

Theory of Consecutive Interpreting

WASCLA Language Access Summit VII
Saturday, October 15 2011

Created by Andrea Florissi

What is it?

- *consecutive interpretation* is a mode in which the interpreter begins their interpretation of a complete message after the speaker has stopped producing the source utterance

Where is it used?

- More formal than ad hoc interpreting and used, for example in formal business meetings, conferences, for negotiations, training sessions or lectures

What is needed:

- A well organized notepad
- Good short-term memory
- High concentration
- Meaningful note taking technique
- Excellent command of source/target language

How is it done?

- Speaker delivers speech or short paragraphs (1-10 minutes)
- Interpreter takes notes
- Interpreter "reads" notes and delivers the translation

Rozan's seven principles

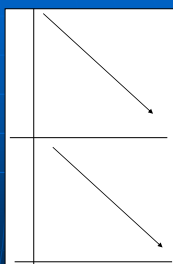
1. Noting the idea and not the word
2. The rules of abbreviation
3. Links
4. Negation
5. Adding emphasis
6. Verticality
7. Shift

The note taking technique

- It is NOT shorthand
- Set of symbols is personalized
- Output is less source-language bound than simultaneous interpreting
- A good page organization is essential

How to organize and use the notepad

- Use a slim notepad
- Draw column for empty words
- Take notes vertically and diagonally
- Separate sentences clearly



Examples of recurrent symbols

- Subjects
- Modal verbs
- Verbs (and tenses)
- Position of adjectives
- Personalizers
- Connectors
- Time and numbers

Q&A



Practice session

- Look at the most common symbols
- Practice with short sentences
