

ASL3 Week 1



Visual Fluency & ASL Grammar

FRED MILLER

Course Context

FOCUS AND EXPECTATIONS FOR ASL 3

This course emphasizes **advanced fluency**, grammar, and storytelling, with a focus on voice-off immersion and visual learning to enhance your ASL skills effectively.

Expectation: Voice-off Immersion | Minimal New Vocabulary |
Visual Learning



Weekly Goals

Signing Flow

Improve **fluidity** and confidence in your signing.

Engagement

Actively participate to enhance **visual learning** experience.

English Influence

Reduce influence of **English word order** in ASL.

Consistency

Regular practice solidifies **ASL fluency** and understanding.

Facial Grammar

Use facial expressions **consistently** for clarity in meaning.

Grammar Focus

UNDERSTANDING KEY ASL STRUCTURES

Topic-Comment

The Topic-Comment structure is essential in ASL, where the topic is established first followed by the comment, ensuring clarity and focus in communication.

Time-First

In ASL, using a time-first approach

(TIME + TOPIC + COMMENT)

helps organize information clearly and allows for better understanding of the sequence of events.

WH-Questions

Distinguishing WH-questions from YES/NO questions is crucial; WH-questions typically require **eyebrow furrowing** for emphasis, while YES/NO questions involve raised eyebrows for clarity.

Key Skills Practiced

Facial Expressions

NMS (Non-Manual Signals) enhances message accuracy and emotional expression.

Sign Language Terminology

Familiarity with terms aids in understanding and communication.

Head Tilt

Use head tilt to convey emphasis and clarity.

Visual Engagement

Engaging visuals support learning and retention of concepts.

Smooth Transitions

Transition smoothly between ideas for better flow.

Consistent Practice

Regular practice reinforces skills and builds confidence.



4 Rules for Having an ASL Conversation | Hearing and Deaf



Copy link

CONVERSATIONS

DEAF

HEARING

ASL



Watch on  YouTube

LearnHowToSign.com

In-Class Activities Overview

Visual Warm-Up

Start with facial grammar drills for engagement.

Grammar Comparison

Analyze differences between English and ASL structures.

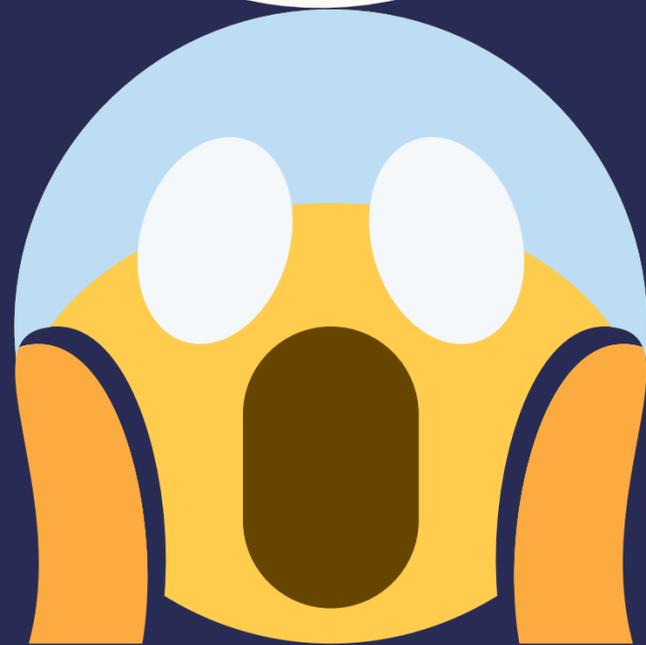
Partner Exercise

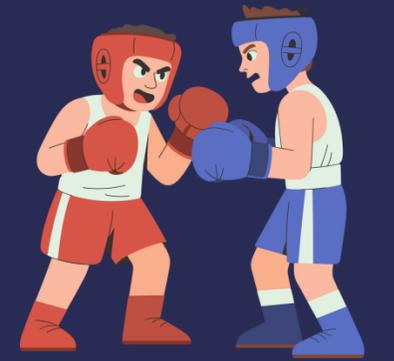
Collaborate to practice and clean up grammar.

Daily Routine

Sign a brief daily activity to reinforce learning.

Visual Warm-Up







Practice at Home

To enhance your skills, **sign a 1-minute daily activity** using correct ASL structure. Practicing in front of a mirror allows you to focus on facial grammar and body language, reinforcing your understanding of visual fluency essential for effective communication in ASL.

"ASL is visual, not English
on the hands."

LET YOUR FACE AND BODY DO THE WORK.

