

# ASL Development Checklist

Charlotte Evans  
Kyra Zimmer  
(1994)

## Background Information

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

BIRTHDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF SAMPLE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CHECKLIST COMPLETETED: \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON(S) COMPLETING CHECKLIST: \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE SITUATION:

---

---

---

---

EXPOSURE TO ASL:

---

---

---

STRUCTURE	STAGE (1.5 - 2 years)	STAGE 2 (2 - 3.5 yrs)	STAGE 3 (3.5 - 4.5 yrs)	STAGE 4 (4.5 - 6 yrs)
<b>Sign Formation:</b> 1. Handshapes	Simple (B, C, O, A, S, 1, 5)	Inconsistent (G, H, U, D, Y, 3)	Complex (X, T, R, 7, 8)	Fingerspelling
2. Movement	Simple (up, down, forwards, back)	Inconsistent (BEAR - hands not crossed)	Complex (wiggly)	Complex (alternating)
<b>Grammar:</b> 1. Classifiers	Object (2h)CL:O - pole	Object + Movement CL:3 - car driving forward	Verb within Verb CL:V - man climbing up a pole	Verb Chaining CL:3 - car driving forward, over hill, turning left, parking
2. Verb Modification		Emphasis; Manner; Time WALK - stroll; WALK - quickly; WALK - a long time	Number; Distribution FALL - singular; FALL - plural; FALL - random time	
3. Noun Modification			Emphasis; Size; Quality BOWL - big	Spatial Arrangement TREE+++ - in a row

STRUCTURE	STAGE (1.5 - 2 years)	STAGE 2 (2 - 3.5 yrs)	STAGE 3 (3.5 - 4.5 yrs)	STAGE 4 (4.5 - 6 yrs)
<b>Sentence Structure</b>	Single/Two-sign phrases	Three/ Four-sign sentences		
1. Sentence Length				
2. Negation	Headshake (HS) alone/ HS with negative sign <u>HS</u> CAN'T	HS with non-negative sign <u>HS</u> ME WANT MILK		
3. Questions	YES/NO; WH - (2h) "5" <u>^^</u> MINE <u>frown</u> (2h) 5	YES/NO; WHERE; WHAT; WHY <u>Frown</u> GO HOME WHY?	FOR-FOR; WHICH	WH - Bracketing <u>frown</u> WHERE GO WHERE?
4. Complex Sentences			Topicalization <u>t</u> MY ROOM, PAINT TOMORROW  Rhetorical Question <u>rh?</u> TURTLE RUN, WHO WIN, TURTLE	Topic Continuation Hold a sign with one hand and continue signing with other  Conditionals <u>Cond</u> IF RAIN, GAME CANCEL
<b>Storytelling:</b>	Real World	Semi-real World	Inconsistent Abstract	Full Abstract
1. Spatial Reference				
2. Role Play	Copying expressions	Unclear character identification and role shifting	Beginning body shifting, eye gaze, and facial expression	Clear and Consistent

# **Creative Use of Signs**

## **Comments**

1. General Behaviour (facial expression, gestures, participation)
  
2. Conversational Skills (eye contact, turn taking, staying on topic, responding to questions)
  
3. Overall Communication (areas of strength and weakness, language development stage)