

# Country of Origin Essentials

Knowing which country or region the limited-English-speaking client comes from enables us to choose the right interpreter.



*According to recent census data, 21% of Canada's population speak a language other than English or French as their mother tongue.*

Placing an order for an interpreter is quick and easy when all of the required information is readily available.

The client's country or region of origin is an essential piece of information ordering parties do not often provide.

Most times, the ordering party will know the client's primary language but will not know the specific dialect of that language.

## COUNTRY OR REGION IS IMPORTANT DUE TO THE WIDE RANGE OF VARIATIONS

The chart below shows a few examples of primary languages and their variations. It's easy to see why simply requesting a Chinese or Arabic interpreter is not enough information to pinpoint the ideal interpreter for the assignment.

Language	Variations
Chinese	Cantonese, Gan, Hakka, Huizhou, Jin, Mandarin, Min, Pinghua, Wu, Xiang, Yue
Spanish	Andean-Pacific, Canarian, Caribbean, Central-Southern Peninsular, Central American, Chilean, Mexican, Northern Peninsular, Rioplatense
English	American (multi-regional), Australian, Bahamian, Bay Islands, Belizean, Bermudian, British (mutli-regional), Brunei, Burmese, Canadian, Cameroonain, Carribean, Hong Kong, Indian, Irish, Jamaican, Kenyan, Liberian, Malawian, Malaysian, Namibian, Nepali, New Zealand, Nigerian, Pakistani, Phillipine, Singaporean, South African, Sri Lankan, Trinidadian, Ugandan
Arabic	Algerian, Andalusian, Bahrani, Central Asian, Chadian, Egyptian, Emirati, Hassaniya, Iraqi, Jordanian, Judeo-Arabic, Kuwaiti, Lebanese, Levantine, Libyan, Maghrebi, Mesopotamian, Moroccan, Nigerian, Omani, Palestinian, Peninsular, Qatari, Sa'idi, Sahrawi, Saudi, Somali, Sudanese, Syrian, Tunisian, Yemeni
Hindi	Awadhi, Bagheli, Braj Bhasha, Bundeli, Chhattisgarhi, Haryanvi, Hindustani, Kannauji
Bengali	Barisal (Bakerganj), Bogra, Chakma, Chittagong, Chuadanga, Comilla, Dinajpur, East Malda, Faridpur, Hajong, Jessore, Khulna, Manbhumi, Manikganj, Munshiganj (Bikrampur), Mymensingh, Noakhali (Feni, Hatia, Ramganj, Sandwip, Pabna, Rangpur, Sylhet
Portuguese	Angolan, Azores, Brazilian, Cape Verdean, Damanese  Dialecto Portugueses del Uruguay (DPU), East Timorese, European, Galician-Portuguese, Goan, Guinean, Macanese, Mainland, Mozambican, Portuguese
German	Brazilian, Central, Chilean, High, High Franconian, Hunsrik, Hutterite, Low ("Plautdietsch"), Pennsylvania Dutch, Sathmarisch, Siebenbürgisch, Standard, Texan, Upper, Wymysorys

### BENEFITS:

A better experience for the limited-English-speaking client.

Accurate and clear communication between parties.

One step order placement.

Saves time and money by avoiding having to rebook an assignment.

### HOW TO ASK FOR THE CLIENT'S COUNTRY OR REGION

Most of the ordering parties we work with are English-speaking, so it's not always easy to get information from a limited-English-speaking client. Hopefully the client knows enough English to answer some basic questions.

Some questions you can ask include:

- What language do you speak?
- What dialect do you speak?

If that doesn't work, then try and gather geographical information:

- Which country are you from?
- Which city or town did you live in?

Supplying this information will help the Interpreting Coordinator make the best decision possible with the information on hand.

### CANADA IS HOME TO MANY PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Multiculturalism is undeniable, and overcoming language barriers is mandatory in today's world. Limited-English-speaking people are always concerned about the quality of service they will receive.

- Over 200 languages are spoken in Canada
- Over 6,500 languages are spoken around the world, of which approximately 2,000 are in small communities.
- Every language is complex and has more or fewer variations depending on the size of the community and country or region.

**To learn more about the importance of country or region, please speak with the Interpreting Services Department at 416-975-5297 / 1-888-975-4468 or [Interpreters@AllLanguages.com](mailto:Interpreters@AllLanguages.com)**