

H & H PUBLISHING



WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS FOR JANICE H. HUMPHREY, ED.D., CSC, COI

NUMBERING SYSTEMS

Numbering Systems in ASL and English: Information Challenges for Interpreters

English uses two numbering systems: ordinal (1st, 15th, 123rd) and cardinal (1, 400, 8,092). Regardless of whether the topic is finding the square root of a number, the date of an upcoming event, or the time of day – English will use cardinal or ordinal numbers to convey this numerical information clearly and explicitly.

ASL, on the other hand, has different numbering systems for virtually every category of number.

- People age numbers are different than the number set used to discuss the age of an animal or a building.
- The numbering set used to convey the height of a building or a bridge is completely different from that used to describe the height of a person.
- There is a different numbering set used for scores in various sports and for the measurements of the rug that will fit in the living room.

It is critical for interpreters to learn to recognize the numbering system being used by a Deaf student or client, and to accurately incorporate these systems into your interpretations – especially when interpreting for students from preschool through high school, where interpreters are often a primary model of ASL for dDeaf students. This workshop will provide opportunities to learn and practice a minimum of 12 ASL numbering systems, as well as learning about resources available to continue your learning beyond the time spent in this environment.