


Challenges in Interpreting Psychological Assessments with Deaf Clients

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Overview

- ▶ Review matrixes of several tests
 - ▶ Dialogue regarding interpreting challenges
 - ▶ Review Models of interpreting
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Psychometric Tests for Deaf clients

- ▶ Few psychometric tests or standardized assessments have been validated on the Deaf population.(Cromwell 2005, Deafness and the art of psychometric testing)

Psychologists

- ▶ Compiles data for input
- ▶ Provides instructions on the test.
- ▶ Sets the context so it flows.
- ▶ Requires less memory

Interpreters

- ▶ Contextual interpreting
- ▶ Adapting linear thinking to visual thinking
- ▶ Set the context so it flows.(i.e. In questions response areas
- ▶ Requires lots of memory




Matrixes

Beck Depression Scale
Burns Anxiety Inventory
Wechsler Intelligence Scale

Models of Interpreting

- ▶ Linguistic mode – word for word translation (Cushing,2003 and Tribe,1998)
- ▶ Psychotherapeutic or constructionist mode- - meaning and feeling are most important and the interpreter is primarily concerned with meaning to be conveyed rather than word for word.(Tribe,1998b,Raval,2003)
- ▶ Cultural Broker/bicultural worker where the interpreter interprets not only the spoken word but also relevant cultural and contextual variables.


Beck anxiety inventory

- ▶ Purpose: to review 3 categories
 - ▶ Anxious feelings, anxious thoughts, and physical symptoms
 - ▶ Physical symptoms are only evaluated if they relate to the anxiety... So, it does not include injuries.
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IQ Tests

- ▶ Based on Kindergarten to university level
- ▶ The participants will drop off at some point.


Sample questions

- ▶ Name something you eat.
 - ▶ What must you do to make water boil ?
 - ▶ What is the ozone layer ?
 - ▶ What's nuclear fission ?
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Comprehension tests

- ▶ Why do you brush your teeth?
 - ▶ Why is it important for police to wear uniforms?
 - ▶ Why is freedom of speech important in democracy?
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Arithmetic questions

- ▶ If I cut an apple in half, how many pieces do I have ?
 - ▶ 30 students enroll in karate class. After a week 11 students quit the class.
▶ How many students are left ?
 - ▶ 6 people can wash 40 cars in 4 days. How many people would it take to wash 40 cars in half a day?
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Arithmetic questions continued...

- ▶ Doug leaves work one hour before Val. Doug drives 60kph, Val drives 80 kph, if they are both going in the same direction, how far ahead is Val 5 hours after Doug leaves?

References

- ▶ Tribe, R.(1998a). A critical analysis of a support and clinical supervision group for interpreters working with refugees located in Britain. *Group Work Journal*,10(3),196-214.
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- ▶ Drennan, G. & Swartz,L.1999).A concept of overburdened: Institutional roles for psychiatric interpreters in post-apartheid South Africa.*Interpreting*,4(2),169-198.