



## When to Use OSI, OPI, VRI, or RSI

With so many versions of interpretation these days, it's important to know when to use these different options. The rising prominence in telecommunication has caused us to look at language service in the same way.

There are many settings that need, or even require, a certain form of interpretation in order to convey a message accurately and efficiently. There are scenarios when talking and interpreting over the phone is entirely appropriate. However, there are other scenarios that may need a visual aspect included in the interpretation process, whether that is in person or virtually. With the correct interpretation type, you can ensure efficiency and a better understanding of what is being communicated.

Below is a table that shows specific settings and which interpretation formats serve them best.

Interpretation Type	OSI	OPI	VRI	RSI
Customer Service		✓		
Social Service Visit	✓		✓	
Parent-Teacher Conference	✓		✓	✓
School Board Meeting	✓			✓
Public Meeting/Hearings	✓			✓
Public Service Announcements	✓			✓

**Key:**

**OSI:**  
On-Site  
Interpretation

**OPI:**  
Over-the-Phone  
Interpretation

**VRI:**  
Video Remote  
Interpretation

**RSI:**  
Remote Simultaneous  
Interpretation