

The many meanings of *over*

Name _____

Date _____

DIRECTIONS

The word **over** 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 ACROSS OR CROSSING

moving from one side of something to the other

- ♦ The car went **over** the cliff.
- ♦ Go **over** the hill, then turn left.
- ♦ It is **over** 100 degrees outside.
- ♦ He has **over** \$100,000.

2 DURING OR WHILE

throughout a period of time

- ♦ **Over** the past month, we have received three inches of rain.
- ♦ I was sick **over** the break.
- ♦ I went skiing **over** the weekend.
- ♦ Let's discuss this **over** dinner.

3 AGAIN OR REPEAT

one more time, from the beginning

- ♦ Can we see the movie **over**?
 - ♦ Please tell me the story **over** again.
 - ♦ She watches the same programs **over** and **over**.
 - ♦ That is not good enough; please do it **over**.
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4 FINISHED OR ALREADY

done; at an end

- ♦ I'm glad this class is **over**.
 - ♦ It's **over** now — just calm down.
 - ♦ My duty watch is **over** at 2300 hours.
 - ♦ The days of late summer evenings are **over** until next spring.
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5 GO OVER / POINT

toward a place a short distance away

- ♦ I'm **going over** there.
 - ♦ Do you want to **go over** to the cafeteria?
 - ♦ Your jacket is **over** on the chair.
 - ♦ My house is **over** the hill.
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6 ALL OVER AN AREA

spread throughout a whole region

- ◆ People came from overseas to travel **all over** the United States.
 - ◆ Some people are wanderers; they travel **all over**.
 - ◆ There is a severe drought **over** most of West Africa.
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7 CLASSIFIER WITH PANTOMIME

acted out with a classifier rather than one fixed sign

- ◆ The flood waters spilled **over** the dam.
 - ◆ They put an awning **over** the porch.
 - ◆ The book fell **over**.
 - ◆ Turn your test **over**.
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8 HAND OVER OR TRANSFER

to give something up to someone else

- ◆ They signed **over** the title to their land.
 - ◆ The parents turned **over** their parental rights to the state.
 - ◆ He turned **over** control of his company to his son.
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9 MORE THAN OR EXCEED

above a number, a limit, or an amount

- ♦ The actual cost was fifty dollars **over** his estimate.
- ♦ I went 15 minutes **over** on the parking meter.
- ♦ According to my computations, the bank statement was \$100 **over**.

10 LEFT OVER OR REMAINING

still there after the rest is used or gone

- ♦ There were three pennies **left over**.
- ♦ I filled the bookcase, but there were several books **left over**.
- ♦ Did you have any turkey **left over**?

CHALLENGE

Over is one of the hardest English words to sign, because the same word can point to a direction, a length of time, an amount, or a shape in space. Choose three groups that feel very different from one another and write one sentence for each.

THINK ABOUT IT

All ten 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.