

# ***Don't Get Lost in Translation: Training Strategies and Application in Conferences***

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# *Translation Standards*

- Faithfulness:

ILR Level 2+:

“Sufficient comprehension to understand most factual material ...”

<http://www.govtilr.org/skills/ILRscale4.htm#2+>



# *Translation Standards*

- Expressiveness:

ILR Level 3+ :

“Able to comprehend many sociolinguistic and cultural references.”

<http://www.govtilr.org/skills/ILRscale4.htm#3+>



# *Translation Standards*

- Elegance:

ILR Level 4:

“Able to read and understand the intent of writers' use of nuance and subtlety.”

<http://www.govtilr.org/skills/ILRscale4.htm#4>



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# Preparation

- Cross-cultural competence: cultural awareness
  - Customs, values, taboos...
- Subject research:
  - Extend beyond given materials
- Background research:
  - Resources in both languages



# *Translation Training*

- Reading: higher level material, ILR 3+ and above

“i+1” theory: not too easy; not too hard

- Translation and reverse translation:
  - native language to target language;
  - target language to native language



# *Interpretation Training*

- Shadowing:
  - start from 5" clips
  - extend to 15"-20" clips – complex sentences
- Self-recording





# *Interpretation Training*

- Useful tool for shadowing training:

“Audacity” : recording, playback - sound wave control

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Audacity\\_%28audio\\_editor%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Audacity_%28audio_editor%29)



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# Combined Training



Sight translation:

Written text

to

Reading aloud in another language



# *Training and Application*

- Register of speech:
  - Identify different registers of speech: academic, diplomatic, technical, colloquial... : vocab, honorific expression, tone, explicitness and inexplicitness
  - Relay truthfully: on the same/similar register



# *Training and Application*

- Euphemism: if no equivalent, find a way to relay it indirectly yet clearly on the same/similar register.



# *Court Interpreting*

- State Court Interpreter Consortium: 46 states

National Center for State Courts (NCSC) Consortium for Language  
Access in the Courts

State of Hawaii Judicial System: Registered Court Interpreter

<http://www.ncsc.org/Education-and-Careers/State-Interpreter-Certification.aspx>



# Court Interpreting

- Interpreter ethics:
  - Dress code:  
“You don’t want to be mistaken as another defendant.”  
Mirror the lawyers’ style





# Court Interpreting

- “Leave it to the lawyers”:

Don't give any advice or comment on the subject matter:

Just translate what is being said.





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- Example:

Hot Mic Catches Interpreter Warning of 'Bad Sh\*t' at U.N. Israel Vote (2013)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h9a7PIL558M>





# Court Interpreting

- Interpreter ethics:
  - poker face:  
  
Don't show personal preferences or feelings.





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# Government Public Hearing Interpreting

## Federal Resolution 281(2014) & 343 (2016)

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-resolution/281>

## State of Hawaii Resolution Hearing: House resolution 21 & 28





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# Government Public Hearing Interpreting

- Testimony  
&  
Evidence:  
  
Translation &  
Interpretation





# Conference Interpreting

- Team work:  
build your own  
interpreter team
- Partners: 2 -3 people





# Conference Interpreting

- Interpreter team:
    - Native speakers of respective languages:
- from target language  
to native language

