

Unit Specification

BSL203 – British Sign Language Conversational Skills

A/600/0219

Sept 2016 – Aug 2017

UNIT SPECIFICATION

Unit BSL203 – BSL Conversational Skills

(RQF Unit Number: A/600/0219)

Unit summary

This unit covers the learner's receptive and productive skills, which will normally have been assessed in Units BSL201 and BSL202. It allows the candidate to put both skills together to demonstrate that they can understand and exchange information during a routine conversation with a BSL user.

Guided learning hours (GLH)	Additional study hours	Total learning time	Credit value at Level 2
35	15	50	5

Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria
At the end of this unit of learning, the successful learner will:	At the end of this unit of learning, the successful learner/candidate can:
1. Understand routine conversations in BSL	1.1 Recognise routine questions and responses about everyday personal, social or work related topics asking for clarity if required 1.2 Recognise requests or views expressed through combinations of set phrases and simple structures, question forms, affirmative and negation signs
2. Take part in routine conversations in BSL	2.1 Understand and use routine questions and responses to initiate information about everyday personal, social and work matters 2.2 Understand and use simple structures, set phrases to express ideas, opinions and views

Learning outcomes At the end of this unit of learning, the successful learner will:	Assessment criteria At the end of this unit of learning, the successful learner/candidate can:
	2.3 Use vocabulary that is appropriate to the situation, subject and context 2.4 Use signed conventions appropriate to the context including a range of non verbal conventions to support signed communication 2.5 Reproduce and produce accurate fingerspelling when appropriate 2.6 Use strategies to maintain a conversation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. fluency b. turn-taking c. eye contact d. interrupting e. clarifying f. follow up questions 2.7 Present information in correct sign order

ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

Please read this specification in conjunction with Signature Assessment Regulations on our website.

One theme from the three optional themes will have been chosen by the teacher in consultation with the candidate before the assessment. Candidates will be assessed on a combination of Theme 1 and the other chosen theme.

Theme 1	Everyday Conversation	Mandatory
Theme 2	Eating and Drinking	Optional themes: For this unit, pick one of these themes.
Theme 3	Spending and Shopping	
Theme 4	Travel and Holidays	

The theme chosen for BSL203 must be different to the theme chosen for BSL202.

The teacher will have a conversation with the candidate, based on the chosen theme.

The conversation will allow candidates to show both productive and receptive skills which meet the assessment criteria on page 5.

Note - Candidates must achieve two or more points for BSL Sign Order (essential criteria E1) and Non-Manual Features (essential criteria E2) to pass this unit, regardless of the total number of points achieved

Assessment procedure

- The teacher will show candidate to a chair or a spot to stand on.
- The teacher will have a brief 'warm-up' with the candidate, i.e. How are you? Are you comfortable? This should be no longer than 10 – 20 seconds. This is not marked and not part of the assessment timing.
- The teacher will introduce self by fingerspelling their first name.
- The teacher will ask the candidate to fingerspell his/her name in full at the start of their assessment in order to identify themselves. This is not marked as part of the assessment and is not included in the assessment timing
- The teacher will ask the candidate which theme has been chosen.
- The candidate will sign the chosen **theme**, which should be given fully and clearly. This is not marked as part of the assessment and is not included in the assessment timing
- The conversation will start. **The time of the assessment also starts.**
- The conversation should be **between 6 – 7 minutes** in length.
- The teacher will end the conversation at an appropriate time at no less than six minutes and no more than seven minutes.

Notes

- Candidates will fail if the assessment is finished under six minutes.
- Candidates will fail if the assessment is off theme.
- Assessments over seven minutes will not be marked from seven minutes onwards.
- The conversation should focus mainly on the selected theme chosen, but it is acceptable for the conversation to include wider vocabulary from elsewhere in the specification.
- The teacher and candidate may interrupt, seek clarification or ask for repetition at any point during the conversation.
- Marks will not be given if the candidate or the teacher is using SSE (Signed Supported English).
- Marks will not be given if the candidate or the teacher uses voice.
- The recording of the candidates assessment must not be edited or changed in any way.

The pass mark for the assessment is 50%, i.e. 15/30. In addition both essential criteria must be passed, also at 50%, i.e. 2/4 Refer to page 5 for the assessment criteria.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA (6 minutes – 7 minutes)

This unit is externally assessed by Signature assessors but the table below shows how candidates will be marked.

Skills	Assessment criteria	Points					
			Pts		Pts		Pts
Conversational Skills	Fluency of conversation	Little or no evidence shown	0	Candidate kept the conversation going about half of the time with little one-sided conversations	2	Candidate has no difficulty in keeping the conversation going most of the time and there were no one-sided conversations	4
	Turn-taking		0	Candidate used eye contact and turn-taking appropriately about half of the time	2	Candidate used eye contact and turn-taking appropriately most of the time	4
Receptive Skills	Understanding		0	Can understand teacher about half of the time (may include clarification or repetition where necessary)	1	Understands teacher most of the time (may include clarification or repetition where necessary)	2
	Questions		0	At least three questions answered correctly	1	Four or more questions answered correctly	2
	Fingerspelling		0	Teacher fingerspells word and candidate asks for one repetition then acknowledges by fingerspelling back	1	Candidate recognised fingerspelled word with no repetition and fingerspelled back	2
Productive Skills	Vocabulary		0	Candidate used a limited range of vocabulary from the unit	2	Candidate used a wide range of vocabulary from the unit	4
	Questions		0	Candidate asked at least three questions	1	Candidate asked at least four questions	2
	Fingerspelling		0	Candidate fingerspelled at least three different words correctly using the correct form of letter on hand(s)	1	Candidate fingerspelled at least four different words correctly using the correct form of letter on hand(s)	2
	BSL sign order * (E1)		0	Candidate is able to use BSL sign order, with no English structure, about half the time	2	Candidate is able to use BSL sign order, with no English structure, most of the time	4
	Non-manual features * (E2)		0	Candidate is able to use non-manual features about half the time	2	Candidate is able to use non-manual features most of the time	4

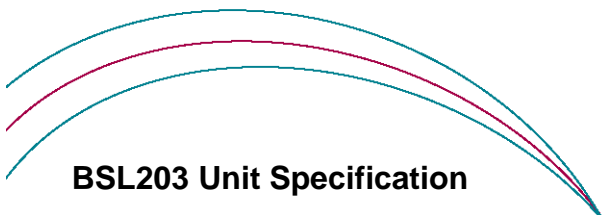
Note: Please see Teacher Notes on our website for more information on the assessment criteria.

* Essential criteria (E1 and E2) - two or more points **must** be achieved for **each** of these to pass this unit, regardless of the total number of points achieved.

UNIT MARK SHEET

Unit: BSL203																					
Assessment Number:																					
Skills	Assessment Factors	(1 st candidate's name)			(2 nd candidate's name)			(3 rd candidate's name)			(4 th candidate's name)			(5 th candidate's name)							
		Marks			Marks			Marks			Marks			Marks							
Conversational Skills	Fluency conversation	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4
	Turn-taking	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4
Receptive Skills	Understanding	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2
	Questions	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2
	Fingerspelling	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2
Productive Skills	Vocabulary	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4
	Questions	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2
	Fingerspelling	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2	0		1	2
Essential Criteria	E1 – BSL sign order	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4
	E2 - NMF	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4	0		2	4
Total score																					
If zero score – tick correct reason	Off theme																				
	Under time																				
Other	Not assessed																				
Fingerspelling (Receptive)																					
Fingerspelling (Productive)																					

Assessor signature Assessor name Date





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