

“Plains Indian Sign Language [psd] (A language of [United States](#))

- **Alternate Names:** Plains Sign Language
- **Population:** Mostly elderly hearing people and some middle-aged or older deaf people. 0 monolinguals.
- **Location:** Scattered. Great Plains and neighboring regions.
- **Language Status:** 8a (Moribund). Used by deaf people with family and friends and formerly as a lingua franca for inter-tribal contact by hearing and deaf people. Wide range of genres including story-telling, prayers, inter-tribal negotiation, and bantering (Davis 2010).
- **Dialects:** Some variation by ethnic group and region, but dialect differences do not impede communication among different tribes. Comparisons between different historical sources of lexical data on PISL range from 80% to 92%. Comparison of these sources with American Sign Language [ase] show 50% similarity.
- **Typology:** SOV; compounding (head-initial); verb agreement; classifier predicates.
- **Language Use:** Second language only. Also use American Sign Language [ase].”

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Related Reading

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