At the beginning of fourth year, I had the opportunity to go to Peru on an eye trip.

Peru, there was a lot to absorb right away: the language, new surroundings, starting clinic 30 min after arriving...

¡Hola Señor! ¿Cómo está?

¿Dónde está?

I had to get used to translators, sometimes two.

What brings you in today?

Spanish Translation

Greek Dialect Translation

This will take forever.

Sometimes you were more fortunate.

What brings you in today?

English-Greek Translation

Oh, blurry visions.

I was a little rusty on my eye exam skills, which you use so much during third year.

There's the optic nerve... Oh man, I lost it again.

The other guy was much faster.

They needed another scrub tech after someone got sick.

After third year, you learn to adapt quickly.

Shoot... which instrument is next? Better have them all ready.
Meanwhile, 39 hours away in a small town:

<eye clinic>

Señora was an 82-year-old lady with worsening vision over many years.

"I can't make out any letters!"

We didn't need an instrument to visualize the culprit: a cataract.

"Is that Funk Fingers?"

We just need to take a closer look before surgery.

Local anesthesia for Señora, on our last day of surgeries.

Señora developed a bleeding complication, which seemed temporary.

Careful monitoring of eye pressure and movements was reassuring.

"Look left!"

"Doctor, I can't last another year... I'm afraid I won't ever play with my grandson."
Although possible, doing the surgery today wouldn't be the safest. Why don't we do it tomorrow morning before we pack up.

The next morning...

Her exam is fine!

Early the following morning before we flew out.

Two! I can even make out some letters behind you.

¡Muchas gracias!

I reflected on how much of an impact I made on Senora's life in just a few short hours.