

Transcription symbols and abbreviations used in this book

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Pages xvii–xviii of

Common Law in an Uncommon Courtroom: Judicial interpreting in Hong Kong

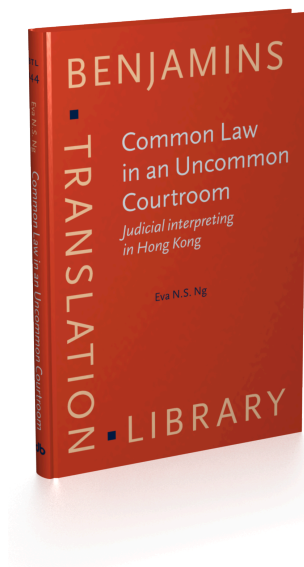
Eva N.S. Ng

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Transcription symbols and abbreviations used in this book

Symbols used in the transcripts

Symbol used in English text	Symbol used in Chinese text	Meaning	Example
=	=	Latched utterances (i.e. no pause between turns)	I: 係咪呀= W: =係
—	——	A sudden cut-off of the current sound/truncated sound	I said to him. I said— 我就說——
-,	-,	incomplete word/false start	With resp-, right, with respect. 佢話我大-, er我哋大家做個朋友
CAPITALS	楷體	A louder voice relative to the adjacent talk	OF COURSE, IT WAS? 你的，你聽我說好不好？
boldface	黑體	Focus on elements under discussion	I suggest to you 律師 向你指出
::	::	Prolongation of the immediately preceding sound, indicated by the length of the row of colons	O::kay.
(3)	(3)	Length of a pause in seconds	Can you (3) can you tell the court what happened next?
(.)	(.)	A brief pause of less than a second	I (.) walked over to the suspect.
(word)	(詞)	Indistinct possible hearings	The tenant had one hand on the handle and one hand on the blade, with the sharp point (laying downwards)? 他們（在）
(xxx)	(xxx)	Inaudible utterance	用上海話麼，(xxx)就講囉
<word >	<word>	Transcriber's description	As, as I said, <soft> Your Honour, this is what happens </soft>’.

(continued)

Symbol used in English text	Symbol used in Chinese text	Meaning	Example
[[Start of an interruption and the utterance which is interrupted	J: I suggest we take a morning break for you to [cool down. D: [Well. OK.
...	...	Indication of an unfinished utterance or continuation of an unfinished utterance from the previous turn	DC: By the time you reached ... W: Yeah. DC: ... his brain with your surgery

* The slash in </soft> marks the end of the soft utterance.