Week 11 Assignment: ASL 101L

1. Review and memorize vocabulary in Learning American Sign Language (LASL) Units 1-18 and Signing Naturally Units 6-9. 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 these units, take time to remember and practice them now.

2. Read the glossed representation of the signed dialogues in Learning American Sign Language (LASL) Unit 19. After reading each dialogue, watch the corresponding section of the video. Copy the signers until you are comfortable signing the dialogues on your own. Watch the signers again, paying particular attention to facial expression. Copy the signers again, making sure to include facial expressions and non-manual signals. Larry uses the sign for FINISH four times in the “A Sequence of Activities” dialogue. What do you think the English equivalent might be for FINISH?

3. Study and practice using each grammatical feature discussed in Unit 19. Remember to take good notes on information you learn from both LASL and SN.

4. Practice exercises in Unit 19 of LASL. Don’t worry too much about the facial adverbs in Units 19A and 19B, but you should be able to change a verb to show that an action is done often (signed with a repeated movement) or that it is done continuously (signed with a circular repeated movement). Pursed lips (mm) are used for something that is done easily or without effort like shopping, reading a book for enjoyment, playing cards. When discussing something that was done carelessly, a signer’s tongue will stick out slightly through closed lips as if making the ‘th’ sound.

5. For expressive signing practice, sign the answers to the following questions: What kinds of activities do people enjoy doing in the winter? Summer? Spring? Fall? What is your favorite sport to watch? To play? Think about a fun weekend you had. What did you do? Who were you with? When was this enjoyable weekend?

6. Preview information and vocabulary in LASL, Unit 20.
7. Begin workbook exercises in *Signing Naturally*, Unit 10. Remember that it is normal to rewind several times. Read the workbook instructions carefully and record your answers on a separate piece of paper. Check your answers in the back of the book. If you gave more than two incorrect answers in any given section, watch the videotape again to figure out why you got it wrong, then turn your paper over and do the exercise again.

8. Prepare to record yourself signing the ten sentences you wrote last week. Remember to include what you did, as well as the day and time (or time of day) you did it. If you’d like, you may also include how you felt about the activity. Practice signing each sentence several times. If you don’t know a sign, a lab assistant can help you. By Saturday you will bring your videotape in and record yourself signing these ten sentences.

Remember to raise your eyebrows for the part of the sentence that tells when the activity occurred. Remember to pause slightly after the when phrase and return your eyebrows to the neutral position before stating what happened at the specified time. If you cannot see that your eyebrows are raised or if the pause is unnoticeable, record the sentences again. Write a brief paragraph about what you noticed in your own signing for this assignment and submit to a lab assistant or e-mail to me at mbsmith@palomar.edu by Saturday.

9. Watch yourself signing the sentences. How is your signing coming along? What are two things that you feel need improvement? What are two things that you feel are the best about your signing? Write a one-paragraph reaction to this exercise and submit to a lab assistant or e-mail to me at mbsmith@palomar.edu by Saturday.

10. If you have time, ask a lab assistant to help you choose another ASL story appropriate for your level. Write a paragraph summarizing the story you chose and listing any new vocabulary words you learned. What was the hardest part of the story for you to understand? What did you like best about seeing this story signed in ASL? If you don’t have time, you will have another opportunity to watch a story next week. After completing your paragraph, please submit it to a lab assistant or e-mail it to me at mbsmith@palomar.edu by next Saturday.

11. Have a nice week! ☺