CHARACTERISTICS OF
SIMULTANEOUS AND CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION

Simultaneous Interpretation		Consecutive Interpretation	
Pros	**Cons**	**Pros**	**Cons**
Time lag reduced, with the real interpretation closer to "real time"	Higher potential for miscues	Allows "thought wholeness" or chunking	Requires more time than simultaneous interpretation
Makes the flow smoother	More preparation often required	Allows analysis of the source language before production of target language	Others may be "encouraged" to seek errors in the interpretation
Creates feeling of cohesiveness	Mode is standard, expected	Potentially more accurate because of reduced miscues	Can stifle process or cause uncomfortable feelings of anxiety
Encourages spontaneous responses/interaction	Potential for interpreter fatigue, stress high	Reduces vacillation between ASL and English	Interpreter work highlighted, increasing obtrusiveness
Interpretation more directly linked with speaker	Interpreter less able to monitor the interpretation	Interpreter can work at his/her own speed	
Mode is standard, expected	Interpreter has difficulty reworking or negotiating miscues or errors	Stress of dealing with complex expressions in source or target language reduced	
Allows the interpreter to seem less obtrusive	Mode makes the task seem simple	Direct communication with and feedback from receiver possible	
	May make negotiation for later use of consecutive mode difficult or impossible	Interpreter and others can observe the interpretation more closely	
	Sign language interpreter has less rapport with a deaf speaker	Fosters clear information	
	Mode entails greater vacillation between ASL and English		