

Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) **Individual Rater**

(To be Used with SLPI Individual Rater Procedures)

January 2026 (revised edition)

Candidate: _____ Interview Date: _____ Rating Date: _____

Interviewer: _____ Rater: _____

Final Rating: _____ (Considering both Function and Form)

1. **Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate**

2. **Functional Descriptors:**

Above { _____ Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural;
in-depth elaboration
_____ Advanced Plus
_____ Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation;
spontaneous elaboration
_____ Intermediate Plus

At → _____ Intermediate: generally 3-to-5 sentences,
conversation fairly shared for social/work topic
_____ Survival Plus

Below { _____ Survival: generally 1-to-3 sentence responses with
many questions by interviewer required
_____ Novice Plus
_____ Novice: one sign, short phrases, single sentence,
memorized like signing
_____ No Functional Skills: (may be) some one sign, single
phrase responses

A. _____
B. _____
C. _____
D. _____
E. _____

Both function and form considered for ratings #3-to-#6:

3. **Possible Final Ratings** _____ / _____

A. Candidate's Vocabulary Knowledge

1. How broad? _____ Examples: (List 10 best ASL Words)

- | | |
|----|-----|
| 1. | 6. |
| 2. | 7. |
| 3. | 8. |
| 4. | 9. |
| 5. | 10. |

2. How many sign selection errors based on meaning/ Semantics? (i.e.: WEDDING for MARRIED - wrong for right – no parameters errors) _____ Examples:

3. How many inappropriately initialized signs? _____ Examples:

4. How many fingerspelled words that have standard signs? _____ Examples:

B. & C. Candidate's Production & Fluency

C. At what signing rate? _____

B. How clear is the candidate's production and fluency? _____

B. How many sign production errors? (a few, some, etc.) hs-handshape, loc-location, mov-movement, po-palm orientation, ndh-non-dominant hand _____ Example:

D. Candidate's Use of Grammatical Features

Candidate showed _____ use of _____ sign language grammatical features, including:
(how well) (how many)

- _____ 1. **Indexing, space, body shifts, and eye gaze** for comparison/contrast, to locate and refer to people, places, and objects present and not present, and role play: *(4 examples of 1 each skill)*

- _____ 2. **Sign verb movement directionality** for location and pronoun incorporation: *(4 examples)*

- _____ 3. **Non-manual signals** for negation, affirmation, yes-no?, wh-?, and adjectives and adverbs (puffed cheeks, pursed lips/o-o, mm, pah, cs, th and clenched teeth): *(4 examples – match level)*

- _____ 4. **Repetition of sign verb movement** for repeated action: *(4 examples)*

- _____ 5. **Repetition of sign noun movement** and vertical and horizontal sweep for plurals: *(4 examples)*

- _____ 6. **Number incorporation for people (1), age (1), and time (2)** (may include use of timeline): *(4 examples)*

- _____ 7. **Listing** on non-dominant hand, **FINISH, body shifts, and pauses** (transition) for connecting ideas, separating ideas, and sequencing of events: *(4 examples)*

- _____ 8. Sign word order for rhetorical (rh) question; topic-comment, conditional, and object-subject-verb; also, FINISH, MUST, CAN, and NOT at end of comments: *(4 examples)*

- _____ 9. Classifiers following nouns for (a) description; (b) location and relationship of people, animals, things, and places; (c) actions of people, animals, and objects; and (d) how something is used or functions: *(4 examples or more – match level)*

- _____ 10. Facial expression and sign movement modification for size, degree, manner, and temporal aspect/time: *(2 examples)*

_____ | **10 points**

E. Candidate's Comprehension

Candidate showed _____ comprehension of sign language produced by interviewer at a _____
rate with _____ repetition(s) and rephrasing(s).
(how many)
Put tally here

1) *Areas Needing Improvement (recommendation)*
