

# COMMUNICATING WITH THOSE WHO USE VISUAL LANGUAGE - IF YOU DONT KNOW IT!

Look at the person you are taking to in the eyes. Don't watch an interpreter if present.



Ask what their preferred method of communication is. Not all people with hearing differences communicate the same! The best way to find out is asking.

Make the topic of conversation clear. Use gestures and visual cues. Use written notes or pictures to convey ideas.



Move yourself into the person's visual field so you can be seen. Avoid environments with poor lighting.



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HEARING EXPERIENCE LANGUAGE LEARNING OUTCOMES

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# **VISUAL LANGUAGE GUIDE**

**National Deaf Center**  
**“Communicating with Deaf  
Individuals”**



**National Institutes of Health**  
**Office of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion**  
**“10 Tips for Working with a Sign Language  
Interpreter”**



**Deaf-Hearing Communication Centre**  
**“Tips for Effective Communication”**



**The University of Chicago**  
**“Tips for Communicating with Deaf and  
Hard of Hearing Students”**



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# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

## What is ASL?

A visual language. ASL has its own unique vocabulary and grammar. The five factors of sign include handshape, palm direction, movement, location, and expression.

ASL THAT  
“The ASL Alphabet”  
Video



ASL THAT  
“Greetings & Responses Vocabulary”  
Video



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# HELLO LAB RESOURCES

## What is the HELLO Lab?

Hearing Experience and  
Language Learning  
Outcomes Lab



## Our Mission:

Explore how early experiences and parent-child interactions shape the foundation of spoken language, thereby opening new venues for effective interventions and support.

Tips to Improving Communication  
in Spoken Language



An SLP's Guide to ASL



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