Nebraska Interpreter Test Preparation Strategies

Online or in person skill building workshop after Interpreter Orientation

- http://freerice.com/#/english-vocabulary/1904
- National Center for State Courts Court Interpreting Study Guide References http://www.ncsc.org/~/media/Files/PDF/Education%20and%20Careers/State%20Interpreter%20Certification%202/StudyGuide.ashx
- National Center for Interpretation, University of Arizona PO Box 210432 | Tucson, AZ 85721 | Phone: (520) 621-3615 | Fax: (520) 624-8130 | nci.arizona.edu

Practice speaking out loud in both English and your target language for a sustained period of time on a regular, even daily, basis, alone or in groups using study materials

Books on tape

SAT or GRE exam prep materials

Vocabulary Development: cultivate a wide range of general vocabulary (including idioms, slang, adjectives, adverbs, verbs and nouns) as well as legal terminology

- Dictionary.com
- United States Courts Glossary of Legal Terms http://www.uscourts.gov/glossary
- Common Courtroom Phrases list learn the meaning of each word in English and then interpret in your target language
- Probation Acronyms list learn the meaning of each abbreviation in English and then interpret in your target language
- Word of the Day http://www.dictionary.com/wordoftheday/

Record practice sessions

Critically review personal performance

Meet with a certified interpreter to review your performance

Practice under simulated exam conditions, including time limitations

Written Exam – total time 2 hours, 15 minutes

Multiple choice questions

English language: synonyms, antonyms, vocabulary

Interpreter ethics: case studies

Court terms

Oral Exam: engage in sustained and frequent practice in each of the modes of interpretation, paying close attention to every element of the source language material to be interpreted, being careful not to change, soften, harden, omit, or otherwise alter the meaning of the source material

Time limitations:

Sight translation: 6 minutes total, 2 minutes to prep Consecutive interpretation: approximately 22 minutes Simultaneous interpretation: approximately 8 minutes

Use recordings
Use headphones

Develop and practice note taking skills

Improve short term and long term memory skills

Observe certified interpreters in court Record shadow interpreting Practice note taking

Review Overview of Written Exam from National Center for State Courts

http://www.ncsc.org/~/media/Files/PDF/Services%20and%20Experts/Areas%20of%20expertise/Language%20Access/Written%20and%20Oral/2014%20January Written%20Exam%20Overview%201%2029%2014.ashx

Review Overview of Oral Exam from National Center for State Courts

http://www.ncsc.org/~/media/Files/PDF/Services%20and%20Experts/Areas%20of%20expertise/Language%20Access/Written%20and%20Oral/2014%20January_Oral%20Exam%20Overview%20for%20Candidates%201%2029%2014.ashx

National Center for State Courts information regarding Oral Interpreter Exam

Common Oral Interpreting Exam Performance Deficiencies

Common Gran merpreting Exam refrontiance Beneficies					
Inaccuracies with Numbers	Candidates misinterpret numbers in any of a variety of ways, e.g., inverting some of the numbers (such as changing 2345 to 2354), omitting some of the numbers in a date or address (e.g., getting the month and year but omitting the number of the day in a date), or just getting them wrong (such as interpreting 86 as 56).				
Language Interference	Candidates cannot keep the two languages separate from each other, allowing one language to affect how the candidate interprets into the other language. This often results in an interpretation that is awkward and confusing or even unintelligible to a native speaker of that language. One primary example of this is the use of false cognates, words that sound the same and/or are spelled the same but have completely different meanings in the two languages.				
Literal Interpretation	Candidates tend to be bound too much by the source material, resulting in renditions that are too literal, stilted, or at times incomprehensible, and do not sound natural in the target language. Oftentimes, the renderings are "word for word" or driven by the mistaken assumption that the interpretation should be "literal." This is especially problematic for many interpreters during the sight translation section.				
Omissions	Candidates completely leave out certain words, phrases, sentences and sometimes even entire paragraphs of source material.				
Paraphrasing	Candidates render an approximate or condensed version of the original in his/her "own words" instead of preserving all the elements of the original message.				

TEST RESULTS REPORT FORM

Test Date:		Language:		Ver	sion:	
Candidate I.D.:		State:				
Evaluator #1 Evaluator #2						
	ORAL INTERP	RETER EXAM	I			
	SIGHT TRAI	NSLATION				
English-Foreign Language # correct	/25 units					
Foreign-English Language # correct	/25 units					
OBJECTIVE SCORE	Total # correct	_/50 units	O units %			
	Non-keyword Scoring and Comments					
ENGLISH to FOREIGN		FOREIGN to ENGLISH				
 translation too literal poor delivery awkward syntax changes level of language paraphrases changes meaning invents words/uses false cognates lacks coherence needs to improve accuracy 	 translation too literal poor delivery awkward syntax changes level of language paraphrases changes meaning invents words/uses false cognates lacks coherence needs to improve accuracy 					
Acceptable Borderlin	ne Unaccentable		Accept	able Borderlin	e Unacceptable	
Foreign Language skills	ic Officeepiusic	English Lan			•	
Interpreting Skills		Interpreting	Skills _		_	
	CONSE	CUTIVE				
OBJECTIVE SCORE	Total # correct/90 units %				%	
Non-keyword Scoring and Comments						
poor retention						
slow response time			Acceptable	Borderline	Unacceptable	
uses third person	English lang	uage skills	_		_	
omits testimony	Foreign lang	uage skills		_	_	
embellishes	Interpreting	Skills				
paraphrases	- 0					
changes meaning						
changes level of language						
invents words/uses false cognates						
lacks coherence						
needs to develop good note taking skills						
needs to improve accuracy						

TEST RESULTS REPORT FORM – BACK PAGE

OBJECTIVE SCORE	Total # correct/75 unit	s		%		
NON KEYWORD SCORING and Commer	nts					
delivery sounds rushed or choppy						
difficulty keeping pace with speaker		Accepta	ble Borderlin	e Unacceptable		
poor enunciation	Foreign Language skill	_		•		
mumbles or garbles speech	Interpreting Skills	_	-	_		
	interpreting oxino	-		_		
omits portions of script						
embellishes						
paraphrases						
changes in meaning						
inaccurate with numbers						
invents words/uses false cognates						
lacks coherence						
needs to improve accuracy						
OVERALL TEST SCORE	Total # correct/215 ui		ΧY	9		
	ENGLIS		FOR	EIGN		
Improve general vocabulary	-		=			
Improve legal vocabulary Improve accent / pronunciation	9-0					
Improve grammar / syntax			-	-		
	COMMENTS					
	COMMENTS					
This performance suggests that the	e candidate has good noten	tial Encour	aged to continue i	mproving skills and		
This performance suggests that the to retest.	e candidate has good poten	tial. Encour	aged to continue i	improving skills and		

COMMON COURTROOM PHRASES

Language heard in the courtroom and other legal settings contains many standardized expressions and set phrases, and their equivalents in the target language should be familiar to the legal interpreter. After studying this list you should be able to translate these expressions orally and in writing without any hesitation.

Commands

As jurors you are not to be swayed by sympathy.

Bail should be continued.

Call your next witness.

Can you tell the jury...?

Could you briefly describe...?

Could you describe the appearance of (a package, etc.)?

Counsel, lay a foundation.

Defendant will be remanded.

Don't belabor the point counselor.

Don't discuss the case.

Don't volunteer explanations of your answers.

I direct the jury to disregard the statement that ...

Jurors may be excused.

Keep your voice up.

Keep your own counsel, don't talk about the case.

Let's have the charge conference.

Make your application to Judge (...).

May the record reflect ...

May I have it?

Members of the jury, you are instructed to disregard...

Mr. X will reduce the decibel level.

Please proceed.

Please raise your right hand.

Please remain standing.

Please resume your seat.

Poll the jury.

Remember, you are under oath.

Rephrase the question.

See if you recognize it.

Speak into the microphone.

State your full name for the record.

The following prospective jurors are excused.

The witness will resume the stand.

Use your common sense.

Will the defendant please rise.

Will the prospective jurors please stand.

Will the people in the well of the courtroom please stand.

Will the record reflect that the witness has identified the defendant.

Will you call the first (next) case, Mr. (X)?

Would you raise your right hand?

Would you indicate ...?

Would you describe ...?

Would you point (someone) out?

Would you look at...?

Would you state for the record...?

Would you label that as (car, building, etc.)?

Would you mark that with an "x"?

You are excused.

You can proceed, Mr. (X).

You can resume your seat.

You can answer the question.

You have exhausted that subject, please move on.

You may answer the question.

You may be seated.

You may cross-examine, counsel.

You may inquire, Mr. X.

You may proceed.

You may step down.

Requests for information (requiring a yes or no answer)

Are you familiar with a device known as (a beeper, a cell phone, etc.)?

Are you familiar with this?

Can you tell from looking (whether it's yours, etc.)?

Directing your attention to People's exhibit (one, etc.) in evidence, can you tell the Court what is exhibit (one, etc.)?

Do you recall making this statement?

Do you recall this question?

Do you recognize that exhibit?

Do you swear that this is a true and accurate statement?

Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

Do you swear to well and truly interpret these proceedings, so help you God?

Do you solemnly swear (or affirm) that the answers you are about to give, touching upon your qualifications to serve as jurors in this case now before the court, will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God? (oath to prospective jurors)

Do you want the jury polled?

Do you wish to say anything before sentence is imposed?

Does (the picture, etc.) reasonably and accurately depict (the building, etc.)?

Does that refresh your recollection?

Did you discuss (cocaine, etc.?)

Did you go to trial or did you plead guilty?

Did you notice anything about (the envelope, etc.)?

Did you post bail for (x's) release?

Did you advise (someone) of his rights?

Did there come a time when you (left the house, etc.)?

Have you filed a notice (of appearance)?

Have you had any involvement with (the criminal justice system, etc.)?

Have you had occasion to be involved with (an investigation, etc.)?

Have you ever been involved in (drugs, etc.)?

Have you formed an opinion as to (the cause of death, etc.)?

Have you reached a verdict?

Have you read the pre-sentence report?

Have you received a copy of the complaint?

Have you retained a lawyer or has one been appointed for you?

Have you reviewed the pre-sentence report with your client?

Is there anything that would prevent you from serving fairly and impartially?

Is that your testimony?

Is there any reason why sentence should not be imposed at this time?

Is time excluded, your Honor?

Is it fair to state (that you were living together, etc.)?

Isn't it a fact that (you were his girlfriend, etc.)?

Isn't that correct?

Isn't that right?

Juror No. (x), is that your verdict?

What was your state of mind regarding the reliability of the informant?

Would that refresh your recollection?

Would it be fair to say (that you knew him/her, etc.) prior to that time?

Would you like the jury polled?

Would you like to be heard?

Would you like to say anything on your own behalf?

Isn't it true that...?

Are you satisfied that you fully and completely understand your rights?

You and each of you, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that you will well and truly try this case before you, and a true verdict render, according to the evidence and the law so help you God? (Oath to jurors on trial)

You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say may be held against you in a court of law. You have the right to consult your lawyer and insure his presence at your interrogation. If you want a lawyer and can't afford one, one will be appointed to you. Do you understand each and every right that has been explained to you? Having all these rights in mind, do you wish to talk to me now?

Requests for information

Have you been threatened or coerced into pleading guilty?

How are you employed?

How much schooling have you had?

How do you plead?

How do you plead to the charge contained in count)?

How do you recognize that (exhibit, etc.)?

How can you tell (whether you've seen that exhibit before, etc.)?

What are your current duties?

What happened next?

What, if anything, did you do?

What, if anything, did you say?

What is People's exhibit number (one, etc.) for identification?

What is the Government's recommendation?

What is your current assignment?

What is your immigration status?

What were the lighting conditions (at that intersection, in the store, etc.)?

What were the weather conditions that (day, night, etc.)?

Where was (the car, etc.) in relation to the (building entrance, driveway, etc.)?

Going back to the night of...

Please explain to the Court...

Would it help refresh your memory to...?

Requests for permission

At this time I would like to read (a letter, etc.).

Could I have a brief voir dire?

Could we have a sidebar?

I move to strike (the answer, etc.).

I would like to advise the court (that the defendant is not present, etc.)

I would ask that the court instruct the witness (to answer yes or no, etc.)

I would ask most respectfully, your Honor, for a ruling.

If it please the court...

Let me call your attention to (that evening, etc.)

Let me direct your attention to (the picture in front of you, etc.)

May I approach the bench?

May I beg the court's indulgence for a moment?

May I call my first witness?

May I have the witness approach (the blackboard, etc.)?

May I inquire?

May I publish these (photographs, etc.) to the jury?

May it please the court...

May we approach?

May we get a ruling?

May we have a short recess?

May we see you at sidebar, your Honor?

Move to strike, there's no question before the witness.

Your Honor, may the jury be instructed to disregard (the answer, etc.)

Statements

At this time the defense rests.

At this time the government rests.

Criminal cause for pleading, U.S. vs. (....).

Each count carries a (x dollars) fine.

(Exhibit one, etc.) is received in evidence.

(Exhibit one, etc.) is marked as evidence.

I'll enter a not guilty plea on your behalf.

I'll show you what has already been received in evidence as People's exhibit (one, etc.) handing you exhibit (one, etc.) for identification.

I am showing you (a cassette tape, etc.)

I call your attention to (the incident, etc.).

I deny your motion.

I don't have any objection.

I find that the government has sustained its burden aided by the presumption.

I have a procedural matter.

I have no further questions.

I have to reserve an application.

I move for a directed verdict.

I now show you (a device, etc.).

I object on the grounds that (the answer was not responsive, etc.)

I object to that; no predicate has been laid.

I object to these self-serving statements.

I offer government exhibit number (x) into evidence.

I remind you that you are still under oath.

I'll rephrase the question.

I'll show you what has been marked for identification as exhibit (one, etc.).

Do you recognize that?

I'm going to move to strike that answer as non-responsive.

I said, "Freeze!"

I take it that (you were together, etc.)

I'll address any application to the district court.

I use the struck jury method of picking a jury.

I would submit that they're conditions to ensure Mr. X's return to Court.

It is received.

Lawyers may exercise challenges.

Marked as evidence.

Motion denied.

No objection.

Not that I recall.

Objection.

Objection to the form, your Honor.

Objection, your Honor, leading.

Overruled.

Received.

Received in evidence.

Received subject to connection.

Sustained.

Sustained; rephrase the question.

(Tell us, etc.) to the best of your recollection.

That was your sworn testimony.

The counsel is mischaracterizing the witness' testimony.

The Court finds that there is a factual basis for the plea.

The Court is prepared to proceed to sentencing.

The defendant acted knowingly and intentionally.

The defendant admits to frequent travel to (the Dominican Republic, etc.)

The defendant has admitted his involvement in the instant charge.

The defendant has no history of drug or alcohol abuse.

The defendant has no prior convictions.

The defendant is guilty as charged in the incident.

The defendant represents to me that (he is a native of Puerto Rico, etc.)

The defendant says that he is sorry and remorseful.

The defendant waives a public reading of the indictment.

The defendant has not made his bail yet.

The defendant is being brought over by way of writ.

The defendant is innocent until proven guilty.

The defense has no objection as to foundation.

The defense rests.

The evidence is overwhelming.

The evidence will show...

The exhibit is accepted into evidence.

The government objects as to the relevance of this document.

The objection is overruled.

The objection is sustained.

The only thing I have redacted is (paragraphs 3 and 4, etc.).

The outburst was nonresponsive.

The witness' answer was not responsive to the question.

We'll take a break for lunch.

We're awaiting the execution of the documents.

Wheel a (B).

You are entitled to have a lawyer.

You have been placed on probation.

You testified earlier that (you were in the house, etc.).

You testified on direct that (the car was yours, etc.).

You are under oath.

You are not to be swayed by sympathy...

PROBATION ACRONYMS

AA - Alcoholics Anonymous

ACA - American Corrections Association

ACDI - Adolescent Chemical Dependency Inventory

AMP - Amphetamine

APO - Assistant Probation Officer

APPA - American Probation and Parole Association

ASI - Addiction Severity Index

BDS - Behavior Data Systems

BIP - Batterers Intervention Program

BZO - benzodiazepines

CA - Cocaine Anonymous

CAM - Continual Alcohol Monitoring
CASA - Court Appointed Special Advocate

CASI - Comprehensive Adolescent Severity Index

CBI - Community-based Intervention
CBR - Community-based Resources
CCL - Community Corrections Lincoln
CCO - Community Corrections Omaha
CDE - Chemical Dependency Evaluation

CEU - Continuing Education Unit

CH - Criminal History

CJIS - Criminal Justice Information System

CJS - Criminal Justice System
CSM - Caseload Management
CM - Case Management
C/O - Co-Occurring

COC - Cocaine

CPS - Child Protective Services
CSC - Cognitive Self-Change

CSIM - Community Safety Impact Model
CRI - Court Requested Information

D&E - Diagnostics & Evaluation Center

DAR - Drug Abuse Recognition

DCYC - Douglas County Youth Center

DCS - Department of Correctional Services
DHHS - Department of Health and Human Service

DOB - Date of Birth

DOC - Department of Corrections
DRI - Driver Risk Inventory
DRC - Day Reporting Center

DSM - Diagnostic and Statistical Manual

DUI - Driving Under the InfluenceDUS - Driving Under Suspension

DV - Domestic Violence

DVIP - Domestic Violence Intervention Program
DV Matric - Domestic Violence Offender Matric

DWI - Driving While Intoxicated

EBP - Evidence-Based Practices
 EPC - Emergency Protective Custody
 ERS - Electronic Reporting Service

EtG - Ethyl Glucuronide

F4SVP - Fee for Service Voucher Program

FTA - Failure to Appear FTE - Full-time Employment

GA - Gamblers Anonymous
GAI - Gambling Addiction Index

GAL - Guardian Ad Litem

HIPPA - Health Information Privacy Portability Act

ICAOS - Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision ICPC - Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children

ICJ - Interstate Compact for Juveniles

ICOTS - Interstate Compact Offender Tracking System

IIP - Ignition Interlock PermitIOP - Intensive Outpatient

ISP - Intensive Supervision Probation

JAC - Juvenile Assessment Center JBE - Judicial Branch Education

JCBI - Juvenile Community Based Intervention

JCBR - Juvenile Community Resources

JCRI - Juvenile Court Requested Information

JDC - Juvenile Detention CenterJIDS - Juvenile Interstate Data System

JISP - Juvenile Intensive Supervision Probation

JJC - Juvenile Justice Center

J-SOAP - Juvenile Sex Offender Assessment Protocol

JPO - Juvenile Probation Officer JSO - Juvenile Supervision Officer

LADC - Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor

LCC - Lincoln Corrections Center

LETC - Law Enforcement Training Center

LMHP - Licensed Mental Health Practitioner

LIMHP - Licensed Independent Mental Health Practitioner

LRC - Lincoln Regional Center

LS/CMI - Level of Service/Case Management Inventory

LOE - Level of Engagement

LOS - Level of Service (frequency of services delivery)

m-AMP - Methamphetamine MH - Mental Health

MHB - Mental Health Board
 MI - Motivational Interviewing
 MIP - Minor in Possession

MRT - Moral Reconation Therapy

MSE - Mental Status Exam

NA - Narcotics Anonymous

NAPS - Nebraska Adult Probation Screen

NCJIS - Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System

NCYF - Nebraska Corrections Youth Facility
NIC - National Institute of Corrections

NJJA - Nebraska Juvenile Justice Association

NJSDP - Nebraska Juvenile Justice Services Delivery Project
NPACS - Nebraska Probation Application for Community Safety

NPOT - New Probation Officer Training

NRC - Norfolk Regional Center NSC - Nebraska Supreme Court NSP - Nebraska State Patrol

NWCC - Nebraska Women's Corrections Center

NYS - Nebraska Youth Screen

OCC - Omaha Correctional Center

OCIO - Office of the Chief Information Officer (state computer system)

OJJDP - Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention

OJS - Office of Juvenile Services

OP - Out-patient

PBT - Preliminary Breath Test

PCP - Phencyclidine PD - Police Department

PDI - Predisposition Investigation (Juveniles)

PDR - Predisposition Report (Juveniles)
PIW - Probation Information Worksheet

PLADC - Provisional Alcohol and Drug Counselor

PLMHP - Provisional Licensed Mental Health Practitioner

PO - Probation Officer
PSC - Problem-solving Court

PSI - Presentence Investigation (Adults)
PSW - Protection and Safety Worker
PSR - Presentence Report (Adults)
PTA - Pre-treatment Assessment

QA - Quality Assurance

RCMS - Responsive Case Management Standards

RISE - Rural Improvement for Schooling and Employment

RTC - Residential Treatment Center

SA - Sexaholics Anonymous

SA - Substance Abuse

SASSI - Substance Abuse Simple Screening Inventory

SAQ - Substance Abuse Questionnaire

SO - Sex Offender SOC - Stage of Change

SRARF - Standardized Risk Assessment Reporting Format for Substance Abuse

Offenders

SSAS - Specialized Substance Abuse Supervision

SSI - Simple Screening Instrument

STR - Short Term Residential SUD - Substance Use Disorder

T4C - Thinking for a Change T4T - Training for Trainers

THC - Tetrahydrocannabinaol (marijuana)
TSB - Transportation Services Bureau

VASOR - Vermont Assessment for Sex Offender Risk
VINE - Victim Information and Notification Everyday

VIS - Victim Impact Statement VOP - Violation of Probation

WEC - Work Ethic Camp

YLS/CMI - Youthful Level of Service

YRTC-G - Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center at Geneva YRTC-K - Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Center at Kearney

YWSH - Youth Who Sexually Harm