



# Introduction to Cued American English From a Native Cuer's Perspective

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# Learning Objectives

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- Explain Cued American English and why it was developed
- Demonstrate principles of Cued American English/cue phonemes (sounds) and basic words

# About Hilary Franklin, M.A.

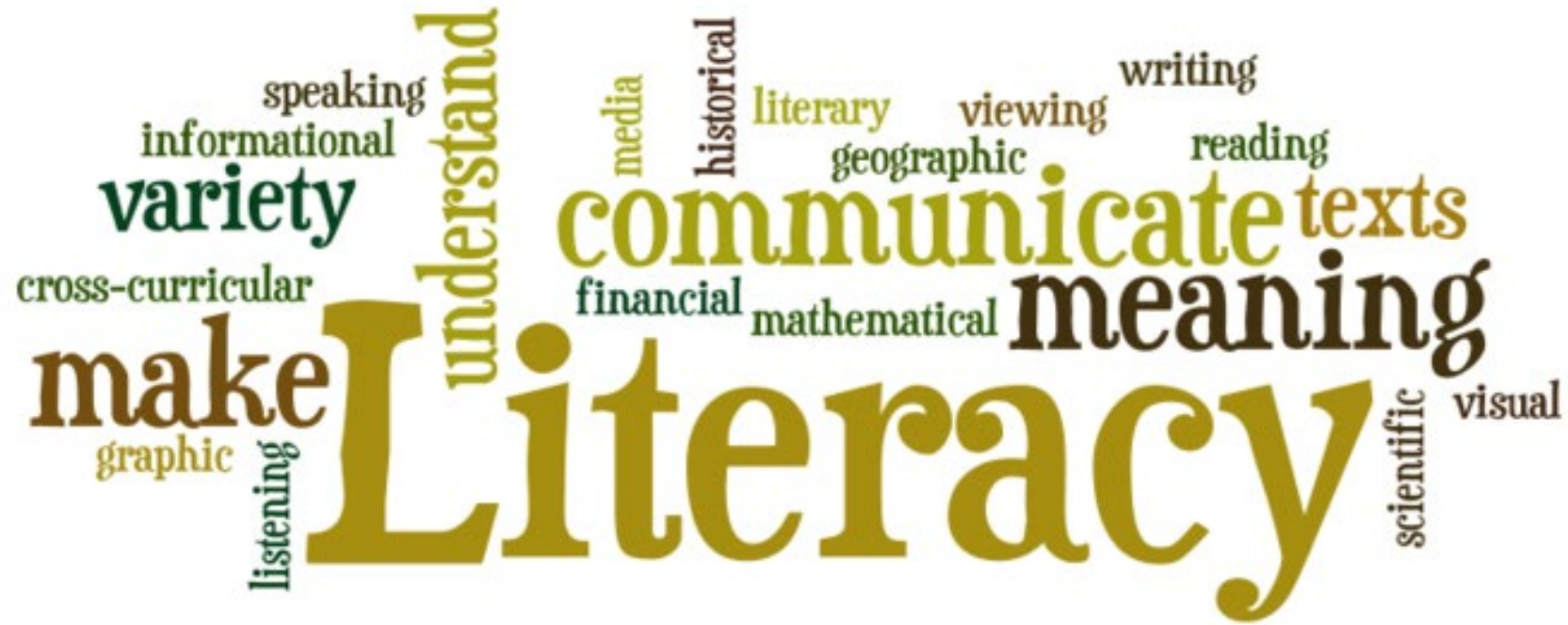
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- Born with bilateral sensorineural severe-to-profound deafness
- Deaf native cuer; began cueing at age 3 ½; both parents cue
- Mainstreamed in Montgomery County Public Schools, MD, with cued language transliterators (CLTs)
- B.A. (2003), Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Go Tar Heels!)
- M.A. (2006), Teaching American Sign Language as a Foreign Language, Teachers College, Columbia University
- Works for the Department of Defense
- Certified instructor of Cued American English since 2005
- Vice President of Outreach, National Cued Speech Association

# Why Did My Parents Choose Cued Speech?

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# Are Spoken Languages Visually Clear?

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**/m/ /b/ /p/**

They all have the same mouth shape, right?

**/mat/ /met/ /bat/ /bet/ /pat/ /pet/**

Can you easily distinguish these words?

# Why Was Cued Speech Developed?

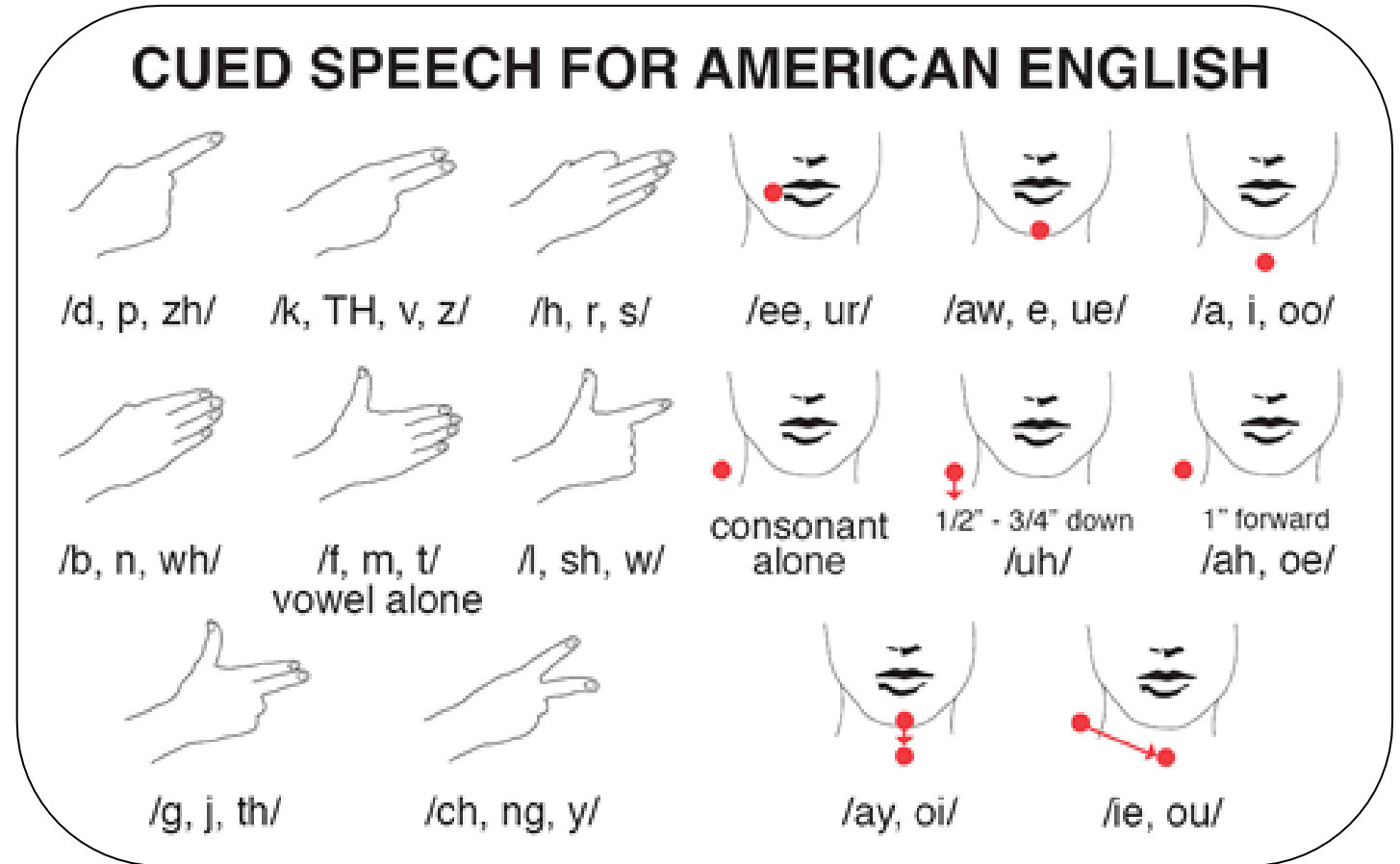
- To make *phonemes* of traditionally spoken languages clearly visible.
- To enable *real-time communication* between parents and their DHH children *in the parents' native language*.
- To enable *native language literacy*.



# Cued Speech for American English

Cued Speech is a visual communication mode that uses *8 handshapes* in *4 different placements* near the face in combination with the *mouth movements of speech* to make the phonemes of spoken language look different from each other.

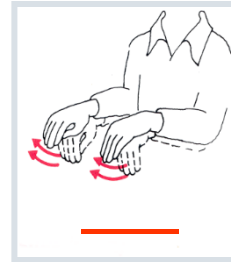
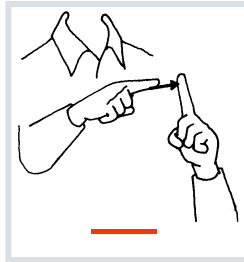
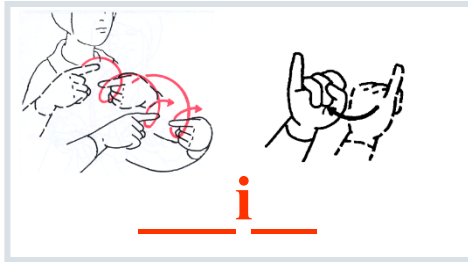
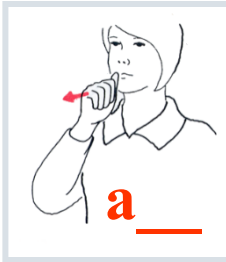
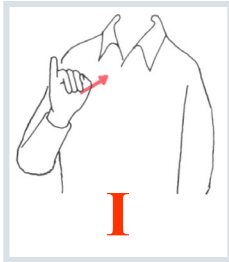
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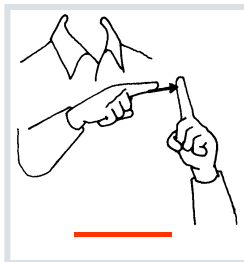
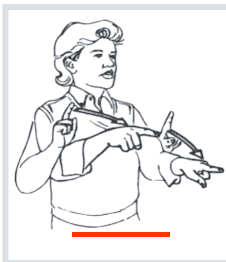
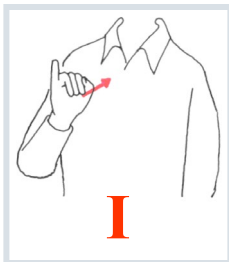
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# Let's Compare! "I am going to the store."

## Signing Exact English:



## Pidgin Signed English:



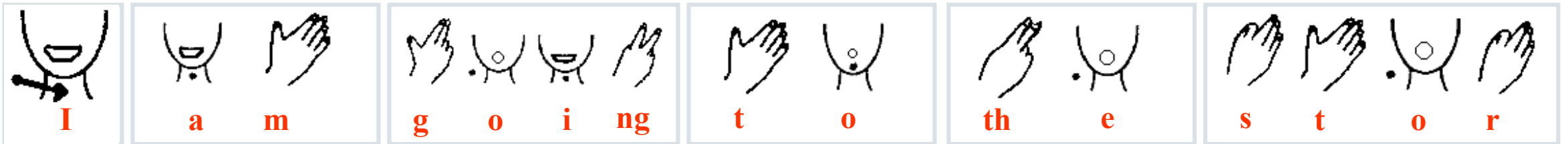


# Let's Compare! "I am going to the store."

## American Sign Language:



## Cued American English:



# What Is a Cue?

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- A **cue** is a handshape or hand placement in combination with the corresponding mouth shape that visually represents a consonant or vowel.



/k/



/yue/



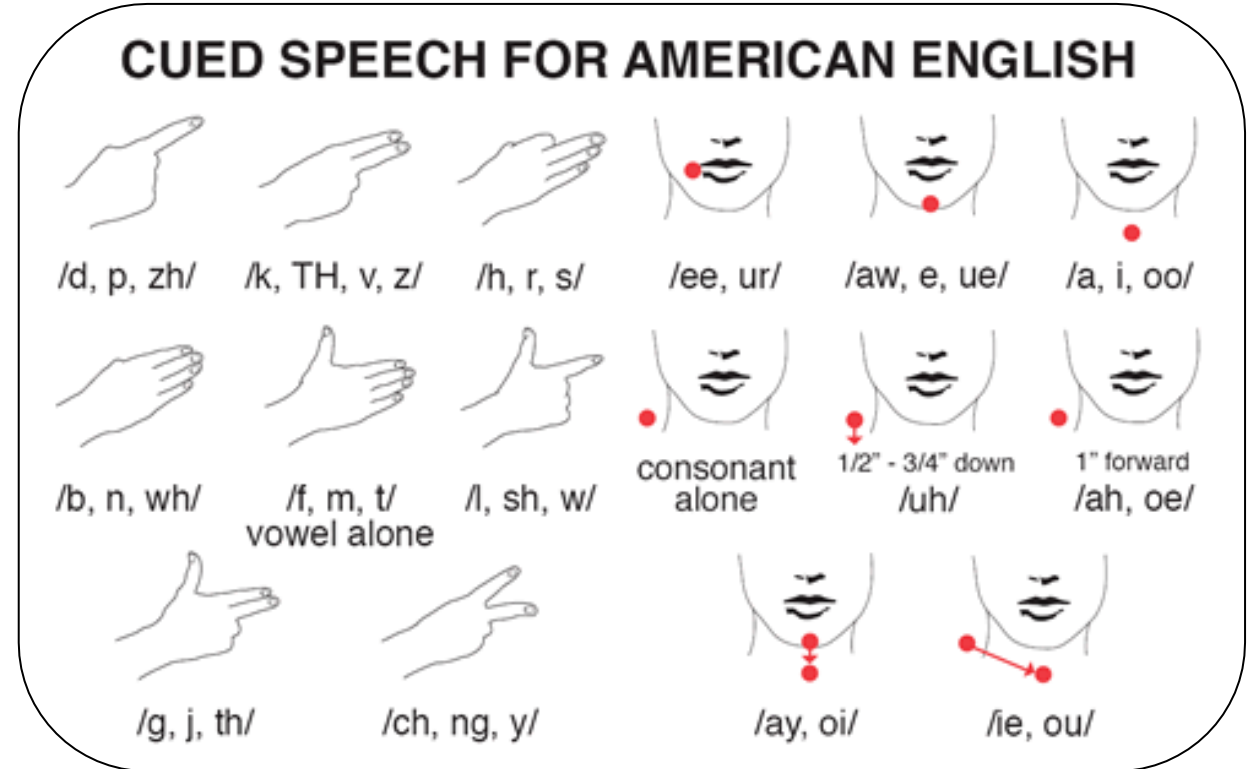
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# How to Cue

- Pea, pee, P
- Key
- Sea, see, C
- Be, bee, B
- Tea/tee/T
- She
- Thee
- Cheese
- Do, due
- Zoo
- Sue
- Boo!
- Moo
- Shoe
- Goo
- You



# Why Does Cued Speech ≠ Speech?

- While it is possible to cue phonemic sounds individually (/b/, /p/, /ee/, /i/, etc.), cueing alone does not show or improve **articulation**.
  - The cues do not tell you where to place the tongue or how to shape your mouth to produce a phoneme using speech.
- What cueing can do is provide pronunciation **feedback** to a DHH person attempting to say a known target sound.



# Cued Languages

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- **Language is more than just utterances** (speech, signs, and cues are language *modes*).
- **Language requires *prosody*** (suprasegmentals)
  - *Rhythm, stress, intonation*: in spoken languages, such as English, these indicate vital information—is the speaker asking a question, telling a joke, or making a statement?
- **Cued languages = cues + *prosody***
  - In *cued languages*, we convey prosody via grammatical and semantic indicators similar to those in signed languages (e.g., facial expression, eyebrow movements, emphasis of cues, and head thrusts).

# Cued American English

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- ***Cued American English*** is a *cued language* that is a form of American English.
  - Contrasts with other cued English languages, such as Cued British English, which has different vowel phonemes.
  - Parallels spoken American English.

Jabberwocky in Cued American English:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R5hiRL2ujM4>



# Can We Use CAE, ASL, and LSL?

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- **Yes!**

- Using cueing for English and signing for ASL ***preserves the integrity of both languages.***
  - No need to “adapt” ASL signs to convey specific English words.
- ***DHH cuers are able to decode written English via phonics,*** even if they have no usable hearing.
- ***Cueing fills in the blanks of what DHH children don't hear*** via hearing devices → more complete, accurate language.
- If the family is Deaf and the first language is ASL, then Deaf children can learn English via cueing (does require having someone cue consistently).
- Illinois School for the Deaf has a bilingual program; academic instruction is provided in ASL and/or CAE, based on IEPs.

# Research: Jean Wandel, 1989

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- 120 children (ages 7-16) across 4 categories:
  - 30 LSL | 30 Total Communication (TC) | 30 Cueing | 30 Hearing (control)
  - Each group of deaf children had 15 with severe deafness, 15 profound
- Method: administered internal speech ratio, Ravens, SAT, reading comprehension tests
- **Results:**
- ***No difference in reading ability between deaf cuers and hearing children***; slight advantage for those with profound deafness than severe deafness due to more consistency cueing (at home and school)
- LSL group performed lower than cueing group on all measures
- TC group performed lower than Hearing, LSL, and cueing groups on all tests



# Resources for Families

- **Support System Network**

- Other parents
- Adult Deaf cuers
- Professionals
- Social Media: Facebook Group: Cued Speech

- **Learning to Cue**

- Self-paced: CueCollege
- Virtual classes: Generally advertised via NCSA/Facebook
- In-person classes: Cue Camps; local classes depends on instructor availability
- Transliterator training: Language Matters, Inc.

- **Early Intervention/IFSP, IEP Support**

- Professionals/Educators
- Legal understanding; possibly legal support

- **Resources**

- NCSA membership (free for first-year families!)
- DCLP family boxes (free for first-year families!)
- “Cue with Me!” boxes ([www.cuecollege.org](http://www.cuecollege.org))



# Websites and Videos

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- The National Cued Speech Association: <https://cuedspeech.org/>
- Cue College: <https://cuecollege.org>
- Cued Speech (a mini-documentary)
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plPw4H-ZsMg&t=6s>
- Giving language a helping hand, Cathy Rasmussen, TEDxFlourCity
  - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4KQfepEqWQ>
- ASL, PSE, and CAE: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RxEu1IBVyA>
- Heteronyms, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=085H1TdxuBU>
- Go by Twista: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FMslSKJNMI>
- Codeswitching Between CAE and ASL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pg9ZCDo3dzA>

# Questions?

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