

Meaning-for-Meaning Interpretation Protocol / Protocolo de Interpretación Sentido por Sentido

Core Concept:

The primary goal of professional interpretation is to convey the complete *meaning* and *intent* of the speaker, not just translate words literally. This is known as meaning-for-meaning interpretation. Literal, word-for-word translations can often sound unnatural, be confusing, or even misrepresent the speaker's message due to differences in grammar, idioms, and cultural context between English and Spanish.

Key Principles:

1. **Accuracy (Precisión):** Faithfully convey the meaning of the source message without additions, omissions, or distortions. Focus on the *idea* being expressed.
2. **Completeness (Integridad):** Interpret *everything* that is said by all parties.
3. **Neutrality & Transparency (Neutralidad y Transparencia):** Remain impartial. Do not inject personal opinions or advice. Interpret in the first person ("I," "me," "my" / "Yo," "mí," "mi") as if you were the person speaking.
4. **Manage Idioms & Culture (Manejo de Modismos y Cultura):** Recognize idiomatic expressions or culturally specific references. Find the equivalent meaning in the target language, rather than translating literally. If an equivalent is difficult or impossible, you may need to briefly explain the concept (after informing the parties you need to provide a brief explanation).

Example:

- **English:** "It's raining cats and dogs."
- **Literal (Incorrect):** "*Está lloviendo gatos y perros.*" (Makes no sense in Spanish).
- **Meaning-for-Meaning (Correct):** "*Está lloviendo a cántaros.*" / "*Está lloviendo muy fuerte.*"

Remember: Your role is to facilitate clear communication by accurately conveying the intended meaning across the language barrier.