

### Action Plan – Matching Affect

**Goal - Skill to improve:**

Incorporate effective and observable expressions of emotion and assuredness, such as tone of voice, laughter, etc.

**Source:** ASL

**Target:** English

**Related terms:** emotion, tone

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

- While you were interpreting, did you simultaneously check the affect in the interpretation to see if it was appropriately produced? (monitoring)

**Knowledge Resources:**

1) Review Codes 27A-D, 31C, and 34A-D in Interpretation Skills: American Sign Language to English by Marty M. Taylor, Ph.D. (available for purchase at <http://www.aslinterpreting.com>)

2) Read “Who’s in Charge Here?: Perceptions of Empowerment and Role in the Interpreting Setting” by Marina McIntire and Gary Sanderson at [http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/whos\\_in\\_charge\\_here.pdf](http://www.rid.org/UserFiles/File/pdfs/whos_in_charge_here.pdf)

**Activities:**

1) Create an audio recording of yourself describing your best day ever and why, then your worst day ever and why. Afterwards, note areas of natural affect embedded in your story which allows the listener to connect with your message.

2) Record your audio readings of the statements below. Each statement should be read separately with each of the following emotions: animated, depressed, irritated, sarcastic, worried. Afterwards, have a colleague review your recording and speculate the emotion tied to that statement. Discuss with your colleague how they were able to deduce the emotion (if correct) and what inhibited them from matching the correct emotion to the statement (if incorrect). Determine if there is a pattern with any specific emotion that was incorrectly matched.

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- Thank you for calling Dr. Dwight’s office. If this is an emergency please hang up and dial 911. If not, please select from the following options. For appointments press one, for an insurance issue push two, for a nurse push three, to leave a message push four.
- The person you have called is not available. Please leave your name, number and a brief message.
- To expedite your call, please have your account number or social security number ready for the next available customer service representative.

3) Using the video “My Deaf Mom, the Cop and the Law” from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRaBUfeNfAU>, record your ASL-to-English interpretation, focusing specifically on matching appropriate affect. Have a (different) colleague listen to your interpretation and discuss their feelings about the story based on the affect within the interpretation.