

Educational Interpreting: The Use of Preparation Strategies

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Learning Reflection Log

A Learning Reflection Log is basically a log or record or journal of your own learning. It is not necessarily a formal 'academic' piece of work. It is a personal record of your own learning. As such it is a document which is unique to you and cannot be 'right' or 'wrong'. A Learning Log helps you to record, structure, think about and reflect upon, plan, develop and evidence your own learning

What is a Learning Reflection Log?

A Learning Reflection Log is a journal which evidences your own learning and skills development. It is not just a diary or record of "What you have done" but a record of what you have learnt, tried and critically reflected upon.

For example if in your Learning Log you include details of what you did or how you did something then consider asking yourself questions such as:

- Did it go well? Why? What did you learn?
- Were there aspects that were less than successful? Why? What did you learn?
- How can you improve for next time?

A Learning Reflection Log contains your record of your experiences, thoughts, feelings and reflections. *One of the most important things it contains is your conclusions about how what you have learnt is relevant to you and how you will use the new information/knowledge/skill/technique in the future.*

It may contain details of problems you have encountered and solved (or not solved).
Examples of where you have started to try out and practice a new skill.

A Learning Reflection Log is a personal document. Its content may be very loosely structured and only of relevance to you. Once you have commenced a log you will find it a valuable and useful 'tool' to help your learning and to help you to think about and structure your own learning.

How do I write a Learning Reflection Log?

You will be provided with a template to use within the study about preparation strategies that you are using in the classroom .

- What you did
- Your thoughts/feelings
- How well it went
- What you learnt
- What you will do differently next time.

Over the next five weeks, you will then complete a minimum of 5 learning reflection logs (if you wish to write more you may do so), based on your interpreting practice, about the ways you are preparing, any new strategies that you are implementing and your observations about the quality of your interpreting work. You will submit your reflection logs via email at the end of the 5 weeks.

Ask yourself questions such as:

- What preparation strategies did I use?
- What was the impact of the preparation strategy on my interpreting quality?
- What questions do I have about how to use the strategy more effectively?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me to become better interpreter?
- How can I use this approach in the future?
- How can I use this to plan new learning about interpreting?
- Experiences?

In addition to weekly reflection(s) you should also ask yourself these same questions the within 24-48 hours after having practiced one of the new strategies/skills.

You will find that how you view something, (your perception of something) changes over time. For example you may have been trying to develop a specific skill and have had an unsuccessful learning experience when something went wrong and you feel you have made little or no or even backwards progress. You may reflect upon this the next day and your thoughts and feelings may be mainly negative ones. If you reflect about the experience 3-5 weeks later on you may find that you have now overcome the negative experience and have used it to develop further and improve yourself. Skills rarely suddenly develop or improve ‘overnight’. Learning new knowledge and applying it within a skills context usually takes time, effort and perseverance. A Learning Log will help you to become more aware of how you learn, what learning tasks you enjoy (and don't enjoy) and of your emotional and cognitive (thought) processes

At first it may seem difficult to start to critically reflect upon your own learning. Over time though you will find that it becomes easier. The more often that you practice the skill of self reflection then the easier it will become.

Is there a ‘best’ or ‘correct’ way of producing a Learning Reflection Log?

No, the log should be relevant to you and your job/studies/role/activities. There is no ‘right’ or ‘wrong’ way of producing a Learning Log. Perhaps the three key questions when engaging in the process of producing a Learning Log are:

- Am I being honest with myself?
- Is this a useful process for me?
- Is this helping my own process of learning?

If you require any help, advice or guidance about your Learning Reflection Log or about how to get started on one then please discuss it with the researcher.

(Adapted from C Miller, A Tomlinson, M Jones, Researching Professional Education 1994, University Of Sussex).

LEARNING LOG # 1:

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting? |
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- What do I think/feel about this?
- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?

- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?

- How have I put any theory into practice?

- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?

- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG # 2

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?

- What do I think/feel about this?
- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?

- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?

- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?

- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG #3

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?

- What do I think/feel about this?
- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?

- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?
- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?
- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG #4

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?
- What do I think/feel about this?

- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?
- What have I achieved? What have I learn about myself?

- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?
- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

Reference: www.hull.ac.uk

LEARNING LOG # 5

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?
 - What do I think/feel about this?
 - How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?

- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?
- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?
- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?

- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG #6

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?
- What do I think/feel about this?
- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?

- What will I do differently next time?
- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself?
- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?

- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG #7

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?

- What do I think/feel about this?
- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?

- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?
- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?
- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

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LEARNING LOG #7

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?
- What do I think/feel about this?

- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?
- How will I do it differently next time?

- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?
- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?
- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG #8

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?
- What do I think/feel about this?

- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?
- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?
- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?

- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?
- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

LEARNING LOG #9

Classroom Setting:

Date:

- What preparation strategy did I use to prepare for the classroom interpreting?
- What do I think/feel about this?
- How did using the preparation strategy impact my interpreting? Did I notice anything different about how the deaf student responded to the interpreting?

- What did I learn by using this approach?
- What will I do differently next time?
- What have I achieved? What have I learned about myself as an interpreter?
- How have I put any theory into practice?
- How does what I have been doing lead to me becoming better at interpreting?

- How can I use this to plan for future interpreting?

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