FOUND IN SIGN LANGUAGE

FOUND IN SIGN LANGUAGE IS A PHRASE THAT REPRESENTS THE CONCEPT OF DISCOVERY OR LOCATING SOMETHING WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE VISUAL AND GESTURAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM USED BY THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING COMMUNITY. Understanding how concepts like "found" are expressed in Sign Language is crucial for effective communication and language learning. This article explores the meaning, usage, and variations of the Sign for "found" across different Sign Languages, focusing on American Sign Language (ASL) as a primary example. It also highlights the importance of context, facial expressions, and grammar in conveying the concept accurately. Readers will gain insights into how "found in Sign Language" is represented, along with tips for learning and recognizing similar signs. The discussion will cover linguistic features, practical applications, and cultural considerations related to this Sign. Below is a detailed table of contents outlining the key sections of this comprehensive guide.

- Understanding the Concept of "Found" in Sign Language
- How "Found" IS SIGNED IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)
- VARIATIONS OF "FOUND" IN DIFFERENT SIGN LANGUAGES
- CONTEXTUAL AND GRAMMATICAL USE OF "FOUND" IN SIGN LANGUAGE
- TIPS FOR LEARNING AND PRACTICING THE SIGN FOR "FOUND"

UNDERSTANDING THE CONCEPT OF "FOUND" IN SIGN LANGUAGE

THE CONCEPT ENCAPSULATED BY THE WORD "FOUND" INVOLVES DISCOVERING, LOCATING, OR RETRIEVING SOMETHING THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY LOST OR UNKNOWN. IN SIGN LANGUAGE, THIS CONCEPT IS EXPRESSED THROUGH SPECIFIC HAND GESTURES COMBINED WITH FACIAL EXPRESSIONS AND BODY LANGUAGE TO CONVEY THE MEANING CLEARLY. BECAUSE SIGN LANGUAGES ARE VISUAL-GESTURAL LANGUAGES, SIGNS FOR ABSTRACT IDEAS LIKE "FOUND" OFTEN RELY ON ICONIC REPRESENTATION OR METAPHORICAL GESTURES.

SIGN LANGUAGES AROUND THE WORLD EACH HAVE UNIQUE WAYS TO EXPRESS THE IDEA OF "FOUND," REFLECTING THEIR OWN GRAMMAR AND CULTURAL CONTEXT. RECOGNIZING HOW "FOUND IN SIGN LANGUAGE" OPERATES HELPS USERS COMMUNICATE MORE EFFECTIVELY, ESPECIALLY IN SITUATIONS INVOLVING SEARCHING, LOCATING, OR IDENTIFYING OBJECTS OR INFORMATION. THIS UNDERSTANDING ALSO FACILITATES BETTER INTERPRETATION AND TRANSLATION SERVICES FOR DEAF INDIVIDUALS.

HOW "FOUND" IS SIGNED IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)

In American Sign Language, the sign for "found" is typically executed by a specific motion and handshape that visually represents the act of locating or discovering something. ASL uses a combination of hand movements and facial expressions to emphasize the meaning of "found."

BASIC ASL SIGN FOR "FOUND"

THE MOST COMMON METHOD TO SIGN "FOUND" INVOLVES ONE HAND REPRESENTING THE OBJECT BEING SEARCHED FOR, WHILE THE OTHER HAND MIMICS THE ACTION OF LOCATING OR PICKING UP THAT OBJECT. THE MOVEMENT IS OFTEN A QUICK, UPWARD MOTION, SYMBOLIZING THE MOMENT OF DISCOVERY.

FACIAL EXPRESSIONS AND NON-MANUAL SIGNALS

Non-manual markers such as raised eyebrows, widened eyes, or a slight nod are integral to reinforcing the concept of "found" in ASL. These expressions contribute to the intensity and certainty of the discovery, adding emotional context to the sign.

EXAMPLE USAGE IN SENTENCES

IN ASL, "FOUND" IS OFTEN USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER SIGNS TO CREATE FULL SENTENCES, SUCH AS "I FOUND MY KEYS" OR "SHE FOUND THE BOOK." THE SYNTAX AND PLACEMENT OF SIGNS FOLLOW ASL GRAMMAR RULES, WHICH DIFFER SIGNIFICANTLY FROM ENGLISH.

VARIATIONS OF "FOUND" IN DIFFERENT SIGN LANGUAGES

While American Sign Language is widely used in the United States and parts of Canada, other countries have their own distinct sign languages with unique signs for "found." These variations highlight the diversity and richness of sign language globally.

BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE (BSL)

IN BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE, THE SIGN FOR "FOUND" DIFFERS IN HANDSHAPE AND MOVEMENT FROM ASL. BSL OFTEN USES A TWO-HANDED SIGN WHERE THE DOMINANT HAND "GRABS" SOMETHING FROM THE NON-DOMINANT HAND, SYMBOLIZING DISCOVERY OR RETRIEVAL.

AUSLAN (AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE)

AUSLAN'S SIGN FOR "FOUND" SHARES SIMILARITIES WITH BSL DUE TO THEIR HISTORICAL CONNECTIONS BUT INCLUDES REGIONAL VARIATIONS. THE SIGN MAY INCORPORATE A SWEEPING MOTION THAT SIGNIFIES THE ACT OF FINDING OR UNCOVERING SOMETHING.

OTHER SIGN LANGUAGES

OTHER SIGN LANGUAGES, SUCH AS FRENCH SIGN LANGUAGE (LSF), JAPANESE SIGN LANGUAGE (JSL), AND OTHERS, HAVE THEIR UNIQUE SIGNS FOR "FOUND." THESE DIFFERENCES UNDERSCORE THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING THE SPECIFIC SIGN LANGUAGE RELEVANT TO THE USER'S COMMUNITY OR ENVIRONMENT.

CONTEXTUAL AND GRAMMATICAL USE OF "FOUND" IN SIGN LANGUAGE

The meaning and use of the sign for "found" can change depending on context, sentence structure, and grammatical elements within sign language. Understanding these nuances is essential for accurate and meaningful communication.

ROLE IN SENTENCE STRUCTURE

In many sign languages, verbs like "found" can be modified to indicate tense, aspect, or subject-object relationships through movement, location, or additional signs. For example, the direction of the sign might indicate who found what.

INCORPORATING CLASSIFIERS AND SPATIAL REFERENCING

CLASSIFIERS—HANDSHAPES THAT REPRESENT CATEGORIES OF OBJECTS—AND SPATIAL REFERENCING ARE OFTEN USED ALONGSIDE "FOUND" TO SPECIFY THE TYPE OF OBJECT OR LOCATION INVOLVED IN THE DISCOVERY. THIS ADDS CLARITY AND DETAIL TO THE COMMUNICATION.

EXPRESSING ABSTRACT VS. CONCRETE "FOUND"

THE SIGN FOR "FOUND" CAN ALSO BE ADAPTED TO EXPRESS ABSTRACT DISCOVERIES, SUCH AS FINDING AN IDEA OR SOLUTION, VERSUS CONCRETE PHYSICAL OBJECTS. FACIAL EXPRESSIONS AND CONTEXT HELP DIFFERENTIATE THESE MEANINGS.

TIPS FOR LEARNING AND PRACTICING THE SIGN FOR "FOUND"

Successfully mastering the sign for "found" involves practice, observation, and cultural awareness. Effective learning strategies can enhance retention and communication skills.

- Observe Native Signers: Watching skilled signers use the sign for "found" in natural contexts helps learners understand subtle nuances.
- PRACTICE WITH REPETITION: REPEATING THE SIGN REGULARLY IMPROVES MUSCLE MEMORY AND FLUENCY.
- Use Facial Expressions: Incorporating appropriate facial cues enhances the meaning and authenticity of the sign.
- LEARN IN CONTEXT: PRACTICE USING "FOUND" IN FULL SENTENCES TO GRASP ITS GRAMMATICAL ROLE AND VARIATIONS.
- Engage with the Deaf Community: Interaction with native signers provides real-world experience and cultural insights.

BY APPLYING THESE TIPS, LEARNERS CAN EFFECTIVELY INTEGRATE THE CONCEPT OF "FOUND IN SIGN LANGUAGE" INTO THEIR COMMUNICATION REPERTOIRE, FOSTERING CLEARER AND MORE MEANINGFUL INTERACTIONS.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES 'FOUND' MEAN IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)?

'FOUND' IN ASL IS TYPICALLY SIGNED BY USING THE SIGN FOR 'FIND,' WHICH INVOLVES FORMING A PINCH WITH THE DOMINANT HAND AND BRINGING IT TOWARD THE PALM OF THE NON-DOMINANT HAND, INDICATING THE ACT OF DISCOVERING OR LOCATING SOMETHING.

HOW DO YOU SIGN 'FOUND' IN BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE (BSL)?

IN BSL, 'FOUND' IS SIGNED BY MIMICKING THE ACTION OF PICKING SOMETHING UP FROM THE GROUND WITH ONE HAND, SYMBOLIZING THE DISCOVERY OR RETRIEVAL OF AN OBJECT.

IS THERE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 'FOUND' AND 'FIND' IN SIGN LANGUAGE?

YES, WHILE BOTH RELATE TO DISCOVERY, 'FIND' IS THE ACTION OF LOCATING SOMETHING, AND 'FOUND' IS THE PAST TENSE. SOME SIGN LANGUAGES USE THE SAME SIGN FOR BOTH, WITH A SLIGHT CHANGE IN FACIAL EXPRESSION OR MOVEMENT TO INDICATE TENSE.

CAN 'FOUND' BE USED IN SIGN LANGUAGE TO MEAN 'ESTABLISHED' OR 'CREATED'?

YES, IN CONTEXTS LIKE 'FOUNDING A COMPANY,' SIGN LANGUAGES OFTEN COMBINE THE SIGN FOR 'CREATE' OR 'START' WITH APPROPRIATE NOUN SIGNS TO CONVEY THE MEANING OF 'FOUND' AS 'ESTABLISHING' SOMETHING.

ARE THERE REGIONAL VARIATIONS FOR THE SIGN 'FOUND' IN DIFFERENT SIGN LANGUAGES?

ABSOLUTELY, SIGN LANGUAGES VARY REGIONALLY AND CULTURALLY, SO THE SIGN FOR 'FOUND' CAN DIFFER BETWEEN ASL, BSL, AUSLAN, AND OTHER SIGN LANGUAGES.

HOW CAN LEARNERS BEST MEMORIZE THE SIGN FOR 'FOUND'?

LEARNERS CAN MEMORIZE 'FOUND' BY ASSOCIATING THE SIGN WITH THE ACTION OF DISCOVERY OR FINDING SOMETHING, PRACTICING WITH REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES, AND WATCHING VIDEOS OF NATIVE SIGNERS USING THE TERM.

IS FACIAL EXPRESSION IMPORTANT WHEN SIGNING 'FOUND' IN SIGN LANGUAGE?

YES, FACIAL EXPRESSIONS CAN CONVEY TENSE AND CONTEXT, MAKING THE MEANING OF 'FOUND' CLEARER, SUCH AS SHOWING SURPRISE OR SATISFACTION WHEN SOMETHING IS DISCOVERED.

CAN THE SIGN FOR 'FOUND' BE COMBINED WITH OTHER SIGNS TO FORM PHRASES?

YES, 'FOUND' CAN BE COMBINED WITH OTHER SIGNS LIKE 'OBJECT,' 'PLACE,' OR 'PERSON' TO SPECIFY WHAT WAS FOUND, CREATING MORE COMPLEX AND PRECISE EXPRESSIONS.

WHERE CAN I FIND RELIABLE RESOURCES TO LEARN THE SIGN FOR 'FOUND'?

RELIABLE RESOURCES INCLUDE OFFICIAL SIGN LANGUAGE DICTIONARIES, EDUCATIONAL WEBSITES LIKE ASL UNIVERSITY, LOCAL DEAF COMMUNITY CENTERS, AND VIDEO PLATFORMS FEATURING CERTIFIED SIGN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTORS.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

1. FOUNDATIONS OF AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

This comprehensive guide introduces the basics of American Sign Language (ASL), including its grammar, syntax, and common signs. It is designed for beginners and educators who want to build a strong foundation in ASL. The book includes illustrations and exercises to help readers practice and retain their skills.

2. SIGN LANGUAGE LINGUISTICS: AN INTRODUCTION

THIS BOOK EXPLORES THE LINGUISTIC STRUCTURE OF SIGN LANGUAGES, FOCUSING ON PHONOLOGY, MORPHOLOGY, AND SYNTAX. IT PROVIDES INSIGHTS INTO HOW SIGN LANGUAGES FUNCTION AS FULLY DEVELOPED LANGUAGES, DISTINCT FROM SPOKEN LANGUAGES. IDEAL FOR LINGUISTICS STUDENTS AND ANYONE INTERESTED IN THE SCIENCE BEHIND SIGN LANGUAGE COMMUNICATION.

3. HANDS FOUND: A HISTORY OF SIGN LANGUAGE AND DEAF CULTURE

A DETAILED HISTORICAL ACCOUNT OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SIGN LANGUAGES WORLDWIDE AND THE CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF DEAF COMMUNITIES. THE BOOK COVERS KEY FIGURES, MOVEMENTS, AND MILESTONES IN THE RECOGNITION AND EVOLUTION OF SIGN LANGUAGE. IT EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF PRESERVING DEAF HERITAGE AND PROMOTING ACCESSIBILITY.

4. EVERYDAY SIGNS: PRACTICAL SIGN LANGUAGE FOR DAILY LIFE

THIS PRACTICAL GUIDE OFFERS A COLLECTION OF SIGNS USED IN EVERYDAY SITUATIONS, FROM SHOPPING AND DINING TO TRAVEL AND EMERGENCIES. IT IS PERFECT FOR TRAVELERS, NEW LEARNERS, AND FAMILY MEMBERS OF DEAF INDIVIDUALS. THE BOOK INCLUDES VISUAL AIDS AND TIPS TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION SKILLS QUICKLY.

5. VISUAL LANGUAGE: THE ART AND SCIENCE OF SIGN COMMUNICATION

AN EXPLORATION OF SIGN LANGUAGE AS A VISUAL-SPATIAL LANGUAGE, COMBINING ELEMENTS OF ART, EXPRESSION, AND COMMUNICATION THEORY. THE AUTHOR DISCUSSES HOW GESTURES, FACIAL EXPRESSIONS, AND BODY MOVEMENTS CONTRIBUTE

TO MEANING. THIS BOOK IS SUITABLE FOR ARTISTS, EDUCATORS, AND SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS.

6. CHILDHOOD DEAFNESS AND SIGN LANGUAGE ACQUISITION

FOCUSING ON THE EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF SIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS IN DEAF CHILDREN, THIS BOOK EXAMINES LANGUAGE ACQUISITION THEORIES AND EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES. IT HIGHLIGHTS THE BENEFITS OF EARLY EXPOSURE TO SIGN LANGUAGE FOR COGNITIVE AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND SPEECH THERAPISTS WILL FIND THIS RESOURCE INVALUABLE.

7. SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION: ETHICS AND PRACTICE

THIS TEXT DELVES INTO THE PROFESSIONAL WORLD OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION, COVERING ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS, BEST PRACTICES, AND CHALLENGES FACED BY INTERPRETERS. IT PROVIDES CASE STUDIES AND GUIDELINES TO MAINTAIN ACCURACY AND NEUTRALITY. ASPIRING AND PRACTICING INTERPRETERS WILL GAIN PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE FROM THIS BOOK.

- 8. Technology and the Evolution of Sign Language Communication
- An insightful look at how technology, from video calls to AI, is transforming sign language use and accessibility. The book discusses innovations that enhance communication for Deaf individuals and the Deaf community. It also addresses potential challenges and future trends in digital communication.
- 9. FOUND IN SIGN: STORIES FROM THE DEAF COMMUNITY

A COLLECTION OF PERSONAL STORIES AND EXPERIENCES FROM DEAF INDIVIDUALS AROUND THE WORLD, HIGHLIGHTING THE ROLE OF SIGN LANGUAGE IN IDENTITY AND COMMUNITY. THE NARRATIVES EXPLORE THEMES OF RESILIENCE, CULTURE, AND CONNECTION. THIS BOOK OFFERS READERS A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE LIVED REALITIES OF DEAF PEOPLE.

Found In Sign Language

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found in sign language: Sign Languages Diane Brentari, 2010-05-27 What are the unique characteristics of sign languages that make them so fascinating? What have recent researchers discovered about them, and what do these findings tell us about human language more generally? This thematic and geographic overview examines more than forty sign languages from around the world. It begins by investigating how sign languages have survived and been transmitted for generations, and then goes on to analyse the common characteristics shared by most sign languages: for example, how the use of the visual system affects grammatical structures. The final section describes the phenomena of language variation and change. Drawing on a wide range of examples, the book explores sign languages both old and young, from British, Italian, Asian and American to Israeli, Al-Sayyid Bedouin, African and Nicaraguan. Written in a clear, readable style, it is the essential reference for students and scholars working in sign language studies and deaf studies.

found in sign language: Sign Language Jim G. Kyle, James Kyle, Bencie Woll, 1988-02-26 The discovery of the importance of sign language in the deaf community is very recent indeed. This book provides a study of the communication and culture of deaf people, and particularly of the deaf community in Britain. The authors' principal aim is to inform educators, psychologists, linguists and professionals working with deaf people about the rich language the deaf have developed for themselves - a language of movement and space, of the hands and of the eyes, of abstract communication as well as iconic story telling. The first chapters of the book discuss the history of sign language use, its social aspects and the issues surrounding the language acquisition of deaf

children (BSL) follows, and the authors also consider how the signs come into existence, change over time and alter their meanings, and how BSL compares and contrasts with spoken languages and other signed languages. Subsequent chapters examine sign language learning from a psychological perspective and other cognitive issues. The book concludes with a consideration of the applications of sign language research, particularly in the contentious field of education. There is still much to be discovered about sign language and the deaf community, but the authors have succeeded in providing an extensive framework on which other researchers can build, from which professionals can develop a coherent practice for their work with deaf people, and from which hearing parents of deaf children can draw the confidence to understand their children's world.

found in sign language: The Sign Language Interpreting Studies Reader Cynthia B. Roy, Jemina Napier, 2015-07-15 In Sign Language Interpreting (SLI) there is a great need for a volume devoted to classic and seminal articles and essays dedicated to this specific domain of language interpreting. Students, educators, and practitioners will benefit from having access to a collection of historical and influential articles that contributed to the progress of the global SLI profession. In SLI there is a long history of outstanding research and scholarship, much of which is now out of print, or was published in obscure journals, or featured in publications that are no longer in print. These readings are significant to the progression of SLI as an academic discipline and a profession. As the years have gone by, many of these readings have been lost to students, educators, and practitioners because they are difficult to locate or unavailable, or because this audience simply does not know they exist. This volume brings together the seminal texts in our field that document the philosophical, evidence-based and analytical progression of SLI work.

found in sign language: <u>Directions in Sign Language Acquisition</u> Gary Morgan, Bencie Woll, 2002-01-01 This is the second volume in the series 'Trends in language acquisition research'. The unusual combination in one volume of reports on various different sign languages in acquisition makes this book quite unique.

found in sign language: A Phonological Grammar of Kenyan Sign Language Hope E. Morgan, 2022-07-05 This grammar of Kenyan Sign Language (KSL) phonology adds to a sparse literature on the units of categorical form in the world's sign languages. At the same time, it brings descriptive and theoretical research on sign language phonology into better alignment by systematically evaluating current models of sign language phonology for each of the main parameters – handshape, location, and movement – against the KSL data. This grammar also makes a methodological contribution by using a unique dataset of KSL minimal pairs in the analysis, demonstrating that minimal pairs are not as infrequent in sign languages as previously thought. The main content of the book is found in five chapters on handshape, location, core articulatory movement, manner of movement, and other distinctive features (e.g., orientation, mouth actions). The book also contains two large appendices that document the phonological evidence for each of the 44 handshapes and 37 locations. This book will be a key reference for descriptive and typological studies of sign phonology, as well as a helpful resource for linguists interested in understanding the similarities and differences between current models of sign phonology and identifying promising avenues for future research.

found in sign language: The Routledge Handbook of Sign Language Pedagogy Russell S. Rosen, 2019-09-17 The Routledge Handbook of Sign Language Pedagogy is the first reference of its kind, presenting contributions from leading experts in the field of sign language pedagogy. The Handbook fills a significant gap in the growing field of sign language pedagogy, compiling all essential aspects of current trends and empirical research in teaching, curricular design, and assessment in one volume. Each chapter includes historical perspectives, core issues, research approaches, key findings, pedagogical implications, future research direction, and additional references. The Routledge Handbook of Sign Language Pedagogy is an essential reference for sign language teachers, practitioners, and researchers in applied sign linguistics and first, second, and additional language learning.

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actions in sign languages have been controversially discussed but the sociolinguistic factors determining their form and functions remain uncertain. This first empirical analysis of mouth actions in Irish Sign Language focuses on correlations with gender, age, and word class. It contributes to the linguistic description of ISL, research into non-manuals in sign languages, and is relevant for the cross-modal study of word classes.

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found in sign language: The Sociolinguistics of Sign Languages Ceil Lucas, 2001-10-04 This is an accessible introduction to the major areas of sociolinguistics as they relate to sign languages and deaf communities. Clearly organised, it brings together a team of leading experts in sign linguistics to survey the field, and covers a wide range of topics including variation, multilingualism, bilingualism, language attitudes, discourse analysis, language policy and planning. The book examines how sign languages are distributed around the world; what occurs when they come in contact with spoken and written languages; and how signers use them in a variety of situations. Each chapter introduces the key issues in each area of inquiry and provides a comprehensive review of the literature. The book also includes suggestions for further reading and helpful exercises. The Sociolinguistics of Sign Languages will be welcomed by students in deaf studies, linguistics and interpreter training, as well as spoken language researchers, and researchers and teachers of sign language.

found in sign language: Universal Grammar and American Sign Language D.C. Lillo-Martin, 2012-12-06 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE American Sign Language (ASL) is the visual-gestural language used by most of the deaf community in the United States and parts of Canada. On the surface, this language (as all signed languages) seems radically different from the spoken languages which have been used to formulate theories of linguistic principles and parameters. However, the position taken in this book is that when the surface effects of modality are stripped away, ASL will be seen to follow many of the patterns proposed as universals for human language. If these theoretical constructs are meant to hold for language in general, then they should hold for natural human language in any modality; and if ASL is such a natural human language, then it too must be accounted for by any adequate theory of Universal Grammar. For this rea son, the study of ASL can be vital for proposed theories of Universal Grammar. Recent work in several theoretical frameworks of syntax as well as phonology have argued that indeed, ASL is such a lan guage. I will assume then, that principles of Universal Gram mar, and principles that derive from it, are applicable to ASL, and in fact that ASL can serve as one of the languages which test Universal Grammar. There is an important distinction to be drawn, however, be tween what is called here 'American Sign Language', and other forms of manual communication.

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found in sign language: Italian Sign Language from a Cognitive and Socio-semiotic Perspective Virginia Volterra, Maria Roccaforte, Alessio Di Renzo, Sabina Fontana, 2022-09-01 This volume reveals new insights on the faculty of language. By proposing a new approach in the analysis and description of Italian Sign Language (LIS), that can be extended also to other sign languages, this book also enlightens some aspects of spoken languages, which were often overlooked in the past and only recently have been brought to the fore and described. First, the study of face-to-face communication leads to a revision of the traditional dichotomy between linguistic and enacted, to develop a new approach to embodied language (Kendon, 2004). Second, all structures of language take on a sociolinguistic and pragmatic meaning, as proposed by cognitive semantics, which considers it impossible to trace a separation between purely linguistic and extralinguistic knowledge. Finally, if speech from the point of view of its materiality is variable, fragile, and non-segmentable (i.e. not systematically discrete), also signs are not always segmentable into discrete, invariable and meaningless units. This then calls into question some of the properties traditionally associated with human languages in general, notably that of 'duality of patterning'. These are only some of the main issues you will find in this volume that has no parallel both in sign

and in spoken languages linguistic research.

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found in sign language: Perspectives on Classifier Constructions in Sign Languages
Karen Emmorey, 2003-04-02 Classifier constructions are universal to sign languages and exhibit
unique properties that arise from the nature of the visual-gestural modality. The major goals are to
bring to light critical issues related to the study of classifier constructions and to present
state-of-the-art linguistic and psycholinguistic analyses of these constructions. It is hoped that by
doing so, more researchers will be inspired to investigate the nature of classifier constructions
across signed languages and further explore the unique aspects of these forms. The papers in this
volume discuss the following issues: *how sign language classifiers differ from spoken languages;
*cross-linguistic variation in sign language classifier systems; *the role of gesture; *the nature of
morpho-syntactic and phonological constraints on classifier constructions; *the grammaticization
process for these forms; and *the acquisition of classifier forms. Divided into four parts, groups of
papers focus on a particular set of issues, and commentary papers end each section.

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