

SECTION

# 2

## SHARING IDEAS AND ORAL INTERPRETATION



# ORAL CONVERSATION

## Conversation/Communication in Context

### INTRODUCTION

This section discusses identification of key ideas in texts and discourse. It always gives information on specific ideas or knowledge to the reader or hearer. The information given may come from all perspectives such as education, industrialisation, mining among others. It may also indicate some cultural values such as respect, tolerance and patience. Identifying key ideas gives you a better understanding of the discourse. It also enhances your critical thinking skills and interpretation abilities. There are types of reading techniques namely skimming and scanning and the application of any of the type enables you to get the right information demanded at any time. Knowledge of the types is therefore essential in our everyday life. The concept of oral interpretation will also be discussed. We shall discuss the skills needed for effective interpretation. Interpretation plays important roles in facilitating communication across language barriers.

#### AT the end of this section you should be able to:

- Identify key ideas from appropriate discourse. E.g., cultural values (respect, kindness, tolerance and others), education, child trafficking, environment, industrialisation in Ghana, mining, GESI etc.,
- Discuss ideas and relevant opinions from selected discourse. E.g., cultural values (respect, kindness, tolerance and others), education, child trafficking, environment, industrialisation in Ghana, mining, GESI, STEM, etc.

#### Key Ideas

- Key ideas are the main messages that is relevant in any discourse. Some of the key ideas may center on cultural values such as respect, kindness, tolerance, patience, etc. In any discourse you can share relevant opinions

on any discourse appropriately and interpret any discourse in your own understanding.

- Dear learner, before leaving home for your present school, what are the main points from the conversation you had with your parent/guardian? Share with peers.
- The main points you shared with your peers are known to as key ideas. Key ideas are the essential ideas that the author or speaker wants to give to the reader or hearer/listener respectively. The ideas may include the claims, the reasons, conclusions, definitions, classifications, comparisons, evaluations, recommendations, etc. Key ideas can be expressed explicitly or implicitly.
- For you to identify the key ideas in discourse there is the need for you to understand the main concepts, arguments, and the points made. Note that the discourse could deal with any topic such as mining, teenage pregnancy, natural disaster, educational issues among others. It must also be pointed out that it could also come in a text form, video or picture or all the forms mentioned.
- In summary, my dear learner to identify the key ideas in a discourse which may be written or oral or visual, you may need to answer the following questions
  1. Find who or what the passage discusses: Does this passage discuss a person, group of people or an entity?
  2. Ask when the event took place: Does the information contain a reference to time?
  3. Find where the event took place: Does the text name a place?
  4. Ask why the event took place: Do you find a reason or explanation for something that happened?
  5. Ask how the event took place: Does this information indicate a method or a theory?

***NB: In a text, key ideas are sometimes italicised, boldened, or underlined. You can also find it in the topic sentence.***

## WHAT IS DISCOURSE

Generally, discourse refers to communication, conversation or discussion between individuals or groups either in spoken form or written form. It involves the exchange of ideas, opinions and information. Note that the definition of discourse could be defined also from different angles such as linguistics, social science and philosophy. The general meaning is appropriate for us. Go online to read the other definitions to broaden your knowledge.

### Opinion

Look at the picture below



The ideas you shared from the picture is your own ideas which is known as opinion.

Dear learner, opinion is view judgement formed about something which may not be necessarily based on knowledge or fact. It could be expressed in a statement of advice by a professional expert.

As a learner when discussing ideas and opinions in discourse you do the following

1. Start by listening actively
2. Think before you speak
3. Make sure you have the facts

4. Say what you think in a detailed straightforward manner and support with evidence
5. Use 'I' statements.

### Activity 1. Watch the video:

1. <https://www.dw.com/en/the-story-behind-ghanas-traditional-fire-festival/video-66383282>
2. Identify all the key ideas in the video.
3. What is your opinion after watching the video? Share with your peers

### Activity 2. Read the text below and answer the questions that follow.

Tsofa kɔmɔ yaka etee henumɔi srɔtoi ashi ye je le mli. Jee mɔ ni kɔɔ tsofa yaka le pe naa egbaa shi esaa esuɔɔi ke maɲmuu le fɛɛ he. Tsofa le nyɛɔ eboteɔ jweɲmɔ le mli kefiteɔ ansɔɲ le kɛkɛ le eha mɔ le eje gbɔmɛi atɛɲ loo ehaa mɔ le jeɔ kpa ye gbɔmɔtso le he. Tsofa ni mɛi fɔɔ kɔmɔ yaka le ekomɛi ji, baa (wii) srɔtoi ni haa mɛi ahie feɔ amɛ laɲlaɲ, nibii komɛi ni haa mɛi le amii sheɔ amɛhe ye gbe fɔɲ nɔ. Baa (wii) ni haa mɛi ahie feɔ laɲlaɲ ke kpɔiaɲ felemɔ tsofai ni datrefoi haa nyɛɔ tsuɔ mɛi le ahe nii. Tsofai komɛi tamɔ asra yeɲ (kokeen) ke kpɔiaɲ tsofai komɛi nyɛɔ haa mɔ le hiɛ woɔ la ni efeɔ gidigidi. Tsofai nɛɛ ekomɛi ji daa ni naa wa ke 'benzodiazepines' haa jweɲmɔɲ hewale baa shi kɛkɛ le mɔ le nyɛɛɛ ehɛnɔ eye asaɲ ejweɲɲ jogbaɲɲ.

1. Write down any relevant message you got from the passage above and discuss with your friend in class.
2. Explain any moral and cultural value you derive from the passage and share with your friends
3. Compare the answer you had with answers from your friends.

## EXTENDED READING

1. Canning, P. and Walker, B. (2024). *Discourse Analysis. A practical introduction* (1<sup>st</sup> ed.) Routledge

## REFERENCES

1. Aragbuwa, A. (2021). *Chapter One: Basic concepts in discourse analysis*.
2. [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/356207173\\_CHAPTER\\_ONE\\_BASIC\\_CONCEPTS\\_IN\\_DISCOURSE\\_ANALYSIS/citations#fullTextFileContent](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/356207173_CHAPTER_ONE_BASIC_CONCEPTS_IN_DISCOURSE_ANALYSIS/citations#fullTextFileContent). Retrieved on 5th May 2024.
3. Hare, V. C. (1984). Main idea identification: instructional explanation in four Basal reader series. *Journal of Reading Behavior* 189-204.

# ORAL CONVERSATION

## Reading

**At the end of the sub-strand you should be able to:**

1. Discuss skimming using preview, overview and review.
2. Discuss scanning using the strategies (e.g., movement of eyes or finger, locating words and phrases)
3. Apply skimming and scanning to extract information or ideas from texts

### Key ideas

Skimming is going through a text rapidly to get the general information in the text while scanning involves looking for a specific information in a text. Scanning is a process of reading in which your eyes quickly run through a piece of text to find a piece of relevant information. Scanning and skimming are two different concepts of reading.

## TYPES OF READING

There are types of reading skill or technique namely skimming, scanning, intensive reading and extensive reading. Dear learner, in this lesson you shall learn skimming and scanning techniques of reading.

### Skimming

Skimming is a reading technique used to quickly identify the main ideas or key points in a text. It is the action of reading something quickly so as to note only the important points. Basically, skimming is reading rapidly in order to get a general overview of the material read. It is used to find specific facts in texts. It involves glancing over the material, focusing on headings, subheadings, bold text and key phrases to get a general understanding of the content. Skimming is useful when; time is limited, looking for specific information, you want to get an overview

before reading in-depth and you are dealing with a large amount of text. Below are the skimming types.

*Preview:* An opportunity to view something before it is acquired or becomes generally available. Preview is done in an effort to learn about the ideas presented and the structure of their development.

*Overview:* Used to sample the reading material more thoroughly. A general review or summary of a subject.

*Review:* The review is done to re-familiarise yourself with the material you have previously read thoroughly or skimmed. A formal assessment of something with the intention of instituting a change if necessary.

Learner, in skimming, you can follow these steps

- Read the title
- Read the headings and sub-headings as well as topic sentences in each paragraph
- Look for important information such as date, names and unusual words.
- Read the conclusion

### Activity

1. Revise what you learnt and explain how you understand the concept of skimming and share your answer with your peers.
- 2
  - a. Skim through the passage below and write down three specific facts found in it .
  - b. Compare the facts you identified with a friend.

Subaṅi gbohii ni teo shi ye SHS kaselbi ateaṅ aagba maṅbii anaa ḡmeneḡmene. Subaṅi komēi tamō tsofakōmō basabasa, kobō, jō ye kaṅmaa mli ke abuumō ehe shi ye sekōndre sukui le amlī.

Naanyobō fōḡ, tsōsemō ke kudōmō kpakpa ni kaselbi naaa, shika taomō tridii ke gbēi feemō ji nō ni etee subaṅi gbohii nee ashi. Gbo ke Agbiēnaa nee, kaselbi ke amēhe miiwo subaṅi gbohii tamō, daatō, tsofakōmō yaka, asōshwemō, bōlenamō kēkē ke nibii gbohii krokomei feemō amlī; ene yeo amēgbōmōtso hewalenamō awui ye gbēi srōtoi anō asaṅ amenikasemō ke amēwōsēe nōyaa nō gbō.





material is structures either alphabetically, non-alphabetically, chronologically, by category, by titles /headings, by textual sense, by numbers among others.

Scanning helps a learner to read more and to develop love for reading.

### When to scan

1. Scan before reading
2. Scan a number of questions to identify the one which you are most comfortable answering
3. When searching for particular information such as date, keywords etc.

The following shows how to do scanning after getting overview of a text and identifying the sections of the text you want to read.

1. Start scanning the text by moving your eyes and fingers quickly over it
2. When you have identified the information, word or the phrase you are searching for, read the information surrounding the word carefully
3. When you identified the information that requires attention, you read it thoroughly slowly.

### Activity

1 In pairs explain the differences between skimming and scanning and compare with other pair in the class.


2 Read this [here](#)

From the readings identify the strategies in scanning a text and discuss in your group.

3a. Scan through the text below and identified the specific facts in it. 3b. Use four key words/phrase in the text to form sentences.

b. Gbomɔ emuuyeli ji gbomɔtso

Health is state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing, not just the absence of disease. Taking care of one's health is crucial for leading a happy and productive life. Hewalɛ kpakpa otii komɛi ji niyenii kpakpayeli, kpoaɔ gbɔlemɔ kpitiokpitio kɛ wɔ jogbanɔ. Kɛji oɔɔ hewalɛ kpakpanamɔ shihile lɛ no kuɔ hella kpitiokpitio naa, ehaa amɛjwɛɛmɔ mli tseɔ ni amɛkpoan hu feɔ amɛ fanɔ. Nyɛhaa wɔhaa hewalɛ namɔ afee wɔ -oti.

4. Watch the video below and identify the key information. 

## EXTENDED READING

1. Owu-Ewie, C. (2015). *Language teaching skills: A guide for language teachers*. Shine Prints Company Ltd.
2. Reading strategies: skimming and scanning. [https://www.uidaho.edu/-/media/UIdaho-Responsive/Files/class/special-programs/writing-center/process/reading-strategies\\_skimming-and-scanning.pdf](https://www.uidaho.edu/-/media/UIdaho-Responsive/Files/class/special-programs/writing-center/process/reading-strategies_skimming-and-scanning.pdf). Retrieved on May 5th 2024.

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1. Barasa, D. and Mudogo, B. (eds.) (2019). *Communication Skills. A handbook for students*. Utafiti Foundation
2. Butler, D. (2014). *Reading with the right brain: Read faster by reading ideas instead of just words*.
3. Hancock, H. (2006). *Reading skills for college students*. (7<sup>th</sup> ed.). Pearson
4. Langan, J. (2016). *College writing skills*. (8<sup>th</sup> Ed.). McGraw-Hill

# LANGUAGE USAGE

## Oral Interpretation and translation

**At the end of the sub-strand, you should be able to:**

Discuss oral interpretation focusing on effective listening, encoding and decoding.

### Key Ideas

Oral interpretation is reframing the meaning of a speech most often orally into another language. The original language is the source language and the language in which it is rendered is the target language. In oral interpretation you must note the cultural differences and be accurate in giving the meaning of what you are to render in the language orally.

## CONTENT

Interpretation is listening to a message in one language and rendering it orally in another language maintaining the original meaning, tone and context. It is the stylistic representation of a creative work or dramatic role. It is the act of explaining, reframing, or otherwise showing your own understanding of something. In interpretation you first have to understand the text or the piece given to you and then explain in your own words. In broader terms it is rendering a spoken or signed message into another spoken or signed language preserving the register and meaning of the source language content.

Dear learner, it must be noted that before you can do any interpretation, you must be well versed in the source and target language. Interpretation can be performed either simultaneously or consecutively between users of different languages.

Dear learner, know that in interpreting you do not embellish or over-exaggerate. State the ideas clearly. In interpreting you need to listen carefully, decode and encode as they serve as the process of communication and interpreting.

‘Encoding’ Eji gbejianotoo ni aketsakeo adafitswaa loo sane hie kemajeo shweshweeshwe ni tsakemo ko baa mli. Ekoo sane mli tsoomo ke shishinumoo shishi. Ekoo nikanemo, wolo majemo he sane ni etsio wiemokulibii, sanefa ke sanemuu ta.

‘Decoding’ Enẹ ji gbejianotoo ni aketsakeo niηmaa ko hie, ni gbalaa niηmaa ko mli ni anuo shishi Enẹ haa mei nuo shishi ni amegbalaa mli. Enẹ ji gbe no ni toiboloi tsoo no kenuo loo keboo sane ko mli haa.

You need to know the following to do oral interpretation

1. Listen attentively.
2. You should be fluent in both languages.
3. Keep to the meaning of the text or speech in the original language.
4. Keep pace with the dialogue.

Dear learner, decoding is like sending message and encoding is similar to receiving and understanding the message.

### Activity

1. Explain the basic concepts in oral interpretation to the class.
2. Explain how you understand the concept of interpretation to a classmate
3. In pairs listen carefully to the recorded audio and interpret it.

## EXTENDED READING

1. Atkinson, J.M (1999) *Interpretation*. London: Routledge
2. Munday, J. (2001) *Introducing Translation Studies*. London: Routledge

## REFERENCES

1. Baker, M. ed ((1998). *Encyclopedia of Translation Studies*. Routledge
2. Blackstil, M. (2007). *Theories of Interpreting*. Arnold
3. Larson, M.L (1984). *Meaning –Based Translation. A guide to cross – language equivalence*.  
University Press of America
5. Nolan, James (2005). *Interpretation: techniques and exercises*. Cromwell Press Ltd.
6. Hatim, B & Mason, .I. (1990). *Discourse Translator*. Addison Wesley Longman Inc.

# REVIEW QUESTIONS

## Review Questions for Key Ideas

Mention five different key ideas you have derived from the talk on health during your orientation program.

Discuss with your friend the five key ideas you have identified in (1) and let her or him share his or her key ideas with you.

Study the picture carefully and write down a passage of at least fifty words on it highlighting the key ideas.



## Review questions for skimming

1. Apply your skimming knowledge to the passage below and share your ideas with your friend. Give the summary of what the passage is about and share with your class mates.

Okwaayeli ji nifeemɔ ko ni he hiaa ni ebote mɛi ajwɛŋmɔ mli afii fioo ko ni eho lɛ. Okwaayeli hiɛ nifeemɔi srɔtoi pii tamɔ loolɛɛ, kooloi alɛɛ kɛ wuɔi. Enɛmɛi fɛɛ ahe miihia ejaakɛ eyɛɔ ebuaa niyenii namɔ ni he hiaa adesai ni amɛye kɛna wala. Okwaayeli ji nɔ ni yeɔ buaa shika he ŋaatsɔɔ

nitsumɔi lɛ ni edamɔɔ enaji anɔ. Yɛ jɛj maji srɔtoi amlɪ ɲmɛnɛɲmɛnɛ lɛ adu aduawai tamɔ kookoo, rɔba kɛ odontɪ babaoɔ diɛɲtɛ bɔ ni ahɔɔ ahaa maɲsɛɛbii. Maji krokomei hu ena nakai hegbe lɛ nɔɲɲ kɛmiidu aduawai krokomei fe mɛi komei. Yɛ maji krokomei nɛɛ anɔ lɛ amɛbɔɔ nyɔmɔ babaoɔ yɛ okwaayeli he, titri lɛ dumɔ nibii. Okwaafɔi titri ji mɛi ni kɛ dadei kɛ nilee ni be eho tsuɔ nii. Amɛtɛɲ mɛi pii ji mɛi ni bɛ he ni amɛtɔɔ aduawai ni amɛkpaa lɛ yɛ ni kooloi bibii kɛ flikilɔi fitɛɔ niyenii nɛɛ ni ehie kpataa. Enɛ yeeɛ buaaa amɛnikpamɔ ni egbaa amɛnaa.

Amralofɔi baanyɛ aye abua amɛ yɛ gbɛi pii anɔ. Abaanyɛ awo okwaafɔi akui ahewalɛ koni aha faahei ketɔ amralofɔi anitsumɔi tamɔ shikatoohɛi kɛ ekuralɔi anɔ. Abaanyɛ atsɔɔ okwaafɔi bɔ ni amaa nitoohei amɛha amɛkpamɔ nibii lɛ. Enɛmɛi fɛɛ kɛ ekrokomei baanyɛ aye abua okwaafɔi kɛkura okwaa nitsumɔ lɛ.

2. Apply the knowledge of skimming to an article such as a newspaper and give the general idea of the text.

## Review question for scanning

1. Apply scanning to a comprehension text given in class and write out all the specific information derived from each paragraph.
2. Describe two scanning techniques and indicate how you can apply it to identification of specific information in a text.

## Review Questions for Interpretation

1. Explain the differences between encoding and decoding.
2. Explain three things you will consider when you are interpreting a message from one language to another and why?
3. Listen to the audio in the folder attached and give the oral interpretation to the whole class.



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