

# **Language Foundations**

# **Gesture**

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# Targeted Consumers

- Foreign born
- Immigrants
- Non-Immigrants
- Refugees
- Isolated Individuals

# Foreign Born

- Foundation of 1<sup>st</sup> Language
- Mixed Language some as in USA born (system: family, school)
- Tendency to use some form of hand signals (e.g., hearing adults using finger pointing)

# Immigrants

- Relocating to another country or region, whether temporarily or permanently
- A person who intends to stay permanently, in contrast to a casual visitor or a traveler

# Non-Immigrants

- Traveling to another country or region, to stay temporarily
- A person who intends to stay temporarily like visitor, traveler, diplomatic, ambassador and so on, in contrast to a immigrant

# Refugees

- A person seeking asylum in a foreign country in order to escape persecution
- Those who seek refugee status are sometimes known as asylum seekers

# Isolated Individuals

- An individual who was raised with some or no contact with the community (ies)

# Use of Gesture

People use a variety of communication modes in their daily communication

1. Deaf people rely on visual information
2. Hard-of-hearing people rely on both auditory and visual information
3. Deaf-Blind people rely on close vision and tactile information



**Let us focus on**

**GESTURE**

# Let Us Explore Gesture

## What is Gesture?

- **A gesture is a form of communication**
- **Gesture is RICH in ways for individuals to express their feelings and thoughts**
- **Some cultural groups use more gestures than other groups; the amount of gesturing varies from group to group**

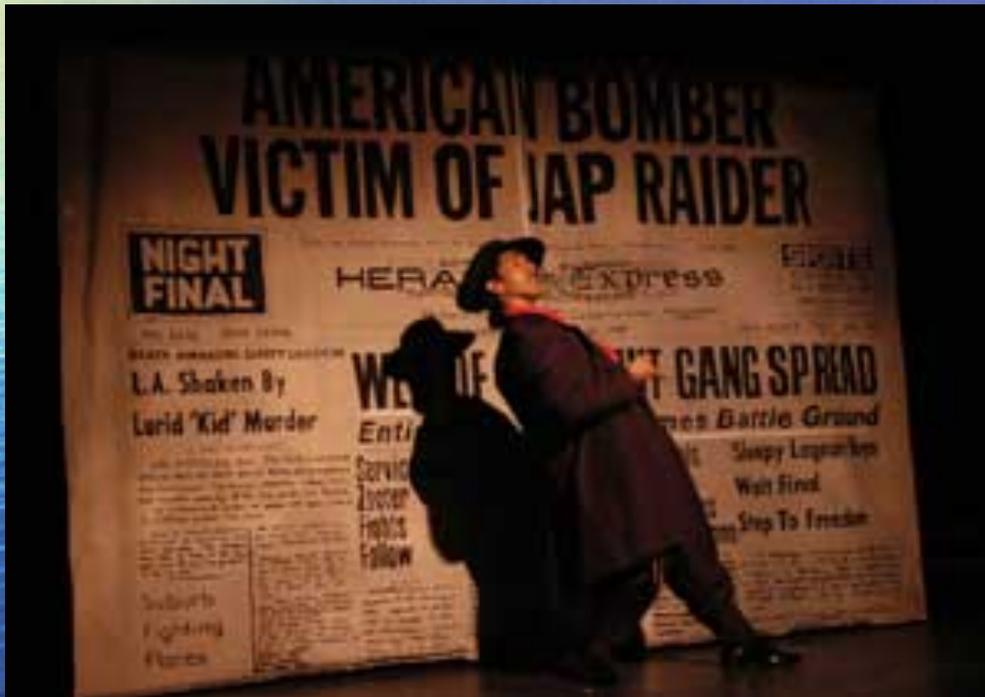
# Continued

**Gesture comprises of facial expressions, head and body movements and hand shapes that is commonly used by people who live in their region. Gesture is also used to support oral language.**

# **Features of Gesture**

- 1. Facial Expressions**
- 2. Head and Body Movements**
- 3. Hand Shapes**

# Zoot Suit



# **1. Facial Expressions**

**A. Eyebrows**

**B. Eyes**

**C. Nose**

**D. Mouthing**

**E. Cheeks**

## **2. Head and Body Movements**

**A. Head Tilt**

**B. Head Shake**

**C. Head Nodding**

**D. Body/Arm/Leg/Feet  
Movements**

**E. Finger/Hand Movements**

### **3. Hand Shapes**

- A. Hand shapes reflect iconic images**
- B. Hand shapes reflect visual images**
- C. Hand shapes reflect emotions**
- D. Hand shapes reflect actions/motion**
- E. Hand shapes showing direction/  
referents**
- F. Hand shapes reflect cultural/  
environmental meanings**
- G. Hand shapes reflect group's coded  
system**

# **Features of Gesture**

- 1. Degree of pace**
- 2. Degree of size of gesture**
- 3. Use of three-dimensional space**
- 4. Classifiers**
- 5. Role Shifting**

# **Gesture Categories**

- **International Signs**
- **Visual Gesture Communication**
- **Pantomime**

# Groups of Gestures

- **Idiosyncratic non-standard signs or gestures such as those commonly referred to as “home signs” which are unique to a family**
- **Some communication skills**
- **Gestures used in a variety of regions, ethnic and age groups**
- **Gestures used by local Deaf groups**
- **Underground and Lingo**

# Examples of Gesture

## 1. Cultural/ethnic influences

A. Mexican and Japanese Greeting

B. Israeli and Italian Hand-shape

## 2. Environmental influences

A. Eat (American and Mexican)

B. Come (Japanese and American)

## 3. From Abstract to Iconic

A. Dog

B. Walk (Californian)

# How to Use Gesture Properly?

- **The use of Gesture depends on the setting**
- **Choose appropriate level of Gesturing**
- **Choose appropriate Cultural Gesture**
- **The use of props may be considered**

# **Goals of a Deaf Interpreter Who Use Gesture in an Interpreting Situation**

- 1. optimal understanding by all parties**
- 2. efficient use of time and resources**
- 3. clarification of linguistic and/or cultural confusion and misunderstanding (s)**
- 4. Able to effectively facilitate communication and arrive to a clear conclusion**
- 5. Able to understand a deaf individual's message, confer with a team (hearing) interpreter for optimal interpretation and then convey optimized interpretation to the deaf consumer**

# References

- ❖ Search Engines

- ❖ [www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

- ❖ [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com)

# Concluding

**When you use a form of communication mode, take into consideration that:**

**“DURATION OF A NARRATIVE IS LONGER THAN ITS EQUIVALENT IN NATURAL SIGN LANGUAGES”**

**Work cited from J. Napier and S. Walker, 2006**