

Translation Practices Explained

ANDREW GILLIES

Note-Taking For Consecutive Interpreting

A Short Course

SECOND EDITION



Note-taking for Consecutive Interpreting

Note-taking for Consecutive Interpreting: A Short Course is the essential step-by-step guide to the skill of note-taking. The system, made up of a range of tried and tested techniques, is simple to learn, consistent and efficient. Each chapter presents a technique, with examples, tasks and exercises. This second edition has been extensively revised throughout, including:

- an updated chapter on speech analysis
- new chapters on comparisons and links
- revised example speeches and notes
- a summary of other authors' note-taking guidelines for comparison and reference (Part III).

The author uses English throughout – explaining how and where to locate material for other languages – thus providing a sound basis for all those working in the areas of conference interpreting and consecutive interpreting in any language combination. This user-friendly guide is a particularly valuable resource for student interpreters, professionals looking to refresh their skills and interpreter trainers looking for innovative ways of approaching note-taking.

Andrew Gillies is an interpreter-trainer, a trainer of interpreter-trainers and gives skills enhancement courses for freelance and staff interpreters for both the International Association of Conference Interpreters (AIIC) and the European Parliament. He is also the creator of the website Interpreter Training Resources (<http://interpreters.free.fr/>), which is one of the key references in the conference interpreter training field. He is also the author of *Conference Interpreting: A Student's Practice Book* (Routledge, 2013) and has translated Rozan's seminal *La Prise de Notes* into English.

Translation Practices Explained

Series Editor: Kelly Washbourne, *Kent State University, USA*

Translation Practices Explained is a series of coursebooks designed to help self-learners and students on translation and interpreting courses. Each volume focuses on a specific aspect of professional translation practice, usually corresponding to courses available in translator-training institutions. The authors are practicing translators or translator trainers. Although specialists, they explain their professional insights in a manner accessible to the wider learning public.

Each volume includes activities and exercises designed to help learners consolidate their knowledge, while updated reading lists and website addresses will also help individual learners gain further insight into the realities of professional practice.

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More often than not, the “greats” will tell you that consecutive interpretation cannot be learnt and that note-taking depends upon the personality of the interpreter. I am afraid my own experience shows otherwise. If the fundamentals . . . are in place then note-taking can easily be learnt.

Rozan, 2003:11 [1956:9]

The oft repeated argument that notes are an entirely personal affair, and the implicit suggestion that they cannot therefore be taught, does not hold water.

Andres, 2000:58

[D]ecades of research . . . has made it abundantly clear that students can and will profit from a structured conscious and systematic introduction into note-taking as a seminal skill in consecutive interpreting.

Dingfelder, 2015:165



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