

Appendix: Transcribing Conventions

Overlapping speech

Vertically aligned partial brackets indicate overlapping speech.

JFK: you'd [have to stop]
McNamara: [tomorrow] morning

Pauses

Pauses are timed in the tenth of a second, indicated in parentheses.

which is the (.2) really

Unclear or unintelligible speech

Words in parentheses are possible transcriptions of unclear speech. A number followed by a hash indicates the duration of untranscribable talk, in seconds.

(whose must) start it

uh basically (1.7#) or

Intonation

Arrows indicate rising and falling intonation relative to the previous intonational level in that turn. An arrow at the beginning of a word or in the middle indicates a sudden change in level, while an arrow at the end indicates a rising or falling intonational contour over the course of the entire word or its final syllable.

might be ↑bro↓ken

where ↑they're↓

Volume

Degree symbols enclose words spoken especially softly, relative to prior speech in that turn.

°↓we don't have any°

Stress

Bold type indicates a stressed word or syllable, involving a combination of higher intonation and volume relative to surrounding speech.

ex**act**ly

Sound stretching

Colons indicate a stretching of the previous sound.

I know this:

Slowing

Less-than and greater-than signs indicate speech produced more slowly than previous speech in that turn.

<we as sure hell will not>