

Week 9 Assignment: ASL 101L

1. Review and memorize vocabulary in Learning American Sign Language (LASL) Units 1-16 and Signing Naturally Units 6-9. Drill yourself on vocabulary until recognition of each sign is automatic. Go over your class notes. If your teacher has taught you any new signs that are not in these units, take time to remember and practice them now.
2. Read the glossed representation of the signed dialogues in Learning American Sign Language (LASL) Unit 17. After reading each dialogue, watch the corresponding section of the video. Copy the signers until you are comfortable signing the dialogues on your own. Watch the signers again, paying particular attention to facial expression. Copy the signers again, making sure to include facial expressions and non-manual signals.
3. Study and practice using each grammatical feature discussed in Unit 17. Remember to take good notes on information you learn from both LASL and SN.
4. Practice exercises in Unit 17 of LASL. For exercise 17B, use the signs WHY-NOT or WANT TWO-OF-US MEET SATURDAY, TIME 3:30, HERE. If you use the sign for WANT, you will be asking a yes/no question and you must use appropriate non-manual signals for yes/no questions in ASL (see Signing Naturally page eight for a review on yes/no questions). Remember that the sign for TIME is made before giving the number, and that the palm faces forward for clock numbers 1-9.
5. Preview information and vocabulary in LASL, Unit 18.
6. Do not do Signing Naturally, Unit 10 at this time. We will resume with Signing Naturally after the break. For now, review the grammar and information that you have learned in units 6-9. Remember to practice numbers 1-100 and money numbers. Practice fingerspelling and try to sound out the names as you spell them, rather than thinking of each name letter by letter.

7. Last week you were supposed to videotape yourself signing about “when” something occurred or will occur. Watch the video of yourself signing again. Did you remember to raise your eyebrows for the part of the sentence that tells when the activity will take place? Did you pause slightly after the time phrase and then return your eyebrows to the neutral position before stating what is to happen at the specified time? If you cannot see that your eyebrows are raised or if the pause is unnoticeable, record the sentences again. Write a brief paragraph about what you noticed in your own signing for this assignment and submit to a lab assistant for credit.

8. By this time, you should be able to sign the following grammatical features:
 - Yes/no questions
 - ‘Wh’ questions
 - Topic/comment structure
 - Descriptions of clothing and general physical appearance
 - Inflected verbs to show repetitious or continuous action
 - Negation
 - “When” phrases
 - Age and time (indicate age or time first, followed by the number; keep palm facing forward for numbers 1-5)
 - Plural personal pronouns (TWO-OF-US, THREE-OF-US, etc.)

Which of these grammatical features do you feel you need more help with? Submit your response to a lab assistant for credit.

9. Ask a lab assistant to help you select a video of a signed story or fairy tale that would be appropriate for you to watch. View the story a few times until you feel you understand most of it. Write a paragraph that includes the name of the video and story that you watched. What do you think makes a story good in ASL? Email your response to me at mbsmith@palomar.edu or submit your response to a lab assistant for credit.

Have an excellent week! ☺