

PROBLEMS OF SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

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ANNOTATION

This article explores the complexities and demands of simultaneous interpretation, emphasizing the necessity of specialized skills and training for interpreters. It highlights the challenges faced in the field, including the need for accuracy under pressure, the management of complex vocabulary, and the ability to listen effectively while speaking. The piece underscores the importance of anticipation and a thorough understanding of both the source and target languages for successful interpretation. As global communication needs rise, the article advocates for the continuous professional development of interpreters, showcasing their crucial role in bridging linguistic and cultural divides. Ultimately, it portrays simultaneous interpretation as a sophisticated art that requires dedication and expertise.

Key words: *Simultaneous interpretation, special equipment, sound insulation, interpreter, distractions, syntax patterns, cultural vocabulary, technical language, stress and pressure, quality equipment, idioms and jokes, speech pace, background knowledge, no breaks, specialized vocabulary.*

INTRODUCTION

Turning to the issue of facilities, simultaneous interpretation requires special equipment. As they need to be provided with, a specially prepared room and only the headphones should hear their voice. It should have a good sound insulation. Nothing should distract the translator, as he should not hear any noise.

Simultaneous translation is a complicated process; hence, it has several problems that we may face with during the interpretation:

- ❖ Having different patterns of syntax;
- ❖ Lacking the vocabulary related to the culture and national customs;
- ❖ Coming across too many complex and technical words or the words that are not common;
- ❖ Stress and strong pressure;
- ❖ Low quality equipment;
- ❖ Problems with numbers, names, geographical names;
- ❖ Difficulty in translating idioms and jokes;
- ❖ The number of words in the speech;
- ❖ The pace of the speaker;
- ❖ Having no background knowledge about speaker.

According to De La Mora institute of Interpretation, following are the main problems of translation:

Having no breaks. In Simultaneous Interpretation, interpreters have no breaks. They start speaking in the beginning of the event and does not stop until speakers have finished their speech. It means that interpreter should maintain the translation during the whole speech. There could be little break only between the sentences. In legal or business environments, the speaker or speakers might talk for upwards of 10 minutes before they are finished, which is a great deal of work for us interpreters. Processing the utterances AND interpreting them while maintaining the style, tone, intent etc. of the speaker is difficult in and of itself, and doing so for a great deal of time like 10 minutes takes an incredible amount of energy and endurance. This requires constant effort and training to maintain, which goes to show just how difficult this field can be.

High Level of Speech that Must be Transferred to the Target Language. Speaking of specialized environments, much of Simultaneous Interpretation takes place in these sorts of venues. Legal environments, business meetings, presentations, etc. are some of the most common places for Simultaneous Interpretation, and they all bring with them extremely specialized vocabulary and high levels of speech. All of this must be accurately transferred into the target language. Imagine that interpreter is working without a break and this time speaker used jargon as well. It is not consecutive translation and there is no time for clarification. Moreover, some fields like the Legal Field, for example, have very specific ways of speaking that have very specific equivalents. A lot of these fields have very real consequences for errors in comprehension, so there's that much more pressure on the interpreter to get it right. That's a lot to prepare for all at once!

Decalage. **Decalage** or **Ear to Voice Span (EVS)** refers to the time between the speaker's utterance and the interpreter's interpretation of that utterance. This is normally a few moments, as naturally the interpreter cannot read the speaker's mind (usually). It's been said that maintaining this decalage is the mark of a truly good simultaneous interpreter – in other words, the ability to process more information before interpreting while simultaneously acquiring MORE information is what distinguishes a good simultaneous interpreter from a **great** simultaneous interpreter.

There are many ways to work on this, the most common being **shadowing exercises**. First, listen to a speaker and repeat what they are saying in the source language. This reinforces the idea of processing before interpretation and works to improve memory and recall. Once this is easier for you, start trying to alter and replace words without changing the meaning of the message. Exercises like these will help develop and maintain this decalage which can later be applied in the target language.

Listening While Speaking. By far, the most difficult part of Simultaneous Interpretation for me is **listening while speaking – the ability to process the speaker while interpreting myself**. This to me is like exhaling through your nose while breathing in through your mouth; it's completely unintuitive and frustrating, and requires a MASSIVE amount of work to even begin to do it. The main pitfall of this is the fact that both processes require active thought for me still, and as everyone knows, most of the time multi-tasking just doesn't work.

For Simultaneous Interpretation to work, one of these processes has to just happen – it has to be mindless. Simultaneous Interpreters must subconsciously do one thing so that their mind is free to consciously do another. Like decalage, this takes a lot of work to achieve but can eventually be done. A lot of exercises used for improving decalage can be transposed to apply to this concept as well! You could shadow a particular speech while writing specific things down, for example, to teach your brain to focus on one thing while another is happening. The most important thing to realize is that this is **not natural**, and **does** require a lot of effort. The sooner you start, the easier it gets!

CONCLUSION

All in all, anticipation is a key competence that interpreters need to learn before they can become professionals. This is especially true when interpreting between two languages which do not have the same natural word order. As well, a very in-depth knowledge of the source language is required, even if it is considered to be one of your passive languages (meaning you only interpret from that language). This explains why anticipation, and interpreting in general, is so difficult. Training is important to become a professional interpreter, because only in this manner will students learn how to anticipate properly.

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