Week 4 Assignment: ASL 100L

1. Review vocabulary in Learning American Sign Language (LASL) and Signing Naturally Units 1 and 2. It is important for you to memorize vocabulary. Have you made flashcards? Drill yourself on vocabulary until recognition of each sign is automatic. Go over your class notes. If your teacher has taught you any new signs that are not in units 1 and 2 of either book, take time to remember and practice them now.

2. Practice signing the ten questions used for the “Question Types” exercise in Signing Naturally Unit 2 (p. 9). Remember to practice the facial grammar (non-manual signals) that denotes question types in ASL.

You will need to bring in a blank videotape next week. Please bring in a new video that has not been used before as this equipment is heavily used and new videos will keep the equipment in good working condition. Next week you will videotape yourself signing the ten questions. When you record yourself signing the questions, be sure to use the appropriate non-manual behaviors discussed on page 8 of SN. You will also need to look directly into the camera so you will be able to see your face clearly on the videotape.

Practice signing the questions as many times as you want to get comfortable with the signs and the facial grammar (raised eyebrows for yes/no questions and scrunched eyebrows for wh questions). You will need to use two carrels to do this assignment. Watch a question in one carrel, and then stop the tape and record yourself signing the same question in a second carrel. If all of the carrels are in use, ask a lab assistant to set up a separate camera to record your work.

3. Read through information in LASL, Unit 3. Look at the grammar and culture notes as well as the new vocabulary. It is particularly helpful for students to look ahead to ascertain the vocabulary that your teacher will introduce in class. Do the same for SN Unit 3.
4. Practice numbers 1-10. You can also make flashcards of the numbers using the drawings on the inside front cover of LASL.

5. Watch the movie called “And Your Name is Jonah.” Write a two-paragraph reaction to the movie and submit to a lab assistant by the end of the week for credit.