

ASL Placement Assessment Packet

This packet is designed to help teachers quickly evaluate where ASL students are at the beginning of a new year, especially if they used a different program previously. The assessments cover expressive, receptive, vocabulary, grammar, fingerspelling, and self-reflection.

1. Conversation / Dialogue Checks

Pair students and have them sign everyday scenarios (introductions, ordering food, hobbies). Observe fluency, grammar use, clarity of signs, and comfort level.

2. Structured Expressive Prompts

Provide a picture or short story prompt. Have students record a signed response. Assess vocabulary recall, sentence structure, and non-manual signals.

3. Vocabulary Spot-Check

Flash random vocabulary words (mixed levels). Ask students to sign them. Mix in some advanced vocabulary to see what they retain.

4. Fingerspelling Assessment

Fingerspell 10–12 words at different speeds. Students write them down or repeat back. This measures receptive ability.

5. Receptive Video Quiz

Play a short Deaf signer clip (1–2 minutes). Ask comprehension questions (multiple choice, sequencing, true/false).

6. Silent Classroom Warm-Up

For the first week, maintain a voice-off environment. Students must navigate interactions using ASL only.

7. ASL Grammar Mini-Test

Sign a few sentences with intentional grammar errors. Students identify or correct them to show grammar awareness.

8. Student Self-Reflection

Students complete a checklist: - What signs/units do you remember? - What is hardest for you? - Do you prefer signing, watching, or fingerspelling?

Teacher Quick Rubric

Category	Excellent (4)	Good (3)	Developing (2)	Beginning (1)
Expressive Signing	Fluent, clear, accurate	Mostly accurate	Some errors / hesitant	Minimal / unclear
Receptive Skills	Understands fully	Understands most	Understands partly	Struggles significantly
Vocabulary Recall	Strong recall	Adequate recall	Limited recall	Minimal recall
Fingerspelling	Reads / spells easily	Mostly accurate	Some difficulty	Significant difficulty
Grammar Awareness	Strong ASL grammar use	Some errors	Frequent errors	No awareness

Student Self-Reflection Form

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What signs/units do you remember best?

2. What is hardest for you in ASL? _____

3. Do you feel more comfortable with: Signing / Watching / Fingerspelling (circle one)

4. My personal goal for this year in ASL is: _____