

Action Plan – Incorrect / Non-Standard Vocabulary

Goal - Skill to improve:

Reduce ineffective word choices that would not make sense to the target audience due to being the incorrect concept or being a variation that is not widely known (i.e. regional signs, etc.).

Source: ASL

Target: English

Related terms: form and meaning, conceptual inaccuracy

Root cause - What is causing the error in your work?

- Did you have problems understanding exactly what the deaf person said in ASL? (comprehension)
- Was the source information unfamiliar to you? (background knowledge)
- Did you have a clear mental picture of what the deaf person meant? (visualization)
- Did you know how to interpret what the deaf person meant, using effective English vocabulary and grammar? (reformulation)
- While you were interpreting, did you simultaneously check your interpretation to see if it made sense? (monitoring)
- Did you prepare to interpret a concept, but then forget it? (memory)

Knowledge Resources:

- 1) Read this resource: Isham, William P. (1986) *The Role of Message Analysis in Interpretation*, in Marina McIntire (ed.) *Interpreting: The Art of Cross Cultural Mediation*, Linstok Press: RID Publications, 151-165. (This document can be accessed by center management in the SharePoint QSSR “Materials Library” section.)
- 2) Read this resource: “Clarification and Correction Techniques” and “Time Management Techniques” on page 78-89 of <http://www.ohioschoolforthe deaf.org/MRIDModules.aspx> (click on the “Process” link).

Activities:

1) Refer back to the “Clarification and Correction Techniques” listed above. Answer the following questions regarding the importance of clarification in order to ensure accuracy in the interpretation:

- Describe the process of effective clarification.
- Which types of information tend to lead to errors in YOUR work? What strategies can you use to minimize this?
- Name some appropriate ways to get the information you need from a Deaf consumer.

2) Select a topic you are *unfamiliar* with on www.DeafMD.org under “Diseases A-Z”. Watch the explanation of the disease, marking areas where you are unfamiliar with the vocabulary given in the source. Brainstorm and practice strategies for obtaining the necessary information for the ASL-to-English interpretation. Compare your notes with the transcript below on the website.

3) Record your ASL-to-English interpretation of the “Green Hills College” scenario on the NIC Interview and Performance Practice DVD. Afterwards, review your interpretation and gauge your success in producing message equivalency through effective vocabulary choices. Mark instances of incorrect or non-standard vocabulary within the work and journal about why that happened. Brainstorm more effective options for areas that were marked as incorrect or non-standard. Film a second interpretation of the “Green Hills College” scenario, specifically focused on more effective vocabulary choices. Review the interpretation and journal improvements in the work and how it affects the overall interpretation.