


COURT INTERPRETING SERVICES


WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.



Working through Interpreters: Tips for Success



Superior Court of California County of Ventura
Tracy Clark, Interpreting Services and
Language Access Coordinator / ASL Interpreter



California Courts: People and Languages

- California has one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse populations in the world.
- Over 200 languages spoken
- 40% of households speak language other than English in home
- Nearly 7 million speak English "less than very well"

U.S. Census Bureau

- Increase awareness of the linguistic complexity among Ventura County residents
- Identify pitfalls in communication, even with an interpreter
- Develop strategies for improving interpreted communication in and out of court

Workshop Objectives

COMPARATIVES/DESCRIPTORS

- Some words have different values, depending on your base of reference.
- E.g.: The Jamaican Bobsled Team arriving at the Olympics

Video Clip:
Cool Runnings

Climate, Appearance, and other Norms



I'm dying!

It's a beautiful day!

8/3/2016

7

"He was tall."



8/3/2016

8

The Queen



In Thailand

With the Obamas

8/3/2016

9

Describing someone: Imperial vs. Metric

- › How tall was he? 173
- › About what much did he weigh? 81
- › How far did you walk? Several kilometers
- › It was hot. 30 degrees

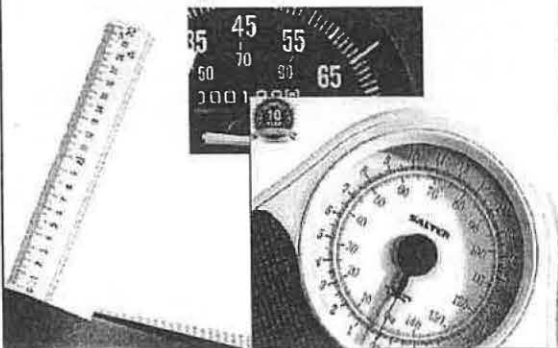
Be aware of relative terms, such as *tall*, *heavy*, *light*.

Clarify units of measure; be ready with Imperial equivalents.

8/3/2016

10

Measurements: Imperial vs. Metric



Date Formats

- › U.S. & Micronesia
 - Month, Day and Year
 - July 8th, 2016
 - 7/8/16
- › Europe, Latin America, India, Australia
 - (Most Common)
 - Day, Month and Year
 - 8th of July, 2016
 - 8/7/16

2016											
January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31

8/3/2016

11

Language and Environment Terms for Snow

- › Eskimo/Inuit People—about 50 words
- › English—about 50 words
 - Barchan
 - Fingerdrifts
 - Firn
 - Flurry
 - Ground Blizzard
 - Penitents
 - Powder
 - Snirt



Same Word / Different Concept.

Indigenous Market in Mexico
Chinese Court Trial
Indian Wedding

No Word / No Concept

- › Lack of knowledge of rights afforded in our legal system:
 - Right to a trial by jury
 - Right to confront and cross examine witnesses
 - Right to a public and speedy trial

Legal systems of other countries may not provide such rights. These concepts may be completely foreign to the litigants. Though translated, they may have little meaning.

American Judicial System

- › Vietnamese: "Court trial" = "Session to judge exclusively [by an] officer to try a case" (7 syllables)
- › Russian: "Arraignment" = "Official noye pred'yavleniye obvineniya" (16 syllables) "official presentation of the accusation"
- › Spanish: "Time waiver": Renuncia al plazo legal (8 syllables)
- › Farsi: "Sentencing" = e'laameh hokmeh mojaazat dar daadgah (11 syllables)
- › Mixteco: "Jury trial": a trial in which 12 individuals representing the people here come to listen to your case and decide. (25 syllables)

IDENTIFYING ONESELF

- › Identifying Oneself: Naming Traditions
 - Spanish
 - ASL
 - Russian

› Surnames/Last Name/AKA's

- Many Latin American countries do not use the term "last name", but rather Surname

- Maria Carmen Lopez (de) Garcia
 - Maria (first name in honor of Mary)
 - Carmen is the name most used
 - Lopez is father's surname
 - Garcia is mother's surname

Note: If she marries, would then add last name of spouse.

Spanish

Note: Father's last name is not last in order.

Other-Than-Spanish (OTS)

- ▶ ASL
 - 50% have name-sign
 - Based on physical/personality characteristics
 - Specific to person, not name
- ▶ Russian
 - Middle name is patronymic
 - Everything has gender: masculine, feminine, or neuter
 - Last names: change according to gender: Husband: Smirnov Boris Smirnov;
 - Wife: Marina Smirnova; Daughter is Varvara Borisovich Smirnova;
 - Son: Mikhail Borisovich Smirnov;
 - Daughter marries Nikolai Ivanov, she becomes Varvara Borisovna Ivanova.

Name Signs

Gender in Family Name

Establishing Name for the Record

- ▶ Oral spelling is an English tradition
- ▶ Client may be able to write letters but not spell out loud
- ▶ Client may not use Roman alphabet
 - (Arabic, Chinese, Thai, Russian, etc.)

TIPS

- ▶ Check with client beforehand
- ▶ Can they spell name out loud?
- ▶ Can they write their name?
- ▶ Surname: Ask for their father's last name or family name
- ▶ Ask if they use another family name
- ▶ Show a card with their name written on it, and ask if this is how they spell their name, and how they pronounce (say) it.

If Deaf, can they identify a picture?

THE MEANING OF IT ALL Idioms, Profanity, Insults

*Word for Word, or
Verbatim,*

is a myth.

Video Clip:
The Princess Diaries

Words /multiple meanings

- | ENGLISH | SPANISH |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| › To run (go fast by foot) | › Correr |
| › To run for office | › Postularse |
| › (A faucet) running | › Esta goteando |
| › A run in nylons | › Se le corrió la media |
| › To run (on the bank) | › Se fueron estampida |
| › Running a motor | › Andando/prendido |
| › To run over (e.g. bike) | › Atropellar |



8/1/2016

25

NEVER TRUST A PRONOUN

»

She told him what they'd do to her if he didn't stop it.

8/1/2016

26

PRONOUNS

- › All languages use pro-forms.
- › The most common in English is the pronoun.
- › A pronoun requires a noun to replace.
- › Multiple pronouns in one sentence can be confusing.
- › Pronoun systems don't match up perfectly between any two languages.

8/1/2016

27

Pronoun systems and languages

- | | |
|--|---|
| › Were <u>you</u> going to the movies? | › Were <u>both of you</u> going to the movies? |
| • This could mean the two of you, many of you, or only one person. | • Were <u>you and Lorena</u> going to the movies? |
| | • <u>Who</u> was going to the movies? |
| › What did <u>she</u> say? | › What did <u>Carina</u> say? |

AMBIGUOUS

SPECIFIC

8/1/2016

28

THE DEPARTMENT OF REDUNDANCY DEPARTMENT

When unsure, err on the side of redundancy.

8/1/2016

29

Physical Considerations

- › Give Interpreter time to stand by client
- › Slow Down (pause between ideas)
 - Set reminder notes for pausing.
- › Keep Noise Level at a Minimum
 - Interpreter is listening over his/her own voice.
- › Let Interpreter Prepare
 - Expert witness on a specific topic
 - Names of people/places involved
 - When something happened

8/1/2016

30

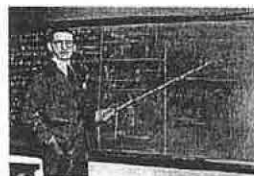
REGISTER: Formality, Sentence Complexity, and \$100 Words.

- › The level of formality/informality
 - Jargon
 - Idiomatic expressions
 - Complexity of sentences (passive constructions, compound sentences)
 - Embedded clauses
 - Length of words (\$5 or \$20 words)?
- › Interpreters bridge 2 worlds
They build bridges between like/similar registers.

8/5/2016

33

Register



Ranchers and farmers in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, driven by the American agricultural ethos of expansion and a sense of autonomy from nature, aggressively exploited the land and set up the region for ecological disaster.

<http://www.history.com/topics/industrial-revolution>



When the farmers came into the Panhandle, they — well, I guess right after they homesteaded. . . And then they decided that they couldn't all raise cattle, so they started plowing it up and planting and one of my uncles, my daddy's uncles, planted a whole quarter nearly of cantaloupe.

<http://www.ksl.com/story/44444444>

8/5/2016

34

Register, Cont.



Standard, formal Spanish



Rural Spanish

8/5/2016

35

The past, the present,
and the future
walked into a bar.
It was tense.

8/5/2016

36

Tense, timing, and order

- › About half the languages of the world inflect verbs for **tense**: **WHEN** something happened.
- › About half the languages of the world inflect verbs for **affect**: **HOW** something happened.
- › Asking questions in the order in which things occurred works best for both language groups.

8/5/2016

37

Time Sequencing

- › On the morning of the 15th, did you meet Marie at the same place you were together the previous Friday night [the 8th]?
 - › Did you meet Marie on Friday night, the 8th?
 - › Where?
 - › On Friday morning the 15th, did you meet her there again?

EMBEDDED CLAUSES; NO CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER; DISTINCT QUESTIONS

8/5/2016

38

BEING DEAF/HARD OF HEARING AND IN COURT



8/5/2011

31



LEAD-K

- California Senate Bill 210
- Signed into law this year by Gov. Brown
- Demands language acquisition accountability for Deaf/Hard of Hearing children ages 0-5

8/5/2011

40

Challenges Faced by Deaf and H/H

- › 90% have no "mother tongue"
- › ASL is not English
- › MSL/LSM is not Spanish
- › "Sign language" is not universal
- › English is a second language
- › Bilingual/multilingualism among Deaf people
- › Reading levels

8/5/2011

39

Deaf Intermediary Interpreters

- › Deaf people w/foreign Sign language
- › Deaf people without any language fluency
- › Court language/needs
- › Working with relay interpreters
- › Communication Strategies

8/5/2011

40

Indigenous People



8/5/2011

41

Indigenous Languages

- › United States
 - Navajo (AZ, NM)
 - Yupik (Central Alaska)
 - Sioux
 - Apache
 - Rio Grande Keresan
- › Mexico/Central America
 - Mixteco
 - Zapateco
 - Amuzgo
 - Otomil
 - Que'chi
 - Nahuatl
 - Mam

Several language families; NOT English.

Several language families; NOT Spanish.

8/5/2011

42

Getting the Best Services

- ▶ Request in advance
- ▶ Trials
 - If defendant/witness will be in trial
 - Spanish-2/3 days In advance
 - Other languages-as early as possible
- ▶ Arraignments/ Continuances
 - Check with Interpreting Services/Interpreter
 - Urgency may require phone/provisionally qualified.

9/5/2016

13

Priorities

- ▶ OTS interpreters travel from LA and beyond.
- ▶ Traffic through LA: 2-4 hours, 1 way.
- ▶ Priorities, when possible, reduce travel time.
- ▶ OTS (contract) interpreters can decline work.

9/5/2016

14

QUESTIONS

9/5/2016

15

*From all of us at
Interpreting Services,*


THANK YOU!

COURT INTERPRETING SERVICES


WE'RE HERE FOR YOU.



Working through Interpreters: Tips for Success



Superior Court of California County of Ventura
Tracy Clark, Interpreting Services and
Language Access Coordinator / ASL Interpreter



California Courts: People and Languages

- California has one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse populations in the world.
- Over 200 languages spoken
- 40% of households speak language other than English in home
- Nearly 7 million speak English "less than very well"

U.S. Census Bureau

- Increase awareness of the linguistic complexity among Ventura County residents
- Identify pitfalls in communication, even with an interpreter
- Develop strategies for improving interpreted communication in and out of court

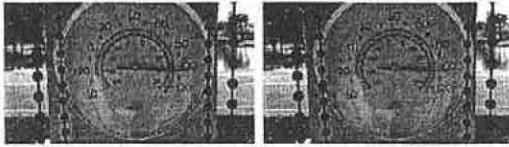
Workshop Objectives

COMPARATIVES/DESCRIPTORS

- Some words have different values, depending on your base of reference.
 - E.g.: The Jamaican Bobsled Team arriving at the Olympics

Video Clip: Cool Runnings

Climate, Appearance, and other Norms



I'm dying!

It's a beautiful day!

WS2016

"He was tall."



WS2016

The Queen



In Thailand



With the Obamas

WS2016

Describing someone: Imperial vs. Metric

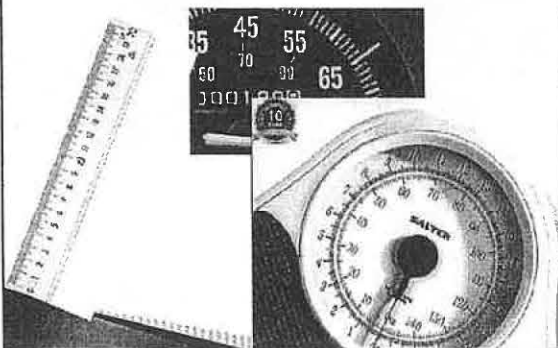
- › How tall was he? 173
- › About what much did he weigh? 81
- › How far did you walk? Several kilometers
- › It was hot. 30 degrees

Be aware of relative terms, such as *tall*, *heavy*, *light*.

Clarify units of measure; be ready with Imperial equivalents.

WS2016

Measurements: Imperial vs. Metric



Date Formats

- › U.S. & Micronesia
 - Month, Day and Year
 - July 8th, 2016
 - 7/8/16
- › Europe, Latin America, India, Australia
 - (Most Common)
 - Day, Month and Year
 - 8th of July, 2016
 - 8/7/16

2016											
Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year	Month	Day	Year
Jan	1	2016	Jan	2	2016	Jan	3	2016	Jan	4	2016
Jan	5	2016	Jan	6	2016	Jan	7	2016	Jan	8	2016
Jan	9	2016	Jan	10	2016	Jan	11	2016	Jan	12	2016
Jan	13	2016	Jan	14	2016	Jan	15	2016	Jan	16	2016
Jan	17	2016	Jan	18	2016	Jan	19	2016	Jan	20	2016
Jan	21	2016	Jan	22	2016	Jan	23	2016	Jan	24	2016
Jan	25	2016	Jan	26	2016	Jan	27	2016	Jan	28	2016
Jan	29	2016	Jan	30	2016	Jan	31	2016	Feb	1	2016
Feb	2	2016	Feb	3	2016	Feb	4	2016	Feb	5	2016
Feb	6	2016	Feb	7	2016	Feb	8	2016	Feb	9	2016
Feb	10	2016	Feb	11	2016	Feb	12	2016	Feb	13	2016
Feb	14	2016	Feb	15	2016	Feb	16	2016	Feb	17	2016
Feb	18	2016	Feb	19	2016	Feb	20	2016	Feb	21	2016
Feb	22	2016	Feb	23	2016	Feb	24	2016	Feb	25	2016
Feb	26	2016	Feb	27	2016	Feb	28	2016	Mar	1	2016
Mar	2	2016	Mar	3	2016	Mar	4	2016	Mar	5	2016
Mar	6	2016	Mar	7	2016	Mar	8	2016	Mar	9	2016
Mar	10	2016	Mar	11	2016	Mar	12	2016	Mar	13	2016
Mar	14	2016	Mar	15	2016	Mar	16	2016	Mar	17	2016
Mar	18	2016	Mar	19	2016	Mar	20	2016	Mar	21	2016
Mar	22	2016	Mar	23	2016	Mar	24	2016	Mar	25	2016
Mar	26	2016	Mar	27	2016	Mar	28	2016	Mar	29	2016
Mar	30	2016	Mar	31	2016	Apr	1	2016	Apr	2	2016
Apr	3	2016	Apr	4	2016	Apr	5	2016	Apr	6	2016
Apr	7	2016	Apr	8	2016	Apr	9	2016	Apr	10	2016
Apr	11	2016	Apr	12	2016	Apr	13	2016	Apr	14	2016
Apr	15	2016	Apr	16	2016	Apr	17	2016	Apr	18	2016
Apr	19	2016	Apr	20	2016	Apr	21	2016	Apr	22	2016
Apr	23	2016	Apr	24	2016	Apr	25	2016	Apr	26	2016
Apr	27	2016	Apr	28	2016	Apr	29	2016	Apr	30	2016
Apr	31	2016	May	1	2016	May	2	2016	May	3	2016
May	4	2016	May	5	2016	May	6	2016	May	7	2016
May	8	2016	May	9	2016	May	10	2016	May	11	2016
May	12	2016	May	13	2016	May	14	2016	May	15	2016
May	16	2016	May	17	2016	May	18	2016	May	19	2016
May	20	2016	May	21	2016	May	22	2016	May	23	2016
May	24	2016	May	25	2016	May	26	2016	May	27	2016
May	28	2016	May	29	2016	May	30	2016	May	31	2016
Jun	1	2016	Jun	2	2016	Jun	3	2016	Jun	4	2016
Jun	5	2016	Jun	6	2016	Jun	7	2016	Jun	8	2016
Jun	9	2016	Jun	10	2016	Jun	11	2016	Jun	12	2016
Jun	13	2016	Jun	14	2016	Jun	15	2016	Jun	16	2016
Jun	17	2016	Jun	18	2016	Jun	19	2016	Jun	20	2016
Jun	21	2016	Jun	22	2016	Jun	23	2016	Jun	24	2016
Jun	25	2016	Jun	26	2016	Jun	27	2016	Jun	28	2016
Jun	29	2016	Jun	30	2016	Jul	1	2016	Jul	2	2016
Jul	3	2016	Jul	4	2016	Jul	5	2016	Jul	6	2016
Jul	7	2016	Jul	8	2016	Jul	9	2016	Jul	10	2016
Jul	11	2016	Jul	12	2016	Jul	13	2016	Jul	14	2016
Jul	15	2016	Jul	16	2016	Jul	17	2016	Jul	18	2016
Jul	19	2016	Jul	20	2016	Jul	21	2016	Jul	22	2016
Jul	23	2016	Jul	24	2016	Jul	25	2016	Jul	26	2016
Jul	27	2016	Jul	28	2016	Jul	29	2016	Jul	30	2016
Jul	31	2016	Aug	1	2016	Aug	2	2016	Aug	3	2016
Aug	4	2016	Aug	5	2016	Aug	6	2016	Aug	7	2016
Aug	8	2016	Aug	9	2016	Aug	10	2016	Aug	11	2016
Aug	12	2016	Aug	13	2016	Aug	14	2016	Aug	15	2016
Aug	16	2016	Aug	17	2016	Aug	18	2016	Aug	19	2016
Aug	20	2016	Aug	21	2016	Aug	22	2016	Aug	23	2016
Aug	24	2016	Aug	25	2016	Aug	26	2016	Aug	27	2016
Aug	28	2016	Aug	29	2016	Aug	30	2016	Aug	31	2016
Sep	1	2016	Sep	2	2016	Sep	3	2016	Sep	4	2016
Sep	5	2016	Sep	6	2016	Sep	7	2016	Sep	8	2016
Sep	9	2016	Sep	10	2016	Sep	11	2016	Sep	12	2016
Sep	13	2016	Sep	14	2016	Sep	15	2016	Sep	16	2016
Sep	17	2016	Sep	18	2016	Sep	19	2016	Sep	20	2016
Sep	21	2016	Sep	22	2016	Sep	23	2016	Sep	24	2016
Sep	25	2016	Sep	26	2016	Sep	27	2016	Sep	28	2016
Sep	29	2016	Sep	30	2016	Oct	1	2016	Oct	2	2016
Oct	3	2016	Oct	4	2016	Oct	5	2016	Oct	6	2016
Oct	7	2016	Oct	8	2016	Oct	9	2016	Oct	10	2016
Oct	11	2016	Oct	12	2016	Oct	13	2016	Oct	14	2016
Oct	15	2016	Oct	16	2016	Oct	17	2016	Oct	18	2016
Oct	19	2016	Oct	20	2016	Oct	21	2016	Oct	22	2016
Oct	23	2016	Oct	24	2016	Oct	25	2016	Oct	26	2016
Oct	27	2016	Oct	28	2016	Oct	29	2016	Oct	30	2016
Oct	31	2016	Nov	1	2016	Nov	2	2016	Nov	3	2016
Nov	4	2016	Nov	5	2016	Nov	6	2016	Nov	7	2016
Nov	8	2016	Nov	9	2016	Nov	10	2016	Nov	11	2016
Nov	12	2016	Nov	13	2016	Nov	14	2016	Nov	15	2016
Nov	16	2016	Nov	17	2016	Nov	18	2016	Nov	19	2016
Nov	20	2016	Nov	21	2016	Nov	22	2016	Nov	23	2016
Nov	24	2016	Nov	25	2016	Nov	26	2016	Nov	27	2016
Nov	28	2016	Nov	29	2016	Nov	30	2016	Dec	1	2016
Dec	2	2016	Dec	3	2016	Dec	4	2016	Dec	5	2016
Dec	6	2016	Dec	7	2016	Dec	8	2016	Dec	9	2016
Dec	10	2016	Dec	11	2016	Dec	12	2016	Dec	13	2016
Dec	14	2016	Dec	15	2016	Dec	16	2016	Dec	17	2016
Dec	18	2016	Dec	19	2016	Dec	20	2016	Dec	21	2016
Dec	22	2016	Dec	23	2016	Dec	24	2016	Dec	25	2016
Dec	26	2016	Dec	27	2016	Dec	28	2016	Dec	29	2016
Dec	30	2016	Dec	31	2016						

WS2016

Language and Environment Terms for Snow

- › Eskimo/Inuit People—about 50 words
- › English—about 50 words
 - Barchan
 - Fingerdrifts
 - Firn
 - Flurry
 - Ground Blizzard
 - Penitents
 - Powder
 - Snirt

8/2/2014

12



Same Word / Different Concept.

Indigenous Market in Mexico
Chinese Court Trial
Indian Wedding

8/2/2014

13

No Word / No Concept

- › Lack of knowledge of rights afforded in our legal system:
 - Right to a trial by jury
 - Right to confront and cross examine witnesses
 - Right to a public and speedy trial

Legal systems of other countries may not provide such rights. These concepts may be completely foreign to the litigants. Though translated, they may have little meaning.

8/2/2014

14

American Judicial System

- › Vietnamese: "Court trial" = "Session to judge exclusively [by an] officer to try a case" (7 syllables)
- › Russian: "Arraignment" = Offitsial'noye pred'yavleniye obvineniya (16 syllables) "official presentation of the accusation"
- › Spanish: "Time waiver": Renuncia al plazo legal (8 syllables)
- › Farsi: "Sentencing" = e'laameh hokmeh mojaazat dar daadgah (11 syllables)
- › Mixteco: "Jury trial": a trial in which 12 individuals representing the people here come to listen to your case and decide. (25 syllables)

8/2/2014

15

IDENTIFYING ONESELF

- › Identifying Oneself: Naming Traditions
 - Spanish
 - ASL
 - Russian

8/2/2014

16

› Surnames/Last Name/AKA's

- Many Latin American countries do not use the term "last name", but rather Surname
- Maria Carmen Lopez (de) Garcia
 - Maria (first name in honor of Mary)
 - Carmen is the name most used
 - Lopez is father's surname
 - Garcia is mother's surname

Note: If she marries, would then add last name of spouse.

Spanish
Note: Father's last name
is not last in order.

8/2/2014

17

Other-Than-Spanish (OTS)

- ▶ ASL
 - 50% have name-sign
 - Based on physical/personality characteristics
 - Specific to person, not name
- ▶ Russian
 - Middle name is patronymic
 - Everything has gender: masculine, feminine, or neuter
 - Last names: change according to gender; Husband: Smirnov Boris Smirnov;
 - Wife: Marina Smirnova; Daughter is Varvara Borisovich Smirnova;
 - Son: Mikhail Borisovich Smirnov;
 - Daughter marries Nikolai Ivanov, she becomes Varvara Borisovna Ivanova.

Name-Signs

Gender in Family Name

8/9/2016

14

Establishing Name for the Record

- ▶ Oral spelling is an English tradition
- ▶ Client may be able to write letters but not spell out loud
- ▶ Client may not use Roman alphabet
 - (Arabic, Chinese, Thai, Russian, etc.)

8/9/2016

16

TIPS

- ▶ Check with client beforehand
- ▶ Can they spell name out loud?
- ▶ Can they write their name?
- ▶ Surname: Ask for their father's last name or family name
- ▶ Ask if they use another family name
- ▶ Show a card with their name written on it, and ask if this is how they spell their name, and how they pronounce (say) it.

If Deaf, can they identify a picture?

8/9/2016

21

THE MEANING OF IT ALL Idioms, Profanity, Insults

*Word for Word, or
Verbatim,*

is a myth.

8/9/2016

23

Video Clip:
The Princess Diaries

24

Words /multiple meanings

ENGLISH	SPANISH
› To run (go fast by foot)	› Correr
› To run for office	› Postularse
› (A faucet) running	› Esta goteando
› A run in nylons	› Se le corrió la media
› To run (on the bank)	› Se fueron estampida
› Running a motor	› Andando/prendido
› To run over (e.g. bike)	› Atropellar

NEVER TRUST A PRONOUN

»

She told him what they'd do to her if he didn't stop it.

PRONOUNS

- › All languages use pro-forms.
- › The most common in English is the pronoun.
- › A pronoun requires a noun to replace.
- › Multiple pronouns in one sentence can be confusing.
- › Pronoun systems don't match up perfectly between any two languages.

Pronoun systems and languages

- | | |
|--|---|
| › Were <u>you</u> going to the movies? | › Were <u>both of you</u> going to the movies? |
| • This could mean the two of you, many of you, or only one person. | • Were <u>you and Lorena</u> going to the movies? |
| | • <u>Who</u> was going to the movies? |
| › What did <u>she</u> say? | › What did <u>Carina</u> say? |

AMBIGUOUS

SPECIFIC

THE DEPARTMENT OF REDUNDANCY DEPARTMENT

When unsure, err on the side of redundancy.

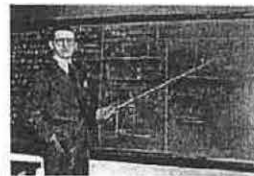
Physical Considerations

- › Give Interpreter time to stand by client
- › Slow Down (pause between ideas)
 - Set reminder notes for pausing.
- › Keep Noise Level at a Minimum
 - Interpreter is listening over his/her own voice.
- › Let Interpreter Prepare
 - Expert witness on a specific topic
 - Names of people/places involved
 - When something happened

REGISTER: Formality, Sentence Complexity, and \$100 Words.

- › The level of formality/informality
 - Jargon
 - Idiomatic expressions
 - Complexity of sentences (passive constructions, compound sentences)
 - Embedded clauses
 - Length of words (\$5 or \$20 words)?
- › Interpreters bridge 2 worlds
They build bridges between like/similar registers.

Register



Ranchers and farmers in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, driven by the American agricultural ethos of expansion and a sense of autonomy from nature, aggressively exploited the land and set up the region for ecological disaster.



When the farmers came into the Panhandle, they — well, I guess right after they homesteaded. ... And then they decided that they couldn't all raise cattle, so they started plowing it up and planning and one of my uncles, my daddy's uncle, planted a whole quarter nearly of cantaloupe.

Register, Cont.



Standard, formal Spanish



Rural Spanish

The past, the present,
and the future
walked into a bar.
It was tense.

Tense, timing, and order

- › About half the languages of the world inflect verbs for tense: **WHEN** something happened.
- › About half the languages of the world inflect verbs for aspect: **HOW** something happened.
- › Asking questions in the order in which things occurred works best for both language groups.

Time Sequencing

- › On the morning of the 15th, did you meet Marie at the same place you were together the previous Friday night [the 8th]?
 - › Did you meet Marie on Friday night, the 8th?
 - › Where?
 - › On Friday morning the 15th, did you meet her there again?

IMBEDDED CLAUSES; NO CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER

CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER; DISTINCT QUESTIONS

BEING DEAF/HARD OF HEARING AND IN COURT



LEAD-K

- California Senate Bill 210
- Signed into law this year by Gov. Brown
- Demands language acquisition accountability for Deaf/Hard of Hearing children ages 0-5

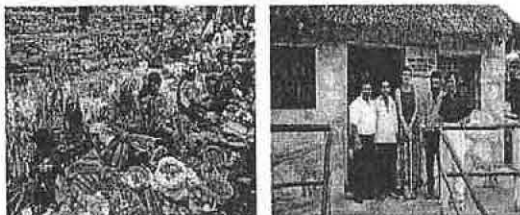
Challenges Faced by Deaf and H/H

- › 90% have no "mother tongue"
- › ASL is not English
- › MSL/LSM is not Spanish
- › "Sign language" is not universal
- › English is a second language
- › Bilingual/multilingualism among Deaf people
- › Reading levels

Deaf Intermediary Interpreters

- › Deaf people w/foreign Sign language
- › Deaf people without any language fluency
- › Court language/needs
- › Working with relay interpreters
- › Communication Strategies

Indigenous People



Indigenous Languages

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › United States <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navajo (AZ, NM) • Yupik (Central Alaska) • Sioux • Apache • Rio Grande Keresan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Mexico/Central America <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mixteco • Zapateco • Amuzgo • Otomi • Que'chi • Nahuatl • Mam |
|---|---|

Several language families; NOT English.

Several language families; NOT Spanish.

Getting the Best Services

- ▶ Request in advance
- ▶ Trials
 - If defendant/witness will be in trial
 - Spanish—2/3 days in advance
 - Other languages—as early as possible
- ▶ Arraignments/ Continuances
 - Check with Interpreting Services/Interpreter
 - Urgency may require phone/provisionally qualified.

8/1/2016

43

Priorities

- ▶ OTS interpreters travel from LA and beyond.
- ▶ Traffic through LA: 2–4 hours, 1 way.
- ▶ Priorities, when possible, reduce travel time.
- ▶ OTS (contract) interpreters can decline work.

8/1/2016

44

QUESTIONS

8/1/2016

45

*From all of us at
Interpreting Services,*

THANK YOU!

MCLE CLASS

Topic: Working Effectively with Interpreters

Dates: Thurs, July 28, 2016

Time: 3:30 – 4:30

Location: HOJ – Room 308

Speaker: Tracy Clark,
Court Interpreting Services

MCLE: 1.00 hour Elim. of Bias

"The Ventura County District Attorney's Office is a State Bar of California approved MCLE provider. The class listed above will qualify for 1.00 hour Elim of Bias MCLE credit by the State Bar of California."

WORKING THROUGH INTERPRETERS: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Thursday, 7/28, 3:30-4:30; Room 308
1 MCLE: Elimination of Bias Credit

Presented by Tracy Clark

Manager of Court Interpreting Services, ASL Court Interpreter

Communicating with Limited English Speaking (LES) clients through an interpreter is never as easy as communicating directly in the same language. But why not?

Come and find out what interpreters know, but can't tell you.

- What may confuse an LES client, and why;
 - Why communication breaks down with LES clients, even with good interpreters;
 - Why a witness may appear to be confused or lying, despite knowing the material;
 - Why Deaf clients have many unique communication issues; and
- HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY WORK WITH THESE ISSUES.**



WORKING THROUGH INTERPRETERS: TIPS FOR SUCCESS

Thursday, 7/28, 3:30-4:30; Room 308
1 MCLE: Elimination of Bias Credit

Presented by Tracy Clark

Manager of Court Interpreting Services, ASL Court Interpreter

Communicating with Limited English Speaking (LES) clients through an interpreter is never as easy as communicating directly in the same language. But why not?

Come and find out what interpreters know, but can't tell you.

- What may confuse an LES client, and why;
 - Why communication breaks down with LES clients, even with good interpreters;
 - Why a witness may appear to be confused or lying, despite knowing the material;
 - Why Deaf clients have many unique communication issues; and
- HOW TO SUCCESSFULLY WORK WITH THESE ISSUES.**



CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE FOR CALIFORNIA MCLE

Top portion of form to be completed by the MCLE Provider

Provider Name: Ventura County District Attorney's Office

Provider Number: 1130

Title of Activity: Working Effectively with Court Interpreters

Date(s) of Activity: July 28, 2016

Time of Activity: 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Location of Activity (City, State): HOJ Room 308 Ventura, CA

Total California MCLE Credit Hours for the above activity are 1.00, including the following sub-field credits:

- Legal Ethics _____
- Elimination of Bias in the Legal Profession 1.00
- Prevention, Detection and Treatment of Substance Abuse/Mental Illness that Impairs Professional Competence _____

Bottom portion of form to be completed by the Attorney after participation in the above-referenced activity

By signing below, I certify that I participated in all, or some*, of the activity described above and am therefore entitled to the following MCLE credit hours -

Total California MCLE Credit Hours 1.00, including the following sub-field credits

Legal Ethics _____

Elimination of Bias in the Legal Profession 1.00

Prevention, Detection and Treatment of Substance Abuse / Mental Illness that Impairs Professional Competence _____

(You may not claim credit for sub-fields unless the Provider is granting credit in those areas and you participated in those portions of the activity)

Print Your Name _____

Your California State Bar Number _____

Signature _____