

Chapter 4 – Language Variation

“May You Live in Interesting Times.” - Ancient Chinese Curse



Figure 4.1 - Traditional ASL-English Continuum

Researcher(s)	Label	Comments on Label(s)
William Stokoe	Diglossia	Inaccurate. Generally used to talk about bilingual situation rather than language mixing.
James Woodward	Pidgin Sign English	Inaccurate. Pidgins require multiple languages. There are no pidgins composed of only two languages.
Dennis Cokely	Foreigner Register & Learner's Grammar	Accurate labels to identify native users adopting basic ASL and non-native learners organizing signs based on English grammar.
Ceil Lucas & Clayton Valli	Contact Signing	Accurate label to identify a mix of signing that incorporates grammatical features of English.

Figure 4.2 - Labels for Mixing of ASL & English

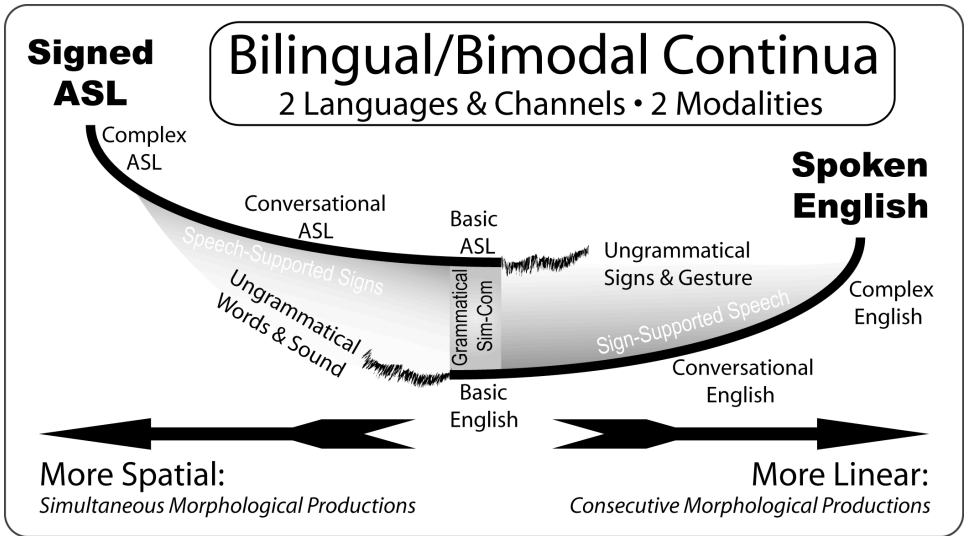


Figure 4.3 - Language Continua: ASL and English