

IBSL

Institute of British Sign Language QUALIFICATION SPECIFICATION

iBSL Level 4 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

QAN: 600/3505/5

Version 2021-2022

Please read through this Qualification Specification.

If you have any queries, please contact iBSL.

Qualification Specification

iBSL Level 4 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies

RQF Accreditation Number: 600/3505/5

IBSL Qualification Reference: IBSL4A

Qualification Aim

This qualification aims to further Learners' experiences and development in communication through British Sign Language (BSL) with Deaf people at an extended level. A Level 4 course will enable development in functional BSL communication in more depth than at earlier levels, requiring the ability to exchange, present and understand information, ideas, advice and opinions at normal speed, and also develop an awareness of cultural interaction with Deaf people who use BSL.

This qualification has been developed in accordance with the National Language Standards at Level 4 (2010) and (for one unit) the National Occupational Standards for Intercultural Working (2008).

Qualification Structure

The qualification is divided into three units as follows:

IBSL4AUN: Understand extended signed language in a range of work contexts	Unit Number: T/503/3712
IBSL4ASN: Sign using extended signed language in a range of work contexts	Unit Number: R/503/3717
IBSL4ALN: Explore linguistics in British Sign Language	Unit Number: F/503/3714

All three units can be achieved separately, but the full Level 4 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies can only be given if there is a **PASS** in each unit.

Unit Code	Guided Learning Hours (GLH)	Additional Study Hours	Total Qualification Time (TQT)	Credits at Level 4
IBSL4AUN	50	40	90	9
IBSL4ASN	50	40	90	9
IBSL4ALN	50	40	90	9
Total	150	120	270	27

Guided Learning Hours (GLH) includes assessment time. Additional Study Hours includes homework, practise and private study. The Total Qualification Time (TQT) is **270** hours.

Qualification Objectives

At the end of the qualification, Learners can:

- Handle most language relating to their day-to-day work, including the unpredictable.
- Understand and use relevant technical vocabulary.
- Distinguish most common accents or regional forms and the style/formality of the language.
- Understand detailed information from a range of sources but may miss details if not being communicated with directly.
- Communicate confidently over extended periods, though not always concisely or with complete accuracy.
- Follow discussions, films, live or televised debates, complaints or problems within their area of work.
- Understand and take part in discussions, meetings and negotiations, contributing formally if required.
- Make or deal with non-routine phone/video calls.

These objectives relate to the National Occupational Standards (2010) at Level 4 as developed by CILT, plus the National Occupational Standards for Intercultural Working (2008).

Target Group

The Level 4 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 work and social situations, signing accurately enough to be easily understood;
- need to acquire and utilise BSL skills as part of a programme of professional development, for example, as a Communication Support Worker;
- wish to progress from the Level 3 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

Entrants should have achieved the Level 3 Certificate in BSL Studies before embarking on the Level 4 Certificate programme.

Progression Routes

Upon completion of this qualification, Learners may progress to the following qualification:

- iBSL Level 6 Certificate in British Sign Language Studies.

Assessment

Each Unit is different and is broken down into smaller “assessment” modules. All eight assessments must be passed in order to achieve a full level 4 qualification (see table below).

IBSL4AUN RECEPTIVE SKILLS	IBSL4ASN PRODUCTION SKILLS	IBSL4ALN LINGUISTIC SKILLS
IBSL4.1 <i>Receptive skills</i> Assessment 1	IBSL4.2 <i>Presentation skills</i> Assessment 2	IBSL4.6 <i>Linguistic Observation</i> Assessment 6
IBSL4.3 <i>Conversational skills</i> Assessment 3	IBSL4.3 <i>Conversational skills</i> Assessment 3	IBSL4.7 <i>Linguistics Essay</i> Assessment 7
IBSL4.4 <i>Relay information</i> <i>BSL to Voice</i> Assessment 4	IBSL4.5 <i>Relay information</i> <i>Voice to BSL</i> Assessment 5	
IBSL 4.8 <i>Live observation</i> Assessment 8	IBSL4.8 <i>Live observation</i> Assessment 8	

It is recommended that IBSL4.1, IBSL4.2, IBSL4.3, IBSL4.4, IBSL4.5, IBSL4.6 and IBSL4.7 should be taken first. Arrangements should be made for an iBSL External Examiner to visit the Centre when the final assessment IBSL4.8 is to be assessed.

- **IBSL4.1** will be assessed by means of the Learner watching a signed clip on iBSL’s online portal and completing a combined question and answer paper with a transcript sheet (See guidance notes for this assessment). This will be externally assessed.

- **IBSL4.2** and **IBSL4.3** will be film-recorded and included in a coursework file, which will be internally assessed by the Teacher-Assessor and will be externally moderated by the iBSL External Examiner during their visit.
- **IBSL4.4** and **IBSL4.5** will be film-recorded. This will be externally assessed.
- **IBSL4.6** will be assessed by means of the Learner watching a signed clip on iBSL's online portal and completing a question and answer paper to cover linguistic knowledge. This will be externally assessed.
- **IBSL4.7** will be assessed by means of an essay paper to cover understanding of linguistic knowledge. This will be externally assessed.
- **IBSL4.8** will be taken in the presence of and assessed by an iBSL External Examiner by means of a 'live' assessment.

The assessment materials for assessments IBSL4.1, IBSL4.6 and IBSL4.7 must be scanned and uploaded to iBSL's portal, as well as assessments IBSL4.2, IBSL4.3, IBSL4.4, IBSL4.5 and IBSL4.8 which must be filmed and uploaded to the portal. All the above evidence, apart from the 'live' assessment will be collated into a coursework file.

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