

Ready-to-Go Substitute Lesson Plan Ideas

Fifteen activities a substitute can facilitate without knowing any ASL.

PURPOSE

Why these activities work

These substitute lessons are designed for Advanced Plus ASL students who demonstrate advanced receptive and expressive language skills, a strong understanding of Deaf culture, and the ability to analyze complex communication issues. Activities emphasize critical thinking, translation, ethics, language analysis, professional decision-making, and real-world application.

The substitute does not need to know ASL. They serve primarily as a facilitator.

THE CATALOG · 15 ACTIVITIES

Suggested substitute activities

1

TRANSLATION

Translation Critique & Revision

Evaluate two English translations of a complex ASL gloss narrative, identify conceptual errors, and rewrite sections using more natural English.

2

INTERPRETING

Interpreting Case Conference

Analyze professional interpreting scenarios such as medical, legal, educational, or emergency settings and identify preparation, vocabulary, ethical concerns, and communication barriers.

3

ETHICS

Code of Professional Conduct Analysis

Apply excerpts from the RID Code of Professional Conduct to realistic situations and justify decisions.

4

COMMUNITY

Deaf Community Position Papers

Read and compare differing viewpoints on issues such as language deprivation, cochlear implants, bilingual education, or AI in interpreting.

5

LINGUISTICS

ASL Linguistic Analysis

Analyze classifiers, role shifting, spatial mapping, non-manual markers, discourse structure, and register.

6

ETHICS

Interpreting Ethics Roundtable

Evaluate ethical dilemmas involving confidentiality, dual relationships, interpreter fatigue, conflicts of interest, and teamwork.

7

ACCESSIBILITY

Analyze a Public Accessibility Issue

Examine accessibility challenges in healthcare, education, transportation, courts, or government services and recommend improvements.

8

STANDARDS

Compare Professional Standards

Compare RID standards, ADA requirements, educational interpreting expectations, or healthcare communication guidelines.

9

TRANSLATION

Advanced Translation Commentary

Explain translation challenges and linguistic decisions without producing a complete translation.

10

CURRENT EVENTS

Current Events Analysis

Read and evaluate articles related to Deaf advocacy, accessibility, technology, disability rights, or language policy.

11

LEADERSHIP

Deaf Leadership Case Study

Analyze the leadership, impact, and legacy of influential Deaf leaders.

12

RESEARCH

Research Proposal

Develop a proposal for future research related to ASL, Deaf education, interpreting, accessibility, or technology.

13

REFLECTION

Capstone Reflection

Reflect on language growth, cultural understanding, communication skills, and future goals.

14

PORTFOLIO

Professional Portfolio Development

Develop materials such as a communication philosophy, reflections, ASL experiences, and professional goals.

15

POLICY

Policy Analysis & Recommendation

Evaluate an accessibility policy, identify strengths and weaknesses, and recommend evidence-based improvements.