liquor defier Carrie → Nation
- Having origin within → Native

- Reckon; number; amount; beauty → Figure
- Decent action target within sacred "golden" dictum → Others
- Travel behind → Follow

Reading the solutions in each block gives three further clues (again each using only 6-letter words):

- Mother gender → Female
- Polish French Border Nation Native → German
- Figure others follow → Leader

The last clue, 'Female German leader', gives the answer: ANGELA MERKEL. (Note that we also essentially accepted MERKEL as correct, but asked any team calling in MERKEL to give the person's full name.)