

Cognition and the Task of Interpreting

- 32 KSAs (Knowledge, Skills and Abilities) in the following areas have been identified in order for a person to perform the task of interpreting.
 - Language Skills
 - Speaking Skills
 - Listening Comprehension Skills
 - Reading Comprehension Skills
 - Interpreting Skills
 - Behavioral Skills
- Each area involves a number of the following cognitive abilities:
 - **Altering Attention:** the ability to shift the focus of attention quickly
 - **Auditory Processing Speed:** the time it takes to perceive relevant auditory stimuli, encode, and interpret it and then make an appropriate response.
 - **Central Processing Speed:** the time it takes to encode, categorize, and understand the meaning of any sensory stimuli.
 - **Conceptual Reasoning:** includes concept formation, abstraction, deductive logic, and/or inductive logic.
 - **Divided Attention:** the capability to recognize and respond to multiple stimuli at the same time.
 - **Fine Motor Control:** the ability to accurately control fine motor movements.
 - **Fine Motor Speed:** the time it takes to perform a simple motor response.
 - **Focused (or Selective) Attention:** the ability to screen out distracting stimuli.
 - **Response Inhibition:** the ability to avoid automatically reacting to incorrect stimuli.
 - **Sustained Attention:** the ability to maintain vigilance.
 - **Visuospatial Sequencing:** the ability to discriminate between visual objects based on a concept or rule.
 - **Visual Perception:** the ability to perceive fixed visual stimuli.
 - **Visual Processing Speed:** the time it takes to perceive visual stimuli.
 - **Visual Scanning:** the ability to find a random visual cue.
 - **Visual Tracking:** the ability to follow a continuous visual cue.
 - **Working Memory:** the ability to hold task-relevant information while processing it.