Corpus LSFB (French Belgian Sign Language)

Current annotation conventions compared to the «Digging into signs»' suggestions

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Comparison

Predictably, current annotation practice (based on Auslan's guidelines) is very similar to the ones of BSL and NGT

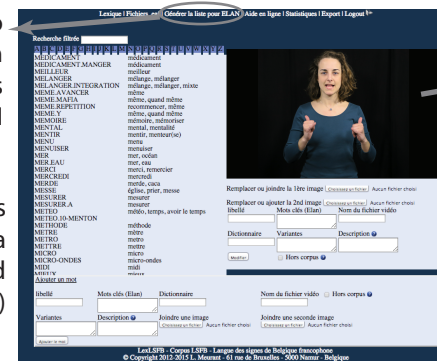| Topic	BSL	NGT	LSFB
1. Basic gloss	SIGN SIGN02 SIGN03	SIGN-A SIGN-B SIGN-C	SIGN SIGN.MEMORYAID LOOK LOOK(U)
2. Two-handed signs	SIGN SIGN		SIGN SIGN
3. Buoys	LBUOY PBUOY FBUOY TBUOY	COUNTING-HAND-1 COUNTING-HAND-2	LBUOY PBUOY FBUOY TBUOY
4. Lexical variants	SIGN SIGN02 SIGN03	SIGN-A SIGN-B SIGN-C	APRIL.NOSE APRIL.WEBSITE
6. Repetition	BOY SHOUT WOLF WOLF WOLF		WORK.(3times) WORK+++ WORK WORK WORK
7. Compounds	PARENTS GRAPHIC^ART	PARENTS GRAPHIC-ART	PARENTS SLEEPLESS-NIGHT WHY-NOT THIS-IS IT (2 glosses)
8. Manual negative incorporation	KNOW-NOT		LIKE LIKE-NOT DISLIKE
9. Directional verbs	ASK TAKE-OVER	ASK:1 1:TAKE-OVER	CALL* INVITE*
10. Plurality	CHILD	CHILD.PL	CHILD(pl)
11. Numbers	ONE ONE2	1-A 1-B	6 6.2
12. Number sequences	NINETEEN^EIGHT^NINE	1989	1989
13. Number Incorporation	HOUR-FOUR02	HOUR-4	HOUR-5
14. Ordinal numbers	FIRST RANKING RANKING02 RANKING02-THREE	1-ORD	1E 2E 3E
15. Sign names	SN:FIRST SN:PETER(FS:P-PETER) SN:ALEXFERGUSON(FS:AALEX^FS:FFERGUSON)) SN:OSAMA-BINLADEN(BEARD)	*FIRST-LAST	NS: LAURENCE(HAIRCLIP)
17. Fingerspelling	FS:WORD FS:WORD(WRD)	#WORD #WRD 'word'	FS:WRD(WORD)
18. Pointing signs	PT:LOC PT:DET PT:PRO1SG Multiple possible functions: PT:LOC/PT:PRO3SG PT:LBUOY	PT PT:B PT:W PT:1	PT:PRO1 PT:PRO6 PT:POSS3(B)
19. Classifier/ depicting signs	DSEW(2)-MOVE DSEP(1)-PIVOT DSEW(2)-AT	MOVE+2 ('cat walks to and fro') PIVOT+1 ('cat's legs move around') AT+2 ('bird is here')	DS
20. Shape constructions	DSS(CYL)	SHAPE+cylinder 'drain pipe'	Not yet.
21. Type-like classifier/ Depicting signs	DSEW(1-VERT)-MOVE:HUMAN DSEW(FLAT-LATERAL)-AT:VEHICLE	MOVE+1 MOVE+flat	Not yet.
22. Gestures	G:HOW-STUPID-OF-ME	% HEY	GSIGN
23. Palm up	G:WELL	PO	PALM-UP
24. Manual constructed action	G:CA:HOLD-HANDS-UPIN-FRIGHT	%	Not yet. See 22 GSIGN
	INDECIPHERABLE	±	INDECIPHERABLE
	GLOSS(FALSE-START)	~GLOSS	SIGN(initiate)

🟥 Not the same principle	🟧 Same principle but with slight difference	🟩 Same	⬛ Not tackled yet

Specificities of the Corpus LSFB's current annotation

Lex-LSFB: online sign bank (web app) linked as an External Controlled Vocabulary to ELAN

Online: always up to date for all the team
Easy to export: always updated ECV in ELAN

Animated GIF files

Lexical variants identified by a memory aid (Johnston 2013)
e.g. SAME.Y

More comfortable for the annotators. Improves the annotation process

Fragment Buoys: only from 2 signs hold by the other hand (Gabarro-Lopez & Meurant 2014); behind that, no specific information is added to the glosses and the annotations follow the hands' movements

Video files editing: for each task, separated files for 'Question' (all interactions with moderator, including presentation of the task) and for 'Answer' (only interactions between the two informants). Colour code to relate the 'Answer' sub-parts to the 'Question' sub-parts when needed

Question

Repetition: Is it always possible to annotate separately the repeated signs?
e.g. WORK (citation form including 2 movements)
WORK (3x): 3 movements in place of 2
WORK +++: ± 6 movements made at one go
WORK WORK WORK: 3x2 movements distinguishable

Gabarró López, S. & Meurant, L. (2014). The Use of Buoys across Genres in French Belgian Sign Language (LSFB). In Actes du IXe colloque de linguistique des doctorands et jeunes chercheurs du Laboratoire MoDyCo (COLDOC 2013): La question des genres à l'écrit et à l'oral, 43-54.
Johnston, T. (2013). Auslan Corpus annotation guidelines. Centre for Language Sciences, Department of Linguistics, Macquarie University, Sydney (Australia), 22th February.