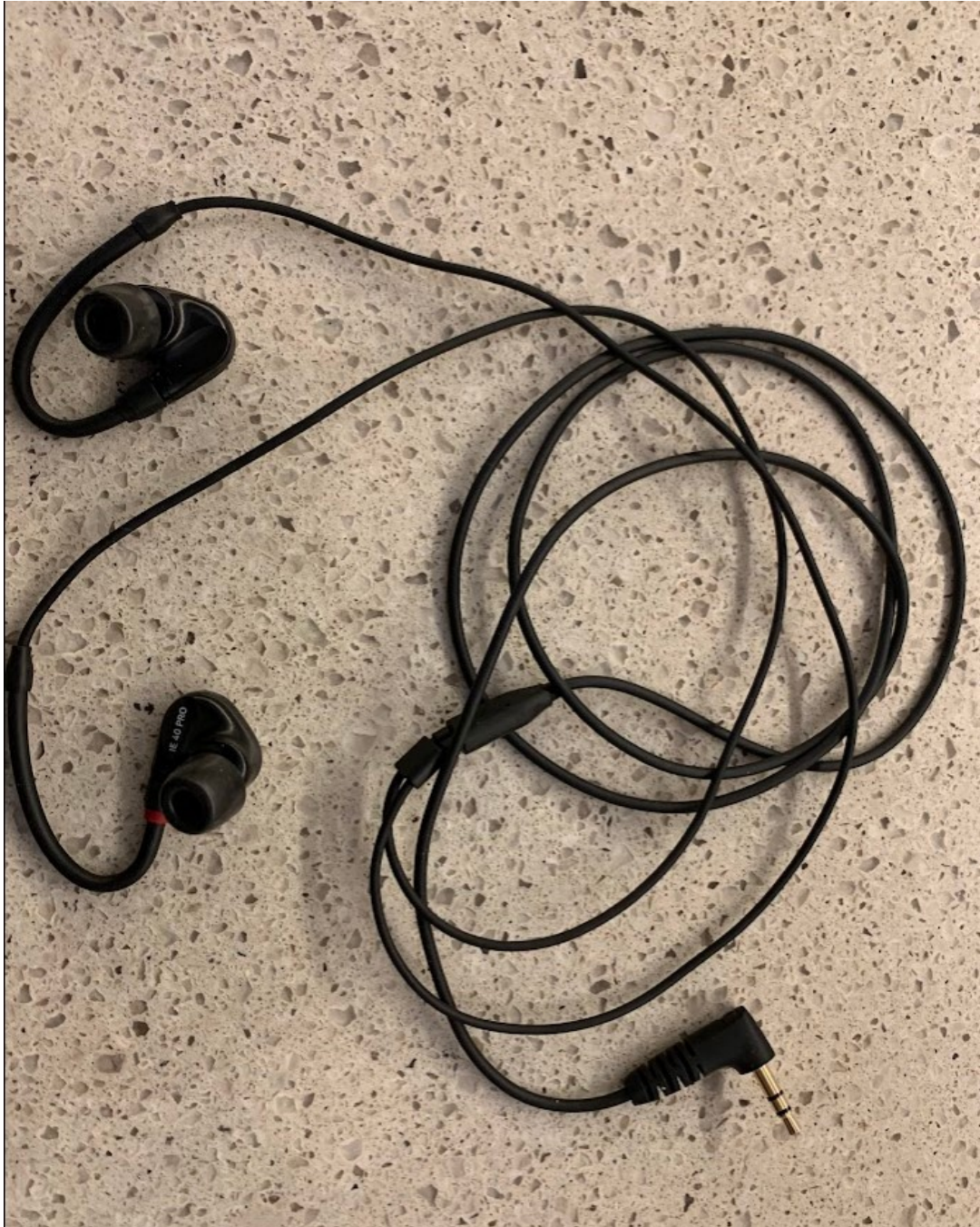




# BORDERLESS DEFINED

Newsletter of Borderless Interpreting & Translation, LLC



## New Sennheiser Headphone

Newsletter No. 102 issued by Noriko Rogers (November 14, 2021)

*Disclaimer: Borderless Interpreting & Translation, LLC has no affiliation with Sennheiser or any of its third-party distributors.*

Ever since I started interpreting on RSI platforms (see my related newsletter [here](#) from late 2019), I have relied heavily on my Sennheiser HD 200 headphone.

In my experience, this over-ear headphone has been substantially more comfortable than the Sennheiser SC 260 headset that I later purchased with a hope for clearer incoming sound. (And yes, the USB connection on the SC 260 does provide better incoming sound quality, but it was still not worth trading for the comfort of the HD 200.)

The only downside with the HD 200 has been an inability to hear my own voice as I interpret. As a potential solution for this pain point, I gave Sennheiser IE 40 PRO a try.

Unlike the HD 200 or SC 260, the IE 40 PRO is an in-ear monitoring headphone as pictured above. Here are the quick pros and cons of this new purchase.

**Pros:**

- You can definitely hear yourself as you interpret! (See the second bullet point under the "Cons" below for a related comment, however)
- The incoming sound is much more precise than the HD 200, reducing the temptation to set the volume higher

-(Related to the sound clarity above) You can pick up voices originating farther away from the mic on the other end. In general, there is a sense of reaching farther and better with this device.

-Silicone and foam adapters allow for a more customized fit

-Exceptionally comfortable wear even in longer meetings (over 2 hours)

-The headset mostly stays clear of the working area in front of you as you wear it behind your neck (you can opt to wear it such that it drapes below your chin as well)

### **Cons:**

-The cable is on the short side at 1.3 m (especially compared to 2 m on the HD 200, which is what I am accustomed to working with)

-There is a slight learning curve with balancing your own voice volume with the incoming sound volume (although this is not a major concern in my view)

-No USB connection, meaning it is not exactly plug and play (i.e., it requires device setup)

-Unlike the SC 260, this headphone does not come with an external controller (and neither does the HD 200). This is a



major downside in my opinion, especially for consecutive interpreting where you need to mute and unmute yourself quickly.

For your reference, here are the technical specs for the 3 headphones/headset that I mentioned above.

IE 40 PRO: <https://en-us.sennheiser.com/ie40pro>

HD 200: <https://en-us.sennheiser.com/studio-headphones-noise-reducing-hd-200-pro>

SC

260: [https://www.eposaudio.com/en/us/enterprise/products/sc-260-headset-1000515#id-66unique-tech-specs-36137\\_7](https://www.eposaudio.com/en/us/enterprise/products/sc-260-headset-1000515#id-66unique-tech-specs-36137_7)

The next Borderless Defined will be in your inbox in the week of November 22nd. Thanks for reading!

Noriko Rogers

Borderless Interpreting & Translation, LLC

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