

Qualification Specification Level 2 Award in British Sign Language

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QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

Signature Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language

Qualification aim - This qualification is designed to enable learners to develop their skills to communicate with Deaf people using British Sign Language (BSL) in a range of everyday situations. The qualification will allow learners to participate in longer and more varied conversations than at Level 1. The course will develop communication in BSL about real life, routine, and daily experiences. The learner will be able to deal with most routine communication and have enough understanding of grammar to cope with some non-routine communication. Learners should be taught a number of regional variations in sign language.

The specification has been designed to be consistent with the National Language Standards at Level 2.

Qualification structure - The qualification is divided into three units, each of which can be achieved separately.

The units can be done in any order at any time but it is recommended that the content of Unit BSL201 is covered before Unit BSL202 or BSL203.

To achieve the full Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language, candidates are required to achieve all units.

BSL201 - BSL Receptive Skills | BSL202 - BSL Productive Skills | BSL203 - BSL Conversational Skills
(each unit has a value of 5 Credits)

Units BSL201, BSL202 and BSL203 are externally assessed by a Signature assessor.

Essential requirements BSL competence standards include requirements for candidates to have sufficient sight, manual dexterity, facial and body movement to produce and receive BSL. It is the responsibility of the centre to explain these requirements before accepting a candidate for this qualification.

The qualification has four themes:

Theme 1 is mandatory so all learners must do this. Learners will also study two other themes out of the three optional themes above. The two optional themes will be chosen by the teacher in consultation with the learner.

In Unit BSL201 learners will be assessed on the content of Theme 1 only.

In Units BSL202 and BSL203 learners will use and build upon the vocabulary and grammatical features of Theme 1.

Themes 2, 3 and 4 include the vocabulary from Theme 1. Learners are expected to increase their understanding and use of BSL grammar and vocabulary in these units. Some of the learning hours will be used to practice their skills and carry out the assessment for Units BSL202 and BSL203.

For Unit BSL202 learners will be assessed on the content of Theme 1 and the first choice of the optional themes.

For Unit BSL203 learners will be assessed on the content of Theme 1 and the second choice of the optional themes.

Theme 1 - Everyday Conversation - Mandatory (this theme must be done)

Theme 2 - Eating and Drinking

Optional themes: Pick two of these themes. The themes chosen for unit BSL202 and BSL203 must be different.

Theme 3 - Spending and Shopping

Theme 4 - Travel and Holidays

UNIT SPECIFICATION

Unit BSL201 – BSL Receptive Skills

Unit summary - To achieve this unit, learners must show they can understand routine language in everyday situations.

Learners can understand specific details from, and the general meaning of, a range of information presented in sign language. They can understand standard signing, delivered at normal speed, with facial expressions, body language, etc.

ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

Candidates will be assessed on their understanding of a story presented in BSL on a DVD. Learners should have some knowledge of regional variation in sign language, as the presenter on the DVD may not use the candidate's local signs.

The candidate will watch a DVD based on Theme 1 only, and will answer 12 questions with a choice of answers. The candidate will record their answers by ticking one box for each question on the assessment paper provided.

The DVD must not be stopped at any time during the assessment and it must not be repeated. The pass mark for the assessment is 75%, i.e. 9/12.

GUIDELINES

The story will be in four sections. There will be three questions after each section.

Order of signing on DVD: The whole story will be played (sections 1-4).

Section 1 will be played again and then three questions asked.

Section 2 will then be played again and then three questions asked.

Section 3 will then be played again and then three questions asked.

Section 4 will then be played again and then three questions asked.

The questions will be repeated twice in each section and there will be a timed pause on the DVD for candidates to tick their answer (A B C or D).

Unit BSL202 – BSL Productive Skills

Unit summary - To achieve this unit, learners must show that they can use routine language in everyday situations.

It allows the learner to demonstrate their ability to present information in British Sign Language. Their language is generally accurate and they make only minor grammatical errors, which do not change their meaning. If they do not have the vocabulary, they find other ways of presenting information.

Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language Unit BSL202

ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

One theme from the three optional themes will have been chosen by the teacher in consultation with the candidate before the assessment. Candidates will be assessed on a combination of Theme 1 and the other chosen theme. The themes are shown below.

Theme 1 Everyday Conversation Mandatory

Theme 2 ,3, 4 Optional themes: For this unit, pick one of these themes. The theme chosen for BSL202 must be different to the theme chosen for BSL203.

For this unit the candidate will sign a presentation on the chosen theme, this will be recorded on video/DVD. The candidate will sign their story to their teacher. If the candidate is struggling, the teacher may prompt the candidate to help them to keep the presentation flowing. The following rules apply:

Note - Candidates must achieve two or more points for BSL Sign Order (E1) and Non- Manual Features (E2) to pass this unit, regardless of the total number of points achieved.

Unit BSL203 – BSL Conversational Skills.

Unit summary - This unit covers the learner's receptive and productive skills, which will normally have been assessed in Units BSL201 and BSL202. It allows the candidate to put both skills together to demonstrate that they can understand and exchange information during a routine conversation with a BSL user.

ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

One theme from the three optional themes will have been chosen by the teacher in consultation with the candidate before the assessment. Candidates will be assessed on a combination of Theme 1 and the other chosen theme.

Theme 1: Everyday Conversation Mandatory

Theme 2 ,3, 4 Optional themes: For this unit, pick one of these themes. The theme chosen for BSL203 must be different to the theme chosen for BSL202.

The teacher will have a conversation with the candidate, based on the chosen theme.

The conversation will allow candidates to show both productive and receptive skills which meet the assessment criteria on page 5.

Note - Candidates must achieve two or more points for BSL Sign Order (essential criteria E1) and Non-Manual Features (essential criteria E2) to pass this unit, regardless of the total number of points achieved.

The pass mark for the assessment is 50%, i.e. 15/30. In addition both essential criteria must be passed, also at 50%, i.e. 2/4 Refer to page 5 for the assessment criteria.

Level 2 Certificate in British Sign Language Unit BSL203 ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (6 minutes – 7 minutes)

This unit is externally assessed by Signature assessors.

