

Tips for taking the UN Interpreters Exam

1. However difficult the statements become, do not stop interpreting. The purpose of this exam is to test not only your accuracy but also your technique and your ability to cope with a challenging speaker.
2. Do your best to complete your sentences.
3. When you are not sure of a word or a nuance try to remain neutral. Do not invent to cover up what you missed or to compensate for it.
4. If you are interpreting into Arabic, feel free to use English/French acronyms when applicable.
5. Two instances of contre-sens (the opposite meaning of what the speaker said) are eliminatory.
6. If the original sentence is too long or too complex, reduce your sentences to shorter manageable meaning units.
7. A simple technique that produces accurate interpretation is preferable to an elaborate linguistic structure that could compromise the rest of your sentence.