Action Plan – Tense	
Skill to improve: Interpret using effective tense (past, present, future, etc.) in English sentences	**Source:** ASL **Target:** English **Related terms:** time, syntax, grammar

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 say what the Deaf person meant, using effective English tense? (reformulation)

Knowledge Resources:
1) Read this resource from your center library: "So You Want to be an Interpreter?: An Introduction to Sign Language Interpreting" by Jan Humphrey and Bob Alcorn (4th edition). Pay particular attention to chapter nine – "The Challenge of Mediating ASL and English", p. 210-213 about "Time/Tense Markers".

2) Review Code 9 about temporal aspect in Interpretation Skills: American Sign Language to English by Marty M. Taylor, Ph.D. (available for purchase at http://www.aslinterpreting.com)

Activities:
1) Film yourself consecutively interpreting "Italian Cruise Ship Tips Over" at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPOO2obIY5c. (When you interpret consecutively, you pause the video after about 2-3 sentences, then interpret. Watch the next 2-3 sentences, then pause the video again to interpret. Repeat until the video is over.) Listen to the video of your interpretation without watching the Deaf signer. Transcribe your English interpretation and listen carefully to the English tense – was it clearly stated when events happened in the past, present, or future?

2) Film yourself simultaneously interpreting "ASL Tax Tips: Tax Return Error" at http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wiHgfmAbbg&feature=relmfu. Be sure to cover the captioning. Listen to your interpretation without watching the Deaf signer to be sure the English tense is correct – you can use the captions as a guide. Did you make effective or ineffective choices? Why did this happen? Reinterpret the same text and check for errors again.