

Common Terms related to Interpretation

TERM	DEFINITION
Consecutive interpreting	<p>This refers to the mode or way you will be delivering the information.</p> <p>Consecutive means rendering a message in another language after the original speaker has paused or stopped talking to allow for the interpretation.</p>
Register	This refers to the level of language, such as colloquial, neutral, formal, etc.
Holistic scoring	Global evaluation of a candidate’s performance on an interpreting test. It focuses on two general sets of skills: interpreting skills, and language skills.
Scoring units	Key words, phrases or sentences in an interpreting test used to evaluate grammar, structure, general and specialised terminology, idiomatic language, register, specific items such as names and dates, words or phrases adding precision or emphasis, or words or phrases likely to be omitted due to their position in the message.
Sight translation	Reading a written text to yourself in one language and speaking it aloud in another language as you go.
Simultaneous interpreting	Simultaneous interpreting is a mode of interpretation in which the interpreter renders a spoken or signed message into another language in real time, while the speaker continues to speak.
Shadowing	An exercise used by those learning or practicing simultaneous interpreting which consists of repeating the message spoken in the same language as the speaker. This exercise helps to develop the ability to listen and speak at the same time.
Oral Recall	An effective way of testing an interpreter’s ability to listen, retain and repeat information accurately. Brief note-taking is allowed in this exercise so that the candidate can remember and repeat as much of the original passage as possible.
Sight Consecutive	This exercise consists of the translation back into English of a recording of the sight translation done previously during a testing session. That recorded translation is divided into sections and delivered to the candidate for oral translation.
Source language	Language in which a message to be translated is written, or in which a speech to be interpreted is spoken. Simply put, it is the language of the original text or speech.
Target language	The language into which a message, written or spoken, is to be translated.