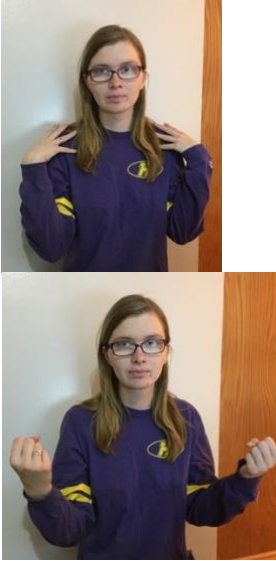

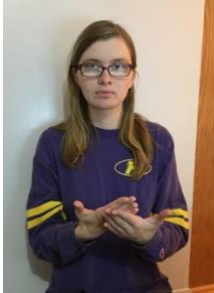


Ethiopian Sign Language Useful Words & Phrases

To watch a video of the signs, go to: <https://youtu.be/c636uSx0o7g>

*Note: This sheet is being made by a right-handed signer. Unless otherwise stated, "right hand" can be interchanged for "dominant hand".

English/Amharic	Ethiopian Sign Language	American Sign Language equivalent or closely signed
Hello/Selam	 <p>Both hands start in '5' handshape with fingers on shoulders, palms facing toward shoulders Hands move away from body to s-handshapes at shoulder height, palms still facing shoulders</p>	Same sign as "health"
Thanks be to God/Exhabier yemesgen (response to selam)		Most similar to "tree good" except tree is signed with fingers together and no movement



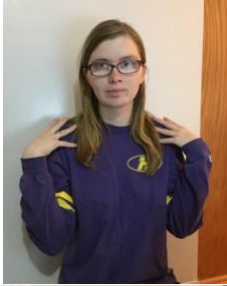
God- left arm: across in front of stomach, hand flat with fingers together
right arm: elbow on top of left hand, making a right angle. Hand is flat with fingers together

Thank you- same handshapes as god. Right hand starts with fingers touching chin, palm facing the body. Left hand starts about 6 inches in front of stomach, palm facing toward chin. Right hand moves from chin to left hand

Welcome/ Enquan dehena metachu



Same as "candy health sign"






Signed in 3 parts:
Enquan- Right pointer
finger touches cheek, wrist
turns front to back
dehena (selam)- see above
metachu- both hands in '1'
handshapes move in
circles toward the chest


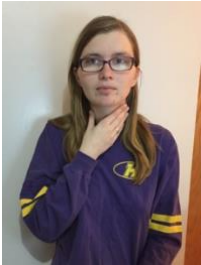


Ethiopia



'a' handshape, start with
right hand in front of
forehead with thumb
facing forehead. Move
toward left ear to begin
making a circle around the

"Hawaii" signed with an
'a' handshape

	<p>face. After a complete circle, the right hand stops in front of the nose</p>	
Deaf	 <p>'u' handshape, right hand touches just in front of right ear and then just to the right of the lips</p>	Deaf signed with 'u' handshape
Hard-of-hearing	 <p>Fingers together, fingers at right angle to palm Signed next to ear, palm facing ear Turning wrist slightly back and forward</p>	Height of a person as tall as your ear
Hearing		Similar to "radio"

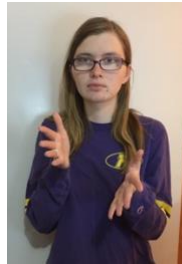
	 <p>'c' handshape, starting on ear and moving outward a few inches</p>	
Amharic	  <p>Opened '5' handshape facing neck brought outward to flattened 'o' handshape, repeat once</p>	"White" signed at the throat twice
Culture	 <p>Ethiopian 'b' handshape moving in small circle near the forehead</p>	Similar to the sign for "uncle"

Ethiopian Sign Language

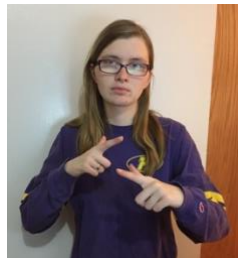
*Note: some people say "Ethiopian sign" or "Ethiopian language" to mean "Ethiopian Sign Language"



Ethiopian- same as 'Ethiopia' (above)



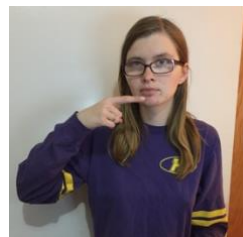
Sign- '5' handshape - both hands move in circular motions facing each other, signed in front of the chest. Circles move away from chest




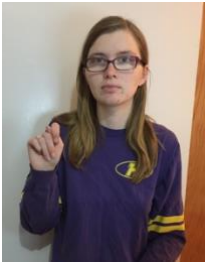

Language- 'L' handshape - both hands move in circular motions facing each other, signed in front of the chest. Circles move toward chest


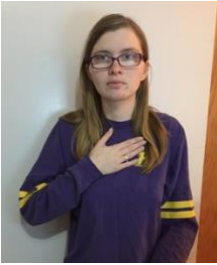


Same word order as "American Sign Language"

Language (spoken)



ASL sign for "hearing" moving away from the body

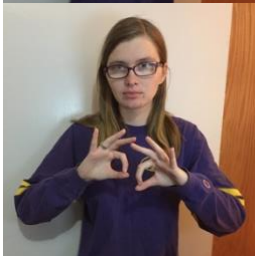
	'1' handshape starts in front of lips and bounces while moving outward, palm faces body	
Speech	 <p>Bent 'v' handshape moving in circular motion near lips, palm facing lips</p>	Same as ASL
Bathroom	 <p>'t' handshape shaking left and right, palm facing away from body</p>	Same as ASL
Excuse me		Similar to ASL, except signed with both hands flat

	 <p>Both hands flat, right hand on top, swipes left hand in outward motion. Left palm faces up, right palm faces down. Repeat once</p>	
Please	 <p>Flat hand on chest moving in circular motion</p>	Same as ASL
Sorry	 <p>'a' handshape on chest moving in circular motion, palm facing chest</p>	Same as ASL
Thank you		ASL sign for "good"



Right hand flat at chin moving away until it meets the left hand a few inches away, palms facing chin
-bend forward slightly while signing

No worries, you're welcome / Chigir yelem

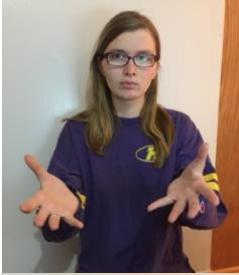


Chigir- both hands in 'b' handshapes moving in small circular motion towards the chin with palms facing away from the body
Yelem- hands start in 'f' handshape and moves into

Chigir is the ASL sign for "worry", except that it is signed closer to the chin than the forehead
Yelem is similar to the sign for "hate" except it starts with a different handshape

	<p>'5' handshape with a slight movement outward, palms facing away from body</p>	
<p>Good</p>	<div> </div> <div> </div> <p>Flat hand at chin moving away, palm facing chin</p>	<p>ASL sign for "thank you"</p>
<p>Need</p>	<div> </div> <p>'x' handshape moving up and down</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>

Want



Both hands in claw handshapes, palms facing up, bring both hands toward you

Same as ASL

Who



'1' handshape moves in circle around lips


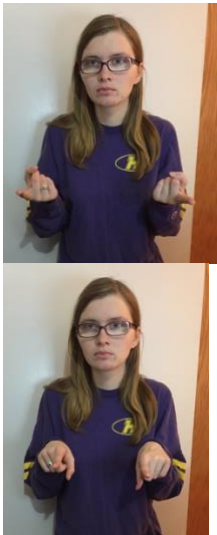

Same as "lips"



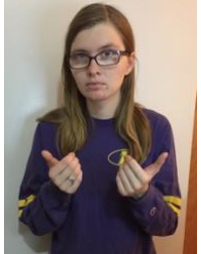
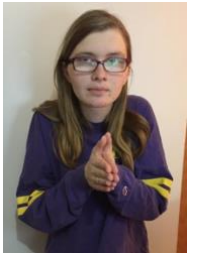
What


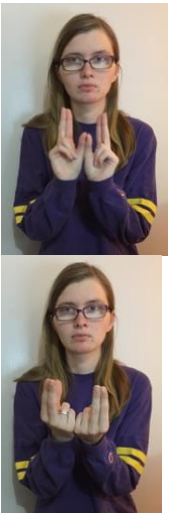







'1' handshape shakes left and right

Same as "where"

<p>Where</p>	 <p>Both hands in '5' handshapes, moving left and right with palms facing up</p>	<p>Same as "what"</p>
<p>When</p>	 <p>'1' handshapes start with palms facing up and turn inward so palms are facing down</p>	<p>Same as "happen"</p>
<p>Why</p>		<p>Same as ASL</p>

	 <p>Hand starts flat, touching forehead, moves downward into 'y' handshape with palm facing in</p>	
How	  <p>Both hands bent with fingers together, start with hands touching at fingers. Hands turn and move away from each other slightly</p>	Same as ASL
Interested	 <p>Both hands flat, rub palms together</p>	ASL sign for "motivated"

<p>Sick</p>	 <p>Turn middle finger on forehead</p>	<p>Similar to ASL sign for "sick of"</p>
<p>Family</p>	 <p>Both hands in Ethiopian 'b' handshapes. Hands start next to each other near the body with palms facing out, hands separate and move in a circle, ending with the hands next to each other away from the body with palms facing in (like ASL)</p>	<p>Same motion as ASL sign for family</p> <p>-ASL sign sometimes used</p>
<p>Mother</p>	 <p>'5' handshape, thumb touching chin, palm facing down, with fingers wiggling</p>	<p>Signs similar to ASL</p>

<p>Father</p>	 <p>'5' handshape, thumb touching forehead, palm facing down, with fingers wiggling</p>	
<p>Girl</p>	 <p>'a' handshape making a small line on the chin, repeat once</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Boy</p>	 <p>'a' handshape making a small line on the temple, repeat once</p>	<p>ASL sign for "girl" signed at the forehead</p> <p>-ASL sign for "boy" is sometimes used</p>
<p>Sister</p>		<p>Similar to "girl same"</p>

Brother



Right hand in 'a' handshape touches side of chin with thumb, then both hands in '1' handshapes next to each other in front of the chest, palms facing down



Right hand in 'a' handshape touches temple with thumb, then both hands in '1' handshapes next to each other in front of the chest, palms facing down

Woman



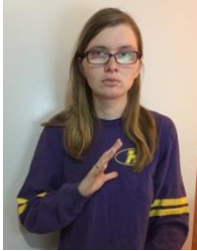
Similar to "boy same"

Similar to "girl fine"

Man



Right hand in 'a' handshape touches side of chin with thumb, then right hand in '5' handshape touches chest with thumb, palm facing left



Right hand in 'a' handshape touches temple with thumb, then right hand in '5' handshape touches chest with thumb, palm facing left



Similar to "boy fine"




Baby

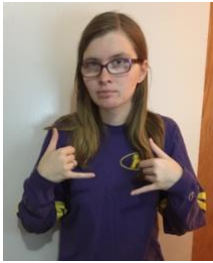






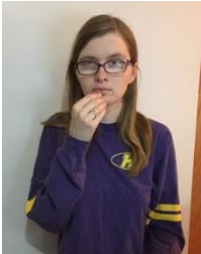

Both hands flat, right hand on top of left hand, palms




Same as ASL





	<p>facing up, hands start in front of chest and arms make rocking motion left and right</p>	
<p>Friend</p>	 <p>Both hands in '1' handshapes, palms facing opposite directions, hands touch at tips of pointer fingers first with right hand on top, then with left hand on top</p>	<p>Similar to "friend" in ASL, handshape uses straight fingers instead of bent fingers</p>
<p>More</p>	 <p>Both hands in flattened 'o' handshapes, left hand starts in front of body with palm facing up, right comes and lands on top with palm facing down</p>	<p>Similar to ASL sign except palm orientations are up and down instead of left and right</p>

Wrong	 <p>'y' handshape, knuckles tap chin, palm facing chin</p>	Same as ASL
Right	 <p>Both hands in '1' handshapes, palms facing opposite directions, right hand lands on top of left hand, signed in front of chest</p>	Same as ASL
Smart/Gobez	 <p>Hand starts in '1' handshape touching forehead, moves slightly down into 'x' handshape, palm facing left</p>	Similar handshapes to interesting, but signed at forehead

<p>Play (feel free)</p>	 <p>Both hands in 'y' handshapes, palms facing the body, shake up and down</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>School</p>	 <p>Both hands in '5' handshapes, left palm facing up, right palm facing down, clap right palm on left palm</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Home</p>	 <p>Flattened 'o' handshape, fingertips touch on cheek close to lips and then move to touch closer to ear on right side of face</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>

<p>Help</p>	 <p>Left hand flat, palm facing up, right hand in 'a' handshape, palm facing left, right hand resting on left, both hands move up</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Food</p>	 <p>Both hands in flattened 'o' handshapes, right hand above left hand, shaking slightly, right hand in front of lips</p>	<p>Same as ASL, uses two hands</p>
<p>Eat</p>	 <p>One hand in flattened 'o' handshape, moves toward the lips like putting food in your mouth</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Fruit</p>		<p>Similar to sign for "eggs"</p>

	 <p>Both hands in Ethiopian 'f' handshapes, start with pointer fingers touching and palms facing each other, move apart and turn so both palms are facing down</p>	
Meat	 <p>Left hand in '5' handshape, palm facing body, right hand flat, palm facing up. Right hand sits between middle and ring fingers and moves back and forth- towards and away from the body</p>	Similar to ASL sign for "break"
Vegetables	 <p>Hand begins in 's'</p>	Signing "many" upside down

	<p>handshape, palm facing the body with fingers on the bottom. 's' drops into '4' handshape, fingers still pointing down with palm facing in</p>	
Water	 <p>Ethiopian 'w' handshape at chin, palm facing in</p>	<p>Same location as ASL</p> <p>-ASL sign is also used</p>
Thirsty	 <p>'1' handshape, touches and chin and slides down throat, palm facing in</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
Drink	 <p>'C' handshape, moves like you are holding a cup and drinking</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
Injera (Ethiopian bread)		<p>Similar to ASL sign for "sauce"</p>

	<p>'a' handshape with thumb down, moves in a circle</p>	
<p>Bread</p>	<div> </div> <div> </div> <p>Both hands in 'a' handshapes, start next to each other, palms facing out and moves apart while turning so palms are facing each other</p>	<p>Sign for "break" with 'a' handshape</p>
<p>Tea</p>	<div> </div> <p>Left hand in 'o' handshape, palm facing right. Right hand in 'f' handshape with pointer finger/thumb moving like they are stirring a spoon in a cup over the left hand</p>	<p>This sign is a combination of the handshapes for "tea" and the motion for "coffee"</p>

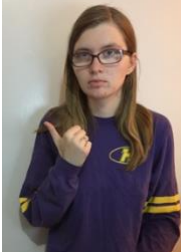
Coffee



Both hands in 's' handshapes, left hand sits in front of chest with palm facing right. Right hand starts above, moving down to hit the left hand, then both hands make a grinding motion

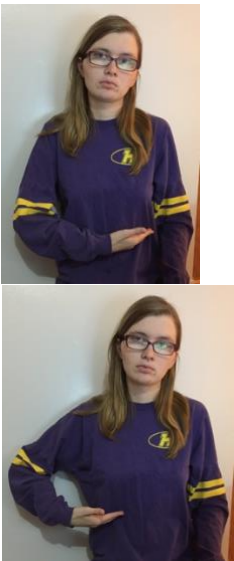


Similar to ASL sign for "make"






Sugar






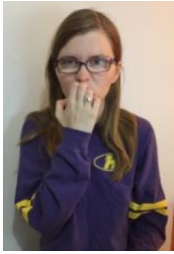


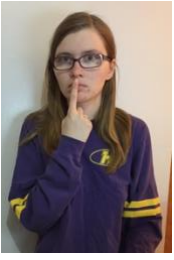
Right hand flat and

Same as ASL

	bending slightly, brushing the chin with your fingertips	
Hungry	 <p>Bent hand with fingers together slicing body in half at gut, palm facing in</p>	Looks like cutting your body in half
Breakfast	 <p>Ethiopian 'q' handshape touching at chin</p>	Same motion and location as ASL sign
Lunch	 <p>Ethiopian 'm' handshape touching at chin</p>	<p>Same motion and location as ASL sign</p> <p>-ASL "lunch" is sometimes used</p>

<p>Dinner</p>	 <p>Ethiopian 'r' handshape touching at chin</p>	<p>Looks similar to "lunch" -ASL "dinner" is sometimes used</p>
<p>Line up</p>	  <p>Both hands in '5' handshapes, palms facing opposite directions, start with hands next to each other and move apart, fingertips facing up</p>	<p>Similar to ASL, uses '5' handshape</p>
<p>Watch, pay attention</p>	 	<p>ASL sign for "look at me"</p>

	Both hands in '2' handshapes with fingers facing away from body, then moving to face toward eyes	
Listen	 <p>'C' handshape around the back of your ear, lean in slightly</p>	Looks similar to a large hearing aid on ear
Happy	 <p>Both hands flat, touching chest while moving upward</p>	Same as ASL
Sad	 <p>Both hands in '5' handshapes, palms facing face, start with hands near eyes and move down</p>	Same as ASL

<p>Angry</p>	 <p>'e' handshape at the mouth, opening and closing slightly, palm facing in</p>	<p>ASL sign for grumpy, signed at mouth</p>
<p>Tired</p>	 <p>Both hands bent, fingertips touching near ribs, then slouching at wrists</p>	<p>Similar to ASL except signed at ribs/stomach</p>
<p>Color</p>	 <p>Hand flat, palm facing chin, fingers wiggling-touching lips</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Red</p>		<p>Same movements as our colors</p> <p>-Red & pink: finger(s) stay straight and hand moves down</p> <p>-Black & white are the same as ASL</p>

Purple



Red- '1' handshape touching lips and moving down



Purple- Ethiopian 'w' handshape turning back and forth slightly

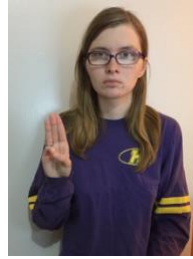
Pink



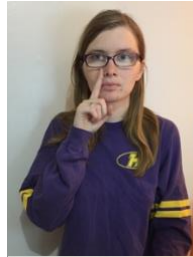
Pink- Ethiopian 'r' handshape touching lips and moving down

Blue

Brown

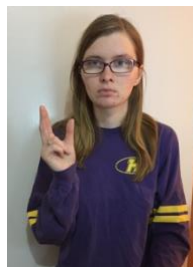


Blue- Ethiopian 's'
handshape turning back
and forth slightly



Brown- '1' handshape
touching the side of the
nose and moving down

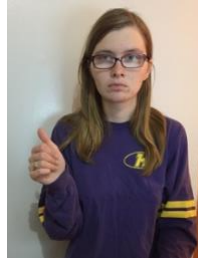
Yellow



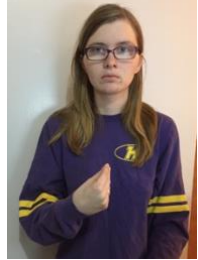
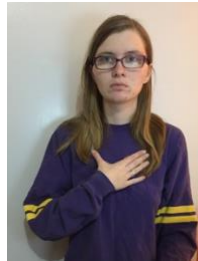
Yellow- Ethiopian 'b'
handshape turning back
and forth slightly

Green

White



Green- 'a' handshape
turning back and forth
slightly

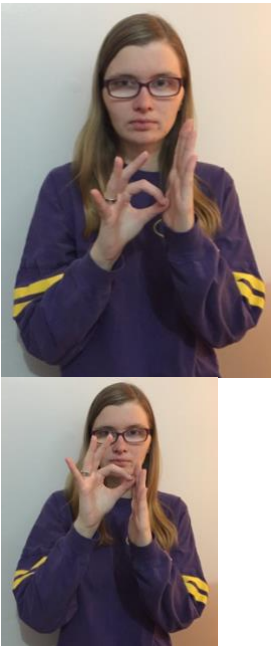



White- Opened '5'
handshape facing chest
brought outward to
flattened 'o' handshape

Black



Black- '1' handshape,
starting above left eye and

	drawing line across eyebrows, palm facing down	
Count, numbers	 <p>Left hand flat and positioned vertically, right hand in 'f' handshape touching and wrist of left hand and moving up hand while touching it</p>	Similar to ASL sign for "numbers"
Numbers (1-20)		<p>Similar to ASL</p> <p>11 - 19: look like \$1 - \$9, but moving in the opposite direction</p> <p>20: similar to "analyze"</p>

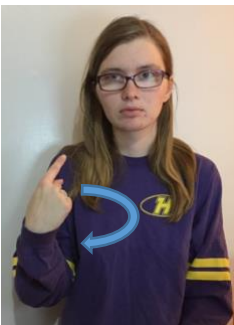




1-9: use ASL handshapes with palm facing out



10: 'a' handshape, shaking slightly




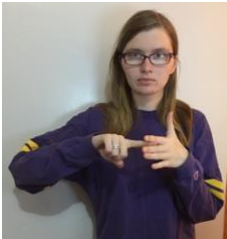
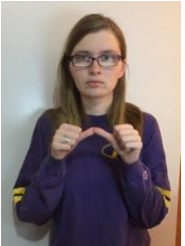

*The following numbers use the same motion





11-19: use ASL handshapes for 1-9, start with palm facing body, then turn outward



	<p><u>20</u>: pointer and middle finger begin straight and bend twice</p>	
<p>Math</p>	 <p>Flattened 'o' handshapes meet in front of the body, palms facing each other (left and right)</p>	<p>Same as the sign for "more"</p>
<p>Start</p>	 <p>Left hand in '5' handshape, right hand in '1' handshape, pointer finger between pointer and middle fingers on left hand. Move right hand like turning a key</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Continue</p>	 	<p>Same as ASL</p>

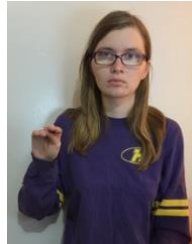
	<p>Both hands in 'a' handshapes, touching at thumbs, palms facing outward. Both hands move outward together</p>	
<p>Finish</p>	<div> </div> <div> </div> <p>Hands start in '5' handshapes facing each other. They move toward each other and end in 's' handshapes with the right hand closer to the body</p>	<p>Similar to the sign for summary, signed in front of face</p>
<p>Rest (take a break)</p>	<div> </div> <p>Both hands flat, lay arms on top of one another from elbow to fingertips</p>	<p>ASL sign for "table"</p>

(Days of the week)
Monday



Monday- Ethiopian 'S₂'
handshape shaking left
and right

Tuesday



Tuesday- Ethiopian 'm'
handshape shaking left
and right

Wednesday



Wednesday- Ethiopian 'r'
handshape shaking left
and right

Thursday



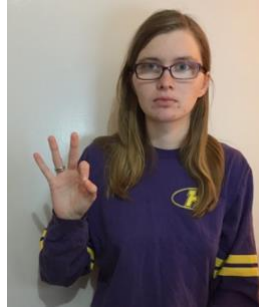
Thursday - Ethiopian 'H₂'
handshape shaking left
and right

Same location as ASL signs

Movement like the sign for
"bathroom"

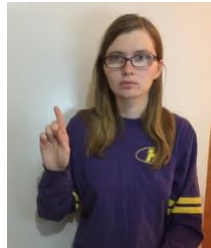
Sunday is the same

Friday



Friday- 'f' handshape shaking left and right

Saturday



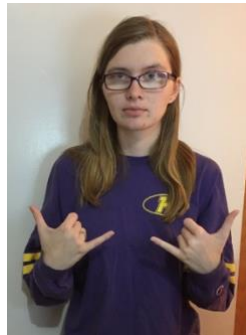
Saturday- Ethiopian 'q' handshape shaking left and right

Sunday





Sunday- Both hands in Ethiopian 'g' handshapes, moving in circles

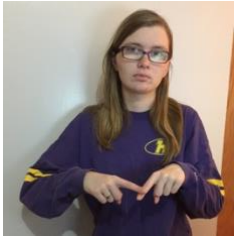
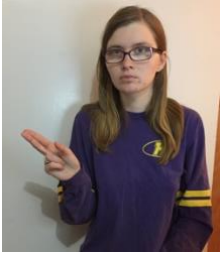


Today


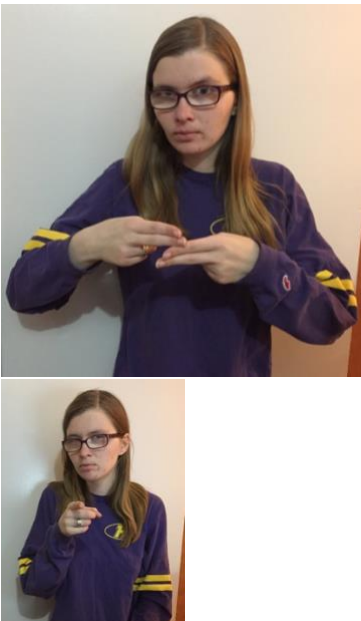
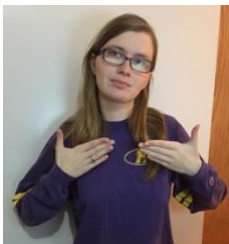


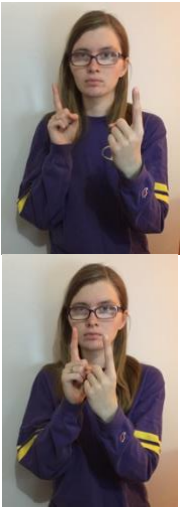

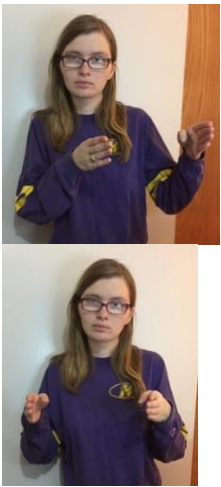
Both hands in 'y'




Same as ASL


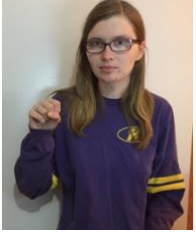
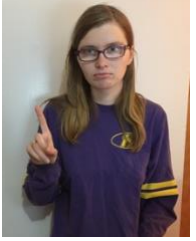


	<p>handshapes in front of stomach, palms facing in</p>	
<p>Tomorrow</p>	 <p>'a' handshape touches cheek, then moves forward - away from the body</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Yesterday</p>	 <p>'a' handshape touches thumb on cheek close to lips and then move to touch closer to ear on right side of face</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>

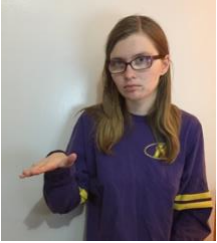


<p>Taxi</p>	 <p>Both hands in '1' handshapes, palms facing down, right pointer finger lays on top of left pointer finger and moves back and forth across finger</p>	<p>Sign for "train" signed with '1' handshape</p>
<p>Bajaj</p>	 <p>Ethiopian 'b' handshape, shake up and down twice</p>	<p>Similar to the sign for "hunt"</p>
<p>Car</p>	 <p>'s' handshapes, move like driving a car</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>
<p>Boat</p>	 <p>Both hands flat and slightly bent next to each</p>	<p>Same as ASL</p>

	other, hands bounce in a forward motion	
Name	 <p>Both hands in 'u' handshapes, palms facing in, right hand taps twice on left</p>	Same as ASL
What is your name?	 <p>Point at the person you're talking to with one finger, then sign 'name'</p>	Same as "you name?"
Nice to meet you (Happy to meet)		Same as "happy meet"

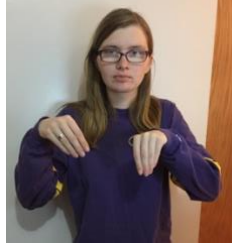
	 <p> <u>Happy</u>- see above <u>To meet</u>- '1' handshapes pointing up run into each other in front of the chest </p>	
Applause	 <p>'5' handshapes shaking back and forth next to head</p>	Same as ASL
Ready	 <p>Both hands in 'b' handshapes moving parallel to each other from</p>	Same as "plan"

	left to right	
Wait	 <p>Both hands in '5' handshapes with fingers wiggling, palms facing toward the body with the left hand further away than the right</p>	Same as ASL
Write	 <p>Right hand in shape like holding a pen, left hand flat. Right hand moves back and forth in writing motion</p>	Same as ASL
Draw	 <p>Left hand flat and vertical, right hand in 'i' handshape moves back and forth down the left hand</p>	Same as ASL

Animal	 <p>Both hands bent and flat moving left and right in front of the shoulders</p>	Same as ASL
Yes	 <p>'s' handshape making a nodding motion</p>	Same as ASL
No	 <p>'1' handshape shaking left to right, head moving the same way</p>	Similar to "where"
Know	 <p>Flat hand tapping head</p>	Same as ASL
Don't know		Same as ASL

	 <p>Flat hand tapping head then moving away while shaking head 'no'</p>	
Same	 <p>'y' handshape with palm facing down moving back and forth</p>	Similar to ASL, palm faces down
Forget	 <p>Both hands start in 's' handshapes on sides of head, palms facing backward. Both hands move backward while opening into '5' handshapes</p>	"Many" signed near ears

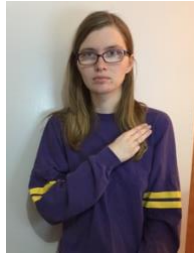
Student



Both hands start in '5' handshapes and close into flattened 'o' handshapes twice, palms facing down

"Learn" signed with two hands

Lazy





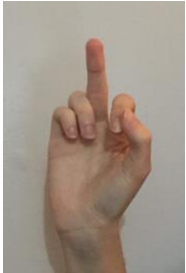
Ethiopian 'S₂' handshape on front of shoulder

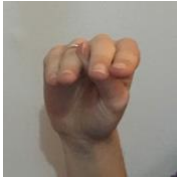



Same location as ASL, looks like "lazy" signed with an 'm'


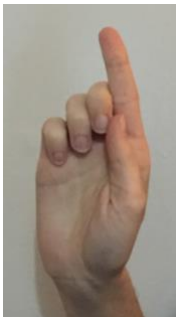


Alphabet Reference Sheet - Consonants





*Note: There are oral differences in the letter pronunciation in Amharic even when the same English letter is used as a representation. In my alphabet and vocabulary sheets I will note which I mean through a subscript based on its place in the alphabet (i.e. the first “H” will be “H₁”, the second “H₂”, etc. This is NOT a typical system used)





*Note: Consonant sounds are represented through handshapes and the vowel sound following the consonant is represented by movements (listed at the end)


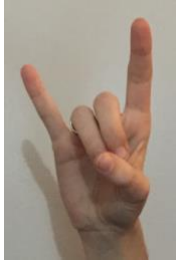

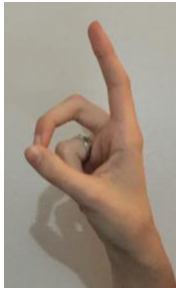
English/Amharic Letter	Ethiopian Sign Language	American Sign Language equivalent or closely signed
H ₁ - ሀ	 <p>Full hand in 'u' shape</p>	Closest to a classifier for holding a book
L - ለ	 <p>ASL 'f' with pointer <i>and</i> middle finger touching thumb</p>	Closest to the letter 'f'
H ₂ - ሐ	 <p>Middle finger extended, all other fingers down</p>	

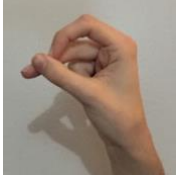


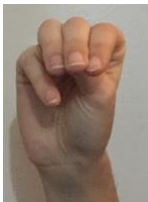
<p>M- σ</p>	 <p>All fingers together with bent hand, thumb sticks up between middle and ring fingers</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'n'</p>
<p>S₁- ϖ</p>	 <p>'f' handshape</p>	<p>Same as 'f'</p>
<p>R- ζ</p>	 <p>'u' handshape with thumb straight out to the side</p>	<p>Combinations of the letters 'u' and 'L'</p>
<p>S₂- ñ</p>	 <p>Pointer, middle, and ring fingers together, pinky finger and thumb touching</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'b'</p>




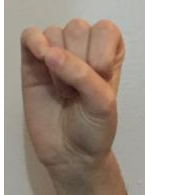
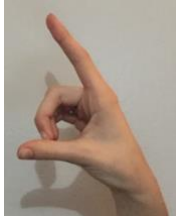
<p>SH- ሸ</p>	 <p>Full hand flat with fingers and thumb together</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'b'</p>
<p>Q- ቀ</p>	 <p>Pointer finger straight, thumb straight in front of pointer finger, other fingers in 'e' handshape</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'e'</p>
<p>B- ቦ</p>	 <p>'u' handshape with thumb extended in front of pointer and middle fingers</p>	<p>Handshape used for 'no'</p>
<p>T₁- ተ</p>	 <p>'t' handshape</p>	<p>Same as 't'</p>


<p>CH₁- ፳</p>	 <p>'t' handshape with a middle finger resting on tip of thumb</p>	<p>No equivalent</p>
<p>H₃- ፳</p>	 <p>Index finger straight, middle finger and thumb form half circle</p>	<p>Closest to the handshape for 'bagel'</p>
<p>N- ፳</p>	 <p>Pointer finger straight up, thumb next to it</p>	<p>Closest to the number '1'</p>
<p>Ñ- ፳</p>	 <p>Ethiopian 'n' with middle finger up</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'u'</p>

<p>A₁- ħ</p>	 <p>'a' handshape, thumb pointed up</p>	<p>Same as 'a'</p>
<p>K- h</p>	 <p>Whole hand 'u'-shape, pointer extended, palm down</p>	
<p>H₄- ñ</p>	 <p>Whole hand 'u'-shape, pointer and pinky extended, palm down</p>	<p>Closest to the 'I love you' handshape</p>
<p>W- ω</p>	 <p>'o'-shape with thumb, pointer and middle fingers, other fingers resting against palm</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'o'</p>

<p>A2- o</p>	 <p>'o'-shape with thumb and pointer fingers, other fingers resting against palm</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 's'</p>
<p>Z- H</p>	 <p>'I love you' handshape with thumb holding middle and ring fingers</p>	<p>Closest to the 'I love you' handshape</p>
<p>ZH- H</p>	 <p>Ethiopian 'z' with ring finger extended</p>	<p>No equivalent</p>
<p>Y- P</p>	 <p>Pointer finger extended, o-shape with thumb and middle fingers, other</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'd'</p>

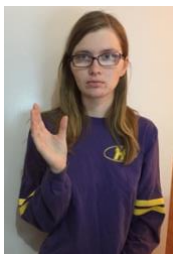
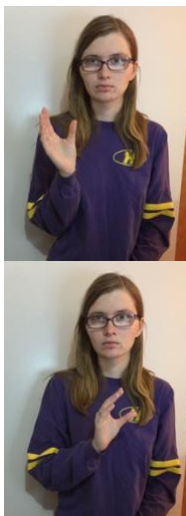
	fingers resting against palm	
D- Ꞥ	 <p>Middle finger extended perpendicular from palm, o-shape with thumb and pointer fingers, other fingers resting against palm</p>	No equivalent
J- ꞥ	 <p>Middle finger extended perpendicular from palm, o-shape with thumb and pointer fingers, pinky straight up, ring finger resting against palm</p>	No equivalent
G- ꞧ	 <p>Hand flat, fingers together, thumb extended at right angle to other fingers</p>	Handshape for 'please'
T ₂ - Ꞩ	 <p>'m' handshape</p>	Closest to the letter 'm'

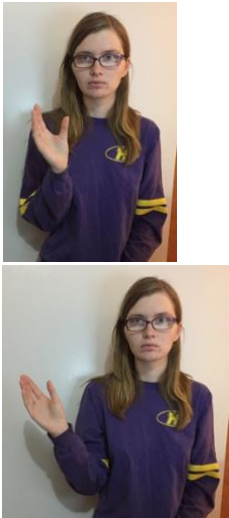
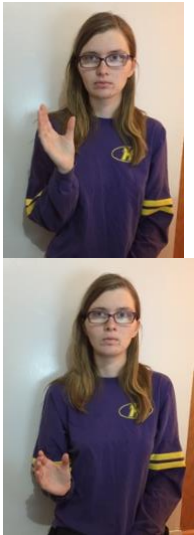

<p>CH₂- ᄒᄒ</p>	 <p>'m' handshape with pinky straight up</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'm'</p>
<p>P₁- ᄒ</p>	 <p>'o' handshape with pinky up</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'o'</p>
<p>TS₁- ᄒ</p>	 <p>'r' handshape with space between the pointer and middle fingers</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'r'</p>
<p>TS₂- ᄒ</p>	 <p>Thumb and pinky touch around fist</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 's'</p>
<p>F- ᄒ</p>	 <p>'d' handshape, but fingers</p>	<p>Closest to the letter 'd'</p>

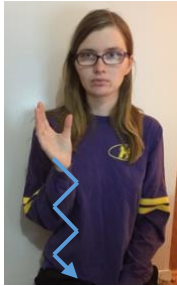
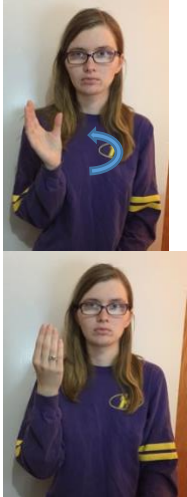
	touch knuckle of thumb instead of tip	
P ₂ - ፐ	 <p>'p' handshape</p>	Same as 'p'

Alphabet Reference Sheet – Vowels

*Note: All vowels are sign with the first consonant in the Ethiopian alphabet, H₁

English/Amharic Letter	Ethiopian Sign Language	American Sign Language equivalent or closely signed
-eh or -i (short vowel sound) ሀ	 <p>No movement</p>	Similar to ASL letters
-oo ሁ	 <p>In an arc to the left</p>	Similar to a pouring motion

<p>-ee $\frac{7}{2}$</p>	 <p>Straight to the right motion</p>	<p>Movement for "east"</p>
<p>-ah $\frac{7}{2}$</p>	 <p>Straight down motion</p>	<p>Movement for "south"</p>
<p>-ay (as in bay) $\frac{7}{2}$</p>	 <p>Circular motion</p>	<p>Movement for "library"</p>

<p>No vowel ህ</p>	 <p>Downward motion, zigzagging left and right</p>	<p>Similar to movement for “draw”</p>
<p>-oh ሆ</p>	 <p>Wrist turns inward</p>	<p>Movement for “\$1”</p>

Ethiopian Letters courtesy of <http://amharicteacher.com/hahu/>