SPARKCHARTS

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

GREETINGS AND PHRASES

hello



"B" hand along right side of head

deliberate and to the right

saluting motion

I'm fine



"5" hand with thumb touching chest

move hand away from chest

signing "fine" only

please



right hand open on chest

repeated circular motion

rubbing heart with pleasure

excuse me



fingertips of right hand across open left palm

brushing motion from heel of hand to fingertips

brushing away

goodbye



open hand with fingers extended and pressed together

bend fingers up and down

waving goodbye

what's your name?



pointer finger of "I" hand pointing out to other person

point to other person, then tap "H" hands twice with inquisitive look on face

"you" + "name"

thank you



open hand with tips of fingers on mouth

move fingers away from mouth

—

yes



"S" hand

bent wrist; repeated up-and-down motion

simulating head nodding

how are you?



fingers of both hands at chest, knuckles touching

flow hands up and out to palms facing up, then extend primary pointer finger forward

"how" + "you"

my name is . . .

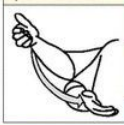


pointer finger of "I" hand touching chest

touch chest once, tap "H" hands twice

sign "my" and "name" only, followed by fingerspelling of name

you're welcome



open hand away from and to the side of body

sweep hand down toward waist with palm up

"welcome" only

no



pointer and middle fingers extended, touching thumb

two quick open-and-close motions

"N" + "O" quickly

QUESTION WORDS

question



hand in "I" position

write a question mark in the air

traces shape of question mark (**note**: used before or after question)

why?



open hand with fingertips on forehead to "Y" hand

touch forehead and then move away from head for examination

taking thought out and looking at it

who?



pointer finger of "I" position at mouth

make a small circle around mouth

traces shape mouth makes when saying "who"

which?

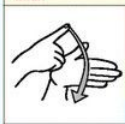


both hands in "10" position at chest

hands alternate up and down

indicating doubt (weighing options)

what?



right hand in "I" position; left hand open with palm angled toward body

brush extended finger across open palm

—

how?



fingers in to chest, knuckles touching

hands flow up and out to palms facing up

as if turning up seams to see inside edges

when?



both hands in "I" position

right hand circles above left hand, then both pointer fingers touch

tracing face of clock and then touching it

how much?



both hands curved and open

fingertips together, then apart

showing quantity

where?



hand in "I" position with palm out

shake finger from side to side

simulating head moving from side to side looking for something

how many?



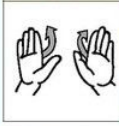
"5" hand with palm up

open hand to "5" hand with palm up

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DAYS AND TIME OF DAY

Sunday



both hands open in front of shoulders

each hand makes a small, repeated circular motion

opening church doors

Saturday

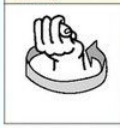


"S" hand in front of right shoulder

circular motion with hand around vertical line

"S" for Saturday

Monday

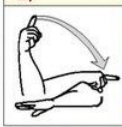


"M" hand, palm out, in front of right shoulder

circular motion with hand around vertical line

"M" for Monday

day

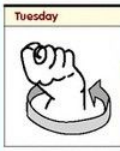


left arm bent across body, right elbow resting in left hand, and right hand in "I" position

right hand arcs toward left elbow

sun moving across sky

Tuesday

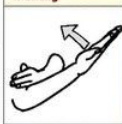


"T" hand in front of right shoulder

circular motion with hand around vertical line

"T" for Tuesday

morning

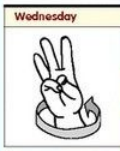


right arm extended with palm up; left hand in crook of right arm

right open palm moves toward face two times

sun rising

Wednesday

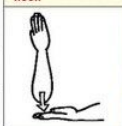


"W" hand in front of right shoulder

circular motion with hand around vertical line

"W" for Wednesday

noon



right arm, bent with flat palm inward, extends upward while resting on palm of left hand

place elbow on hand two times

sun straight above (or hands of clock at 12:00)

Thursday



"H" hand in front of right shoulder

circular motion with hand around vertical line

used to be signed "T" + "H", now "H" only

afternoon



right arm, bent and extended with palm down, rests on downturned left hand

light bounce of right arm

sun setting

Friday



"F" hand in front of right shoulder

circular motion with hand around vertical line

"F" for Friday

evening



right hand, curved with palm facing down, rests on wrist of flat left hand with palm facing down

right wrist taps left wrist two times

sun setting below horizon

GLOSSARY

- **Fingerspelling:** Communicating one letter at a time using the manual alphabet, in which each handshape corresponds to a letter.
- **Gloss:** The translation of a sign from concept to English word(s).
- **Iconicity:** The relationship between a sign and what it represents.
- **Initialized sign:** A sign in which a handshape from the manual alphabet corresponds to the first letter of the English word represented.
- **Manual alphabet:** 26 handshapes that represent the letters of the English alphabet.
- **Sign:** A figure, made with one or both hands, that represents a concept.

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