

**School Psychology Terminology for Sign Language Interpreters:  
A working and evolving collection**

Rationale for this work in progress: Over the years I have attended many National Association of School Psychology (NASP) conferences along side of many of my colleagues who use American Sign Language (ASL) and have seen interpreters struggle with our jargon and terminology for the entire conference. So I started collecting terms and jargon that seemed to confuse the interpreters and decided to share the list prior to the conference starting and share it with them in hopes that services would indeed be enhanced. (We sure do have our own language!) Please send in your own ([hardybraz@coastalnet.com](mailto:hardybraz@coastalnet.com)) and help this list grow for future interpreters and signing professionals.

**Common names used often in the field:**

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| AGS-American Guidance Service  | PAR-Psychological Assessment Resources  |
| Alfred Binet                   | Pearson Publishing (now owns AGS)       |
| Bruce Bracken                  | Jack Naglieri                           |
| Raymond Cattell                | Jean Piaget                             |
| John Carroll                   | Pro-Ed                                  |
| CB or Cross Battery Assessment | Psych Corp or Psychological Corporation |
| Colin Elliott                  | Cecil Reynolds                          |
| Dawn Flanagan                  | Riverside Publishing                    |
| John Horn                      | Jerome Sattler                          |
| Randy Kamphaus                 | Sopris-West                             |
| Alan Kaufman                   | Lev Vygotsky                            |
| Nancy Mather                   | David Wechsler                          |
| Kevin McGrew                   | Richard or Dick Woodcock                |

**Common proper names used often in the specialty:**

|                           |                       |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Patty Albee               | Susan Maller          |
| Jeff Braden               | Brian Miller          |
| Lynne Blennerhasset       | Yvonne Mullen         |
| Spence or Spencer Gibbons | Robert or Bob Pollard |
| Steven Hardy-Braz (SHB)   | Anne Spragins         |
| William or Bill Kachman   |                       |

**Names of Testing Instruments/Techniques:**

ABAS-Adaptive Behavior Assessment System  
Achenbach (ASEBA)  
BASC-Behavioral Assessment System for Children  
BDI-Battelle Developmental Inventory  
Bender or Bender-Gestalt  
CAB-Clinical Assessment of Behavior  
CAS-Cognitive Assessment Scale

CBCL-Child Behavior Check List (Same thing as an Achenbach)  
CBM Curriculum Based Measurement  
DAS-Differential Ability Scale  
D-KEFS  
DIBELS-Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills  
Hiskey-Nebraska Test of Learning Aptitude  
K-ABC-Kaufman Assessment Battery for Children  
K-TEA-Kaufman Test of Educational Achievement  
KeyMath (KeyMath-R/NU)  
Leiter-R  
Meadow-Kendall  
NEPSY  
PIAT (PIAT-R/NU) Peabody Individual Achievement Test  
RIAS Reynolds Intellectual Assessment Scales  
ROCF-Rey or Rey's Complex Figure  
Rorschach  
Stanford-Binet  
TAT-Thematic Appreception Test  
TOWL-Test of Written Language  
TRF-Teacher Report Form  
Vineland  
UNIT-Universal Nonverbal Intelligence Test  
VMI-Visual Motor Integration  
WISC-Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children  
WAIS- Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale  
WNS- Wechsler Nonverbal Scale of Ability  
WPPSI- Wechsler Preschool and Primary Scale of Intelligence  
WIAT Wechsler Individual Achievement Test  
WRMT (WRMT-R/NU)-  
WASI-Wechsler Abbreviated Scale of Intelligence  
WJ III ACH- Woodcock-Johnson Test of Achievement  
WJ III COG-Woodcock-Johnson Test of Cognition  
WRAML-Wide Range Memory and Learning  
WRAT-Wide Range Achievement Test

Note on R or 2 etc after a test name refers to the second or a revised edition of the test while NU refers to a normative update

### **General Terms:**

APA-American Psychological Association  
BIP Behavior Intervention Plan  
CBA-Curriculum Based Assessment  
DoD-Department of Defense  
DOE-Department of Education  
FBA-Functional Behavioral Analysis  
FERPA-Family Education Records Privacy Act

IDEA-Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (previously known as PL94-142)  
IEP-Individual Education Plan/Programme  
IFSP Individual Family Service Plan  
IG-Interest Group  
NASP-National Association of School Psychologists  
NCLB-No Child Left Behind  
RTI-Resistance to Intervention  
Section 504 or 504 Plan

**Statistical terms:**

|                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| ANOVA                | Raw Score          |
| Bell Curve           | Reliability        |
| Confidence interval  | Replication        |
| Factor analysis      | Standardization    |
| Growth Score         | Standard Deviation |
| MANOVA               | Standard Score     |
| Mean                 | T-Score            |
| Median               | Validity           |
| Mode                 | V-Score            |
| Normative Sample     | W-Score            |
| Percentile(s)        | Z-Score            |
| Principal components |                    |

**Miscellaneous Terms**

Discrepancy  
Psychometric  
Psychology  
Psychiatry  
Nonverbal  
Verbal  
Block Design and other subtest names

**Psychological Disorders and Terms**

Autism or Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD)  
ADD (still used along with ADHD)-Attention Deficit Disorder  
ADHD-Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder  
Asperger Syndrome  
CAPD-Central Auditory Processing Disorder  
CP-Cerebral Palsy  
DD-Developmental Delay  
Down Syndrome  
DSM-IV  
DSM-IV-TR

ED/BED/SED-Emotionally Behaviorally Socially Disturbed/Disorder  
ICD-10 International Classification of Diseases-10th edition  
LD-Learning Disability or Disabled (note international use of this term means MR)  
MR-Mental Retardation  
ODD- Oppositional Defiant Disorder  
OCD-Obsessive  
OHI-Other Health Impaired  
PDD-Pervasive Developmental Disorder  
PTSD-Post Traumatic Stress Disorder  
TBI-Traumatic Brain Injury

Note that the Department of Defense Special Education system uses categories “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, and “E” to refer to physical, behavioral, communication, cognitive, or developmental issues respectively.

## Neuroanatomy Terminology

General terminology:

directions: anterior, posterior, superior, inferior, dorsal, medial, lateral, ventral, caudal, rostral  
coronal, sagittal, and horizontal sections of the brain

Divisions of the brain:

the four ventricles

- brain stem
- cerebellum
- thalamus
- hypothalamus
- basal ganglia

limbic system

- \* neocortex, sulcus, gyrus, fissure
- \* central sulcus or Rolandic fissure
- \* lateral sulcus or Sylvian fissure
- \* longitudinal fissure
- \* corpus callosum
- \* anterior commissure; posterior commissure

Organization of the neocortex

- \* The four lobes from all four views (medial, lateral, superior, inferior)
- \* Primary cortex: sensory and motor areas, and their locations (on all views).
- \* Secondary sensory and motor areas (on all views).
- \* Association areas on all views (also called tertiary areas)

Motor processing

- \* Primary motor (precentral gyrus) and secondary (premotor) cortex

Auditory processing

## Hardy-Braz

- \* primary auditory cortex
- \* secondary auditory cortex

## Somatosensory processing

- \* postcentral gyrus or sensory strip
- \* secondary somatosensory cortex

## Visual processing

- \* primary visual cortex (striate cortex)
- \* secondary visual cortex