

A SIGN OF RESPECT: Strategies for Successful Deaf /Hearing Interactions DEMO PART 2

by Thomas K. Holcomb and Anna Mindess DO NOT DUPLICATE Copyright © 2023 EyeToEye Productions

WATCH: DEMO Choice Point 1 - Witnessing Inaccurate Interpreting

Video: The A Sign of Respect Part 2 cover image is full screen for a few seconds, then the image moves to the left side while Tom Holcomb, a white man, appears on the right side of the screen from the waist up in front of a black background. He is wearing a light blue shirt and a gray tie. A menu button in the lower right corner will appear with a mouse over.

TOM (signing with voiceover): A Sign of Respect 2 contains new scenes that are more advanced, challenging, and complicated than the original version. The focus is on helping hearing students figure out how to be a good ally to the Deaf community. Different situations will be presented in this video.

Video: As Tom continues, the image on the left changes to a still image of a white woman in front of a green chalkboard with long brown hair wearing a white cardigan sweater over a blue blouse. She is smiling and fingerspelling the letter D on her right hand.

TOM (continuing) In this scene, you will see Amy's close friend, Carol, giving a presentation on Deaf Literature at the library.

Video: As Tom continues, the image on the left changes to a still image of a close shot of white woman seated among other audience members. She has long brown hair parted on the side and wearing a grey blazer over a black top. She is wearing several thin necklaces. She appears to have a shocked look on her face.

TOM (continuing) Amy is seated in the audience, but she soon realizes that the voice interpreter is doing a poor job and making many errors. What should Amy do? Let's watch.

Video: The scene fades to room with a medium shot of several people seated in chairs all facing one way, The people are in clusters of two or three signing to each other. The camera pulls back to show more people seated in the room and a doorway on the right. A man and woman walk through the door. The man signs "Hello! Any empty seats?" He nods, then he and the woman walk out of the frame. At the same time, a woman with a white cardigan sweater holding several folders walks through the door. Another woman with a dark gray blazer, Amy, is walking in right behind her and the camera follows her as she takes a seat near the front. There is an empty chair in front of her. The image cuts to a medium shot of Carol, the woman with the white sweater in front of a green chalkboard. She waves.

CAROL (signing with voiceover, to the audience): Hi there!

Video: Carol looks a little perplexed and looks at her watch.

CAROL: Hmm, the interpreter is not here yet.

Video: Carol looks toward the door. The image cuts to the audience members looking at each other, some of them signing "I don't know." The camera pans back to the doorway. The interpreter, a woman with red hair dressed in black comes rushing in signing "Sorry" and sits in the empty chair at the front. Amy is sitting nearby.

INTERPRETER (signing, with voiceover): Oh, sorry!

Video: The image fades back to Carol standing in front of the chalkboard.

CAROL (signing with professional voiceover): Hello, everyone, and welcome to my Deaf Culture workshop. My name is Carol Smithfield.

Video: The image cuts to two video images side by side on a black background. On the right is Carol, and under her is the text of what she is actually signing. On the left is the interpreter, and under her is the text of what she is speaking.

INTERPRETER (speaking): Hello! Welcome to my Deaf Culture workshop. My name is Carol Springfield.

*Video: The texts under the side-by-side images darken, except for the word **SPRINGFIELD** under the interpreter and **SMITHFIELD** under Carol. The image then fades back to Carol in front of the chalkboard.*

CAROL (signing with professional voiceover): Today's topic is Deaf Literature, which includes many different genres such as poetry, mystery, novels and many more. We'll discuss the impact Deaf Literature has on the Deaf community.

Video: The image cuts back to the two video images side by side on a black background. On the right is Carol, and under her is the text of what she is actually signing. On the left is the interpreter, and under her is the text of what she is speaking.

INTERPRETER (speaking): We will be discussing Deaf Literature today which encompasses many general things such as expressions of misery, novel books that have a big impact on the community.

*Video: The texts under the side-by-side images darken, except for the words **GENERAL THINGS**, **EXPRESSIONS OF MISERY** and **NOVEL BOOKS** under the*

interpreter and GENRES, POETRY, MYSTERY and NOVELS under Carol. The image then fades to a close up of Amy with an alarmed facial expression. Her image moves to the left as Tom appears on the right.

TOM: Ooh, here's a sticky situation. What should you do if an interpreter is not doing a good job and making many errors in voicing for a Deaf friend?

Video: The screen fades to black and a white letter "A" appears. The image changes to a split screen with Carol on the right and Amy on the left. The audio is the interpreter's voice. The captions under Carol show what she is actually signing. On the left, under Amy, the captions show what the interpreter is saying. Amy is visibly uncomfortable, squirming in her chair and folding her arms over her chest. She says nothing and stares straight ahead.

INTERPRETER (speaking): We will be discussing Deaf Literature today which encompasses many general things such as expressions of misery, novel books that have a big impact on the community.

Video: The screen fades to black and a white letter "B" appears. The image changes to a split screen with Carol on the right and Amy on the left. The audio is the interpreter's voice. The captions under Carol show what she is actually signing. On the left, the captions under Amy show what the interpreter is saying. Amy is visibly uncomfortable and begins shaking her head.

INTERPRETER (speaking): We will be discussing Deaf Literature today which encompasses many general things such as expressions of misery, novel books that have a big impact on the community.

AMY (interrupting, speaking): No, she said different genres, like mysteries.

Video: The screen fades to black and a white letter “C” appears.

The image changes to a split screen with Carol on the right and Amy on the left.

The audio is the interpreter’s voice. The captions under Carol show what she is actually signing. On the left, the captions under Amy show what the interpreter is saying. Amy is visibly uncomfortable and begins shaking her head.

INTERPRETER (speaking): We will be discussing Deaf Literature today which encompasses many general things such as expressions of misery, novel books that have a big impact on the community.

Video: In the left image, Amy leans to her right and waves her hands at Carol. In the right image, Carol appears to be looking at Amy.

AMY (signing with voiceover): Carol! The interpreter is making lots of mistakes!

Video: The image fades to black, then Tom appears in the center over a black background.

TOM: Which do you think is best, A, B, or C?

Video: Tom fades out and the Choice Point 1 menu screen appears with still images of the three answer choices A, B and C.

A: Do nothing

B: Fix interpreter’s errors

C: Inform the Deaf presenter

The instructions are to select the image to choose that answer and get feedback on the answer. There is a button on the bottom left to replay the choices and a button on the bottom right to replay the entire scene.

After watching the feedback on the choice, a menu appears with instructions to select the Menu button to view the feedback for all the choices, then use the navigator button on the right side of the program screen to view the readings and exercises for the scene.

Select Choice A:

TOM (signing with voiceover): Only 5% felt that Amy should do nothing and remain silent. Even if the interpreter is doing a very poor job these respondents feel the hearing friend should stay out of it. By interrupting the presentation to try and resolve the problem there's the potential of embarrassing the people involved and making the situation worse. Don't add to the problem. Just remain silent. This is the view of 5% of the respondents.

Select Choice B:

TOM (signing with voiceover): Less than 20% felt that it was the hearing ally's duty to protect the reputation of Deaf people. They feel it's important to correct any interpreting mistakes to ensure that Deaf people are not perceived negatively. There are different ways to do that. One is to verbally yell out the correct information and help the interpreter fix her mistakes making sure that the interpreter's choice of words is accurate. The point is the Deaf person's reputation takes priority over the interpreter's pride or ego. Allies do everything they can to support the work of Deaf people, and that should be your focus.

Select Choice C:

TOM (signing with voiceover): The majority of the respondents felt it was important for the Deaf presenter to maintain full control of the situation. This can

be best accomplished by discreetly informing your Deaf friend of the problem and allowing her to determine the best course of action. Most people in the survey felt that this was the best choice.