

The Modes of Conference Interpreting

GENERAL	Conference interpreting is the umbrella term for various modes of interpreting. The appropriate mode depends on the diverse requirements and settings. Professional conference interpreters will advise you by drawing on their specialized knowledge and experience.
DENOMINATION	"Conference interpreter" is not a legally established title. When choosing a provider for interpreting services, it is crucial to look for relevant university degrees or memberships to professional associations to ensure quality.
	SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETING
DESCRIPTION	System with booths and headphones, well known from TV and EU. Interpreters translate in real time, i.e., simultaneously, and alternate every 20 to 30 minutes.
SETTINGS	Conferences, symposia, congresses, board meetings, product presentations, TV interviews, etc. Situations reliant on dynamics and precision, especially at events with more than two languages.
REQUIREMENTS	A pleasant voice, the ability to put oneself in the position of any speaker and to transmit even complex statements quickly and precisely. The interpreter must also be capable of conveying non-verbal messages such as gestures or facial expressions.
	CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETING
DESCRIPTION	The classic form: With special notation techniques, the interpreter takes notes during a speech or a passage of up to 10 minutes and delivers the translation afterwards.
SETTINGS	Receptions and addresses. Short events with two languages.
REQUIREMENTS	An outstanding memory assisted by a special notation technique. Confident demeanor.
	INTERPRETING WITH TOUR GUIDE SYSTEM ("BIDULE")
DESCRIPTION	Short utterances of two or more participants are interpreted consecutively both ways. The interpreter is placed between the interlocutors as in a normal dialogue situation.
	Interviews, short meetings and reunions with two languages.
REQUIREMENTS	A feeling for the dynamics of conversation and the ability to switch quickly between languages.
	LIAISON INTERPRETING
DESCRIPTION	Short utterances of two or more participants are interpreted consecutively both ways. The interpreter is placed between the interlocutors as in a normal dialogue situation.
SETTINGS	Interviews, short meetings and reunions with two languages.

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