



Pasting Sign Sentences

With The SignWriter Dictionary

Dictionary Command

1. To access the dictionary, use the **Dictionary** command. Type **Alt-d** for Dictionary:

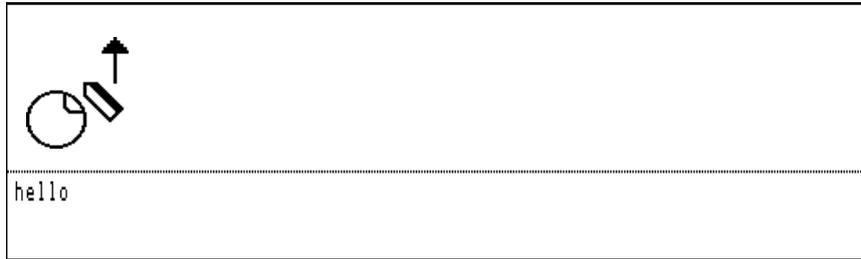


2. This appears on your screen:

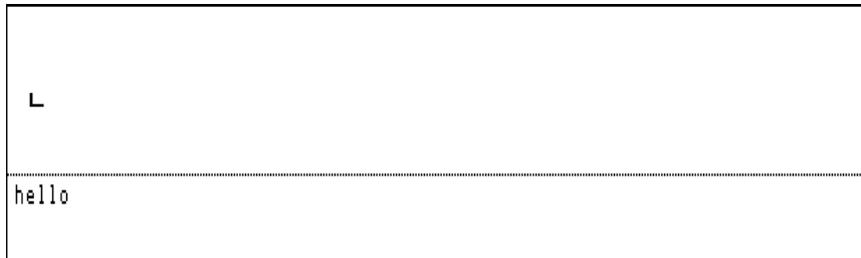
Dict | Enter name of sign and press Return.

3. Type the **name** of the sign. Press **Return**.

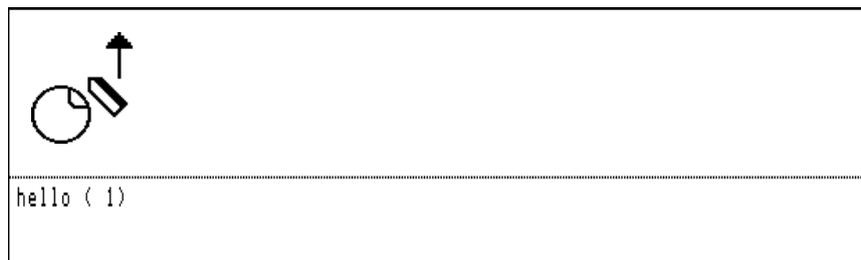
4. If the sign is listed in the dictionary under the **exact name** you typed, then after you press Return a box will appear with the sign in it:



5. If the sign is listed in the dictionary under a **different name**, or perhaps it has a number (1) or (2) after it in the dictionary...in other words...if it is **entered differently** in the dictionary than you typed...then after you press Return a blank box will appear:



6. The blank box does not mean that the sign does not exist in the dictionary. Press the **PgDn** key. You will see several signs with that name:



Continue to scroll until you find the version of the sign you want. To scroll down, use the **PgDn** key or **Alt-n** (Next command). To scroll up, use the **PgUp** key or **Alt-P** (Previous command).

7. When you have found the sign you want, press **Return**. The sign is pasted into your document.

Before you begin this section...

In Part 3, you were working in the file named **myfirst**. Please close the file, and open a new file named **mysecond**. You are now looking at a blank screen with the blinking cursor in the upper left corner.

Pasting Sentences

1. The goal of this lesson is to complete the sentence **I want to buy that car.** without typing! We will paste our sentence together, sign by sign. By the way, the gloss for the sentence is **That car there, want buy.**

2. First, search for the sign **that** in the dictionary. Type **Alt-d** for Dictionary. Name of sign? Type **that**. Press **Return**. You will see a blank box. Do not worry...the sign for **that** is in the dictionary, but because there are several variations, the sign is listed in the dictionary like this: **that(1), that (2), that (3)** and so forth.

3. Scroll down by using **Alt-n** or **PgDn**. You will see the different variations listed in the dictionary.

4. When you find the variation you want, press **Return**. The sign is now pasted into your sentence.

5. Repeat this process, pasting the signs **car** and **there**. Your screen now looks like this:



6. We now need to type a comma, or pause. Typing punctuation is taught in the next lesson. Turn to the next page to complete the sentence...

Typing Punctuation

Continuing from the previous page, our sentence is only half done. We need to type a pause (a comma) after the sign **there**.

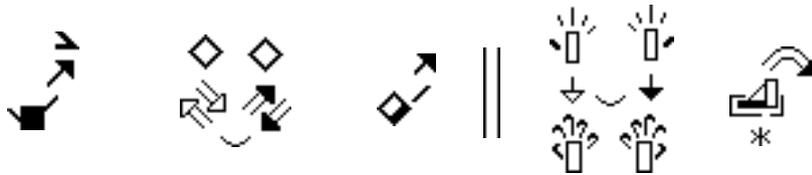
Space bar

1. To type a comma, type space **z s a m**. Your comma appears after the sign **there**:

Cursor key



2. Continue to paste the rest of the sentence:



3. A period is needed at the end of our sentence. To type a period, type space **z a a m**. The symbol used for a period is a thick line. Your sentence is now complete:



Note: The sentence **That car there, want buy.** starts with a Topic Marker. Topic Markers are a part of sign language grammar. They are marked by a facial expression with the eyebrows up. You will learn more about grammar later, but for the sake of accuracy, we have placed the proper facial expression in the completed sentence above.

SignWritingSite:

<http://www.SignWriting.org>