Bilingualism: Are Sign Language Interpreters Bilinguals?

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## I am an interpreter because I am a bilingual.

I am a bilingual because I am an interpreter.



## **Bilingualism Revisited**

- the ability to comprehend and use two different languages
- language ability vs. language use
- individual bilingualism and societal bilingualism
- "bilinguals are those who use two or more languages in their everyday lives." (Grosjean, 2010)



- Level of proficiency
- School experience
- Social experience
- Cultural behaviors
- Situations
- Flexibility



• Yes because....

• No because...



## Are Sign Language interpreters bilinguals?

