



# Language Standards (9-12)

Grade 9-10 students

Grade 11-12 students

## Structure of American Sign Language

 1. Demonstrate command of the standard ASL grammar and usage when signing (live and published).

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## Knowledge of Language

1. Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts (e.g., regional, historical and cultural variation in signs), to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when viewing.
  - a. Produce and edit work so it conforms to the guidelines of academic text publications (i.e., see Deaf Studies Digital Journal for guidelines).

1. Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when viewing or producing.
  - a. Vary syntax for effect, consulting references for guidance as needed; apply an understanding of syntax to the study of complex texts when viewing.

## Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

1. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning signs, fingerspelled signs, and phrases based on grades 9-10 viewing and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
  - a. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a sign's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a sign or phrase.
  - b. Identify and correctly use patterns of sign changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., inflections in ANALYZE, ANALYSIS).
  - c. Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, content-specific references), both print and digital, to find the parameters of a sign or determine or clarify its precise meaning, part of speech, or etymology.
  - d. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a sign or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
2. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, sign relationships, and nuances in sign meanings.
  - a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., euphemism, oxymoron) in context and analyze their role in the text.
  - b. Analyze nuances in the meaning of signs with similar denotations.
3. Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific signs, fingerspelled words, and phrases sufficient for viewing and signing at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a sign or phrase important to comprehension or expression.

1. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning signs and phrases based on grades 11-12 viewing and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
  - a. Use context (e.g., the overall meaning of a sentence, paragraph, or text; a sign's position or function in a sentence) as a clue to the meaning of a sign or phrase.
  - b. Identify and correctly use patterns of sign changes that indicate different meanings or parts of speech (e.g., DCL in describing a plush chair, DCL in describing a person sitting comfortably in a plush chair).
  - c. Consult general and specialized reference materials (e.g., dictionaries, glossaries, thesauruses), both print and digital, to find the parameters of a sign or determine or clarify its precise meaning, part of speech, etymology, or standard usage.
  - d. Verify the preliminary determination of the meaning of a sign or phrase (e.g., by checking the inferred meaning in context or in a dictionary).
2. Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, sign relationships, and nuances in word meanings.
  - a. Interpret figures of speech (e.g., hyperbole, paradox) in context and analyze their role in the text.
  - b. Analyze nuances in the meaning of signs with similar denotations.
3. Acquire and use accurately general academic and domain-specific signs, fingerspelled words, and phrases sufficient for viewing and signing at the college and career readiness level; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge when considering a sign or phrase important to comprehension or expression.