

- Universidad de Málaga

Conference interpreting: challenges and rewards



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Assumptions on Learners' Command of Interpreting Skills

- Superior Command of Working Languages
- Information Processing Skills
- Public-speaking Skills
- Self monitoring Skills
- Discipline - Flexibility
- Willingness to be a Life-long Learner

Further Assumptions (cognitive functions)

- Background Knowledge of Topic
- Anticipation
- Active Listening
- Memory (representational, procedural, intellectual, emotional)
- Meaning Unit Identification
- Monitored Language Switch
- Split Attention
- ... UNDER PRESSURE

Language learners human beings & social agents

Language activities

- Reception
- Production
- Interaction
- Mediation

Communicative Language

- Linguistic
- Sociolinguistic
- Pragmatic

General

- Knowledge
- Skills
- Existential
- Ability to learn

Strategies

Task



**Center for the Advancement of Distinguished Language
Proficiency (ADLP)**

General comprehension

Strategic competence

Discourse competence

Structural competence

Lexical competence

Fluency

Attentional focus

Sociolinguistic competence

Sociocultural competence

Emotional Competence

THE ALIGNMENT OF TYPES OF LANGUAGE WITH PROFICIENCY & PERFORMANCE

PROFICIENCY  PERFORMANCE

GENERAL LANGUAGE  WORK-RELATED LANGUAGE  JOB-SPECIFIC LANGUAGE

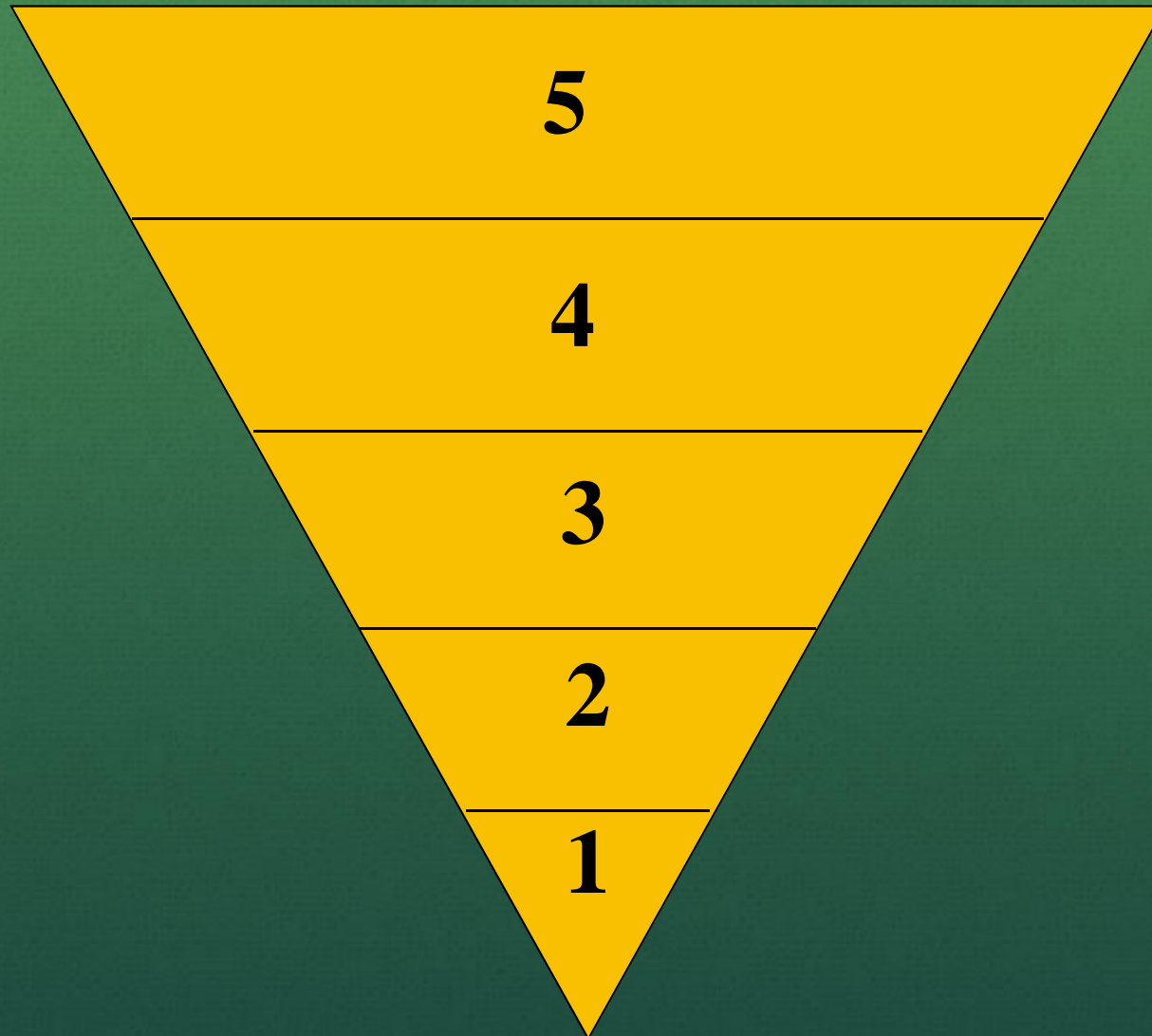
Bloom's Taxonomy

- **Evaluation** and persuasion through refined use of professional, literary, and rhetorical skills.
- **Synthesis** of concepts to produce and comprehend abstract ideas and hypothetical situations.
- **Analysis** and definition of factual relationships in paragraph length communications.
- **Application** of skills to create and understand new communications.
- **Comprehension** and use of words and phrases.
- **Memorization** of facts.

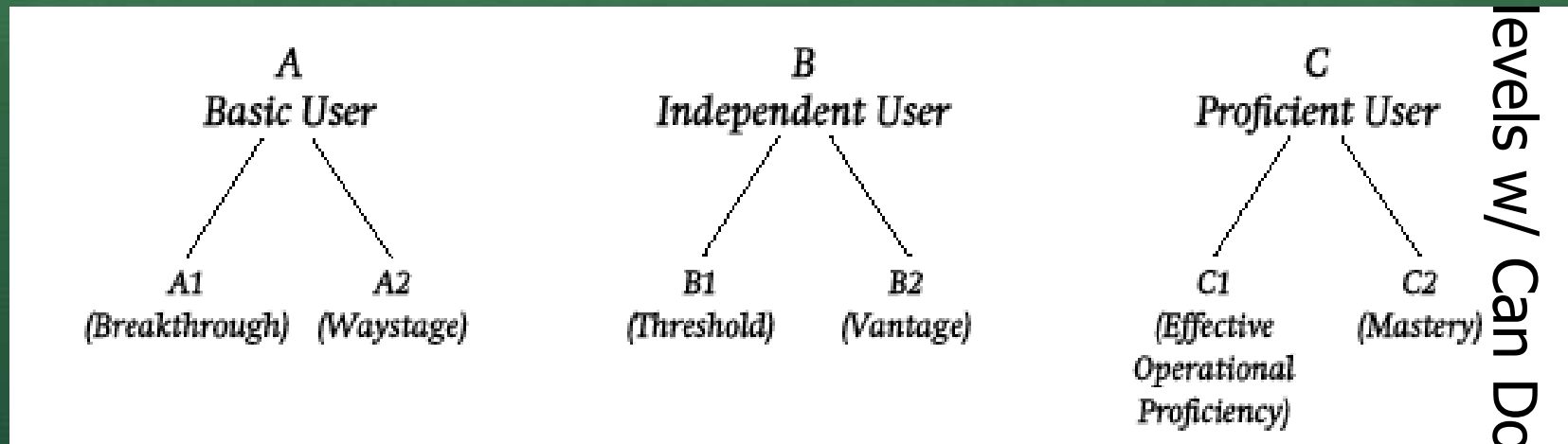
Bloom' s Taxonomy

- Levels 4 & 5, evaluation and persuasion through refined use of professional rhetorical skills.
- Level 3, synthesis of concepts to produce and comprehend abstract ideas and hypothetical situations.
- Level 2, analysis and definition of factual relationships in paragraph length communications.
- Level 1, application of skills to create and understand new communications.
- Level 0+, comprehension and use of words and phrases.
- Level 0, memorization of facts.

Proficiency Scale



Common European Framework



Conference in Samoa



G-20 Conference Los Cabos- Mexico



Challenges before the conference

- Individual practice techniques
- Logistics
- Preparation

Individual practice of techniques - skills associated with interpreting

- Top command language
- Ability to process information
- Ability to speak in public
- Ability to self-control
- Discipline - Flexibility
- Willingness to learn throughout life

More skills

- Knowledge of Topic
- Anticipation
- Active listening
- Memory (Representational, procedural, intellectual, emotional)
- Identification of units of meaning
- Language shift monitoring
- Divided attention
- ... UNDER PRESSURE

Challenges before the conference

- Logistics

Organizer

Contract – AICC type

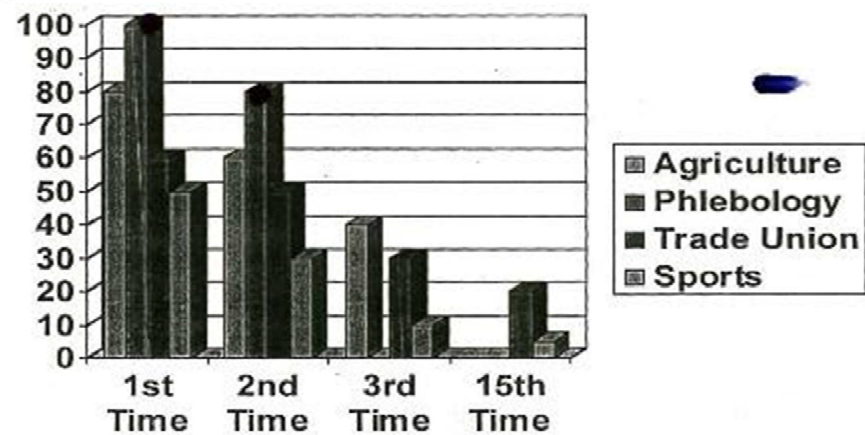
Colleagues

Travel

Challenges before the conference - Preparation

Principles of Interpretation

◆ PREPARATION IS THE KEY



Challenges before the conference – Preparation

Learning the concepts

Learning the terminology

Challenges during the conference

- Time management
- Accents
- Speed
- Understanding the speaker / theme
- Problems of terminology
- Numbers
- Presentation

Rewards

- Be useful
- Travel
- Meet personalities
- Lifelong learning

Rewards - Travelling



Professional Experience

- Interpretation (since 1977)
 - in 5 continents
 - from 1 tribal chief to 40+ Presidents, PM, and from Cats and Dogs Food (IAMS) to yam
 - private and public sectors
 - domestic and international organizations (OEA, IDB, ADB, UNICEF, UNESCO, ILO, FAO, NATO, INTERPOL, WFP, G20)
 - From 1 to 50,000 – and over the web
 - Face-to-face to satellite



Professional Experience

- Translation (since 1977)
 - in 5 continents
 - from MS Word, to Pest and Disease of Cowpea, to Credit Union Handbooks for Senegal
 - private and public sector
 - domestic and international organizations



Faculty Positions since 1980

- Undergraduate and Graduate Levels
 - Venezuela
 - Universidad Central de Venezuela -UCV
 - Korea
 - Hankuk University of Foreign Studies -HUFS
 - United States
 - Monterey Institute of International Studies –MIIS
 - San Diego State University



From Presidents to Prime Ministers



Rewards - Meet personalities



Rewards - Meet personalities





Thank you !

Questions ?