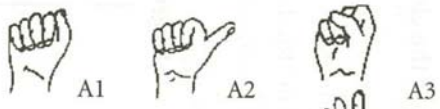
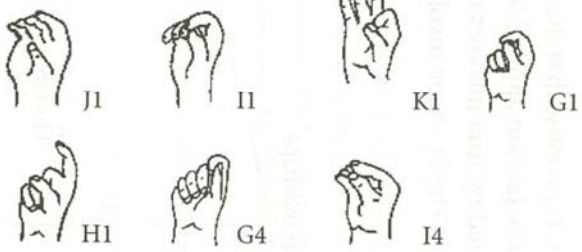
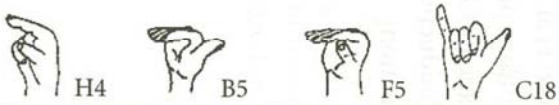
Selected highlights of unclaimed papers
presented by Kie, 10 March 2020

(Karnopp 2002): Case study of one child acquiring Brazilian Sign Language, LIBRAS (< Lingua Brasileira de Sinais)

keywords: acquisition, L1, handshape, contrasts, Brazilian Sign Language, LIBRAS, Karnopp 2002

- Parents, two sisters all Deaf and signing
- Nice table of when each handshape was acquired, and what featural contrast that represents
    - see paper for assumptions about feature system

Table 4. Description of the features acquisition of HS_ini

Phase	Years; months	Handshape type	What is acquired?*
1	0;11	 C1 F2	[SF: One/(All)]
2	1;1	 B1 B2 F8	[Adduction: adducted] [Thumb: selected]
3	1;5	 A1 A2 A3	[Aperture: closed] in [All]
4	1;7	 J1 I1 K1 G1 H1 G4 I4	[Aperture: open] in [All] [Aperture: closed] in [All]
5	2;0	 H4 B5 F5 C18	[Flexion: flex; base] in [One] [Flexion: flex; base] in [All] [SF: I^{u}] (side: ulnar)

* The criteria to analyse *What is acquired?* in Table 4 were accuracy of production, order of position and production frequency.

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(Hendriks & Dufoe 2014): Where do fingerspelling and initialized signs fit in to the lexicon of Mexican Sign Language?

keywords: fingerspelling, initialized signs, lexicon, lexical strata, nativization, contact, loan phonology, Mexican Sign Language, LSM, Hedriks & Dufoe 2014

1. **Background**
   - Mexican Sign Language, LSM (Lengua de Señas Mexicana) has origins in French Sign Language
     → manual alphabet will be mostly familiar to us from ASL

2. **As in ASL, fingerspelled words (after getting lexicalized) can still be in the foreign/non-native lexicon**
   - By the way, meaning can be different from Spanish source word (evidence of lexicalization)
     - #PAPA ("#" indicates fingerspelling) = 'potato' or 'potato chips'
       - but Spanish *papa* = 'potato' only
     - #IBA = 'was going to but didn't'
       - Spanish *iba* 'used to go, was going'

   - Signs so lexicalized they are in native set now
     - #SI, #NO, #TV (monosyllabic, obey selected fingers constraint)

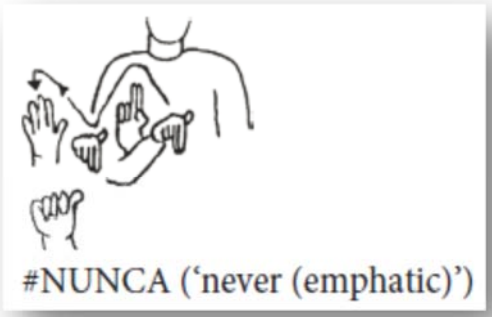

#SÍ ('yes')


#NO ('no')

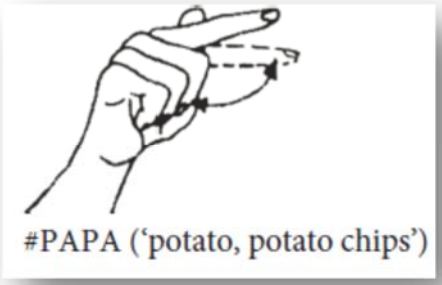

#TV ('television')

(pp. 54-55)

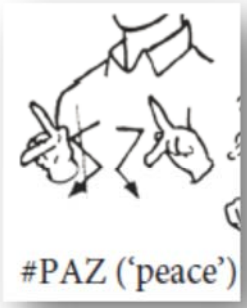
- Signs that are somewhat nativized but still have >1 syllable, and/or >1 selected fingers
    - #NUNCA (eliminates C), #PAPA, #PAZ (one variant): more nativized



#NUNCA ('never (emphatic)')

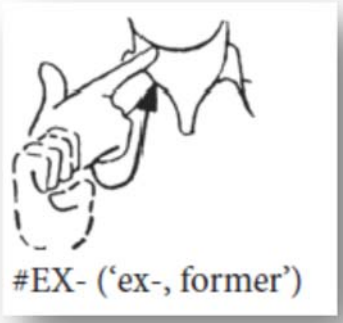


#PAPA ('potato, potato chips')



#PAZ ('peace')

A eliminated, combines P handshape with Z movement; note also weak hand added



#EX- ('ex-, former')

X changes from bent finger to straight, because of neck contact

    - #IBA: less nativized

#IBA ('was going to [but didn't]')

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3. Unlike in ASL, initialized signs belong to core lexicon

- Initialization very common in LSM
    - 37% of signs, vs. 12% in ASL
- All but one initialized handshape (M) is also found in core lexicon
    - Does that mean there are letters that don't get used in initialization, or does it mean that all but one of the letters happens to be a handshape that is also found in the core lexicon?

4. **Fun fact**
   - According to Hendriks & Dufoe, Akamatsu 1982 found that preschool ASL signers could fingerspell some words they couldn't yet read
   - → shows that at least some fingerspelled words have their own status in the signed-language mental lexicon, not just a contact phenomenon

(Cormier, Schembri & Tyrone 2008): Nativization of fingerspelling in one-handed and two-handed systems

keywords: loan phonology, fingerspelling, nativization, initialization, American Sign Language, ASL, British Sign Language, BSL, Australian Sign Language, ASL, BANZSL, Cormier Schembri & Tyrone 2008

Paper contains lots of examples of nativizations in ASL and BSL/Auslan/BANZL, but I've just picked a couple of highlights

5. **Fingerspelling in BANZL (British, Australia, New Zealand Sign Language)**
   - Unlike in almost the whole rest of the world, fingerspelling uses *two* hands
   - All letters have not just a handshape but also an orientation and movement

Figure 1b. BANZSL fingerspelling system (Reprinted with permission from Johnston, Trevor & Adam Schembri. 2007. *Australian Sign Language: An Introduction to Sign Language Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.)

(ρ. 8)

6. **So how does initialization work?**
   - You can't just take an existing sign and change the handshape to a letter's, as in other languages
   - Initialization in BANZL seems to be less common
   - Instead, you tend to find signs that are a single letter, but with a distinctive number of movements and often mouthing
     - DAY has just one "inward movement" and DAUGHTER has repeated movement
     - MOTHER and MINUTE have different mouthings

7. **Some two-letter signs are (or are optionally) partly or fully nativized**

Figure 16. BSL GLASGOW$_1$

GLASGOW, unnativized

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Figure 17. BSL GLASGOW$_2$

GLASGOW, partly nativized: weak hand has only one shape

(p. 26)

Figure 23a. Auslan N-O

Figure 23b. Auslan #NO$_1$

partial nativization: keep dominant hand's shape same

Figure 23c. Auslan #NO$_2$

further nativization: drop requirement for ring-finger contact

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(Goldin-Meadow & Brentari 2015): Sign vs. gesture
keywords: gesture, iconicity, Goldin-Meadow & Brentari 2015

8. Everyone gestures

- Speech is ordinarily accompanied by manual gestures
- So is sign!
- But because sign and gesture are in the same modality, it's harder to distinguish them
    - When we want to compare modalities, we should be comparing what signers do with their hands to speech+gesture, not to speech alone

9. Crosslinguistic similarities that could reflect gesture

- While sign languages differ a lot in, e.g., what handshapes they use to describe events, they tend to be similar in the motion and location used (Schembri, Jones & Burnham 2005)
    - and even non-signing hearing people used similar motion and location (but not handshape) when asked to silently describe same events
- As we've seen, it is very widespread in sign languages to use iconic movement with classifiers

There's a lot in this paper and I think it's worth reading the whole thing if you're at all interested in questions about how vocal and manual modalities may differ, as well as if you're interested in gesture. But there's not so much good material for teaching, since it's very short on pictures!!

(Boyes-Braem & Sutton-Spence 2001): volume about role of mouth in various sign languages. There's way more in each of this papers, and these aren't even all the papers!

keywords: mouthing, mouth gesture, contact, clitic, spreading, minimal pair, phoneme, contrast, phonestheme, phonaestheme, syllable, sonority, echo phonology, Norwegian Sign Language, NSL, Finnish Sign Language, FinnSL, Swedish Sign Language, British Sign Language, BSL, Boyes-Braem & Sutton-Spence 2001, Vogt-Svendsen 2001, Rainò 2001, Bergman & Wallin 2001, Woll 2001

10. Vogt-Svendsen 2001: Norwegian Sign Language (NSL)

- Sometimes only part of the Norwegian word is mouthed

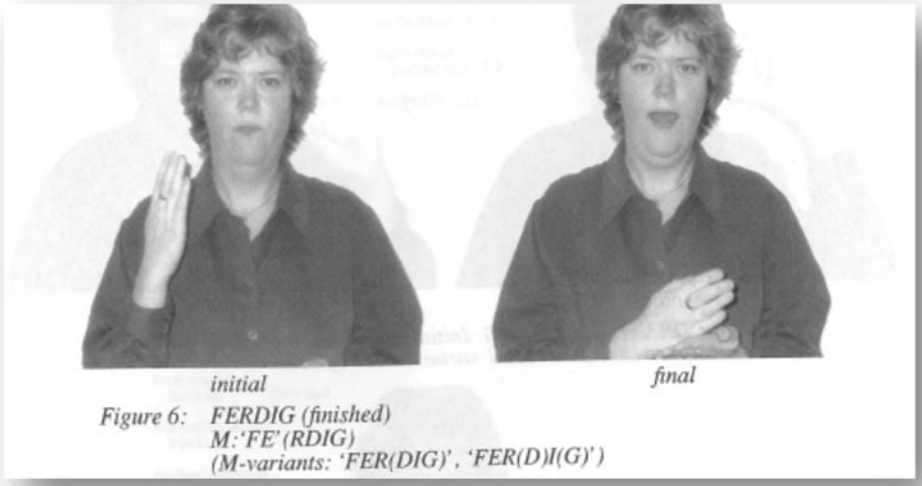

Figure 6: FERDIG (finished)
M:'FE'(RDIG)
(M-variants: 'FER(DIG)', 'FER(D)I(G)')

(p. 14)

- Mouthing can be extended over a clitic pronoun

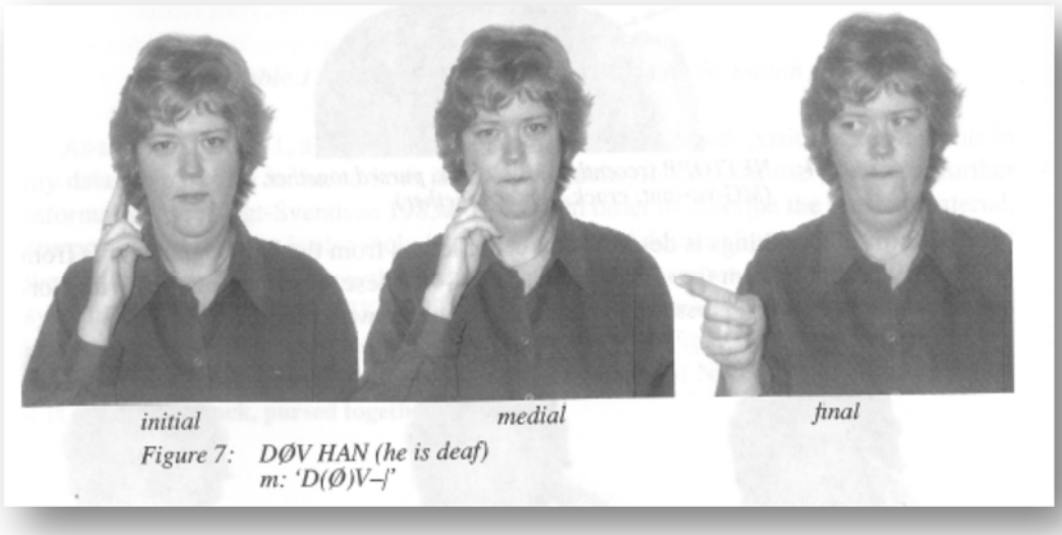

Figure 7: DØV HAN (he is deaf)
m: 'D(Ø)V–'

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- A minimal triplet differentiated only by mouth! (pp. 18-19)

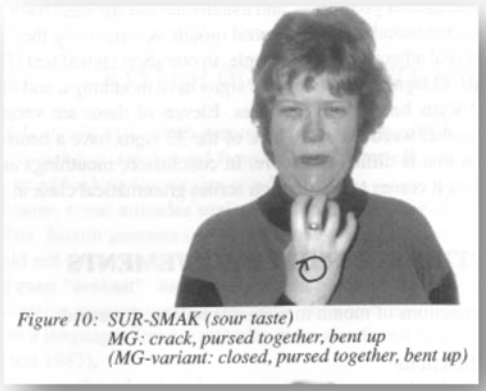
Figure 10: SUR-SMAK (sour taste)
MG: crack, pursed together, bent up
(MG-variant: closed, pursed together, bent up)

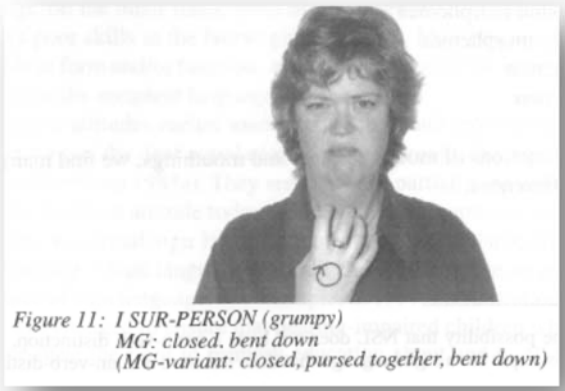
Figure 11: I SUR-PERSON (grumpy)
MG: closed. bent down
(MG-variant: closed, pursed together, bent down)

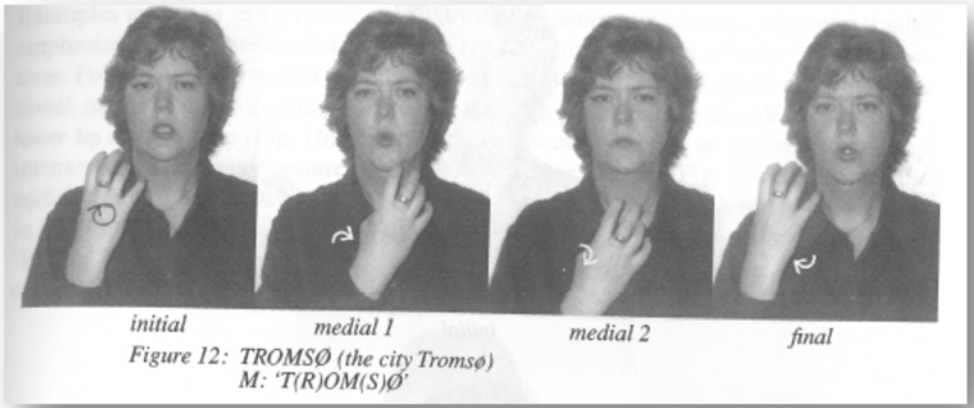

Figure 12: TROMSØ (the city Tromsø)
M: 'T(R)OM(S)Ø'

11. (Rainò 2001): Finnish Sign Language (FinSL)

- Some mouth gestures act as phonaesthemes: not morphemic, but still have a semantic association
- E.g. "ʃʃ" gesture:

Figure 7: 'to oppress; segregation'

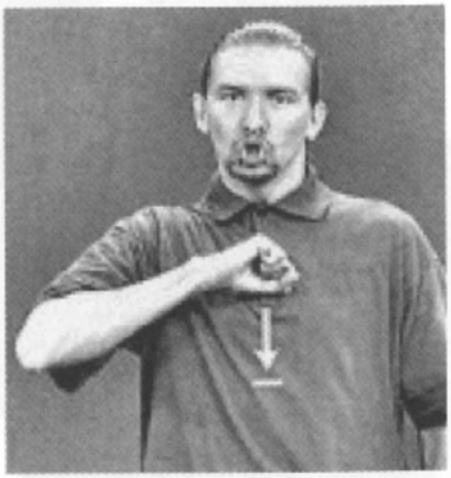

Figure 8: 'to force oneself'

Figure 9: 'majority; predominant'

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12. Bergman & Wallin 2001: Swedish Sign Language

- Some minimal pairs for opening vs. closing the mouth (pp. 52-53)

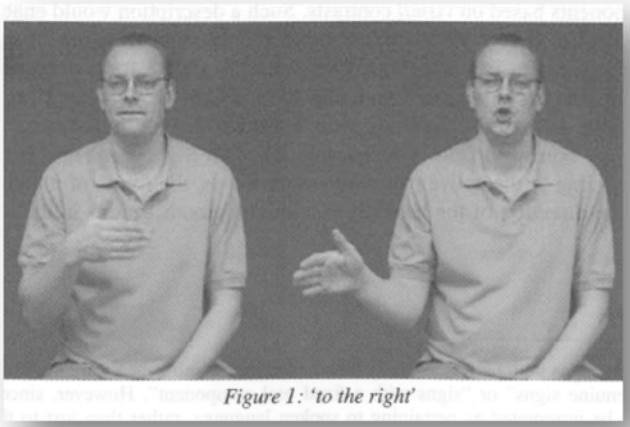


Figure 1: 'to the right'

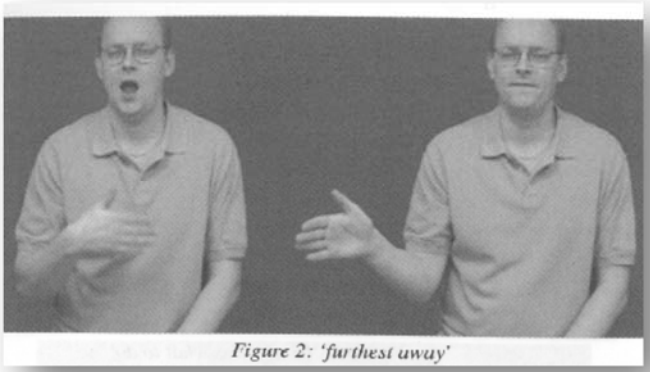


Figure 2: 'furthest away'

Figure 3: 'I was lucky'

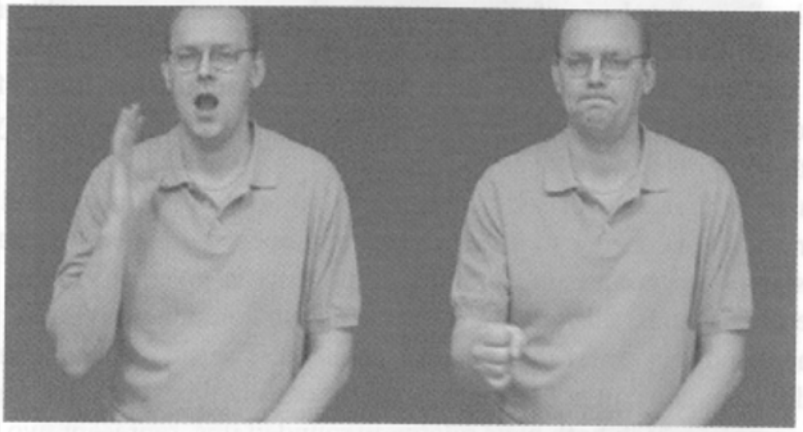
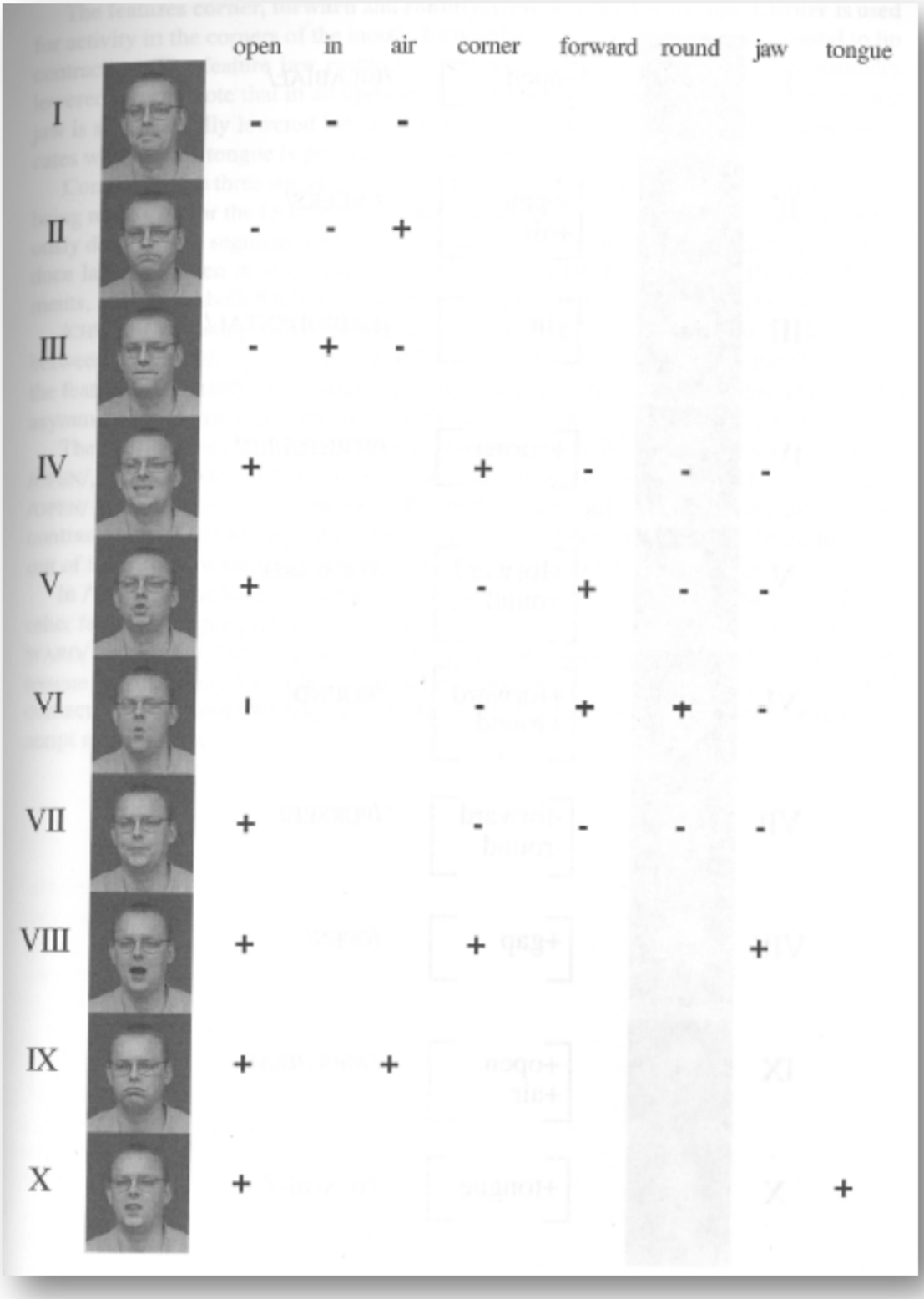


Figure 4: '(I) finally made it'

- Proposes 10 contrastive mouth shapes for Swedish Sign Language



	open	in	air	corner	forward	round	jaw	tongue
I	-	-	-					
II	-	-	+					
III	-	+	-					
IV	+			+	-	-	-	
V	+			-	+	-	-	
VI	+			-	+	+	-	
VII	+			-	-	-	-	
VIII	+			+			+	
IX	+		+					
X	+							+

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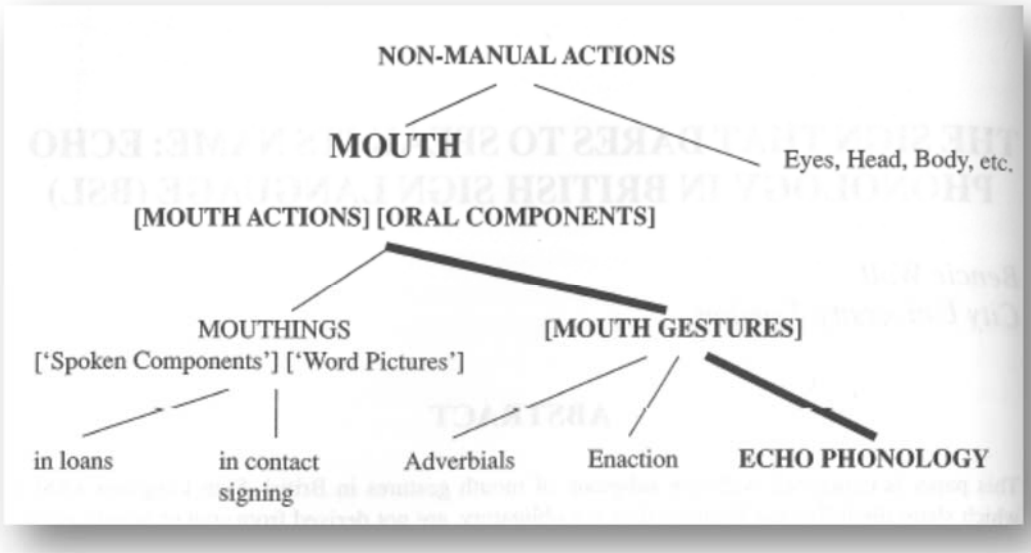
13. Woll 2001: "Echo phonology" in British Sign Language

- Study of a particular subset of mouth gestures in BSL
    - o just those that are lexically required, and have mouth *movement* that echoes what the hands are doing



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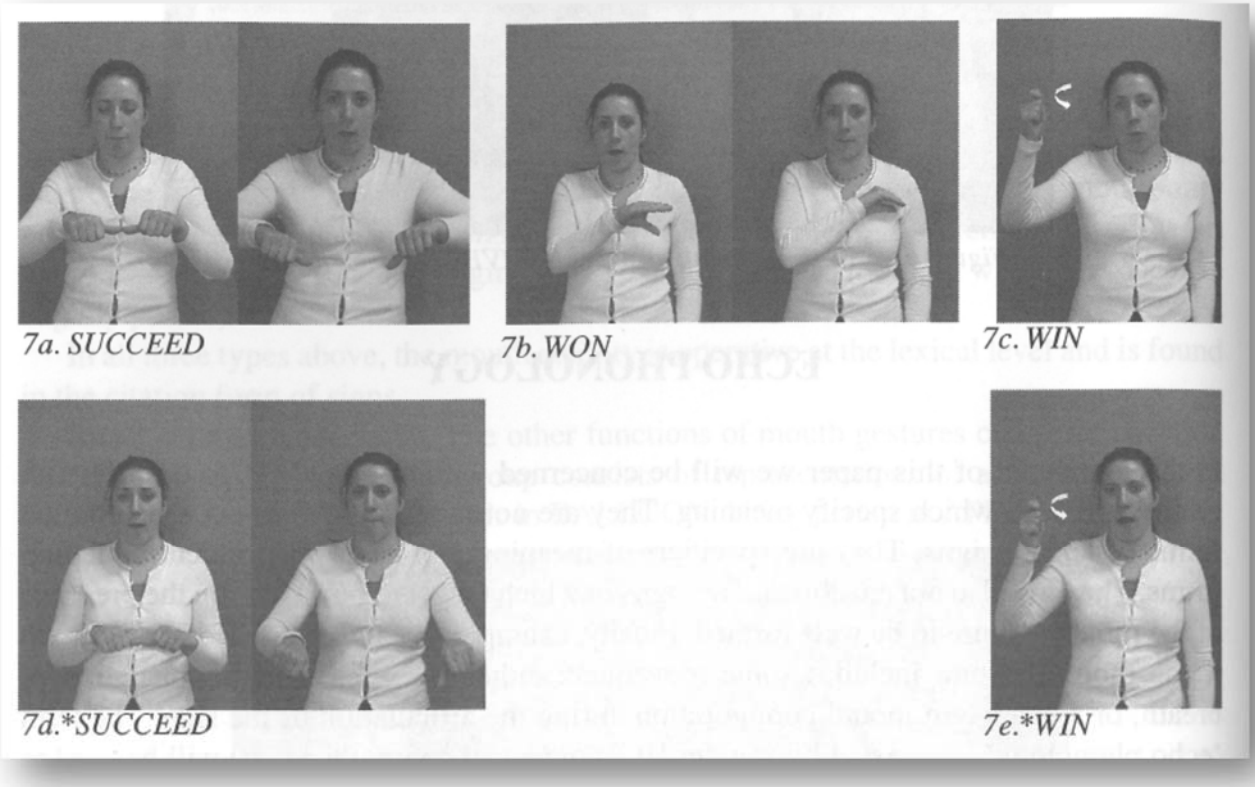
- In many of these, mouth opens or closes as hand does:



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- Specific mouthed syllables tend to associate with specific manual syllable types:

1. pa> (SUCCEED) CV structure
   This syllable accompanies signs with either one or two active hands. The movement characteristically consists of the hands separating and twisting, in a single sharp action.

2. fi> (NOT-HAVE) CV structure
   This syllable accompanies movements where the hand strikes and bounces off the body.

3. ∧p< (THANK-GOD) VC structure
   The hand(s) close from an open shape (e.g. Ô); the movement is abrupt and may involve twisting.

4. am< or ∧m< (TRUE) VC structure
   In this syllable, the active hand closes and strikes the passive hand with a sharp movement.

5. θp< (DISAPPEAR) VC structure
   This syllable accompanies a closing movement of one or both hand(s); the movement is short and sharp with an abrupt stop.

6. ʃ> (EXIST) V structure
   This syllable occurs only in one-handed signs. It accompanies wiggling of the fingers or repeated shaking or twisting of the wrist; there is no path movement.

7. hw> or hy> (WIN) (C)V structure
   This syllable accompanies wiggling of the fingers or repeated shaking or twisting of the wrist(s); there is no path movement.

^ = ∧

> = exhaled

< = inhaled

- CV goes with exhalation, hand opening, and movement away from bod, hand separation
- VC goes with inhalation, hand closing, movement towards body, hand contact
- Visual oral sonority (jaw open) seems to go long with manual sonority (movement from proximal joint)

(pp. 93-94)

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