

Sign language project

- 23rd September: International Day of the Deaf.
- SL just like normal language. It keeps changing and different country has its own SL.
- SL origin in French.
- Bahasa Isyarat Malaysia (BIM) is from the same language family as ASL and French Sign Language. Then BIM in turn has been the basis for [Indonesian Sign Language](#).
- *Malaysian Sign Language is based on the American Sign Language (ASL). Terms relating to women (such as wife, daughter etc.) are signed near to the jawline. Signs related to men (such as father, boy etc.) are signed by the forehead.*
- *It is a visual-gestural language. This means eye contact is important. Is it advisable to maintain eye contact with the other party during a conversation to avoid coming across as being rude.*
- *Direction of the palm can change the entire meaning of the sign.*
- <http://goodnews.com.my/blog/2019/09/23/3-organisations-promoting-sign-language/>

Physical & Mental Barriers for SL user:

- Using pen and notes to communicate, takes time.
- now use phone text, also a bit time consuming.

Problem Statement

- Deaf have often been left out, mistreated, controlled and manipulated by the hearing world. Underneath there may be a high level of distrust, until you have proved your love, responsibility and reliability, and that you are not there to control and manipulate them but to accept them as equal individuals to you.
- **Deaf people are often discriminated against in the work place.** Not only is the unemployment rate higher, but often being passed by for promotions, often leaves deaf under paid, and under-employed (and sometimes also frustrated!)

DO:

- **Make sure you have the **attention** of the deaf person before communicating.*
- **When communicating, focus your attention on the deaf person. If a hearing person comes and interrupts, first excuse yourself a moment, before turning from the deaf person.*
- **Use facial expression and natural mouth movement*

- ****If communicating with someone who can lip read, speak slowly and clearly with a normal tone of voice.***
- ****If possible, include the deaf person in the conversation when a hearing person joins. No one likes to be left out.***
- ****Help the deaf person to feel comfortable during social gatherings. Introduce them to your hearing friends.***

DO NOT:

- ****Don't refer to the deaf as "deaf & dumb", or as "deaf-mute's"***
- ****Don't insist that the deaf person try and talk.***
- ****Don't place your hands in front of your face or lips when communicating with the deaf. Your face and lips give the deaf many clues to meanings they must see!***
- ****Don't turn away from the deaf person when communicating.***
- ****Don't talk down to a deaf adult. Don't be paternalistic and assume you know what deaf people need or want.***
- ****Don't stare at the deaf person -- it is rude in any culture!.***
- ****Don't persist in helping the deaf IF it is not needed.***
- ****Try and find out the interests and opinions of the deaf and allow them to express themselves freely.***
- ****Don't become discouraged if you have difficulty learning sign language well. Don't be afraid to ask the deaf person to sign slowly, just as you must talk slowly when speaking.***
- ****Don't complain if a deaf person needs your assistance with a phone call.***
- ****Don't forget about deaf people at meetings. They can "take an active part"!***
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- <http://deafboleh.blogspot.com/2008/10/make-new-friend-with-deaf-when-you.html>

Working environment:

Starbucks in Bangsar Village 2:

- ordering process is pretty straightforward:
- 1) Mark what you want on the menu card
 - 2) Pass it to the cashier, and he/she'll give you an order number
 - 3) Wait for your number to pop up on the designated screen
 - 4) Get your order

Grab Car Driver:

- **Car Hangers** and **Flip Cards** to help our passengers communicate with our deaf driver-partners and learn some basic sign language along the way!

<https://www.grab.com/my/blog/driver/breakthesilence-in-support-of-our-deaf-driver-partners/>

Latest News about SL in Malaysia:

Title: The deaf community is calling for the Malaysian Sign Language to be taught in schools.

- Although the Education Ministry has adopted Unesco's Salamanca Statement and Framework for Action on Special Needs Education (1994) and the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) Act (2008), and put in place policies in accordance with the Act, deaf students are still denied the opportunity to learn in BIM, said Malaysian Federation of the Deaf (MFD) executive director Mohamad Sazali Shaari.
- despite a circular being issued on Jan 4, 2017, by the then Education director-general instructing schools to use BIM, the language continued "to be of less importance" compared to the Manually Coded Bahasa Malaysia (Kod Tangan Bahasa Malaysia or KTBM) which is currently being used by teachers to teach school syllabus to the deaf students.
- "KTBM is not a language, it is a medium used to deliver the learning of the language – like Morse Code. It contradicts with the teaching and learning process for children and teachers in school.
- "The deaf students communicate using BIM, but KTBM is used for their studies – causing confusion."
- The use of KTBM is mandatory yet those teaching it are lacking in skills
- Teachers are not qualified and can't even apply sign language in their teaching. So how can they teach the deaf children?
- Even the deaf children at primary school level have passed comments about the teachers, saying that they don't know sign language – how are they supposed to teach us

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/education/2020/10/18/the-deaf-community-is-calling-for-the-malaysian-sign-language-to-be-taught-in-schools>