

Consecutive Interpreting let's Practice

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Icebreaker

What is the capacity of the short-term memory?

- 15 seconds
- 30 seconds
- 45 seconds
- 60 seconds







Healthcare interpreting

- Healthcare interpreting has gone from something unheard of 40 or 50 years ago to a billion-dollar industry that churns out medical interpreters in various languages in all parts of the US. Having an interpreter is an access right not a language right.
- Healthcare interpreting differs from many other trades in the medical field in that it is not just an accumulation of medical knowledge that you need to learn. You do not only navigate words, but you also navigate gestures, cultures, etc.
- Interpreting is a human endeavor. No one can interpret 100% right 100% of the time. Accurate is more important than perfect.



Healthcare interpreting

- To be a truly effective and accurate healthcare interpreters, you will find that only with years of experience are you able to hone your skills.
 - Mental retention is something learned with time
 - The constant encountering of medical terminology and longtime exposure to varying tests and procedure is what molds a medical interpreter to the point of excellence in one's career.
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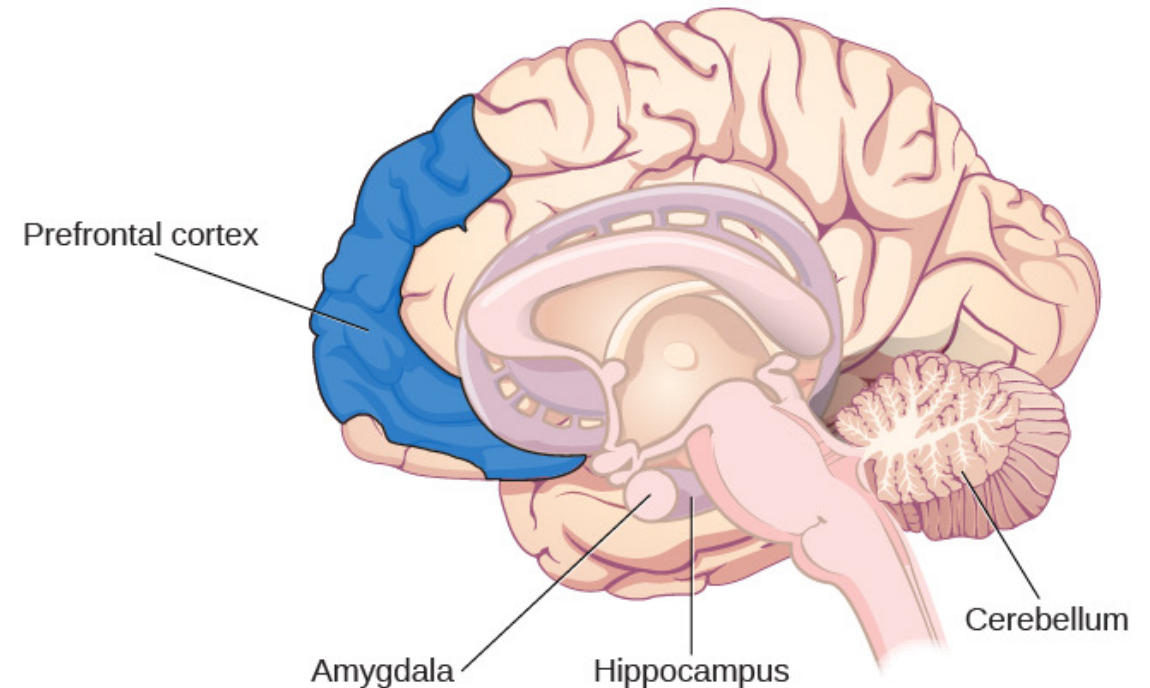


Consecutive interpreting in Healthcare interpreting

- Consecutive is the most reliable form of interpretation because the interpreter hears the complete thought before beginning to interpret.

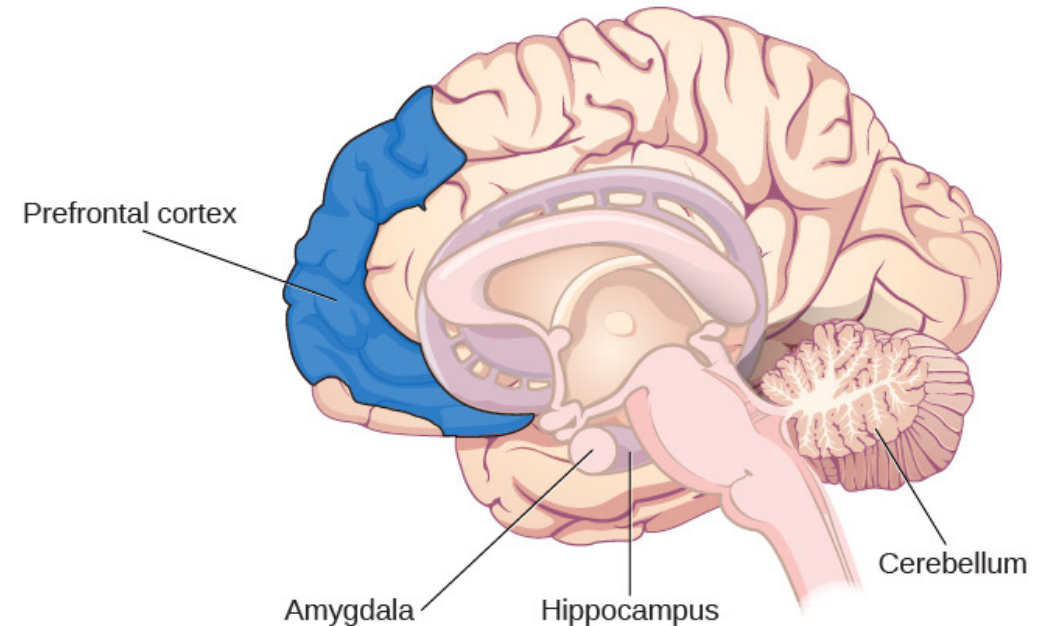
What is inside your brain?

- Our human brain = 100 billion neurons (think of it as a light bulb)
- Areas of memory: long term and short term
Is the lower part of the bulb or think about it as the computer
- Hard drive for storage/larger/ permanent and RAM for memory/short term/temporary/lose it when shut off power
- Short term memory: Hippocampus
- Gray Matter: long term memory



Mental encoding

- First stop: Hippocampus together with frontal cortex determine if worth recording and where to record
- Inside Hippocampus: worth remembering? Then stay in hippocampus or sent to long term memory
- Short term memory: +/- 30 second capacity
- Why is this fundamentally important to know as medical interpreter? Because allowing the provider or patient to talk more than 30 seconds means you severely compromise your accuracy



Improving your memory

- If you want to improve your memory, make a decision to improve your memory.
- Expanding our memory capabilities:
 - deep sleep,
 - deep relaxation,
 - meditation,
 - Stimulated,
 - problem solving
- If our short-term memory is only 30 seconds long, what can we do to get the most memory power out of these 30 seconds?



Question for Discussion

What do you need to improve your performance?

What do we need for a better performance?

- More demand on memory
- Good note-taking skills
- Good presentation skills
- Visualization is a powerful technique for consecutive.



Memory Support during Consecutive Interpreting

1. Narrative
2. Visual
3. Structure
4. Logic
5. Note-taking

The Narrative

- A spoken or written account of connected events; a story.
- Examples:
 - Patient history
 - Mental health sessions
 - Provider debrief after surgery



Practice Time

- Second Device
- Notepad
- Pen



Practice (1)

- Listen to this audio. Without taking notes, try to retain as much of the narrative as possible.

Practice (1)

- Patient: There was an accident with my grandson ... I spilled the coffee on him. [pauses and looks nervously at Doctor] It was morning and I hadn't had any breakfast yet. I was too busy getting Clay's breakfast—that's my grandson—and feeding my husband. I was just going to give my husband another cup of coffee and sit down myself for something to eat. That's when this all happened. So, I didn't get my regular breakfast or even lunch. I'm usually careful to eat right to control my diabetes.
- Doctor: I see. And then, of course, the accident occurred. Our initial treatment of providing some nutrition to you to bring your glucose levels up worked. However, it seems to have worked too well. After that initial intervention, your levels kept climbing. There were some lapses in there, but, until this afternoon, we weren't able to get your blood glucose down to an acceptable level, where we could be certain that you'd be able to manage again on your own.

Source: <https://www.gauchatranslations.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Medical-Language-Dialogues-Transcribed.pdf>

Practice (2)

- Listen to this audio. Without taking notes, try to retain as much of the narrative as possible.



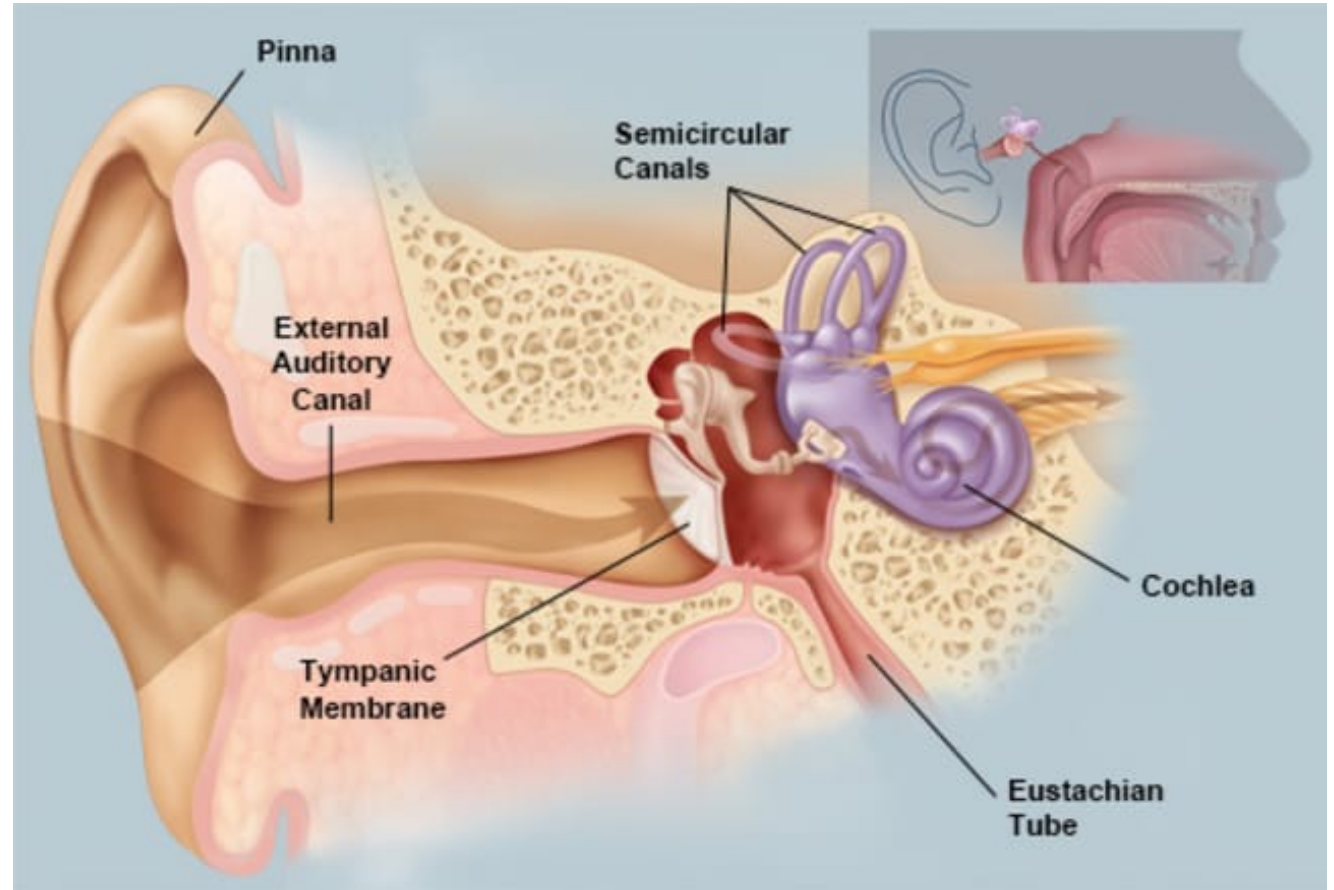
Practice

- Provider: Mrs. Loepky, as the doctor told you, your thumb is not broken, but it is injured. It's going to require a splint to immobilize it. Do you know what happened to it? How you injured it?
- Patient: Please, call me Glory. I'd like it if you just called me Glory. All I can remember for sure is that we were driving along and I was uncomfortable with the seat belt on. But I wanted to keep it buckled. I know it's important to wear a seat belt. So, it was bothering me on the left side of my belly. I hooked my thumb inside the seat belt to keep the edge of it away from my skin a bit so it wouldn't feel like it was cutting into me. That's the last I remember about my hand.

Source: <https://www.gauchatranslations.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Medical-Language-Dialogues-Transcribed.pdf>

The Visual

- Sometimes speakers describe a place, a person or a thing in a manner the listener can visualize.
- Examples:
 - Anatomical description
 - Skin condition
 - Dislocated bone



Practice (3)

- Listen to this audio. Without taking notes, try to retain as much of the visual cues as possible.



Practice (3)

- Provider: “He has a second-degree scald burn across his chest, more prominently on the left upper torso near his collarbone. It is not a large area. It looks like a circle. The diameter of this circle is not more than 3 inches. .We had that covered with a special dressing while we were operating”.

Source: <https://www.gauchatranslations.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Medical-Language-Dialogues-Transcribed.pdf>

Practice (4)

- Listen to this audio and using minimal notes try to retain as much of the visual cues as possible.



Practice

- I would like now to talk with you about Clay's nutritional status and whatever needs he may have as he recovers from his jaw surgery. As you can see, your son has an intravenous line running there, in his arm, and a couple of tube-like devices inserted into his nostrils. The nasal prongs are to give him oxygen. And the IV inserts medicine and fluids into his blood stream. The other tube, going into this right nostril, is an NG tube. That stands for nasogastric. The tube extends through the nose and the nasal cavity, down the esophagus, and into the stomach. That is how your son is going to be receiving his daily nutrition for a while.

Source: <https://www.gauchatranslations.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/Medical-Language-Dialogues-Transcribed.pdf>

The Structure

- Sometimes utterance follow a particular structure so that listeners can follow what is said.
- Examples:
 - Treatment plan
 - Nutrition information
 - Procedure during surgery



Practice (5)

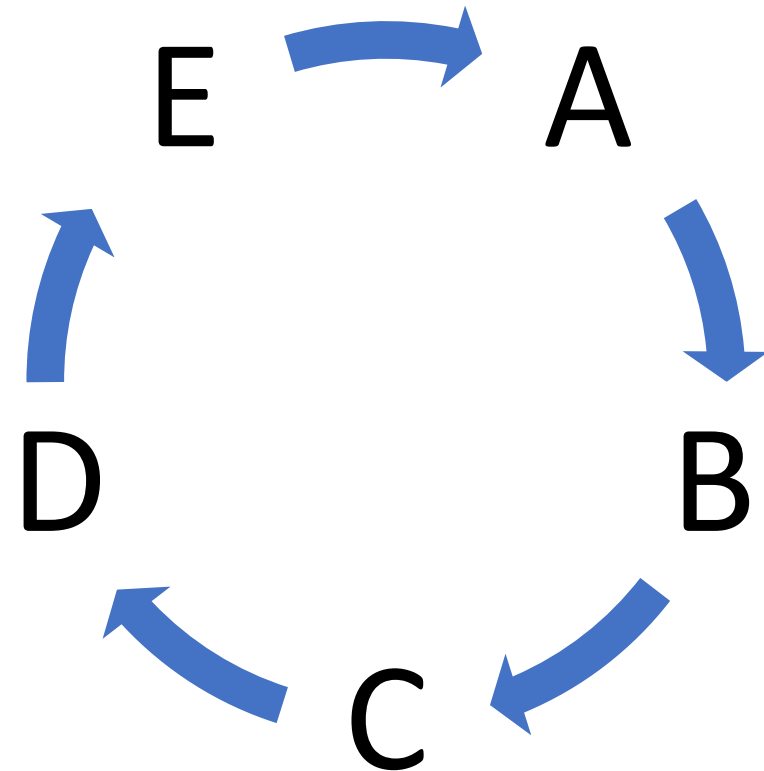
- Listen to this audio and using minimal notes try to retain as much of the structural cues as possible.

Practice

- Regarding gallbladder surgeries, they are one of two things. If it's an emergency, it can be a dangerous procedure. If it's not an emergency, the problem that's causing the pain and vomiting of an obstructed gallbladder is still there. But the procedure can be temporarily delayed by a change in diet or medications or antibiotics.

The logic

- Speakers depend on logic to get their point across.
- Example:
 - Cause and effect
 - comparisons



Practice (6)

- Listen to this audio and using minimal notes try to retain as much of the logical cues as possible.

Practice 6

- I ordered a rather wide battery of tests so that we could get a better picture of your condition. The results of your lab tests are quite good. A glucose test was done upon admission, and you were slightly hypoglycemic at the time. The team was able to remedy that in a short time, especially after they learned that you have type 2 diabetes.
- We found out that you were taking ibuprofen and glucosamine. Since we weren't sure what other medications you might be taking, I ordered a drug screen and toxicology test to rule out the influence of any adverse medication interactions that may have contributed to your confusion. These tests were negative.

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Note-taking

- Different schools
- Art?
- Learned?
- Symbols?
- Abbreviations?



Mixing it up!

- Breakout room.
- Use handout and role play.
- Use all tools in the box.
- Give feedback.

A silhouette of a basketball player stands in the center of a gym, holding a basketball. The player is positioned in front of a white brick wall. The gym floor is polished wood with visible court lines. The lighting is dramatic, with strong shadows and highlights. The text "Practice Makes Perfect" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the middle of the image.

Practice Makes Perfect



Thank you

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