BEGINNING ASL VIDEOCOURSE #13: BUSINESS AS USUAL

OPEN CAPTIONED SIGN ENHANCERS, INC., 1991
Grade level: 4-13+
38 mins.
1 Instructional Graphic Enclosed

DESCRIPTION

At the office, instructor Billy Seago and the Bravo family introduce work-related signs. The Cultural Notes offer information about technologies which open work opportunities for the Deaf. The Grammatical Notes explain number-sign combinations to increase the amount of information. Includes review, practice, and story sessions. The Beginning ASL Videocourse Series.

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

♦ To introduce some work-related signs.
♦ To discuss the impact of technology on work opportunities for the Deaf.
♦ To explain the relay service.
♦ To demonstrate how number-sign combinations convey more information.

BEFORE SHOWING

NOTE: The numbers displayed in the left-hand corner of the screen are referents for the commercially produced curriculum and are unrelated to this lesson guide.
1. Review the vocabulary and Cultural and Grammatical Notes from Lessons 1-12.
2. Become familiar with the theme and target vocabulary listed in the VIDEO CONTENTS. These may be enlarged, copied, and distributed.
3. Review the history of employment of Deaf people and compare to current opportunities.
4. Discuss frustrations due to communication problems that may appear at the workplace.

DURING SHOWING

1. View the video more than once, with one showing uninterrupted.
2. Facial/body expressions and mouth movements convey specific grammatical information. Pause and practice these.
3. Pause after “company” and explain it refers to businesses only. Demonstrate the sign for “company” as in friends.
4. Pause after “pay” and explain it as a directional sign. Demonstrate.
5. Pause after “fire” and demonstrate the sign for “burning fire.”
6. Pause after “first” and explain there are different ways to sign “first,”
depending on the situation, such as “first place” as in a contest and “first
quarter” as in a game. Demonstrate.
7. Pause after “copy” and explain it as a specified way of copying:
“photocopying.” Demonstrate other ways of copying, such as copying off a
board, from a book, and from another person’s signing.
8. Pause after “stamp” and explain it as a “postage stamp.” Demonstrate the
sign for a “rubber stamp.”
9. Pause after “sign” as signature, and distinguish between signs for “sign
language” and “road sign.”

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Review and practice signing the vocabulary.
2. Review the Cultural Notes and Grammatical Notes.
3. Demonstrate signs for specified items within the learning environment which
are the same as those at an office.
4. List and discuss the modern technological breakthroughs for Deaf people in
the workplace.
5. Discuss and practice the rules for incorporating numbers into signs.
   a. The following signs incorporate numbers one through nine only:
      “minutes,” “hours,” “days,” “weeks,” “months,” “years,” and “dollars.”
   b. When referring to people and pronouns, the most common limit is five.

Applications and Activities

1. Signs for some vocabulary may vary regionally. Check with local sources for
   commonly accepted signs for vocabulary in this video.
2. Invite a panel of Deaf workers to:
   a. Share responsibilities, achievements, and frustrations such as
discrimination or underemployment at the workplace.
   b. Discuss communication, modifications, and technology used at the
   workplace.
   c. Help increase sign vocabulary by teaching signs of various job titles.
   d. Set up mock interviews.
3. Research and report on successful Deaf adults in various occupations. Some
   sources are:
   a. Toole, D. Courageous Deaf Adults (1980) and Successful Deaf
   b. Panara, R., and Panara, J. Great Deaf Americans. Silver Spring, MD:
      of the Deaf, 1981.

4. Practice signing personal employment histories. Include duties, wages, and highlights.

5. Arrange a scavenger hunt in an office supply store.
   a. Team with an experienced signing partner.
   b. Using a list of specified items, locate the items on the list and give the appropriate sign to the partner.
   c. The winner is the first person who locates and signs all the items correctly.

6. Practice using the relay system. Refer to the Telecommunications of the Deaf, Inc. (TDI) directory.

7. Plan an imaginary art project. List and make signs for the needed items.

8. Expand sign vocabulary to include business jargon of specified careers.

9. Become familiar with the laws affecting Deaf people in the workplace, such as the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

10. Practice signing sentences using number-sign combinations. (See INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHIC.)

### VIDEO CONTENTS

#### Vocabulary

| 1. advertise | 22. first | 42. profession |
| 2. appointment | 23. five months | 43. rubber band |
| 3. ask | 24. four months | 44. schedule |
| 4. ask questions | 25. hire | 45. scissors |
| 5. assistant | 26. idea | 46. secretary |
| 6. boring | 27. interview | 47. send |
| 7. boss | 28. lazy | 48. seven months |
| 8. business | 29. letter | 49. shelf |
| 9. company | 30. meeting | 50. signature or sign |
| 10. computer | 31. need | 51. six months |
| 11. computer printer | 32. nine months | 52. skill |
| 12. consult | 33. office | 53. stamp |
| 13. copy | 34. Oh! Someone is coming! | 54. stapler or to staple |
| 14. desk or table | 35. Oh, I see. | 55. tape |
| 15. drawer | 36. one month | 56. three months |
| 16. earn | 37. paper | 57. two months |
| 17. eight months | 38. paper clip | 58. type |
| 18. envelope | 39. pay | 59. typewriter |
| 19. explain | 40. post office | 60. vice president |
| 20. file, files | 41. president | 61. work |
| 21. fire |  |  |
Cultural Notes

The telephone has often been cited as a leading cause of discrimination in the workplace. It has prevented Deaf people from getting jobs or promotions. However, with modern technological advances, the situation has improved. The TTY, relay service, and computer networking have been instrumental in resolving the barrier. Deaf people can use the phone in this day and age.

The relay service facilitates telephone communication between a TTY user and a person using a voice-only telephone. Either person can contact a relay operator to help complete the call. The relay operator types to the TTY user and speaks to the person with a voice-only phone.

Grammatical Notes

Combining signs and numbers can increase the amount of information. Such combinations convey specific information, such as numbers of people or information related to time. Instead of signing “you and me,” sign “us-two.” Instead of signing “three months” consisting of two movements, sign “three” on “months” consisting of one movement.

INSTRUCTIONAL GRAPHIC

One instructional graphic is included with this lesson guide. It may be enlarged and used to create transparencies or copies.

♦ NUMBER-SIGN COMBINATIONS
NUMBER-SIGN COMBINATIONS

Directions: Practice number-sign combinations to convey the intended meaning.

1. I traveled for _______________________.
   two weeks
   five weeks
   two months
   four months
   six years

2. My lunch cost _______________________.
   50 cents
   $2.00
   $3.50
   $6.55
   $9.00

3. How about the ______________________ meet after class?
   two of us
   three of them
   three of us
   five of us
   two of them and the teacher, three

4. You need to practice for ___________ daily.
   five minutes
   30 minutes
   one hour
   two hours
   eight hours