

LESSON 1

Introduction to Deaf Interpreting

Placement in Curriculum Map: Introduction to Interpreting course or entry level interpreting course.

Topics of Discussion: This lesson is to serve as an introduction to Deaf interpreting in the community.

Materials Needed

Technology in which to present a YouTube video.

Student Learning Objectives:

1. Students will be able to define Deaf interpreting.
2. Students will be able to describe a brief history of Deaf interpreting.
3. Students will be able to recognize specific situations when Deaf interpreters would be beneficial to an interpreted event.
4. Students will be able to list several benefits of using Deaf interpreters.

Readings:

Deaf Interpreters at Work: International Insights - Chapter 1: *Deaf Interpreters: An Introduction* by Robert Adam, Markus Aro, Juan Carlos Druetta, Senan Dunne, and Juli af Klintberg

Explanation

Deaf interpreting is still not commonly used in some parts of North America. This lesson is to serve as an introduction to the long history of language brokering among Deaf individuals, as well as provide a basis for which to build upon regarding situations in which a Deaf interpreter would be warranted.

Requirements:

Watch the following video with the class:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ec8LjnVuJx8>

Assignment Details

During this lesson:

- 1) Brainstorm examples of when and where participants have seen language brokering. Reflect upon that experience. Why do you think language brokering occurred?
- 2) Ask students (in small groups) to talk about preconceived ideas they may have regarding the use of Deaf interpreters.

- 3) Watch the YouTube video of people explaining the benefits of using Deaf interpreters. Were any of the examples surprising?
- 4) Discuss the reading in small groups using the guided questions below.
- 5) Using students, follow the drawings in the chapter to set up Deaf interpreting teams. Ask the students to identify situations in which they can envision using each set up.

Questions to Consider

1. Have you been in a situation in which you have seen Deaf people as language brokers? When? Where? Why?
2. What is the difference between language brokering and Deaf interpreting?
3. In your own words, what is a Deaf interpreter?
4. What is the difference between a Deaf interpreter and a non-Deaf interpreter?
5. What are some specific examples of DELK (Deaf Extralinguistic Knowledge)?
6. What are some situations in which a Deaf interpreter should be requested?
7. The reading provided several examples of how to position Deaf interpreters; which examples were surprising to you? Can you list some specific examples in which each of these positions would be utilized?