Lesson 1: Basic Questions & Emotions

Module 5 – Questions, Emotions & Putting It All Together

Questions

Note: Questions need facial expressions this can turn statements into questions, and can clarify that you're asking something.

Also a comment on *syntax*, the question word is often at the end of the sentence in BSL:

	English	**BSL**
•	What's your name?	*Your name what?*
•	How much bacon?	*Bacon how much?*
•	When were you born?	*Born when?*

Why?

How To Make This Sign

- **Why?:** Extend your index finger and tap the side of it against your chest.

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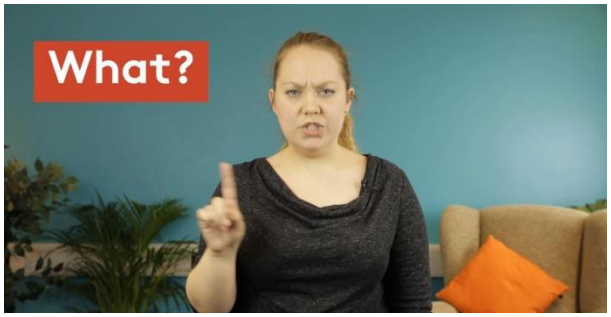
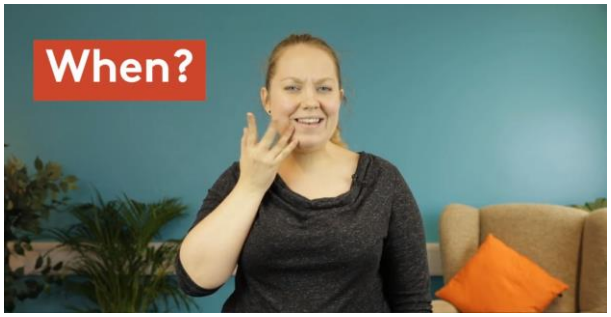
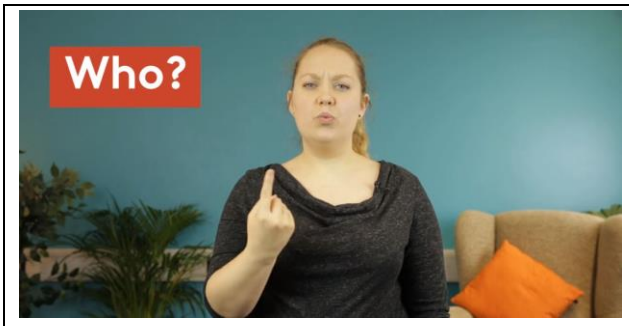
What?

	**How To Make This Sign** • **What?:** Extend your index finger and point it upwards, then wave it side to side.

When?

	**How To Make This Sign** • **When?:** Place your fingers on your cheek and wiggle them.

Who?

	**How To Make This Sign** • **Who?:** Raise your index finger up and rotate your hand in a circle.

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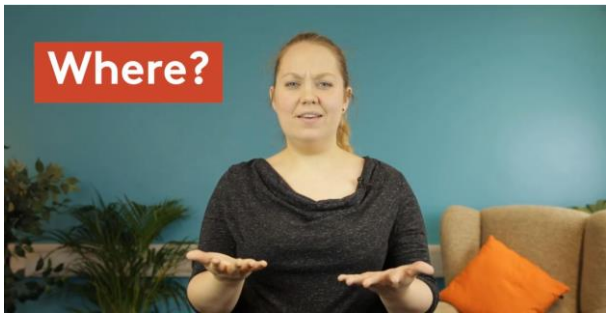
Where?



How To Make This Sign

- **Where?:** Hold out both hands with your palms facing up and hands open. Rotate both hands in circles.

How?

How To Make This Sign

- **How?:** Bring your hands together so that the back of the fingers touch/slightly interlock together. Use a quizzical facial expression.

How old?

How To Make This Sign

- **How old?:** Place your fingers on your nose and wiggle them.

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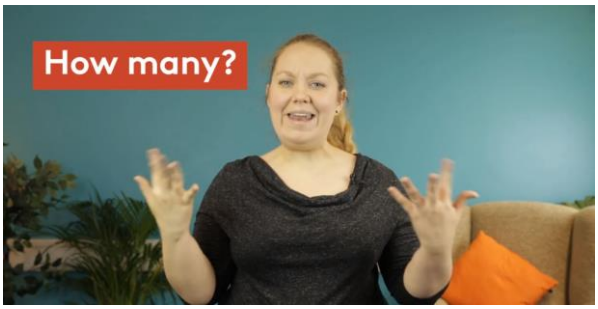
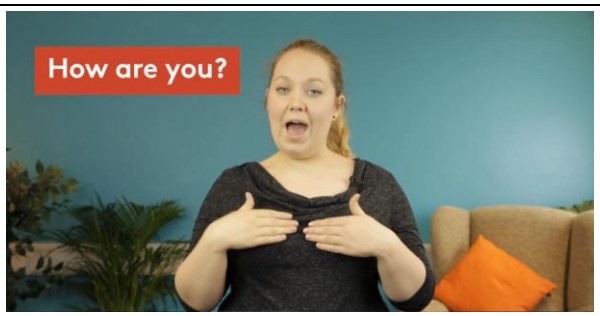
How many?

	**How To Make This Sign** • **How many?:** With your palms facing yourself, wiggle your fingers and move your hands apart.

How much?

	How To Make This Sign • **How much?:** Pretend you're holding a credit card in your dominat hand and tap it on the palm of your non-dominant hand.

How are you?

	**How To Make This Sign** • **How are you?:** Hold your fingers together, and place your palms flat on your chest, with your thumbs pointing up. Move your hands forward off your chest to create 'thumbs up' hand shapes. Use facial expression as if asking a question (scrunched or raised eyebrows etc). You can also point (you) to direct your question to the person you're asking about.

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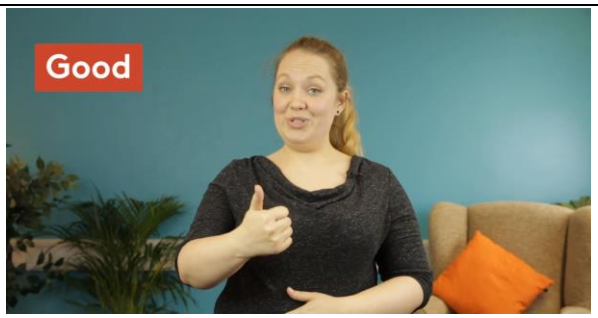
Which one?

	How To Make This Sign • **Which one?:** Firstly, set up the object of the questions (e.g. tea or coffee). Make the sign for 'which' by pointing at the two options with your thumb or little finger.

Basic Emotions

When signing an emotion, using the relevant facial expression is a vital piece of communication to improve your BSL skills.

Good

	**How To Make This Sign** • **Good:** Make a fist with you thumb up and extend your arm.

Happy

	How To Make This Sign • **Happy:** Happiness is represented by a clapping motion.

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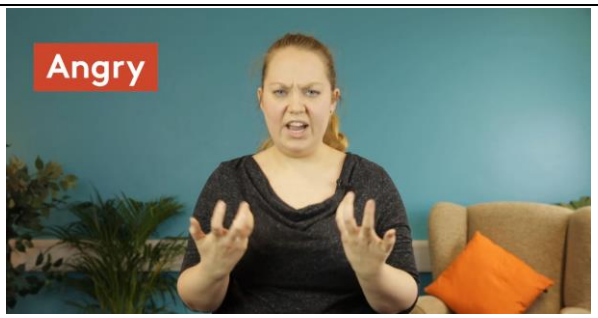
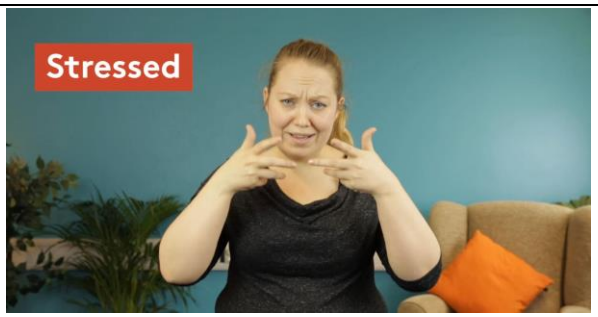
Angry

	**How To Make This Sign** • **Angry:** Make a scratching motion from your chest with your fingers upward.

Sad

	How To Make This Sign • **Sad:** Use your index finger to indicate a tear falling from your eye.

Stressed

	**How To Make This Sign** • **Stressed:** Make a claw shape with your hands on either side of your head and move them forward over your brow.

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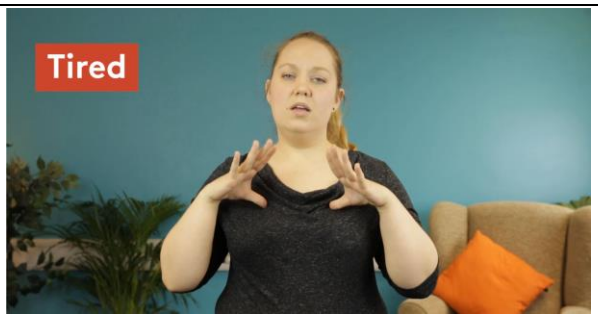
Tired/Relaxed



How To Make This Sign

- **Tired/Relaxed:** The hands are held in front of the chest and then fold forward as if all your energy has disappeared.

Ill

How To Make This Sign

- **Ill:** Your little fingers pint and drag downwards on your chest.

Excited

How To Make This Sign

- **Excited:** Rub all your fingertips on your chest and smile to show your excitement.

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