

Consecutive Interpreting

Exercise 7

Consecutive interpreting: English to test language

Audio recording. You will hear a series of spoken segments. After each segment there will be a pause for you to interpret the segment into the test language.

Q. Ms. Thomas, you were involved in an incident that occurred on the 28th of December, is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. You were attending a New Year's party with your friends at Kathy Campbell's house in Maple Grove?

A. Yes.

Q. And you arrived at the party at approximately 10:00 p.m.?

A. Yes.

Q. Can you describe for His Honour approximately how many people were at the party when you arrived?

A. About forty including Tracy, Tyler and Peter.

Q. And who are Tracy, Tyler and Peter?

A. Tyler was my boyfriend, Tracy is my best friend and Peter is her boyfriend.

Q. And can you describe what happened at the party during the time you were there?

A. Some people were dancing but most were just sitting drinking and talking.

Q. And could you tell us if anything happened shortly after midnight?

A. Yes, I was talking to Kathy and Tracy when a bunch of guys crashed the party. I knew that some of them were troublemakers from other parties they had crashed so I decided to go home.

Q. And did you leave?

A. Yeah.

Q. How did you go home?

A. Well, I live only a few blocks away and it had stopped raining so I decided to walk. I told some of my friends that I was going to walk home. Some of them were leaving and a couple of them offered me a ride.

Q. Did you accept a ride from either of them?

A. No, because they had been drinking and I thought it would be safer to walk home.

Q. Why didn't you go home with Tyler and your other friends?

A. They didn't want to leave, and me and Tyler were having an argument 'cause I didn't want to move in with him.

Q. I see. What happened then?

A. Well, I started walking but I had gone only one block when it started raining again.

Q. Yes, go on, please.

A. Well, it started to rain again, and I was getting pretty wet, but I didn't want to go back to the party, so I continued walking on home. I was walking when this car went past me. Then I saw it make a U-turn and come back towards me. The guy asked me if I needed a ride and I said that I was only two blocks from my house. He said that I was soaked and was going to get sick and the he would be really happy to take me home.

Q. Did you accept the ride?

A. Well, yes, he was very polite and I was getting pretty wet. I was cold too.

Q. What happened next?

A. Well, he started driving and I told him that my house was the other way. He said that he had to drop something off to a friend and that he would be done in ten minutes. So we went over to this house and he got off the car and took a box out of the trunk and went to the front door. He was gone for a few minutes, maybe five or ten and I was wondering what to do when he came back out. He was carrying a brown bag and came back to the car.

Q. And then where did you go?

A. He got back in the car and put the brown bag on the floor of the car in front of me. He took out two beers and offered me one.

Q. Did you take it?

A. Yeah, I was pretty thirsty.

Q. Then what happened?

A. He apologized for taking so long and I told him it was okay but I really had to get back home.

Q. Did he take you home?

A. He started driving and he was going fast. We were about halfway to my house when he seemed to have some trouble steering the car. The car started skidding and we ended up hitting a pile of dirt.

Q. Then what happened?

A. I went forward and I didn't realise I had hit the windshield until I saw the crack on it and my blood all over the dashboard. I had a cut right here on my head and I was bleeding.

Q. For the record, the witness is pointing to her forehead above the brow, the left brow. You were not wearing your seat belt?

A. I guess I must have taken it off when I was waiting in front of that house and then when he gave me the beer I forgot to buckle up again

Q. All right, Tina, can you tell His Honour what happened next?

A. Yeah, the guy freaked out. He told me to get out of there because the cops were coming... that someone must have heard us and he had some dope in

the car. He grabbed the bag, got out of the car and pulled me into the bushes. Then he used his cell phone to call his brother to come and get us. He told me his brother would be there in twenty minutes. Uhm...

Q. Yes?

A. I told him that my head hurt and my neck hurt too. I told him that all I wanted was to go home, but he took a bottle from the bag and hit me with it and the assault happened.

Q. All right, Tina, I want you to tell us everything that happened. But first, I would like to ask you a few questions. Did you have anything to drink at the party?

A. Yes, I had a couple of ciders.

Q. Plus the beer you had before the accident?

A. Yes... and, I don't know if I should say this. He also offered me drugs.

Q. Did you take any?

A. Yeah, I snorted some coke.

Q. Okay, what happened next? You can take your time, Tina.

A. Okay. After he hit me on the side of the head, he offered me the coke. We were both kinda sitting in the bushes and then, all of a sudden, he pushed me down on the ground. He hit me again when I tried to get up and then he tried to rape me.

1046 words

Examples of scoring units in consecutive interpreting English to test language

Scoring unit example	Type with explanation
at - approximately - 10:00 p.m.	Words or phrases likely to be omitted due to their position - before a number
can you describe	Grammar - modal auxiliary + verb
including - Tracy , - Tyler and Peter	Numbers and names
a bunch of guys - crashed the party	Idiomatic language - not literal sense of "crash"
offered - me - a ride	General vocabulary
they had been drinking	Grammar - complex verb phrase
I didn't want - to move in with him	Idiomatic language - " move in with " is not the same as "move in"
He was carrying a - brown - bag	Words or phrases adding precision or emphasis
I was - pretty - thirsty	Words or phrases adding precision or emphasis
We were about halfway there when he seemed to have some trouble steering the car	Structure - complex sentence
dashboard	General vocabulary
For the record	Specialized terminology/phraseology - Legal terminology
His Honour	Specialized terminology/phraseology - Legal terminology
Yeah, the guy freaked out	Register - informal level of language
He told me to get out of there because the cops were coming ... that someone must have heard us and he had some dope in the car	Structure - long sentence with several clauses
He grabbed the bag, - got out of the car - and pulled me into the bushes	Words or phrases likely to be omitted due to their position - short clause in the middle of two others
in twenty minutes	Numbers and names