

Gloss Writing Tips

ASL GLOSS

- Glosses in ASL have **symbols** used to write ASL.
- All in present tense; (no –ed, -ing)

UPPERCASES LETTERS

- An English word in uppercase letters stands for an ASL sign.
- Example: DEAF, SIGN, HOME

fs

- “fs” is the abbreviation for fingerspelled word
- Example: fs-BOB, fs-FEB

#

- A hashtag (#) indicates a fingerspelled loan sign.
- Example: #US, #CAR, #BACK

- - Hyphens

- Two or more words that are separated by hyphens are equivalent to one sign.
- Example: THANK-YOU, OH-I-SEE

+

- A plus sign between the words is used for to compound signs into one.
- Example: MOTHER+FATHER = PARENTS

/

- A backslash between words for sign glosses is used when one sign has two different English equivalents.
- Example: FALSE/FAKE, SAME/SIMILAR

++

- Each plus sign indicates a repetition of the sign.
- Example: WORK++, AGAIN++

CL: A

- The symbol, CL:A, represents a classifier sign.
- Example: CL:A KNOCK-ON-DOOR

CL: FF

- The symbol, CL:FF, indicates that the classifier uses two hands.
- Example: CL: FF PIPE

IX-lft, IX- rt

Role Shifting

- Contrastive structure using dominant finger to point left or right/ (or) body shifting to indicate a person or object.
- Example: My mom is 46 years old and my dad is 50 years old.
- IX-lft MOM OLD 46, IX-rt DAD OLD 50.

Conjunctions in ASL

- Signs
 - #BUT, #IF, #OR, IF, BUT
- Other signs
 - UNDERSTAND,
- Gesture
 - (Hold on), (Shrugs)
- NMS
 - Role shifts, lean forward, eyebrows (raised/lowered)

_____n_____

- This is called negative marker which is: a headshake, eyebrows squeezed together.
- Use of NOT...
- Example: “I don’t remember the girl”

_____n_____

– I NOT REMEMBER GIRL

_____q_____

- Questions that ask for a “Yes” or “No” answer are made by: raising the eyebrows, moving the head slightly forward and looking directly at the person being asked the question.

- Example: “Do you remember my name”

_____q_____

YOU REMEMBER MY NAME

_____y_____ or _____n_____

- When responding to Yes/No questions, a positive nod of the head accompanies the positive response.
- The negative marker accompanies the negative response.
- Example: “Yes, he does remember” / or “doesn’t”

_____y_____ _____n_____

YES HE REMEMBER NO HE NOT REMEMBER

_____nq_____

- Negative questions
- Example: “He’s not happy”

_____nq_____

– HE HAPPY NOT

ASL Sign Order

- Attention
 - 1- Time
 - 2- Topic/Place
 - 3- Who
 - 4- What happens?
 - 5- Feelings or ?

Examples:

- Today we learned the days of the week
 - TODAY WEEK DAYS WE LEARN-FINISH
- Who is our teacher tomorrow?
 - TOMORROW OUR TEACHER WHO