American Sign Language
Lesson 3
Gallaudet University

Gallaudet University in Washington D.C. is the only liberal arts college for deaf and hard of hearing students. The University has over a hundred years of history behind it. It is responsible for producing many leaders in the deaf and hard of hearing community. The University has progressed into much more than a place to learn for its students. Although the University has experienced many trials and tribulations it is a respected school and carries great honor in its name.

Gallaudet University is named after Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, who was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1787. Mr. Gallaudet was a brilliant student and entered Yale University at the age of 14. He graduated from Yale first in his class three years later. Having deep Protestant roots, Mr. Gallaudet decided to join the ministry. Reverend Gallaudet met Dr. Mason Cogswell and his daughter Alice. The child was deaf and Mr. Gallaudet and the girl's father were concerned about the child's education. Dr. Cogswell persuaded Mr. Gallaudet to travel to England and study their methods of teaching deaf students. He was very pleased with his findings and traveled home with a companion and the two started the first school for the deaf, the American School for the Deaf. Alice was one of the first students and the school still educates today.

The University began when Amos Kendall donated two acres of his land in Washington D.C. for deaf and blind students that were seeking aide. Mr. Kendall became involved with the children and petitioned the court to make them his wards. Kendall received aide from the government and began the Columbia Institute for the Instruction for the Deaf and Dumb. He made Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet's son, Edward Miner Gallaudet, the superintendent of the school. At the turn of the century Gallaudet University briefly shifted to more technical fields of study. However, when Dr. Percival Hall became the second president of Gallaudet University, he made the curriculum more liberal. In 1954, by an act of Congress, the Institution's name was changed to Gallaudet College. The 1970's continued as a period of growth for the University. The school was being affected by laws passed by the government that involved disabled individuals. Gallaudet University expanded its program to meet the demands of the new laws.

Perhaps the event that put Gallaudet University on the map and many individuals remember as the civil rights movement for the deaf was the events that started on March 9, 1988. The board of trustees at Gallaudet University announced that the seventh president was going to be a hearing person. Angry with the decision many students, faculty, alumni, and staff shut down the campus. The protests lasted a week until all the demands of the protestors were met. The protestors terms were that a deaf person must be selected as president, Jane Spilman step down as the chairperson of the board of trustees, deaf people must have a 51 % majority on the board, and there would be no reprisals against any student and employee involved in the protest. Dr. I. King Jordan was selected the eighth and first deaf president. The incident proves that deaf people can band together effectively for a common cause and succeed.
Gallaudet University plays a crucial role in the lives of deaf and hard of hearing people everywhere. The school has become a safe haven for students with a hearing disability because they learn and grow with other students who are deaf or hard of hearing. Gallaudet may be remembered by the world because of the events of March 9, 1988 but the students that graduate from the University will always know it as their alma mater.

Bibliography


ASL 1: Lesson 3

Vocabulary:

ADDRESS (live)
ALL (#ALL, whole)
ASK (ask-to, inquire, request)
BAD/GOOD (better, best)
BATHROOM (toilet, restroom)
BE-RAISED (grow-up, grow)
BIG (large)
BORN
CITY
COME (come on)
COOL (swell)
COUNTRY
FAMILY (class, group, team, category)
FAST
FAVORITE (prefer)
FINE
FROM
GO (go-there, go-to, attend)
HERE
HOUSE
HOW
LIKE
LIVE (address)
MORE
NEED (must, have-to, should, ought-to)
SCHOOL (academic)
SLOW
SO-SO (maybe, sort-of)
SMALL
THINK (brain, mind, think-about, wonder)
WANT

NEGATION: (not, #no-no, don't, wave-no)
Extended Family

Grandfather

Grandmother

Grandson

Granddaughter

Uncle

Aunt

Nephew

Niece

Cousin
Life Events
Verbs

Together
Marry (ied)

Pregnant
Born
Raised-up

Divorced
Still Living
Deceased
Personal Pronouns

Me

You

They

Personal Pronouns

Mine

Yours

Theirs
Age Numbers

1 yr. old

2 yrs. old

3 yrs. old

9 yrs. old

10 yrs. old

11 yrs. old

18 yrs. old

19 yrs. old

20 yrs. old

25 yrs. old

40 yrs. old

65 yrs. old
Key Phrases

Ask where the restroom is.

Tell where (near the water fountain)

Respond (tell them you will be right back)

Ask where you can buy coffee.
1. "NAME YOU WHAT?"  
(What is your name?)

2. "CITY YOU LIVE WHAT?"  
(What city do you live in?)

3. "SIGN YOU LIKE LEARN YOU?"  
(Do you like learning how to sign?)

4. "YOUR HOUSE BIG?"  
(Is your house big?)

5. "CHILDREN YOU HOW-MANY?"  
(How many children do you have?)

6. "YOUR HOUSE, BATHROOM HOW-MANY?"  
(How many bathrooms do you have in your house?)

7. "YOU WORK WHERE"  
(Where do you work?)

8. "YOU LIKE YOUR WORK YOU?"  
(Do you like your job?)

9. "YOU THINK ME SIGN GOOD?"  
(Do you think I sign well?)

10. "YOU SIGN "A-L-L WHAT"?"  
(How do you sign "all"?)
HOMEWORK PRACTICE

1. “YOU WHO?”
   (Who are you?)

2. “YOU FROM WHERE?”
   (Where are you from?)

3. “YOU LIVE HERE YOU?”
   (Do you live here?)

4. “YOUR FAMILY DEAF”
   (Is anyone in your family deaf?)

5. “YOUR HOUSE SMALL?”
   (Is your house small?)

6. “YOU WANT MORE CHILDREN YOU?”
   (Do you want more children?)

7. “YOU GO SCHOOL YOU?”
   (Are you attending school?)

8. “NEED BATHROOM YOU?”
   (Do you need to go to the bathroom?)

9. “YOU THINK ME SIGN BAD?”
   (Do you think I sign poorly?)

10. “YOU SIGN F-I-N-E WHAT?”
    (How do you sign “fine”?)
ASL 101: Lesson 3

Checklist:

☐ I am able to recognize Facial Expressions.
☐ I am able to name several (3 or more) methods of Negation.
☐ I am able to define “initialization”.
☐ I am able to establish “tense”.
☐ I can name four sign parameters.
☐ I explain how ASL deals with “ing, s, and ed” suffixes.
☐ I understand that ASL has its own syntax.
☐ I am able to recognize and sign the vocabulary for this lesson.
☐ I am able to recognize and sign the vocabulary for this lesson.
☐ I am able to recognize and sign the practice sentences for this lesson.
☐ I am done with Lesson 3.