

SOME GUIDELINES FOR IDENTIFYING & DISCUSSING ASL GRAMMAR

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Note 1: Order of grammatical features below same order as in #4D of SLPI Raters' Worksheet.

Note 2: For ASL grammar features below, see SLPI Notebook Section 4A & 4B for additional examples as written on SLPI Raters' Worksheets & in SLPI Raters' Reports and see Section 6 (S6) for explanation and other examples.

Note 3: Note importance of word for in information below.

1. **Indexing, space, and body shifts, and eye gaze** for comparison/contrast, to locate and refer to people, places, and objects present and not present, and role play; TEACHERS-1t., STUDENTS-rt., SCHOOL THERE-ctr. (S4A, pp. 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23; S4B, p. 4, #6B, S6, p.1, & pp. 3-6).
2. **Sign verb movement directionality** for location (HOME GO-1t.; see S4, p.8, D-4) and pronoun incorporation (TELL-me, me-HELP-them; see S4A, pp. 9, 13, 17, 19; S4B, p.4, #6C; also, see S6, p.1, #2, & pp. 20-21).
3. **Nonmanual signals:** Negative and affirmative head movements, yes-no?, wh-?, puffed cheeks, pursed lips/ o-o, mm, pah, cs, th and clenched teeth (S4A, pp. 9, 13, 15, 19, 21; S6, p. 1, #3a, b, e, f, #10a & b, p. 2, pp.6-8, 11-15, & 17-18.)
4. **Repetition of sign verb movement** for repeated action; GO+++, LEARN+++ (S4A, pp. 9, 11, 13, 17, 21; S4B, p.6, #10E; S6, p. 1, #4.)
5. **Repetition of sign noun movement and vertical and horizontal sweep** for plurals; BOOK+++, MONDAY -sweep, MORNING-sweep (S4A, pp. 9, 11, 13, 15, 17; S4B, p.6, S4B, p. 6, #10E; S6, p. 1, #5a & b, pp. 24-25).
6. **Number incorporation (may include use of timeline):** AGE-5, MONTHS-2, 3-WEEKS-AGO, TWO-of-us (S4A, pp. 9, 11, 13, 17, 19; S6, p. 1, #6, & p. 23).
7. **Listing on non-dominant hand, FINISH, body shifts, and pauses** for connecting ideas, separating ideas, and sequencing of events (see S4A, pp. 9, 15).
8. **Sign word order** for rhetorical (rh) question, topic-comment, FINISH, MUST, CAN, & NOT at end of comments, conditional, and object-subject-verb (O-S-V) (S4A, pp. 9, 11; S6, p. 2, #8, pp. 16, 19-20).
9. **Classifiers** 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; CL:GG for shape and thinness; CL:11 for 2 people standing, facing each other; CL:33 for 2 cars racing; CL:S for leading a horse (S4A, pp. 9, 11, 13, 15; S4B, p. 6, #10B; S6, p. 2, #7g, & #11, pp. 29-27).
10. **Facial expression and sign movement modification** for degree, size, manner, and temporal/time aspect; BEAUTIFUL-really, HOUSE-big, WALK-slowly, STUDY-for-a-long-time (S4A, pp. 99, 11, 13; S4B, page 4, #6D; S6, p. 1, #3c-e, & pp. 9-12).