

## MEMORY IN SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION

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### Abstract:

**Keywords:** long-term memory, short-term memory, working memory, sensory memory, source language, target language, translator, interpreter, cognitive, enhance memory, chunking, visualization, note taking, mnemonic devices..

This article gives data about simultaneous interpretation and memory at first and then deals with the questions like do we have memory in simultaneous interpretation? If yes, what kind of memory do we need? And plus reader can find some interesting facts about memory and simultaneous interpretation.

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### INTRODUCTION

Nowadays demand for simultaneous interpretation is increasing day by day because of different kind of conferences and meeting! In our modern and fast changing world business is improving and all countries want to share experience with each other and want to trade with other countries. All we know that in the earth there is no just one country, every country should keep in touch with others in order to save environment and the earth, as well as universe. In these cases, simultaneous interpretation is one of the main type of communication methods.

The Nuremberg trials (1945–1946) are considered to be the official birthdate of simultaneous interpretation, however, simultaneous interpretation was invented as early as in 1926. A patent was received by an IBM employee Alan Gordon Finlay [1] and was used sporadically before the Second World War. Finlay played an essential role in the design and development of SI equipment together with Edward Filene, the American businessman and philanthropist. During professional interpreting, one needs to constantly work within many different parameters like the cohesion, diction, attention to the tone of the voice, style, fluency, complete and correct transmission, ideal accent, intonation and terminology also being dependent on existing external conditions such as the air freshness and sound quality inside the booth, collaboration between booth mates and above all the booth visibility to follow-up the visual materials used by the speaker to support the content of the speech [2]. As we can see great

knowledge is required from translator. Simultaneous interpretation is translating the data from source language to target language in the real time (simultaneous). Translator should listen carefully and produce the translation at the same time. Simultaneous interpreting (SI) has been a profession which is familiar to most of the people working in different segments of social life such as academia, business, diplomatic and commercial life. It is also used in media where live international conventions or interviews in today's polyculture world of high technology are broadcast. At this utmost point of civilization, it is of great significance to realize the cognitive and physical processes related to this demanding act which brings different multilingual minds together by eliminating vernacular barriers any time at any place. The continuous and immediate task of listening to a message in the source language (SL) and conveying it into the target language (TL) orally is named as "simultaneous interpretation". This action takes place while the interpreter sits in a sound-proof booth equipped with control consoles and generally a computer located at a point where s/he can clearly see the speaker or the visual materials used by the speaker. During this act, the incoming message enters discourse in the target language. Dependent on so many parameters, the interpreter requires advanced cognitive skills to store and manipulate the information coming spontaneously from the source for short periods of time, which renders high-order cognitive processes redundant including controlled attention and reasoning. The term "simultaneous" in this sense clearly refers to "sensu lato", because there exist "a certain delay of some seconds between the original message in the source language and its translation into the target language on the part of interpreter" [3]

We have different types of memory:

There are many theories about the types of memory within the human brain. Most scientists believe there are at least four general types of memory:

working memory

sensory memory

short-term memory

long-term memory

Sensory memory

Sensory memory holds sensory information for very brief periods of time, usually 1 second or less. The processing of memories and other information begins in this type of memory. If a person pays attention to sensory input, then the information may move into short-term and then long-term memory.

Some examples of sensory memory include:

registering the sounds, a person encounters on a walk

briefly acknowledging something in a person's field of vision

Sensory memory helps a person piece together a sense of the world based on recent sights, sounds, and other sensory experiences. When a specific sensory experience becomes relevant, such as the smell of something in the kitchen, it may move to other types of memory. Otherwise, sensory memories are very short-term, and a person quickly forgets them.

Short-term memory

Short-term memory allows a person to recall a limited string of information for a short period. These memories disappear quickly, after about 30 seconds Trusted Source. Short-term memory is not just memory that does not last long. Instead, it is a type of short-lived storage that can only hold a few pieces of information.

Some examples of short-term memory include:

remembering a string of 5–7 words and repeating it back  
remembering a phone number while getting a pen to jot it down

#### Working memory

Working memory is similar to short-term memory. However, unlike the latter, working memory is where a person manipulates information. This helps them remember details of their current task. Some behaviors Trusted Source that use working memory include:

solving a complex math problem where a person must remember several numbers  
baking something, which requires a person to recall the ingredients they already added  
participating in a debate, during which a person must remember the main arguments and the evidence each side uses

While researchers typically separate working and short-term memory into two different categories, research often finds Trusted Source a significant overlap between the two.

#### Long-term memory

Long-term memory stores a wide range of memories and experiences. Most memories that people recall, especially those older than about 30 seconds, are part of long-term memory. Many researchers divide long-term memory into two subcategories: implicit and explicit. 1.Implicit memories are memories that influence a person's behavior. However, people do not consciously think about them. 2.Explicit memories are conscious memories of events, autobiographical facts, or things a person learns. [4]

In translation and interpretation fields memory is very vital. If your memory is good you have potential to be skillful translator or interpreter. In this process interpreter needs all types of memory above but especially working memory and short term memory. Because interpreter does not need remember the data for a long time but just at that time. Interpreter should enhance their memory. Following techniques can help enhancing memory.

#### Techniques to Enhance Memory for Interpretation:

##### Chunking:

Breaking down information into smaller, manageable units (chunks) to improve retention and recall.

##### Visualization:

Creating mental images or associations to remember specific terms or concepts.

##### Repetition and Practice:

Regular practice of interpreting and reviewing material to reinforce memory.

##### Note-taking:

Developing a system of shorthand or symbols to quickly jot down key points while listening.

##### Mnemonic Devices:

Using acronyms, rhymes, or other mnemonic devices to remember lists or complex information.

Effective simultaneous interpretation relies heavily on the interpreter's ability to efficiently use both short-term and long-term memory, supported by various cognitive and mnemonic strategies to enhance recall and processing speed.

#### CONCLUSION

To sum up simultaneous interpretation is one of the demanding types of interpretation in our modern and rapidly changing life. And also memory is very important thing in not only simultaneous translation but also in any kind of translation and interpretation. If translator or interpreter has good

memory, he or she can be skillful interpreter or translator. Translator should have the skills that I mentioned above (chunking, visualization, note-taking). For simultaneous interpretation interpreter's short-term memory and working memory should be perfect.

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