

A Project Report on Simulated Consecutive Interpretation of 2021 Western China International Fair Interview

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Abstract

To promote cultural and trade exchanges between different countries and regions, various international exhibitions provide important communication platforms for all parties. Western China International Fair, founded in 2000, is an international event co-organized by the western region of China, and it also serves as a strong engine for improving trade investment cooperation between different countries and regions around the world. With the development of this Fair, many interview activities have also appeared. The purpose of the government interview was to let the netizens have an in-depth understanding of the activities related to the Western China International Fair. The reporter chose it as the interpretation material, used the Interpretative Theory and Gile's Effort Model as the theoretical guidance for this interpretation practice, organized and analyzed the whole process after the simulated interpretation practice, and finally came up with the solutions to several major problems encountered in the simulated interpretation practice. This practice will provide a direction for the reporter's future study and interpretation practice, as well as a feasible solution and reference for interpreters who encounter similar problems.

Keywords

Interpretation practice; Western China International Fair; Gile's Effort Mode.

1. Introduction

In the context of modern internationalization, Western China International Fair is an important window for China's opening up to the outside world and has built an important platform for the western region of China to participate in building the "Belt and Road" initiative and deepen exchanges and cooperation with other countries in the world. After 20 years of development, the Fair has become an important and one of the best platforms for opening up the western region to the outside world, for investment promotion, trade cooperation, and diplomatic services in the western region, and an important carrier for the western region to realize east-west cooperation.

The 18th Western China International Fair was held in Chengdu, Sichuan Province from September 16 to 20, 2021. The guest country was Singapore, the rotating chairmanship was the Tibet Autonomous Region, and the theme city was Leshan City, Sichuan Province. The theme of the conference was "China's New Era: New Opportunities in the West". To let more people know more about the Fair, Speaker Qing, a member of the Party Leadership Group and deputy director of the Sichuan Provincial Economic Cooperation Bureau, was interviewed by the provincial government website to exchange with the general public online on the theme of "New Opportunities for the West in a New Era for China". With the advancement of China's globalization, international exchanges are becoming increasingly closer, and dialogue interviews as an important way of communication are also attracting much attention, and dialogue interpretation is also crucial to international exchanges and information of promotional activities.

2. Difficulties and Causes Analysis

2.1. Barriers to Listening Comprehension

In the 1990s, Gile proposed the alternative interpretation distribution model based on the simultaneous energy interpretation distribution model. According to Gile's Effort Model, in the first stage of consecutive interpretation, that is, the process of listening analysis, recording notes, and coordinating notes, the reporter's total listening and discriminating load demand exceed total cognitive load available in the listening and discriminating process. The reporter's weak listening and discriminating ability leads to the failure of interpretation output and the problem of missed interpretation, whose main problems are: First, the reporter is not familiar with some terminology vocabulary and does not understand them. For example, for some idioms and colloquialisms, the reporter is not able to deverbilize the language and grasp the essence of the language in a short time, thus leading to the mistakes of the interpretation.

2.1.1. Difficulties in Comprehending Conceptual Metaphors

The study of metaphor dates back to Aristotle's time. But at that time, scholars considered metaphor as a rhetorical device to make the things mentioned more vivid and easy to understand. It was not until 1980 that two cognitive linguists, Lakoff and Johnson, introduced the theory of conceptual metaphor in their book *Metaphors We Live By*, arguing that the essence of metaphor is to understand and experience something through another kind of thing. In short, the various concepts of metaphor are deeply hidden in our human language system, and the use of various metaphorical expressions in language by humans is only an appearance. Using metaphors can help us better understand the meaning of conversations in certain context, but in the process of interpretation work, it is much more difficult to translate into the target language if the metaphor is presented in the source language.

Example 1-1:

Speaker:

作为服务在川企业发展、助推四川产业升级的经济部门，我们始终当好外来投资企业的“娘家人”，做好项目落地服务“后半篇文章”。

Reporter: As an economic sector to the development of enterprises in Sichuan, to help promote industrial upgrading in Sichuan, we have always been good foreign investment enterprises "mother's family", to do a good job in the project landing services "the second half of the article".

The original meaning of "娘家人" refers to the original family of the woman in the marriage, and in traditional Chinese culture, in marriage, the woman is separated from the original family, thus joining the man's family, leaving the familiar living environment, so women in married life will be happier if the maternal family background is strong, then the woman is less likely to be despised by the man's family in the marriage. In Chinese culture, the maternal family is especially important for the support of women.

By understanding the original text, we can find that the word "娘家人" refers to the supporters of the enterprises developing in Sichuan, expressing the importance the speaker attaches to the enterprises in Sichuan. If you translate the sentence literally, it is easy for the listener to misunderstand, and suddenly talk about relatives instead of discussing the development of enterprises.

"后半篇文章" is a similar situation to "娘家人", it is commonly referred to the second half of a task. And we better finish what we start in a step-by-step manner so that things can be completed successfully. And there is no need to complete the second half of the essay here but to say that finish what you start and follow up on what will happen next step. However, the interpreter did not accurately translate the implicit meaning behind these words.

Example 1-2

Speaker:

今年以来，四川一手抓疫情防控，一手抓经济发展，始终坚持投资唱主角、项目促发。

Reporter: Since this year, Sichuan focused on epidemic prevention and control, and pay attention to economic development at the same time. It has always let investment sing as the leading character and promoted development through projects.

Chinese opera has a long history and has created many different attractive characters, and the most important role in every play is always the main character, which is also called “主角”. “唱主角” means taking the leading position in a play. The original text does not mean “playing a character in an opera”, but a leading role of putting investment in the most important position, so that investment plays a major role in the development process. The interpreter, however, fails to convey this layer of meaning to the listener.

2.1.2. Difficulties in Comprehending Long and Complex Sentences

Sentences are usually regarded as the basic unit of semantic expression, and long sentences appear very frequently in various formal situations. Speakers often use long sentences to express and elaborate their minds. Long sentences contain a lot of information, so they are sometimes difficult to understand and translate. But only by truly understanding long and difficult sentences can we improve the quality of interpretation.

Complex long sentences are usually composed of two or more clauses or subordinate clauses, it is difficult to understand because of the complicated modifying components and a large number of words. And the logical relationship between these clauses is not clear. Therefore, the interpretation gets more difficult. The most important feature of Chinese is that it is an ideographic language. It is usually connected by semantics, but there is no obvious external connection. The structure of Chinese is like “bamboo”, the main structure is not obvious.

Example 2-1

Speaker:

西博会发端于西部大开发，始办于2000年5月，本着“共办、共享、共赢”的办会理念，国家发展改革委、
商
务部、科技部、国家市场监管总局、全国工商联、全国友协、中国贸促会7个部委和四川省人民政府为主办单位。

Reporter: The Western China International Fair started in May 2000 with the concept of “cooperation, sharing, and win-win”. The National Development and Reform Commission, the State Administration for Market Regulation, and the People’s Government of Sichuan Province held this fair together.

As an important part of Chinese expressions, the characteristics of Chinese long and difficult sentences are also embedded in above sentences. Some Chinese literature summarizes the most important characteristics of Chinese long and difficult sentences as meaningfulness and redundancy. This characteristic was also reflected in the interpretation process and therefore posed a certain difficulty to the interpreter.

In this sentence, there are many terms such as departments and organizations: “国家发展改革委、商务部、科技部、国家市场监管总局、全国工商联、全国友协、中国贸促会”，and the speaker does not pause much amid his speaking, so the interpreter missed the names of several organizations in the interpretation, and the target sentence is neither very clear nor coherent, which makes it difficult for the listener to quickly understand the meaning the speaker wants to express.

Example 2-2

Speaker:

今年以来，我们认真贯彻落实全省“稳农业、强工业、促消费、扩内需、抓项目、重创新、畅循环、提质量”24字工作思路。

Reporter: This year, we are committed to stabilizing agriculture, strengthening industry, expanding domestic demand, developing projects, emphasizing innovation, and improving quality.

There are some metaphorical phenomena in English and Chinese culture-loaded words. A correct understanding of these metaphorical phenomena is conducive to improving the overall quality of English-Chinese interpretation and promoting English-Chinese cultural communication. In addition, the traditional Chinese culture has influenced Chinese thoughts, such as the traditional Chinese culture of man being an integral part of nature, focusing on unity, time, and space order. Therefore, listeners often need to rely on their sense of language, cultural background, and context to understand the sentences.

For this example, the eight phrases mentioned in this sentence: “稳农业、强工业、促消费、扩内需、抓项目、重创新、畅循环、提质量” contain much more than 24 words themselves. Each three-word phrase can be extended into a small sentence, and if each group of words is translated into a sentence, then this whole sentence will seem cumbersome, and it is difficult to accurately convey the meaning of the long sentence while ensuring that the information is not lost. Because the interpreter didn't grasp the main idea of this whole sentence, and the target language was misleading for listeners.

2.2. Barriers to Note-taking

Notes play a very important role in the process of interpretation, as they can supplement the lack of information caused by the short-term memory storage capacity of the brain, thus ensuring the accuracy and precision of the interpretation. However, interpreting notes are not dictation or shorthand, rather, they are the basis for the interpreter to grasp the content of the whole passage and process the information heard. The notes are used to prompt and help the interpreter to recall the core content of what he/she heard, and they are an important aid in addition to the interpreter's short-term memory. Interpreting notes are the product of the interpreter's comprehension and logical processing of what he or she has heard, and it is necessary to understand the content of a text under a certain part of speech, and the same is true for memorizing the text. In the activity of alternative interpretation from Chinese to English, English majors mostly use their mother tongue Chinese when taking notes. The most favored notation by interpreters is the arrow symbol, because it is simple and clear and convenient to remember. The combination of articulation and interpretation notes can effectively help the interpreter to convey the source language information heard to the interpreter's audience as completely as possible during the interpretation process.

2.2.1. Logic Confusion of Notes

Due to the big difference in the logical structure of Chinese and English languages, the English language tends to be more logical and the logical relationships are relatively outward, while the Chinese language is relatively less logical, and at the same time its logical relationships are often implicit. English expression is more abstract while Chinese expression is more specific. Therefore, in the process of English-Chinese interpretation practice, due to the influence of the language habits of the output language, the interpreters may miss the related words in the process of note-taking in the interpretation practice, thus causing the logical structure of the notes to be unclear and thus affecting the content of the translated language. In the process of consecutive interpreting, the interpreting notes should have a certain logic, and the interpreting notes are not shorthand, nor are they simply recording words or sentences, but their function is to record information. If the interpreter only records the keywords in the source language with words or symbols during the note-taking process and ignores the inner

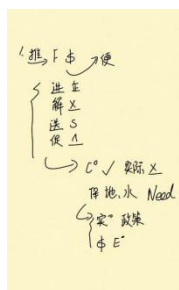
connection, then he or she will not be able to achieve coherence when expressing the translated language. Therefore, it is crucial to reflect the logical structure in the notes.

Example 3-1

Speaker:

一是推动建立外商投资“一体化”服务体系，提升外商投资便利度，扎实开展“进千企、解难题、送服务、促发展”活动，协调解决项目推进中的实际问题，努力保障重大项目用地、水电气以及融资等合理需求，推动各地逐一兑现招商引资优惠政策，营造亲商重商的投资环境。

Reporter: First, promote the establishment of foreign investment “integrated” service system, enhance the convenience of foreign investment, solidly carry out “a thousand enterprises, solve problems, send services, and promote development” activities, coordinate and solve the practical problems in the promotion of the project, and strive to protect the land, water, electricity, and gas of major projects and other reasonable needs. And promote the implementation of preferential policies for attracting investment around the world one by one, to create a business-friendly investment environment.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 1

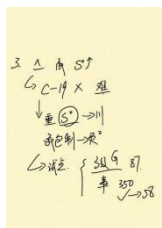
From the notes in Figure 1, we can see that the reporter was a bit flustered when taking notes and did not grasp the logic between the long sentences in Chinese. The sentence “推动建立外商投资一体化服务体系” is a requisite of “提升外商投资便利度”. The reporter did not reflect the recursive relationship between these two sentences in these notes. In addition, “扎实开展进千企、解难题、送服务、促发展活动，协调解决项目推进中的实际问题，努力保障重大项目用地、水电气以及融资等合理需求，推动各地逐一兑现招商引资优惠政策” also serves as a guarantee for “营造亲商重商的投资环境”. The interpreter did not reflect the logical relationship between these sentences in this note, either. So she did not express the implied logical relationship in the target language when interpreting, and only treated these sentences as parallel, losing the meaning that the source language wanted to express.

Example 3-2

Speaker:

三是全系统开展“项目承包制”服务升级活动，因为这也是在去年我们疫情爆发以后，我们走出去招引项目难度加大，这种情况下我们把一个工作重心也放在了怎么样为入川的重大项目服务这方面，我们就是搞了一个建立项目承包制，配备项目承包员的一个活动，在几个市（州）进行试点，省市县三级我们承包了项目87个。

Reporter: Third, we need to upgrade the “project contracting system” service. This is because of the epidemic outbreak last year. In this context, how to serve the major projects in Sichuan. So we are engaged in a project contracting system, equipped with people. And we have piloted in several cities (states). we contracted 87 projects at the provincial, municipal, and county levels.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 2

As can be seen in Figure 2, the interpreter wrote down some words that did not need to be recorded in detail, such as “试点” and “承包制”. The interpreter had difficulty following the speaker’s thoughts when recording information word by word, and although a few details were recorded, the logic of the language as a whole and the information in subsequent sentences were lost. In addition, when the speaker says the word “因为”, there is a high probability that the word “所以” will be mentioned later, but the speaker does not express the word literally, which requires the interpreter to judge the subsequent result according to the content of the speaker’s speech.

In addition, the interpreter did not present the relationship between the “承包员” and the “承包制”. In this note, the reporter only used arrows to point to the “承包员”. This can also lead to misunderstandings in the interpretation process and prevent the interpreter from understanding the notes she has taken.

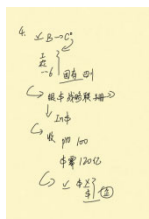
2.2.2. Redundant Notes

In the process of simulated interpretation practice, interpretation notes are not dictation or shorthand, but an auxiliary tool for the interpreter to output the target language via listening, understanding, and grasping the main information in the source language. Interpretation notes is an innovative coding tool based on the logical relation of source language. As interpreters need to process a large amount of information in a short period during the interpretation process, they often lose sight of the key information, and although they do hear the key information, due to time urgency or tension, they will leave out the key words of the information when taking notes, which are used to activate passive memory and help interpreters understand the text. Therefore, the omission of keywords may cause the problem of jamming or missing information in the output of the translated language.

Example 4-1

Speaker: 四是完善银政企合作机制，与工行、农行、邮储银行等6家国有银行四川省分行开展了战略合作，推出《银行金融服务联系手册》，推动银行参与投资。

Reporter: Fourth, improve the cooperation mechanism between banks, governments, and enterprises, and ICBC, Agricultural Bank, Post, and Reserve Bank, and other six state-owned banks in the Sichuan Province branch to carry out strategic cooperation, the launch of the Bank Financial Services promotes the participation of banks in investment promotion.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 3

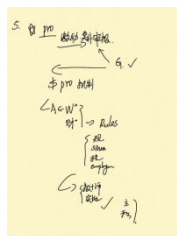
As shown in Figure 3, in the notes taken by the interpreter, although it seems that a lot of information has been written down, the interpreter’s target language output shows that the interpreter has not captured the key information in the sentence, but instead has recorded some less important information, such as “银行金融联系手册”, “国有”. Such phrases do not

need to be recorded completely word by word. Because if the interpreter spends limited time on recording information instead of understanding the source language information and logic of the source language, the interpreter will lose important information during the interpretation process, which in turn causes difficulties for the listener to understand.

Example 4-2

Speaker: 五是严谨客观开展重大项目招商引资激励奖补申报评审工作，这个也是省委省政府对我们招商引资工作高度重视，建立了一个重大招商引资项目机制，按照我们和财政厅共同制定的具体细则，综合考虑了项目规模、到位情况、税收、就业等等各方面因素，进行申报评审和实地考察，落实这些项目。一批重大项目也获得了相关的奖励，这也调动了各地重大产业项目落地工作的主动性和积极性。

Reporter: Fifth, rigorously and objectively carry out investment activities. The government attaches great importance to our investment. They established a major investment project mechanism, by the Department of Finance and ourselves, taking into account the scale of the project, preparation, tax, employment, and other factors, to declare the evaluation and field visits and implement these projects.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 4

As can be seen from Figure 4, although the interpreter effectively classified the source language information in the process of taking notes. Since the interpreter encountered words that are rarely seen in daily practice, and such words are not easy to understand, for example, the phrase “激励奖补申报”. The interpreter wanted to record as much of the information heard as possible and understand the source language information on a textual basis. The interpreter spent much time recording the information, then the key information and logic of the following sentences would be confused, which is not helpful to language output.

2.3. Barriers to Language Output

Automation of language expression is a critical skill in interpreting, and the ability to switch rapidly between two different languages is the key to interpretation. Roger Bell, a British scholar, points out that most linguists recognize that the psycholinguistic model of language production needs to contain a “common structure storage” mechanism, i.e., individual words, phrases, and sentence structures stored in memory can be accessed directly. On this point, he pointed out that this mechanism can instantaneously link meaning to vocabulary in the interpretation process, reducing the storage burden on short-term memory. Thus, it is clear that the instantaneous linking of semantics and vocabulary is a necessary prerequisite for interpretation.

2.3.1. Information Omission in Target Language

In Chinese-English interpretation, the reason for the lack of semantic meaning in the target language is still the unique Chinese sentence structure. Chinese can form sentences without the “subject-predicate” structure, and Chinese phrases in whole sentences do not have the main and subordinate clauses in English. The phrases themselves do not necessarily have the “subject-predicate” structure. Therefore, the Chinese sentence structure is a loose structure between sentence segments, and the components of each phrase are not necessarily complete, but it is semantically complete., so multiple subjects may be hidden or present.

In interpretation, if the missing components of the source language are not complemented, this will result in a lack of information in the translated language, because the syntactic structure of the whole sentence in English must be centered on the “subject-predicate” structure, and the subjects within the sentence must be unified, which is completely different from Chinese. Therefore, a direct interpretation of a loose Chinese sentence will result in an incomplete semantic meaning of the target language. The interpreter needs to find ways to fill in the missing semantics of the sentences. Based on the great differences between the Chinese and English languages and cultures, semantic complementation can be carried out from two perspectives: first, from the perspective of the differences in language organization, to restore the omitted grammatical components of the source language and complete the semantics; second, from the perspective of the differences in language and culture, to explain the Chinese characteristic vocabulary in the target language with the context. This is because words with Chinese cultural characteristics cannot be found in English, and direct interpretation of the source language will cause the problem that the interpretation does not fit the context and cannot faithfully convey the semantics of the source language.

Example 5-1

Speaker: 这个活动作为西博会的一个重要标志性活动之一，已经成功的举办了十届，是展示西部地区整体形象的一个重要平台，已经成为加强西部地区对外开放合作的一个重要载体，成为体现西博会投资促进成果的重要平台。也就是西博会投资促进方面签约成果在这个活动上是一个主要的体现。

Reporter: This event, as one of the important landmark activities of the Western China International Fair, has been successfully held for ten years, as an important platform to show the overall image of the western China region, has become an important platform to strengthen the opening up of the western China region to the outside world, and an important platform to reflect the results of the Western China International Fair investment promotion.

In this sentence, many phrases share one subject, and each phrase is paired with different modifiers. “这个活动” is both the subject of the first sentence and the subject of the next five clauses. In the process of interpretation, it is easy to omit this important subject and use other words instead, resulting in semantic errors. In addition, in the last sentence, the phrase “也就是” has no fixed subject collocation, so it is easy to confuse the subject and lose the key information.

Example 5-2

Speaker: 活动内容方面，从目前反馈的情况看，西藏、重庆、广西、甘肃、青海、宁夏、新疆、新疆生产建设兵团和四川共有9位副省级领导，将作主题演讲，通过这个平台可以全面展示西部地区良好的发展态势和投资前景。

Reporter: For Activity, from the current feedback, Tibet, Chongqing, Guangxi, Gansu, Qinghai, Ningxia, Xinjiang, Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, and Sichuan, a total of nine vice provincial leaders, will make keynote speeches, through this platform, the western China region's good development and investment prospects can be comprehensively displayed.

There are a lot of place names mentioned in this sentence continuously, and the interpreter did not know how to deal with the phrase “生产建设兵团” correctly. In addition, the subject before the phrase “将作主题演讲” is not explicitly mentioned, so it is easy to overlook the proper subject of this sentence. And the last sentence “通过这个平台可以全面展示西部地区良好的发展态势和投资前景” is not closely related to the previous sentences. If you do not grasp the logical relationship between sentences, a lot of information will be lost in the interpretation process. Therefore, in the process of outputting the target language, to convey the original text clearly and coherently, it is necessary to grasp the implied logical relationships between sentences.

2.3.2. Logic Confusion in Target Language

Information logic confusion refers to the speaker improvising without preparation, but the content of the speech is not as clear and logical as the written language.

The blurred logic of the information comes from the difference in the organization of the bilingual language. Compared with English, Chinese does not need logical connectives, or even a complete subject-predicate structure, and can be logically connected by the inherent semantics of information, so Chinese is also a language with heavy parataxis nature. However, in Chinese-English bilingual conversion, the logic of English is explicit, which requires the interpreter to transform the implicit logic of Chinese into the explicit logic of English through various approaches, otherwise, it will cause the problem of incoherent logic and unclear semantic hierarchy in the translated language.

Example 6-1

Speaker: 主宾国将举办新川贸投委第二十二次会议活动，轮值主席单位西藏自治区将举办地球第三极品牌推介会等2场活动，主题市乐山市将举办首届乐山国际美食节、乐山市投资推介暨项目签约仪式等3项活动。

Reporter: The host country will hold the 22nd meeting of the Xinchuan Trade and Investment Committee, the rotating chairman unit of Tibet Autonomous Region will hold 2 events as the Third Pole of the Earth Brand Promotion Conference, and the theme city of Leshan will hold the first Leshan International Food Festival, Leshan City Investment Promotion, and Project Signing Ceremony and other 3 events.

The interpreter did not make clear the juxtaposition of the various activities, and the subject of each type of activity is different, “主宾国” corresponds to “新川贸投委第二十二次会议活动”, in which the interpreter was confused when receiving this information because of the abbreviated form of “新川贸投委”. The expanded form of this phrase should be “新加坡—四川贸易与投资委员会”. Interpreting the phrase “地球第三极” also requires the interpreter to have some background information. “主题市乐山市” actually means “身为主题市的乐山市”, but the interpreter did not pay attention to the relationship between the two words “市” and mistakenly treated the two words as parallel. This is a logical confusion in the output language due to the lack of grasp of the logical relationship between Chinese sentence structures.

Example 6-2

Speaker: 今年我们双方又共同策划，首次在沿海地区开展联合招商，也首创了联合推介这种方式，我们的推介不是说我们重点产业四川怎么样、重庆怎么样，也是我们围绕着四川和重庆的重点发展六大产业，双方分别各自推介3个，每个产业推介把四川和重庆的情况一块推介，这样可以整体展示成渝地区的一些优势产业、产业基础、配套条件和下一步招商方向，让参会者有更清晰的认识和了解。

Reporter: This year, we jointly plan for the first time in the coastal region to carry out joint investment, and it's the first joint promotion in this way, our promotion is not to say that our key industries in Sichuan, Chongqing, but also we focus on the development of Sichuan and Chongqing's key six industries, the two sides each recommended three industries to promote the situation in Sichuan and Chongqing a piece of promotion so that the overall display of Chengdu-Chongqing region can be shown of some advantageous industries, industrial base, supporting conditions, and the next investment direction so that the participants have a clearer understanding and know more about this activity.

This text is more colloquial, so the interpreter needs to pay more attention to the logical relationship between sentences when receiving information in the source language. And when colloquial words appear in the sentences, it is often more important to highlight the accuracy of the interpretative words. Such as “怎么样” and “我们” appear frequently in the source

language, which should be omitted when interpreting, and they should not be brought into the interpretation of the target language, for fear that making the structure of the target language confusing. When interpreting “怎么样”, the interpreter did not grasp the subject of the sentence, thus making the structure of the whole sentence confusing.

3. Solutions

3.1. Strengthening Listening Comprehension

According to Gile's Effort Model, the main purpose of improving listening is to increase the total available cognitive load during listening and discernment, to satisfy the condition that the total available cognitive load exceeds total listening and discernment load demand, to ensure the smooth operation of interpretation practice. If you cannot understand the source language, any interpreting skills are just a paper exercise. When interpreting alternately between Chinese and English, it is precise because language is not just language, but also carries different knowledge and culture behind it. Therefore, if you want to understand the source language content quickly, you need to have a deep understanding of this field of knowledge to ensure that the interpretation work can be carried out smoothly.

Interpreters can strengthen their awareness of improving the total amount of cognitive load available in the process of listening and interpreting through the following points. First, they can develop the good habit of reading extensively and sort out the background knowledge under the relevant topics with the help of logical framework diagrams in the process of reading. At the same time, when reading parallel texts and encountering specialized vocabulary that you do not understand, you should promptly look it up on the Internet and organize it well to accumulate it in your “background knowledge pool”. Second, you should understand the linguistic characteristics of Chinese, and master the lexical and syntactic rules of Chinese, as well as the linguistic style characteristics of a certain style of writing. By memorizing some representative articles of certain genres, you can enrich your Chinese vocabulary and language database. Third, you can actively listen to Chinese audio, analyze the audio content while listening, and focus on the logical trend of vocabulary, inter-sentence, and paragraphs.

3.1.1. Shifting Metaphorical Images

The interpretation process of metaphor is a complex thinking process. It is certain that without profound and diversified thinking, metaphor interpretation cannot correctly convey cultural information, or reflect the cultural imagery of the original text. To interpret Chinese metaphors in English, using and understanding Chinese metaphors is only the first step of our thinking process, and finding English metaphorical expressions that are consistent with the connotation of Chinese metaphors is the second step. To ensure the quality of Chinese-English metaphorical interpretation, we need the third step of metaphorical interpretation, which is to check whether the metaphorical cultural imagery of the original text has been transferred to the interpretation. Due to the difference in cultural backgrounds between Chinese and English, there are inevitable situations where the conceptual mapping is not possible or difficult to be equivalent in the two languages, so the metaphorical imagery can be converted in the interpretation by replacing the source language's imagery with the target language's imagery which is similar to its meaning expression, to achieve the purpose of conversion and make the metaphor in the target language conform to the target readers' cognition and easier to understand.

The difference between Chinese and English languages is obvious, so in the interpretation of metaphors, there is a situation that “the same concept cannot produce equivalent cognitive experience for the target language readers”. In this case, we can adopt the strategy of deleting the metaphorical imagery in the interpretation, and use explanatory language to help the target language readers understand the real meaning of the metaphor.

Example 1-1 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

作为服务在川企业发展、助推四川产业升级的经济部门，我们始终当好外来投资企业的“娘家人”，做好项目落地服务“后半篇文章”。

Reporter: As an economic sector, we served the enterprises and upgrading industries in Sichuan, we have always given the priority to foreign-invested enterprises and followed up on the development of the implemented projects.

Based on understanding the information in the original text, the interpreter interpreted the word “娘家人” as “given the priority to foreign-invested enterprises” and “后半篇文章” as “follow up the development of the implemented projects”. The interpreter explained the metaphorical meaning in the original text and interpreted it into the target language so that the audience could understand it easily.

Example 1-2 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

今年以来，四川一手抓疫情防控，一手抓经济发展，始终坚持投资唱主角、项目促发展。

Reporter: Since this year, Sichuan focused on epidemic prevention and control, and pay attention to economic development at the same time. It has always taken investment as the leading position and promoted development through projects.

In this sentence, the interpreter did not interpret the phrase “唱主角” to “sing the main role”, but shifted it into “占主导地位”, which is better understood by those who do not have traditional Chinese cultural background information.

3.1.2. Improving Short-term Memory

According to Gile's Effort Model, the main purpose of training memory ability is to satisfy the three inequalities of “available cognitive load during short-term memory exceeds short-term memory load demand” and “available cognitive load during coordination exceeds coordination load demand” so that the total available cognitive load is less than auditory load demand plus note taking load plus memory load demand plus coordination load demand. The total amount of available cognitive load is less than auditory load demand plus recording load demand plus memory load demand plus coordination load demand, so that the interpretation task can be carried out smoothly.

Consecutive interpreting has high requirements on the memory ability of interpreters, but the memory ability of interpreters can be improved through memory training.

Example 2-1 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

西博会发端于西部大开发，始办于2000年5月，本着“共办、共享、共赢”的办会理念，国家发展改革委、商务部、科技部、国家市场监管总局、全国工商联、全国友协、中国贸促会7个部委和四川省人民政府为主办单位。

Reporter: The 18th Western China International Fair started in May 2000 with the concept of “cooperation, sharing, and win-win”. It was organized by the National Development and Reform Commission, the Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Science and Technology, the State Administration for Market Regulation, the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce, the National Friendship Association, and the People's Government of Sichuan Province.

Interpreting learners should also be clear: the ultimate goal of strengthening memory training is to use the brain to remember what the brain needs to remember, which also requires interpreters to listen to the information while building up the logical direction of the chapter in their minds and to think about how the source language content is interpreted into another language by breaking down and reorganizing the information and detaching from the source

language shell. In this sentence, the interpreter mainly captures the names of the eight organizations, using notes as an aid to writing down the keywords of each organization for subsequent interpretation. So the main idea of this whole sentence can be figured out clearly by the interpreter.

Example 2-2 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

今年以来，我们认真贯彻落实全省“稳农业、强工业、促消费、扩内需、抓项目、重创新、畅循环、提质量”24字工作思路，

Reporter: This year, we are committed to the 24-word vision of “stabilizing agriculture, strengthening industry, promoting consumption, expanding domestic demand, developing projects, focusing on innovation, circulating circulation, and improving quality”.

The first thing that interpreters should clarify is that the memory of consecutive interpreting is a combination of mental memory and notes. Logical source language content needs to be memorized by the brain, and illogical source language content needs to be noted, such as numbers, terminologies, document names, and report names. Secondly, while reading the notes, interpreters need to use their brains to establish connections between the contents of the notes and speculate and analyze the information in the notes.

It is difficult to memorize these 24 words in a short period, which requires interpreters to be familiar with the text of government work reports and be able to convert individual Chinese characters in a sentence into corresponding verbs in a limited time. And the interpreter also needs a lot of practice and preparation.

3.1.3. Improving Short-term Memory

According to Gile's Effort Model, the main purpose of training memory ability is to satisfy the three inequalities of “available cognitive load during short-term memory exceeds short-term memory load demand” and “available cognitive load during coordination exceeds coordination load demand” so that the total available cognitive load is less than auditory load demand plus note taking load plus memory load demand plus coordination load demand. The total amount of available cognitive load is less than auditory load demand plus recording load demand plus memory load demand plus coordination load demand, so that the interpretation task can be carried out smoothly.

Consecutive interpreting has high requirements on the memory ability of interpreters, but the memory ability of interpreters can be improved through memory training.

3.2. Improving Note-taking Skills

According to Gile's Effort Model, the main purpose of improving the interpretation note system is to help interpreters reduce the memory burden of the brain in the process of interpretation, avoid misinterpretation and omission, and satisfy the two inequalities of “available cognitive load in the process of note-taking exceeds note-taking load demand” and “the total amount of available cognitive load is less than the amount of listening and discriminating load plus the amount of recording load plus the amount of memory load plus the amount of coordination load” to ensure the smooth operation of interpretation practice. Therefore, interpreters need to clarify the purpose of writing interpretation notes, the principles of writing interpretation notes, and the way of practicing interpretation notes to improve the interpretation note system and the ability to write interpretation notes.

3.2.1. Establishing Note-taking Systems

In alternative interpretation, proper note-taking is an effective supplement to short-term memory and an important auxiliary tool to ensure the smooth operation of interpretation. Interpreters should follow the following principles when writing interpretation notes: First, write less and draw more, that is, reduce the number of Chinese characters and increase the

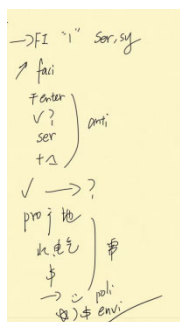
number of lines drawn, for example: “development”, “increase”, “improvement”, for this type of vocabulary, it can be expressed by rising, falling arrows. Second, fewer words with more meanings, that is, one Chinese character represents more meaning behind it. For example: “改革开放” can be represented by “改”, and “社会主义” can be represented by “社”. Third, fewer lines and more fingers, which means using a set of lines to express different logical relationships. Further, it can also reduce the number of Chinese strokes, clarify the order of Chinese strokes, and write them in one stroke as much as possible to reduce the time of writing notes. Thus, to continuously improve the efficiency of writing interpretation notes and ensure the smooth performance of interpretation work, interpreters need to deepen their knowledge of the above principles in the process of writing interpretation notes.

Example 3-1 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

一是推动建立外商投资“一体化”服务体系，提升外商投资便利度，扎实开展“进千企、解难题、送服务、促发展”活动，协调解决项目推进中的实际问题，努力保障重大项目用地、水电气以及融资等合理需求，推动各地逐一兑现招商引资优惠政策，营造亲商重商的投资环境。

Reporter: First, we need to promote the establishment of foreign investment integrated service system, enhance the convenience of foreign investment, solidly carry out “entering a thousand enterprises, solving difficult problems, providing services, and promoting development” activities, deal with the practical problems in the promotion of the project, and strive to protect the land, water, electricity, and gas of major projects and other reasonable needs, to promote the implementation of preferential policies for attracting investment around the world and create a business-centered and business-friendly investment environment.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 5

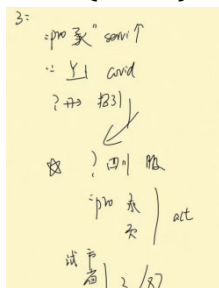
As shown in Figure 5, in the improved version of the notes, the interpreter used letters instead of full English words, such as “ser” instead of “service” and “pro” instead of “project”. The interpreter tried not to use Chinese characters such as “服” or “项”, technologically, writing just the Chinese character component like “月” or “工” will also work out. And the overall notes were more concise, with fewer Chinese characters appearing and more symbols or letters used to record information, which saved a lot of time and recorded more information so that there would be less missed information when interpreting.

Example 3-2 (Improved Version)

Speaker: 三是全系统开展“项目承包制”服务升级活动，因为这也是在去年我们疫情爆发以后，我们走出去招引项目难度加大，这种情况下我们把一个工作重心也放在了怎么样为入川的重大项目服务这方面，我们就是搞了一个建立项目承包制，配备项目承包员的一个活动，在几个市（州）进行试点，省市县三级我们承包了项目87个。

Reporter: Third, we need to upgrade the “project contracting system” service. This is because, in the wake of the epidemic outbreak last year, it’s more difficult for us to attract projects. In this context, we focus on how to serve the major projects in Sichuan. So we are engaged in a

project contracting system, equipped with project contractors. And we have piloted in several cities (states). we contracted 87 projects at the provincial, municipal, and county levels.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 6

As seen in Figure 6, the interpreters used more arrows and symbols in these notes, put the parallel statements together in brackets, and indicated the logical relationship between the sentences with arrows as well. Instead of recording information such as “承包制” and “承包员” word by word, the interpreters used only one Chinese character instead, saving the time of recording notes, omitting the colloquial content, finding the hidden logical relationship between sentences, and striving to make the target language as faithful to the original as possible.

3.2.2. Avoiding Repeated Information

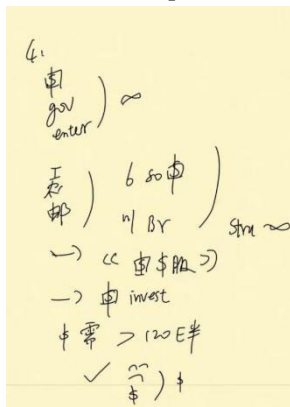
Interpreters should make it clear that interpretation notes play an auxiliary role in memorizing the content of the source language, and in the process of interpretation, interpreters write interpretation notes for interpretation, not to retell the source language. The requirements for writing interpretation notes are not the same as those for the recording of meetings. The interpretation notes do not need to record the source language content word by word but need to analyze and process the source language content in the process of recording interpretation notes so that the interpreters can achieve the goal of a flexible interpretation of the source language through deverbilization.

Example 4-1 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

四是完善银政合作机制，与工行、农行、邮储银行等6家国有银行四川省分行开展了战略合作，推出《银行金融服务联系手册》，推动银行参与投资。

Reporter: Fourth, we need to improve the cooperation mechanism between banks, governments and enterprises, and work together with ICBC, Agricultural Bank, Postal Savings Bank and other six state-owned banks in Sichuan Province branch. At the same time, we can issue the Bank Financial Contact Services Pamphlet to promote the participation of banks in investment promotion.



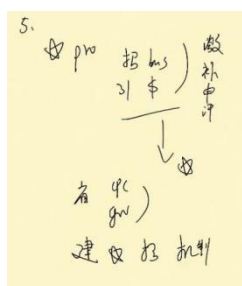
Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 7

For Figure 7, the interpreter put more effort into shorthand in the improved version of the notes, recording information that she did not understand quickly, and also using symbols as much as possible. The interpreter used “《》” to indicate “pamphlet”. Besides, Many bank names are also recorded with only one Chinese character, and “推出”, “开展”, and “推动” are all represented by the same symbol “∞”, which also allows for an accurate understanding of the source language information.

Example 4-2 (Improved Version)

Speaker: 五是严谨客观开展重大项目招商引资激励奖补申报评审工作，这个也是省委省政府对我们招商引资工作高度重视，建立了一个重大招商引资项目机制，按照我们和财政厅共同制定的具体细则，综合考虑了项目规模、到位情况、税收、就业等等各方面因素，进行申报评审和实地考察，落实这些项目。

Reporter: Fifth, we need to carry out incentive award declarations and evaluations in major projects to attract investment. The provincial Party committee and government attach great importance to our investment. They provided a major investment project mechanism, by the specific rules jointly developed by the Department of Finance and ourselves, taking into account the scale of the project, preparation, tax revenue, employment, and other factors, to declare the evaluation and field visits and implement these projects.



Consecutive Interpretation Notes Image 8

In this improved version of the notes, the interpreter omitted a lot of information indicating “重大” and used only the pentagram symbol to replace the meaning of it. For example, the phrases “重大项目”, “高度重视” and “重大招商引资项目” are repetitive, so it is not necessary to record them in detail every time you encounter them, the symbol of the pentagram can be used instead. In addition, for example, “.....因素”, “.....工作”, “.....机制” and other nouns, can also be omitted. Because the key point of each sentence focuses on the verb, as long as we can understand the meaning of the sentence by grasping the verb and the subject, the nouns at the end of the sentence can be interpreted without being reflected in the notes, or even omitted during interpretation, and we can also interpret the basic information of the source language.

3.3. Enhancing Interpreting Ability

According to Gile’s Effort Model, the main purpose of improving expression ability is to meet the requirements of interpretation practice activities and to improve the fluency and accuracy of interpretation.

3.3.1. Reorganizing Information During Deverbalization

Interpretative Theory believes that the semantic equivalence of source language and target language is the ultimate goal of interpretation. “Deverbalization” is the core point of the interpretative theory. The cognitive and emotional meaning generated by the language symbols is a leap over the language symbols. It is the central task of the interpreter to get rid of the constraints of the source language form, reorganize the structure of the source language, and realize the faithful transmission of the semantics, to achieve the communicative purpose. The interpretation theory explains it as the interpretation process of “deverbalization”, which is

located in the necessary intermediate stage between understanding the content of the source language and restating the target language.

The essence of information exchange is to put known information in front and unknown information in the back according to human habits of understanding and processing information, to link the logical connection between semantics and make the translated language more easily understood by the audience.

Example 5-1 (Improved Version)

Speaker: 这个活动作为西博会的一个重要标志性活动之一，已经成功的举办了十届，是展示西部地区整体形象的一个重要平台，已经成为加强西部地区对外开放合作的一个重要载体，成为体现西博会投资促进成果的重要平台。也就是西博会投资促进方面签约成果在这个活动上是一个主要的体现。

Reporter: This event, as one of the important landmark activities of the 18th Western China International Fair, has been successfully held for ten years, it is an important platform to show the overall image of the western China region. It has become an important carrier to strengthen the opening up of the western China region, and an important platform to reflect the results of the 18th Western China International Fair investment promotion. The results of the signings in investment promotion were a major manifestation of this event.

In interpretation practice that the reason why interpreters cannot interpret mechanically word-for-word is, for one thing, because bilingual conversion is restricted by the difference in expression habits of the two languages, and it is difficult to achieve the interpretation goal of meaning equivalence without breaking the form of the source language; for another, it is because interpreters are gradually overloaded with cognitive pressure in the process of interpretation, and they need to master more effective methods of source language decoding to improve the information processing. The need to master more effective source language decoding methods, improve information processing ability, and reduce cognitive pressure.

In the improved interpretation, the interpreter not only added the subject of each sentence but also reorganized the last sentence of the speaker, which said “也就是西博会投资促进方面签约成果在这个活动上是一个主要的体现”. What the speaker wants to express is “投资促进方面的签约成果在这个活动（第十一届中国西部投资说明会）上是一个主要的体现”. To interpret this sentence accurately, the interpreter must analyze the speaker's content and find out what the speaker wants to express.

Example 5-2 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

活动内容方面，从目前反馈的情况看，西藏、重庆、广西、甘肃、青海、宁夏、新疆、新疆生产建设兵团和四川共有9位副省级领导，将作主题演讲，通过这个平台可以全面展示西部地区良好的发展态势和投资前景。

Reporter: In terms of activity, from the current feedback, nine vice provincial leaders from Tibet, Chongqing, Guangxi, Gansu, Qinghai, Ningxia, Xinjiang, Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps, and Sichuan, will make keynote speeches, through this platform, the western China region's good momentum for development and investment prospects can be comprehensively displayed.

In this sentence, first of all, it is a problem for an interpreter to record nine place names. And because of the different language order in Chinese and English, if this sentence is interpreted in English, the sentence order should be “9位副省级领导，分别来自西藏、重庆、广西、甘肃、青海、宁夏、新疆、新疆生产建设兵团和四川，将作主题演讲”，but in limited time, the interpreter has already interpreted the places first, so if the interpreter wants the target language to conform to its language expression

habits, he or she needs to reorganize the source language information before interpreting to let the audience understand the information.

3.3.2. Simplifying Target Language

The phenomenon of information redundancy is naturally present in human languages. Interpretive Theory holds that the task of interpretation is to accomplish cross-linguistic communication. Therefore, interpreters are bound to deal with redundant information in the application of information restructuring strategies. For colloquial expression interpretation, we should pay attention to fully understanding the expression meaning and purpose of the source language, and then deal with the translated sentences succinctly, so as to reduce the obstacles to the audience's understanding caused by the impact of large amounts of information. To ensure that the target language output does not get stuck, the interpreter will use semantic repetition of linguistic expressions, such as repetition of the same word or phrase, repetition of synonyms or phrases, etc. This means of information compensation allows the receiver of the information to understand the content of the explanation as correctly as possible, but at the same time constitutes redundant information that needs to be discarded in the process of reorganizing the interpretation information.

Interpreters can omit and compress the redundant information that needs to be streamlined and remain the main content. The information reorganization strategy of streamlining information can cope with the phenomenon of redundant information in the target language that appears in this practice.

Example 6-1 (Improved Version)

Speaker: 主宾国将举办新川贸投委第二十二次会议活动，轮值主席单位西藏自治区将举办地球第三极品牌推介会等2场活动，主题市乐山市将举办首届乐山国际美食节、乐山市投资推介暨项目签约仪式等3项活动。

Reporter: The host country will hold the 22nd meeting of the Singapore Trade & Investment Committee. The rotating chairman of Tibet Autonomous Region will hold 2 events such as the Third Pole of the Earth Brand Promotion Conference, and the theme city of Leshan will hold three events, such as the first Leshan International Food Festival, Leshan City Investment Promotion, and Project Signing Ceremony.

In the improved version, the interpreter omitted the word “单位” in the phrase “轮值主席单位西藏自治区”, because the word “单位” itself refers to “西藏自治区”, so if it is repeatedly interpreted, the information will be redundant instead. In addition. The interpreter put “等3项活动” before the whole sentence, otherwise, it would not match the information in the original text, and it would become “首届乐山国际美食节、乐山市投资推介暨项目签约仪式” plus other three events. But the original text means that there are three events in total. The next two events, “首届乐山国际美食节、乐山市投资推介暨项目签约仪式” followed by examples, would not cause ambiguity.

Example 6-2 (Improved Version)

Speaker:

今年我们双方又共同策划，首次在沿海地区开展联合招商，也首创了联合推介这种方式，我们的推介不是说我们重点产业四川怎么样、重庆怎么样，也是我们围绕着四川和重庆的重点发展六大产业，双方分别各自推介3个，每个产业推介把四川和重庆的情况一块推介，这样可以整体展示成渝地区的一些优势产业、产业基础、配套条件和下一步招商方向，让参会者有更清晰的认识和了解。

Reporter: This year, we cooperated for the joint investment in the coastal region for the first time, and it's the first complementation of joint promotion. Our promotion is not about key

industries in Sichuan or Chongqing but focuses on the cooperation between Sichuan and Chongqing's six key industries. The two sides respectively recommended three industries, and every industry could introduce the development of Chongqing and Sichuan as a whole. So that the overall advantageous industries, industrial base, supporting conditions, and the next investment direction can be fully displayed. And the participants would have a clearer understanding of their prospects.

To make the target language more concise, the interpreter omitted the interpretation of “怎么样” twice in the improved version, as well as the subject “我们”, which appeared several times in this sentence. The interpreter use the preposition “about” to replace “怎么样”, and omitted a few words in the speaker's colloquial expressions, such as “不是说”, “也是”, “各自分别”, “了解和认识”, which would make the interpretation of the target language clearer.

4. Conclusion and Recommendations

This report is based on the 2021 interview on the Sichuan government website of the 18th Western China International Fair. This chapter will give a summary of the reporter in terms of interpreting difficulties and solutions. And the reporter will put forward corresponding recommendations.

4.1. Conclusions

The simulated interpreting practice is a good way to restore the atmosphere of the real interpreting task, which is a great exercise for the reporter's mental and physical qualities.

This simulated interpretation project is a great challenge and valuable experience for the interpreter. In this process, the main difficulties encountered by the interpreter can be divided into the following three aspects: Listening comprehension, note-taking, and language output.

First of all, inadequate training in long and complex sentences and a lack of metaphorical knowledge are the root causes of barriers to listening comprehension. Secondly, without systematical note-taking skills, the reporter failed to record logical notes during interpretation. Thirdly, The reporter had difficulty in deverbilizing source language. And this leads to redundant information about the target language.

To tackle all these challenges, the reporter should shift metaphorical images and promote short-term memory. The more important fact is that the reporter needs to establish note-taking systems to record logical notes and avoid repeated information in notes. Last but not the least, in terms of the illogical expression in the interpretation, reorganizing information during deverbilization is a proper way to simplify the target language.

4.2. Recommendations

In the future, the reporter will continue to study interpretation theory, strengthen the training in interpretation skills, and I hope that the following suggestions can be used for other interpreters online or interview interpreting projects.

To begin with, it is important to make adequate preparation before the interpretation. For example, interpreters must gather background information about the participants, interpretation topics, and other related information. If interpreters don't get enough background information, likely, the interpreter may not be able to interpret the relevant terminologies during the interpretation process.

Second, the daily practice needs to be highlighted. We all know that practice makes perfect. Interpretation work is no exception. Interpreters should keep up with updated news. The practice and challenges experienced by interpreters will become the solutions to problems that they might encounter in real interpretation scenarios.

Finally, interpreters should pay more attention to the study of interpretation theory and skills. Our predecessors have provided us with very valuable experiences. Interpreters should leverage these to improve their interpreting ability. Furthermore, they need confidence and good physical fitness to do the job of interpretation.

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