





What is Line of Questionings?

- A structured **series of inter-related questions** designed to unfold a certain set of facts related to a specific legal issue (Tiersma, 1999).
- A series of questions designed to form a non-fictional interactive narrative used to create the 'truth'—**one which favors a particular orientation to a set of facts** (Steele, 2002).

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When are Line of Questioning used?

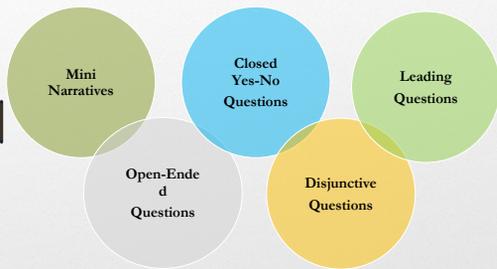
Legal Strategy

- Control timing and form of questions (Conley and O'Barr, 1998; Gibbons, 2003).
- Frame questions and 'smuggle' information (Aldridge and Luchjenbroers, 2007)

- **Police Investigations**
- **Custodial Interrogation**
- **Deposition**
- **Client-attorney interviews**
- **Direct and Cross Examination**

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Types of Questions



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Witness Testimony

- Understanding how evidence is presented can help the interpreter . . .
 - Predict the type of discourse and questioning
 - Develop team strategies
 - Develop strategies for consecutive interpreting and note taking

Direct Testimony

- Done by the attorney who called the witness
- Attorney prepared the witness
- Presented through
 - Open ended questions
 - Where, why, what happened
 - Responses are narrative
 - Friendly approach

Cross Examination

- Goal is to impeach the witness
- Not attorney who calls the witness
- Presented through
 - Leading questions
 - Yes/no questions
 - Include facts in question
 - Adversarial relationship

Note taking in a visual language is a challenge

Purpose of notetaking

- connect to what interpreters know, experienced, heard, or saw
- connect to what interpreters studied, or researched on the subject matter(s)

Notes are...

- supplementary, not replacing memory
- products of comprehension
- memory aids, not text aids
- not governed by language rules
- individual, not universal

Notetaking TIPS

Names

Dates

Figures

Facts

Descriptions and other detailed information that can immediately be brought back to mind and interpreted.

Pictures

Common Abbreviation

Use space to place ideas

Math/Science/Greek Symbols

Lines in emphasize and negate

Interpreter Voir Dire

- Purpose of interpreter voir dire
- Activity
 - You will be interpreting the voir dire of your team persons. Discuss with your team members how you will work together. What does each member need from the other.
 - Teams will be 2 deaf interpreters and 2 hearing interpreters, both deaf and hearing will go through voir dire process.

- Interpreters Team
 - What went well?
 - What went well with your answers?
 - What could have been improved?
 - Was any powerless language used during your voir dire?

Discussion

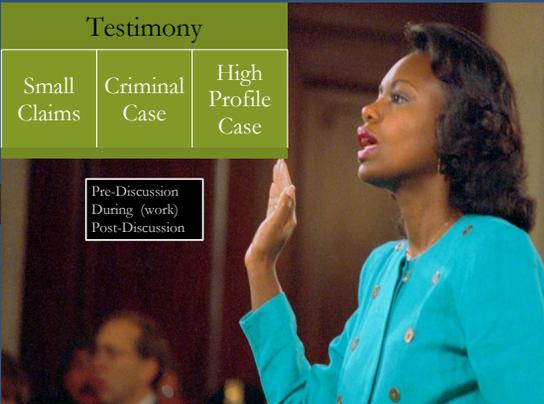
Testimony

Small
Claims

Criminal
Case

High
Profile
Case

Pre-Discussion
During (work)
Post-Discussion



Deposition

- Purpose of depositions
- Explanation of deposition exercise
- Information is prep for Mock Trial

The Depositions Sandbox

- Deposition of
 - Detective Lee Holmes - Deaf
 - Kitt Manville - Deaf
 - Chris Span
 - Maria Juarez



Discussion

- Team Process
- Overall Work
- What was successful within your team and why?
- What was not successful and why?

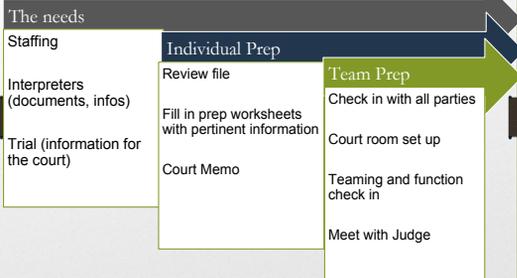
Closing thoughts

- Interpreting line of questioning involves a range of considerations impacted by legal and investigative strategy and the linguistic manipulations by law enforcement personnel and attorneys.
- Engaging in regular and peer-based text analysis can enhance interpreting performance of line of questioning.
- Best practices exist which can maximize the ability of interpreters to effectively manage the range of factors that impact interpreting line of questioning.

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Trial Preparation Guide



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