

Grammar Study Guide (1-10)

Grammar 1: Initializing, Number Incorporation, The Signer, 4 Elements

What to know:

- The 4 elements of a sign and what each means
- Be able to give an example of the 4 elements of a sign
- Def: Initializing
- Be able to give an example of an initialized sign
- Def: Number incorporation
- Be able to give an example of a sign that incorporates a number
- Def: the signing space
- Def: the sight line
- Rule of the sight line
- Gender areas

Grammar 2: Classifiers and Size and Shape Specifiers

What to know:

- Def: Classifier
- Def: Size and Shape Specifiers (SSS)
- Be able to give an example of a sign that uses a classifier and SSS.
- What objects can be classified with each classifier

Grammar 3: Concepts, “to be” verb, Dominance, Facial Expression

What to know:

- The importance of concept in ASL
- Def: dominant/non-dominant hand and side
- The relationship between the “to be” verb, ASL, and other sign systems
- “WH” questions: know their sign and what facial expression accompanies each

Grammar 4: Plurals, Noun/Verb Rule, Directional Signs

What to know:

- Def: Noun/Verb change rule
- Be able to give an example of a noun/verb sign
- Def: directional sign
- Be able to give an example of a directional sign
- The three ways of making a sign plural
- Be able to give an example of a sign that is made plural in each way

Grammar 5: Pronominalization, Tense, Sentence Order, Intensity

What to know:

- Def: Pronominalization/Indexing
- Rules of indexing
- What hand-shape is appropriate
- How tense is expressed in ASL
- The relationship between time and your body
- Def: Intensity
- Be able to give an example of an intensified sign
- How to intensify a sign (2 things)

Grammar 6: Superlatives, Ordinal Numbers, Body/Gaze Shifting

What to know:

- Def: superlative
- Be able to give an example of a sign that uses a superlative
- Def: ordinal numbers
- Be able to give an example of an ordinal number
- Def: body/gaze shifting
- Techniques for body/gaze shifting
- Why/when is this technique used

Grammar 7: Deaf Culture

What to focus on:

- How the Deaf are educated (2 ways), know what each way is and what it means
- Communication tips (VERY IMPORTANT)
- Deaf culture model: know the different ways you become part of the deaf culture, what each means.
- Be able to select which way a person belongs based on an example provided
- How attitude affects your status
- The most important part of Deaf culture

Grammar 8: Name Signs, Compound Signs, Iconic Signs, The Agent Marker

What to know:

- Def: name sign
- Why they exist, where they come from
- Def: agent marker

- Be able to give an example of a sign that uses the agent marker
- Know examples of compound signs
- Def: iconic
- Be able to give an example of an iconic sign

Grammar 9: Regularity, Loan Signs, Personal Pronoun Number Incorporation

What to know:

- Def: Regularity
- Know examples of signs with regularity and what they mean
- Def: Loan Signs
- Personal Pronoun Incorporation: know rules, meaning

Grammar 10: Sign Language Continuum, Prefix/Suffixes, Duration

What to know:

- Def: ASL, PSE, MCE, Signed English, Rochester Method
- How ASL, PSE, Signed English differ (the basic rules for each)
- How prefixes/suffixes are expressed in Signed English and ASL
- How Duration is expressed in ASL