

### Action Plan – Meaning Equivalence

**Goal - Skill to improve:**

Improve accuracy of the target message in the interpretation; errors may be related to omissions, additions, skews, etc.

**Source:** ASL**Target:** English**Related terms:** accuracy; dynamic equivalence; functional equivalence**Root cause - What is causing the error in your work?**

- Did you have problems understanding exactly what the Deaf person signed 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 in English what the Deaf person meant, using effective English vocabulary and grammar? (reformulation)
- Did you prepare to interpret a concept, but then forget it? (memory)

**Knowledge Resources:**

1) Read this resource: Gish, S. (1987). *I Understood All The Words, But I Missed The Point: A Goal-To-Detail/Detail-To-Goal Strategy For Text Analysis*. Paper presented at the Sixth National Convention of the Conference of Interpreter Trainers, "New Dimensions in Interpreter Education: Curriculum and Instruction". (This document can be accessed by center management in the SharePoint QSSR "Materials Library" section.)

2) 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.)

3) Read this resource: Viaggio S. (1992): *Teaching Beginners to Shut Up and Listen*, The Interpreters' Newsletter, 4, 45-54. (This document can be accessed by center management in the SharePoint QSSR "Materials Library" section.)

**Activities:**

1) Film yourself consecutively interpreting the description of a colonoscopy at <http://www.deafmd.org/pub/Colonoscopy> (or another text from <http://www.deafmd.org>). Print the transcript. Compare your interpretation to the transcript, line by line. Analyze when there were additions, omissions, and skews. Why did this happen? Reinterpret the same text simultaneously and check for errors again.

2) Film yourself simultaneously interpreting the ASL lecture on "The the Heart of the Matter: The Cardiovascular System in English and ASL" (may not be available in all centers – can be purchased from <http://www.digiterp.com/Heart.html>). Print the transcript from the CD-rom. Compare your interpretation to the transcript, line by line. Analyze when there were additions, omissions, and skews. Why did this happen? For more activities, see the ["Steps to the Beat" study guide](#).