

Memory and note-taking in Consecutive Interpreting

ATA Conference 2020

Andy Gillies

<https://andrewgillies.eu>

More often than not, the “greats” will tell you that consecutive interpretation cannot be learnt and that note-taking depends upon the personality of the interpreter. I am afraid my own experience shows otherwise. If the fundamentals [...] are in place then note-taking can easily be learnt.

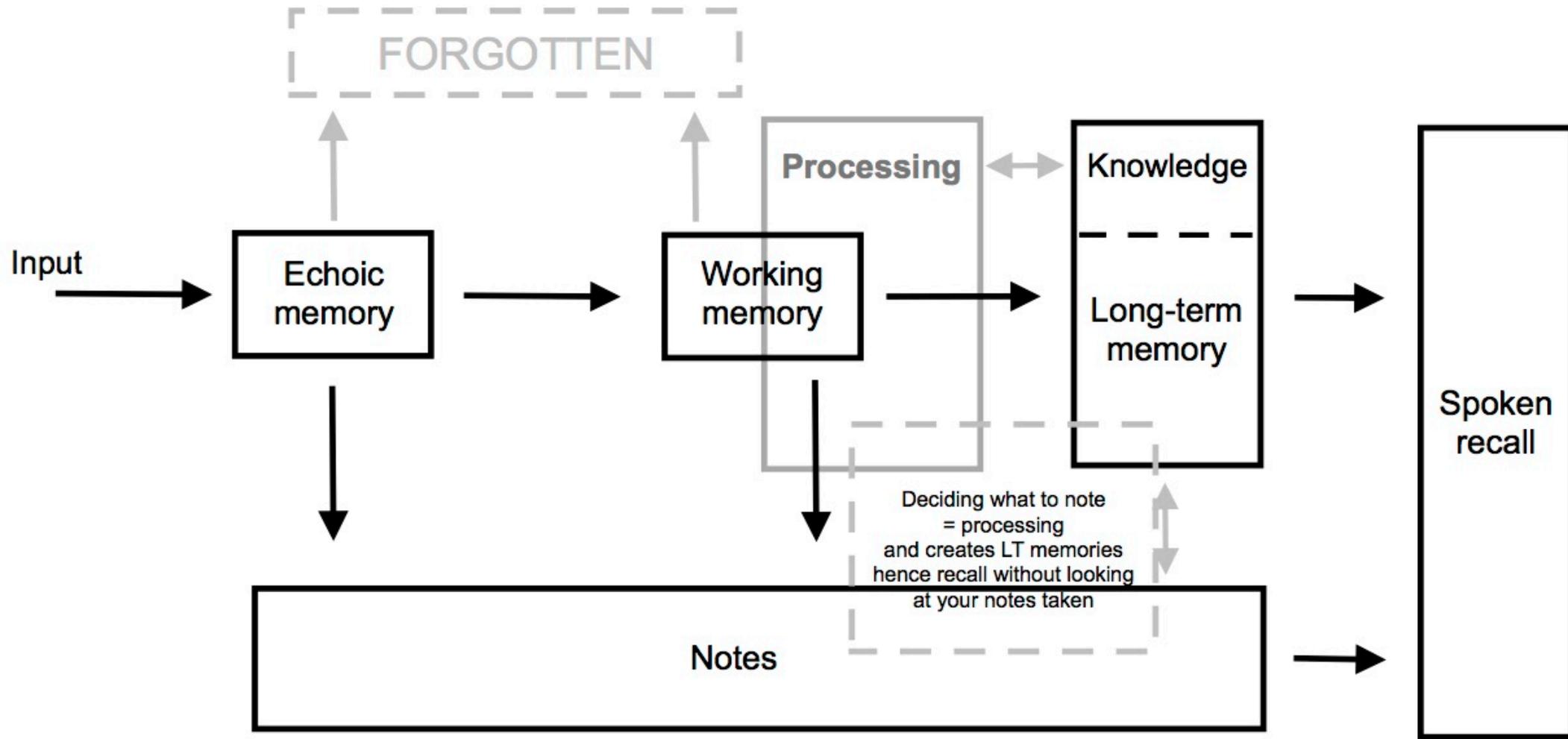
Rozan, 2003:11 [1956:9]

...decades of research... has made it abundantly clear that students can and will profit from a structured conscious and systematic introduction into note-taking as a seminal skill in consecutive interpreting.

Dingfelder, 2015:165

The oft repeated argument that notes are an entirely personal affair, and the implicit suggestion that they cannot therefore be taught, does not hold water.

Andres, 2000:58



Each year, Earth Day gives us the opportunity to highlight the importance of preserving and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations. Each year, more than one billion people participate in Earth Day-related activities in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world. Regardless of where you are from - here in Abidjan, or the state of Oregon, where I grew up - the Earth below our feet is our most precious resource.

AMBASSADOR TERENCE P. MCCULLEY
<https://ci.usembassy.gov/introduction-to-earth-day-conference-on-climate-change-by-ambassador-terence-p-mcculley-2/>

Each year, Earth Day gives us the opportunity to highlight the importance of preserving and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations.

Each year, **Earth Day** gives us the opportunity to **highlight** the importance of **preserving** and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations.

Each year, Earth Day gives us the opportunity to highlight the importance of preserving and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations. Each year, more than one billion people participate in Earth Day-related activities in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

Each year, **Earth Day** gives us the opportunity to **highlight** the importance of **preserving** and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations. Each year, more than **one billion people** **participate in Earth Day-related activities** in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

Each year, **Earth Day** gives us the opportunity to **highlight** the importance of **preserving** and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations. Each year, more than **one billion people** **participate in Earth Day-related activities** in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world. Regardless of where you are from - here in Abidjan, or the state of Oregon, where I grew up - the **Earth** below our feet **is** our most **precious** resource.

Earth day

highlights

preserving

1 bn people

participate

in activities

Earth

is

precious resource

Flexibility & processing

- 1 Use the original SVO*
- 2 Note shorter or generic synonyms*
- 3 Note a different SVO group with the same meaning (includes noting nouns in verb space)*
- 4 Note only two of the three elements in SVO.*
- 5 Make several short sentences out of one long one.*



Andy Gillies, Consecutive Interpreting, ATA 2020

SVQ notes

Speech URL

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sr/speech/military-spending-looking-balance-between-strength-and-diplomacy>

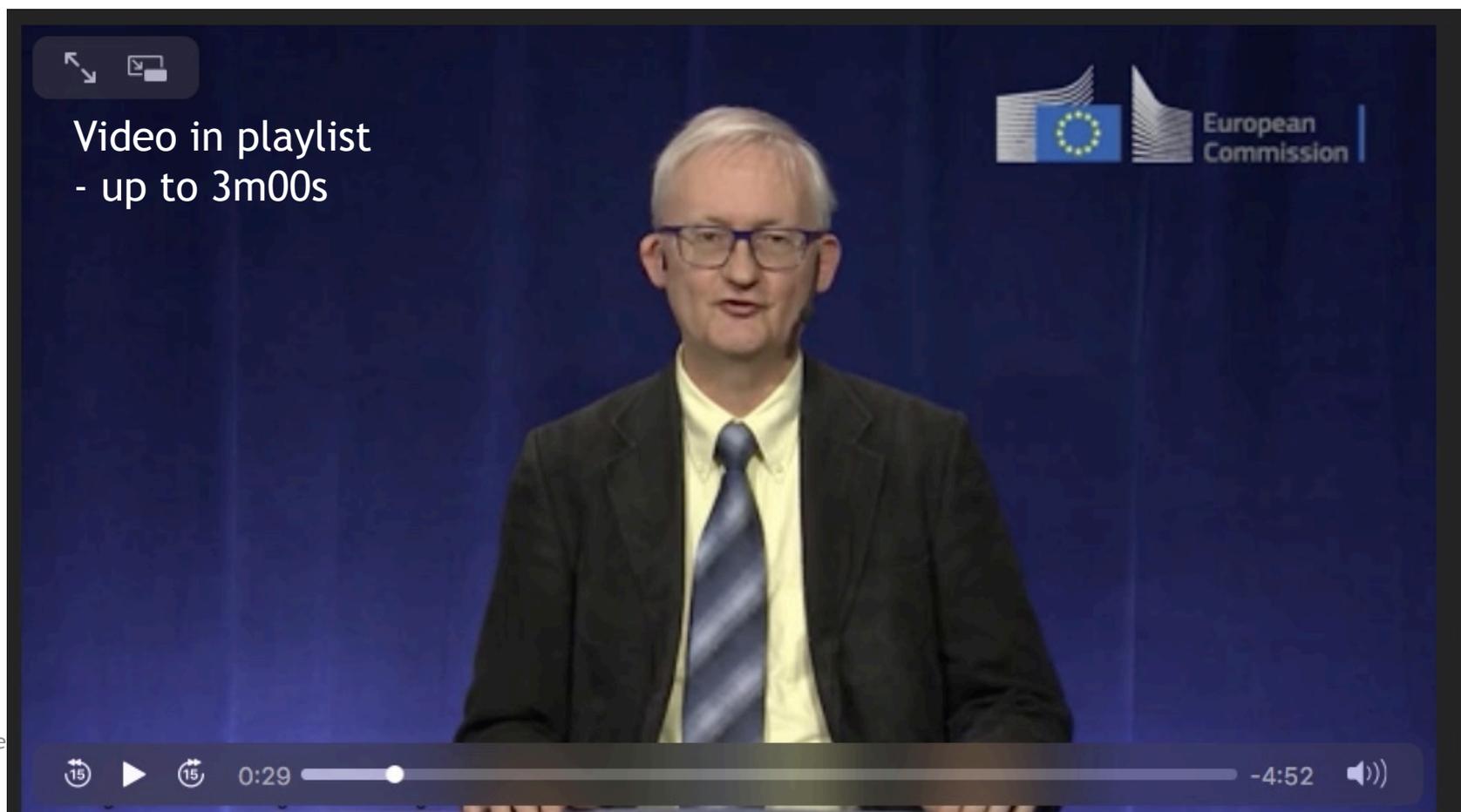
00:00 | -01:14



Andy Gillies, Consect

Exercise:

- Take SVO notes from this speech
- interpret it back to yourself



Andy Gillies

1 bn people
1000s co.s
govts

participate

in activities

1 bn people
1000s co.s
govts

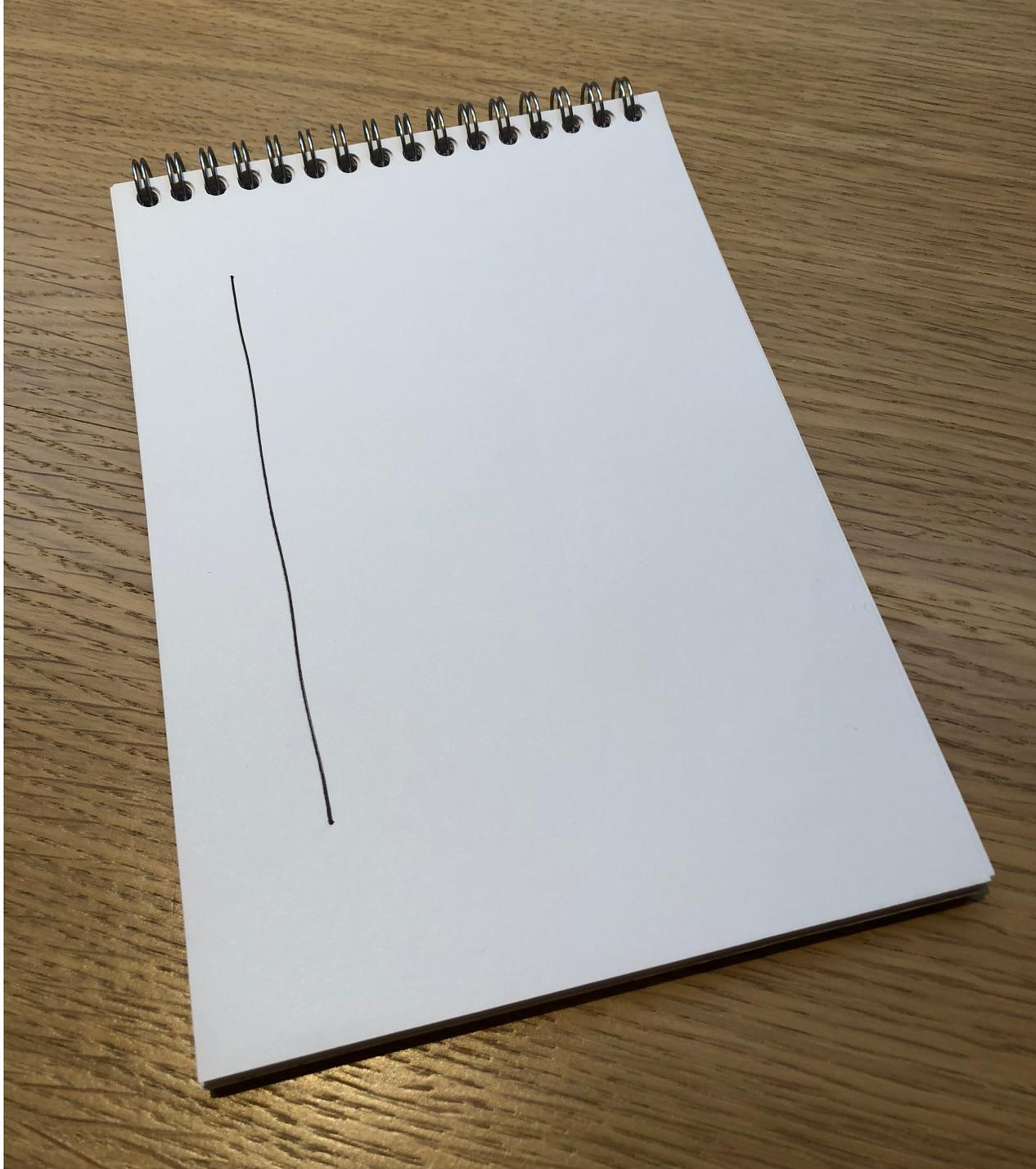
participate
promote
pay for

in activities

1 bn people
1000s co.s
govts

participate
promote
pay for

in activities
events
debates



Links

The economy is struggling.

The Central Bank has left
interest rates unchanged.

The economy is struggling

however

the Central Bank has left interest rates unchanged.

The economy is struggling

consequently

the Central Bank has left interest rates unchanged.

11 types of links

BUT

tho

COS

→

to

eg

+

if

→

//

then

B4

Links

LINKS

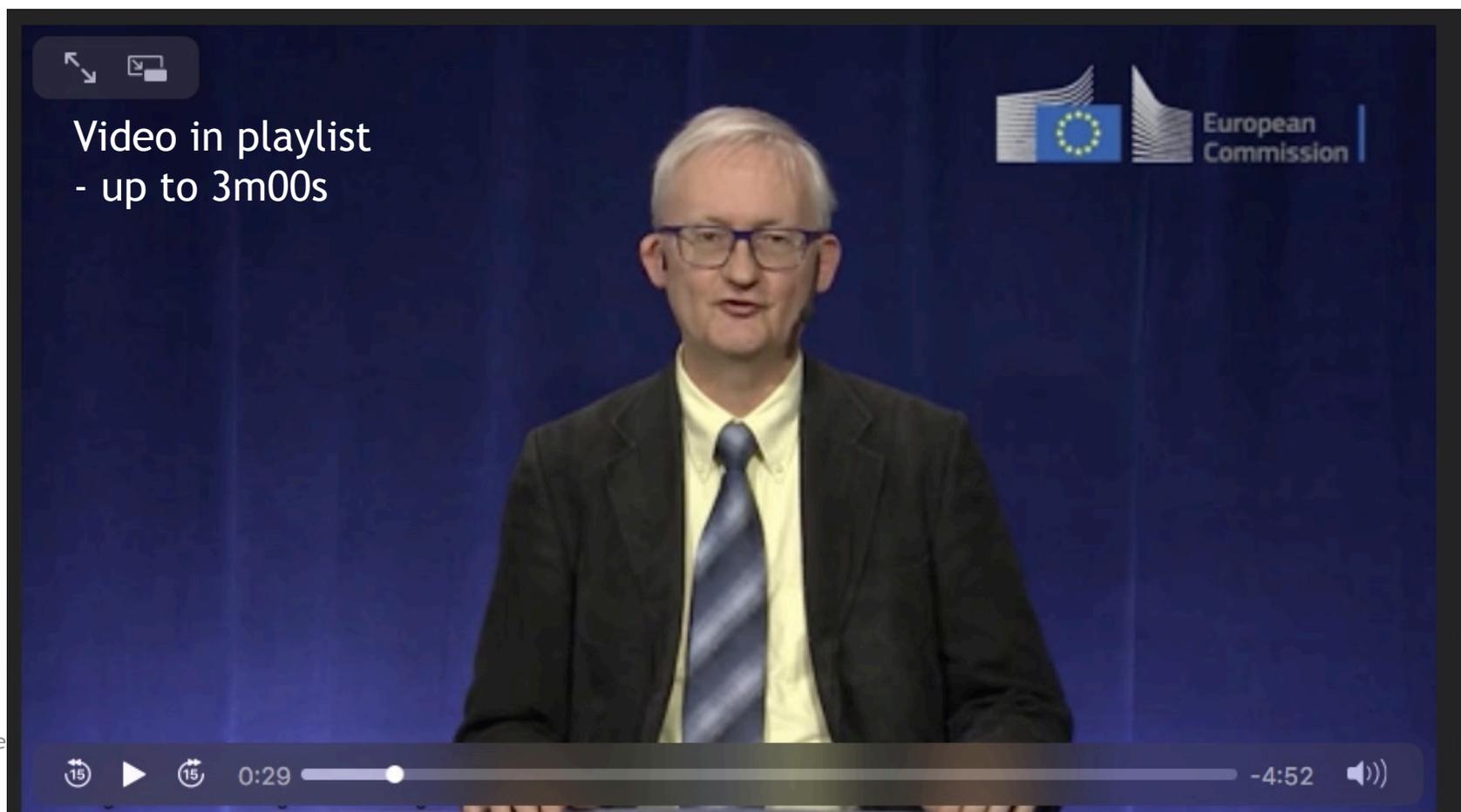
Video in playlist

SVO + LINKS



Exercise:

- Take SVO notes + LINKS notes from this speech
- interpret it back to yourself



Clauses

Donald Trump told the allied armies **that** they had to increase their spending to match the US in percentage terms...



Each year, more than one billion people participate in Earth Day-related activities in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

1 bn people

participate

in activities
(biggest)

Brackets 2

Relative importance of information

Each year, Earth Day gives us the opportunity to highlight the importance of preserving and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations. Each year, more than one billion people participate in Earth Day-related activities in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

Each year, **Earth Day** gives us the opportunity to **highlight** the importance of **preserving** and protecting the world around us, not just for the present, but for future generations. Each year, more than **one billion people** **participate in Earth Day-related activities** in more than 190 countries, making it the largest civic observance in the world.

1 bn people
(year)

participate

in activities
(190 □ s)
(biggest)

Regardless of where you are from - here in Abidjan, or the state of Oregon, where I grew up - the Earth below our feet is our most precious resource.

(Abidjan /
Oregon)
Earth

is

precious resource

Brackets 3

Noting less

1 bn people
()

participate

in activities
()

11:08 Sat 10 Oct

1. sl.

transM
(90j)

Speech URL
<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sr/speech/transmutation-nuclear-waste-material>

8 / 11

Screenshot

A screenshot of a digital note-taking application. The interface includes a top toolbar with various drawing tools like a pen, eraser, and highlighter. The main area contains handwritten notes in black ink. On the left, there is a vertical line and the text '1. sl.'. In the center, there is a diagonal line pointing towards the text 'transM (90j)'. To the right of the notes, there is a printed text block containing the label 'Speech URL' and a long URL. At the bottom of the screen, there is a small video thumbnail of a man speaking, with a 'Screenshot' label overlaid on it. The bottom right corner of the application shows a page indicator '8 / 11'.

Memory and note-taking in Consecutive Interpreting

ATA Conference 2020

Andy Gillies

<https://andrewgillies.eu>