



UNIT 2

Element 1 – Learning outcome 1

TRANSCRIPT: ACCURACY INTERVIEW



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1 Interview

Hello, this is Estella Oncins from UAB again the short video that you are about to see is an explanation about the main differences between verbatim and sensatim subtitles in real-time working contexts. Carlo Eugeni is a parliamentary live subtitler at the Rome Capitol and he teaches AVT and conference interpreting at several Italian and European universities.

I hope you will enjoy it. Verbatim subtitling is something that is quite well-known. It is a word-for-word rendition of what is said by the speaker. Sensatim is idea unit for idea unit meaning that subtitlers produce the same idea units which means, that you can either repeat word-for-word what is said and by doing so you provide the same idea unit but at the same time you can compress, you can reduce or use other words. By doing so you keep delivering the same message. Though not everybody agrees on that. This approach, the sensatim approach allows subtitlers to relay on more elastic strategies to provide the same meaning provided by the speaker.

Here at the Rome City Council, I am a subtitler I am not a reporter. Reporters would go word-for-word. So verbatim. In the case of subtitling, I provide access to what is said. On two lines. This means that people have to read two lines, and by doing so they access the city council meeting. This makes a huge difference. So, I prefer going for sensatim. I have the freedom of choosing verbatim and sensatim. There are moments where verbatim is easier. For example, in the most technical parts I don't dare to sum up. Because there are topics very difficult to sum up. In other cases when politicians give political advice and don't enter into details, I prefer using a sensatim approach, because there is a lot of orality in what they say. They haven't planned their speech.

So, it's better for me to provide subtitles that are easier to read. Same layout is provided for both verbatim and sensatim subtitles. What happens is that when I do verbatim the layout of subtitles depend on how quick the speaker is. If the speaker is particularly quick words appear as blocks. Because I am able in two seconds to produce a whole sentence. But if the speaker is slow, I repeat every single word and then words appear one after the other.

And the method is the scrolling one. In the case of sensatim it is easier to produce full sentences, so subtitles appear as blocks. But this is not a rule. In case of people being very quick you can also have block subtitles. So, pop-on subtitles being verbatim.

2 Disclaimer, acknowledgement and copyright information

Authors: UAB, SSML, SDI München

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3 Additional metadata¹

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