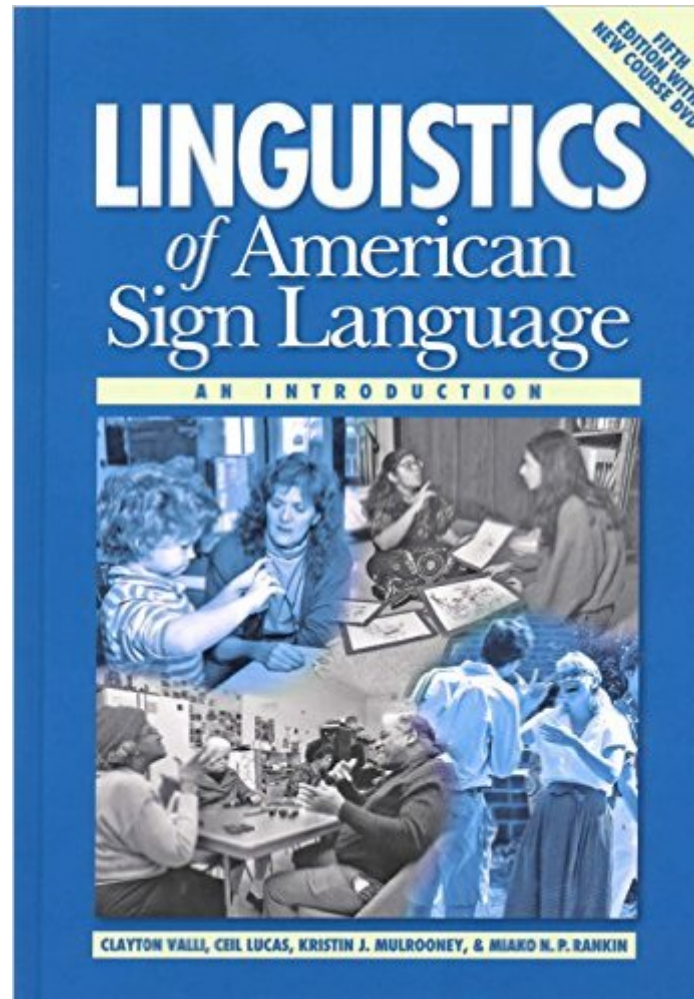


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# Linguistics Of American Sign Language, 5th Ed.: An Introduction



## Synopsis

Completely reorganized to reflect the growing intricacy of the study of ASL linguistics, the 5th edition presents 26 units in seven parts. Part One: Introduction presents a revision of Defining Language and an entirely new unit, Defining Linguistics. Part Two: Phonology has been completely updated with new terminology and examples. The third part, Morphology, features units on building new signs, deriving nouns from verbs, compounds, fingerspelling, and numeral incorporation. Part Four: Syntax includes units on basic sentence types, lexical categories, word order, time and aspect, verbs, and the function of space. The fifth part, Semantics, offers updates on the meanings of individual signs and sentences. Part Six: Language in Use showcases an entirely new section on Black ASL in the unit on Variation and Historical Change. The units on bilingualism and language and ASL discourse have been thoroughly revised and updated, and the Language as Art unit has been enhanced with a new section on ASL in film. Two new readings update Part Seven, and all text illustrations have been replaced by video stills from the expanded DVD. Also, signs described only with written explanations in past editions now have both photographic samples in the text and full demonstrations in the DVD.

## Book Information

Age Range: 8 and up

Hardcover: 584 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (30 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #169,270 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #83 in [Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Sign Language](#) #273 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Linguistics](#) #485 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Linguistics](#)

## Customer Reviews

I'm an ITP student, and this is the textbook for our linguistics class. It's great. Don't expect to learn any sign from it though, this book assumes you already have a beginning level vocabulary. The

book starts out with an introduction to Language and linguistics and progressively gets more difficult it's exploration of ASL structure. Basically this book informs you as to why you do the things you do while signing. A must read!

This explains all of the hows and whys of ASL. This book hit on challenging topics like morphology. The passages and lessons were interesting.

I had to buy this book for class, it is very helpful. It breaks down the linguistics of American Sign Language and its uses. It proves that A.S.L. Is a real language with its own syntax. After reading this book you won't look at Sign Language the same.

The text is clearly organized and concisely written. Both text and accompanying DVD best benefit ASL students of level III or higher. The material contains practical and applicable exercises for each unit, supplemental readings with examples that reinforce information presented in the core parts, and solid references. A glossary is not part of the text, so take time to log vocabulary while reading. ISBN-13: 978-1563685071 and ISBN-10: 1563685078 Linguistics of American Sign Language, 5th Ed.: An Introduction

as a Deaf Culture and Anthropological Linguistic major, this book was perfect. May be dry for others, but I will use this more than many of the textbooks we have been forced to read. Love the information, connections made by hearing and Deaf researchers (thank you Carol) and is sure to be a main stay in my vast library.

I really love this book for a basic introduction to the linguistics and variation in American Sign Language. I used this book for over two years during my ASL studies program and found it very helpful in understanding how different ASL is from English in so many ways and also helped strengthen my own understanding of the language and the culture and community behind the language. This will be one book that I keep for my future career.

I am a beginner ASL student, but was eager to buy this book knowing that it was geared for proficient signers. It is of enormous interest to me to understand the more advanced aspects of this fascinating language, even though it may be years before I become an expert signer. To my disappointment, however, the photos of a woman signing (up to page 173) were very small and too

dark for me to discern the formation of her hands and fingers. The woman is dressed in black, her skin is medium gray, and she appears in front of a dark gray, almost black, background. Granted that an advanced signer would have no problem understanding the signs, but there is no contrast that would allow me to make much sense of them. I would think that a publisher would print photos that could be easily interpreted by anyone interested in reading this book. Perhaps I may overcome my disappointment and keep the book. I hate to give it up.

I am totally satisfied. Everything is as expected. And I am enjoying it. I wish all my purchases be like this one. Best!

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