

Answers to chat questions

I've answered below the questions from the chat that I didn't answer during the live presentation. The questions are in bold, the answers not.

How to memorize abstract concepts?	Nedelka Marin-Martinez10:59 AM
Different people can memorize different things with more or less ease. It depends on the person and what they know already also. We have to experiment to discover what and how we personally best remember things. Abstract is not necessarily different - for example you can visualise abstract concepts (eg. for religion I "see" a church).	
<u>SYMBOLS</u>	
For all the questions on symbols (which I've listed below) please have a look at this film I did on the subject https://www.lourdesderioja.com/2017/01/25/symbols-dos-and-donts/ If you need inspiration finding specific symbols have a look at this site http://www.symbolovnik.cz	
Do you think we can one day come up with one unified symbol alphabet? At least at the level of English language	Abdulaziz Aldhohayan11:06 AM
Do you have a symbols book created or published by you that we could use or that you would like to share?	Dalia Brown11:40 AM
Any symbols for WE or THEY?	Gabriela Rangel11:35 AM
Did you develop your own symbols, or used a pre set list?	María Baker11:41 AM
is there a site where we can find these symbols?	Ezequiel Torres11:41 AM
are your symbols created by you or are they common to all who work in this field?	Maria Luz Valdez11:42 AM
How do you come up with shorthand symbols? My students ask all the time about how to make up symbols on the spot, and I typically draw a tiny picture or a sym./abbreviation but I haven't been able to explain the process of creating symbols.	Breanna Jones11:51 AM
How about when the speech you are interpreting is in totally new topic, and you were not given any advanced materials? You don't have to time to invent symbols. What is your tip for such occasions?	Jisu Kim12:03 PM
How long did it take you to develop a comprehensive system of notation and symbols that worked?	Matt Finizio11:57 AM
It took the same time it took to become an acceptable consecutive interpreter. So 1 year to pass the exam. A couple more years to get professionally good at it.	

What is the author's name for The Complete Book of Conference Interpreting?	Norayda de León-Jones11:08 AM
See the reading list.	
where did you get this vid?	Abdulaziz Aldhohayan11:30 AM
URL is in the handouts.	
<u>WHAT LANGUAGE TO NOTE IN</u>	
Do you always write notes in source language?	Mónica Guelman11:36 AM
Do you always take your notes in English?	Natasha Kharikova11:41 AM
So, take note in your target language?	Elena Chang11:42 AM
All notes in source language? Regardless of grammatical structures and reformulating in the other language.	Deborah Saldana11:45 AM
if we are going back and forth in two languages, do you think it best to take notes in target language?	Shelley Blumberg12:04 PM
If your TL is not in the same SVO order, would you suggest keeping notes in SL order or TL order?	Yoko Usui11:39 AM
I believe the current research in note-taking suggests that it is best to take notes in the language that you can write the most quickly. That may be source, or target, or a mixture. Some interpreters working between languages that have a lot of long words (eg working between Hungarian and German) might even note in a 3 rd language like English because it is quicker. As for the order (SVO or not) there is no right answer but I think whatever you choose to do has to be consistent. Personally I only work into English, my mother tongue, so most of my notes are in English or symbols. There is an article about which language to note in in the reading list.	
What are your thoughts on taking notes for right-to-left languages? Do you recommend switching direction with every turn in a conversation for example? Or taking all notes in the same language?	Yasmin AlKashef11:56 AM
I don't have personal experience of this but the SVO format (or SOV etc) should work just as well right-to-left as left-to-right. The key is to be consistent within each speech. You might even be able to note right-to-left when working into Arabic and left-to-right when working into English. There are no fixed rules, but please experiment and I would be interested to hear back from you about what works!	
Would Andy share with us that is the make and model of his headset? :-)	Gabriela Rangel11:42 AM

Sennheiser SC60	
NUMBERS & NAMES	
Do you immediately write important names in the source language?	Dawn B. Rivera11:43 AM
what about numbers-heavy speeches? should the numbers take priority to make sure they're accurate?	Luci Pike11:42 AM
if you encounter some complicated proper nouns, or maybe long book/movies/association names, how do you manage to take notes of them?	Ka Wai Lee11:58 AM
Names like numbers are difficult to remember so I write them straight down (often phonetically). So they go straight from echoic memory to the note-pad, without passing thru working memory. A number or a name is not intrinsically important. Some are, some aren't. Just like any other information in the speech the interpreter has to understand its relevance and the decide where to set priorities if that is necessary. Usually it's important to understand the order of magnitude of a number - is it a lot, or not - regardless of whether you actually note it down.	
Have you used iPads and/or tablets for consecutive note-taking?	Kirill Vompe11:43 AM
Do you use paper or electronic pad?	Mayda Villar11:43 AM
Could you elaborate on the differences between tablet vs. pen and pad note-taking?	Kirill Vompe11:44 AM
What do you think of simultaneous consecutive?	Mónica Guelman11:57 AM
I prefer notepads for consecutive but I use the iPad for teaching and presentations because I can show a speech and the notes at the same time. I have outlined some of the pros and cons of taking notes on an iPad in my book on Consecutive. That chapter is in the handouts.	
when you deal with a difficult speech, do you rely more on memory or on note taking? or stop to listen without doing either? I realize I note more as the difficulty of the speech increases.	Jing Jing Mo11:43 AM
It depends on why it is difficult. If it's because there is a lot of detail I will note more. If it's conceptually difficult I will listen more. Often if we have to listen harder to understand then we will have to note less because we don't have the mental capacity spare.	
what are your three C languages?!	Emily Toll11:43 AM
French, German & Polish (in alphabetical order!)	
Do you follow the same sequence in your brain (SVO) when you are doing Consecutive, but cannot take notes? (when you're on a stage, for instance, you can't take notes)	Carolina Wilder11:48 AM
No. Then I would be remembering larger chunks, like we did in the workshop on memory.	

what about you don't take any notes only sometimes because you can totally visualize/hear the entire sentence/speech in your mind like you are watching a movie. Is it risky? Should you take notes for all sentences?	Jisu Kim11:55 AM
I take notes for almost all sentences unless I have deliberately decided that I don't need to because I am going to apply a memory technique (e.g. visualisation or empty brackets). The key is do decide not to note something, which is very different from missing something or not being quick enough to note it.	
How much does familiarity with the subject play into the ability to do this notetaking?	Prudence Miller11:57 AM
A lot! The more you know about a subject the fewer notes you need because some information is ALREADY in your long-term memory as knowledge. Even during the course of a day's meeting you will take fewer notes as you get into the subject.	
You stated "shadowing" is not preferred exercise for long consecutive interpretation, because "thinking" was missing in it. What is the ideal exercise, then?	Midori Hosokawa11:58 AM
There is no one exercise! I have collected exercises that are useful for consecutive into a book ... there are a lot of them! (Conference Interpreting - A student's practice book)	
how long would you recommend we study daily?	Elvia Rubald12:03 PM
I would say "practise" not "study" just to be clear. Reading books is interesting but won't work alone. There's no right answer to that. For students it would be more than qualified interpreters. But practising daily is necessary, that's for sure.	
What are your favorite books from the shelves behind you?	Abby Huber12:03 PM
See the hand-out. They are listed there!	