American Sign Language 5-12 – Big Ideas

Grade			
5	 Viewing with intent helps us understand a message. Non-verbal cues contribute meaning in language. Reciprocal communication is possible with gestures. 	Stories help us to acquire language.	 We can explore our identity through a new language. Each culture has traditions and ways of celebrating.
6	 Viewing with intent helps us acquire a new language. Non-verbal cues help us construct and understand meaning in language. Reciprocal communication is possible using mime and gestures to clarify meaning. 	Stories help us to acquire language and understand the world around us. (Grades 6-7, Introductory 11)	Learning about ASL language and Deaf communities helps us to develop cultural awareness of the D/deaf experience.
7	 Viewing with intent helps us understand a variety of messages. Non-verbal cues are integral to communicating meaning. (Grade 7, Introductory 11) Reciprocal interactions help us understand and acquire knowledge. 		Knowing about Deaf and other diverse communities helps us develop cultural awareness.
8	 Viewing with intent strengthens our acquisition and understanding of a new language. We can express ourselves and discuss the world around us in a new language. With increased fluency, we can participate actively in reciprocal interactions. 	We can share our experiences and perspectives through stories.	 Creative works are an expression of language and culture. Acquiring a new language and learning about another culture deepens our understanding of our own language and of Deaf language and culture.
9	 Viewing with intent supports our acquisition and understanding of a new language. (Grades 9-10) Conversing about things we care about can motivate our learning of a new language. 		 Creative works allow us to experience Deaf culture and appreciate cultural diversity. Acquiring a new language allows us to explore our own identity and culture from a new perspective.



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American Sign Language 5-12 – Big Ideas – continued

Grade			
10	 Viewing with intent supports our acquisition and understanding of a new language. (Grades 9-10) Expressing ourselves and engaging in conversation in a new language requires courage, risk taking and perseverance. 	Stories give us unique ways to understand and reflect on meaning.	 Cultural expression can take many different forms. Acquiring a new language provides a unique opportunity to interact with Deaf communities and the Deaf world.
11	 Viewing and expressing with intent supports our acquisition of a new language. The communicative context determines how we express ourselves. 		 Language and culture are interconnected and shape our perspective, identity, and voice. Exploring diverse forms of cultural expression promotes greater understanding of our own cultural identity. Developing proficiency in a new language provides unique opportunities for careers, travel, personal growth, and study abroad.
Introductory 11	 Viewing with intent helps us understand and acquire a new language. Non-verbal cues are integral to communicating meaning. (Grade 7, Introductory 11) Expressing ourselves in a new language requires courage, risk taking, and perseverance. 	Stories help us to acquire language and understand the world around us. (Grades 6-7, Introductory 11)	 Exploring Deaf culture and diverse forms of cultural expression allows us to appreciate cultural diversity. Acquiring ASL provides a unique opportunity to interact with Deaf communities and the Deaf world.
12	 Language learning is a lifelong process. With increased language proficiency, we can discuss and justify opinions with nuance and clarity. 		 Sharing our feelings, opinions, and beliefs in a new language contributes to our identity. Exploring diverse forms of cultural expression promotes greater understanding and appreciation of cultures worldwide. Becoming more proficient in a new language enables us to explore global issues.



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