

IIP Phone Interpreting PD - Centrelink Dialogue

Situation	Centrelink call about new payment	
Location 3-way phone call, on-demand		
Participants' names	Participants' names and roles	
English speaker	Name: Anna	Role: Centrelink officer
LOTE speaker	Name: Ruby/Robbie	Role: New client

Accepting and set-up

Interpreter	[Answer the phone call]	
Interpreting agency	Hello interpreter. This is the interpreting agency. We have a telephone interpreting job. Anna from Centrelink is with a Luritja speaker. Are you available to do this job?	
Interpreter	I am available and most Centrelink topics aren't too sensitive. Can you just confirm the full name and community the client is from, so I know I'm not in an avoidance relationship or that there's any conflict of interest? Also so I know it's Pintupi-Luritja.	
Agency	Of course. The client is Ruby/Robbie West, from Papunya community, they just said 'Luritja', not sure if it's Pintupi-Luritja.	
Interpreter	That will be fine. I can accept the job. Just give me a second to grab pen and paper, plug my headphones in and shut the door so my kids don't barge in! Ok – I'm ready!	
Interpreting agency	I'm now connecting you with Anna and the client, Ruby/Robbie. Anna, I have the interpreter here. Please go ahead.	

Start of the call

Centrelink officer	Hello, Interpreter, I'm Anna from Centrelink. I have Ruby/Robbie also on the line with me and I need to ask him/her some questions regarding applying for a payment.
Interpreter	Hello Anna, I'm [name], I'm a Pintupi-Luritja interpreter. Can you hear me ok? I just need to check that the sound is ok.
Centrelink officer	Yes – I can hear you fine.
Interpreter	Great. If I can just quickly explain my role to you and Ruby/Robbie – that I will be interpreting accurately and impartially and as interpreter I also must maintain confidentiality. [In Language] Ruby/Robbie – can you hear me? I am [name], the interpreter. My job is to say what this Centrelink lady says in Language for you, then you can talk back in Language and I'll say that for her in English. Like that, you two can talk to each other. That's my job, I just sit in the middle passing that message between 2

		languages. And I have to keep everything you two say to each other a secret/confidential. Is that OK? Are you happy for me to interpret for you today?
-	Client	Yeah, that's good. I don't understand how that mob speak sometimes.
	Interpreter	Ruby/Robbie – it's a bit noisy where you are. Can you go somewhere a bit quieter so I can hear you properly?
	Client	Wait, I'm just in the shop. I'm walking outside to this bench Ok.
	Interpreter	Anna – Ruby/Robbie was in the shop but is now outside where it's quieter. We can start.

The call (start consecutive interpreting)

1. Centrelink	So Ruby/Robbie - how are you today?How can I help you today?	
2. Client	 I want to put in for Centrelink payment How do I get on Centrelink? 	
3. Centrelink	 Sure, well, I need to ask you a few questions so firstly we can understand if you are eligible for a payment, and which payment you might be eligible for. Have you ever been on Centrelink payments before? 	
4. Client	 No, I was at school. Then I stopped when the music teacher left to go back down south. Mum reckons she can't get parenting payment for me anymore so maybe I can get Newstart, no? 	
5. Centrelink	 Newstart was replaced by JobSeeker in March last year. But I'm not sure you would be eligible for that. So you said you're not at school anymore. How old are you? 	
6. Client	• 18	
7. Centrelink	And are you working or studying at all?	
8. Client	No, I've been asking for work around the community, but nothing yet.	

	Based on what you've told me, you might be eligible for Youth Allowance.
	This is a payment for people who are 16-21 and seeking full-time
	employment.
	The amount you can get depends on your personal circumstances, so I will
9. Centrelink	have to ask you some more questions.
	And if you haven't been on a payment before, we will still need to get you
	to provide 100 points for identification – so show us things like a Medicare
	card and drivers licence.
	Excuse me miss, um my phone is going to run out of battery soon.
10. Client	Do I have to do all this over the phone or are you mob coming out here
	soon?
	Our team won't be in your community for quite a while, so you can apply
11. Centrelink	for payments using Centrelink online services and we can support you over
	the phone, or you can go into the customer service centre in [town].
	Yeah, I might go on the bus next weekend with the footy team and talk to
12. Client	someone in the office there-
	[phone cuts out]

End of the call

Centrelink	Oh – interpreter, I think we just lost Ruby/Robbie.
	Thanks for your help today.
	No problems. Just before you go, can you just remind me what you said
Interpreter	about Newstart? I haven't done any Centrelink jobs for a while and there
	was something new in there for me.
	Oh yeah. When COVID happened last year we brought in a new payment
Centrelink	called 'Jobseeker' to replace the old Newstart payment.
	Yes, that was it. OK thanks for the update.
Interpreter	Nice to work with you and thanks for working with our interpreting
	service.
Centrelink	You too. Bye now.