

The many meanings of *run*

Name _____

Date _____

DIRECTIONS

The word *run* is printed in bold in every sentence below. Read each group and notice how its meaning shifts — and how the sign changes along with it. Then write your own sentences on the blank lines.

1 MOVE ON FOOT

to travel quickly on your own legs; to exercise

- ♦ I love **running** every day.
- ♦ **Running** is good for your heart.

2 GO QUICKLY

to make a short, quick trip somewhere

- ♦ Will you **run** to the store for me?
- ♦ I have to **run** a couple of errands.
- ♦ Let's **run** over to Meijer this afternoon.

3 RUNNY NOSE

to drip or flow from the nose

- ♦ Pepper makes my nose **run**.
 - ♦ The cold weather makes my nose **run**.
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4 LEAVE WATER RUNNING

to let water keep flowing from a tap

- ♦ Please don't leave the water **running**.
 - ♦ **Running** the water every day wastes money.
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5 FLOW INTO

to travel along a course toward somewhere

- ♦ The water will **run** into the ocean.
 - ♦ The river will **run** out into the sea.
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6 RUN FOR OFFICE

to be a candidate in an election

- ♦ Bob will **run** for class president.
 - ♦ Who will **run** for student council?
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7 LAST A LENGTH OF TIME

to continue for a certain period

- ♦ How long will the school play **run**?
 - ♦ The class seems to **run** on and on and on.
 - ♦ The class will **run** for 15 weeks.
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8 MANAGE OR CONTROL

to be in charge of a business, a place, or a person

- ♦ He will **run** his father's business.
 - ♦ You can't **run** my life; I'm an adult.
 - ♦ My uncle **runs** the bank with an iron fist.
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9 FLEE OR ESCAPE

to leave quickly to get away from something

- ♦ Troubled teens often **run** away.
 - ♦ You can't **run** when things get difficult.
 - ♦ When I confronted him, he **ran**.
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10 LEAVE IN A HURRY

to depart right away

- ♦ I have to **run** home after class.
 - ♦ I gotta **run**!
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11 PUBLISH OR PRINT

to place something in a newspaper or magazine

- ♦ Please **run** this ad for 3 days.
 - ♦ **Run** this ad in the Campus Daily.
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12 RUN IN THE FAMILY

to be passed down or appear again and again in a family

- ♦ Deafness **runs** in his family.
 - ♦ Blue eyes **run** in our family.
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CHALLENGE

Few English words carry as many meanings as *run*. Choose the three groups you think would be hardest for a new signer to tell apart, and write one sentence for each.

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THINK ABOUT IT

All twelve groups use the same English word, but they do not share the same meaning – and in ASL they do not share the same sign. Choose one of your own sentences from each group and be ready to sign it for the class.