

COURT INTERPRETER (SPANISH)  
ORAL EXAMINATION FOR

SCRIPT FOR THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE TEST VIDEO

This is a practice oral exam for Court Interpreter (Spanish). The purpose of this video is to illustrate the format of the actual exam and familiarize you with the various modes of interpreting.

Please note that this video does not reflect the length or the content of the actual exam.

The following is the Oral examination for Spanish court interpreter in the New York State Unified Court System. The oral examination for which you have qualified is based on materials that court interpreters typically encounter in courtroom situations. The exam consists of the following parts:

1. English Sight Translation
2. Spanish Sight Translation
3. Consecutive Question and Answer
4. One-voice Simultaneous -English to Spanish
5. One-voice Simultaneous -Spanish to English
6. Two-voice Simultaneous -English to Spanish

The first two parts of the exam - the sight translation parts - are written documents and are not on video. All other parts of the exam are on this video. Each part features one or two individuals speaking in a simulated courtroom situation. You will receive instructions whether you are to do consecutive or simultaneous interpreting before each part. You are to interpret everything that is spoken in English into Spanish, and everything that is spoken in Spanish into English. All of your responses will be recorded as an audio file. Speak clearly into the microphone in a normal tone of voice. Make certain that you can see the monitor comfortably and hear clearly.

Once the exam has started, the video cannot be stopped. Please note that:

- You should keep going even if you miss some words.
- A few errors will not keep you from getting a good score.
- You should not summarize, but strive for thoroughness.
- Idioms should be interpreted appropriately to convey their meaning - not literally.
- Proper names should not be translated, but left in their original language.

The audio-recording of your performance will be evaluated by experienced certified interpreters and bilingual specialists. You will be assessed on several dimensions, including accuracy, clarity and fluency in both English and Spanish. Your total score will be based on the results of this oral examination and on the previously administered written examination.

If you wish to take written notes to aid you during the oral exam, the monitor will provide you with blank paper. All notes must be returned to the monitor at the end of the exam. These notes will have no bearing on the scoring of your examination.

The exam will begin in 1 minute. **GOOD LUCK.**

Part 1 and Part 2 of the examination are sight translations.

You will be given 2 documents, one in English and the other in Spanish.

You will have 5 minutes to review these two documents. You will then have 10 minutes to give an oral interpretation of

both.

The video will be turned on again when you have completed this portion of the examination.

Part 3 consists of 2 (two) individuals speaking in a court-related situation. One person, who is acting as an attorney, is asking questions in English, the second person, the defendant, is answering in Spanish. You are to do consecutive interpreting.

Listen, first, to the question in English. When the first speaker, the Support Magistrate, has finished speaking, interpret everything she has spoken into Spanish. Then listen to the defendant's answer in Spanish, and when he is finished, interpret his response into English and so on. There is a pause on the video tape after each question and after each answer for you to do your interpreting.

Do not begin your interpreting until the question or the answer has been completed.

Part 3 will begin in 30 seconds.

Part 4 consists of an individual acting as a Judge speaking in English. You are to interpret everything spoken in English into Spanish. You are to do simultaneous interpreting. There are no pauses; you must do your interpreting while the Judge is speaking.

Part 4 will begin in 30 seconds.

Part 5 consists of an individual speaking in Spanish. You are to interpret everything spoken into English. You are to do simultaneous interpreting. There will be no pauses. You must do your interpreting while the person is speaking.

Part 5 will begin in 30 seconds.

Part 6 consists of two people speaking in English in a courtroom situation. You are to interpret everything spoken into Spanish. In this part, there may be some brief pauses. However, you are to do simultaneous interpreting, i.e., interpret while each person is speaking.

Part 6 will begin in 30 seconds.

This concludes the oral examination for Spanish Court Interpreters. Thank you for your participation.

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