

Comparison of ASL Texts

Characteristics	Master ASL!	Learning ASL	Signing Naturally
STANDARDS			
Meets national foreign language standards / 5 C's	✓		
Meets rigorous state foreign language standards	✓		
PHILOSOPHY			
Bilingual / bicultural philosophy	✓		
Functional-notional philosophy			✓
Total immersion philosophy			✓
Teacher-focused		✓	✓
Student-focused	✓		
STUDENT-FRIENDLY			
Ethnically diverse sign models that appeal to high school / college students	✓		
Commitment to diversity and multicultural differences	✓		
Vocabulary index, with full conceptual meanings	✓	✓	
Addresses up-to-date cultural and technological issues in the Deaf World	✓		
Topics follow sequence of natural conversation	✓		
Color illustrations designed to elicit language use	✓		
Step-by-step approach of skills presented in a logical manner that encourages language use	✓		
Addresses problems and weaknesses often seen in ASL students	✓		
Filmed dialogues are illustrated in student book	✓		
TEACHER-FRIENDLY			
Unit objectives	✓	✓	✓
Skill benchmarks	✓		
Sign variations from around the United States and Canada	✓		
Assessment guides for each unit	✓		
Must adapt and expand curriculum to suit student needs		✓	✓

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ALL-IN-ONE TEXTBOOK			
Language	✓	✓	✓
Grammar / structure exercises	✓	✓	
Receptive emphasis	✓	✓	✓
Expressive emphasis	✓		
Classroom exercises	✓	✓	
Homework exercises, including differentials for multi-skilled classrooms	✓		
Full-color artwork by leading Deaf artists	✓		
Deaf history	✓	✓	✓
Social analysis of Deaf & Hearing worlds	✓		
Culture	✓	✓	✓
USER-FRIENDLY			
Clear student objectives for each unit	✓		
Hardcover, full-color textbook	✓		
Clear instruction on ASL grammar / structure	✓		
Extensive fingerspelling, number, and glossing exercises	✓		
Focus on native-like expressive rhythm	✓		
Emphasis on expressive skills	✓		
Emphasis on receptive skills	✓	✓	✓
Conversational skills limited to specific functions and situations			✓
DVD / VIDEOTAPE			
DVD / videotape materials feature high school and college-aged signers	✓		
DVD / videotape features ASL grammar / structure lessons with examples	✓		
DVD / videotape features Deaf culture lessons with examples	✓	✓	✓
Narratives on a variety of topics aligned with each unit	✓		
Dialogues on a variety of topics in each unit	✓		
Interactive menus and scene selection means easy access	✓	✓	✓