PROGRAM GOAL AND OBJECTIVES

This workbook of exercises and activities accompanies the training manual, The Language of Justice: Interpreting for Legal Services and its trainer’s guide. This workbook is not intended for use independently of The Language of Justice program.

Note: The interpreter is often referred to in these exercises as “she/her” to avoid the awkward use of “he or she” or “him or her.”

GOAL
To train community, legal and court interpreters to interpret for nonprofit legal services providers.

UNIT I PROCEDURES AND ETHICS (7 hours)

Objective 1: The interpreter will discuss the requirements for legal interpreters.
Objective 2: The interpreter will exhibit a sound understanding of relevant codes of ethics.
Objective 3: The interpreter will demonstrate the correct application of a code of ethic and standards of practice to ethical dilemmas and simulated encounters.

UNIT II LINGUISTIC MEDIATION (7 hours)

Objective 1: The interpreter will demonstrate sound decision-making about when and how to provide linguistic mediation.
Objective 2: The interpreter will model the steps for linguistic mediation.
Objective 3: The interpreter will develop linguistic mediation techniques and strategies.

UNIT III INTERPRETING FOR LEGAL SERVICES (6 hours)

Objective 1: The interpreter will demonstrate knowledge of the U.S. legal system.
Objective 2: The interpreter will model how to handle requests from clients and attorneys.
Objective 3: The interpreter will review the terminology required for non-courtroom legal interpreting.

FINAL ASSESSMENT (1 hour)

A written assessment will evaluate participants’ knowledge of the curriculum.
UNIT I  PROCEDURES AND ETHICS

Exercise I-a  Legal Interpreting Quiz  30 minutes

Circle True or False for each question. Then specify why you marked True or False.

1. Legal interpreters may perform cultural mediation (culture brokering).  
Why or why not? ____________________________________________
   T  F

2. Court interpreting is a subdivision of legal interpreting.  
Why or why not? ____________________________________________
   T  F

3. Legal interpreting and community interpreting are very similar professions.  
Why or why not? ____________________________________________
   T  F

4. Legal interpreters are required to interrupt a session to ask about the meaning of a  
   term that is unclear to the interpreter.  
   Why or why not? ____________________________________________
   T  F

5. Legal interpreters should not speak to an attorney’s client alone after the interpreted  
   encounter.  
   Why or why not? ____________________________________________
   T  F

6. Legal interpreting is part of community interpreting.  
   Why or why not? ____________________________________________
   T  F