

PROMETRIC™

**California Judicial Council/
Administrative Office of the Courts**

Court Interpreter

**English/Spanish
Written Examination**

SAMPLE

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EXAMINATION HINTS

Read carefully and follow the directions provided.

Read each question completely before answering.

Do not spend too much time on any one question.

No question is meant to be a “trick” or “catch” question.

Interpret words according to their generally accepted meanings.

Attempt to answer every question. If you are not sure of the correct answer, mark the one which you think is best. There is no penalty for guessing. Your score is based on the number of correct answers.

Check carefully to be sure you have not skipped any pages. Be sure you have answered all the test items.

Plan your time so that you may complete the examination within the time allowance. You will be told when to start and stop. If you have extra time, check your work.

Relax and work steadily.

IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT SURE OF THE ANSWER.

PROMETRIC
for
THE CALIFORNIA JUDICIAL COUNCIL/
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

COURT INTERPRETER
ENGLISH/SPANISH SAMPLE WRITTEN EXAMINATION

Section	Description	Questions
1	ENGLISH VOCABULARY	20 (10 Sample)
2	SPANISH VOCABULARY	20 (10 Sample)
3	ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND WORD USAGE	20 (10 Sample)
4	SPANISH GRAMMAR AND WORD USAGE	20 (5 Sample)
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7	ENGLISH TO SPANISH VOCABULARY	15 (5 Sample)
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9	SPANISH SENTENCE TRANSLATION	15 (5 Sample)
		Total 155 (60 Sample)

TIME ALLOWANCE: 4 HOURS, 15 MINUTES

NOTE

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SECTION 1

ENGLISH VOCABULARY

PART I: CHOOSING THE CORRECT WORD OR PHRASE

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your vocabulary skills. For each word **in bold type**, select the definition from the choices provided (**a, b, c, or d**) **that means the same or nearly the same**. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

1. **proclivity**

- a. modesty
- b. intensity
- c. tendency
- d. stubbornness

2. **expunge**

- a. expel
- b. delete
- c. extract
- d. withdraw

3. **recuse**

- a. refer
- b. indict
- c. refuse
- d. disqualify

4. **derisive**

- a. jeering
- b. divisive
- c. complimentary
- d. abrasive

5. **dilettante**

- a. liar
- b. amateur
- c. debutante
- d. perfectionist

PART II: ANTONYMS

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your vocabulary skills. For each word **in bold type**, select the definition from the choices provided (**a, b, c, or d**) that **means the opposite or nearly the opposite**. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

6. **berate**

- a. scold
- b. praise
- c. confuse
- d. dissuade

7. **serendipity**

- a. gaiety
- b. gloom
- c. chance
- d. destiny

8. **defile**

- a. save
- b. guard
- c. respect
- d. attack

9. **reticent**

- a. eager
- b. reflexive
- c. taciturn
- d. mournful

10. **eminent**

- a. ignorant
- b. lowly
- c. prominent
- d. knowledgeable

PLEASE CONTINUE WORKING

SECTION 2

SPANISH VOCABULARY

PART I: CHOOSING THE CORRECT WORD OR PHRASE

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your Spanish vocabulary skills. For each word **in bold type**, choose the definition from the choices provided (**a, b, c, or d**) that means the same or nearly the same. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

11. **lisamente**

- a. sin rodeos
- b. diestramente
- c. sin sorpresas
- d. silenciosamente

12. **carcomer**

- a. derribar
- b. socavar
- c. engullir
- d. envidiar

13. **nimiedad**

- a. ficción
- b. duende
- c. indiscreción
- d. insignificancia

14. **mácula**

- a. cetro
- b. estorbo
- c. mancha
- d. molécula

15. **mendaz**

- a. falso
- b. cruel
- c. artificioso
- d. silencioso

PART II: ANTONYMS

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your vocabulary skills. For each word in **bold type**, select the definition from the choices provided (**a, b, c, or d**) that **means the opposite or nearly the opposite**. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

16. **civil**

- a. rural
- b. cortés
- c. militar
- d. desobediente

17. **meretriz**

- a. monja
- b. estrella de cine
- c. aprendiz
- d. burócrata

18. **descarriar**

- a. cargar
- b. encauzar
- c. remendar
- d. abonar

19. **olímpicamente**

- a. sin trampas
- b. con trampas
- c. consideradamente
- d. desconsideradamente

20. **solapar**

- a. tapar
- b. aglutinar
- c. distribuir
- d. desenmascarar

SECTION 3

ENGLISH GRAMMAR AND WORD USAGE

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your knowledge of correct grammar and word usage. For each question, select the **best version of the underlined part of the sentence**. Choice “a” is the same as the underlined portion of the original sentence. If you think the original sentence is best, choose answer “a.” Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

Example:

In another study of TV violence indicated that the outcomes were as important as the amount of violence.

- a. In another study of TV violence
- b. Another study of TV violence
- c. Studying TV violence
- d. TV violence studied

the correct answer is b

21. Many are of the opinion that Cervantes’ *Don Quixote de la Mancha* is not only Cervantes’ greatest novel but the greatest novel of the Spanish literature that was ever written.
- a. but the greatest novel of the Spanish literature that was ever written
 - b. but also the greatest novel ever written in Spanish
 - c. rather it is the greatest novel that was ever written in Spanish literature
 - d. rather it is the greatest novel ever written in Spanish
22. Traveling is one of the most enjoyable ways to learn about different cultures.
- a. Traveling is one of the
 - b. To travel is one of the
 - c. Travels are one of the
 - d. The travel is one of

23. One measure of a person's true patience is whether she demonstrates patience towards everybody or just towards them who are in a position of superiority.
- a. patience towards everybody or just towards them
 - b. patience for everybody or just for those
 - c. patience to everyone or just to them
 - d. patience towards everyone or just towards those
24. Since he is often at a loss for words, he takes to writing down his ideas before any interview, and that has been the perfect solution.
- a. he takes to writing down
 - b. he will take to write down
 - c. he has taken to writing down
 - d. he took to write down
25. Fifty years ago no one could have imagined how much influence television would have on our lives.
- a. television would have on our lives
 - b. television had on our lives
 - c. television was to have had on our lives
 - d. the television would have on our lives

DIRECTIONS: The following items are designed to measure your knowledge of word usage. For each item, select the sentence that **contains a word used incorrectly**. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to your answer choice.

26. a. I can't understand why they won't let Bob and me continue working on the project.
b. When in doubt, one should always ask.
c. We were each given a disparate number of blocks to arrange as we saw fit.
d. If people would just look inside of themselves, they would find that they do have the necessary courage to face any adversity.
27. a. As expected, the probation officer's report went into great detail about his extensible criminal record.
b. I wish I were going to the lavish reception at the country club.
c. These very techniques have been used on autistic children with excellent results.
d. By helping new employees overcome the deficiencies noted in their job review, we have been able to retain promising, but inexperienced, workers.
28. a. He won't have us around the next time he has to face an irate customer!
b. The field of sunflowers waving in the sun was an absolutely beautiful sight to behold.
c. He told her that irregardless of her personal feelings, they expected her to treat Susan courteously.
d. Because the first lecture had been exceedingly boring, she decided that it would be a waste of time to return the following week.
29. a. Foreigners often have some difficulty using reflective pronouns correctly.
b. The opulent accommodations left nothing to be desired.
c. I had never seen anyone operate a loom so dexterously.
d. Dawn's caustic comments made everyone feel uncomfortable.

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- 30.
- a. The home's pulchritude was readily apparent; the floors gleamed, the décor was impeccable, nothing was out of place.
 - b. The applicants were instructed to indicate the county in which they are located and to state whether the funds would be used for educational purposes.
 - c. When buying such capacious cutlery, you must try to avail yourself of a true expert who can advise you.
 - d. Once we have finished inspecting the premises we will be in a better position to determine the clubhouse's value.

SECTION 4

SPANISH GRAMMAR AND WORD USAGE

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your knowledge of grammar and word usage in Spanish. Each question consists of four (4) sentences, three (3) of which are correct and one (1) of which contains one or more errors in grammar, verb tense, singular or plural word form, spelling, or placement or omission of an accent. Select the sentence (**a, b, c, or d**) that contains one or more errors and darken the corresponding box on your answer sheet.

31. a. Los pueblos mesoamericanos alcanzaron un gran desarrollo de la astronomía y hasta tenían un año que duraba 365 días y 366 días cada cuatro años.
- b. Según algunos eruditos, Euclides, a quien se le considera el padre de la Geometría, sólo reunió y ordenó los trabajos de otros sabios anteriores a él.
- c. Para cuando Gutenberg hubiese inventado la imprenta en Europa, habrían transcurrido casi quinientos años desde que los chinos ya tenían un tipo de imprenta.
- d. A Alí Baba, el personaje de *Las mil y una noches*, se le ha calumniado inicualemente considerándolo un ladrón, cuando en realidad era un mercader que combatió a una banda de 40 ladrones.
32. a. En esta oficina, como en la mayoría de las oficinas que se encuentran en este estado, la jornada laboral es de ocho horas.
- b. La masonería es un trabajo sumamente pesado que desafortunadamente no se valora mucho en los países latinoamericanos.
- c. La respuesta del joven fue muy ordinaria, y a la mayoría de los ancianos reunidos alrededor de la mesa les causó muy mala impresión.
- d. Aunque la raíz es *calca*, la palabra correcta es *calcomanía*, no *calcamonía*.
33. a. Al juez sólo le importaba saber por qué él había fallado en presentarse al tribunal a la hora que había sido citado.
- b. Al alcaloide derivado del tabaco se le llamó *nicotina* en honor a un embajador de Francia del siglo XVI llamado Jean Nicot.
- c. Una cosa son los extranjerismos necesarios y otra los agregados que le hacemos al idioma nada más porque es la moda.
- d. Si yo condujera como tú, desde hace mucho hubiese perdido ya mi licencia.

34. a. Nuestros programas sociales permiten que una familia pueda agarrar toda la ayuda que necesita para que los niños cuenten con comida y casa.
- b. La *lluvia de ideas* es una buena técnica para desarrollar las ideas en grupo.
- c. En algunos casos los modismos son transposiciones de una palabra por otra que se le parece.
- d. Los refranes, que siempre expresan ciertos razonamientos, hacen que la conversación sea más expresiva y pintoresca.
35. a. Cada letra, al pronunciarse, requiere un determinado esfuerzo muscular de lengua y labios.
- b. La moda de los años setenta se parece un tanto a la moda que de nuevo estamos presenciando.
- c. Quiera Dios que pronto regrese a casa donde podremos estar más al pendiente de sus necesidades.
- d. Los campos y los poblados que visitamos fueron muy hermosos y tranquilos; a tal grado que, de haber sido posible, nos hubiéramos quedado a vivir allí.

SECTION 5

READING COMPREHENSION - ENGLISH

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your ability to read and understand written material. Each reading passage is followed by one or more questions about the material you have read. Base your answers only on the material you have read and **not** on any prior knowledge you may have of any of the topics addressed.

In 1822, Sir Robert Peel, England’s new Home Secretary, contended that while better policing could not eliminate crime, the poor quality of police contributed to social disorder. Seven years later he introduced and guided through Parliament the “Act for Improving the Police In and Near the Metropolis.” This led to the first organized British Metropolitan Police Force. Structured along the lines of a military unit, the force of 1,000 was the first to wear a definite uniform. The men were commanded by two magistrates, later called commissioners, who were given administrative but not judicial duties. Ultimately, the responsibility for equipping, paying and maintaining, and to a certain degree supervising the “bobbies,” as they later became known, was vested in the Home Secretary. Because he was made accountable to the Parliament “for the exercise of his authority over the metropolitan police,” it could be said that the new force was under the ultimate control of a democratically elected Parliament.

36. According to the passage,
- law enforcement failed before 1820 because, until then, the freedom of action of the individual was irreconcilable with the security of persons and property.
 - magistrate judges, who were later called commissioners, commanded the British Metropolitan Police Force, but a certain degree of supervision was vested in the Home Secretary.
 - ultimately it was Parliament that was in charge of equipping, paying, and maintaining the British Metropolitan Police Force.
 - in 1822, Britain’s Home Secretary asserted that poor police quality added to social disorder, but he also recognized that better policing would not eliminate crime.

37. According to the passage,
- a. it was decided that the men of the British Metropolitan Police Force should wear a definite uniform so that their structure would be more like that of a military unit.
 - b. in 1822, a democratically elected Parliament had recently appointed Sir Robert Peel as England's Home Secretary, who would seven years hence organize the first British Metropolitan Police Force.
 - c. seven years after assuming the position of British Home Secretary, Sir Robert Peel would introduce and guide through Parliament the "Act for Improving the Police In and Near the Metropolis."
 - d. the "Act for Improving the Police In and Near the Metropolis" led to the creation of the first British police force. It was structured along the lines of a military unit and was 1,000 men strong.

The problem of human freedom and free will has been somewhat alleviated by new discoveries in physics. Because the world seems to be governed, in part, by chance instead of by precise, fixed laws, a totally deterministic view of human beings and nature no longer seems reasonable. Some thinkers feel that Quantum Mechanics allows human freedom to exist, but it is unlikely that this statement can be conclusively supported by science.

Many people feel that science should be able to answer all questions. However, it is probably a narrow view to expect that the “scientific method” is the only way of learning and knowing. There may well be other ways of knowing. After all, science was invented by human beings and is based on the assumption that there actually *is* a physical world out there beyond our senses. All that we know about this physical world comes in through our senses and is “processed” and interpreted by our minds. Niels Bohr, who in 1922 was awarded the Nobel Prize for developing a new model for the hydrogen atom, believed very strongly that humans always occupied the central position. He said that it was impossible to distinguish sharply between the phenomena themselves and our conscious perception of them. To view science as having an existence independent of human beings is misleading. Science is a human creation, and it is a beautiful and admirable creation. It should be recognized for what it is, however, we should not expect too much of it.

38. According to the passage,

- a. we should not expect too much of science because the scientific method only offers us a narrow way of learning and knowing.
- b. new discoveries in physics have shown us that it would be totally unrealistic for us to adopt a deterministic view of humans and nature.
- c. when Niels Bohr developed a new model for the hydrogen atom, he believed that humans always occupied the central position relative to the way the world is perceived.
- d. our mind processes and interprets all of the information about the physical world that we receive through our senses.

39. According to the passage,

- a. we have been misled into believing that science can have an existence independent of human beings.
- b. it is our conscious perception of the phenomena that gives them their characteristics, which we classify according to our sense of smell, sight, touch, etc.
- c. although many people feel that science should be able to answer all questions, the truth of the matter is that there may very well be other ways of knowing.
- d. human beings invented science in order to be able to more clearly define the phenomena that exist beyond what our immediate senses can perceive, process, and interpret.

40. According to the passage,
- a. human beings have been able to arrive at the assumption that there is a physical world based on the information we perceive through our senses.
 - b. because science is merely a human creation, we cannot expect it to ever be able to answer the profound and extremely complex questions relative to human freedom and free will.
 - c. Quantum Mechanics has allowed us to learn that the world seems to be governed, in part, by chance instead of by precise, fixed laws.
 - d. science is a beautiful and admirable human creation which is based on the assumption that there actually is a physical world out there beyond our senses.

SECTION 6

READING COMPREHENSION - SPANISH

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your ability to read and understand written material. Each reading passage is followed by one or more questions about the material you have read. Base your answers only on the material you have read and **not** on any prior knowledge you may have of any of the topics addressed.

Una de las más bellas leyendas griegas es la de la conquista del *vellocino de oro* por Jasón al frente de la expedición de los *Argonautas*, porque esos nautas iban a Yolcos en el navío *Argos*. Cuéntase que en Tesalía reinaba el tirano Pelias que había usurpado el trono a su hermano mayor Esón, a quien odiaba y temía. El odio y temor se incrementaron cuando supo que este hermano había tenido un hijo. Un oráculo había predicho que este hijo de Esón estaba destinado a derribar del trono al usurpador Pelias, y con ello había más que suficiente para que Pelias lo matara. Convencido de ello el padre hizo extender el rumor de que el niño había nacido muy enfermo; en seguida que había muerto; y ostentosamente se celebraron las ceremonias fúnebres. Entretanto la madre se lo llevaba secretamente al monte Pelión y se lo entregaba al centauro Quirón, considerado como el maestro más sabio, recto y hábil del país. Entonces se le cambió al niño el nombre de Diómedes que llevó primero y se le puso el de Jasón. Cuando, mozo ya, hubo cumplido los veinte años, gallardo, valeroso, como exigía su agreste vida al lado del centauro sabio y recto, tenido por semi-dios, quiso separarse de éste y hacer honor a su regia stirpe, para lo cual, después de consultado el oráculo, presentóse en la corte de Pelias y audazmente se encaró con él, diciéndole quién era y exigiéndole que le entregara el gobierno del reino que por derecho le pertenecía. Viendo Pelias que iba a realizarse el fatal destino que le había sido predicho y que ya el pueblo seguía al recién llegado, no se atrevió a negarse en absoluto a aquel requerimiento, sino que apeló al subterfugio de decirle a su sobrino que le prometía abandonarle el trono después de que él le hubiera dado pruebas de su valor y suficiencia realizando una gran empresa: la conquista del vellocino de oro.

41. Según la lectura anterior,
- a. el hermano mayor de Pelias hizo extender el rumor de que su hijo, Diómedes, había nacido enfermo y luego que el niño había muerto, porque sabía que, de seguir con vida, Pelias lo mataría.
 - b. Pelias tramaba en contra de Jasón y sabía que Jasón jamás regresaría con vida una vez que partiera en busca del vellocino de oro.
 - c. la madre de Jasón se fue a vivir al monte Pelión para que Quirón pudiese hacerse cargo de la educación de Jasón.
 - d. el oráculo que Jasón consultó le aconsejó que se enfrentara a Pelias para recuperar el trono que en derecho le pertenecía a Jasón.

42. Según la lectura anterior,
- a. estando ya bajo el cuidado de Quirón se le cambió a Diomedes el nombre.
 - b. el vellocino de oro se encontraba en Yolcos donde llegaron los Argonautas a bordo del navío Argos al mando de Jasón.
 - c. Pelias odiaba y temía a Esón porque el oráculo le había revelado que algún día el hijo de Esón le quitaría el trono.
 - d. a los veintidos años, cansado ya de vivir al lado de Quirón, Jasón consultó un oráculo, mismo que le reveló su verdadera identidad.
43. Según la lectura anterior,
- a. tanto Jasón como Pelías consultaron el oráculo de Tesalía para saber qué les deparaba el futuro.
 - b. dado que Jasón se sentía ya como un semi-dios, quiso recuperar el trono que le pertenecía a él por derecho.
 - c. aunque Jasón recién había llegado a la corte de Pelias, el pueblo ya lo seguía por considerarlo gallardo y valeroso.
 - d. Jasón se encaró con su tío, y después de revelarle su identidad, le exigió que le entregara el trono que Pelias le había usurpado a su hermano mayor, Esón.

La máxima: “hay que vivir de acuerdo con la naturaleza”, significa, para los estoicos, “vivir de acuerdo con la razón.” El mundo es un enorme Estado con una constitución y una ley. En ese Estado la razón natural ordena lo que hay que hacer y prohíbe lo que debe ser omitido. Los Estados espacialmente limitados son numerosísimos y nunca tienen constituciones y leyes iguales, pues cada uno inventó diferentes usos y costumbres. De este modo, las constituciones particulares se convirtieron en apéndices de una sola ley natural. Siendo los hombres hermanos y miembros de un solo todo, deben hallarse unidos por un sentimiento de simpatía. Surgieron así la idea de la confraternidad universal y la doctrina de que todos somos “ciudadanos del mundo”, cosmopolitismo que condujo a la afirmación de la igualdad fundamental de los humanos y a la consiguiente repudiación de la esclavitud.

44. Según la lectura anterior,

- a. la esclavitud fue repudiada en su momento debido a que contravenía la máxima de que hay que vivir de acuerdo con la razón.
- b. debido a la separación geográfica que hay entre diferentes Estados, cada uno ha llegado a desarrollar diferentes usos y costumbres.
- c. el cosmopolitismo, la idea de sentirse un ciudadano del mundo unido a los demás, nos conduce a afirmar la premisa de que todos los humanos somos iguales.
- d. la tolerancia de la esclavitud jamás podría existir en un mundo donde las constituciones particulares tuviesen que regirse por el orden natural.

45. Según la lectura anterior,

- a. para los estoicos el vivir de acuerdo con la razón es vivir de acuerdo con la naturaleza.
- b. en un Estado natural, la razón ordenará lo que hay que hacer o lo que se debe dejar de hacer.
- c. puesto que todos somos hermanos y formamos parte de un solo todo, lo más lógico es que vivamos todos bajo una sola constitución y una sola ley.
- d. la confraternidad universal y la doctrina de que todos somos “ciudadanos del mundo”, nos permite afirmar que el trato igual ante la ley es un hecho para todos los humanos.

SECTION 7

ENGLISH TO SPANISH VOCABULARY

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your language skills. For each English word **in bold type**, select the definition from the choices provided (**a**, **b**, **c**, or **d**) **that means the same or nearly the same** in Spanish. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

46. **to retch**

- a. picar
- b. doler
- c. arder
- d. arquear

47. **midwife**

- a. comadrona
- b. comadreja
- c. patrona
- d. madrina

48. **stump**

- a. chata
- b. muñón
- c. junctura
- d. miembro

49. **to deplete**

- a. cansar
- b. agotar
- c. desinflar
- d. malgastar

50. **bone marrow**

- a. médula ósea
- b. meollo del hueso
- c. hemoglobina del hueso
- d. calcificación ósea

SECTION 8

SPANISH TO ENGLISH VOCABULARY

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your language skills. For each Spanish word **in bold type**, select the definition from the choices provided (**a, b, c, or d**) **that means the same or nearly the same** in English. Darken the box on your answer sheet corresponding to the single best answer for each of the following questions.

51. **tullido**

- a. stiff
- b. numb
- c. crippled
- d. shortened

52. **ponzoña**

- a. hoof
- b. poison
- c. stinger
- d. draught

53. **pócima**

- a. concoction
- b. measurement
- c. pestle
- d. poultice

54. **ronquera**

- a. snoring
- b. dryness
- c. irritation
- d. hoarseness

55. **pernicioso**

- a. harmful
- b. lazy
- c. indolent
- d. long-lasting

SECTION 9

SPANISH SENTENCE TRANSLATION

DIRECTIONS: The following questions are designed to measure your knowledge of Spanish cognates and your ability to select correct translations. Each of the following items contains a sentence followed by four possible translations of the sentence. **You are to select the best translation for each sentence** from the choices provided (**a, b, c, or d**) and darken the corresponding box on your answer sheet.

56. Contrary to our expectations, the guardian's gratuitous, malicious remarks did not result in the child's removal from his guardianship or in any other type of penalty or sanction.
- a. A diferencia de lo que esperábamos, los comentarios innecesarios y maliciosos del tutor no resultaron en que le quitaran al niño de su tutela ni en ninguna otra clase de penalidad o castigo.
 - b. A diferencia de lo que esperábamos, los comentarios gratuitos y malévolos del guardián no resultaron en que removieran al niño de su guardería o en cualquier otro tipo de pena o castigo.
 - c. Contrario a nuestras expectativas, los comentarios ociosos y malévolos del tutor no resultaron en que quitaran al niño de su guardia ni en cualquier otra clase de penalidad o sanción.
 - d. Al contrario de lo que nosotros esperábamos, los comentarios gratuitos y maliciosos del guardián no resultaron en que removieran al niño de su custodia o en ningún otro tipo de multa o sanción.
57. Aside from being an alumnus of a very prestigious university, he's quite affluent.
- a. Aparte de ser graduado de una universidad muy prestigiosa, es muy acaudalado.
 - b. Aparte de ser alumno de una universidad de mucho prestigio, es muy afluente.
 - c. Aparte de ser alumno de una universidad de gran prestigio es bastante afluente.
 - d. Aparte de ser ex-alumno de una universidad muy prestigiada, es bastante acaudalado.

58. The defense attorney's final argument was not consistent with his client's testimony.
- a. El alegato final del abogado de la defensa no era consistente con la testimonial del cliente.
 - b. El último argumento del licenciado de la defensa no encajaba con el testimonio de su cliente.
 - c. El argumento de clausura del abogado defensor no concordaba con la declaración testimonial de su cliente.
 - d. Los argumentos finales del licenciado del acusado no encajaban con lo que había dicho el acusado en el banquillo.
59. The defendant offered an apology to the family of the deceased victim with the hope of getting a life sentence instead of the death penalty.
- a. El acusado presentó una apología a los parientes del occiso con la esperanza de que le dieran una cadena perpetua en lugar de una pena de muerte.
 - b. El acusado se disculpó ante la familia del occiso con la esperanza de que se le dictara una condena de cadena perpetua en lugar de la pena de muerte.
 - c. El acusado ofreció una apología a los familiares de la víctima fallecida con la esperanza de obtener una condena de vida en lugar del castigo de muerte.
 - d. El acusado pidió una disculpa a la familia de la víctima que había fallecido con la esperanza de una pena de condena a vida en lugar de una pena de muerte.

**Answers for the Court Interpreter
Sample Written Examination**

Section 1 English Vocabulary

Part I – Choosing the Correct Word or Phrase

1. c. tendency
2. b. delete
3. d. disqualify
4. a. jeering
5. b. amateur

Part II – Antonyms

6. b. praise
7. d. destiny
8. c. respect
9. a. eager
10. b. lowly

Section 2 Spanish Vocabulary

Part I – Choosing the Correct Word or Phrase

11. a. sin rodeos
12. b. socavar
13. d. insignificancia
14. c. mancha
15. a. falso

Part II – Antonyms

16. c. militar
17. a. monja
18. b. encauzar
19. c. consideradamente
20. d. desenmascarar

Section 3 English Grammar and Word Usage

21. b. but also the greatest novel ever written in Spanish
22. a. Traveling is one of the
23. d. patience towards everyone or just towards those
24. c. he has taken to writing down
25. a. television would have on our lives
26. d. If people would just look inside of themselves, they would find that they do have the necessary courage to face any adversity.

...look inside of themselves...

27. a. As expected, the probation officer's report went into great detail about his extensible criminal record.

...about his extensive criminal...

28. c. He told her that irregardless of her personal feelings, they expected her to treat Susan courteously.

...told her that regardless...

29. a. Foreigners often have some difficulty using reflective pronouns correctly.

...difficulty using reflexive pronouns...

30. c. When buying such capacious cutlery, you must try to avail yourself of a true expert who can advise you.

...incorrect usage of capacious...means "spacious"...

Section 4 Spanish Grammar And Word Usage

31. c. Para cuando Gutenberg hubiese inventado la imprenta en Europa, habrían transcurrido casi quinientos años desde que los chinos ya tenían un tipo de imprenta.

No compaginan los distintos tiempos verbales.

32. b. La masonería es un trabajo sumamente pesado que desafortunadamente no se valora mucho en los países latinoamericanos.

“La masonería” es un cognado falso en este contexto; no quiere decir lo que en inglés sería “masonry”.

33. a. Al juez sólo le importaba saber por qué él había fallado en presentarse al tribunal a la hora que había sido citado.

La frase “por qué él había fallado en” es una traducción incorrecta. La traducción correcta sería: “...por qué había dejado de comparecer/presentarse...”

34. a. Nuestros programas sociales permiten que una familia pueda agarrar toda la ayuda que necesita para que los niños cuenten con comida y casa.

uso incorrecto del verbo “agarrar”; dos posibles opciones correctas serían “obtener” y “conseguir”

35. d. Los campos y los poblados que visitamos fueron muy hermosos y tranquilos; a tal grado que, de haber sido posible, nos hubiéramos quedado a vivir allí.

Uso incorrecto del pasado “fueron”; el tiempo verbal correcto es el imperfecto “eran”;

Section 5 Reading Comprehension - English

36. d. in 1822, Britain's Home Secretary asserted that poor police quality added to social disorder, but he also recognized that better policing would not eliminate crime.

Sentence 1: "In 1822, Sir Robert Peel, England's new Home Secretary, contended that while better policing could not eliminate crime, the poor quality of police contributed to social disorder."

37. c. seven years after assuming the position of British Home Secretary, Sir Robert Peel would introduce and guide through Parliament the "Act for Improving the Police In and Near the Metropolis."

Sentence 2: "Seven years later he introduced and guided through Parliament the 'Act for Improving the Police In and Near the Metropolis'..."

38. d. our mind processes and interprets all of the information about the physical world that we receive through our senses.

Paragraph 2: "All that we know about this physical world comes in through our senses..."

39. c. although many people feel that science should be able to answer all questions, the truth of the matter is that there may very well be other ways of knowing.

Paragraph 2: "However, it is probably a narrow view to expect... There may well be other ways of knowing."

40. d. science is a beautiful and admirable human creation which is based on the assumption that there actually is a physical world out there beyond our senses.

Paragraph 2: "...science was invented by human beings... there actually is a physical world out there beyond our senses."

Section 6 Reading Comprehension - Spanish

41. a. el hermano mayor de Pelias hizo extender el rumor de que su hijo, Diómedes, había nacido enfermo y luego que el niño había muerto, porque sabía que, de seguir con vida, Pelias lo mataría.

Sentences 4 & 5: "Un oráculo había predicho que... Convencido de ello el padre hizo extender el rumor de que había muerto..."

42. a. estando ya bajo el cuidado de Quirón se le cambió a Diómedes el nombre.

Sentence 7: "Entonces se le cambió al niño el nombre de Diómedes que llevó primero y se le puso el de Jasón."

43. d. Jasón se encaró con su tío, y después de revelarle su identidad, le exigió que le entregara el trono que Pelias le había usurpado a su hermano mayor, Esón.

Sentence 8: "...y audazmente se encaró con él, diciéndole quién era..."

44. c. el cosmopolitismo, la idea de sentirse un ciudadano del mundo unido a los demás, nos conduce a afirmar la premisa de que todos los humanos somos iguales.

Sentence 7: "...y la doctrina de que todos somos 'ciudadanos del mundo', cosmopolitismo que condujo a la afirmación de la igualdad fundamental de los humanos..."

45. a. para los estoicos el vivir de acuerdo con la razón es vivir de acuerdo con la naturaleza.

Sentence 1: "La máxima 'hay que vivir de acuerdo con la naturaleza', significa para los estoicos, 'vivir de acuerdo con la razón'..."

Section 7 English to Spanish Vocabulary

46. d. arquear
47. a. comadrona
48. b. muñón
49. b. agotar
50. a. médula ósea

Section 8 Spanish to English Vocabulary

51. c. crippled
52. b. poison
53. a. concoction
54. d. hoarseness
55. a. harmful

Section 9 Spanish Sentence Translation

The following tables contain *some*, but not necessarily *all*, of the errors that appear in the unacceptable translations.

56. a. A diferencia de lo que esperábamos, los comentarios innecesarios y maliciosos del tutor no resultaron en que le quitaran al niño de su tutela ni en ninguna otra clase de penalidad o castigo.

Original Text	One Acceptable Spanish Translation	One Unacceptable Spanish Translation
gratuitous	innecesarios	gratuitos
removal	quitaran	removieran
guardianship	tutela	guardería, guardia

57. a. Aparte de ser graduado de una universidad muy prestigiosa, es muy acaudalado.

Original Text	One Acceptable Spanish Translation	One Unacceptable Spanish Translation
alumnus	graduado	alumno
prestigious	prestigiosa	prestigiada
affluent	acaudalado	afluyente

58. c. El argumento de clausura del abogado defensor no concordaba con la declaración testimonial de su cliente.

Original Text	One Acceptable Spanish Translation	One Unacceptable Spanish Translation
final argument	argumento de clausura	último argumento
not consistent	no concordaba	no era consistente

59. b. El acusado se disculpó ante la familia del occiso con la esperanza de que se le dictara una condena de cadena perpetua en lugar de la pena de muerte.

Original Text	One Acceptable Spanish Translation	One Unacceptable Spanish Translation
offered an apology	se disculpó	ofreció una apología
life sentence	condena de cadena perpetua	pena de condena a vida

Sample Court Interpreter Oral Examination

Introduction

The following material includes instructions, practice test material, and sample renderings. The text parallels the instructions and test material on the CD. The final section of this test preparation material includes a list of model translation/interpretation files rendered by certified interpreters and recorded on the CD.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: PROMETRIC interpreter experts acknowledge that there are many ways of rendering the material presented into the target language. Several recorded renditions of the simultaneous interpreting component have been provided to illustrate various possible acceptable versions.

Proctor Instructions – Consecutive Interpretation

Accompanying soundtracks are:

Track 1: Proctor Instructions - Consecutive Interpretation
Track 2: Consecutive (Model Interpretation)
Tracks 3-29: Consecutive Dialog
(Each complete utterance is one track.)

The following sample consecutive component contains underlined words. These are *samples* of keywords and/or units of meaning that are used to assist raters in scoring the exam. Following the actual test, Prometric provides feedback that includes the number of keywords/units of meaning you rendered correctly.

The introductions you will hear are excerpts from the instructions you would receive prior to taking the Court Interpreter Oral Examination.

“You will participate in three exam components:

*THE CONSECUTIVE INTERPRETATION
THE SIGHT TRANSLATIONS
AND THE SIMULTANEOUS COMPONENT*

I will provide you with information about the consecutive interpreting component at this time. Other instructions will be given later.

*The consecutive interpreting component is designed as a **role play** exercise with a Judge, an Attorney, and a Spanish-speaking Witness. The roles may have been **recorded in a masculine or a feminine voice, so do not let that confuse you if the person happens to be of the opposite gender. YOUR ROLE** is to act as the interpreter, so everything you hear in English must be translated into Spanish and vice versa.*

*Note taking is allowed during the exam, so you may want to have a tablet and pen ready. Most candidates find that it is helpful if they write down pertinent details such as **names, addresses, dates, and numbers**. Note taking should enhance your recall abilities but not interfere with your ability to interpret without lengthy pauses. You should **NOT** attempt to write down everything you hear, as you **MUST** rely on your retention skills.*

***Passages are 2-40 words in length.** As soon as a passage ends, you are required to immediately provide your interpretation of what you heard. During the exam you will be allowed to ask for a maximum of six repeats during the consecutive portion.*

*When interpreting, remember that **accuracy** is your key to success. You should **not add or delete** material nor should you **paraphrase or summarize.**”*

(Proctor pauses for five seconds and begins recording. There is a three-second pause between each utterance to allow the opportunity to pause the recording.)

Oral Examination Evaluation

Every profession requires a significant level of expertise in a particular field that serves to distinguish the profession from other occupations. The distinguishing characteristics of the profession of court interpreting are twofold: the requisite level of expertise expected in two languages and the ability to perform the modes of interpretation. Therefore, the candidate’s language proficiency in English and Spanish and interpreting skill for each mode of interpretation are evaluated.

A complete description of oral examination evaluation can be found in the California Certified Interpreter Oral Performance Evaluation Guide.

Consecutive Interpretation[§]

- Counsel Mrs. Serrano, before the lunch break you told us that you had been a dancer at a gentlemen's club.
- Witness Así es, sólo que hace un año, en febrero del 2004, me aventó un carro cuando salía del trabajo. [PAUSE] Mi brazo derecho me quedó tullido y rengueo un poco así que ya no puedo trabajar.
- Counsel So how do you support yourself and your two children?
- Witness Bueno, tengo que hacerle la lucha vendiendo cositas que yo misma hago pero aparte de eso, unos narcos que conozco de cuando trabajaba en el club me ofrecieron un dinerito a cambio de que les ayudara a echarle el guante a ciertos elementos. [PAUSE] O sea, yo conozco a gente que le hace a la droga— no tanto chiva o coca como hierba y cristal.
- Counsel So, in other words, you are what is known as a Confidential Informant.
- Witness Sí. Primero los agentes vigilan una casa y determinan, por la cantidad de gente que entra y sale, si es que creen que se está vendiendo droga. [PAUSE] Luego me mandan a hacer lo que se llama una compra controlada con dinero marcado.
- Counsel And exactly how does that work?
- Witness Bueno, hay un procedimiento ya establecido. Me dan un billete de a veinte dólares...el número de serie se anota para rastrearlo. [PAUSE] Luego yo voy a la casa y regreso, ya sea con cristal, chapopote, mota o coca, según, ¿no?
- Counsel And, Mrs. Serrano, on June 25th of this year did you, in fact, make a controlled purchase at 2473 Northwest Alondra Boulevard in this city?
- Witness Así es.
- Counsel Your Honor, as agreed previously, we put this witness on the stand out of order because the forensic chemist is out of town until tomorrow. [PAUSE] We would like at this time, however, to introduce and have marked as People's Exhibit 4, this bundle containing 5.25 grams of 70% pure crystal meth.
- Judge Hearing no objections from defense counsel, the exhibit will be marked as People's 4. As discussed earlier, this will be subject to defense counsel's examination of the chemist's qualifications and experience. [PAUSE] The Court will then decide whether he qualifies as an expert witness, and whether the laboratory's determination as to the weight, content and purity of the sample has been sufficiently established.
- Counsel Mrs. Serrano, is this the bundle that you purchased on that day?

[§] This is a *sample* Consecutive exercise. The actual test component is longer.

Witness Yo diría que sí porque se ve igualito al que me vendieron. Claro que yo ví que él tenía muchos otros, y unos globitos también. Los sacó de debajo de una duela que estaba floja.

Counsel Mrs. Serrano, please describe for the Court what you observed inside of the apartment on the day you went there to purchase the drugs.

Witness Había muy pocos muebles, un armario, unas sillas, una mesa repleta de papeles y porquerías. Más bien parecía que el departamento lo tenían de puro parapeto...para guardar las apariencias, ¿verdad?

Counsel From previous testimony we learned that in one of the closets there was, besides the stash of bindles, an automatic .38-caliber pistol and two loaded clips. [PAUSE] There was also found in a night table drawer, a purple make-up bag with \$680 dollars in mostly 10- and 20-dollar bills. Were you aware of this?

Witness ¿Yo? Pero para nada. Digo, imagínese si yo me iba a poner a revisar lo que había en los clósets y las recámaras. [PAUSE] ¡Ya parece que me iban a dar rienda suelta adentro del departamento! Pero, ¿a quién se le ocurre hacerme una pregunta así?

Counsel I have no further questions of this witness, Your Honor, but I request that she be subject to recall.

Proctor Instructions – English to Spanish Sight Translation

Accompanying soundtracks are:

Track 30: Instructions – Sight (English to Spanish)

Track 31: English to Spanish Sight (Model Translation)

*“The second part of the exam is the sight translation component. The document you will translate is from English to Spanish. In the actual test, you will have **one minute to review** the document and **four minutes to render** the translation into Spanish. This mode is timed during the actual test, so you may wish to use a timer during this practice test.*

*When rendering your translation, if you come across a word or phrase with which you are **unfamiliar or that you’ve forgotten**, rather than spending too much time on it, just read it in the language in which it is written and continue your translation where you can.**

Please pause the recording and resume play after turning to the English to Spanish Sight Translation in your study guide. Translate the text, using the timing limits stated previously, and then resume the recording.”

(The English to Spanish Sight Translation document follows.)

* **NOTE:** Although you are instructed to render unknown terms in the source language to maintain speed of rendition, doing so does not come without consequence. Remember that you will be penalized for using too many source terms in your interpretation. Using source terms will demonstrate to performance raters an inability to render appropriate terms and your overall score will be affected. Raters do not want you to sacrifice quality for the sake of speed.

English to Spanish Sight Translation

OFFICER'S REPORT

During the past month I have received several complaints from residents of the area, of suspected narcotics sales from the apartments at 3705 Fairlane Drive.

In the course of my regular duties, I have noticed an increase in foot traffic going in and out of the building, which is consistent with the sale of narcotics.

I am aware, through training and numerous field experiences, that individuals selling narcotics from residences in the area are typically not the actual tenants named on the lease. The apartments are often rented under a fictitious name by the person actually supplying the narcotics.

Surveillance was initiated at approximately 22:25 hours. Four individuals were observed separately approaching defendant Torres and engaging in hand-to-hand transactions. Each one would ask for "coca" or "blanca", terms that are common street slang for powder cocaine. These individuals all approached the subject and would conduct their transactions through a five-foot-tall chain link fence. Small unknown objects were handed to each one of them through the fence. On the basis of past experience and training, I recognized the transactions to be consistent with the sale of narcotics.

When the defendant spotted the surveillance team, he attempted to run past me, and I wrestled him to the ground as he tried to flee.

Eventually, 15 plastic baggies containing the suspected powder cocaine were seized from Torres' crotch area by Officer Ramon Rodriguez.

The suspect was held, read his rights, arrested, booked and charged with possession and sale of a controlled substance.

Proctor Instructions – Spanish to English Sight Translation

Accompanying soundtracks are:

Track 32: Instructions - Sight (Spanish to English)

Track 33: Spanish to English Sight (Model Translation)

*“The next sight translation document is from Spanish to English. In the actual test, you will have **one minute to review** the document and **four minutes to render** the translation into English. This mode is timed during the actual test so you may wish to use a timer during this practice test.*

*When rendering your translation, if you come across a word or phrase with which you are **unfamiliar or that you’ve forgotten**, rather than spending too much time on it, just read it in the language in which it is written and continue your translation where you can.[†]*

Please pause the recording and resume play after turning to the Spanish to English Sight Translation in your study guide. Translate the text, using the timing limits stated previously, and then resume the recording.”

(The Spanish to English Sight Translation document follows.)

[†] **NOTE:** Although you are instructed to render unknown terms in the source language to maintain speed of rendition, doing so does not come without consequence. Remember that you will be penalized for using too many source terms in your interpretation. Such use of source terms will demonstrate to performance raters an inability to render appropriate terms and your overall score will be affected. Raters do not want you to sacrifice quality for the sake of speed.

Spanish to English Sight Translation

COMPARECENCIA DEL CIUDADANO CUAUHTÉMOC MADARIAGA

En el poblado de Tequesquitengo, Morelos, siendo las 15:45 horas del día 23 de abril del 2005, ante el suscrito, Lic. Arnulfo Potrero Armendáriz, Agente del Ministerio Público, comparece el Sr. Cuauhtémoc Madariaga; a quien se le hace saber que la falsedad en las declaraciones judiciales se castiga severamente por la Ley, y bien impuesto de ello, protesta conducirse con la verdad. Señala por sus generales los siguientes: varón de 29 años, estado civil: soltero, jornalero, originario del poblado de Agua Hedionda y vecino del poblado de Yautepec, domicilio conocido. Se identifica con su credencial de elector expedida: 09-06-03, misma que indica que su fecha de nacimiento es 24 de junio de 1976.

El interesado manifiesta que comparece en forma voluntaria a declarar y señala: “Hace aproximadamente un año me pasé al país vecino de los Estados Unidos donde tenía un carnal de nombre Santiago, con la tirada de trabajar en la pisca. La madrugada del 15 de octubre del 2003, caminábamos sobre la calle: el de la voz, mi carnal y nuestro primo hermano, Joaquín, de apellidos Cruz Madariaga, cuando de pronto nos vimos involucrados en un altercado con unos vagos malvivientes que, sin siquiera conocernos, nos soltaron una sarta de palabras soeces, concluyendo todo en una riña en la cual picaron a mi primo. En eso llegaron unos cherifes y los tipos se arrancaron. Me torcieron porque portaba arma blanca. Cuando me pusieron en libertad me dijeron que tendría que reportarme con un supervisor del régimen probatorio, pero yo mejor me vine y por ésta manifiesto que mi deseo es quedarme en mi pueblo y en mi patria”.

Con esto se dio por terminada la presente actuación. Doy fe.

Proctor Instructions – Simultaneous Interpretation

[Accompanying soundtracks are:](#)

Track 34: Instructions and Simultaneous Interpretation

“The third and final part of the exam is the simultaneous interpreting component. This part of the examination is designed to test your ability to interpret accurately in the simultaneous mode. The text is recorded at approximately 140 words per minute.

*During the actual examination you will use a headset to listen to the instructions and the simultaneous text. The instructions for the simultaneous are recorded in English. The exam material is also in English for you to interpret **into Spanish only**. You will be able to adjust the volume, but you will not be able to stop the recording during the test. If you stumble over or forget a word, it may be best to leave it rather than lag behind.[‡]*

Please begin interpreting after this brief pause.”

(Proctor pauses for five seconds and begins recording.)

(The Simultaneous Interpretation document follows.)

[‡] **NOTE:** Although you are instructed to render unknown terms in the source language to maintain speed of rendition, doing so does not come without consequence. Remember that you will be penalized for using too many source terms in your interpretation. Such use of source terms will demonstrate to performance raters an inability to render appropriate terms and your overall score will be affected. Raters do not want you to sacrifice quality over speed of interpretation.

Simultaneous Interpretation

MOTION TO WITHDRAW GUILTY PLEA

The defendant has submitted a motion before me indicating that a motion to relieve counsel was at one point explored in Department 11 but denied. The defendant further alleges that it was his perception that his attorney had disclosed privileged information to co-counsel, before the case was severed, that later led him to enter into a guilty plea. However, the Court does not know by way of transcript what, in fact, transpired. And, since the defendant's explanation as to the behavior of the parties is not supported by the sworn statement of any witnesses, it scarcely rises to the level of clear and convincing evidence. Moreover, it appears to the Court that this all goes back to the defendant's first request for relief of counsel, granted by the Court on September 23rd of this year.

If this Court were to believe that present counsel, Mr. Vogel, should have also been relieved, it *would* make sense to the Court to now allow the defendant to withdraw his plea; because if that were the case, it would be reasonable to believe that this defendant had been misled, if not coerced, into accepting a plea agreement. To do otherwise would be a denial of his right to a fair and effective defense presented at trial. But that is not the case here. Rather, I see that a very detailed examination of the defendant was conducted in a very non-threatening setting the day the plea was taken, at a point in time when the defendant had already gone through the same proceeding. He had been advised as to his rights, had expressed a desire to waive those rights in order to enter into a plea, and had later decided to renege on his admissions and plea by alleging ineffective assistance of counsel.

Now, here once again on the day of sentencing, I'm hard-pressed to believe he couldn't have expressed these issues with more specificity and in a more timely fashion. The reasons he's giving here today are the same as those previously offered when he withdrew his plea the first time around.

What I have looked at is whether or not there is any evidence of these allegations or of a lack of voluntariness, and whether or not it was an intelligently entered plea.

The Court finds that the defendant was clearly advised as to the consequences of his plea, his rights, etc., not only once, but twice.

I further find that Mr. Vogel never had any overt or covert negotiations with co-counsel. All discussions with co-counsel and the Court are on the record, and the record reflects counsel's continuous efforts to effectively and aggressively defend his client.

Defendant's motion to withdraw his guilty plea is therefore denied. Court will proceed with sentencing.

Model Files for the Court Interpreter Oral Examination

Model File Soundtracks:

- Track 35: Instructions for Model Files
- Track 36: Simultaneous Model Interpretation 1
- Track 37: Simultaneous Model Interpretation 2
- Track 38: Simultaneous Model Interpretation 3
- Track 39: Simultaneous Model Interpretation 4
- Track 40: Simultaneous Model Interpretation 5

“These model files are suggested renderings of the Sample Simultaneous.”

IMPORTANT NOTICE: PROMETRIC interpreter experts acknowledge that there are many ways of rendering the material presented into the target language. Several recorded renditions of the simultaneous interpreting component have been provided to illustrate various possible acceptable versions.

Consecutive Interpretation
(Suggested Translation)

- Counsel Mrs. Serrano, before the lunch break you told us that you had been a dancer at a gentlemen's club.
- Interpreter *Sra. Serrano, antes del descanso para la comida usted nos dijo que usted había sido una bailarina (vedette) en un cabaret.*
- Witness Así es, sólo que hace un año, en febrero del 2004, me aventó un carro cuando salía del trabajo. [PAUSE] Mi brazo derecho me quedó tullido y rengueo un poco así que ya no puedo trabajar.
- Interpreter *That's right, except that a year ago, in February of 2004, I was hit by a car as I was leaving work. [PAUSE] I ended up with a crippled right arm and I limp a little so I can't work anymore.*
- Counsel So how do you support yourself and your two children?
- Interpreter *Entonces, ¿cómo se mantiene a sí misma y a sus dos hijos?*
- Witness Bueno, tengo que hacerle la lucha vendiendo cositas que yo misma hago pero aparte de eso, unos narcos que conozco de cuando trabajaba en el club me ofrecieron un dinerito a cambio de que les ayudara a echarle el guante a ciertos elementos. [PAUSE] O sea, yo conozco a gente que le hace a la droga— no tanto chiva o coca como hierba y cristal.
- Interpreter *Well, I have to hustle to sell things/stuff that I make myself, but aside from that, some narcs that I know from when I worked at the club offered me a few bucks in exchange for helping them nab certain people. [PAUSE] In other words, I know people who do drugs — not so much H (heroin), or coke, but weed and crystal.*
- Counsel So, in other words, you are what is known as a Confidential Informant.
- Interpreter *Así que, en otras palabras, usted es lo que se conoce como un Informante Confidencial.*
- Witness Sí. Primero los agentes vigilan una casa y determinan, por la cantidad de gente que entra y sale, si es que creen que se está vendiendo droga. [PAUSE] Luego me mandan a hacer lo que se llama una compra controlada con dinero marcado.
- Interpreter *Yes. First the agents watch (stake out) a house and decide, based on the number of people who go in and out, if they believe that drugs are being sold. [PAUSE] Then they send me to do what is known as a 'controlled buy' with marked money.*
- Counsel And exactly how does that work?
- Interpreter *¿Y eso exactamente cómo funciona?*

Witness Bueno, hay un procedimiento ya establecido. Me dan un billete de a veinte dólares...el número de serie se anota para rastrearlo. [PAUSE] Luego yo voy a la casa y regreso, ya sea con cristal, chapopote, mota o coca, según, ¿no?

Interpreter *Well, there's a procedure that's already established. They give me a twenty-dollar bill...the serial number is written down so that it can be traced. [PAUSE] Then, I go to the house and I come back with crystal, tar heroin, weed, or coke...depends, right?*

Counsel And, Mrs. Serrano, on June 25th of this year did you, in fact, make a controlled purchase at 2473 Northwest Alondra Boulevard in this city?

Interpreter *Y, Sra. Serrano, el 25 de junio de este año, ¿usted de hecho realizó una compra controlada en el 2473 Northwest Alondra Boulevard en esta ciudad?*

Witness Así es.

Interpreter *That's right.*

Counsel Your Honor, as agreed previously, we put this witness on the stand out of order because the forensic chemist is out of town until tomorrow. [PAUSE] We would like at this time, however, to introduce and have marked as People's Exhibit 4, this bindle containing 5.25 grams of 70% pure crystal meth.

Interpreter *Su Señoría, como acordamos con anterioridad, presentamos a esta testigo a declarar fuera de turno porque el químico forense se encuentra fuera de la ciudad hasta mañana. [PAUSE] En este momento quisiéramos, sin embargo, presentar y marcar como elemento de prueba número 4 de la fiscalía, este paquetito que contiene 5.25 gramos de metanfetamina en cristal con una pureza del 70%.*

Judge Hearing no objections from defense counsel, the exhibit will be marked as People's 4. As discussed earlier, this will be subject to defense counsel's examination of the chemist's qualifications and experience. [PAUSE] The Court will then decide whether he qualifies as an expert witness, and whether the laboratory's determination as to the weight, content and purity of the sample has been sufficiently established.

Interpreter *Puesto que no hay protesta del abogado de la defensa, el elemento de prueba quedará marcado como prueba de cargo número 4. Como se dijo anteriormente, esto quedará sujeto al interrogatorio por parte de la defensa en cuanto a la idoneidad y experiencia del químico para calificar como perito, [PAUSE] Entonces decidiré si califica como perito y si la determinación del laboratorio en cuanto al peso, contenido y pureza de la muestra ha quedado suficientemente establecida o no.*

Counsel Mrs. Serrano, is this the bindle that you purchased on that day?

Interpreter *Sra. Serrano, ¿es éste el paquetito que usted compró ese día?*

Witness Yo diría que sí porque se ve igualito al que me vendieron. Claro que yo ví que él tenía muchos otros, y unos globitos también. Los sacó de debajo de una duela que estaba floja.

Interpreter *I would say it is because it looks exactly the same as the one I was sold. Of course I did see that he had a lot more and some little balloons, too. He took them from underneath a loose floorboard.*

Counsel Mrs. Serrano, please describe for the Court what you observed inside of the apartment on the day you went there to purchase the drugs.

Interpreter *Sra. Serrano, por favor descríbale al Juez lo que usted observó adentro del departamento el día en que usted fue allí a comprar las drogas.*

Witness Había muy pocos muebles, un armario, unas sillas, una mesa repleta de papeles y porquerías. Más bien parecía que el departamento lo tenían de puro parapeto...para guardar las apariencias, ¿verdad?

Interpreter *There was very little furniture, an armoire, some chairs, a table full of papers and junk. It seemed more like they had the apartment just for show...to keep up appearances, right?*

Counsel From previous testimony we learned that in one of the closets there was, besides the stash of bindles, an automatic .38-caliber pistol and two loaded clips. [PAUSE] There was also found in a night table drawer, a purple make-up bag with \$680 dollars in mostly 10- and 20-dollar bills. Were you aware of this?

Interpreter *Del testimonio anterior supimos que en uno de los closets había, aparte del alijo (guardado) de paquetitos, una pistola automática calibre .38 y dos cargadores llenos (peines cargados/clips llenos). [PAUSE] También se encontró en el cajón de un buró una bolsa morada de maquillaje con \$680 dólares, en su mayoría billetes de 10 y 20 dólares. ¿Sabía usted esto?*

Witness ¿Yo? Pero para nada. Digo, imagínese si yo me iba a poner a revisar lo que había en los clósets y las recámaras. [PAUSE] ¡Ya parece que me iban a dar rienda suelta adentro del departamento! Pero, ¿a quién se le ocurre hacerme una pregunta así?

Interpreter *Me? Not at all. I mean, just imagine what would happen if I started checking what was in the closets and the bedrooms. [PAUSE] Yeah, right, like they were gonna let me do whatever I felt like inside the apartment! How could (can) you think of asking me a question like that? (I don't know how that could even occur to you.)*

Counsel I have no further questions of this witness, Your Honor, but I request that she be subject to recall.

Interpreter *No tengo más preguntas para esta testigo, Su Señoría, pero solicito que esté sujeta a ser llamada de nuevo.*

English to Spanish Sight Translation
(Suggested Translation)

INFORME DEL OFICIAL

Durante el último mes he recibido varias quejas de residentes en la zona de que se sospecha que hay (se realizan) ventas de narcóticos en los departamentos del 3705 de Fairlane Drive.

En el transcurso de mis deberes cotidianos (normales, acostumbrados) he notado un incremento en la circulación de peatones que entran y salen del edificio, lo cual es concordante (congruente) con la venta de narcóticos.

Por mi capacitación y por (mis) numerosas experiencias en el campo, sé (me consta/estoy enterado de) que los individuos que venden narcóticos de las viviendas en la zona, a menudo no son los verdaderos inquilinos que están nombrados en el contrato de arrendamiento. Muchas veces la persona, que en efecto suministra los narcóticos, alquila los departamentos bajo un nombre ficticio.

La vigilancia se inició aproximadamente a las veintidós horas con veinticinco minutos. Se observó a cuatro individuos acercarse por separado al acusado Torres y llevar a cabo transacciones de mano a mano. Cada uno de ellos pedía “coca” o “blanca”, términos que son jerga común de la calle para la cocaína en polvo. Todos estos individuos se acercaban al sujeto y llevaban a cabo sus transacciones a través de un cerco de malla de alambre (malla ciclónica) de 5 pies de altura. Pequeños objetos desconocidos fueron entregados a cada uno de ellos a través del cerco. Con base en mi experiencia y capacitación, reconocí que las transacciones concordaban (eran concordantes, congruentes) con la venta de narcóticos.

Cuando el acusado se dio cuenta del equipo de vigilancia, intentó pasarme corriendo, y yo forcejeé con él hasta tirarlo al suelo cuando él trataba de escapar.

Finalmente, el oficial Ramón Rodríguez incautó 15 bolsitas de plástico del área de la entrepierna de Torres que contenían lo que se sospechaba era polvo de cocaína.

Al sospechoso se le detuvo, se le leyeron sus derechos, fue arrestado, fue fichado y se le formularon cargos de posesión para la venta y venta de una sustancia regulada.

Spanish to English Sight Translation
(Suggested Translation)

APPEARANCE OF CITIZEN CUAUHTEMOC MADARIAGA

Mr. Cuauhtemoc Madariaga appears before the undersigned, Deputy District Attorney Arnulfo Potrero Armendariz, in the town of Tequesquitengo, Morelos, at 3:45 PM on April 23, 2005. He is advised that making false statements in judicial proceedings (committing perjury) is severely punished by law and, well aware of that, he affirms that he will speak truthfully. (By way of particulars) he indicates his personal information as follows: 29-year-old male; marital status: single; day laborer; native of the town of Agua Hedionda and resident of the town of Yautepec, (general delivery). He presents his voter's registration card, issued on 06/09/03, as identification. Said card indicates his date of birth as June 24, 1976.

The interested party states that he appears (is appearing) voluntarily to give his statement and indicates, "Approximately a year ago, I crossed into the neighboring country, the United States, where I had a bro' named Santiago. We were fixing to get work picking crops. In the early morning hours of October 15, 2003, me, my brother and our cousin, Jacinto, whose last names are Cruz Madariaga, were walking down the street when all of a sudden we got into an argument (altercation) with some scumbags who didn't even know us and who started cussing at us (hurled a stream of profanities at us). It all ended up in a fistfight (brawl) where my cousin got stabbed. Just then, some sheriffs got there and the guys took off. I was busted because I was carrying a knife (bladed weapon). When I was released, they told me I would have to report to a probation officer, but I decided to come back instead, and I hereby declare that it is my wish to remain in my town and in my country."

This concludes these proceedings. I attest.

Simultaneous Interpretation
(Suggested Translation)

Moción para Retirar la Declaración de Culpabilidad (Culpable)

El acusado ha presentado una moción ante mí, indicando que en algún momento se estudió una moción para cambio de abogado en el Departamento 11 pero fue negada. El acusado alega, además, que su percepción de que su abogado había divulgado información privilegiada al co-abogado antes de que el caso fuese separado, fue lo que luego lo llevó a darse culpable. Sin embargo, el Tribunal no sabe, por medio de un trasunto qué fue lo que de hecho ocurrió. Y, puesto que la explicación del acusado en cuanto al comportamiento de las partes no está apoyada por la declaración jurada de ningún testigo, dista mucho de alcanzar el nivel requerido para constituir una prueba clara y convincente. Más aún, al Tribunal le parece que todo esto se remonta a la primera solicitud del acusado de que se relevara del cargo al abogado, concedida por el Tribunal el 23 de septiembre de este año.

Si este Tribunal creyese que el abogado actual, el Señor Vogel, también debió haber sido relevado de su cargo, sí tendría sentido para el Tribunal el que ahora se le permitiese al acusado retirar su declaración (de culpable); porque si ese fuera el caso, sería razonable creer que a este acusado se le había engañado, si no es que coercionado, para que aceptara un convenio declaratorio. El no hacerlo sería una negación de su derecho a una defensa justa y efectiva durante el juicio. Pero ese no es el caso aquí. Mas bien, veo que se llevó a cabo un interrogatorio muy detallado del acusado en un entorno que no era nada amenazante el día en que se aceptó su declaración de culpable; en un momento en que el acusado ya había pasado por el mismo procedimiento. Se le había notificado de sus derechos, había expresado su deseo de renunciar a esos derechos para poder darse culpable y después había decidido negar sus admisiones y su declaración de culpable alegando que el asesoramiento de su abogado había sido deficiente (ineficaz).

Ahora, (reunidos) nuevamente en el día fijado para la condena, me cuesta trabajo creer que él no hubiese podido expresar estas cuestiones (problemática) con mayor especificidad y de una manera más oportuna. Las razones que está enunciando aquí el día de hoy son las mismas que aquellas que anteriormente había presentado cuando retiró su declaración de culpabilidad la primera vez.

Lo que yo he considerado es si hay o no alguna prueba de estas alegaciones o de una falta de voluntariedad, y si cuando se dio culpable lo hizo con conocimiento (de causa/sabiendo lo que hacía) o no.

Este Tribunal determina que al acusado claramente se le informó en cuanto a las consecuencias de su declaración (de culpable), sus derechos, etc., no sólo una vez sino dos veces.

Además, determino que el Sr. Vogel nunca llevó a cabo negociaciones, abiertamente o en secreto, con el co-abogado. Todas las conversaciones (discusiones) con el co-acusado y con el Juez se encuentran en las actas, y en las actas constan los esfuerzos continuos del abogado por defender a su cliente de manera eficaz y agresiva.

Por lo tanto, se niega la moción del acusado de que se le permita retirar su declaración de culpabilidad. El Tribunal seguirá adelante con la condena (el dictado de la condena).

THIS COMPLETES THE INTERPRETER TEST PREPARATION MATERIALS

