



Court Interpreter Oral Exam

Judicial Council of California

Administrative Office of the Courts

Typical Errors

The following samples have been designed to provide you with information regarding the oral exam ratings. These samples represent typical candidate errors.

Any number of situations can occur that affect a candidate's performance on test day. It is not uncommon for there to be variations in a candidate's test performance from administration to administration based on extrinsic factors. Please note that fluctuations in candidate ratings across test administrations are possible.

Language Proficiency	
1	Lacks specialized vocabulary (legal, medical, business, administrative)
2	Limited ability to handle linguistically unfamiliar or unexpected situations
3	Partial structural control/poor syntax
4	Limited comprehension
5	Grammatical precision is inconsistent
6	Generally demonstrates acceptable use of verb tense, but has only partial control of mood
7	Lexical imprecision
8	Limited ability to vary register appropriately
9	Generally unable to recognize and use idiomatic language
10	The candidate's accent is so pronounced that it interferes with the listener's comprehension
11	Rate of delivery is sometimes inappropriate

Interpreting Skills	
1	Omission
2	Invention
3	Embellishment
4	Paraphrasing
5	Summarizing
6	Long pauses/hesitation/hedging
7	Note taking that interferes with a timely rendition
8	Limited retention
9	Low-volume rendition
10	Poor enunciation (garbled speech, mumbling)
11	Backtracking
12	Hypercorrection (use of multiple synonyms and/or alternative phrasing)
13	Changes in meaning
14	Literal translation
15	Use of false cognates
16	Inappropriate code-switching/code mixing
17	Incorrect word usage
18	Difficulty keeping pace with the speaker
19	Lack of self-monitoring for coherence and consistency
20	Misapplies source language syntax to target language