3.3

PRACTICAL

ISL GRAMMAR AND USAGE

Notes

OBJECTIVE: To Describe the linguistic patterns of Indian Sign Language.

INTRODUCTION: ISL has grammar. Grammar is a set of rules for generating the words and sentences used in communication. All languages have a grammar. Grammar works at the level of structures in words; this is called morphology. Grammar also works at the level of sentences; this is called syntax. There are seven topics in this practical assignment. For each topic, you go through the same process. You will describe the grammar rules for each topic. This practical exercise is for you to do on your own, but you can discuss it with other learners if you like.

To describe linguistic patterns in the following structures:

3.3.1 Non-manual components of ISL

3.3.2 Sentence types: Simple statements, questions, negatives

3.3.3 Describing people and objects (adjectives, opposites)

3.3.4 Pronouns and kinship terms

3.3.5 Expression of time, numbers and measures

3.3.6 Verbs and uses of the sign space

3.3.7 Possession (having and not having)