



BIG IDEAS

Viewing and expressing with intent supports our acquisition of a new language.

Language and culture are interconnected and shape our perspective, identity, and voice

The communicative context determines how we express ourselves.

Exploring diverse **forms of cultural expression** promotes greater understanding of our own cultural identity.

Developing proficiency in a new language provides unique opportunities for careers, travel, personal growth, and study abroad.

Learning Standards

Curricular Competencies	Content
<p><i>Students are expected to be able to do the following:</i></p> <p>Thinking and communicating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Recognize how choice of signs affects meaningShare and negotiate meaning derived from a wide variety of texts and contextsLocate and explore a variety of authentic representations of ASLNarrate storiesRespond personally to a variety of materialsEngage in meaningful conversations on a variety of topicsExpress themselves with growing fluencyShare information using the presentation format best suited to their own and others' diverse abilities <p>Personal and social awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Investigate regional variations in ASLIdentify and discuss perspectives in textsEngage in Deaf cultural experiencesIdentify and explore educational and personal/professional opportunities requiring proficiency in ASLAnalyze personal, shared, and others' experiences, perspectives, and worldviews through a cultural lensRecognize First Peoples perspectives and knowledge; other ways of knowing, and local cultural knowledge	<p><i>Students are expected to know the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">non-manual signalsincreasingly complex vocabulary and sentence structures, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">complex questionspersonal experiences, lifestyles, and relationshipsfuture eventsexplanation and justification of opinionspoints of viewelements and registerpast, present, and future time framesASL resources and servicescontributions to society and other accomplishments of D/deaf or hard-of-hearing people, including Canadianscreative works from Deaf culturesociety's perceptions of Deaf people over timecultural aspects of Deaf communitiesD/deaf perspectives and points of viewFirst Peoples perspectives connecting language and culture, including histories, identity, and place

Big Ideas – Elaborations

- **forms of cultural expression:** represent the experience of the people from whose culture they are drawn; for example, celebrations, customs, folklore, language use, traditions, and creative works (e.g., books, paintings, pictures, sculpture, theatre, dance, poetry and prose, filmmaking, musical composition, architecture)

Curricular Competencies – Elaborations

- **choice of signs:** nuances among tenses, pronouns, placement and location of signs, similar signs with different meanings
- **texts:** “Text” is a generic term referring to all forms of written, visual, and digital communication. Written and visual elements can also be combined (e.g., in dramatic presentations, graphic novels, films, web pages, advertisements).
- **contexts:** audience, purpose, setting, formality/informality
- **Locate:** discovering various types of ASL materials
- **Narrate:**
 - using expressions of time and transitional signs to show logical progression
 - using past, present, and future time frames
- **stories:** Stories, including handshape stories, are a narrative form of text that can be written or visual. Stories are derived from truth or fiction and may be used to seek and impart knowledge, entertain, share history, and strengthen a sense of identity.
- **personally:** e.g., providing personal interpretations or opinions
- **Engage:**
 - with peers, teachers, and members of the wider community
 - can include virtual/online conversations
- **presentation format:** e.g., digital, visual; aids such as charts, graphics, illustrations, photographs, videos, props, digital media
- **perspectives:** A text can reflect the author's point of view which may include bias.
- **Deaf cultural experiences:** e.g., blogs, vlogs, school visits (including virtual visits), performances, exchanges, festivals, films, pen-pal letters, plays, social media
- **educational and personal/professional opportunities:** e.g., academic research, translation, international affairs, government, teaching, travel, study abroad
- **cultural lens:** e.g., values, practices, traditions, perceptions
- **ways of knowing:** e.g., First Nations, Métis, and Inuit; and/or gender-related, subject/discipline specific, cultural, embodied, intuitive

Content – Elaborations

- **non-manual signals:** Non-manual signals (NMS) are parts of a sign that are not signed on the hands (e.g., ASL adverbs made by eyes and eyebrows; ASL adjectives made using the mouth, tongue, and lips). For this level, non-manual signals include but are not limited to:
 - facial expression matching the meaning and content of what is signed (e.g., mad, angry, very angry)
 - conveying “tone of voice” while signing
 - mouth morpheme: “cha” (big), “fish” (finish), “diff-diff-diff” (different), “pah” (finally, tends to), “pow” (suddenly)
 - head nod/shake
 - WH-face (eyebrows down for a WH question, shoulders up, head tilted slightly)
 - shoulder shift/contrastive structure/spatial organization
 - eye gaze: must be used with deixis (pointing)
 - distance signals: eyes open wide, cheek to shoulder, mouth open, teeth/tongue
 - nose twitch
- **elements:** format, context, audience, purpose
- **register:** communicating with strangers, elders, peers, friends, family
- **time frames:** ASL timeline (e.g., mark tenses with signs, as well as location, and indicate short and long time spans)
- **resources and services:** e.g., blogs, courses, clubs, informal and formal groups, associations, online resources
- **D/deaf:** “D/deaf” refers to both “Deaf” people who identify with the Deaf culture and “deaf” people who do not. It is often used as a shortcut to describe both groups who are similar but not exactly the same when it comes to communication.
- **society’s perceptions:** e.g., descriptive terminology, perceived capabilities, societal status
- **cultural aspects:** Deaf communities and culture and their collectivistic nature (i.e., focused on the group and its interests); impacts of history and experiences on language and culture
- **histories:** e.g., conversations with an Elder about local celebrations, traditions, and protocols
- **identity:** Identity is influenced by, for example, traditions, protocols, celebrations, and festivals.
- **place:** A sense of place can be influenced by, for example, territory, food, clothing, and creative works.



BIG IDEAS

Language learning is a lifelong process.	Sharing our feelings, opinions, and beliefs in a new language contributes to our identity.	With increased language proficiency, we can discuss and justify opinions with nuance and clarity.	Exploring diverse forms of cultural expression promotes greater understanding and appreciation of cultures worldwide.	Becoming more proficient in a new language enables us to explore global issues.
--	--	---	--	---

Learning Standards

Curricular Competencies	Content
<p><i>Students are expected to be able to do the following:</i></p> <p>Thinking and communicating</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Negotiate meaning in a wide variety of contextsLocate and explore a variety of materials in ASLRecognize different purposes, degrees of formality, and cultural points of view in a variety of materialsNarrate a selection of storiesRespond personally to a variety of texts and communicationsEngage in meaningful conversations on a variety of topicsExpress themselves with fluency and accuracyShare information using the presentation format best suited to their own and others' diverse abilities	<p><i>Students are expected to know the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">non-manual signalsincreasingly complex vocabulary and sentence structures, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">complex questions and opinionsneeds and emotionssequence of events in storieselements and registerpast, present, and future time framesfeatures of major ASL regional dialectsASL resources and servicesimpact of history and experiences on language and culturecontributions to society and other accomplishments of D/deaf or hard-of-hearing people, including Canadianscreative works from Deaf culturesociety's perceptions of Deaf people over timecultural aspects of Deaf communitiesD/deaf perspectives and points of viewFirst Peoples perspectives that connect language and culture, including histories, identity, and place



Ministry of Education

Learning Standards (continued)

Curricular Competencies	Content
<p>Personal and social awareness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify and explain perspectives in textsRecognize and explain connections between language and cultureEngage in Deaf cultural experiencesExplore opportunities to continue language acquisition beyond graduationAnalyze personal, shared, and others' experiences, perspectives, and worldviews through a cultural lensIdentify and explore educational and personal/professional opportunities requiring proficiency in ASLRecognize First Peoples perspectives and knowledge; other ways of knowing, and local cultural knowledge	

Big Ideas – Elaborations	SECOND LANGUAGES – American Sign Language (ASL) Grade 12
<ul style="list-style-type: none">forms of cultural expression: represent the experience of the people from whose culture they are drawn; for example, celebrations, customs, folklore, language use, traditions, and creative works (e.g., books, paintings, pictures, sculpture, theatre, dance, poetry and prose, filmmaking, musical composition, architecture)	

Curricular Competencies – Elaborations

- **contexts:** audience, purpose, setting, formality/informality
- **purposes:** e.g., to convince, inform, entertain
- **Narrate:**
 - using expressions of time and transitional signs to show logical progression
 - using past, present, and future time frames
- **stories:** Stories, including handshape stories, are a narrative form of text that can be written or visual. Stories are derived from truth or fiction and may be used to seek and impart knowledge, entertain, share history, and strengthen a sense of identity.
- **personally:** e.g., providing personal interpretations or opinions
- **Engage:**
 - with peers, teachers, and members of the wider community
 - can include virtual/online conversations and social media
- **fluency and accuracy:** includes using the full range of tenses and moods, developing flow, employing precise vocabulary, and using appropriate structures
- **presentation format:** e.g., digital, visual; aids such as charts, graphics, illustrations, photographs, videos, props, digital media
- **perspectives:** A text can reflect the author's point of view which may include bias.
- **connections:** as expressed through creative works (e.g., art, books, performance, visual art, poems), regional dialects, historical origins of words and expressions
- **Deaf cultural experiences:** e.g., blogs, vlogs, school visits (including virtual visits), performances, exchanges, festivals, films, pen-pal letters, plays, social media
- **opportunities:** e.g., clubs, online resources, personal connections, travel, volunteering
- **cultural lens:** e.g., values, practices, traditions, perceptions
- **educational and personal/professional opportunities:** e.g., academic research, translation, international affairs, government, teaching, travel, study abroad
- **ways of knowing:** e.g., First Nations, Métis, and Inuit; and/or gender-related, subject/discipline specific, cultural, embodied, intuitive

Content – Elaborations

- **non-manual signals:** Non-manual signals (NMS) are parts of a sign that are not signed on the hands (e.g., ASL adverbs made by eyes and eyebrows; ASL adjectives made using the mouth, tongue, and lips). For this level, non-manual signals include but are not limited to:
 - facial expression matching the meaning and content of what is signed (e.g., mad, angry, very angry)
 - conveying “tone of voice” while signing
 - mouth morpheme: “cha” (big), “fish” (finish), “diff-diff-diff” (different), “pah” (finally, tends to), “pow” (suddenly)
 - head nod/shake
 - WH-face (eyebrows down for a WH question, shoulders up, head tilted slightly)
 - shoulder shift/contrastive structure/spatial organization
 - eye gaze: must be used with deixis (pointing)
 - distance signals: eyes open wide, cheek to shoulder, mouth open, teeth/tongue
 - nose twitch
- **elements:** format, context, audience, purpose
- **register:** e.g., formal/informal; communicating with strangers, elders, peers, friends, family
- **time frames:** ASL timeline (e.g., mark tenses with signs, as well as location, and indicate short and long time spans)
- **features:** e.g., accents, idiomatic expressions, slang, humour, local vocabulary
- **resources and services:** e.g., blogs, courses, clubs, informal and formal groups, associations, online resources
- **culture:** e.g., how creative works of D/deaf communities have been shaped by their histories
- **D/deaf:** “D/deaf” refers to both “Deaf” people who identify with the Deaf culture and “deaf” people who do not. It is often used as a shortcut to describe both groups who are similar but not exactly the same when it comes to communication.
- **society’s perceptions:** e.g., descriptive terminology, perceived capabilities, societal status
- **cultural aspects:** Deaf communities and culture and their collectivistic nature (i.e., focused on the group and its interests); impacts of history and experiences on language and culture
- **histories:** e.g., conversations with an Elder about local celebrations, traditions, and protocols
- **identity:** Identity is influenced by, for example, traditions, protocols, celebrations, and festivals.
- **place:** A sense of place can be influenced by, for example, territory, food, clothing, and creative works.