

# Deaf Interpreter & Signed Language Assessment

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in collaboration with:

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Deaf Interpreting Critical Issues:

Summer Symposium on Effective Practices

Northeastern University, Boston



# I and Language Assessment

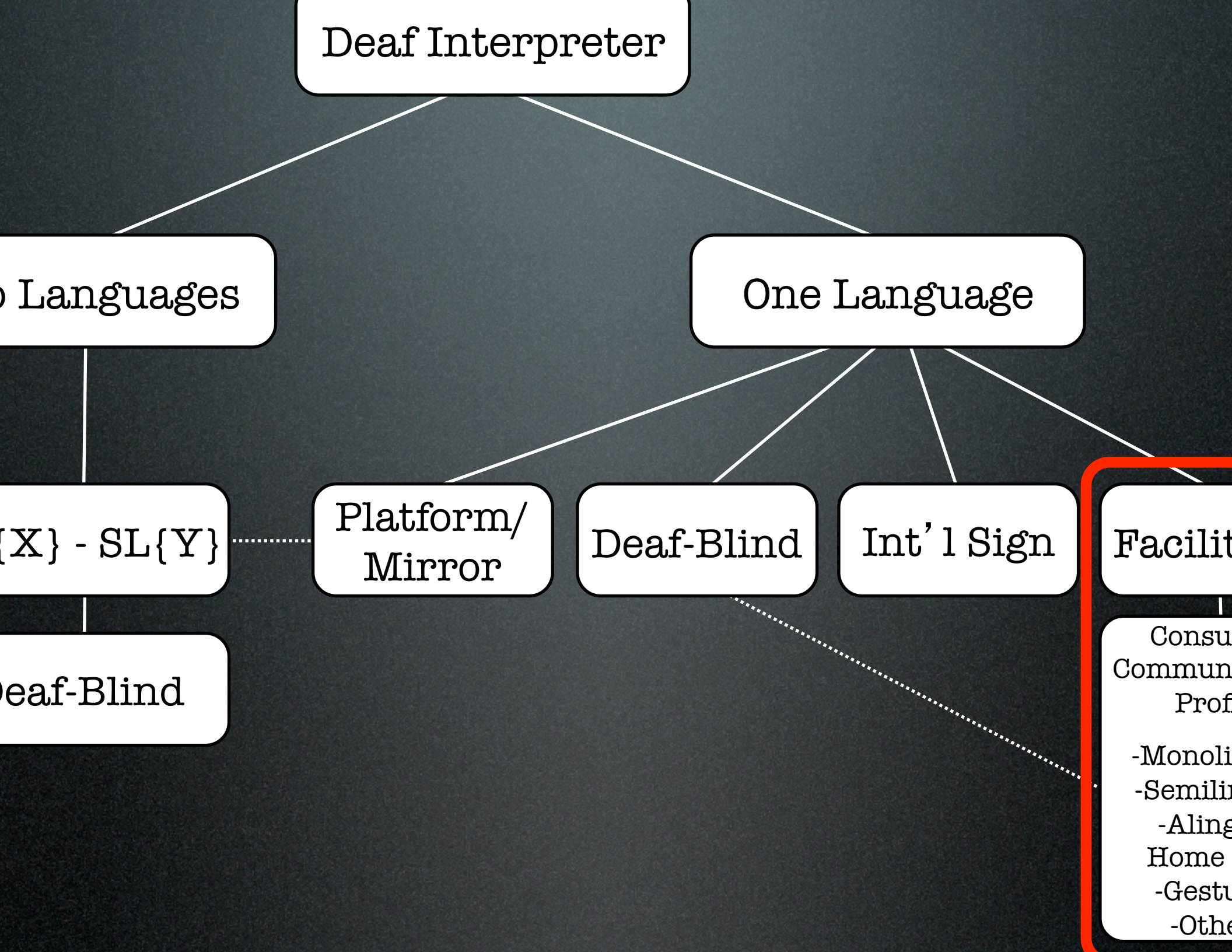
- DI and Consumer: Overview
- Understanding DI's Roles
- Beyond DI's Roles
- DI's Knowledge / Training
- Language Assessment Tools
- Discussions



# Consumer's Language

- Language (Signed or Spoken)
- Bilingual
- Monolingual
- Semi-lingual
- Alingual
- Home Signs
- Communication System Interferences
- Gestures (hearing/cultural based)
- Cognitive Effects (i.e.: Aphasia)
- Educational Background (general knowledge)
- Cultural and/or Family Background







# Deaf Interpreter's Roles?

- Communication Facilitator
- Communication Advocacy
- “Code-Breaker”
- “Special Unit”
- Language Specialist
- Language Diagnostician



ASL/English  
Interpreter

ring  
omer

Deaf  
Customer

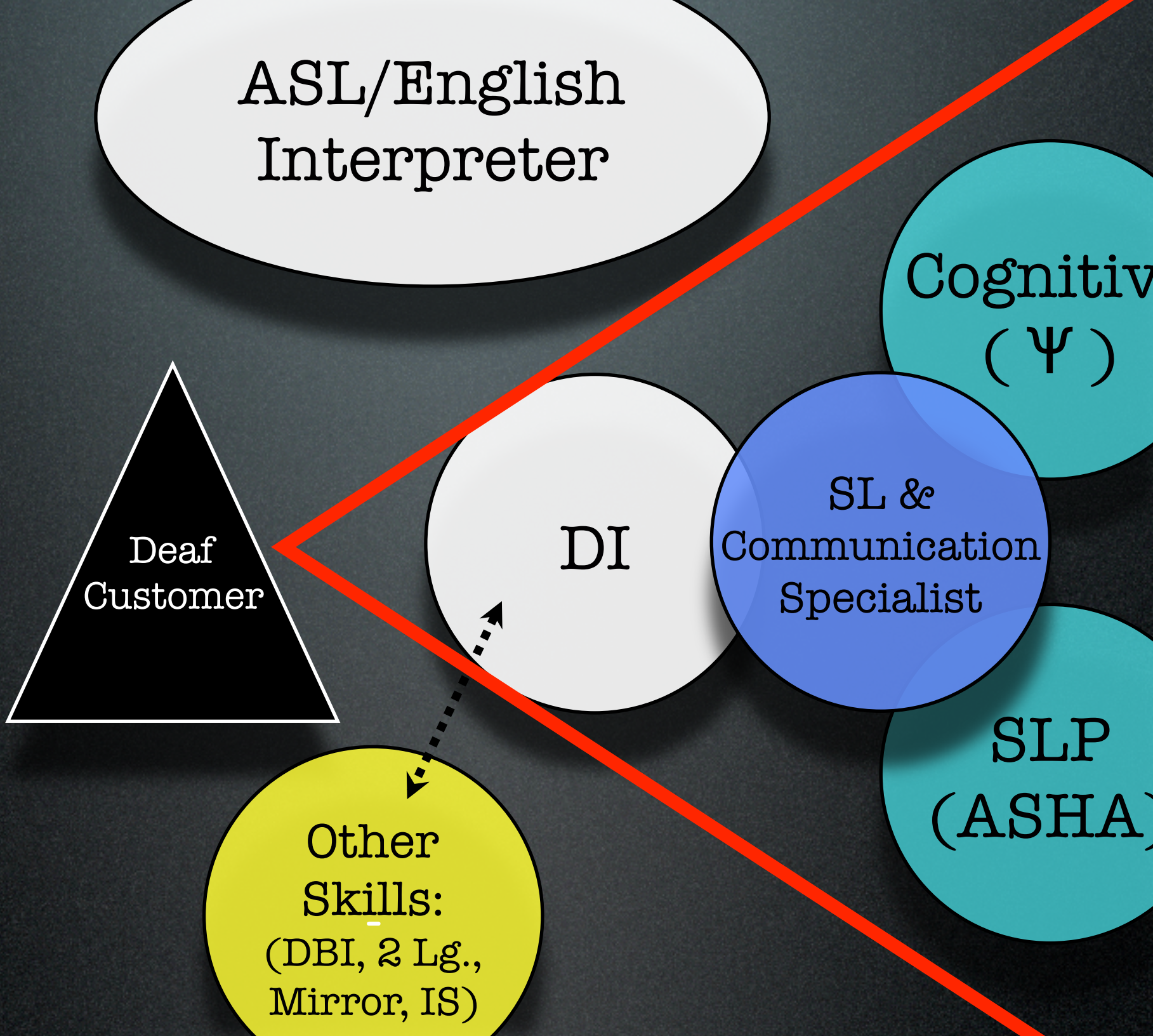
DI

SL &  
Communication  
Specialist

Cognitive  
( $\Psi$ )

SLP  
(ASHA)

Other  
Skills:  
(DBI, 2 Lg.,  
Mirror, IS)





# Knowledge Base

- Linguistics: General and Sign Language
- Psycholinguistics ( Lg. Acquisition Milestone)
- Sociolinguistics ( Lg. Contact, Dialects)
- Historical Linguistics ( Education, Typology)
- Neurolinguistics ( Cognitive, Brain Damage)
- Clinical '**Sign** Language Pathology'
- Assessment Tools Available



1. Language Acquisition, diagnosis & Intervention
2. Test for Educational Purposes
3. Linguistics Research
4. Second Language Learners



# Language & Cognition

- SL vs. Spoken L. Language Acquisition
- L1 vs. L2 Acquisition (BICS & CALP)
- Critical Period Hypothesis - Lg. Delay
- Specific Language Impairment (SLI)
- Theory of Mind (TOM)
- Issues of Normed Tests
- Brain (Aphasic)
- 'Detective' (Field Research on Consumer Communicative Surround)



# Pathology Tools (SLP)

- Peabody
- Raven Matrix
- Rhode Island Test of Language Structures
- Working Memory
- Lexical - Semantic - Morphological - Syntax - Pronoun/loci
- Non linguistic Spatial vs language ability



# Sign Lg. Diagnosis Process

- Tools to be used
- Identification/Diagnosis
- Analysis/Report
- Remedial Sessions - 'Sign Language Pathology'
- Community, Tutoring, 'Treatment/Intervention'



# Professional Status

- CDI - 16 hours? Social Justice Issues
- Linguistic related training
- SLP - ASHA Licensing for Sign LP branch
- ASL Specialist (Teaching vs. Intervention & Assessment)
- SL and Deaf Communication 'Expert'



# Conclusion - Discussion

- DI vs. Sign Lg. Diagnostician (Sign LP)
- Code of Ethics / Code of Professional Conduct
- Dual Role (DI & Expert) or Separate Role
- Type of training to be expected
- Where and What is available for DI?
- CDI vs. CI: Status of Certification
- Native Signer Skills Only vs. Skills-Knowledge-Attitude (Formal Training & Experience)



# Thank You!

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