

ASL Culture Discussion Questions

Use these questions to promote meaningful discussions about Deaf culture, identity, and community in your ASL classroom.

Identity & Deaf Experience

- What does being 'Deaf' mean to you?
- What are the differences between Deaf (capital D) and deaf (lowercase d)?
- How might growing up in a Deaf family differ from a hearing family?
- What are some common challenges Deaf people face in society?
- What are some benefits of being part of the Deaf community?

Language & Communication

- Why is ASL important to the Deaf community?
- How is ASL different from English?
- Why do some Deaf people choose not to use spoken language or hearing aids?
- What is language deprivation, and how does it affect Deaf individuals?
- How can hearing people become better allies in Deaf spaces?

Media & Representation

- How are Deaf characters portrayed in movies and TV?
- Why is it important to cast Deaf actors in Deaf roles?
- Have you seen a positive or negative example of Deaf representation in media?
- How can social media help elevate Deaf voices?
- What impact do Deaf influencers and creators have on awareness?

Accessibility & Rights

- What are common accessibility barriers for Deaf people?
- What is the role of an interpreter in a Deaf person's life?
- Why are captions and visual alerts important?
- How can schools or workplaces be more inclusive to Deaf people?
- What are your thoughts on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and how it helps (or doesn't)?

Community & Culture

- What traditions are unique to the Deaf community?
- What does Deaf Pride mean to you?
- What is the role of storytelling in Deaf culture?
- Why is Gallaudet University so important to the Deaf community?
- How does learning ASL help build a bridge between Deaf and hearing cultures?