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A Field Study of Court Interpreting

Difficulties & Challenges

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Dedication

To my mother, my father, and my brother...

To those who supported me in my whole educational and
academic path.

Thank you would never be enough...

To my dear colleagues, I say I'm very grateful meeting
you in this life. You were such an unforgettable tape.

Allah bless you all!

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Dedication

To my mother, my father, my brothers and sister, and to everyone who has stood with me along the way.

Thank you all!

Allah bless you all!

Naim Taleb

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Abstract

Such as with many other specialties, court interpreting is a vast domain that faces various probable challenges. This study aims at investigating multiple challenges that occur in practicing court interpreting. The field of this study concentrates on the court interpreting challenges in different parts of the world. Concluding from this research study, participating court interpreters mentioned a variety of challenges that they face and might face in court, according to the findings of this study that have been drawn from evaluating data obtained from interviewing participants who are international court interpreters. These challenges have been divided into different categories: linguistic (rapid speech, talkative people, accent, making mistakes, and different Judicial terminology); Judicial (non-collaborating Judicial professionals, not allowing case preview, and parties manipulating words); regulatory (difficulty in getting to court, payment problems, deep regulatory measures, and poor scheduling); and psychological (emotional moments, and stressful situations). Furthermore, the research sheds light on the role of court interpreter. To encounter those challenges mentioned, potential solutions have been recommended by interviewed participants, and researchers.

Key words: Translation; Language; Interpreting; Court; Challenges; Solutions

المخلص

تعد الترجمة الشفهية في المحكمة مجالاً واسعاً يواجه تحديات مختلفة مثلها مثل العديد من المجالات الأخرى. تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى استكشاف تلك التحديات. وأجريت هاته الدراسة على النطاق العالمي. وقد تم استنتاج العديد من تحديات الترجمة الشفهية في المحكمة باستعمال تقنية المقابلات الشفهية أو الكتابية مع مترجمين مختصين في المجال. تم تقسيم هذه التحديات إلى أربع فئات: تحديات لسانية (مثل سرعة التحدث، والثروة، واللهجة غير المفهومة، والأخطاء في التحدث، واختلاف المصطلحات القانونية)؛ وتحديات قانونية (مثل المهنيين القانونيين غير المتعاونين، ومنع معاينة ملفات القضايا، وتلاعب أطراف المحاكمة بالكلمات)؛ والتحديات التنظيمية (مثل صعوبة الولوج إلى المحكمة، ومشاكل سحب الرواتب، والتدابير التنظيمية المتشددة، وسوء الجدولة)؛ والتحديات النفسية (مثل المواقف المؤثرة عاطفياً والمواقف المؤثرة عصبياً). علاوة على ذلك، ألقينا الضوء على دور المترجم الشفهي في المحكمة. ولمواجهة التحديات المذكورة سابقاً، اقترح المشاركون والباحثون الذين تمت مقابلتهم بحلول.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الترجمة، اللغة، الترجمة الفورية، المحكمة، التحديات، الحلول.

Résumé

Comme c'est le cas pour de nombreuses autres spécialités, l'interprétation judiciaire est un vaste domaine qui fait face à diverses difficultés probables. Cette étude vise à examiner les multiples défis qui surviennent dans la pratique de l'interprétation judiciaire. Le champ de cette étude se concentre sur les contestations judiciaires dans différentes parties du monde. En conclusion de cette étude de recherche, les interprètes judiciaires participants ont mentionné une variété de défis auxquels ils font face et pourraient faire face devant les tribunaux, selon les résultats de cette étude qui ont été tirés de l'évaluation des données obtenues auprès des participants aux entrevues qui sont des interprètes judiciaires internationaux. Ces défis ont été divisés en différentes catégories : linguistiques (discours rapide, personnes bavardes, accent, erreurs et terminologie judiciaire différente); judiciaires (professionnels judiciaires non coopératifs, ne permettant pas l'aperçu des cas, et parties manipulant les mots)la réglementation (difficulté d'accès aux tribunaux, problèmes de paiement, mesures réglementaires approfondies et mauvaise planification) et la psychologie (moments émotionnels et situations stressantes). De plus, la recherche éclaire le rôle d'un interprète judiciaire. Pour relever ces défis, des solutions potentielles ont été recommandées par les participants interviewés et les chercheurs.

Mots clés : Traduction ; Langue ; Interprétation ; Cour ; Contestations ; difficultés ; Solutions

List of Abbreviations

- **WW I:** World War 1
- **WW II:** World War 2
- **ILO:** International Labor Organization
- **LEP:** Limited English Proficiency
- **SI:** Simultaneous Interpreting
- **ST:** Source Text
- **TT:** Target Text
- **SL:** Source Language
- **TL:** Target Language
- **TI:** Telephonic Interpreting
- **SLI:** Sign Language Interpreting
- **NESB:** The Non-English-Speaking Background
- **Ph.D.:** Doctorate of Philosophy
- **Sub-Q:** Sub-Question

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Introduction

Interpreting' is a term that refers to the process of orally substituting words or texts of a certain language with another. The first sights of interpreting appeared in old ages where ancient civilizations used it to contact one another; several manuscripts and prints reveal that interpreters, the performers of interpreting, had played various roles of being mediators between two language parts in contexts such as trades, legations, wars, travels, explorations, missionaries, and royal marriages. Interpreting has developed more styles and has become more technological in the 21st century. Although the aforementioned led existence of interpreting, merely in latest decades attention has begun to be paid to the activity of interpreters from a historical viewpoint.

It is known that interpreting is used in several contexts; one of these contexts is using it in court, which is termed as 'court interpreting'. The court interpreter, who translates spoken language professionals into another in court, faces several challenges during his job which may not appear to most of individuals that are not specialized in the court interpreting field. Thus, the challenges faced by court interpreters will be tackled, and solutions will be suggested.

Statement of problem

The perspective of that court interpreting is merely as simple as general interpreting and the major role of court interpreters in the judicial domain led us to state the following question, what are the Challenges faced by court interpreters?

Research questions

- 1- What are the challenges faced by court interpreters?
 - Sub-Q: What is interpreter's role in court?

Research hypotheses

- 1- The court interpreters play the important role of a language mediator between a speaker and a non-speaker of a language in Judicial context.
- 2- In courtroom, Interpreters might encounter various challenges, including psychological effects and Judicial terminologies.

Objectives of the research

Our research objectives are as follows:

- 1- Identifying the different definitions of interpreting, and specifically the presence of interpreting in Judicial contexts.
- 2- Demonstrating the role of interpreting in court, and how the interpreter can be the main part in any Judicial process.
- 3- Exploring the challenges faced by interpreters when interpreting Judicial dialogues between various parties in court.

Relevance of the research

The Court interpreting has a notable impact, as it also goes through challenges in the Judicial proceedings. Interpreters in court become an important part of the Judicial process that occurs between different concerned parties. Those parties could be a juror, a litigant, a witness, a lawyer, a prosecutor ...etc.

Therefore, this research will investigate the roles of the court interpreters when certain Judicial situations are in need of a language link between two parties, the non-speaker of the language and the native speaker of the language are in need of a mediator that can convey every Judicial expression that could be exchanged between the two court parties.

Furthermore, the aforementioned roles of the interpreter in the court will not be easy to settle without confronting serious challenges. Therefore, this research will also investigate the most expected challenges and difficulties that the court interpreter might confront during any interpreting process in the court.

Structure of the dissertation:

Chapter One: (Theoretical Part)

The first chapter sheds light from different angles on the field of Court interpreting and its pillars. Starting by its origins and history, the difficulties that most interpreters

have faced in courtroom and the differences between Judicial translation and court interpreting.

Chapter Two: (Practical Part)

This chapter is going to investigate on-field the potential challenges faced by interpreters in courtroom, through an analysis of data collected from an interview with (Court Interpreters) from different geographical and Judicial backgrounds in the world.

Methodology of the research:

This dissertation is based on field research conducted through a semi-structured interview with court interpreters from different countries. First, data were collected from the interviewees, then qualitative research was led to identify in the first place the general circumstances of Judicial interpreting process in the courts and then shedding light on the different challenges faced by interpreters.

Limitations of Study

Several difficulties were faced during conducting this research study such as:

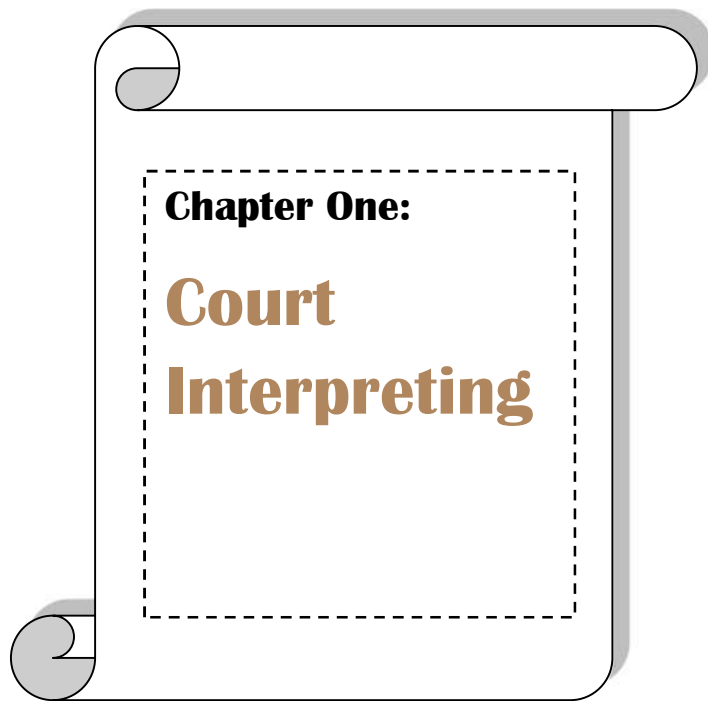
- The challenges of court interpreting discovered were not applicable in all participants' countries. As most of participants have different challenges faced in courts.
- Insufficient number of participants have been found to gather as much of data as possible to conduct an overall research study (completely worldwide).
- Insufficient period of time was given to do a completely worldwide research study. In addition to, lack of capabilities in terms of budget.

Literature Review

- A Case Study on Challenges and Strategies for Courtroom Interpreter, Gao Lu-Lu, (North-eastern University, Shenyang, China), and Yang Ning, Shenyang (University of Technology, Shenyang, China), (2015) revealed that courtroom interpreting situations can be extremely awkward, embarrassing, and difficult to manage; as well as, the professional ethical principles showing that the interpreter is supposed to be accurate and

complete with all parties, but, also, the interpreter has the right to request repetition, rephrasing, or even explanation when there is uncertainty.

- A Paper Work on Linguistic Challenges Faced by the Interpreter in Presentation of Litigants Evidence in Kericho County, Kenya, Yegon Cherotich Philister and Dr. Peter Muhoro Mwangi, (Mount Kenya University, Kenya), (2020) showed that when identifying the linguistic challenges faced by the interpreter during the presentation of litigants' evidence, it was discovered that the main linguistic challenge faced by the interpreters is the litigants' speed of speech. The majority of respondents agreed that unclear vocabulary, use of ideal languages, and pronunciation issues are among the challenges faced by interpreters.
- A Criminal Case of Drug User in the Court Proceedings at Denpasar Court Field, for Ida Ayu Made Puspani, Ni LuhSutjiatiBeratha Ida Bagus Putra Yadnya, I WayanPastika (Udyana University, Indonesia), (2013) is a field study that demonstrated the modes of interpreting and how they were interchangeably applied in court trials, the communication methods used to exchange the question/answer between different parties such as; the witness and the defendant.



1.1 An Overview about Judicial Translation

1.1.1 Judicial Translation

Several scholars state that **Judicial translation** has a complex nature that it is not an easy task to have a complete and limited definition of it. Cao (2017) sees that it is a type of specialized or technical translation that involves language of and related to law and Judicial process as well, and it refers to the rendering of Judicial texts from the source language (SL) to the target language (TL). Leal Cano (2017) stated in her thesis that it is commonly known that Judicial translation is rendering a text from one type of Judicial system and language and transferring this text appropriately to fit into another Judicial system and language. Harvey (2002) reveals that Judicial translation is a highly skilled task; it has even been described as the “ultimate linguistic challenge”. Cao (2013) states that Judicial translation is a complex and a special linguist activity; it involves mediation between different languages and cultures, and above all different Judicial systems; it requires special skills, knowledge, and experience on the part of the translator.

1.2.3 The Characteristics of Judicial Translation

(As cited in Harvey, 2002), Judicial translation has diverse characteristics differentiating it from other types of translation according to what is mentioned by many translators and theorists.

1- The nature of Judicial discourse: According to many authors, the unique status of Judicial translation stems from the fact that Judicial discourse is always framed from a particular perspective (Koutsivitis 1988, Gémard 1995). Due to a variety of factors, the target text (TT) in judicial translation has Judicial repercussions and convinces a common function in professional communication (Gile 1995). Thus, the most trustworthy method of determining functions is to use pragmatic considerations, just as you would in other types of communication.

2- A system-bound discipline: As is well known, law lacks a common knowledge base similar to the laws of mathematics. It is a mixture of various systems

created independently inside national boundaries. As a result, the issue of identifying equivalents for terms with cultural connotations arises. Another argument for the distinctive position of Judicial translation is this systematic diversity. And given the significance of both European and international law, it is reasonable to assume that the law will increasingly become more standardized.

3- Fidelity: Fidelity in translation dates back to the Roman era, when it was seen necessary to maintain the formal correspondence between source and target texts in order to preserve the meaning of both Biblical and Judicial writings (Gémar 1995; Sarcevič 1997). Judicial translation experts now describe fidelity as producing an equal effect on the target reader, which may justify significant changes to the text (ST) to adhere to the target judicial culture's stylistic conventions (Sparer 1979: Chapter two: judicial translation and court interpreting 1978, Covacs 1982). As a result, the translator shifts from being a "bilingual typist" to a "text producer," offering simple linguistic equivalence (Hammond 1995).

4- Ambiguity and interpretation: For the lawyer, language is merely a medium and "raw material" to be worked on. Law such as politics and ethics rely on rhetoric, which creates ambiguity (Raymond 2000). Ambiguity can be officially used in judicial documents. It can be used to negotiate a compromise in a contract (Doonan 1995). The issue of interpretation is brought up by the difficulty of translating ambiguity. Since this is a task for experienced lawyers, it is typically emphasized that the translator must avoid "interpreting" ambiguity (Lane, 1982, Bayer & Conradsen 1995). Judicial translators will inevitably have to deal with issues of interpretation if they are to be considered "text procedures." The interpretation and the technique of deliberate ambiguity are not incompatible.

1.2.4 The Purposes of Judicial Translation

(Kobyakova, 2017), judicial translation can be classified into three main purposes such as:

1- The normative purpose: This type of translation aims to produce equally authentic judicial texts in bilingual and multilingual jurisdictions that have the same

judicial force, such as the legislation in the bilingual jurisdictions of Canada, the multilingual judicial documents of the UN, and the multilingual laws of the EU.

2- The informative purpose: This includes the translation of laws, judicial decisions, scholarly works, and other kinds of judicial documents if the translation is meant to inform the target readers. In monolingual jurisdictions, this is most frequent found. The text in the TL does not have the same judicial force as the text in the SL in this category. This translation's main target is to better inform the target audience than any other target.

3- The general legal and judicial purpose: this category of translation includes contracts, pleadings and ordinary text such as diplomas and expert reports. This translation is primarily descriptive and for informational purposes. This is comparable to court interpreting. Most of the time, court interpreters translate witness testimony during which they may be recounting ordinary events.

1.2.5 The Importance of Judicial Translation

(Chouiti, 2017), Judicial translation has a high status and importance at both local and the international levels:

a) At the local level, translation aids in the recovery of others' rights by serving as an important mediator in the settlement of disputes between individuals and bodies; this is because the translator converts different judicial documents into the country's official judicial language, and any mistakes carry serious consequences for both the document's owner and the translator.

b) At the global level, demand has boosted because of the global trend of uniformity of laws around the world, which prevents each nation from enacting its laws independently of other nations' laws.

1.3 Introduction to Interpreting

1.2.1 Definition of Interpreting

Several scholars commonly define interpreting as the oral translation from a language into another. (Masduki, 2020) interpreting is generally understood as the transfer of messages and styles from the SL into the TL orally. Dang (1997) sees that interpreting is rendering information and ideas from one language into another language by means of speaking. According to Laver & Mason (2018), interpreting is the oral translation by an interpreter of utterances spoken in one language into another.

1.2.2 Interpreting vs Translating

Linguists and translation studies scholars promote that interpreting and translation are not synonyms –in spite of some aspects that they have in common, but still many think that they are synonymous professions. With great similarities and differences, translation and interpreting are worth exploring thoroughly.

Sufficient similarities between the two are (Li 2015):

a) They are both ways to transfer language involving reproduction, reconstitution, and reorganization of the SL based on accurate understanding of the meanings of the original information.

b) Translation and interpreting set certain requirements for the professional level for the translator or interpreter, for instance application of the vocabulary, dictation of language, ability to cope with the grammatical readjustment and syntactic processing.

c) The purpose of both translation and interpreting is to convey the underlying connotations instead of transcoding the language material in word-to-word pattern.

d) They both demand good comprehension and expression level of the two languages in addition to the profound and comprehensive cross-cultural background concerned.

Dollerup & Loddegaard (1992) indicate another similarity between translation and interpreting:

“They are indispensable for integrating and preserving multilingual societies; for developing understanding and peace among individuals, groups, and nations; for

exchanging ideas and knowledge; for technology transfer and international trade and commerce; and for cultural cooperation and assistance.”

Differences between translation and interpreting are as follows:

a) Interpreting refers to the spoken transference while translation refers to written transference of meaning between two languages (Masduki, 2020).

b) Translation deals with the written word, while interpreting involves the spoken word. Translators and interpreters go about their work in huge different ways. For instance, translation is a more solitary profession, where the translator is able to consult dictionaries, grammar books, discussion forums and so on. While, the interpreter is often given no more than a split second or two to transpose what he is hearing into another language” (Zehour, 2019).

Suryasa (2019) states other differences between translation and interpreting:

c) According to Pochhacker (2004), in interpreting, a first and the final rendition in another language are produced on the basis of one-time presentation of an utterance in a SL. While, the translation process can be described as decoding the meaning of the SL, and re-encoding this meaning in the TL; and it can be produced on the basis of more than one time presentation.

d) To accomplish the task of interpreting, the interpreter must experience the overlapping series of cognitive processing activity, i.e., attending the message, concentrating on the task at hand, remembering the message, comprehending the meaning of the message, analyzing the meaning for the message, visualizing the message non-verbally, and finally reformulating the message in the TL. Otherwise, to accomplish translation, the translator has to check grammar, syntax, idioms, semantics, and the like of the SL and also the culture of its speakers. He needs thorough knowledge in decoding and then re-encoding the meaning in the TL. It is, occasionally, necessary that the translator's knowledge of the TL is more important than his knowledge of the SL.

1.2.3 The Beginning of Interpreting

The first sights of interpreting appeared in old ages where ancient civilizations used it to contact one another; several manuscripts and prints reveal that interpreters had

played various roles of being mediators between two language parts. Locating historical accounts of interpreters is difficult, since accounts are few and far between and most interpreters are only mentioned in passing (Andres, 2012).

A. Interpreting in Ancient Egypt

Andres (2012) reveals much information about the history of interpreting. He mentions that the oldest available sources about interpreters date back to ancient Egypt, where interpreters worked at the pharaoh's court. He also states that the Ancient Egyptian civilization comprised several foreign ethnicities, thus interpreting was needed to facilitate communication between the native and the foreign, just as for trade with foreign countries and for military expeditions. He reveals as well that inscriptions on walls of pharaohs' tombs, which date back to around 2600 BC, show that there were several bilinguals in the civilization who were diplomats in responsibility of economic, political and military affairs in the pharaoh's court.

B. Interpreting in Greece and Roman Empire

Sights of interpreting in Greece and Roman Empire appeared in several areas such as politics and commerce. In the Greece civilization, interpreters also played an important role in the area of philosophy. The example of that is Alexander the Great –a former king of Greek kingdom of Macedon, giving the Greek historian Onesikritos the task of undertaking research on the philosophical teachings of the Indian ascetics (Wiotte-Franz, 2001).

Another sight of interpreting in Greek is shown in the discussion that took place between Onesikritos and Dandamis –one of the oldest of the Indian wise men. Three interpreters were required during the discussion and, since there was seemingly no Greek–Indian interpreter available, the first interpreter most likely interpreted Dandamis's words into an Iranian dialect, after that the second interpreter transferred them into Aramaic. Then, the third interpreter translated the words from Aramaic into Greek (Franke, 1992).

Greek interpreters in those days often had bilingual parents or they were foreigner children who learned Greek as slaves in Athens (Wiotte-Franz, 2001).

As for the Roman Empire, interpreters were used in order to overcome language barriers as well as to satisfy national pride, to distance oneself from foreigners, thus increasing one's own prestige (Gehman, 1914). The Roman Senate was one of the leading administrative bodies which frequently employed interpreters, for Carthaginians and Hispanics were only allowed to speak with interpreters (Cicero, 1923). As for the Roman courts, the same held true. Interpreters therefore belonged to the apparitors. By means of the Latin language and interpreters, the Roman Empire also demonstrated its military and political power (Cassio Dio, 1844). In spite of the rare mention of interpreters in sources on Ancient Rome, they were definitely needed. Rare references to interpreters appear in Cicero's –a Roman scholar and philosopher, letters and in Julius Caesar's –a Roman general and statesman, 'The Conquest of Gaul' (Adams, 2018).

A. Interpreting in Middle Ages

After a period of non-emergence, interpreters began to emerge once again, but that was until the high and late Middle Ages (Andres, 2012). Medieval French heroic epics called "*chanson de geste*" illustrate the translator's privileged social position in the Middle Ages. His title "maistre latimier" ("interpreter", literally "one knowing latin") is evidence of certain fame and places him in a certain professional category (Glässer, 1956).

The beginning of the Crusades at the end of the eleventh century, to liberate Jerusalem and the Holy Land of Muslim rule, witnessed a significant increase in the number of interpreters; they were used in missionary work, with their performances minutely commented on (Andres, 2012).

Interpreters are mentioned by name during the Middle Ages, their profession was evidently in demand, well recognized, and widespread; nevertheless, it also becomes clear that it was of doubtful reputation, particularly in the religious realm (Atiya, 1970).

B. Interpreting in the 20th Century

A distinction was rarely made between interpreting and translation until the end of World War I. It was believed that a language expert could manage both. Due to the growth of large international organizations during the interwar period, there were more high-level interactions and a greater demand for multilingual interpreting. The 20th century saw shedding of light on consecutive interpreting as well as the appearance of simultaneous

interpreting. After that, new fields and types of interpreting have been added and new technologies and means of communication have been introduced. This was also the time when the first interpreter autobiographies were published, providing a vision on the work of interpreters in the 20th century (Andres, 2012).

C. Interpreting in the 21st Century

(Andres 2012) the importance of interpreting has increased in the modern globalized world, and in a multicultural and multilingual environment where communication is a precious resource, interpreters are more important than ever.

The ever-increasing demand for mediation between cultures and languages in a wide range of settings has ushered in a new era of interpreting. In the 21st century, interpreting is articulated in terms of not profession only, but also in terms of research as well as training. Interpreting in this century is also based on the acknowledgement that interpreting is not only conference interpreting, even though this has been the traditional focus of the field from the beginning, and that other modes have neither lesser importance nor lesser dignity (Garzone & Viezzi, 2003). Andres (2012), states that in the modern century, interpreters collect glossaries for preparation on their computers and the use of a computer in the booth has become a rule rather than an exception.

1.2.4 Roles of the Interpreter

“The interpreter plays the role of negotiator or coordinator in the communication act to achieve mutual understanding. Thus, task of the interpreter includes not only transfer between the two languages but the removal the cultural differences and obstacles for a more efficient and satisfactory communication” (Li, 2015).

According to Laver & Mason (2018), the interpreter works for the benefit of one or more listeners unable or only partly able to understand the original language

Masduki (2020) states that several roles of interpreter are in many ways as follows:

- a. To act as a bridge to communicate ideas between a person who does not speak the language that the other person is trying to communicate in an effective way.
- b. To facilitate communication among the parties who do not speak one language.

c. To interpret mean and concept from SL to TL without deleting or adding anything to the message.

d. To provide semantic equivalence between the SL and TL and to conserve every single element of information that was contained in the original message, in a close form, style, syntax, or register level without simplification, clarification, or omission.

Zehour (2019) there are certain roles of interpreter in specific fields which are as follows:

a. Interpreters have a role –maybe negative or positive, in zones of conflicts, for instance in Afghanistan, Iraq or Libya where they have the power to manipulate the messages according to their own ideologies and visions.

b. Interpreters conduct meetings. They play an impartial role in meetings and they help the business owner and his client communicate with each other.

c. The role of interpreters in medical setting is significant. The accuracy of the interpretation is key element of safe and effective communication between clinicians and patients in medical settings characterized by language and cultural barriers.

d. The interpreter is needed in sports as well, for instance in the Olympic Games.

1.3 Court Interpreting

1.3.1 Definition of Court Interpreting

Court interpreting is a term that refers to any kind of judicial interpreting process, in courtroom or out of courtroom. Out of courtroom contexts include interpreting in police department (Gamal, 2009). Morris (2014) sees the term interpreting in court as the oral interlingual transfer of meaning of relevant judicial system. Mikkelson (2017) considers court interpreting as the work not only in courts of law but also in law offices, law enforcement agencies, jails and prisons, and other public agencies associated with the judiciary. It may be known by a variety of names, including judicial interpreting,

judiciary interpreting, and forensic interpreting. Court interpreting is “the process of bilingual interpreting in a context governed by judicial process, such as in court-room” (Laver & Mason, 2018).

1.3.2 The Beginning of Court Interpreting

It is unknown when court interpreting began, but the beginning surely dates back further than the stated records. It is fair to assume that the practice of court interpreting is almost as old as the practice of law. Belhachani & Barka (2019) declare that the most prominent interpreted trials were those of the war which took place in Nuremberg between November 1945 and October 1946. The event is considered as the watershed of court interpreting profession because it was the first example of the use of equipment to deliver simultaneous interpreting (Mikkelsen, 2017).

1.4 Modes of Court Interpreting

The uses of interpreting modes are several from a situation to a situation. The interpreter faces multiple cases of court where a particular mode of interpreting is in need to be applied. According to (Andrew, 2006), interpreting modes were judicially developed over the years and federally adopted into the court rules as follows: simultaneous interpreting, consecutive interpreting, sight interpreting, and telephonic interpreting. There are also additional modes of interpreting that can be exceptionally used in court which are whispered interpreting and sign language interpreting.

1.4.1 Simultaneous Interpreting

Simultaneous interpreting (SI) in general works through orally interpreting someone’s speech in real-time speaking with a time span of 10 sec least. The literature on the history of interpreting tends to link simultaneous interpreting to the development of conference interpreting after WWII, particularly the Nuremberg trials (Ramler, 1988; Baigorri Jalón, 2004). The Nuremberg trials undoubtedly raised the profile of simultaneous interpreting, which had previously been tried at the ILO (International

Labor Organization) and the League of Nations with limited success (Baigorri Jalón, 2004).

Using SI in courtroom is one the probable solutions in court due to the situation of a trial that may require interpreting simultaneously. SI is used when participants are typically defendants in roles such as accused, hearings, or trials. Also, although it is not required, the Limited English Proficiency (LEP) speaker must hear what is said during the proceeding. Then, each word uttered must be interpreted immediately in order to encourage the defendant to be present and active in his or her defense (Andrew, 2006). The accredited setting of Simultaneous interpreting in courtroom can be done in a sound-proof cabin, where the interpreter starts conveying words from a language to another between different parties in the courtroom. **Chuchotage**, also known as **whispered interpreting**, is another type of SI. The interpreter stands or sits behind the interpretee(s) and whispers the interpretation into their ear. This type of interpreting is sometimes considered a distinct mode (Mikkelson, 2010).

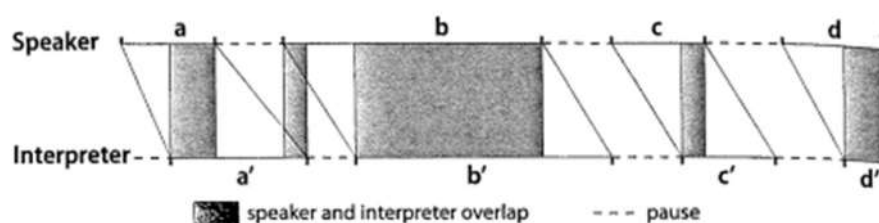


Figure 1. Depiction of Simultaneous Interpretation: Graphic Depiction of Time Lag between SL and TL Utterances. *Note.* From Van Hoof, 1962.

Figure 1 is a graphic depiction of the SI process devised by van Hoof (1962), based on the ground-breaking work of Paneth (1957). In this figure, the horizontal lines represent the passage of time, the top line being the SL message and the bottom line the TL message.

1.4.2 Consecutive Interpreting

This mode is based on the speaker and interpreter taking turns. Essentially, the speaker pauses after a sentence (regular consecutive interpreting) or a longer segment of speech (high consecutive interpreting) and allows the interpreter to convey the utterance in the Target language (TL). In contrast to simultaneous interpreting, the interpreter can ask for clarification or request that the speaker repeat the utterance or a portion of it here.

The **note-taking** method is especially useful in this mode, as a good memory may not be sufficient for longer portions of speech. The role of consecutive interpreting (CI) in courtroom is considered essential and almost inevitable. And to see the relationship of use of CI with other modes, Hatim and Mason (1997) view the interpreting process from the perspective of three domains of textuality: context, structure and texture, with the three modes of interpreting (**liaison**, consecutive and simultaneous) drawing primarily on one of these dimensions for understanding the text. They suggest that context is more readily available to liaison interpreting, structure to consecutive interpreting and texture to simultaneous interpreting.

The setting of consecutive interpreting in the courtroom is conducted in a specific way: the interpreter sits or stands near the contesting parties, listens to what he or she says, and repeats the entirety of what has been said, usually with the aid of notes taken during the speech (Huang, 2007). While both consecutive and simultaneous interpretation methods have advantages, research in the field of interpreting has consistently shown that consecutive interpreting results in much greater message transmission accuracy (Alexieva, 1991; Bruton, 1985; Cokely, 1992; Mikkelsen, 1995). Because of the high cost of equipment and the stress involved in courtroom interpreting, SI is less commonly used than CI and sight interpreting.

Given this context, sign language interpreters are also reconsidering CI as a better way of working in court. Court interpreters may use consecutive or simultaneous methods of interpretation, or a combination of both methods within a single proceeding, depending on the **Deaf and hearing** consumers and the nature of the proceedings. When the information is complicated or technical, the Deaf person has a non-standard or unusual language variation, or the language relies heavily on metaphors or illustrations, the decision to use consecutive interpreting is sometimes made.

1.4.3 Sight Interpreting

Another mode of interpretation used by the court is **sight interpreting** or sight-reading. Generally, it is an **oral translation of a written text** and is regarded as a mode of interpretation or translation. It is a type of translation given to an interpreter-translator for training programs as a training tool (Olga, 2018). In some cases, the interpreter is

required to perform an oral rendition of a written document, such as court exhibits or plea agreements, for the benefit of the witnesses or defendants.

When the participant does not give an oral speech, the interpreter-translator must deal with various types of speeches, contracts, judicial documents, and so on. Sight translation is classified into two types: consecutive ST and simultaneous ST. In the first type, interpreters interpret written messages sequentially after reading every chunk of the text by himself or herself. In the second method, the interpreter does the same thing as in the first, but the speaker is the one who reads the chunks of speech aloud (Weber, 1990).

1.4.4 Telephonic Interpreting

Telephone interpreting is gaining popularity. What exactly is telephone interpreting? Telephone interpreting (TI) is the practice of doing bilateral interpreting over the phone. The telephone interpreter, who is located in a remote location, interprets over the phone for two people who do not speak the same language (Kelly, 2007).

The use of new types of interpreting, such as media/video or remote interpreting, has grown significantly in recent years (Mouzourakis 1996), as the use of TI has also increased. This is increasingly being used as an expedient alternative to the physical presence of an interpreter not only in business contexts, but also in courts and, in particular, in health care settings (Benmaman 1999). Sometimes, Courts do not have to pay interpreters for waiting time, mileage, or administrative duties when using TI. Furthermore, TI services provide access to an interpreter in areas and languages where qualified **face-to-face** interpreters are not available. As far as court interpreting is concerned, Mintz (1998), after experimenting with the equipment used by the United States Court Telephone Interpreting Project, concludes that TI with high-quality equipment on both ends and capable staff can work adequately for short, simple, predictable administrative hearings as well as in emergency cases.

1.4.5 Sign Language Interpreting

Signed language interpreting (SLI) is the process of facilitating communication between parties who do not share the same language. Frequently, signed and spoken language users (e.g., deaf and hearing people) are interpreted; however, 112 signed

language interpreters will also work between different signed languages, for example, interpreting from Auslan (Australian Sign Language) to ASL (American Sign Language), or trilingually between two spoken languages and a signed language. According to Bishop and Hicks (2008), even in the early days, sign interpretation was one of the services offered. Initially, this was frequently provided informally by hearing children of deaf adults (known as 'codas'), Teachers of the deaf, ministers or members of the clergy, and other relatives and friends. Respected members of the Deaf community frequently recruited or selected suitably skilled hearing people to be nurtured and developed as interpreters. Particularly, in the courtroom settings, there is documented evidence of SLI in courts and other settings dating back to the 1600s in the Ottoman Court (Stone 2012) and the 1700s in the London courts (Stone and Woll 2008). As the role of sign language interpreter defined in the language services of Alaska court system:

“The sign-language interpreter has the same role and responsibility as a spoken language interpreter. The interpreter is impartial and is present only to accurately interpret the proceedings. The sign-language interpreter interprets only what is said without adding, omitting, or summarizing anything. The interpretation communicates accurately the meaning of everything that is said.”

Even though, the Deaf community is recognized as a linguistic and cultural minority (Ladd 2003, Lane, Hoffmeister and Bahan 1996). In most countries, provision of SLI falls under disability legislation and funding as opposed to provisions for interpreting for migrant populations. In comparison with the spoken-language interpreting, multiple field investigators observe the exceptional need of SLI in courts, where SLI Interpreters are rarely to be requested in judicial cases, which this has an accordance to the few numbers of cases that include the deaf community parties in court. But it doesn't deny the fact that SLI is one of the principal modes of court interpreting.

1.5 The Role of Court Interpreter

To deep dive into identifying the role played by the interpreter in courtroom and its cruciality in judicial system. A major role can be mentioned or as a primary duty for the interpreter in courtroom. This duty is to act as a bridge between non-English speakers and English-speaking in **court proceedings**. Interpreters play an important role in the

administration of justice by converting one language to another and ensuring the rights of all those involved to due process and participation in **the court system**.

Holly (2017) compiled the roles of court interpreting as stated by various scholars, stating that most countries do not always have the person who is the interpreter in the courtroom during trial, whereas in some countries, they look for a lawyer who speaks the litigant's language. Additionally, Hale (2004) goes deeper in discussing different views of schools of thoughts on the controversial role of court interpreter in courtroom. On one hand, some believe that the interpreter's role is to assist disadvantaged non-English speakers in succeeding in their cases. According to Conomos, (1993), this view arises from a sense of social justice and justifies deviating from the SL utterance to provide explanations to the non-English speaker in order to ensure clear understanding, or (Barsky, 1996) to embellish the answers in order to obtain a more favorable result. On the other hand, another view emerged from another school of thought, which calls for the impartiality of the interpreter in court, by acting as a machine, rendering every spoken word from one language to another without further explanation nor clarification. In a study of practicing interpreters, Foley, a lawyer and academic involved in interpreters training wrote:

“This narrow concept of the role of the interpreter has been dictated by the law’s need to overcome problems associated with the hearsay objection. But the conduit model has largely been discredited in practice because it was often the justification for a judicial direction to “Mr/madam interpreter” to “just interpret word for word!” To hear very experienced interpreters now categorizing their own role in terms of this “conduit pipe” was a real surprise”. (Foley, 2003: 3).

Foley discovered that the majority of interpreters refused to accept the Non-English Speaking Background person (NESB) as a client. As this kind of behavior that may lead to partiality and going against their code of ethics which calls for the full impartiality of interpreters during any interpreting process of **judicial proceedings**.

Whereas, some interpreters suggested a new view point named **“language as client”** in court.

“Their view was that if they served this ‘client’ well by faithfully interpreting, the NESB person was also served well by being made ‘linguistically present’ in the proceedings, without needing to be shown a preference” (Foley, 2003: 3).

On the other hand, the next school of thought seems to adopt the same last-mentioned view of “Language as client”. This category of interpreters believes in taking a neutral ground, it promotes the idea of directing the interpreter’s role to accumulate the NESB person and the English speaker in the same situation in court. This includes as well interpreting every aspect of the speech, and mimicking the way it was said in order to make the recipient understands what has been said as the same as the original. In this regard, Moeketsi (1999) emphasized the role of the interpreter to preserve “all the vital elements of the message possible” such as pauses, tone of voice, language register, hesitations and other elements, in order to alter an equivalence of meaning.

1.5.1 Court Interpreter’s Code of Ethics

Generally speaking, each professional domain has its basic-code of ethics to respect from everyone’s working in that particular field. Nevertheless, some ethical violations might occur whether deliberately or unintentionally from field users due to any particular reason. In the field of court interpretation, those which their words are interpreted in court believe that they have the right to rise their message freely through an **interpretation channel** (Court Interpreter) and to confirm that their words are conveyed properly. Mikkelson (2000) has given a field example of how code of ethics is conducted by Austrian Interpreters, he said that the Austrian Association of Court Interpreters indicated in its preamble of code of ethics that the interpreter's vital role is to protect the fundamental human rights and equality before the law. In such cases, it is extremely difficult, and almost impossible to achieve this kind of equality. According to Austin (1996), the interpreter's goal should be to render the SL text as accurately as possible into the TL. Austrian interpreters are bound by a professional Code of Ethics, which emphasizes the importance of accuracy and impartiality, among other things.

In the context of giving examples from different judicial systems in the world, an Algerian judicial code which includes the regulation of Translator-Interpreter’s profession by these chosen articles as follows:

Article 3: Official Quality called translators-interpreters do written translation or interpretation from a language to any other, taking into account the international agreements.

Article 11: Official translator-interpreter shall be committed to profession secret.

Article 12: Official translator-interpreter shall provide their services within the framework of their competence, when necessary, unless the document provided is untranslatable, prejudice to morality or public order, or leading to the violation of law and applicable regulations.

Article 4: Official translator-interpreter is an Official Quality.

(Liamine Zeroual, 1995) (Our Translation from Arabic into English)

1.6 The Challenges and Difficulties of Interpreting in Courtroom

As in most fields of interpretation and translation, there are plenty of difficulties to find and a lot of challenges to encounter. Particularly in the court, where most of the interpreters are to deal with specific judicial terminologies and a language of law. In this usual dealing, there are additional factors that take place into the preceding regardless of the aforementioned role of the interpreter such as: the jury (judge, prosecutor), litigant, defendant, witness, lawyer. Those court parties have an overlapped usual connection with the interpreter in courtroom which may also result several challenges and difficulties during the judicial tasks.

1.6.1 Linguistic Challenges for Court Interpreters

Because judicial terms differ from everyday English, **terminological precision** is one of the most common challenges for court interpreters in court (Hale, 2007a). According to Mellinkoff (1963), courtroom language can be traced back to Anglo-Saxon, Latin, and French origins. He claims that because of its wordiness, lack of clarity, pompousness, and dullness, court language is largely inaccessible to lay people. In addition to judicial language, court interpreters must have a broad vocabulary from a variety of domains, such as forensic pathology, chemistry, and narcotics, in case any relevant expert witnesses discuss these issues in court (González et al., 2012).

Also, Hale (2004) found in a study of court interpreting in Australia that **Tag questions** caused a difficulty for court interpreters to not smoothly serve their client when interpreting. Interpreters omitted 52.12% of the tag questions as the data has shown. According to Hale (2004) and Gibbons (1999), one possible reason interpreters omit what they consider irrelevant is that they are under pressure to provide a quick delivery in order to avoid wasting the court's time. Berk-Seligson (1990) discovered that interpreters who attempted to please the court by making things appear easier and saving time were more appreciated. Another plausible explanation for such omissions is that interpreters are unaware of the significance of question form and instead focus on interpreting propositional content alone, in whatever form they happen to choose at the time.

To illustrate more the tag questions forms used in the courtroom, the following table illustrates one of the types of tag questions used in court in two different languages (English; Spanish).

English Tag Question	Spanish Pragmatic Equivalent
<p>1. Invariant tag question.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Positive declarative with positive ratification tag, or tag with copula omitted. <p>This tag seeks ratification and expects a positive answer.</p> <p>These are common in examination-in-chief when asking non-contentious information such as personal details. E.g., You called your sister. (Is that) correct/ right?</p>	<p>1. Usted llamó a su hermana. ¿Verdad? /¿Correcto? (You called your sister. True? / Correct?)</p>

Table 1. Tag question taxonomy as used in the courtroom (Table 7. P47)

1.6.2 Court Interpreting as an Emotional Work

We humans have always engaged in emotional work in different ways, and emotional work is enclosed by diverse rules of emotion and expression. The presence of emotions in judicial context and precisely in **court trial** is something inevitable. According to Hochschild (1983), there are two types of emotional labor, and they are

related to the concept of "**emotional dissonance**", which involves the distance between how a person really feels and what is expected of a person. A court trial is an institutional activity that is expected to be carried out in accordance with neutral and objective principles, but research has revealed that emotion and empathy play a role that challenges the assumption of pure rationality, both institutionally and for individual actors. Emotions in law courts research spans several disciplines, including criminology, law, philosophy, and sociology (Maroney 2016).

In most of judicial systems in the world, the interpreter is expected to act neutrally and impartially. In this situation, interpreters might encounter many difficulties in dealing with emotional and sensitive situation in the courtroom. According to Ruth Morris (2010), the fact that the interpreter is emotionally affected should not be interpreted as a violation of neutrality and objectivity norms, meaning that the interpreter must not interfere with the situation; interpreting necessitates understanding not only what is explicitly said, but also its underlying messages and contexts.

1.6.3 Cross-Cultural Differences in Court Interpreting

As we have multiple cultures spread into this whole world with different characteristics and features, plenty of difficulties may appear when attempting to link those different cultures in one common area. This kind of difficulty might emerge to most of court interpreters when dealing with people that belong to different cultures, nationalities, roots and speak different languages. Interpreters are used in court to bridge the language gap between the courtroom and speakers from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds, enacting them on an equal footing as if there were no language obstacle (Gonzalez et al. 1995). However, some interpreters in court might also put the language misunderstanding or lack of communication between different speakers (parties) in courtroom as Felberg and Skaaden (2012) caution against using the notion of intercultural differences to justify misunderstandings between speakers.

In terms of language accent, there are some challenges or even considered difficulties for interpreters while dealing with foreign language speaker with different accent. According to research on foreign accents, speakers with a foreign accent are perceived less favorably than those with a native accent, regardless of the content of

their utterances (Giles, Bourhis, and Davies 1979; Giles et al. 1974). Some believe that native language speaker is more preferable to deal with than the one speaking it as a second language. This is due to the clear pronunciation of words and the ability to render a full correct sentence in slow or rapid rate of speech. Mikkelsen (2008) said that the absence of discussion about the extent of cultural intervention by court interpreters is a disservice to the profession.

1.7 The Difference Between Court Interpreting and Judicial Translation

Court interpreting and judicial translation are two different terms that should not be confused; the first refers to the oral rendition of speech in certain judicial system from SL into TL, while the second means the written transfer of certain judicial system from a language into another. Judicial translation concern ranges from translating diplomats and certificates, such as birth certificates, to translating international legal documents, such as the Charter of the United Nations. However, court interpreting is concerned with orally translating between court parties in order to avoid misunderstanding and to make justice (Belhachani & Barka, 2019). In other words, judicial translation deals with papers while court interpreting deals with utterances.

1.8 Conclusion

This chapter focused on the theoretical foundations of interpreting and translation, as well as court interpreting and Judicial translation. According to previous sources and references, the distinction between Judicial translating and court interpretation was discovered. Even though they both belong to the Judicial context, it was discovered that Judicial translating is not the same as court interpreting in terms of the rendition process and the character of the product.

A graphic of a scroll with a dashed rectangular box in the center. The scroll has a grey shadow and rounded corners. The text inside the box is as follows:

Chapter Two:

*Interpreting
Challenges in
Court: Findings
and Analysis.*

Chapter Two: Interpreting Challenges in Court: Findings and Analysis

Introduction

2.1 Research Design

2.2 Population and Sampling

2.2.1 Interpreter's Profile

2.3 Data Collection

2.4 Background Information

2.5 Data Analysis

2.6 Recommendations

2.7 Conclusion

2.8 Bibliography

Introduction

The previous chapter sheds light on the theoretical studies of court interpreting, the history of court interpreting, the most challenges encountered by court interpreters according to many different theorists, linguists and translators. This chapter is going to present the practical part of this research based on an interview addressed to worldwide interpreters in an attempt to answer the following questions:

- 1- What are the challenges faced by court interpreters?
 - Sub-Q: What is interpreter's role in court?

Note: Participants (court interpreters) are referred with symbols 'IN' in data analysis.

2.1 Research Design

This research is divided into two chapters: chapter one is the theoretical part, and chapter two is the practical part. Also, the research is based on **APA style**.

This study uses descriptive research to gather **qualitative data** to address the research questions. The first way is simple statistics with descriptions of samples and populations. In the second, it is a qualitative data analysis of which the goal is the comprehension other people's experiences, including what is said and observed in a real-world context.

2.2 Population and Sampling

The present study focuses primarily on court interpreters. Written, audio and audio-visual interviews were used in order to obtain data from court interpreters; each interpreter selects the most suitable method to interview him/her. These interview methods were used with the participants to explore opinions and experiences about their work in court, more specific, the challenges they face in court. Written interviews are adopted with the majority of participants, while audio and audio-visual interviews were adopted with some participants after having their permission in order to allow much more interaction.

2.2.1 Interpreter's Profile

Court interpreters from around the globe are the target population, and their work in court as well as the challenges they encounter are discussed in this study.

2.3 Data Collection

This study is founded on the descriptive-analytic method so as to describe the responses of 18 questions, analyze them, and then discuss them in order to establish the work with as much precision as possible. The descriptive-analytic method enables us to explain and make sense of the situation for interpreters in or outside the court.

2.4 Background Information

Participant	Country	Gender	Level of Education	Court Name	Years of Experience	Number of Cases	Languages
Djamel Goui	Algeria	Male	Full Professor of Translation Studies	Court of Hassi Messaoud	17 years	More than 70	Arabic-English – French
Numbolelo Malinga	South Africa	Female	Tertiary Qualification (Bachelor of Laws)	Durban Magistrates Court	9 years	Countless	English – Zulu (South African language)
Mohamed Koudded	Algeria	Male	Ph.D. in Translation & Interpreting	Court of Ouargla	14 years	50 - 60	Arabic – English – French
Maja Jelčić	Croatia	Female	University Education in Translation & Interpreting	County Court in Zagreb	20 years	Approximately 10	English-Croatian
Ahmed Amgoune	Germany	Male	Translator and Interpreter Diploma (Sworn)	Cologne Higher Regional Court	5 years	More than 50	German – Arabic – French - Tamazight
Alaa Riad Shakir Saad	Jordan	Female	Translation & Interpreting BA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Palace of Justice • State Security Court • Grand Criminal Court • Income and Sales • Tax Department • Court of Commerce 	16 years	More than 15	French – English – Arabic
Ernest Nino-Murcia	United States of America	Male	College Degree	Southern District Court of Iowa	14 years	Countless	English - Spanish

Table 2: The demography of participants in the research study

1. Gender:

It is about selecting genders of the participants who were chosen of both genders (Male & Female) in order to make this research study diverse, and overall.

2. Country:

As it is intended to work on a worldwide case study, where court interpreters participating in the study are selected from different parts of the world, court interpreters were interviewed from Algeria; Jordan; Germany; United States of America; Croatia and South Africa.

3. Level of Education:

In this part, participants were asked about their level of education. It is seen that the participants have different levels of education, professorship in translation studies; tertiary qualification (Bachelor of law); Ph.D. in translation & interpreting; university education; BA translation & interpreting; college degree; Translation diploma. All levels of education mentioned are various according to each educational system in the world. It is noticeable that some of them might have the same level with different names.

4. Participants:

When analyzing the collected data, participants were referred with symbols in order to ensure confidentiality of answers without specifying individually.

5. Years of Experience:

The participants' number of experience years starts from 5 to 20 years of experience. This shows the high value, and the credibility of data collected from these court interpreters as most of them participating with considerable background of knowledge in the field of court interpreting.

6. Number of Cases:

It is clear that the rate of cases interpreted so far according to participants' data range from 10 to 70, and some interpreters have countless number of cases. Therefore, as

long as the number of cases is increasing, the interpreter shall gain more knowledge from various experiences and with different Judicial cases in the domain of court interpreting.

7. Languages:

As participants were asked a question about their languages profile, the answers show that the participants are whether bilingual or trilingual. The languages of participants that figure is: Arabic; English; French; Zulu (South African language); Croatian; German; Tamazight; Spanish. Hence, it is concluded that an interpreter must have two languages minimally. However, any additional language would upgrade the percentage of finding a chance to interpret in court specifically, or any translation job. In addition to the linguistic quality of the interpreter, i.e., to what extent he/she masters the language.

2.5 Data Analysis

Question 1 :

❖ What does it mean to be a court interpreter?

This interview's first question had several worldwide, generalized answers and several in-state specialized answers.

IN 2 sees that being a court interpreter is being in court to ensure that language does not become an obstacle into court proceedings. IN 3 replied defining the court interpreter as a sworn Judicial interpreting adviser accredited at courts and tribunals. As for IN 5, a court interpreter is an individual who has the ability to provide linguistically accurate and legally appropriate interpretation. This requires, in his view, an excellent command of at least two languages, a deep understanding of both cultures and, above all, a mastery of the art of interpreting from a self-confident linguist. IN 6 believes that a court interpreter is someone who is very honest and discreet, and also articulate in doing his job without committing any mistakes. Otherwise, IN 1 answered the question specifying his government's context stating that a court interpreter, in his state, means a consecutive interpreter. And it means, he stated, to assume the highly responsibility towards the parts of the verdict or the parts of the case. IN 4 have spoken from her state

point of view as well stating that “being a court interpreter, in Croatia, means passing a specific exam and then being authorized to translate official and court documents and interpret at court proceedings. It also means being criminally liable for your work.” Lastly, IN 7 also answered the question in specialized way speaking about the court in his state saying that to be a court interpreter means to grant limited English-speaking court participants language access so that they have equal access to justice.

It is summarized from all the previous answers that a court interpreter is generally a licensed interpreter who is responsible of translating orally from SL into TL between parties in court; the court interpreter has to do his job professionally in order to avoid making any problems in court proceedings.

Question 2 :

- ❖ What are the types of interpreting used in courtroom?

The types of interpreting that are used in courtroom depend on several matters such as the length of the trial and the defendant’s want. IN 1 stated: “... consecutive is commonly used worldwide while simultaneous is sometimes used. In Algeria, we use consecutive interpreting only.” “Judicial interpreting which takes the form of consecutive interpreting is what exists in Algeria,” also said IN 3. The participant IN 5 indicated that in court, qualified foreign language interpreters use two suitable types of interpreting: simultaneous and consecutive interpreting. As for IN 4, consecutive interpreting and chuchotage (whispering) are the types used. “Depending on the size of the trial, it could be simultaneous, consecutive or even whispering. For instance, using the suitable types sometimes depends on the way the defendant wants to say his/her words,” IN 6 explained. In the other hand, IN 7 answered that sight translation, simultaneous interpreting and consecutive interpreting are the types used in the courtroom.

It is clear from the above-mentioned answers and from *Figure 2* that the dominant types of interpreting in court are consecutive interpreting (43%) and simultaneous interpreting (29%). It is seen that consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting are the most fitting interpreting types to the environment of the court. i.e., the trial process shall go more convenient when there is an interpreter translating utterances in the same time they are stated –simultaneous interpreting, or a few seconds after they are stated –consecutive, which will not be the case when telephonic interpreting is used, for

example. However, whispering is less used (14%) than consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting because whispering interpreting is less smooth for the trial process and because it is used mostly only when interrogating accused or witness. On the other hand, sight translation is less used (7%) as well because it is merely needed when it is necessary to translate documents in court. (See *figure 2*)

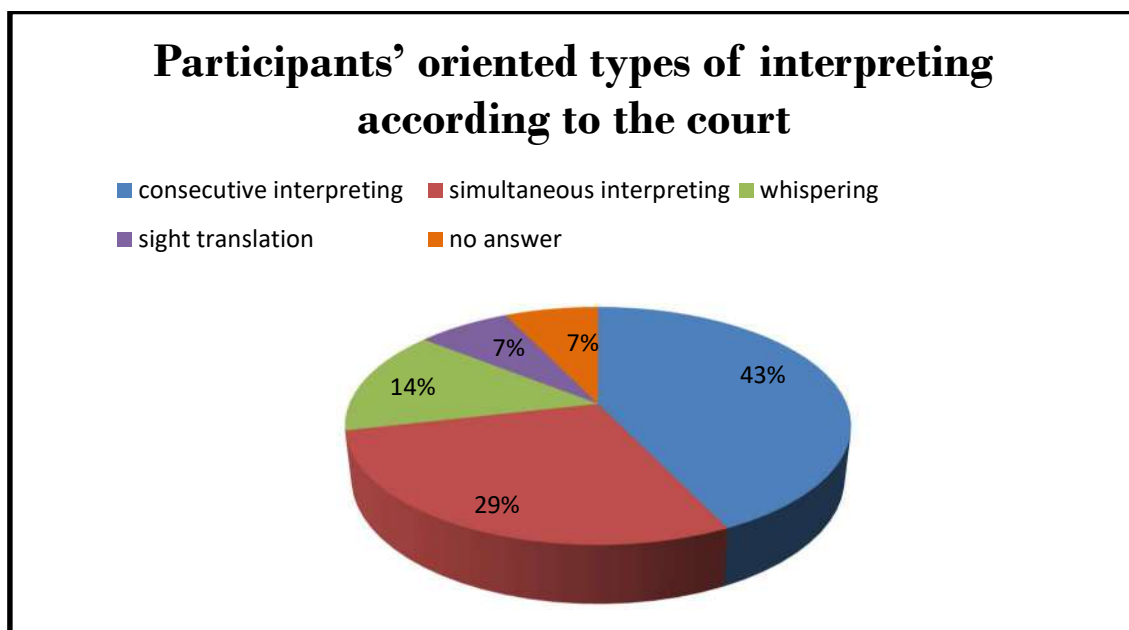


Figure 2: Participants' oriented types of interpreting according to the court

Question 3:

- ❖ Which type of interpreting do you, personally, use the most in courtroom?

The majority of the participants tend to consecutive interpreting as the most type of interpreting used in courtroom such as for **IN 1**, **IN 3**, **IN 4**, and **IN 5**. However, **IN 7** tends to use simultaneous interpreting in court. As for **IN 6**, she stated that for her, it depends on the size of the trial; she could use simultaneous, consecutive or whispering. **IN 2** answered that he does not have any specific type of interpreting to tend to use the most in courtroom.

In contrast to *Question 2* findings –most interpreting types used in court are consecutive interpreting and simultaneous interpreting, 56% of the participants tend to use consecutive interpreting. That is because, apparently, consecutive interpreting is more convenient to the participants –and to court interpreters in general, than other types of

interpreting. The other types of court interpreting (simultaneous interpreting (22%) and whispering (11%)) may be used when it is forced by the court or in specific situations (see *figure 3*).

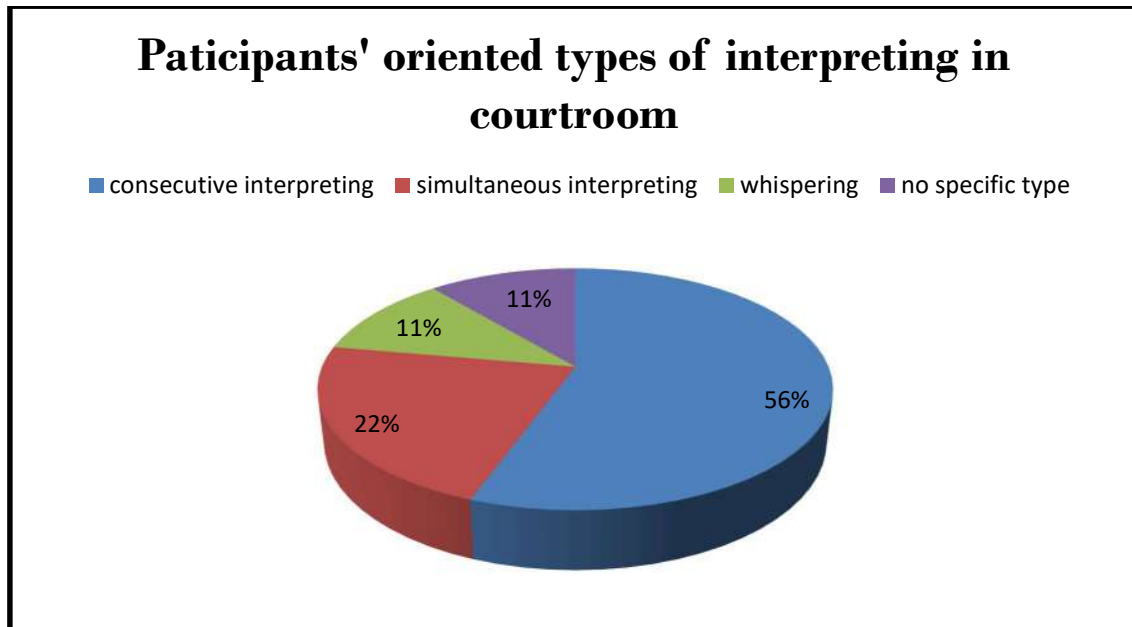


Figure 3: Participants' oriented types of interpreting in courtroom

Question 4:

- ❖ Does the court apply to you any specific strict rules?

For this question, three participants, namely IN 3, IN 4 and IN 5, answered that no specific strict rules have been applied to them by the court. However, IN 1 talked about his government court saying: "In Algeria, since you are an official sworn translator/interpreter, nobody will dictate you because they trust you fully, and you are the one who will assume responsibility in case any mistake takes place." Also, IN 6 spoke specifically about her country stating: "In Jordan, the condition to be a court interpreter is to be sworn and have an accreditation. Also, when we sometimes do interpret in some courts like State Security Court, we go through some deep Judicial measures like checking IDs, inspections etc..." As for IN 2 and IN 7, they spoke generally about the worldwide courts indicating that the strict rules are that they have to abide by court decorum, dress appropriately, come on time, and avoid noise during proceedings. They are also, as they answered, expected to be neutral and not carry-on independent conversations with participants.

Depending on the aforementioned answers, Most of the strict rules that court applies on the interpreters are the usual governmental measures such as inspection and checking IDs. Also, the court ordinarily ensures that the interpreters it hires are sworn and accredited, so that they assume the full responsibility of their part in trials.

Question 5:

- ❖ When interpreting consecutively during a trial, do you take notes? If yes, how do you do that?

The number of participants that tend to use the note-taking technique in court is not as high as in cases of using it in other settings of consecutive interpreting –merely 44% (*figure 4*). Participants **IN 2**, **IN 3**, **IN 4** and **IN 7** answered, adopting the note-taking technique in court depends on the interpreter's ability, if he is able to render the utterances without note taking, he can do it; he is free; and, of course, if he sees himself not able, he can have his pen and paper and do it taking notes of dates, names, acronyms or information he may miss when rendition. **IN 6** does not need to take notes because she makes sure that the speaker speaks with short sentences –they are allowed to do so. **IN 1** does not need to take notes and he sees that the key for that is competency. For **IN 5**, taking notes is something that could not ever be done due to the shortage of time during the trial.

It is concluded that the note-taking technique is not so essential in court interpreting; but it becomes a must when dealing with difficult utterances and information. However, as long as the interpreter's court interpreting competence grows higher, his need for taking notes decreases. (*See figure 4*)

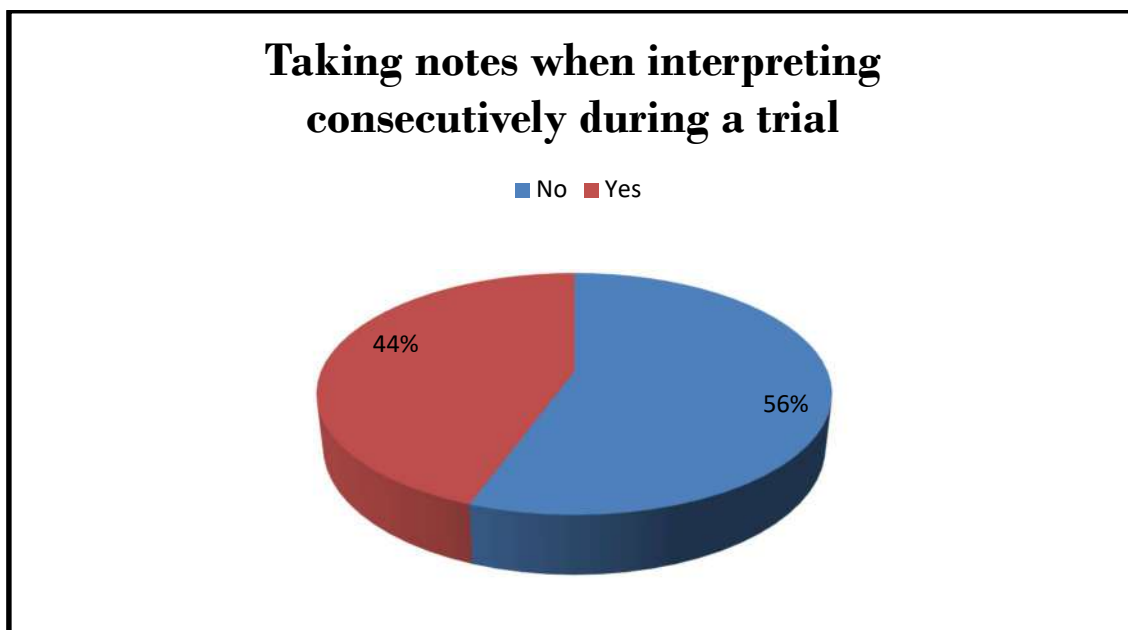


Figure 4: Taking notes when interpreting consecutively during a trial

Question 6:

- ❖ What are the most important things for a new court interpreter to know?

Our participants gave much advice for new court interpreters to bear in mind. From a linguistic point of view, the participants **IN 1**, **IN 4** and **IN 5** see that mastering both languages, the SL and TL and knowing Judicial terminology thoroughly is a key feature for any court interpreter. In addition to the general knowledge of interpreting language pairs, the interpreter should learn the special Judicial terminology in order to become an actual court interpreter.

As for being a court interpreter from non-linguistic perspective, the participants **IN 3**, **IN 4** and **IN 7** advise the new court interpreter to know well the interpreter's function inside the courtroom, to know the law and to understand the code of ethics. It is noticed that the participants refer to learning the different Judicial aspects vaster than only learning Judicial terminology –which is stated in the previous question analysis. Through well-knowing the interpreter's function inside the courtroom, it will make the interpreter assume much more responsibility and do his job properly. As for knowing law and the code of ethics, it is clear that those will prevent the court interpreter from falling in any Judicial process mistakes.

IN 1, IN 2, IN 4 and IN 5, here, talk about what a court interpreter should do to accomplish a court interpreting process. On the pre-trial preparations, they advised for having a look at the files, not learning things by heart while preparing, and being prepared for anything. Looking at these answers, the focus here is on the specifics of the particular case, because of that normally the court interpreter has already mastered the linguistics aspects and does not need much preparation on them; and there is no doubt that if the interpreter prepared very well before the trial, he will find its utterances simply understandable. As for the psychological preparation, overcoming fear and controlling nerves and being audible are what the previous mentioned participants suggest. If the interpreter learns the specifics of the particular case and, in addition to that, prepares his psychology very well, the interpreting process in court will become simpler for him.

Question 7:

- ❖ Do you encounter different Judicial systems in court? If yes, how do you manage that difference?

The majority of the participants (57%) do not encounter different judicial systems in court due to the fact that their courts merely depend on their local Judicial codes and laws such as for the courts of IN 1 and IN 3, IN 7 and IN 2. Even if they have parties that are foreigners, the law that shall be applied is the local law. Nevertheless, participants who have faced different judicial systems, namely IN 4, IN 5 and IN 6, answered that it is difficult sometimes if other parties are unaware of the issue of different judicial systems. The solutions suggested by the participants are to try to explain when something is untranslatable and to try to be flexible. There are certain situations where they encounter different judicial systems but both are local, similar to the court of IN 5 in which there are two basic national judicial systems: civil law and common law. The key here is to distinguish between both systems due to profound trainings and sufficient experience gained over the time.

Observing *figure 5*, the percentage of facing a different judicial system as a court interpreter is not very low (43%), so each court interpreter may be in a similar situation. The important key for the court interpreter here is to know how to cleverly explain the strange terminology and to prepare himself very well before the trial.

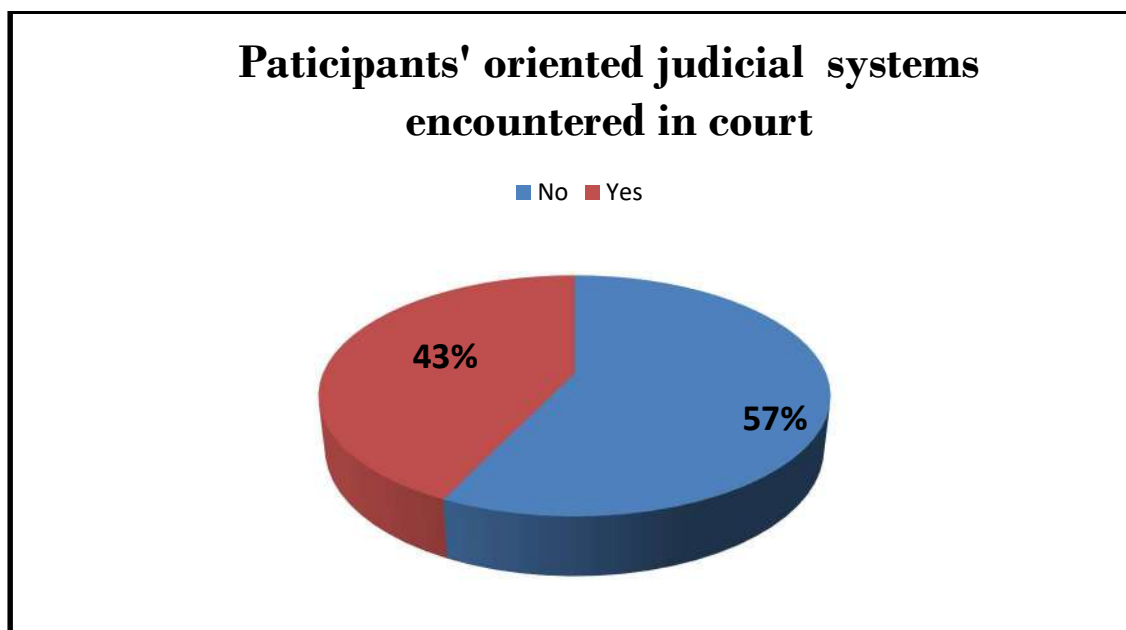


Figure 5: Participants' oriented judicial systems encountered in court

Question 8:

- ❖ What is the most challenging stage in court trial for a court interpreter?

Commenting on **table 3**, participants (court interpreters) demonstrated their most challenging stage in which they may encounter complex situations that do not help them to be fully engaged in court trial interpreting. Some participants gave reasonable comments regarding the situations. Those comments come after determining in table 3 their most challenging stage (phase). Some sort of challenges might happen in the first stage when facing problems like language accents which do not allow understanding, or when the judge speaks fast on unnecessary details. Also, things might start getting more complicated in terms of speech manipulation, change of sayings, more elements involved, emotional moments. Interpreters usually stay out of spot during proceedings, except when standing up before the jury, this could make the role of the interpreter look more visible than it supposed to be. IN 5 specifically elucidate why both the initial and final stage (phase) are challenging, the participant believes that the initial stage could be challenging when to newly learn the process, and the final stage is also challenging when the judge decides on the decision of the process.

It is realized that all what have been aforementioned, those challenges could actually strongly affect the quality of interpreting in court. If the interpreter does not feel any sort of comfortable conditions, the performance is definitely is not going to be up to the required level.

Court Interpreter	Most challenging stage in court trial
IN 1	The beginning of the trial
IN 2	Interpreting the judgments
IN 3	When a court party doesn't cooperate.
IN 4	Fast speaking judge
IN 5	1. The initial phase 2. The final phase
IN 6	The middle of the trial
IN 7	Interpreted witness testimony

Table 3: Demonstrating the most challenging stage in court trial interpreting according to each participant's answer.

Question 9:

How do you deal with a party when he/she speaks rapidly or when you miss some spoken words?

The majority of participants, namely IN 1, IN 2, IN 3, IN 4, and IN 5, agree on the matter of asking the party for repetition or reformulation when the speech is not clear because of oral problems such as having stammer or speech rapidity. IN 1 also said that the court interpreter can ask the party questions such as “Do you like to say this and this?” “Do you mean this and this?” in order to confirm before interpreting. The interpreter, IN 2, IN 4, IN 5 and IN 7 stated, can as well ask the party to speak slowly so that he can interpret what he is saying. IN 6 suggested a mechanism that the court interpreter may do which is using hands to ask for objection, asking the speaker to stop in the immediate time allowing interpreting. Also, IN 7 answered that he uses a trick which is to establish a signal with the parties before the proceeding starts –*If you see me put my hand up, it means to slow down*; this way this problem is solved for him most of the time.

It is believed that all the solutions the participants suggested are effective especially asking for repetition and reformulation. However, the court interpreter should

learn different ways of dealing with the matter of oral and audible problems of the parties in order to be flexible doing the interpreting job.

Question 10:

- ❖ To which extent do you think that court interpreting may affect the court order?

The interpreters have answered this question from completely different viewpoints. **IN 1** believes that the court interpreter is the one responsible of communication, allowing the trial to take place, **IN 2** says that court interpreter is an inevitable party in court as same as other colleagues in courtroom (other parties). **IN 4** and **IN 5** answered with a close idea to the **IN 1**'s, defining the role of the court interpreter as a “middleman” and a language gap filler between parties in court even for TL speakers, However, **IN 4** additionally saying it is a party that is often considered to disturb the judicial process through taking time to interpret.

The other court interpreters described the question's situation with non-similar answers. **IN 7** expressed the necessity for all court parties including interpreters to take place in the court order, describing this as a constitutional right. Whereas, **IN 3** believes that the interpreter is one of the basics of a fair trial (Court trial) when not all “actors” don't speak one language. **IN 6** seems to see the question with a completely different way than the others, replying by mentioning the use of interpreting type and its impact on the course of the trial.

Question 11 :

- ❖ Does the court usually provide you with all the necessary conditions and merits of the case?

Observing **Figure 6**, the question is based on a Yes/No type of answers, 57% of the participants (Court interpreters) indicated their ability to get access to the conditions and merits of cases that they work on, but, the other 43% of participants do not get access to. Apparently, many reasons stand behind participants' answers to this question. Some participants think that they are given previews on cases with not much details. Some think that they can get access to the case file as same as the other parties in court like the

lawyer. Some other don't have the right to know any detail on the case. These answers vary depending on the judicial system of each participant's country.

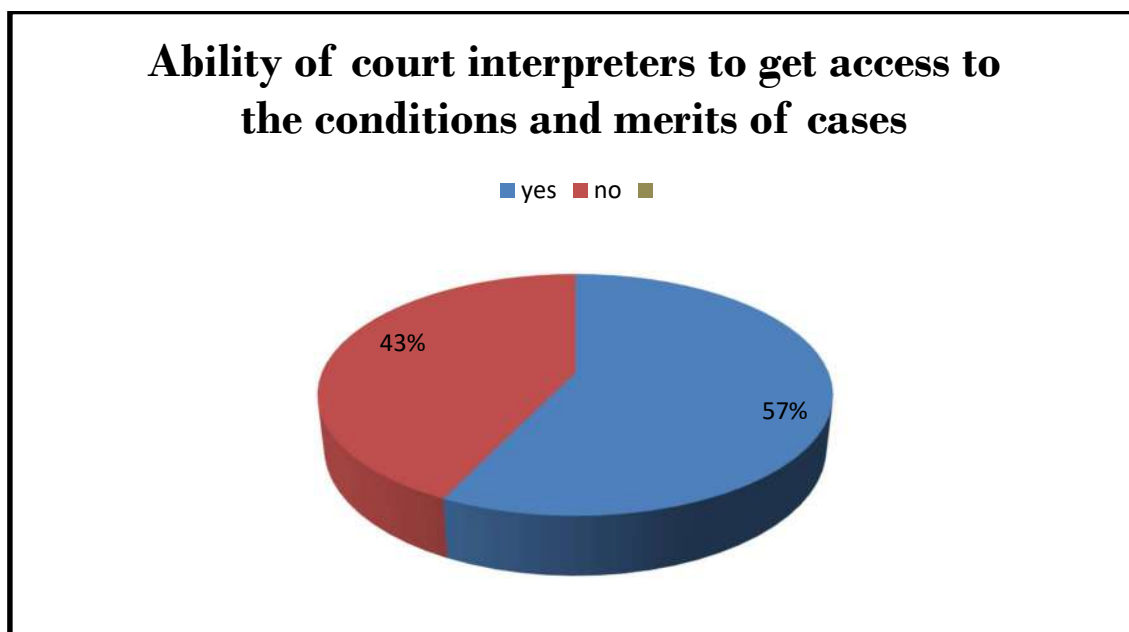


Figure 6: Ability of court interpreters to get access to the conditions and merits of cases.

Question 12 :

- ❖ How much time does the trial usually take? And how do you feel when it takes so long?

Commenting on **table 4**, the participants have answered varyingly on how much time does a trial usually take and what's their reaction. All answers are given depending on different situations and different types of trial. It is concluded that typical trials might take less than 30 – 40 min. According to the participants' answers, additional factors could play a role in going for a long trial of 2 days to 3 months (Investigations, forensic exams, experts' interventions, more witnesses...etc.). Their reactions to the long trials range from drop into redundancy, tiredness, lack of concentration. However, **IN 2** and **IN 7** seem to have no problem taking long trials, as they said, they have the right to take a break, and to work with a pair shift.

Court interpreter	Potential Duration of Trial
IN 1	20 min or more
IN 2	3 months

IN 3	45 min to 2 hours
IN 4	1 day
IN 5	30 min
IN 6	20 min to 30 min
IN 7	2 to 4 days (Federal Criminal Trials)

Table 4: Potential duration of a trial according to Participants' answers.

Question 13:

- ❖ When one of the court parties begins to cry, to laugh or to show any other emotion while speaking, how do you deal with this emotional rendition as an interpreter?

Going through the participants' answers, they mostly preferred to keep neutral during interpreting process in court. IN 1 and IN 3 shared almost the same prospective that says no need to render emotional or facial expression which is basically the jury's competence but explaining it instead. Also, IN 4, IN 5 and IN 6 seem calling for the idea of keeping distance from the parties, focusing only on sayings and remaining cold in emotional moments. IN 7 says that court interpreters do not mimic emotion in court and it doesn't personally affect. Though, IN 2 has mentioned completely different idea, saying court interpreters aware the concerned parties of the behavioral policy of the court, which is seen more as a judicial action.

Commenting on all answers, despite the fact that the role of court interpreter is limited when out of the interpreting process, the interpreter, especially in court, has to break neutrality and to be given the right to support the ST of the speaking-party with more sensible and powerful words to the TT in certain emotional moments taking into consideration not falling into overtranslation. As SL speaking-party might not have the ability to convey verbally the message but emotionally.

Question 14:

- ❖ When one of the court parties shows certain facial expressions while speaking, how do you deal with it?

As it is seen the participants' testimonies, almost all of them agree that court interpreters are not supposed to interpret facial expressions of any speaking party.

Furthermore, IN 4, IN 2, and IN 6 believe that the judge is the one's responsible of interpreting facial expressions, whether they are appropriate or inappropriate. However, IN 5 and IN 1 believe that facial expressions may also help to understand clearly the speaker and to interpret accurately the speech. The facial expressions could be signs of appropriate reaction or inappropriate reaction according to the jury. In this case, interpreting facial expression is the jury's competence only.

Question 15:

- ❖ When you commit a mistake in interpreting and you realize it afterward in the trial, what do you do?

Analyzing what the participants have said, it is primarily realized that most of them agree that a court interpreter is not supposed to make mistakes.

IN 1 says that the interpreter is not supposed to commit a mistake. As the interpreter is already engaged in translation domain in condition of mastering the SL and TL, which is a necessary requirement for any person who deal with all aspects of more than one language, and not reliable 100% by the judge. Answering this question, IN 1 also emphasized one of the reasons why interpreter might commit a probable mistake saying:” *Intelligent interpreters talk to the parties before the trial in order to get accustomed to their accents.*” I.e., the interpreter gets more familiar with the party's accent in order to avoid any sort of mistake, which is a reasonable solution for any language accent misunderstanding.

For the other participants, they also answered the question revealing their probable reactions for any sort of mistakes. Participants (IN 2, IN 3, IN 4, IN 6) share the same idea in any committing mistakes say that they would react by reporting the mistake to the jury to explain more the interpreting, reviewing their doubtful interpreted statements, or to reformulate them, getting permission to correct the mistake immediately. Some (IN 5, IN 7) also believe in post-trial editing solutions, saying that they would note it for the record to correct the mistake at the end, or to ask for the record of the trial to correct it before closing trial.

It is found that most of participants do not believe in that the interpreter is allowed to commit any mistake. However, in case of committing that mistake, multiple solutions in the frame of reactions were provided.

Question 16:

- ❖ What are other court interpreting challenges that you have faced along your career or you might face?

By answering the question, participants revealed their main challenges that they encountered, or might encounter in court. The challenges seem to range from legal, linguistic and regulatory challenges according to their answers.

When being an interpreter in court, you might face things that don't help you to interpret comfortably in court. Those things could be a person who is talkative, chewing words, or a judge who derange the interpreter by adding words to the translation. Those acts could be real challenges for any interpreter doing the job in court. Interpreters might also face linguistic challenges when dealing with languages that look the same, but different. E.g., in south Africa, "zulu" speaking person who lives in an urban area does not speak "isizulu" as a person who lives in the rural areas. Some interpreters also mentioned court regulatory challenges that could affect the quality of interpreting. When the interpreter is not being given enough details on the case, or not enough time, or payment issues. Also, regulatory challenges at level of the court setting, the access to the court sometimes is not facilitated, or when a defendant, litigant, or a witness manipulates words.

Interpreters also suffer from uncollaborative parties like attorneys or lawyers who do not understand interpreter's working nature. Or, when parties speak differently.

The note in the answers of this question is that participants demonstrated many potential challenges that could happen to any interpreter in court. Especially, when those stated challenges were categorized into linguistic, legal, and regulatory challenges.

Question 17:

- ❖ After all court interpreting challenges that you have mentioned, would you suggest solutions?

After all the potential and real challenges that participants have encountered and might encounter in the field of court interpreting, they were also asked to suggest relevant solutions, to contribute in the development of court interpreting field.

Each participant suggested a viewpoint on the relevant solutions to implement. Most of the solutions suggested come as recommendations to win the challenges previously mentioned by participants. The solutions suggested divided into many categories, like regulatory, linguistic, judicial and educational.

IN 1 suggests when dealing with a talkative person or a judge intervention in court interpreting, the interpreter should remain calm and concentrate on doing the job only. This can come as a solution to exempt the interpreter from additional dispersed task. To get into the context, IN 2 believes that a court interpreter has to be given beforehand a copy of the judgments in order to know more details about the case. Linguistically, IN 3 and IN 7 recommend to train future interpreters' law and judicial terminology, and judicial professionals how to work with interpreters in court. Also, IN 4 calls for giving fair and equal chances for all interpreters to work in court, where in some countries, interpreters are not summoned equally by court to interpret, along with low salary and issues in payment. Other participants (IN 5, IN 6) also came up with additional relevant solutions to the challenges. They believe that court interpreter must be familiar with cultural trends, constantly learning vocabulary and be a good listener. Some other regulatory solutions such as; facilitating access to the court and payment, as some of interpreters might be facing such problems in some countries. Also, some interpreters mentioned in the interview that they sometimes wait for long hours earlier before trial time with no prior-fixed scheduling, therefore, scheduling the trial on-time and comfortably is a suggested solution.

Question 18:

- ❖ According to you, which type of training do you recommend to new interpreters to take; university training or independent training?

The answers to this question varied between taking university training, taking independent training and taking both; taking university training having 43% votes,

taking independent training having 29% votes and taking both of them having 28% votes (*figure 7*). IN 1 and IN 3 tended to university training because, in their opinion, it teaches the interpreter reformulation, register shift and note taking. Those who tended to independent training, namely IN 2 and IN 4, claimed that the amateur interpreter –in the context of court interpreting, will gain a lot from experiences such as going to courts and volunteering or simply observing as well as taking part in trainings for court interpreters that are offered by associations of court interpreters. However, IN 5, IN 6, and IN 7 believe that university training and independent training will be sufficient both together. They state that university training is not sufficient, but it gives novice Interpreters crucial keys for an independent training, thus both trainings should be complementary. They believe also that there are techniques and practices of Interpreting which can be learned at the university level, however there are also several additional matters which need to be learned in certain independent trainings when practicing Interpreting, for example, how to behave in public administration, how to deal with the temper of judges, how to control your own temper and emotions and how to remain neutral –in court interpreting context. They recommend for new interpreters to have trainings in the subject matter, for instance Law, in addition to the university training in order to add something to the main subject – interpreting.

After all these answers, it is concluded that university training and independent training should be taken both since they complement each other in all aspects of interpreting –and court interpreting in specific.

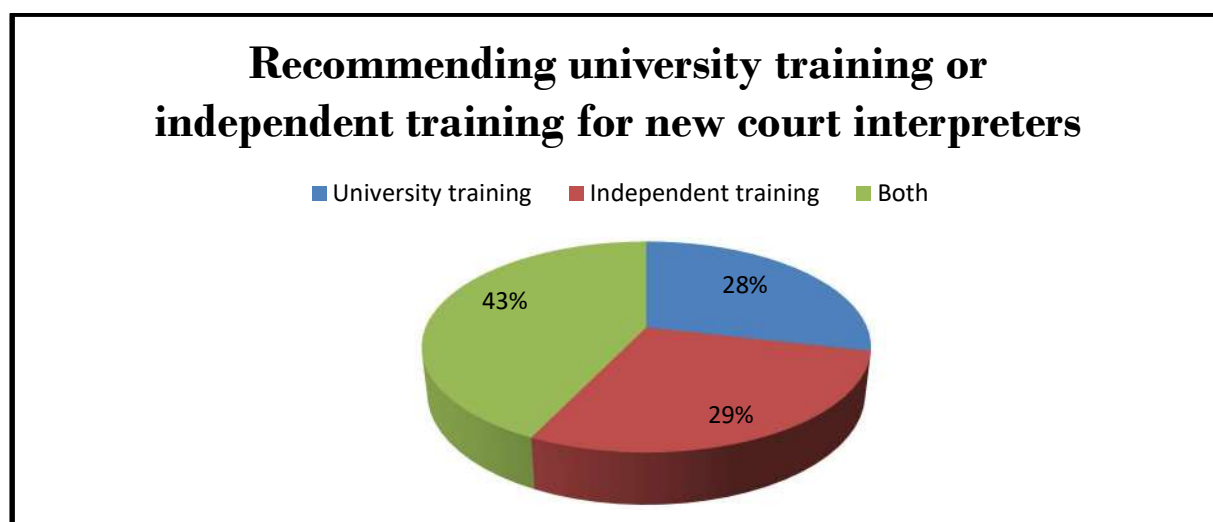


Figure 7: Recommending university training or independent training for new court interpreters

2.6 Conclusion

This study has contributed to investigate the various challenges existing in court interpreting. The case study is global courts. This research was divided into two chapters, *Chapter One: Court Interpreting* and *Chapter Two: Interpreting Challenges in Court: Findings and Analysis*.

The first chapter theoretically tackles the background of interpreting and translation, and court interpreting and judicial translation. Chiefly, the difference between judicial translation and court interpreting was discovered in accordance to some previous sources and references. In this particular context, it is understood that judicial translation is not the same as court interpreting in terms of the rendition process and nature of the output even though their belonging to judicial context.

In the second chapter, the main findings of this practical study that have been extracted from analyzing data collected from interviewing participants which are international court interpreters indicate that interpreters encounter multiple challenges in court. Those challenges have been categorized into linguistic -speech rapidity, talkative persons, accents, committing mistakes, and different judicial terminology; judicial -non-collaborating judicial professionals, not allowing case preview, and parties manipulating words; and regulatory -the difficulty to access court, payment issues, deep regulator judicial measures, poor scheduling psychological -emotional moments, and stressful situations.

Furthermore, to solve the previous mentioned court interpreting challenges, the participating interpreters recommend keeping calm when in stressful situations, requesting preview of the case interpreted, training future court interpreters' law and judicial terminology and cultural trends, spreading awareness of court interpreting role among judicial professionals, facilitating access to court, regulating payment to interpreters, and prior scheduling of trials.

Last but not least, as a part of investigating the role of court interpreters, participants broached the important contribution of court interpreter in the judicial proceedings, as a

“middleman” and a language gap filler ensuring that language does not become an obstacle in court.

2.7 Recommendations

After all challenges and solutions that were mentioned by participants, we believe that we may also recommend our additional solutions that can contribute to overcoming interpreting and interpreters’ challenges in courtroom.

We recommend that:

- Court interpreters should learn thoroughly the specificities of each judicial system they might face in addition to learning the SL and TL very well.
- They should use of the note-taking technique –especially in hard times.
- Courts should leave the space for court interpreters to use consecutive interpreting rather than other types of interpreting in order to allowing them to work in much more ease.
- They should consider the possibility of ensuring some trainings for Translation master ‘s degree students into court in order to meet court interpreters and to witness real interpreters interpreting real-time judicial proceedings.
- The academic institutions responsible of forming court interpreters should train them in controlling themselves emotionally equal to training them on the skills of oral translation.
- Judicial authorities should ensure that court interpreters work in a peaceful atmosphere.
- Judicial authorities should ensure seriousness and respect of parties towards court interpreters –prevent interrupting judges, stop manipulator accused...
- We call for holding more international academic conferences to discuss the worldwide issues and challenges that most court interpreters around the world face.
- Judicial translation and interpreting should be included as a specialization in the university educational system (Algeria), as we have faith that this translation branch is a main entrance for a person to be a qualified law professional, judicial translator, and court interpreter.

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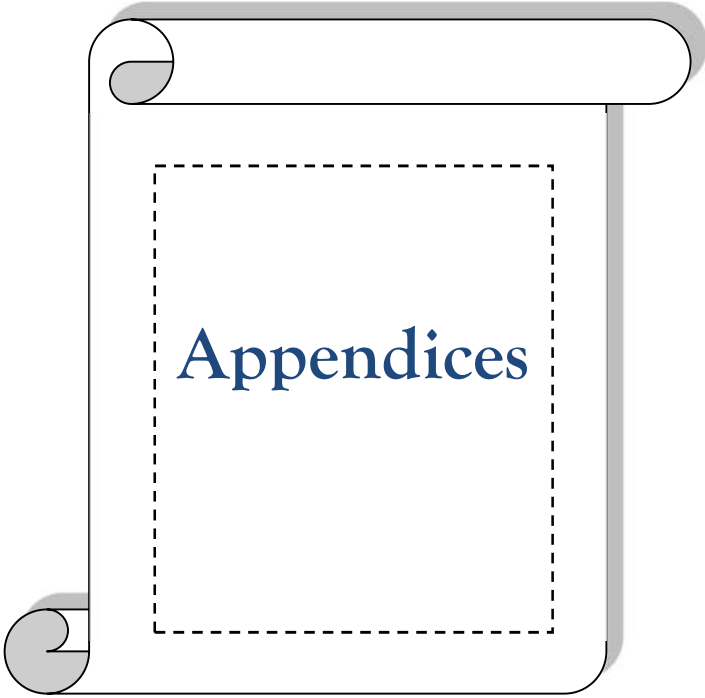
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Glossary

Term	Meaning
Fidelity (الوفاء)	The quality or state of being faithful
Ambiguity (الغموض)	The state of being difficult to understand or explain because of involving many different aspects
Apparitor (عون قضائي)	(In ancient Rome) a subordinate official of a magistrate or of the court
Chanson De Geste (اسم قصيدة فرنسية)	(In medieval French literature) an epic poem written in assonant verse or rhyme about historical or legendary events or figures
Chuchotage (الترجمة بالهمس)	The interpretation or translation of speech in a whisper to a single person in proximity to other people
Civilization (الحضارة)	A society, its culture and its way of life during a particular period of time or in a particular part of the world
Code of Ethics (قانون أخلاقيات المهنة)	An agreement on ethical standards for a profession or business
Court Party (مشارك في جلسة محاكمة)	One of the participants in a lawsuit or other judicial proceeding who has an interest in the outcome
Court Trial (جلسة محاكمة)	A formal examination of evidence by a judge, typically before a jury, in order to decide guilt in a case of criminal or civil proceedings
Cultural Trending (التوجه الثقافي)	1. A general development in a situation or in the way that people behave 2. The general direction of changes or developments
Interpretation (الترجمة الفورية)	The act or process of interpreting
Judicial Proceedings (الاجراءات القضائية)	Actions taken to settle an argument in a court of law
Output (نتيجة الترجمة)	Final product (of translation or interpreting)
Qualitative Data (بيانات نوعية)	1. Qualitative: connected with what something is like or how good it is, rather than with how much of it there is 2. Data: facts or information, especially when examined and used to find out things or to make decisions
Semantic Equivalence (التكافؤ الدلالي)	1. Semantic: linguistics of, pertaining to, or arising from the different meanings of words or other symbols 2. Equivalence: the act or condition of being the same or equal in value, measure, force
Sworn (محلف)	Made after you have promised to tell the truth, especially in court
Tag Questions (سؤال مذيّل)	A brief question added onto the end of statement, like “did he?” in your sentence above, is called a tag question. The purpose of a tag question is to ask for confirmation from the listener that the statement is correct.

<i>Charter of the United Nations</i> (ميثاق الأمم المتحدة)	The United Nations Charter (UN Charter, or Charter) is a core constituent document of the United Nations, and the United Nations System.
<i>Translation</i> (ترجمة)	Changing something that is written or spoken into another language
<i>Translation Studies</i> (دراسات الترجمة)	The study of the theory and practice of translating and interpreting, especially in an academic context
<i>World War I</i> (الحرب العالمية الأولى)	The war that was fought mainly in Europe from 1914 to 1918

Appendix 1

Here is the format of questions used in the semi-structured interview.

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Researches

University of Kasdi Merbah Ouargla, Algeria

English Language Department

2nd Year Master's Degree in Translation

Semi-Structured Interview

Theme: Challenges faced by court interpreters

Presented By: Mohammed Moundir Tria | Abdenaim Taleb

Under the Supervision of: Dr. Noussaiba Djeha

Please, answer the following questions in the figure of a written interview.

Questions:

1. What does it mean to be a court interpreter?
2. What are the types of interpreting used in courtroom?
3. Which type of interpreting do you, personally, use the most in courtroom?
4. Does the court apply to you any specific strict rules?
5. When interpreting consecutively during a trial, do you take notes? If yes, how do you do that?
6. What are the most important things for a new court interpreter to know?
7. Do you encounter different judicial systems in court? If yes, how do you manage that difference?
8. What is the most challenging stage during trial for a court interpreter?
9. How do you deal with when he/she speaks rapidly, or when you miss some spoken words?

10. To which extent do you think that court interpreting may affect the court order?
11. Does the court usually provide you with all the necessary conditions and merits of the case?
12. How much time does the trial usually take? And how do you feel when it takes so long?
13. When one of the court parties begins to cry, to laugh or to show any other emotion while speaking, how do you deal with this emotional rendition as an interpreter?
14. When one of the court parties shows certain facial expressions while speaking, how do you deal with it?
15. When you commit a mistake in interpreting and you realize afterwards in the trial, what do you do?
16. What are other court interpreting challenges that you have faced along your career, or you might face?
17. After all court interpreting challenges that you have mentioned, would you suggest solutions?
18. According to you, which type of training do you recommend to new interpreters to take: university training, or independent training?

End of Interview

Appendix 2

You find in the following; a participation e-form that was sent to each participant to ensure official contribution to this research study by collecting all necessary contact and professional background information.

Participation Form

Dear Participant,

This research is an M. A Dissertation conducted by Mr. Mohammed Moundir Tria and Mr. Abdenaim Taleb, under the supervision of Dr. Noussaiba Djeha, University of Kasdi Merbah Ouargla, Algeria.

The purpose of the research is to investigate the fundamental challenges faced by most court interpreters in the world. Aiming at finding new effective solutions and recommendations that may contribute to the development of the domain.

Thus, to ensure the validity of the interview and the data collected, you are hereby invited to fill out the form below with all necessary information.

NOTE: All personal information filled in this form is secured under the right of cyber confidentiality.

For any further inquiries, do not hesitate to contact the following investigators' email addresses:

- Mohammed Moundir Tria: moha.tria47@gmail.com
- Abdenaim Taleb: abdennaimtaleb@gmail.com

Full Name – الاسم الكامل
Your answer

Country - البلد
Your answer

Email – البريد الالكتروني
Your answer

Educational Level - المستوى الدراسي
Your answer

Court Name – اسم المحكمة
Your answer

Years of Experience - سنوات الخبرة
Your answer

عدد القضايا - Number of Cases

Your answer

اللغات - Languages

Your answer

Are you a sworn interpreter?

هل أنت ترجمانٌ مُحلف؟

- Yes, I am
- No, I am not

Most Frequent Questions that could be asked by Participants**إلى أي فئة من المشاركين أنتمي؟? Which category of participants am I?**

You are fully participating in this research as a volunteer.

أنت تشارك في هذا البحث بصفة كاملة كمتطوع.

Will I receive a summary of the findings of the research?

هل سأحصل على ملخص نتائج البحث؟

Yes, you will receive a summary of the final findings of the research via email.

نعم، ستحصل على ملخص شامل للنتائج النهائية للبحث عبر بريدك الإلكتروني.