

Student _____ Assessed by _____ Date _____

THE SHORT VERSION

Score five categories out of four points each, add them up, and the total out of twenty places the student in one of five levels. The bands are narrow at the top – nineteen and twenty both land at Level 5 – so a single category can move a borderline student a whole level.

SCORING METHOD

Five categories, four points each, twenty points in total.

RECORD THE SCORE

	EXPRESSIVE	RECEPTIVE	VOCABULARY	FINGER- SPELLING	GRAMMAR	TOTAL
SCORE	_____ / 4	_____ / 4	_____ / 4	_____ / 4	_____ / 4	_____ / 20

WHERE THE TOTAL LANDS

0–7	8–11	12–15	16–18	19–20
Beginner LEVEL 1	Intermediate LEVEL 2	Advanced LEVEL 3	Advanced Plus LEVEL 4	Highest LEVEL 5

NOTES FROM THE ASSESSMENT

THE BANDS IN FULL

What each score range looks like, and where the student starts.

0–7

POINTS

BEGINNER — LEVEL 1

- ◆ Struggles with vocabulary recall and basic communication.
- ◆ Limited receptive and expressive skills.

START HERE Start fresh with core signs, fingerspelling, and basic grammar.

8–11

POINTS

INTERMEDIATE — LEVEL 2

- ◆ Understands some basic conversation, but with frequent errors.
- ◆ Vocabulary is partial; grammar is inconsistent.

START HERE Review the basics, then expand sentence structure and vocabulary themes.

12–15

POINTS

ADVANCED — LEVEL 3

- ◆ Signs with moderate fluency and follows most conversation.
- ◆ Still has occasional grammar and vocabulary gaps.

START HERE Focus on classifiers, story retelling, and cultural context.

16–18

POINTS

ADVANCED PLUS — LEVEL 4

- ◆ Confident in both expressive and receptive skills.
- ◆ Small weaknesses in speed, nuance, or complex grammar.

START HERE Emphasize nuanced grammar, cultural readings, idiomatic expressions, and longer discourse.

19–20

POINTS

HIGHEST — LEVEL 5

- ◆ Demonstrates strong fluency and grammar awareness.
- ◆ Understands authentic signing at near-native pace.

START HERE Advanced discourse, Deaf culture projects, interpreting-like practice, and full narratives.
