

Sign Language Proficiency Interview (SLPI) Notebook (NB)

Section 1 (S1)

SLPI Training Workshop Goal, Principles, Materials and Procedures

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<http://www.ntid.rit.edu/slpi>

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Table of Contents

	<u>Pages</u>
Workshop Schedules and Readings	
Day 1	1, 24, 27
Day 2	25-27
Day 3	30, 26-27
Day 4	35, 26-27
SLPI Overview, Workshop (<u>WS</u>) Goal, and Use	2-3
Some Important Communication Assessment and SLPI Concepts	5
SLPI Rating Scale and Function	6-7
SLPI Function Rating Examples	8-11
SLPI Function Rating Worksheets	12-22
An Introduction to Interviewing	23
SLPI Rating Scale, <u>Form</u> , and SLPI Rater Worksheet	28
Functional and Linguistic Form Features Important For Effective ASL Communication and SLPI Ratings	29
Review of SLPI Rating Guidelines	31-33
An Overview of Signer Characteristics at SLPI Rating Levels/Ranges	34
SLPI Training Workshop Ratings	36

SCHEDULE FOR WORKSHOP DAY 1

MORNING SESSION (8:00 A.M.–11:30 P.M.)

- ! *SLPI Notebook*: Table of Contents
- ! Section 2 (S2): Overview of Workshop Schedule
- ! Overview of SLPI, Workshop (WS) Goal, Parts to SLPI Process, and SLPI Use (pages 2-3)
- ! Some Important Communication Assessment and SLPI Concepts (page 5)
- ! Learning How to Rate **Function** (pages 5-22)

LUNCH (11:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M.)

AFTERNOON SESSION (12:30–3:30 P.M.)

- ! Continue to Rate **Function** (optional)
- ! Introduce and Demonstrate Interviewing (S3A and S9B)
- ! Wrap-up, Review, Questions, Readings (pages 24 and 27)
- ! SLPI Interviews: Materials, Equipment, Room Set-Ups, and Recording Steps/Guidelines (Section 3A)

SLPI OVERVIEW, WORKSHOP (WS) GOAL, AND USE

1. What is the SLPI-ASL? ; What does the SLPI assess?: The SLPI-ASL, a test of sign language communication skills, assesses a person's skills in using American Sign Language (ASL) to communicate in a one-to-one conversation/interview with a highly skilled interviewer.
2. Goal of Workshop: To assist you in gaining the knowledge and skills needed to plan, conduct, and provide follow-up for the SLPI.
3. Three parts to SLPI process:
 - A. Interview
 - B. Rating
 - C. Sharing Results:
 - 1) Results Memo (In-Depth Written Report: Optional)
 - 2) Follow-Up Meeting - Review interview video, discuss current skills, and suggestions for skills development. If assessment results are to be used in most positive manner, opportunities for discussing assessment results and opportunities for developing sign language skills essential; SLPI Follow-Up Meetings, therefore, should be encouraged. One option is to make SLPI Follow-Up Meetings part of normal SLPI process for all people achieving unto Advanced or for all not achieving their standards the first time they take the SLPI, with SLPI Follow-Up Meetings optional for subsequent SLPIs. Also, written suggestions for improving sign language skills may be provided at follow-up meetings.
 - 3) Discuss S10, *Connecting ASL Instruction and the SLPI*, as appropriate
4. Use of the SLPI (see next page)

SIGN LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY INTERVIEW (SLPI) USE (through September 2009)

1. Louisiana School for the Deaf (LSD)
2. Michigan School for the Deaf (MSD)
3. Minnesota State Academy for the Deaf (MSAD)
4. South Carolina School for the Deaf And Blind (SCSDB)
5. Willie Ross School for the Deaf (WRSD)
6. Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind (AIDB)
7. Alaska State School for the Deaf (ASSD)
8. Center on Deafness, College of Education, the University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK)
9. Georgia (GA) Division Of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)
10. New York State Office of Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities (VESID)
11. Arkansas Office for the Deaf And Hearing Impaired (ODHI), Division of Rehabilitation Services (DRS)
12. CA State Dept of Rehabilitation, Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services
13. New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (NJDVRS)
14. Lexington Center, Vocational Services, Jackson Heights, NY
15. Rochester School for the Deaf (RSD)
16. Pennsylvania School for the Deaf (PSD)
17. Atlantic Provinces Special Education Authority, Nova Scotia
18. Tripods and Burbank, CA School District
19. MN Resource Center: Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing/MN State Teacher (Re)Licensure
20. National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID)
21. Illinois School for the Deaf (ISD)
22. Florida School for the Deaf and Blind (FSDB)
23. Communication Service for the Deaf, SD Association of the Deaf
24. Ohio School for the Deaf (OSD)
25. Oklahoma School for the Deaf (OSD)
26. Missouri School for the Deaf (MSD)
27. Georgia School for the Deaf (GSD)
28. Western Pa School for the Deaf (WPSD)
29. North Carolina Schools for the Deaf (NCSD)
30. St. Francis Desales School for the Deaf
31. Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind (CSDB)
32. Texas School for the Deaf (TSD)
33. Kentucky School for the Deaf (KSD)
34. South Dakota School for the Deaf (SDSD)
35. Atlanta Area School for the Deaf (AASD)
36. Arkansas School for the Deaf (ASD)
37. New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMMSD)
38. Department of Corrections, NYS Civil Service
39. Deaf Education Graduate Students, Canisius College
40. Utah School for the Deaf and Blind (USDB)
41. American School for the Deaf (ASD)
42. Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf (MNMSD)
43. Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind
44. Kenya, US Peace Corp
45. Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services (ADRS)
46. Valdosta State University, GA

47. Massachusetts Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
48. Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults
49. St. Mary's School for the Deaf, NY
50. VA School for the Deaf, Blind, and Multi-Disabled
51. NJ School for the Deaf, Katzenbach Campus
52. Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation
53. Arizona Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (ACDHH)/
Phoenix College Interpreter Preparation Program (PCIPP)
54. Ghana, US Peace Corp
55. North Carolina American Sign Language Teacher Association (ASLTA) SLPI: ASL

SOME IMPORTANT COMMUNICATION ASSESSMENT AND SLPI CONCEPTS

1. **Two important concepts for assessment of both spoken and sign language communication skills:**
 - A. **Form**
 - B. **Function**
2. **Traditional sign language assessments have focused on language form:**
 - A. Vocabulary Knowledge
 - B. Production (handshapes, positions, orientations, movements)
 - C. Fluency (rate and smoothness)
 - D. Grammar (word order, tense/time indicators, identification of present and absent references, plural vs. singular, etc.)
 - E. Comprehension: How well a person understands sign language
3. **In addition to form, how well a person is able to use language for communicating is important. The use of language for communicating is referred to as functioning.**

Note: A major reason for development of the Language/Oral Proficiency Interview (L/OPI - SLPI is an adaptation of the L/OPI) was to place greater focus on how well a person could use spoken language to communicate; similar to traditional sign language tests, traditional spoken language tests focused on language form.

4. **Theoretical basis for the SLPI:** People can use sign language to engage in conversation/communication (that is, they can **function** in sign language even with imperfect sign language **form**. **The SLPI, therefore, requires that raters and interviewers consider both ASL function and form.**

SLPI RATING SCALE AND FUNCTION

1. SLPI Rating Scale (see white laminated page)
2. Two parts to all SLPI rating level descriptors:
 - A. **FUNCTION** - First sentence for all SLPI rating levels is a **functional** descriptor of candidate's "best/overall" sign language/communication skills
 - B. **FORM** - All remaining statements are descriptors of **form**
3. **FUNCTION** (see white laminated page)
 - A. Question: How natural and shared is the conversation/communication?
 - B. Two important concepts for **function**:
 - 1) Elaboration/Length of Responses - Important for all SLPI rating levels
 - 2) Sharedness/Spontaneity - Important for rating levels of Intermediate and above
 - C. Read/discuss:
 - 1) First sentence for each SLPI rating level (white laminated page)
 - 2) Also, read **fluency** statements for SLPI rating levels of **Intermediate** and **above**; **fluency** (rate and smoothness) may influence judgments of sharedness/spontaneity. Important, therefore, to consider the **fluency** expected for each SLPI rating level. For example, Intermediate **fluency** is "moderate signing pace and some inappropriate pauses/hesitations." Therefore, a person with **Intermediate** functioning should not be expected to sign at a normal/near normal rate.
 - 3) Analyzing **Function** (white laminated page)

4. RATING OF FUNCTION INDEPENDENT OF FORM, THEREFORE, CRITICAL TO SLPI RATING PROCESS

- A. **Function** is the highest level of consistent **successful** communication for person taking the SLPI.
- B. **Functioning** establishes the range of the SLPI Rating Scale within which the **final** rating may occur; allows raters to focus on a limited range of the rating scale
- C. People **function** at a certain level overall because they have the **form** skills to **function** at that level.
- D. Important to remember that a person can **function/communicate** without having perfect language **form**
- E. **Functioning**, therefore, provides highest possible rating
- F. If **form** -
 - 1) Fits descriptor for **function** rating, therefore supports **functioning**, then **final** rating same as **functional** rating
 - 2) Does not fit descriptor for **function** rating, therefore does not support **functioning**, then **final** rating --
 - a) One level lower than **functional** rating (most often)
 - b) Two levels lower than **functional** rating (rarely)
- G. Therefore, critical that raters focus on **function** for #1 and #2 on SLPI Rater worksheet; very important to determining **highest** potential **final** rating
Don't let form count twice (that is, do not consider **form** when rating **function**)
- H. If G above not done, if focus is on **form** only, then many **final** and **official** ratings will be lower than actual performance/rating skill levels of candidates. Why? Because **form** will be "counted" twice.

5. Function Rating Examples (pages 8-11)

SLPI FUNCTION RATING EXAMPLES

SAMPLE #1: SUMMARY FOR ABOVE INTERMEDIATE

If you believe candidate is **functioning** above the Intermediate level, for #1 circle Above Intermediate and for #2 you **may** check (✓) **on** any of the top four lines as shown below.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #2: SUMMARY FOR BELOW INTERMEDIATE

If you believe candidate is **functioning** below the Intermediate level, for #1 circle Below Intermediate and for #2 you **may** check (✓) **on** any of the five lower lines as shown below.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATING EXAMPLES

SAMPLE #3: INTERMEDIATE

If you believe candidate is functioning at the Intermediate level, for #1 circle At Intermediate and for #2 you must check (✓) on the fifth line from the top as shown below; therefore, if you circle Intermediate for #1, you have only one choice for #2.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #4: SUPERIOR PLUS (and SUPERIOR)

If you believe candidate is functioning at the Superior Plus level, for #1 circle Above Intermediate and for #2 check (✓) on the first line and circle Superior Plus as shown below. (If functioning Superior, do same as below except circle Superior).

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - ~~Superior~~ Superior+ conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SLPI FUNCTION RATING EXAMPLES

SAMPLE #5: ADVANCED

If you believe candidate is **functioning** at the Advanced level, for #1 circle Above Intermediate and for #2 check () **on** third line from the top as shown below.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #6: INTERMEDIATE PLUS

If you believe candidate is **functioning** at the Intermediate Plus level, for #1 circle Above Intermediate and for #2 check (✓) **on** the fourth line from the top as shown below.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATING EXAMPLES

SAMPLE #7: NOVICE

If you believe candidate is functioning at the Novice level, for #1 circle Below Intermediate and for #2 check () on second line from the bottom as shown below.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors: ✓
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #8: NOVICE PLUS

If you believe candidate is functioning at the Novice Plus level, for #1 circle Below Intermediate and for #2 check () on the third line from the bottom as shown below.

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

View SLPI Interviews: Focus on **Function** (use pages 12-22)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SLPI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #1

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #2

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #3

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #4

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #5

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #6

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #7

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #8

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #9

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #10

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #11

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #12

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #13

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #14

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #15

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #16

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #17

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #18

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #19

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #20

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #21

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #22

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #23

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #24

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #25

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #26

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #27

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SLPI FUNCTION RATINGS TRAINING WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, SL:PI: ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #28

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #29

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SAMPLE #30

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering both function and form)

SLPI FUNCTIONAL RATINGS: TRAINING/IN-SERVICE WORKSHEETS
(Use white laminated page, ANALYZING FUNCTION)

SAMPLE #31

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #32

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

SAMPLE #33

1. Functional Range: Above Intermediate or At Intermediate or Below Intermediate
2. Functional Descriptors:
 - Superior/Superior+: conversation shared and natural; in-depth elaboration
 - Advanced Plus
 - Advanced: generally fluent, shared, conversation; spontaneous elaboration
 - Intermediate Plus
 - Intermediate: generally responds in 3-to-5 sentences; conversation fairly shared for social and work topics
 - Survival Plus
 - 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
3. Possible Final Ratings _____
(considering **both function and form**)

AN INTRODUCTION TO SLPI INTERVIEWING

1. Brief overview and demonstration of SLPI Interview: Section 3A: *PROGRAM SLPI Scheduling and Interviewing Procedures* and Section 9B: *MODEL PROGRAM Sign Language Communication Philosophy and Policy: Procedures for Implementation*

2. Workshop Participants practice interviewing one another; focus on –
 - A. Beginning interview
 - B. Follow-up questions
 - C. Changing topics
 - D. Ending interviews

3. Interview Room Set-Up and Recording Steps/Guidelines (S3A, pages 14-16, and/or separate handout)

READINGS - DAY 1 EVENING

1. SLPI Interviewing - Read/review *SLPI NB* Section 3A (especially pages 17-20)

Learning/developing interviewing skills requires **preparation** and **practice**. Use your opportunities to interview this week to practice the interviewing principles and techniques discussed in S3A and demonstrated during our workshop; for example, sometimes requesting clarification when candidate uses a wrong sign based on meaning or when s/he misproduces a sign (even if you understand!).

2. If time allows, also read following:
 - A. Schedule for DAY 2 and Day 3 (S1, pages 25 and 30, and S2, page 2)
 - B. Importance of **Function** to SLPI Ratings
 - 1) SLPI Rating Scale and Analyzing **Function** (white laminated page)
 - 2) Section 1, pages 5-11; also; page 12 etc. (**function** ratings completed during our workshop)
3. If you still have time, read selected readings from Section 7 - See S1, page 27.

Note 1: It is important that you review the information in your *SLPI Notebook* throughout this week and on a regular basis following our workshop week.

Note 2: Be patient with yourself – us – the workshop week is a learning process. You will be much more comfortable and knowledgeable with the SLPI process by the end of our workshop, and this will continue as you gain more experience with conducting SLPIs.

DAY 2 SCHEDULE

As stated on DAY 1: Be patient with yourself – us – the SLPI Workshop week, and beyond, is a learning process.

MORNING SESSION

- 8:00 A.M. A. Interviewing Schedule: See Section 2, page 2
- B. Your/WS Participants' Questions: Yesterday's Sessions, Readings, Etc.
- C. For Function Rating Be Active – Every candidate response has a functional level
- D. Review of SLPI Rating Scale and Function (white laminated page)
- 8:30 A.M. Rating Practice using Your and Our Interviews: Focus on **Functioning** - Determine Functional Rating as a Group

11:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M. LUNCH

AFTERNOON SESSION

- 12:30 P.M. Continue Interviews and **Function** Ratings
- 2:15 P.M. SLPI Rating Scale, **Form**, and SLPI Rater Worksheet (pp. 28-29) and Analyze **Form** for One Workshop Interview Video
- 3:25 P.M. Wrap Up, DAY 3 Schedule, and Readings (S2, page 2, and S1, pages 26-27)

READINGS - DAY 2, 3, AND 4 EVENINGS

1. (Continue to) read/review SLPI Section 3A (S3A) interviewing Information (this should be your primary reading for DAY 2 Homework):
 - A. Question Types (pp. 12-13)
 - B. Guidelines for Recording Interviews (pp. 14-16 and/or handout)
 - C. (Additional) Interviewing Guidelines and Principles (pp. 17-20)
2. As time allows, read and review information for SLPI rating and sharing results (this should be primary reading for DAY 3e homework) -
 - A. S1
 - B. S3B, Your SLPI Rating and Sharing of Results Process
 - C. S4A, Sample Completed SLPI Rater Worksheets; also, S4B, Guidelines for Completing SLPI Rater Worksheets
3. If you still have time, read selected reading(s) from Section 7: See page 27.

Note: We encourage you to read Sections 5, 6, and 7 this week, and to continue reading and reviewing SLPI materials on a regular basis.

DAY 1 EVENING SUGGESTED READINGS

1. From *SLPI NB* Section 7:
 - A. #1: SLPI Materials
 - B. #2: What is the SLPI Rating Scale?
 - C. #3: What Does the SLPI Assess?
 - D. #4: SLPI-SCPI-SLPI History
 - E. #20: SLPI Use

2. Section 5: *Skills Important for Effective Sign Language Communication and SLPI-ASL Rating Levels*

DAY 2 EVENING SUGGESTED READINGS

3. From *SLPI NB* Section 7:
 - A. #6: Angles and Other SLPI Recording Guidelines
 - B. #8: May ASL Teachers Serve as SLPI Interviewers and Raters for People They Have Taught?
 - C. #12: Support for Local SLPI Teams and Team Training

4. Section 6: ASL Grammar

DAY 3 EVENING SUGGESTED READINGS

5. From *SLPI NB* Section 7:
 - A. #9: Options for Conducting and Sharing Results of SLPI Ratings
 - B. #15: Monitoring Sign Language Communication Skills Development
 - C. #17: Factors Important to Development of Sign Language Communication Philosophy, Policy, and Procedures Documents
 - D. #18: Principles for Development and Refinement of Sign Language Communication Philosophy, Policy, and Procedures Documents

DAY 4 EVENING SUGGESTED READINGS

6. From *SLPI NB* Section 7:
 - A. #7: Fluctuations in SLPI Results
 - B. #10: Should SLPI Results from Other Programs be Accepted?
 - C. #14: Sign Language Assessment of Students and ASL Assessment Options
 - D. #19: Monitoring the Consistency of Your SLPI Team Members' Ratings

SLPI RATING SCALE, FORM, and SLPI RATER WORKSHEET

1. As discussed on page 6, two parts to all SLPI rating level descriptors:
 - A. **FUNCTION** - First sentence for all SLPI rating levels is a **functional** descriptor of best/general sign language communication skills; **function** is the highest level of consistent successful communication
 - B. **FORM** - All remaining statements are descriptors of **form**
2. **FORM**
 - A. “Model” is native-like sign language **form**
 - B. **Form** refers to the language characteristics/tools of candidate’s signing and includes:
 - 1) Vocabulary Knowledge
 - 2) Production
 - 3) Fluency
 - 4) Grammar
 - 5) Comprehension
 - C. Read/discuss:
 - 1) Functional and Linguistic Form Factors Important for Effective Sign Language Communication and SLPI Ratings (B-through-F, next page)
 - 2) All but first sentence for each SLPI rating level (white laminated page)
 - 3) SLPI : Analyzing Form and Some Guidelines for Identifying and Discussing ASL Grammar (blue laminated page)
 - 4) Importance of quantifiers (“number words”) and qualifiers (adjectives and adverbs) (blue laminated page and S4B, page 6, #8 and #9)
3. **SLPI RATER WORKSHEET** (distribute copies)
 - A. Order of Information/Categories on SLPI Raters’ Worksheet Consistent with Order of Information in SLPI Rating Scale; that is:
 - 1) **Functional** rating/descriptor for conversational skills
 - 2) **Form**: Linguistic factors - Language Characteristics/Tools
 - a. Vocabulary Knowledge
 - b. Production and Fluency
 - c. Grammar
 - d. Comprehension
 - B. “Production and Fluency” combined on worksheet (see S4A for examples)
4. Discuss **Function** and **Form** on completed sample raters’ worksheet(s) (see Section 4A for examples)
5. View SLPI Interview Videos: Focus on **Form** (Use SLPI Rater Worksheet and blue laminated page)

**FUNCTIONAL and LINGUISTIC FORM FACTORS IMPORTANT FOR
EFFECTIVE ASL COMMUNICATION and SLPI RATINGS**

FUNCTION

- A. **Pragmatic/functional use of signing for work/schooling and social communication needs** (Includes Conversational Strategies) (all skill levels) - What can candidate do with her/his American Sign Language (ASL) skills? **Can candidate have a conversation in ASL?** How shared/spontaneous and natural is the conversation? For example, how well candidate uses ASL to -

- 1) Ask and answer questions
- 2) Name things
- 3) Describe people, places, and things
- 4) Tell a story/narrate
- 5) Hypothesize (what if/suppose?): Discuss what could be or should be
- 6) Support opinion/debate/defend own ideas
- 7) General conversational skills (turn-taking, feedback use of nonmanual signals, attention getting strategies, appropriate eye contact, ability to ask clarifying questions, etc.)

Sociolinguistics/cultural knowledge (higher skill level ratings require skills in communicating in depth on a variety of topics)

- B. **Vocabulary Knowledge** (all skill levels)

- 1) Does candidate use the correct signs to express her/his meaning? and How broad is candidate's sign language knowledge?
 - 2) Meaning base for signs (sometimes referred to as “concept-based signs/signing”): For example, following 3 rights signed differently - right answer, right to vote, right turn; also, following have and runs signed differently - have a bicycle, have been, have not, have to, have (finish) seen, run to school, run an election, run in her stocking
 - 3) Signs drawn from ASL, including local ASL signs (geographic, school, etc.)
- Note: Assumes signs produced correctly

FORM

- C. **Production of signing** (low and high skill levels): Are signs formed correctly (handshapes, positions, orientations, and movements)? Fingerspelling clear and in appropriate position?

- D. **Fluency:** Rate and smoothness (low and high skill levels) - Is signing produced at a smooth, normal rate with appropriate pausing?

- E. **Grammar** (intermediate-high skill levels): Does candidates use appropriate ASL grammar?

- 1) Sign Word Order: Use of sign-word order as appropriate when considering topics, verb/actions, actors-agents/subjects-objects, time, etc.
- 2) Use of Important ASL Grammatical Features: Asking Questions, Use of Space, Classifiers, Time Indicators, Sentence and Discourse Structure, Non-Manual Signals (Body Shifts, Facial Expression, Etc.), Etc. (NB Section 6)

- F. **Comprehension** (all skill levels): Can candidate understand fluent signing? At what rate/pace?

DAY 3 SCHEDULE

Be patient with yourself – us – the SLPI Workshop week, and beyond,
is a learning process.

MORNING SESSION

- 8:00-9:00 A.M. A. Interviewing Schedule: See S2, page 2
- B. Your/WS Participants' Questions: Yesterday's Sessions, Readings, Etc.
- C. ASL Grammar Discussion Using:
- Some Guidelines for Identifying and Discussing ASL Grammatical Features (blue laminated page) (S4A and S4B include additional information, including examples, for ASL grammar)
- SLPI Rater Worksheet
- Section 6 in *SLPI Notebook* (optional)
- 9:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M. Ratings for Day (More-to-Less Guided)
- A. Today we will move more toward the normal SLPI rating process.
- B. For forms needed by raters, see page 33, #10
- C. When rating this week, we will use #s for candidates, not names; this will allow you to keep your SLPI Rater Worksheets (place these in S4A)
- 11:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M. LUNCH

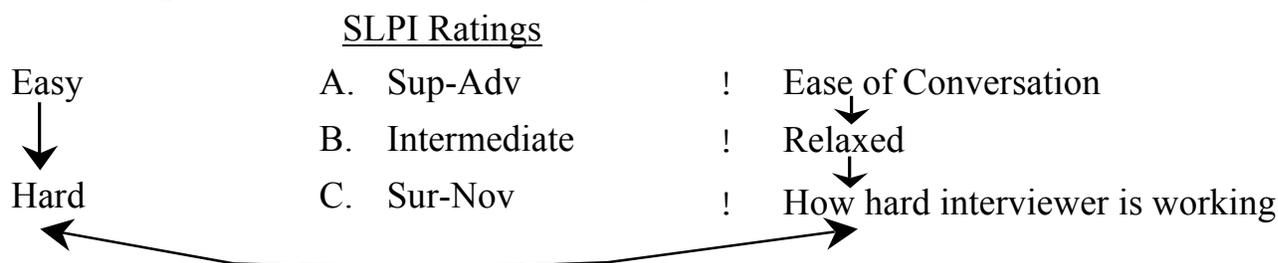
AFTERNOON SESSION

- 12:30-3:25 P.M. Continue SLPI interviews and ratings
- 3:25-3:30 P.M. Schedule for DAY 4, and Homework (S2, page 3, S1, pages 26-27)

REVIEW OF SLPI RATING GUIDELINES

1. Be **active** during rating process:
 - A. During first 6-10 minutes(or as long as is necessary) consider **function** for each response; when ready rate function (#1 and #2 on Rater Worksheet) and write possible final ratings (#3)
 - B. Rewind video and analyze **form**; for **form** categories make decisions while watching video; do not wait until end of video to write all **form** descriptors

NOTE: Continue to consider **function** throughout viewing of video; as stated on page 8, you may change your initial **function** rating after viewing entire interview
2. **Function** establishes highest potential rating and helps you to effectively use rating scale by identifying rating range to focus on; remember, **function** is highest level of consistent successful communication
3. **Form:**
 - A. Supports **functional** descriptor/rating (often) or
 - B. Supports **final rating** of one rating level below **functional** descriptor/rating (often) or
 - C. Supports **final rating** two ratings below **functional** descriptor/rating (very rarely – generally due to interviewers not “appropriately” interrupting candidates)
4. Very important, therefore, to focus on **function** first; rate **function independent of form**
5. The more shared/spontaneous and natural the “conversation” the higher the rating
6. Concept of “conversation” - How “easy” and “comfortable” is conversation?



7. Analyzing candidate's responses for **functioning** (use white laminated page):

A. "Sharedness/Spontaneity" - In general, how comfortable is conversation? (see #5 on previous page) - (Easy-to-Hard/Comfortable Concept)

B. Length of responses characteristic of SLPI rating levels
General characteristics -

1) Superior-Advanced - elaboration natural/spontaneous, in-depth responses (**generally**)

2) Intermediate - 3-to-5 sentences (**generally**)

3) Survival - 1-to-3 sentences (**generally**)

4) Novice - 1 word/phrase/sentence (**generally**)

5) No Function Skills – 1 word/phrase/sentence to a few/some questions; very weak comprehension (**generally**)

C. Exceptions to all rules/guidelines:

1) Elaboration with:

a. Unintelligible/difficult to "understand" form and/or

b. Minimal/no sign language grammar and/or

c. Slow/slow-to-moderate rate and/or inappropriate pausing

Note: See S4A, pages 16-17. Interviewer can assist with rating "a" and "b" by requesting clarification (several times if necessary); interviewer doing this would show candidate described on pages 16-17 of S4A to have a true **functioning** of Intermediate or Survival Plus.

2) "Administrator Halo Affect/Effect"

8. Analyzing **form** (blue laminated page):

A. Be positive, as well as identifying problems/errors - Focus on what candidate can do (see *SLPI Notebook* Sections 4A and 4B, Sample SLPI Rater Worksheets and Guidelines for Completing Rater Worksheets)

B. Use most supportable (not borderline) examples - Examples should be either definitely correct or definitely incorrect/errors; be especially careful with initialized signs

- C. Write **most positive** descriptors for candidate
 - D. Quantifiers (numbers concept/how many?) and Qualifiers (adjectives and adverbs) important for **form** and important for determining **SLPI rating**:
 - 1) Quantifiers (How many?) - In general, write few for 2-to-3, some for 4-5, several for 6-7, and many for 8-or-more
 - 2) Qualifiers (adjectives and adverbs)-
 - a. Vocabulary Knowledge: Very broad, fair, etc.
 - b. Production and Fluency: Native-like, normal, rate, etc.
 - c. Grammatical Features: Native-like, many, etc.
 - d. Comprehension: Excellent for normal rate, etc.
 - 3) For discussion and examples of quantifiers and qualifiers see -
 - a. Blue laminated SLPI Rater Worksheet Discussion Guidelines
 - b. Section 4B, page 5 (#8 and #9), and sample reports in S4A
 - 4) While reviewing SLPI Rating Scale, consider how use of each quantifier and qualifier would influence your rating
9. Rate and describe candidate on tape:
- A. All candidates, even at same rating level, have unique skills and errors
 - B. Do not fit candidate to rating scale - Candidates, especially long-term signers, may show skills that are characteristic of more than one rating level range
 - C. Do not consider other experiences with candidate or her/his personality
10. Materials you should/may use when rating:
- A. SLPI Rating Scale and Analyzing Function (white laminated page)
 - B. SLPI Rater Worksheet Discussion Guidelines and Some Guidelines for Identifying and Discussing ASL Grammar (blue laminated page)
 - C. SLPI Rater Worksheet for Individual Ratings
 - D. S4A (sample individual rater worksheets) and S4B (guidelines for completing rater worksheets)

AN OVERVIEW OF SIGNER CHARACTERISTICS AT SLPI RATING LEVELS/RANGES

1. **Advanced Plus-to-Superior Plus Range:** Conversation (close to) fully shared with in-depth elaboration; very good/excellent-to-completely proficient native/near native-like signer, with (almost) all signing acceptable to other proficient native/native-like signers.
2. **Advanced:** Generally shared to shared conversation with spontaneous elaboration; broad sign language vocabulary, clear production and good fluency at a (near) normal rate, good control and use of many sign language grammatical features, and good comprehension for normal signing rate; occasional misproductions to not detract from conversation. May have some overuse of AND and/or THEN.
3. **Intermediate/Intermediate Plus:** Conversation with some spontaneous (adequate) elaboration (generally 3-to-5-sentence responses). Good control/production and use of basic sign language vocabulary, with some sign vocabulary errors. Moderate signing rate with some sign misproductions and fair use of some sign language grammatical features. Fair-to-good comprehension for moderate-to-normal signing rate. Often over use AND and THEN and sometimes TO and ON with verb signs.
4. **Survival/Survival Plus:** Very basic conversation with generally 1-to-3-sentence responses and interviewer controlling interaction (that is, interviewer asks questions and candidate generally provides “just barely adequate” responses); knowledge of basic sign language vocabulary fair-to-good with some-to-many sign vocabulary and/or sign production errors, minimal sign language grammar, and fair comprehension for signing at a slow-to-moderate rate with some repetition and rephrasing. May often overuse AND, THEN, and TO and ON with verb signs.
5. **Novice/Novice Plus:** Candidate generally able to provide short responses to simple questions signed at a slow rate with frequent repetition and rephrasing; sign language vocabulary very limited with many misproductions, fingerspelling for many basic signs with generally numerous misproductions in fingerspelling (including hand too high in signing space and hand inappropriately moving when fingerspelling).

NOTES:

1. First sentence for each SLPI rating level is a **functional** descriptor of “highest” sign language communication skills, with subsequent sentences being **form** descriptors with examples as appropriate. Intermediate level is level at which interview **begins** to look like a **conversation**.
2. Long-term (fossilized) signers may elaborate “in depth” with minimal sign language grammar and good comprehension skills for moderate-to-normal signing rate. Generally such signers are in the Survival Plus-Intermediate range, dependent primarily on production and fluency. (See S4A, pp. 16-17).
3. For additional information on signer characteristics at each SLPI rating level, see (a) SLPI Rating Scale (white laminated page), (b) S1 (pp. 5–33), (c) S4A and S4B, and (d) S5.

DAY 4 SCHEDULE

Be patient with yourself – us – the SLPI Workshop week, and beyond,
is a learning process.

- 8:00–9:30 A.M. A. Discussion/Questions and Schedule for Day – How goes your patience and learning?
 B. Discussion of SLPI Interviewing (S3A and S9B)
- 9:30-11:30 A.M C. Review of Normal SLPI Rating and Sharing of Results Procedures for your PROGRAM (S3B and S9B)

 D. Conduct Rating for Form, Final Rating, and Official Rating using “normal” rating process

 Note: See S4A, Sample SLPI Rater Worksheets, and S4B, Guidelines for Completing SLPI Rater Worksheets
- 11:30 A.M.–12:30 P.M. Lunch
- 12:30–3:00 P.M E. Conduct SLPI Rating(s) Using “Normal” SLPI Rating Procedures
- 3:00–3:25 P.M. F. Optional discussion of factors and recommendations for implementing and refining use of SLPI for assessment and planning sign language communication skills development opportunities. Topics for discussion may include:
1. Confidentiality of SLPI Interviews and Results
 2. Establishment of SLPI Rating Level Standards for Faculty/Staff
 3. Process for Implementing and Conducting SLPIs
 4. Reporting and Discussion of SLPI Results with Faculty/Staff
 5. Options for Faculty/Staff to Participate in SLPI Process
 6. Faculty/Staff Options for Improving Sign Language Communication Skills
 7. Follow-Up Training for SLPI Interviewers/Raters
- 3:25–3:30 P.M. Readings, S1, pages 26-27.

SLPI #	SLPI TRAINING WORKSHOP RATINGS		
	FUNCTION	POSSIBLE FINAL ^a (INDIVIDUAL RATER)	POSSIBLE OFFICIAL ^b (TEAM DECISION)
1			
2			
3			
4			
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24			

^aFinal Ratings are ratings of individual raters.

^bOfficial Rating are ratings by SLPI Rating Teams; that is, ratings reported to persons taking the SLPI