

Supplementary materials

1. Texts of the recorded speeches

TEXT A WELLNESS

What is wellness? Wellness is a broad concept. Let us try to give it a definition. People usually have an intuitive sense of what wellness means. We invite you to think of wellness as meaning being healthy. We should stay healthy in many dimensions of our lives. That includes the emotional, physical, and spiritual parts. Wellness also touches upon the financial aspect of our lives. It relates to our environment and to our social activities. All wellness dimensions are related to one another. We can say that one builds on another. In summary, wellness is about how we live our lives. It is about the joy and fulfillment and health we experience. When we worry about money, we sometimes experience anxiety. This may be caused, for example, by debt or not being able to afford what we need, which can lead to medical problems and trouble at work. When this happens, we may even question our own sense of meaning and purpose. Medical problems mean lack of physical health. Questioning your purpose relates to spiritual health. These are closely related here. At the same time, we may lose opportunities to interact with others. This is called social wellness. We may not be able to afford the good food and medical care we need. We may even need to move our home to a place that feels less safe and secure. This refers to our environment. In conclusion, you can see that wellness is the result of all aspects of our lives. What to do to achieve wellness? Let us have a look at the tips below. Creating balance in our lives is an important part of wellness. Overall, a balanced life can mean many things. It depends on culture, society, resources, and other factors. Balance means making sure we have time to do the things that make us feel happy and fulfilled. This includes working, having fun and spending time with family and friends. Many people like engaging in community or being physically active. Others will find balance in praying, relaxing and sleeping. We each have individual needs, preferences, and capabilities. What we consider “balance” will also look different. And it’s important for us to re-balance from time to time. This means we have to adjust to what is going on in our lives. Sometimes we’re trying to get through a tough time as a result of stress, an illness, trauma, or an emotional challenge. Balance is especially important in such moments. In these times, our habits and routines can help us get that feeling of control back. This means focusing on ourselves as well as the roles we play in

the lives of others. We are students, friends, parents, spouses, coworkers, hobbyists, community members, and citizens. Our roles and relations help define who we are. They give us a sense of purpose and show us how our lives are dependent on other people, animals, and the environment. Being engaged in life and relationships provides a measure of balance and overall wellness. For example, swimming has physical benefits: building strength, improving circulation. It also gives social and emotional benefits. This is because it relieves stress, and you can meet other people in the swimming pool. But we don't have to swim laps every week to be well. Getting into the pool even occasionally is a great step. Having a safe and clean living environment helps us feel organized and in control. It can be a way to get physical activity as well. It offers the chance for partners and families to work together. On the flip side, simply finding time to relax can go a long way toward finding balance in our lives. "Down time" can provide the space we need to think through a situation or work through our feelings, or just let us rest.

TEXT B

HEALTHY HABITS

What is a habit? A habit is something that is routine to you and that you repeat, often without realizing it. Some habits are good, some are detrimental. Are healthy habits worth cultivating? By all means. Healthy habits can allow you to live longer and live better. Healthy habits may help people tack on years of life and sidestep serious illnesses, such as diabetes and cancer. After all, if you're going to attain an additional decade of life on this earth, you want to enjoy it! There are various ways to create and cultivate good habits. It's impossible to change everything all at once. It's easier to establish small-scale goals and accomplish them. For example, it is easier to perform a small amount of physical activity each day than to decide to run a marathon. It might take you several months to create a new habit. So, you need to include the change as part of your regular routine. A diary (hard copy or online) or a wall planner may be of help. Numerous habits are triggered by specific events. For example, washing your hands is triggered by going to the toilet. It helps if you set triggers for your new habit as part of your existing routine. This could include a particular time of day, or an event such as waking up or consuming lunch. Setting reminders can help you maintain good habits. If you use an online diary, set automatic reminders on your computer and your phone. There are also apps available that help with goal setting and new habits. Your family and friends can also be a great support and can help to keep you motivated. If you slip back into your old habits, don't give up – it is common. Just remember why you wanted to make the change. This will help you pick up where

you left off. There are ways to avoid bad habits. For instance, you can make a note of what triggers a bad habit. If you are trying to eat less junk food, think about when and where you eat it. When driving? Getting it from the machine at work? After dinner? Avoid the trigger if you can. It is important to turn thinking into action. But making the leap from thinking about change to taking action can be hard and may take time. Asking yourself about the pros and cons of changing your habits may be helpful. How would life be better if you made some changes? Think about how the benefits of healthy eating or regular physical activity might relate to your overall health. For example, suppose your blood sugar is a bit high and you have a parent, brother, or sister who has type 2 diabetes. This means you may also develop type 2 diabetes. You may find that it is easier to be physically active and eat healthy knowing that it may help control blood glucose and protect you from a serious disease. You may learn more about the benefits of changing your food consumption and physical activity habits from a health care professional. This knowledge may assist you in taking action. Make your future a healthy one and plan ahead to avoid setbacks. For example, find other ways to be active in case of bad weather, injury, or other issues that arise. Think of ways to eat healthy when traveling or dining out, like packing healthy snacks while on the road or sharing a starter with a friend in a restaurant. If you do have a setback, don't give up. Setbacks happen to everyone. Also, challenge yourself! Revisit your goals and think of possibilities to expand them. For example, if you have limited your saturated fat intake by eating less fried foods, try cutting back on added sugars, too. Small changes can lead to healthy habits worth keeping. Good luck!

TEXT C

HOBBIES

Having a hobby that we enjoy brings us joy and enriches our lives. It gives us something fun to do during our leisure time and affords us the opportunity to learn new skills. We are very fortunate to have so many different options out there today. In fact, there are entire websites devoted to hobbies and interests. The best way to cultivate a new hobby is to try something new. The world is full of wonderful, exciting activities that we can explore and adopt as our own. Of course, all of us are unique and, therefore, our interests and hobbies vary. But once we find a hobby that we truly enjoy and are passionate about, we become hooked. It becomes part of our lives and captivates us in a very personal way. There are many reasons why all of us should have at least one hobby, but here are the main advantages: It makes you more interesting. People who have hobbies have experiences and stories that they can share with others. They also have specialized knowledge that they can teach to anyone who also has an interest in the

same topics as they do. It helps to relieve stress by keeping you engaged in something you enjoy. Hobbies give you a way to take your mind off the stresses of everyday life. They let you relax and seek pleasure in activities that aren't associated with work, chores, or other responsibilities. In order to develop a new hobby, you have to learn how to do something that is brand new to you. The odds are that there will be a learning curve, and you will need to be patient in order to build your skills. Having a hobby can help improve your social life and create a bond with others. Whether you join a club, play in a league, or just spend time with others, a hobby is a great way to get closer to people who have the same interests as you do. It increases your confidence and self-esteem. Usually, if you really enjoy an activity, you are also pretty good at it. Any activity that you can excel in is an opportunity for you to build your confidence and develop pride in your accomplishments. Hobbies help reduce or eradicate boredom. They give you something to do when you find yourself with nothing to fill your time. They also give you an activity that you can look forward to and get excited about. Besides, a hobby that you really dedicate your time to will lead you to build new skills. As you spend more time doing your hobby you will become better and better at it. It increases your knowledge. Along with building new skills, you will also gain new knowledge through the development of your hobby. It enriches your life and gives you a different perspective on things. No matter what type of hobby you choose, you will definitely be exposed to new ideas. Hobbies help you grow in various ways, including exposing you to new opinions and to new ways to look at life. When you pick a new hobby, you will be involved in activities that are novel and challenging. If you don't find your hobby challenging, then you also won't find it engaging, and it will be less enjoyable. Trying to figure out what to do during your days off or your evenings could be some tough stuff. It can feel a little cheesy trying to find a hobby as an adult, especially when it doesn't include drinking or happy hours. When you don't know what to choose, all the options seem kind of lame: knitting is for old ladies, sports have never been your thing, and if you pick up something like biking or gaming, you'll feel like a little kid. But having a hobby doesn't just have to be a time filler you do in between friend hangouts and work. It can morph into a passion that gets you excited and helps you recover from a long day. It helps you boost the quality of your life, so get ready to feel fulfilled!

TEXT D

WORK–LIFE BALANCE

Balancing your professional and personal life can be challenging. It is essential though. Here's how to improve your work–life balance today. Often, work takes precedence over everything

else in our lives. Our desire to succeed professionally can push us to set aside our own wellbeing. However, creating a good work–life balance is critical to improve our health. It supports our physical, emotional, and mental well-being. It is also important for our career. What is work–life balance, and why is it important? In short, work–life balance is the state where a person equally prioritizes the demands of one’s career and the demands of one’s personal life. Work–life balance is less about dividing the hours in your day evenly between work and personal life. Instead, it is more about having the flexibility to get things done in your professional life and still have time and energy to enjoy your personal life. Here are eight ways to create a better work–life balance. First, accept that there is no ‘perfect’ work–life balance. When you hear “work–life balance,” you probably imagine an ideal situation. You have an extremely productive day at work. At the same time return early to spend the other half of the day with friends and family. This may seem ideal, but it is not always possible. Don’t strive for the perfect schedule. Strive for a realistic one. Some days, you might focus more on work. Other days you might have more time and energy to pursue your hobbies or spend time with your loved ones. Balance is achieved over time, not each day. It is important to constantly assess where you are with your goals and priorities. At times, your children may need you, and other times, you may need to travel for work. But allowing yourself to remain open to changing and assessing your needs is key in finding balance. Secondly, find a job that you love. Work is an expected societal norm, but your career should make you happy. People who hate what they do aren’t going to be happy, plain and simple. You don’t need to love every aspect of your job, but it needs to be exciting enough that you don’t dread getting out of bed every morning. Then prioritize your health. Your overall physical, emotional, and mental health should be your main concern. Do you struggle with anxiety or depression and think therapy would benefit you? Fit those sessions into your schedule, even if you have to leave work early or ditch your evening spin class. If you are battling a chronic illness, don’t be afraid to call in sick on rough days. Overworking yourself prevents you from getting better. Instead, it probably causes you to take more days off in the future. Prioritizing your health will make you a better employee and person. You will miss less work, and when you are there, you will be happier and more productive. Prioritizing your health doesn’t have to consist of radical or extreme activities. It can be as simple as daily meditation or exercise. In addition, don’t be afraid to unplug. Cutting ties with the outside world from time to time allows us to recover from weekly stress and gives us space for other thoughts and ideas to emerge. Unplugging can mean something simple like practicing transit meditation on your daily commute, instead of checking work emails. Sometimes, truly unplugging means taking vacation time and shutting work completely off for a while. It does

not matter if your vacation consists of a one-day staycation or a two-week trip to Bali. It's important to take time off to physically and mentally recharge. Make time for yourself and your loved ones. Your job is important, but it shouldn't be your entire life. You were an individual before taking this position. You should prioritize the activities or hobbies that make you happy. Plan time with your loved ones, create a calendar for romantic and family dates. Just because work keeps you busy it doesn't mean you should neglect personal relationships!

TEXT E

VOLUNTEERING

Who is a volunteer? It is a person who devotes their time, energy, knowledge or money to a cause. Importantly, without asking for any reward. In other words, it is someone who helps others, or an institution, pro bono. Examples of such pro bono work include helping at a hospital or animal shelter or organizing a charity event. Most people would say it is about doing something good. Volunteering is about giving, contributing, and helping other individuals and the community at large. It is working with others to make a meaningful contribution to a better community. Why volunteer? With busy lives, it can be hard to find time to volunteer. However, the benefits of helping others can be enormous. It is good to offer vital help to people in need, good causes, and the community. The benefits can be even greater for you, the volunteer. The right match can help you to find friends, connect with the community, learn new skills, and even advance your career. Giving to others can also help protect your mental and physical health. It can reduce stress, combat depression, and provide a sense of purpose. The more you volunteer, the more benefits you'll experience. Volunteering doesn't have to involve a long-term commitment or take a huge amount of time out of your busy day. Even simple activities can help those in need and improve your health and happiness. Volunteering connects you to other people. Engaging in such activities allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place. You can help out with the smallest tasks and still make a real difference to the lives of people, animals, and institutions in need. At the same time, you have the chance to make new friends, expand your network, and boost your social skills. One of the best ways to make new friends and strengthen existing relations is to commit to a shared activity together. It strengthens your ties to the community and broadens your support network. Think about being new to a given area. Helping others may be a great chance to meet new people. It can also expose you to people with common interests. You gain the opportunity to practice and develop your social skills. This is because you meet regularly with a group of people with common interests. Often, you have to work in a team and find balance between ideas and interests.

Helping pro bono is also good for your mind and body. It provides many benefits to both mental and physical health. It helps counteract the effects of stress and anger. Helping and working with others can have a profound effect on your overall psychological well-being. Nothing relieves stress better than a deep connection to another person. Working with pets and other animals has also been shown to improve mood and reduce stress and anger. Human beings are designed to give to others. The more we give, the happier we feel. That is why helping others can actually have great benefits to you. So where to start? You first have to decide which causes you care about. Choose to help an organization or cause that you feel passionate about. This can increase the chances that you enjoy the work. Take time to define what you really care about. For example, if you're passionate about disability rights, you may enjoy helping at a special needs center. Be very specific about your passions and interests. Having a clear picture of what interests you will help you to find the best option. Next, identify the skills and knowledge you can offer. Many institutions ask that people who come to help have certain skills. For example, an animal shelter would probably look for someone with previous pet experience. Assess the skills you currently have to see if there are specific roles you could fit in. Most nonprofits also have training programs. They can train you on the basics, especially if you want a long-term role.

2. Expected and observed features of accented English

Table S1. Expected features of accented English depending on the native speaker

The table presents common deviations from native English speech by a speaker's native language. Only those languages included in the study are listed. The table is based on Albrecht (2021), Kramer (2009) and Riad (2014), among others.

Type of deviation	Problem	Polish	Chinese	Italian	Swedish
Phonemic	<i>Th</i>	[s f d v]	[s z]	[s z]	[f v]
	consonant clusters and final consonant	no simplification	simplification or vowel insertion	simplification, possible schwa insertion at the end of a word	no simplification
	l/r	no problem, but no dark l, vowel insertion	realized as r or n, vocalized dark l	no dark l	no dark l
	[v – w] confusion	–	v replaced by [f w]	–	[wv] as [vw] or the other way around
	n/angma	no angma in -ing or [ɪŋk]	replace final -n with an angma	–	–
	intervocalic and final s	final devoicing, intervocalic: voiced	–	confusion with Italian intervocalic voicing	always realized as [s]
	Palatals	retroflexes	retroflexes or alveopalatals, (only voiceless)	–	tch, j □ Swedish sh, y
	Cw	–	one labialized consonant, not a sequence	–	Cv
	Vowel contrasts	long/short i, e/a/u – strategies: all types of i the same, ash is e, u is a	long/short i, e/a/u	simplification of the vowel system to e, ε, a, i, o, ɔ, u	long/short i, e/a/u
Prosodic	Stress	tendency to produce penultimate stress, no vowel reduction	stress on each syllable, no qualitative or quantitative differences between syllables, stressing pronouns	lengthening stressed syllables, tendency to stress heavy syllables, no vowel reduction to schwa	penultimate stress, lengthening of the stressed syllable (either a vowel or a consonant can be lengthened)

	Rhythm	no linking, inappropriate pauses	syllable-timed, no linking	syllable-timed	stress-timed
	Intonation			rising/fluctuating intonation contour	falling intonation in questions, monotonous

Table S2. Recurrent phonetic mistakes in stimulus recordings

Accent	Intonation	Frequent word stress errors	Absence of vowel reduction	Neutralization of vocalic contrasts	Final devoicing	Mispronounced [θ]/[ð]
Polish	Narrow pitch variation	–	+	+	+	+
Italian	Exaggerated pitch variation, clear division into intonational phrases	+	+	+	+	+
Swedish	Narrow pitch variation	–	+	+	+	+
Chinese	Unnatural pitch variation, lack of cues to intonational boundaries	+	–	+	+	+

Table S3. Accent-specific segmental mistakes in stimulus recordings

Accent	Other segmental errors
Polish	Regular insertion of a velar stop after [ŋ], e.g., <i>questioning</i> , <i>things</i> Dental [t]/[d]
Italian	Omission of word-final segments and syllables, e.g., <i>experience</i> , <i>relationships</i> , <i>physically</i> , <i>occasionally</i> Dark [ɫ] occasionally realized as clear [l], e.g., <i>wellness</i> , <i>help</i> Occasional gliding of the labiodental fricative: [v] -> [w], e.g., <i>achieve</i> Lexical mistakes, e.g., <i>lead</i> [e], <i>broad</i> [au]

Swedish	<p>Gemination, e.g., <i>intuitive</i>, <i>happy</i>, <i>citizens</i>, <i>swimming</i></p> <p>Palatalization of word-final [k], e.g., <i>work</i>, <i>back</i></p> <p>Dark [ɣ] regularly realized as clear [l], e.g., <i>wellness</i>, <i>people</i></p> <p>Devoicing of intervocalic [z] and [ʒ] in word-medial position, e.g., <i>example</i>, <i>result</i>, <i>conclusion</i>, <i>measure</i>, <i>occasional</i></p> <p>Occasional gliding of the labiodental fricative: [v] -> [w], e.g., <i>invite</i></p>
Chinese	<p>Cluster simplification, strategies used: vowel insertion (e.g., <i>debt</i> -> <i>debit</i>), deletion of consonants (e.g., <i>called</i> -> <i>call</i>, <i>stay</i> -> <i>say</i>)</p> <p>Gliding of the labiodental fricative: [v] -> [w], e.g., <i>invite</i>, <i>environment</i></p> <p>Dark [ɣ] realized as clear [l], e.g., <i>health</i>, <i>called</i>, or as [r], e.g., <i>feel</i></p> <p>No nasal coda, strategy used: deletion of [n] + nasalization of the preceding vowels, e.g., <i>on</i>, <i>fun</i>, <i>one</i></p> <p>The letter 'c' pronounced as [ts], e.g., <i>coworkers</i> [ɪ]-tensing, e.g., <i>live</i>, <i>it is</i></p>

3. Pre-processing procedure

The pre-processing pipeline, executed using a tailormade function in R, was as follows.

1. Relevant columns of the data file were loaded.
2. The 'Trial' variable was checked and prepared (some files had an additional initial trial during the camera configuration and calibration procedure – this had to be removed).
3. Relevant points in each trial were identified that corresponded to the baseline period and to the subsequent parts of the trial. Owing to a programming error, the fixation point marking the baseline was set too early (40 s before the beginning of the audio) for the first 16 participants and therefore the 2 s baseline had to be marked during the pre-processing. A period after the audio file stopped was also marked (5 s) owing to the decalage (interpreter's lag).
4. The mean baseline was then calculated for each trial and subtracted from the average pupil-size data (i.e., the average between the two eyes). This created a new variable: baseline-corrected pupil size.
5. Blinks were identified and removed with a 100 ms buffer on each side of them.
6. The data were filtered using a low-pass 10 Hz filter.
7. To ensure pupil-size normalization across the participants, the baseline-corrected pupil size was converted as a proportion of the dynamic pupil-size range per trial. The procedure followed previous work on normalization, including that of Piquado et al. (2010) or Winn et al. (2018). In our case, we used only the data recorded during the baselining period and the experiment to calculate ranges of pupil size, without exposing the participants to different amounts of lighting. The lighting was held constant and the same for each participant during the whole experiment.
8. Based on the input audio file, two variables were added: Text (A, B, C, D, E) and Accent (American, Chinese, Italian, Polish, Swedish). In addition, based on the sample index, a Time variable was created and converted to seconds, corrected with respect to the baseline. In this way, we could see the changes in pupil diameter in time, with each trial lasting around 300 s. Also, each trial was divided into three parts for descriptive statistics and a speech Part variable was created that included: baseline, part 1, part 2, part 3, post-audio. The baseline was subsequently removed.
9. The data were then truncated at the end of each trial so that only 250 s were analysed per trial per participant for optimal comparability.
10. The procedure was repeated in a loop over all the participants.

11. The resultant result list was converted into a data table for statistical analysis.

As for data exclusions, we removed data from Trial 1 participant PRO1 because the participant stopped interpreting after a few seconds and returned to the task only 1 min later. We also excluded Trials 4 and 5 of participant PRO17 because the experiment aborted due to a technical error and these trials were not executed during the rerun of the experiment (the interpreter already knew these speeches). Further exclusions were Trials 4 and 5 of participants PRO12 and PRO28 in which the data had very few data points and were not reliable. In addition, the data from PRO25 were excluded because the interpreter resigned before completing the task. In the student group, we excluded all the data from two participants P7 and P22 in which most of the data points were lost. There are also no data for P18, for whom we were unable to set up the eye-tracker due to nystagmus and the experiment consequently having to be aborted. This gave us a total of 48 participants: 21 students and 27 professionals.

After this step, we examined the data and found a bimodal distribution of pupil size in the data from professional interpreters which was due to one participant. We therefore decided to remove all the pupil data from the professional group with values equal to or greater than 700. As a result, we arrived at a normal distribution for the entire dataset.

It is worth noting that in some trials some of the participants had few data points, probably due to blinking and head movements which caused the camera to lose track of the relevant eye. The exact number of data points per participant is presented in the table below.

Table S4. Number of data points per participant after preprocessing

Participants coded with a “P” correspond to the students and participants coded with “PRO” correspond to the professional interpreters.

Participant	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P8	P9
Data points	9,663	7,249	7,982	9,849	11,324	5,938	9,204	3,663
Participant	P10	P11	P12	P13	P14	P15	P16	P17
Data points	9,804	11,563	8,681	7,718	6,847	6,659	10,044	9,712
Participant	P19	P20	P21	P23	P24	PRO1	PRO2	PRO3
Data points	7,106	6,714	9,802	9,329	11,048	8,815	1,542	5,373

Participant	PRO4	PRO5	PRO6	PRO7	PRO8	PRO9	PRO10	PRO11
Data points	10,506	9,032	11,027	12,103	7,743	8,377	11,839	9,311
Participant	PRO12	PRO13	PRO14	PRO15	PRO16	PRO17	PRO18	PRO19
Data points	4,625	9,415	9,037	4,236	11,133	2,061	9,176	10,914
Participant	PRO20	PRO21	PRO22	PRO23	PRO24	PRO26	PRO27	PRO28
Data points	9,963	9,583	4,916	10,807	9,365	9,112	8,919	2,824

4. Tables of results from the statistical models

Table S5. Marginal means of pupil size for the interaction between group and accent in the first GCA model

SE = standard error, df = degrees of freedom, CL = confidence levels

Accent	Group	emmean	SE	df	lower.CL	upper.CL
American	Professionals	0.077	0.037	52.8	0.004	0.150
Chinese	Professionals	0.054	0.037	52.7	-0.019	0.128
Italian	Professionals	0.089	0.036	52.5	0.016	0.163
Polish	Professionals	0.083	0.036	52.3	0.009	0.156
Swedish	Professionals	0.052	0.036	52.6	-0.021	0.126
American	Students	0.282	0.038	51.9	0.206	0.360
Chinese	Students	0.139	0.038	52.0	0.063	0.216
Italian	Students	0.321	0.038	52.1	0.245	0.399
Polish	Students	0.217	0.038	52.2	0.140	0.294
Swedish	Students	0.167	0.038	51.8	0.090	0.244

Table S6. Marginal means of pupil size for the interaction between group and accent in the second GCA model

SE = standard error, df = degrees of freedom, CL = confidence levels

Accent	Group	emmean	SE	df	lower.CL	upper.CL
American	Professionals	0.121	0.030	48.8	0.0603	0.183
Chinese	Professionals	0.147	0.030	48.8	0.085	0.208
Italian	Professionals	0.181	0.030	48.8	0.119	0.242
Polish	Professionals	0.156	0.030	48.8	0.094	0.217

Swedish	Professionals	0.150	0.030	48.8	0.089	0.211
American	Students	0.355	0.032	48.9	0.291	0.419
Chinese	Students	0.271	0.032	48.9	0.207	0.335
Italian	Students	0.387	0.032	48.9	0.323	0.451
Polish	Students	0.295	0.032	48.9	0.231	0.359
Swedish	Students	0.269	0.032	48.9	0.205	0.334

5. Summary of participant feedback from post-experiment survey

In the post-experiment survey, the participants were asked to identify the most difficult text to interpret and the most difficult speaker to interpret. These were not always the same. All in all, *Healthy habits* and *Work–life balance* were chosen the most often in responding to these questions. When confronted with the corresponding accents, however, we can see an overwhelming prevalence of the Chinese accent as being considered the most difficult (see Table S7 below).

The participants were also asked to choose the most disturbing features of the delivered speeches from a predefined list. Incorrect pronunciation of sounds was a definite winner (27 votes), followed by incorrect intonation (14) and word stress (14). Pace (speaking rate) and fluidity were also chosen by some participants (6 and 12, respectively). As for individual remarks concerning the task, they were given by around half of the participants. Chief complaints concerned the type of task, i.e., experiment design: it was not possible to look at the speaker; the texts were read or spoken out rapidly; and it was not clear what the target audience was (the texts were generic and no ‘conference context’ was provided). Several people complained about mispronunciations or careless speaking, and about intonation, especially the lack of intonational breaks between phrases and sentences. Some people said it was difficult to predict when the speech was coming to an end and the ending was unexpected.

Table S7. The most difficult text (speech) and speaker identified by the participants together with the corresponding accent information

Note that the participants did not know the accent to which a given speech or speaker corresponded.

Participant	The most difficult text	Accent of the most difficult text	The most difficult speaker	Accent of the most difficult speaker
P1	I don't remember	N/A	I don't remember	N/A
P2	Healthy habits	Chinese	Healthy habits	Chinese
P3	Healthy habits	Polish	Volunteering	Chinese
P4	I don't remember	N/A	Work–life balance	Chinese

P5	Work–life balance	Swedish	Wellness	Chinese
P6	Wellness	Chinese	Wellness	Chinese
P7	Healthy habits	Chinese	Healthy habits	Chinese
P8	Wellness	Swedish	Importance of hobbies	Chinese
P9	Wellness	Polish	Work–life balance	Chinese
P10	Work–life balance	Italian	Volunteering	Chinese
P11	Healthy habits	Chinese	Work–life balance	Polish
P12	Importance of hobbies	Chinese	Importance of hobbies	Chinese
P13	Volunteering	Chinese	Volunteering	Chinese
P14	Wellness	Polish	Work–life balance	Chinese
P15	Wellness	Chinese	Importance of hobbies	Polish
P16	Work–life balance	Swedish	Healthy habits	American
P17	Healthy habits	Italian	Wellness	Swedish
P19	Healthy habits	American	Healthy habits	American
P20	Healthy habits	Chinese	Healthy habits	Chinese
P21	Importance of hobbies	Italian	Work–life balance	Chinese
PRO1	Work–life balance	American	Work–life balance	American
PRO2	Work–life balance	Chinese	Work–life balance	Chinese
PRO3	Volunteering	Chinese	Volunteering	Chinese
PRO4	Work–life balance	Swedish	Wellness	Chinese
PRO5	I don't remember	N/A	Healthy habits	Chinese
PRO6	Importance of hobbies; Volunteering	Chinese; Polish	Importance of hobbies; Work–life balance	Chinese; American
PRO7	Healthy habits	Swedish	Work–life balance	Chinese
PRO8	I don't remember	N/A	Healthy habits	Polish
PRO9	Wellness	Chinese	Wellness	Chinese

PRO10	Work–life balance	Polish	Healthy habits	Chinese
PRO11	Importance of hobbies	Chinese	Importance of hobbies	Chinese
PRO12	Healthy habits	Polish	Volunteering	Chinese
PRO13	Work–life balance	Swedish	Healthy habits	American
PRO14	Importance of hobbies	Polish	Wellness	Chinese
PRO15	Wellness	Italian	Healthy habits	Chinese
PRO16	Work–life balance	Polish	Healthy habits	Chinese
PRO17	Work–life balance	Chinese	Work–life balance	Chinese
PRO18	Healthy habits	Polish	Healthy habits	Polish
PRO19	I don't remember	N/A	I don't remember	N/A
PRO20	Healthy habits	Chinese	Healthy habits	Chinese
PRO21	Healthy habits	Italian	Importance of hobbies	Chinese
PRO22	Work–life balance	Chinese	Work–life balance	Chinese
PRO23	Healthy habits	Polish	Importance of hobbies	Swedish
PRO24	Wellness	Italian	Healthy habits	Chinese
PRO26	Work–life balance	Polish	Wellness	Italian
PRO27	Work–life balance	Chinese	Work–life balance	Chinese
PRO28	I don't remember	N/A	Importance of hobbies	Chinese

Post-experiment survey

Students

1. **Participant Number:** _____

2. **Year of Study:**
 - 1st year of Master's programme
 - 2nd year of Master's programme

- Graduate

If you are a graduate, please provide the number of years you have worked as an interpreter:

3. Age:

4. Gender:

- Female
- Male
- Other

5. Language – Specify Language B:

6. Language – Specify Language C:

7. Knowledge of Other Foreign Languages:

(Please list along with your proficiency level, e.g., A1/2, B1/2, C1/2)

8. Which speaker was the most difficult to interpret?

(Mark the text read by the respective speaker.)

- Wellness
- Healthy habits
- Importance of hobbies
- Work–life balance
- Volunteering
- I don't remember

9. Which text was the most difficult?

- Wellness
- Healthy habits

- Importance of hobbies
- Work–life balance
- Volunteering
- I don't remember

10. What was the most challenging aspect of the interpretation?

- Intonation
- Incorrect pronunciation of sounds
- Word stress
- Rhythm/fluency of speech
- Tempo
- Other/I don't know

11. Observations and Comments You Would Like to Share:

Professional Interpreters

1. Participant Number:

2. Age:

3. Gender:

- Female
- Male
- Other

4. Language – Specify Language B:

5. Language – Specify Language C:

6. Knowledge of Other Foreign Languages:

(Please list along with your proficiency level, e.g., A1/2, B1/2, C1/2)

7. Professional Experience (in years):

8. Average Number of Assignments Per Month:

9. Which speaker was the most difficult to interpret?

(Mark the text read by the respective speaker.)

- Wellness
- Healthy habits
- Importance of hobbies
- Work–life balance
- Volunteering
- I don't remember

10. Which text was the most difficult?

- Wellness
- Healthy habits
- Importance of hobbies
- Work–life balance
- Volunteering
- I don't remember

11. What was the most challenging aspect of the interpretation?

- Intonation
- Incorrect pronunciation of sounds
- Word stress
- Rhythm/fluency of speech
- Tempo
- Other/I don't know

12. Observations and Comments You Would Like to Share:
