Q/ What is a conference interpreter?

A conference interpreter is *the one whose job it is to translate orally the speech of participants in meetings conducted in two or more languages. His work may be performed simultaneously or consecutively, in the participants presence.*

- 2. Business Interpreting
- 3. Court Interpreting
- 4. Community Interpreting
- 5. Signed Language Interpreting

4.6 Modes of Interpreting

Three modes of interpreting can generally be distinguished:

1. Simultaneous Interpretation (at once):

In this kind of interpretation, the interpreter listens to what is being said and then translates it orally and simultaneously into the TL.

2. Consecutive Interpretation:

This normally takes place in conference meetings, where the interpreter sits in the conference room and takes of what is being said. At the end of each statement, he gives an oral statement; he gives an oral translation summarizing what has been said.

3. Whispered Interpretation:

The Interpreter sits between delegates and whispers into their ears the oral translation of what is being said.

4.7 Differences between Translation and Interpreting

| Translation | Interpreting |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Translation involves only | 1. Interpreting involves only |
| written te xts . | spoken texts. |

- 2. *Time* is not very important.
- 3. There is a **permanent record** of what is being done.
- 4. *The focus* in translation is normally **on the linguistic units**.
- 5. It involves formal memory, i.e. formal record of dates, numbers etc. which should be precise and accurate

- 2. Time is crucial.
- 3. Generally speaking, there **is no record of** what is being said.
- 4. *The focus* in interpretation is generally **on ideas.**
- 5. It involves semantic memory, i.e. meaning is the most important element in the message.