

Bringing radio interpreting to the classroom: an action research approach

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The aim of this paper is to show how live radio interpreting broadcasts can be used for interpreting training purposes with the enhancement of new technologies, i.e., audio editing tools.

Media interpreting is a growing field within interpreting research (e.g. Castillo 2015b, Falbo 2011) and the profession (e.g. AIIC 2012). Yet, in spite of the growing number of interpreter-mediated broadcasts that are available on TV, radio and online, their potential for training purposes is still underdeveloped or at least undocumented in the literature. My paper will particularly explore dialogue interpreting in radio settings. In my previous research (Castillo 2015a) I concluded that radio interviews can bridge a common gap in the training of dialogue interpreting: the challenge to provide interpreting students with original dialogues, as well as creating authentic settings for this modality.

Building on previous work in interpreter training action research (de Manuel Jerez 2003, Sandrelli and de Manuel Jerez 2007), the project I present in this paper offers a practical application in dialogue interpreting classes using edited interpreter-mediated radio interviews from Spanish public radio. The editing for training purposes consists of removing the interpreter's utterances from the dialogue and leaving those blank spaces for students to interpret. The radio studio conditions are replicated in the classroom by showing images of the setting where the interviews take place. Technologies as diverse as traditional media (radio), web-based media platforms (podcasting) and audio software interact to enhance the students' learning experience.

Examples of actual exercises in different stages of interpreter training (undergraduate, MSc, media interpreting workshops for practitioners) which I have conducted in the last 5 years will be given in the presentation.

Finally, directions for further research, including students' perceptions and assessment of the exercises, grading the difficulty of interviews for different stages in the training curriculum, and interdisciplinary work with broadcasters in order to meet their interpreting needs, will be given.