

Oregon Mock Oral Exams

Compare and Contrast

| Mock Exam | Real Exam |
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| Non-NCSC/CLAC materials | Real NCSC/CLAC materials |
| Test all three interpreting modes | Test all three interpreting modes |
| Use same equipment as in real exam | Use of equipment recommended for the real exam |
| Follow same time limits/guidelines as real exam | NCSC/CLAC time limits/guidelines |
| Follow NCSC/CLAC Desk Reference Manual | NCSC/CLAC Desk Reference Manual |
| Informal "rating" based on NCSC/CLAC Scoring Unit Descriptions and Testing Goals | Formal rating conducted according the NCSC/CLAC criteria |

Oregon Mini-history

Model 1: Contractor Developed Mock Exam Materials/ In-House Raters

In 2008, the Oregon Judicial Department contracted a federally certified interpreter to present a Spanish-specific intensive workshop for oral exam candidates. She offered a "mock oral exam," using her own materials for all three interpreting modes, including scoring units, based on the NCSC/CLAC exam criteria. "Rating" was done in-house by master level staff interpreters. Feedback from the 15 participants was so positive that Oregon has continued to offer mock exams.

Model 2: Purchase Vendor Materials / In-House Raters

In 2009, Oregon purchased and used a vendor's recorded materials for self-recorded "mock exams, and "rating" was provided in-house by a master level staff interpreter, based on NCSC/CLAC scoring units.

Model 3: Develop Your Own Recordings / 2 State Collaboration* (see next page) / Self-Rated or In-House Raters

In 2010 Oregon and Washington collaborated with SJI grant funds to create their own mock oral exam materials in the form of recordings in 8 languages; 8 candidates participated.

In 2012, 7 candidates of Spanish, Vietnamese, Russian and Arabic recorded themselves using the OR/WA scripts. After they did self-assessments of their recordings ("self-rated").

In 2013, 6 candidates of Spanish and Vietnamese recorded themselves using the OR/WA scripts and "rating" was provided in-house by a master level staff interpreter and a master level contractor.

In 2014, 11 candidates of Spanish and Vietnamese recorded themselves using the OR/WA scripts and the candidates did self-assessments (self-rated).

Oregon Mock Oral Exams

Oregon Mock Exam Script Samples

Sight: Use of common forms (birth/death certificates, divorce decrees, CVs,) in source and target languages;
Consecutive (Spanish):

Q. *And what's your relationship like with Miah?*

A. Eh, buena. Siempre hemos tenido una relación muy íntima. Ella está muy ocupada ahora, pero -

Consecutive (Vietnamese):

Q. *And what's your relationship like with là Lan?*

A. Dạ.. tốt. Chúng tôi lúc nào cũng thân thiết với nhau.. Lúc này cô ta rất bận, nhưng -

Simultaneous (English):

She is feeling desperate, she is feeling anxious, and she contacts EastNET. She says, "Come on, give me a deal. Get me out of here, I will do anything." So they release her, and she enters into this agreement to rat out people.

How to Develop Your Own Consecutive and Simultaneous recordings Suitable for Mock Exams practice

Option 1: Develop 30 minute content-specific recordings in 8 languages. Final products were

- 1) Consecutive: 7 sets of 5-7 minute recordings with questions in English and answers in one of 8 languages most often used in court.
- 2) Simultaneous: 6 English-only recordings suitable for practicing simultaneous.

Resources Needed:

- Funds to pay 8 language voiceover talents @ 4 hours each, (In 2010 we paid +/- \$400 per language), plus English (SJI grant funds were used)
- 80 hours of court interpreter staff time
- Optional Recommended: \$300-\$500 to purchase equipment to improve audio quality.

Process:

Step 1. Write practice scripts of "court" audio.

Step 2. Recruit 7 female language speakers for 4 hours of voiceover readings; Finalize contracts. (Staff)

Step 3. Distribute scripts to voiceover talent for preview.

Step 4. Schedule recording appointments @ 4 hours per language. (Staff)

Step 5. Record scripts in 8 languages. Schedule English first in order to serve as the model.

Step 6. Final editing and packaging. (Staff)

Step 7. Product available for mock exams and training events

Option 2: Procure actual for-the-record court recordings. Benefits: Inexpensive and larger amount of diverse audio suitable for practice is available.