# CHARACTERISTICS OF SIMULTANEOUS AND CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION

| Simultaneous Interpretation | | Consecutive Interpretation | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Pros** | **Cons** | **Pros** | **Cons** |
| Time lag reduced, with the real interpretation closer to "real time" | Higher potential for miscues | Allows "thought wholeness" or chunking | Requires more time than simultaneous interpretation |
| Makes the flow smoother | More preparation often required | Allows analysis of the source language before production of target language | Others may be "encouraged" to seek errors in the interpretation |
| Creates feeling of cohesiveness | Mode is standard, expected | Potentially more accurate because of reduced miscues | Can stifle process or cause uncomfortable feelings of anxiety |
| Encourages spontaneous responses/interaction | Potential for interpreter fatigue, stress high | Reduces vacillation between ASL and English | Interpreter work highlighted, increasing obtrusiveness |
| Interpretation more directly linked with speaker | Interpreter less able to monitor the interpretation | Interpreter can work at his/her own speed | |
| Mode is standard, expected | Interpreter has difficulty reworking or negotiating miscues or errors | Stress of dealing with complex expressions in source or target language reduced | |
| Allows the interpreter to seem less obtrusive | Mode makes the task seem simple | Direct communication with and feedback from receiver possible | |
| | May make negotiation for later use of consecutive mode difficult or impossible | Interpreter and others can observe the interpretation more closely | |
| | Sign language interpreter has less rapport with a deaf speaker | Fosters clear information | |
| | Mode entails greater vacillation between ASL and English | | |