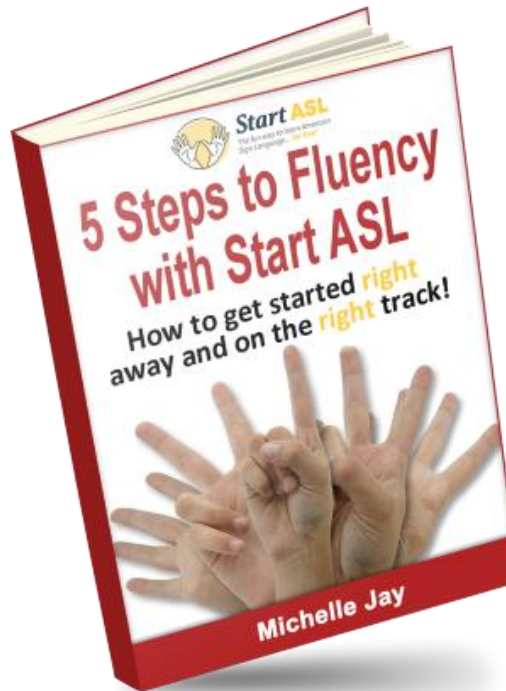


5 Steps to Fluency with Start ASL

BY MICHELLE JAY



NON-COPYRIGHT NOTICE

The entirety of this book is original and you are free to share this e-book with whomever you feel will enjoy and benefit from its contents.

Please note: This e-book contains affiliate links. This means that we may receive a small commission for purchases made through some of the links in this book. However, this does not influence the information we provide - we always give our honest opinions and reviews.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Step 1: Find an ASL Class	4
Step 2: Learn ASL Vocabulary	5
Step 3: Learn Correct ASL Grammar	6
Step 4: Learn About and Interact With Deaf People	7
Step 5: Practice!	8
Summary & Conclusion	9
About the Author	10

INTRODUCTION

Learning American Sign Language is so much fun! And to make sure you get the most out of your ASL journey, I've put together this short e-book so you can get started right away and on the right track.

Becoming fluent in American Sign Language involves more than just learning some signs and showing your friends (though that's always a lot of fun, too!)

If you want to be fluent in ASL (or close to it), there are 5 simple steps you need to take:

Step 1: Find an ASL Class

Step 2: Learn ASL Vocabulary

Step 3: Learn Correct ASL Grammar

Step 4: Learn About and Interact with Deaf People

Step 5: Practice!

And Start ASL will help you with all of these!

Let's get started!...

STEP 1: FIND AN ASL CLASS



The first step to fluency in ASL is to find an American Sign Language class.

In-person ASL classes provide the interaction and reinforcement needed to build your confidence. Classes also offer opportunities to practice signing in real-life situations. Unfortunately, it isn't easy for most people to find ASL classes in their area that they can afford (both time- and money-wise) to take.

Luckily for you, Start ASL makes this easier now than ever before.

We have brought together nine skilled signers with different experience and backgrounds to create three highly effective and fun ASL course levels. Our curriculum is roughly equivalent to learning ASL 1, 2, and 3 in college and many schools have used the [Start ASL Online Course](#) to award foreign language credit to their students.

We offer three different course options for students - our Online Course, our Offline Course, and our free online lessons. We also offer a Teacher's Curriculum if you are a teacher who wishes to use Start ASL in your classroom. Not sure which option would be best for you? Check out our helpful page below:

Which Start ASL Course is Right for You?

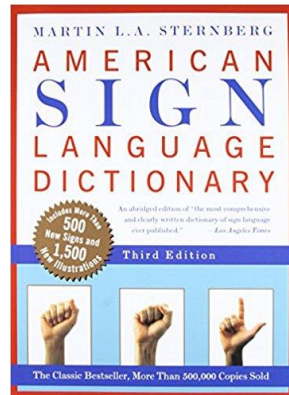
⇒ [Find Your Class and Complete Step 1 Here](#)

STEP 2: LEARN ASL VOCABULARY



One of the first things you need to do to become fluent in ASL is learn ASL vocabulary. You can learn basic ASL vocabulary in the Start ASL classes and with the Start ASL Online Dictionary.

We also highly recommend picking up this hard copy ASL dictionary:



[American Sign Language Dictionary](#)

by *Martin L. Sternberg*

This is the dictionary that I own and love. It's a huge book and explains more than 5,000 signs and has over 8,000 illustrations. You definitely need to have a dictionary like this if you are learning American Sign Language! When you want to look up an obscure word, it's most likely in here!

The Start ASL Online Dictionary

⇒ <http://dictionary.startasl.com>

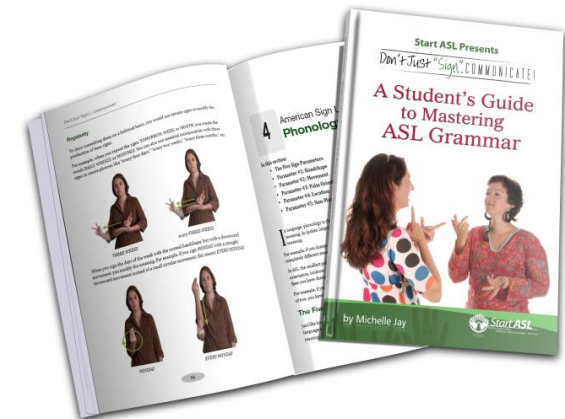
STEP 3: LEARN CORRECT ASL GRAMMAR



Like any other Language, ASL contains its own unique rules of syntax, phonology, grammar, etc. To become fluent in ASL, you must first be armed with these essential rules and terminology.

That's why we highly recommend *Don't Just "Sign"... Communicate! A Student's Guide to Mastering ASL Grammar*--it is the easiest way for students to learn ASL grammar. This guide will take you, step-by-step, through the essentials to prepare you to truly and effectively communicate in and understand ASL.

Regardless of your reasons for learning to communicate in ASL, once you have read this book with its expert advice and hints, you will truly be prepared to master the communication nuances of the ASL Language!



This book is included with the [Start ASL Online Course!](#)

DJSC! A Student's Guide to Mastering ASL Grammar

⇒ <http://maslg.startasl.com>

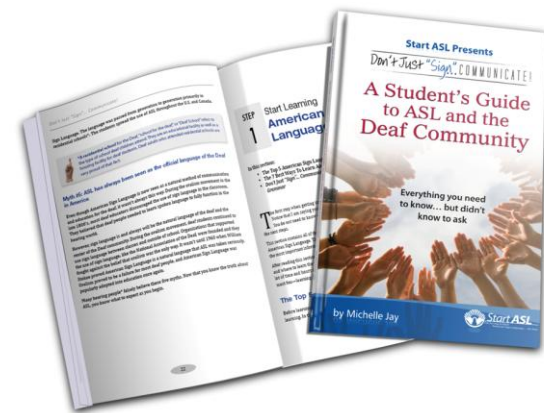
STEP 4: LEARN ABOUT AND INTERACT WITH DEAF PEOPLE



Many ASL students don't realize that when learning ASL, you have to interact with Deaf people. The single best way to learn any language is from communicating with the native users of that language.

And in order to interact with Deaf people, you first need to learn about the Deaf community, Deaf Culture, and Deaf History. You cannot fully understand ASL without knowing about Deaf people and their unique culture.

Those are the main reasons why we highly recommend *Don't Just "Sign"... Communicate! A Student's Guide to ASL and the Deaf Community*--it is the fastest way to learn everything you need to know about Deaf people and how to get involved in the Deaf community.



This book is included with the [Start ASL Online Course!](#)

DJSC! A Student's Guide to ASL and the Deaf Community

⇒ <http://asldc.startasl.com>

STEP 5: PRACTICE!



Yes, when it comes to language, practice makes perfect!

There are several ways you can practice your ASL skills. One of the best ways to practice is to interact with Deaf people. As part of the Start ASL online classes, we assign conversations to practice with a partner and Deaf Events for you to attend.

You can find Deaf events in your area by going to the Start ASL Events Page. You can also practice with other ASL students and ASL Tutors. You can find students with whom to practice in the Start ASL Forum or you can find ASL Tutors with the Start ASL Tutoring Program.

The Start ASL Events Page

<http://events.startasl.com>

The Start ASL Forum

<http://forum.startasl.com>

The Start ASL Tutoring Program

<http://tutors.startasl.com>

SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

Congratulations! Just by reading this short e-book, you are now 5 steps ahead of the average ASL student and well on your way to becoming fluent in American Sign Language!

I hope you've enjoyed this e-book as much as I loved writing it for you. I can't thank you enough for your continued support of Start ASL and everything we do. I hope our resources have played a valuable part in your ASL journey.

If you have any questions about our products or website, don't hesitate to [contact us](#). We're always happy to hear from you!

Happy signing!

Signed always,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Michelle Jay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Beginning when she was only thirteen years old, Michelle Jay has understood her passion and love for ASL. As a hearing person in the Deaf community, Michelle was determined to master everything she could about ASL... not just “how to sign” but the very best ways to learn to sign as well!

As the founder of StartASL.com, the leading online resource for ASL and Deaf Culture, Michelle has tremendous insight into this unique community. Michelle earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Deaf Studies, with an emphasis in teaching, from one of the nation’s premier programs at California State University, Northridge.

When not writing books or tending her website, Michelle contributes thought-provoking articles to academic publishers such as Greenhaven Press. Her unique articles have done much to support Deaf Culture, and have been printed in resource publications such as *American Chronicle* and *Perspectives on Diseases & Disorders: Deafness & Hearing Impairments*.