



*'Promoting Quality in British Sign Language'*

# Qualification Specification

Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

QAN: 601/0420/X

Version: August 2017

*'Promoting Quality in British Sign Language'*

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for BSL

# Qualification Specification

## IBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

RQF Accreditation Number: 601/0420/X

IBSL Qualification Reference: IBSL6A

### Qualification Aim

This qualification aims to further the learning needs of those who have already acquired competence at Level 4 in British Sign Language (BSL) with Deaf people at an extended level. Learners successfully acquiring Level 6 BSL Studies must be able to demonstrate competence at this level of the UK Occupational Language Standards (CILT, 2010). This means that the Learner will be able to understand and use complex BSL in a range of work and social situations.

This qualification has been developed in accordance with the National Language Standards at Level 6 (2010). It is equivalent to those for Modern Foreign Languages at Honours Degree level.

### Qualification Structure

The qualification is divided into three units as follows:

IBSL6AUN: Understand complex BSL in a wide range of work situations

Unit Number: D/505/2884

IBSL6ASN : Use complex BSL in a wide range of work situations

Unit Number: H/505/2885

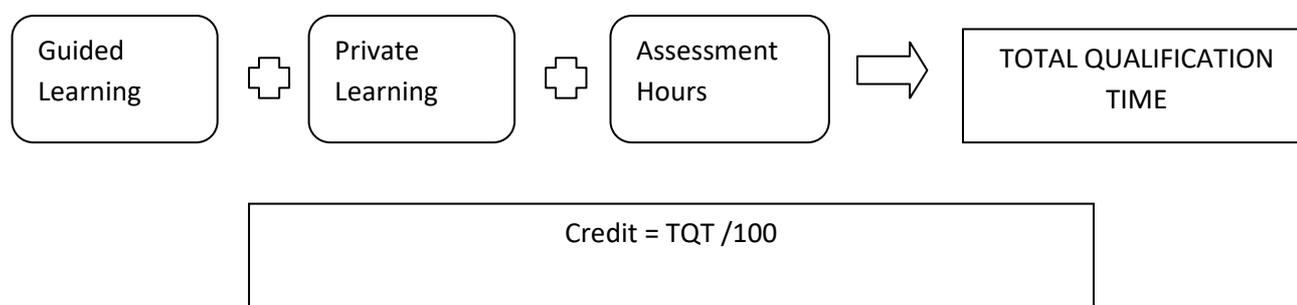
IBSL6ALN : BSL Linguistics Theory & Practice

Unit Number: K/505/2886

All three units can be achieved separately, but the full Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies can only be given if there is a PASS in each unit.

Assessment procedures are detailed on the relevant unit pages.

The Total Qualification Time is 100, with a Guided Learning element of 40 hours Guided Learning, We show below how Total Qualification Time is worked out:



## Qualification Objectives

At the end of the qualification, Learners can:

- Take an active role in complex situations using BSL;
- Maintain fluent and accurate BSL over extended periods within their area of expertise;
- Understand and use a complex range of vocabulary and technical language;
- Follow and formulate presentations, proposals, and arguments in the support of theories and/or ideas;
- Understand and use with accuracy most colloquial and idiosyncratic BSL;
- Relay information informally to and from BSL;
- Demonstrate an understanding of BSL Linguistics theory and practice

These objectives relate to the UK Occupational Languages Standards (2010) at Level 6 as developed by CILT.

## Target Group

The Level 6 Certificate in BSL Studies is suitable for those who:

- Wish to acquire and utilise British Sign Language skills at normal speed over extended periods in a wide range of complex work and social situations;
- Need to acquire and utilise BSL skills as part of a programme of professional development, for example, as a trainee interpreter or a teaching professional/lecturer at university or college level where advanced BSL subjects are being taught;
- Wish to progress from the Level 4 Certificate;

The qualification is also suitable for Deaf people wishing to acquire a qualification in their own language, as part of a progression route towards Deaf Interpreter status.

## Entry Requirements

It is recommended that entrants should have achieved the Level 4 Certificate in BSL Studies before embarking on the Level 6 Certificate programme.

## Progression Routes

Upon completion of this qualification, Learners may progress to a Level 6 interpreting qualification.

## Assessment Guidelines

In a naturally occurring context, the best way to use and acquire British Sign Language (BSL) skills is through conversation and discussion with one or more users of the language where straightforward and informal social interaction is the norm. This means Learners should be meeting people and being able to understand and sign a range of complex BSL at normal speed. The interaction can be carried forward into complex business negotiations within your area of work or in a social context.

In the naturally occurring context, this also means that you can understand complex discussions, debates or live shows that might be delivered in BSL (for example, through a Deaf Comedy Evening by one of the top BSL Deaf comedians), and understand the main context and detail of documentaries or stories told in BSL. You will also be able to make most types of telephone/video calls, and negotiate complaints and problems.

Within the linguistics context, Learners will be expected to develop an understanding of the role of signed languages and how BSL theory and linguistics is put into practice.

Good teaching practice would be to work through all units at the same time, covering all the issues in a global context.

IBSL's aim is to minimise the amount of paperwork needed to claim the qualification, but it is unavoidable that some paperwork will have to be used. These papers should be stored in a coursework file but Learners are allowed to use e-files if they so wish. Evidence will be collected through a series of multi-format assessments (*see assessment overview chart at the end of this Qualification Specification*)

All the evidences, apart from the 'live' assessment, will be collected into the coursework file (or *e-file* if preferred) and will be available for inspection by an External Examiner at the end of the programme.

The assessment for each unit is different. It is recommended that IBSL6.1; IBSL6.2; IBSL6.3; IBSL6.4; IBSL6.5; IBSL6.6 and IBSL6.7 should be taken before the External Examiner visit.

Arrangements **should be** made for an External Examiner to visit the Centre when the final assessment IBSL6.8 is to be assessed.

**IBSL6.1** will be by means of an e-assessment (or substituted video file on DVD or other means). This will be externally assessed.

**IBSL6.2** will be recorded on film through DVD or USB or similar means. This will be externally assessed

**IBSL6.3** will be recorded on film through DVD or USB or similar means and included in a Coursework File, which will be internally assessed by the Teacher/Assessor, and externally moderated by IBSL during the visit of the External Examiner.

**IBSL6.4 and IBSL6.5** will be recorded on film through DVD or USB or similar means and included in a Coursework File, which will be internally assessed by the Teacher/Assessor, and externally moderated by IBSL during the visit of the External Examiner.

**IBSL6.6** will be by means of an essay paper to cover understanding of Linguistic knowledge. This will be externally assessed

**IBSL6.7** will be by means of a DVD and question answer paper to cover Linguistic knowledge. This will be externally assessed.

**IBSL6.8** will be taken in the presence of an External Examiner and assessed 'live' by the EE.

All the above evidence, apart from the 'live' assessment will be collated into a Coursework File.

**Unit Specification: IBSL6AUN**  
**Understand Complex British Sign Language in a Wide Range of Work Situations**  
**(Unit accreditation number: D/505/2884)**

**Unit Summary, Learning Outcomes, and Assessment Criteria**

**Unit Summary, Guided Learning Hours, and Total Credits**

In this unit, a Learner can extract complex information from a wide range of sources, even when the language is delivered at speed. Learners are comfortable with a range of regional variations, formal and informal language, relevant technical vocabulary, and colloquialisms. Learners can take part in negotiations and deal with complaints, problems, or disputes. Learners can also make phone/video calls effectively.

**Relevance to National Standards**

This qualification relates to the UK Occupational Language Standards at Level 6 (CFA, 2010), and is at Level 6 on the Regulated Qualification Framework and the assessment criteria are equivalent to Modern Foreign Languages at Honours Degree Level. It equates to Levels 10/9 of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF), and Level 6 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).

The qualification is also at 'C1 Effective operational proficiency' level on the Common European Framework

**Explanation of Work Contexts**

Although the title refers to work contexts, the content and assessment criteria provide Learners with opportunities to incorporate evidence from a wide range of contexts, including social contexts and social interaction.

**Topics and Content:**

The topics and content of any learning on this unit by the Learners are expected to be wide-ranging, with vocabulary that is sufficiently complex and technical as to be unpredictable. The key aspect of this unit is that Learners should be able to understand the delivery of BSL at normal speed *over extended periods*. This should be taken to mean passages of ten minutes or more.

## Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria for the IBSL6AUN unit

Learning Outcomes:	Assessment Criteria:
<p>1 Be able to take an active role in social situations where BSL is being used by setting people at ease, including newcomers</p>	<p>1.1 Identify regional sign variations and different styles of register</p> <p>1.2 Identify technical language and idiom as appropriate to the subject matter, context and relationship with other users</p> <p>1.3 Recognise nuances as used in humour, sarcasm and ambiguity in signs</p> <p>1.4 Identify complex feelings, beliefs and opinions</p> <p>1.5 Recognise the right signed and non-verbal cultural conventions</p>
<p>2. Be able to understand signed communication in most relevant work and social situations</p>	<p>2.1 Extract from signed communication delivered at any speed or length complex information, specific details, requests, enquiries, comments, arguments, and the general meaning of these</p> <p>2.2 Recognise opinions and lines of reasoning delivered in signed communication</p> <p>2.3 Recognise technical language used in work and social situations</p> <p>2.4 If appropriate, challenge other people's comments or arguments</p> <p>2.5 If appropriate, relay information informally across languages.</p>
<p>3. Be able to understand a complex range of vocabulary</p>	<p>3.1 Extract from signed narratives, discussions and presentations complex vocabulary</p> <p>3.2 Use appropriate methods of interruption and clarification as needed with unfamiliar terms</p>
<p>4. Be able to use reference sources</p>	<p>4.1 Use language reference sources effectively to confirm or clarify meaning of in complex usage</p>

# IBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

## Unit IBSL6AUN

### ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

There will be **FOUR** assessments forming part of IBSL6AUN. Each of which will focus on separate areas requiring the Learner to demonstrate competence in comprehension skills in the use of BSL.

**Assessment 1 (IBSL 6.1)** this will be a Receptive Skills assessment using material that has been supplied by IBSL. It will be conducted under controlled and supervised conditions.

It consists of 12 questions that test Learners' receptive skills and ability to understand and demonstrate ideas and opinion. Questions 1 -11 are multiple choice and Question 12 is an open question.

The Learners will be required to complete a multiple-choice question and answer paper supplied by IBSL.

On completion of the Receptive Skills assessment, the **Application for Achievement Form** is to be signed by the Teacher/Assessor.

This assessment will be for **30 minutes**, once the DVD has started, it must be played through to its end.

After completion of the assessment, the **Application for Achievement Form** should be sent to IBSL (a copy being retained by the Centre) together with the Learners **completed Question and Answer papers** and the **DVD** (which must not be copied) within **7 working days**.

The marking will be done by IBSL and the results sent to the Centre within **28 working days**.

If successful, the Learner will receive a Certificate of Achievement (CAS) with the results, from IBSL. This CAS should be inserted in the Learner's Coursework File as evidence of their achievement.

Re-sits for this part of the assessment are available upon application to IBSL if required.

The pass mark for this assessment is **67%**

**Assessment 2 (IBSL6.2)** will be conducted using a BSL clip and will be filmed with your Teacher/Assessor present. You will watch a clip of someone delivering a set of instructions or information in BSL for up to one minute, in which you will only watch the clip **once** and make notes. You will then relay this set of instructions or information verbally to the camera.

*It is important to add that this is **not** an interpreting or translation task, it is merely looking at your language when relaying information from BSL to English to represent a real life scenario, i.e. someone is lost or needs to find out information about their train. This is to assess your receptive skills, not your voice-over skills.*

*Simultaneous interpreting is **not** permitted and the learner is not expected to remember all the details in order, just that the correct information is relayed in summary.*

**Assessment 3 (IBSL6.5)** will be a debate between three people (i.e. the Learner, the Teacher-Assessor and another person of appropriate Level 6 BSL standard) during which they will have a discussion of the Learner's choice from a selection of current affairs topics given by IBSL. During this dialogue, the Learner is expected to demonstrate as much of the Knowledge & Understanding criteria as possible, and also demonstrate appropriate cultural conventions

This assessment will be for **15-20 minutes**

The pass mark for this assessment is **48 points (60%)**

After the assessment, the Teacher-Assessor will give the Learner a statement which should be inserted into the Learner's coursework file (or *e-file*) as evidence of their achievement, together with the video-recorded assessment (either on DVD or USB). The statement must be dated and signed by both the Teacher-Assessor and the Learner **AND** the third person in the group who shall provide evidence of his or her own competence at Level 6. This is a **joint assessment** that is also to cover evidence for IBSL6ASN

**Assessment 4 (IBSL6.8)** which also forms part of the IBSL6ASN evidence. It will take the form of a 'live' debate scenario observed and marked by an External Examiner. This assessment will be video-recorded for monitoring purposes. Full details are given in IBSL6ASN.

This assessment will be for **20 minutes**

The pass mark for this assessment is **17 points (60%)**

See Appendix A for **Assessment Regulations**

See Appendix B for **Level 6 BSL Assessment Overview**

## Appendix B

# IBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies Unit IBSL6AUN

## ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

### 1. Registration of Learners

Registration of Learners for these assessments, together with the appropriate fees, will be required at least 8 weeks prior to the assessment date, OR will be required at the start of the programme, using the Learner Registration Form (LRF) provided on IBSL's Online Portal. The Learner Registration Form must be fully completed together with the assessment date(s) as required by IBSL

Centres have a responsibility for obtaining Unique Learner Numbers (ULNs) from the Learning Records Service. IBSL is unable to process Registration of Learners without the ULN of each (SCN in Scotland).

Centres authorised by IBSL to pay by invoices may register their Learners online as appropriate.

### 2. Acknowledgement of Learner Registration Form

Upon receipt of the Learner Registration Form(s), IBSL will then send an invoice to the Centre.

Once payment has been received, IBSL will send appropriate assessment papers to the Centre as follows:

#### For IBSL6.1 Assessment:

IBSL will send appropriate assessment papers together with DVD for the Receptive Skills assessment 4 weeks before the assessment date.

#### For IBSL6.2, IBSL6.3, IBSL6.4, IBSL6.5, IBSL6.6 and IBSL6.7 Assessment:

IBSL will send appropriate assessment papers 4 weeks before the assessment date.

No additional Learners may be registered for the assessment after this point any Learner not completing the assessment forfeits their fee.

Additional Learners may be registered for the Unit after this point upon payment of the Late Entry fee as stated in the Fees Policy. Any Learner not completing the unit forfeits their fee.

### 3. Reasonable Adjustments

The only form of reasonable adjustment that is allowed at Level 6 in BSL units is coloured paper for those with dyslexia.

Centres that request a Reasonable Adjustment on behalf of their Learner(s) should complete a Reasonable Adjustment form (a copy of this can be found on IBSL's Online Portal) and returned to IBSL with the Learner Registration Form.

IBSL will contact the Centre within two weeks to advise whether the request has been approved and how the assessment will be carried out

### 4. Invigilator or Teacher/Assessor

It is the responsibility of Centres to appoint a suitably qualified invigilator to oversee and co-ordinate certain Assessments, ensuring that they are briefed and familiar with IBSL's regulations for external assessments.

It is the responsibility of Centres to appoint a suitably qualified Teacher/Assessor for this unit, and to ensure that this Teacher/Assessor holds a current Trained Assessor Certificate from IBSL. The assessor does not have to be the Teacher, so long as that person also holds IBSL's current Trained Assessor Certificate.

Each Assessor should attend IBSL's Annual Standardisation Meeting (ASM) to keep updated on the assessment procedures.

## **5. Carrying out Assessments**

All assessments must be carried out under appropriate 'examination conditions', and no Learner must receive help from anyone during the assessment. The Teacher/Assessor must complete and sign the appropriate Mark Sheet form to confirm this.

All assessments are carried out at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner and IBSL. There must be identification of the Learner in an appropriate place where it does not affect the style of dialogue or presentation.

### **For IBSL6.1 Assessment:**

The assessment is carried out at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner IBSL.

Each Learner must input their names and Unique Learner Number (ULN) in the places provided at the start of the assessment.

### **For IBSL6.2 Assessment:**

The assessment is carried out at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner and IBSL

Each Learner must input their names and Unique Learner Number (ULN) in the places provided at the start of the assessment.

### **For IBSL6.3 and IBSL6.4 Assessment:**

The whole of the assessment must be visually recorded by an approved means (DVD, USB or dedicated Computer File), both the Learner and the audience of two being visible in the recording. All participants' faces must be visible within the frame. Individual DVDs or USBs should be used for each assessment, and should be appropriately listed in a menu for ease of access by the External Examiner.

The assessment is carried out at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner and IBSL Each Learner must fingerspell their names at the start of the assessment. This will be part of the assessment criteria, and marked accordingly. A 'log' must be compiled of each DVD showing the order in which each Learner is assessed.

### **For IBSL6.5 Assessment:**

The whole of the assessment must be visually recorded by an approved means (DVD, USB or dedicated Computer File), both the Learner and the audience of two and T/A being visible in the recording. All participants' faces must be visible within the frame. Individual DVDs or USBs should be used for each assessment, and should be appropriately listed in a menu for ease of access by the External Examiner.

The assessment is carried out at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner and IBSL Each Learner must fingerspell their names at the start of the assessment. This will be part of the assessment criteria, and marked accordingly. A 'log' must be compiled of each DVD showing the order in which each Learner is assessed.

### **For IBSL6.6 Assessment:**

The assessment is carried out as part of a private study at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner IBSL.

Each Learner must input their names and Unique Learner Number (ULN) in the places provided at the start of the assessment.

### **For IBSL6.7 Assessment:**

The assessment is carried out at a time agreed by the Centre, the Learner and IBSL

Each Learner must input their names and Unique Learner Number (ULN) in the places provided at the start of the assessment.

### **For IBSL6.8 Assessment:**

This assessment will be carried out by an External Examiner from IBSL.

The assessment room should have enough space for the External Examiner to observe the process, if required, and for people to move around.

The External Examiner will sign the Learner Assessment Record form to confirm this.

The External Examiner will complete and sign **IBSL6.8 Mark Sheet** form for each Learner

The whole of the assessment must be visually recorded by an approved means (DVD, USB or dedicated Computer File), all the Learners and the Teacher/Assessor taking part being visible in the recording. Individual DVDs/USBs should be used for each assessment, and must be appropriately listed in a menu for ease of access.

There may be other Deaf people in the assessment who are not Learners.

## **6. The Assessment Room**

'Examination conditions' mean that the assessment room:

- Must be identified by an appropriate sign outside the room
- Must not contain displays of material which could assist the Learner
- Must be set up correctly for each assessment, taking into account the lighting, the background and the position of the participants, plus invigilator and external examiner where appropriate.

'Examination conditions' also mean that:

- Mobile phones must be switched off
- Each Learners' ID must be confirmed (though not necessarily in the recording itself, i.e. a Learner does not have to introduce his/her name if the ID is confirmed by other means)
- All unauthorised items/materials/belongings are placed out of reach of the Learners
- Learners are informed they are subject to the rules of the assessment
- Invigilators or Teacher-Assessors must operate and initiate the filmed assessment equipment themselves
- Invigilators or Teacher-Assessors must ensure that the narrative or assessment material is not paused or re-wound at any stage of the assessment
- Learners are supervised throughout the assessment
- There is no distraction or disturbance during the assessment

During 'live' assessments (Assessment 8) in the presence of the External Examiner, the following shall additionally apply:

- The External Examiner shall have no involvement in the operation of recording equipment or in the assessment itself other than as an independent assessor.

## **7. IBSL Forms**

Only the official **IBSL Application for Achievement** and the **Mark Sheet Forms** available from IBSL must be used for **all assessments**. No photocopies are permitted. These forms are issued by IBSL. A separate **Mark Sheet Form** is required for each Learner. These forms are available on the IBSL Online Portal.

## **8. Misconduct**

If the Invigilator, Teacher/Assessor or assessment co-ordinator observes any misconduct, the assessment must be stopped immediately, a **Misconduct Report Form** (available from the IBSL portal) must be completed

The time of the action must be noted, and the Learner informed of the procedure. The **Application for Achievement Form** should be annotated with a brief statement describing the incident.

## 9. Emergencies

If an emergency should occur, eg. fire alarm, the assessment room must be evacuated immediately in accordance with the instructions of the appropriate authority, and a report detailing the time and date of the incident sent to IBSL.

Depending on the circumstances, the assessment may be:

- a) Resumed if there has been no breach of assessment security, or
- b) Cancelled to be rearranged at a later date or
- c) If the assessment was almost completed, a Special Consideration form should be completed on behalf of the Learner(s).

## 10. After the Assessment

The **Application for Achievement Form** should be signed by the Teacher/Assessor or Invigilator and sent to IBSL within **7 working days** of the assessment taking place, the Centre retaining a copy for its records.

### For IBSL6.1 Assessment:

All paper-based answer papers must also be sent to IBSL with the completed **Application for Achievement Form**; each paper must contain the Learner's ULN in the appropriate place.

The DVD should also be returned and it must not be copied.

### For IBSL6.2 Assessment:

The video-recorded DVD/USB must be checked to ensure that they are viewable. Each recording should be labelled with the Assessment ID and the Learner's Name and ULN. These documents and recordings should be sent to IBSL with the completed **Application for Achievement Form**. Copies of these documents and recordings must be kept by the Centre for record purposes.

### For IBSL6.3, IBSL6.4 and IBSL 6.5 Assessment:

IBSL6.3, IBSL6.4 and IBSL 6.5 Mark Sheets must be correctly completed and signed by the Teacher/Assessor. The Learners DVDs or other appropriate recordings should be checked to ensure that they are viewable. Each recording should be labelled with the Assessment ID and if appropriate, the Learner's ID and the 'log' compiled. These documents and recordings should be collated into a Coursework File and retained by the Centre in a safe place.

### For IBSL6.6 Assessment:

All paper-based answer papers, or in the case of a signed answer version, the video-recorded DVD/USB, must be sent to IBSL with the completed **Application for Achievement Form**; each paper must contain the Learner's ULN in the appropriate place.

### For IBSL6.7 Assessment:

All paper-based answer papers, or in the case of a signed answer version, the video-recorded DVD/USB, must be sent to IBSL with the completed **Application for Achievement Form**; each paper must contain the Learner's ULN in the appropriate place

### For IBSL6.8 Assessment:

IBSL6.8 Mark Sheet will be completed and signed by the External Examiner.

***Please note that if a Certificate is issued based on the spelling of the name on the Application for Achievement which after issue of the Certificate turns out to be incorrect and has not been corrected by the Learner at the time of the assessment, a fee shall be charged to issue a new Certificate with the correct spelling of the name.***

## **11. Moderation**

IBSL will carry out moderation of all assessments as appropriate, either at source in the Centre during their visit for the 'live' assessments.

### **11. The External Examiner Visit.**

The External Examiner (EE) will visit the Centre for the final Live Assessment as part of IBSL's quality assurance process and will check the Learners Coursework Files, by sampling recorded evidence as required. Therefore, it is essential that IBSL6.2, IBSL6.3, IBSL6.4, IBSL6.5, IBSL6.6 and IBSL6.7 Assessments have been completed before the EE's visit. The External Examiner shall initial appropriate forms in the presence of the Teacher/Assessor (or appropriate assessment co-ordinator) after sampling and shall take them away, leaving the coursework files, DVDs or other appropriate recordings with the Centre.

## **12. Issue of Results**

IBSL will issue the results of the combined assessments within **28 working days** of the final assessments taking place, together with any forms or certificates for onward forwarding to the Learners.

## **13. Appeals and Retention of Evidence**

The Centre must retain the Learners' DVD evidence for a period of **12 months** following the visit of the External Examiner. In the event of an appeal against assessment decisions, IBSL may require access to this evidence.

In the event of an appeal against the assessment decision, please follow IBSL's Appeals Policy which can be found on IBSL website. IBSL may review the completed papers using a different External Examiner.

**Unit Specification: IBSL6ASN: Use British Sign Language in a wide range of work situations**  
**(Unit accreditation number: H/505/2885)**

**Unit Summary, Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria**

**Unit Summary, Guided Learning Hours and Total Credits**

In this unit, a Learner is able to use complex information in a wide range of sources, where the language is delivered at speed. Learners are comfortable with a range of regional variations, formal and informal language, relevant technical vocabulary, and colloquialisms. Learners can take part in negotiations and deal with complaints, problems, or disputes. Learners can also make phone/video calls effectively.

**Relevance to National Standards**

This qualification relates to the UK Occupational Language Standards at Level 6 (CFA, 2010), and is at Level 6 on the Regulated Qualification Framework and the assessment criteria are equivalent to Modern Foreign Languages at Honours Degree Level. It equates to Levels 10/9 of the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF), and Level 6 of the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).

The qualification is also at 'C1 Effective operational proficiency' level on the Common European Framework

**Explanation of work contexts**

Although the title refers to work contexts, the content and assessment criteria provide Learners with opportunities to incorporate evidence from a wide range of contexts, including social contexts and social interaction.

**Topics and Content:**

The topics and content of any learning on this unit by the Learners are expected to be wide-ranging, with vocabulary that is sufficiently complex and technical as to be unpredictable. The key aspect of this unit is that Learners should be able to understand the delivery of BSL at normal speed *over extended periods*. This should be taken to mean passages of ten minutes or more.

## Learning Outcomes and Assessment Criteria for the IBSL6ASN unit

Learning Outcomes:	Assessment Criteria:
<p>1. Be able to take an active role in social situations where BSL is being used by setting people at ease, including newcomers</p>	<p>1.1 Contribute</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. To social situations by setting people, including newcomers, at ease</li> <li>b. Spontaneously to meetings and/or discussions</li> <li>c. Suggestions, advice or opinions</li> </ul> <p>1.2 Formulate presentations, proposals and arguments using factual information to support theories and/or ideas</p> <p>1.3 Express</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Instructions, requests and enquiries</li> <li>b. Beliefs and feelings</li> </ul>
<p>2. Be able to maintain fluent and accurate sign communication over extended periods within their area of expertise</p>	<p>2.1 Maintain fluency in extended signed contributions</p> <p>2.2 Maintain grammatical accuracy when contributing to signed passages in their own area of expertise</p> <p>2.3 Use clear and accurate articulation, stress and intonation</p> <p>2.4 Maintain accuracy with most currently-used colloquial and idiosyncratic signs</p> <p>2.5 If appropriate relay information informally from his/her own language into BSL.</p>
<p>3. Be able to use a complex range of vocabulary and technical language</p>	<p>3.1 Use a wide range of signs to deal with most matters relevant to his/her area of expertise, including less common technical terms</p> <p>3.2 Use a wide range of language pertaining to numeral data and statistical information</p> <p>3.3 Find alternative ways of expressing unfamiliar terms</p>
<p>4. Be able to use reference sources</p>	<p>4.1 Use language reference sources effectively to confirm or clarify meaning of in complex usage</p>

# IBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

## Unit IBSL6ASN

### ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

There will be **FOUR** assessments forming part of IBSL6ASN Each of which will focus on separate areas requiring the Learner to demonstrate competence in production skills in the use of BSL.

**Assessment 1 (IBSL6.3)** will be conducted under controlled and supervised conditions.

This assessment will be a presentation in BSL of the Learner's own choice in which the Learner will have to use Deaf-related conventions in the telling of a brief narrative which shows Deaf Humour or Folklore at its best.

The presentation will be delivered to an audience of at least three people, (not the Teacher/Assessor) as if the group were in a social function like a Pub or Deaf club and video-recorded in an approved format.

The Teacher/Assessor does not take part in the audience but will stand or sit detached to complete IBSL6.2 Mark Sheet at the end of the assignment.

This assessment will be for **2-3 minutes** (Joke) and **5-6 minutes** (Humour)

The pass mark for this assessment is **48 points (60%)**

The Teacher/Assessor is to complete **IBSL6.3 Mark Sheet** and sign the document accordingly.

On completion of the assessment, the **Application for Achievement Form** is to be signed by the Teacher/Assessor.

After completion of the whole assessment, the Teacher/Assessor will give the Learner the completed and signed **IBSL6.3 Mark Sheet** together with the video-recorded assessment (either on DVD/USB) and **Reference Source Form** (see Appendix C) which is to be collated into a Coursework File.

The Teacher/Assessor should then complete the cover sheet for the Coursework File confirming that the evidence is the Learner's own work.

The Teacher/Assessor is required to send the **Application for Achievement Form** to **IBSL** (a copy being retained by the Centre for record purposes) within **7 working days**

**Assessment 2 (IBSL6.4) (to be identified in the coursework file as Assessment 4)** will require the Learner to narrate a true story of their choice to the Teacher/Assessor.

This assessment will be for **5-8 minutes**

The pass mark for this assessment is **48 points (60%)**

The Teacher/Assessor is to complete **IBSL6.4 Mark Sheet** and sign the document accordingly.

On completion of the assessment, the **Application for Achievement Form** is to be signed by the Teacher/Assessor.

After completion of the whole assessment, the Teacher/Assessor will give the Learner the completed and signed **IBSL6.4 Mark Sheet** together with the video-recorded assessment (either on DVD/USB) and **Reference Source Form** (see Appendix C) which is to be collated into a Coursework File.

The Teacher/Assessor should then complete the cover sheet for the Coursework File confirming that the evidence is the Learner's own work.

The Teacher/Assessor is required to send the **Application for Achievement Form** to **IBSL** (a copy being retained by the Centre for record purposes) within **7 working days**

**Assessment 3 (IBSL6.5) (to be identified in the coursework file as Assessment 5)** will be a debate between three people (i.e. the Learner, the Teacher-Assessor and another person of appropriate Level 6 standard) during which they will have a discussion of the Learner's choice from a selection of current affairs topics supplied by IBSL. During this debate, the Learner is expected to demonstrate as much of the Knowledge & Understanding criteria as possible, and also demonstrate appropriate cultural conventions

This assessment will be for **15-20 minutes**

The pass mark for this assessment is **48 points (60%)**

The Teacher/Assessor is to complete **IBSL6.5 Mark Sheet** and sign the document accordingly.

On completion of the assessment, the **Application for Achievement Form** is to be signed by the Teacher/Assessor.

After completion of the whole assessment, the Teacher/Assessor will give the Learner the completed and signed **IBSL6.5 Mark Sheet** together with the video-recorded assessment (either on DVD/USB) and **Reference Source Form** (see Appendix C) which is to be collated into a Coursework File.

After the assessment, the Teacher-Assessor will give the Learner a statement which should be inserted into the Learner's coursework file (or *e-file*) as evidence of their achievement, together with the video-recorded assessment (either on DVD or USB). The statement must be dated and signed by both the Teacher-Assessor and the Learner **AND** the third person in the group who shall provide evidence of his or her own competence at Level 6. This is a **joint assessment** that is also to cover evidence for IBSL6ASN

This assessment also forms part of the IBSL6AUN evidence.

**Assessment 4 (IBSL6.8) (to be identified in the coursework file as Assessment 8)** will take the form of a 'live' debate in the presence of an External Examiner. This will be video-recorded for monitoring purposes.

This is a **joint assessment** that also forms part of the IBSL6AUN evidence.

The scenario will involve a group of two or three Learners as well as the Teacher/Assessor who shall act as facilitator.

The topic for the 'live' debate will be chosen on the day by the External Examiner from a short-list previously supplied by IBSL so that there is sufficient unpredictability involved to test the Learner.

The assessment topic for discussion will be chosen and given out on the day by the External Examiner.  
REPEAT OF ABOVE!

The group of Learners will be given 15 minutes to practice the given topic before their "live" assessment

The social interaction will be Learner-led and will involve a group of Learners together with the Teacher/Assessor in the form of a social interaction in a simulated gathering. i.e a Deaf Club, a Café; or a Pub

After completion of this assessment, the Teacher/Assessor will be required to complete and sign the **Application for Achievement Form**. The Centre should retain the filmed evidence in a safe place as required by the Assessment Regulations.

This assessment will be for **15-20 minutes**

The pass mark for this assessment is **17 points (60%)**

See Appendix A for **Assessment Regulations**

See Appendix B for **Level 6 BSL Assessment Overview**

IBSL will advise the Centre of the results within **28 working days** of the visit.

At the External Examiner visit the EE will randomly sample the Learners evidence from the Coursework File.

## Unit Specification: IBSL6ALN: BSL Linguistics Theory & Practice (Unit accreditation number: K/505/2886)

### Unit Summary

IBSL6ALN is a step up from Level 4 of the study of language structure and to the linguistics of British Sign Language (BSL). It is a new concept within British Sign Language Studies, with the aim of giving Learners the linguistic understanding of how BSL functions.

### Relevance to National Standards

This qualification relates to the UK Occupational Language Standards (CILT, 2010), and is at Level 6 ('Complex' category) on the Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF). These standards are equivalent to a Modern Foreign Languages Honours Degree.

Learning Outcomes:	Assessment Criteria:
1. Be able to demonstrate an understanding of the role of theory in linguistics as a scientific approach to understanding British Sign Language	1. Explain the main theories pertaining to the role of Sign Linguistics
2. Be able to demonstrate an understanding of BSL grammatical forms in use, including meaning and context in the use of British Sign Language in all signed and non-verbal cultural conventions	2.1 Recognise <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) All verb forms in normal use</li> <li>b) Most of the common sentence structures</li> <li>c) Most signs used for linking and sequencing</li> <li>d) A wide range of structures that use standard sign language and colloquial/ idiosyncratic signs</li> <li>e) All types of register used in BSL</li> </ul>
3. Be able to use reference sources	3.1 Use language and linguistics reference sources effectively to confirm or clarify meaning of signs in complex usage

# IBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

## Unit IBSL6ALN

### ASSESSMENT SPECIFICATION

The unit will be assessed by TWO instruments of assessment, each of which will focus on separate areas requiring the Learner to demonstrate competence in the understanding of BSL Linguistics.

**The first assessment (to be identified in the coursework file as Assessment 6)** will take the form of a 2000-word (minimum)/3000-word maximum written essay or alternatively a 20 minute (minimum)/30 minute (maximum) signed essay where Learners will analyse or explain their understanding of different types of linguistic rules and/or how BSL & English linguistic and grammatical rules differ from one other.

The essay titles will be supplied by IBSL.

IBSL will also be responsible (through selected External Examiners experienced in BSL Linguistics) for the marking of the essays.

Reference sources should be given, but do not form part of the minimum/maximum number of words/time allowed with the main content of the essay.

**The second assessment for this unit (IBSL6.7)** will be conducted under controlled and supervised conditions. The Assessment will be **one hour** in duration and the total pass mark for this unit is **60%**.

This will consist of an observation of a filmed sequence featuring a Deaf person who uses BSL as their first language telling a story. The filmed clip may be replayed or part thereof, as many times as you wish.

There are **SIX** linguistic questions linked to a filmed clip. Please read each question carefully and only answer with the relevant number of examples that each question has asked for. The time the signs appear in the filmed clip is required to be noted. Please do **NOT** write down more than the requested number of answers to each question. The first answer to the question (or the first two – depending on what the question requires) will be the only answer that is marked. Any other answers will not be taken into consideration.

#### **Reasonable adjustments**

A specific set of reasonable adjustment allowances for people with dyslexia or sight issues, or those needing the language modified will apply upon specific request to IBSL. A copy of the Reasonable Adjustment Request Form can be found on the internet.

## KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING LEVEL 6 CERTIFICATE IN DEAF STUDIES

Knowledge and understanding is not assessed separately. It is achieved through the Assessment Criteria

**Knowledge and understanding required for COMPLEX language proficiency at Level 6 as follows:**

**Competence Level:**

Wide range of regional variations, formal and informal. To include relevant technical vocabulary, colloquialisms and idioms.

Fluent over extended periods with only occasional inaccuracy, which is usually self-corrected.

<b>Vocabulary</b>	
K1	A wide range of vocabulary and the complex language related to work/social settings
K2	Current colloquialisms used in work and social settings
K3	A wide range of less commonly-used technical terms relevant to area of work/social settings
K4	Use most ways to link ideas, make arguments easier to follow and help clarity, precision and fluency.
K5	A wide range of different forms of address, greeting, leave-taking and other polite conventions to suit different occasions and degrees of formality
K6	Ways to express feelings (e.g. wishes, gratitude, regret, apology, annoyance, criticism)
K7	All numerical terms (e.g. numbers, fractions, percentages) and ways to discuss numerical data

<b>Grammatical Forms</b>	
K8	All verb forms in normal use
K9	All grammatical structures, except the most complex or obscure
K10	A wide range of alternative terms and structures which express standard, colloquial, formal and informal registers

<b>Cultural Conventions</b>	
K11	All signed and non verbal cultural conventions (facial expression and gestures, spatial distance, touch, eye contact, tone)

<b>Reference Sources</b>	
K12	How to make effective use of relevant language reference sources (e.g. bilingual and monolingual dictionaries, thesauruses, grammar books, on-line resources).

## Appendix A

### IBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

#### Assessment Overview

Assessment No	Assessment Description	Unit	Duration of Assessment	Marked By	Pass Mark
1 6.1	<b>Receptive Skills:</b> Learner to watch DVD and answer questions from question paper. DVD and Question Paper issued by IBSL	IBSL6AUN	30 minutes	IBSL	67%
2 6.2	<b>BSL to Voice:</b> Learner to watch BSL video clip. To relay the information by summarising by voice onto video recording. Assessment materials issued by IBSL	IBSL6AUN	Approximately 1 minute	IBSL	60%
3 6.3	<b>Presentation Assessment:</b> Deaf Humour/ Deaf Folklore	IBSL6ASN	2-3 minutes (Joke) 5-6 minutes (Humour)	T/A	48 (60%)
4 6.4	<b>Narrate a true story</b> Learner to choose own topic	IBSL6ASN	5 to 8 minutes	T/A	48 (60%)
5 6.5	<b>Debate</b> between 3 Learners & T/A Assessment list of topics given by IBSL	IBSL6AUN IBSL6ASN	15 – 20 minutes	T/A	48 (60%)
6 6.6	<b>Linguistics:</b> Written or signed essay Assessment Topic given by IBSL	IBSL6ALN	2000 -3000 words 20-30 minutes signed	IBSL	60%
7 6.7	<b>Linguistic Observation:</b> DVD and Question Paper issued by IBSL	IBSL6ALN	1 hour	IBSL	60%
8 6.8	<b>Live Observation:</b> Debate Min 3 people; Max 4 people Topic given and chosen on day by External Examiner	IBSL6AUN IBSL6ASN	15-20 minutes	External Examiner	19 (60%)

