

The consecutive interpreter has to speak in public. For this reason it is important to learn to speak well early on and have an ingrained technique that will hold up under pressure and not distract from finding the right words to say. (Thiery 1981: 102) In this chapter you will learn how to: o sit or stand correctly for public speaking o assess public speakers and other students o assess your own speaking performance. If you are not set upright, then everything that follows will be much more difficult. Any posture you take up should be chosen to make you appear professional; facilitate your interpreting; and promote the audience's confidence in your interpreting. That means being able to: read your notes; look up at your audience while speaking; hide your nerves by limiting any unintended body language; and eliminate physical tics.