

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

FOR THE

RAND KEYBOARD

FOR SIGNWRITING

DESIGNED AND PROGRAMMED
BY YAIR RAND

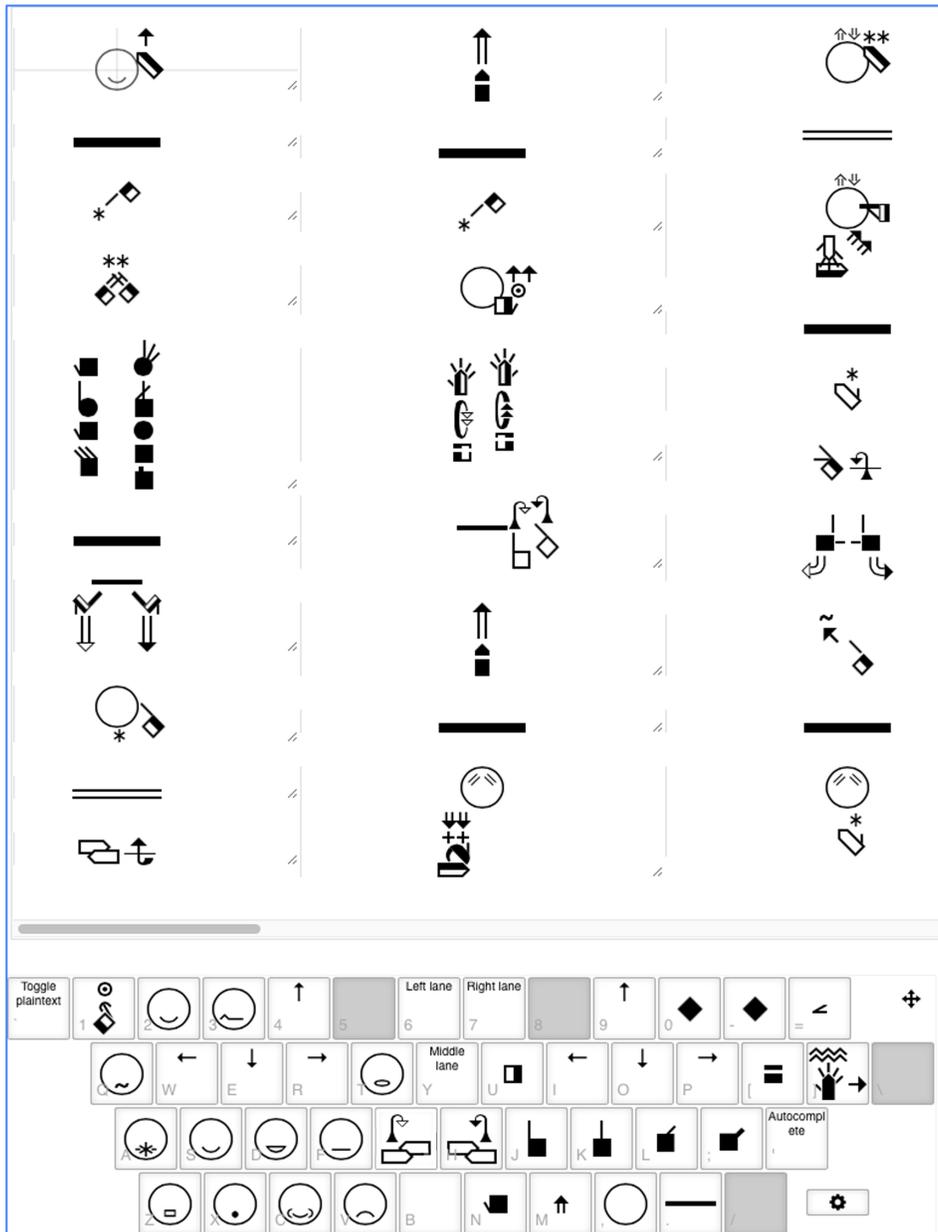


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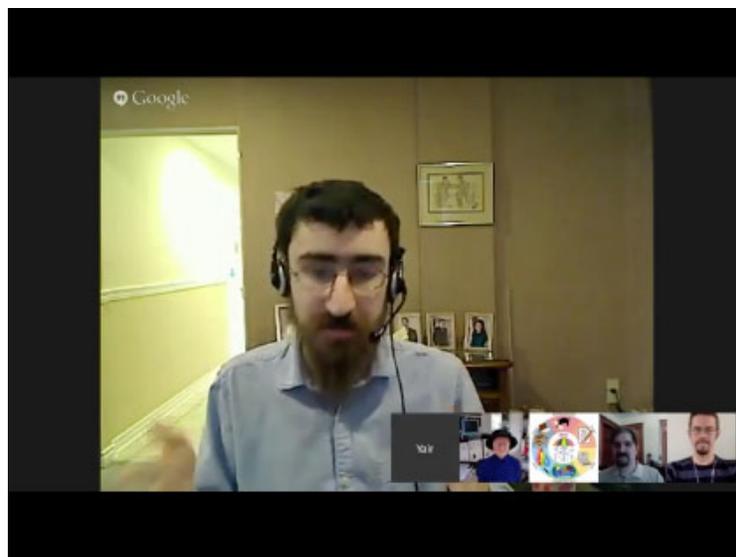
1. INTRODUCTION

The RAND SignWriting Keyboard is written in Javascript. Developed by Yair Rand, this new SignWriting Keyboard enables users to seamlessly type SignWriting on the web directly into:

1. text boxes
2. search fields
3. web forms
4. chat rooms
5. discussion forums
6. sign language Wikipedias
7. sign language username fields
8. sign language blogs
9. comment-fields on a blog posted in sign language, and so on...

Before the Rand SignWriting Keyboard was developed, SignWriting was always written inside specially designed software environments. This is the first time that SignWriting can be typed outside special software environments, directly on the web. This work was based on other software development by Stephen Slevinski.

Watch a video presentation of the SignWriting Keyboard at the SignWriting Symposium 2015: <http://www.signwriting.org/symposium/presentation0041.html>

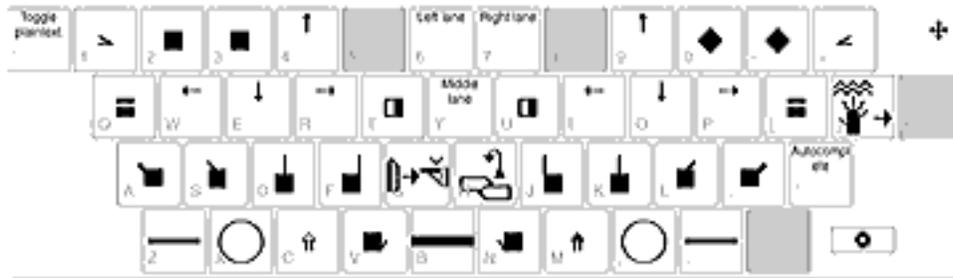


Yair Rand presenting at the SignWriting Symposium 2015.

2. HOW TO START THE KEYBOARD

OUTSIDE WIKIPEDIA

To type on the web, outside of Wikipedia, go to SignWriting.org or SignBank.org, and click on the Typewriter Icon at the top of the home page:



This icon will take you to the RAND Keyboard. OR...click on the URL below:

<https://806e8abcd89c3043886d9f62a7903eddba39fa1.googleusercontent.com/host/OB1Pz4n6wXAfvT18yOTFoSE5Sa2s/SWKB-ce.html>

INSIDE WIKIPEDIA

To type inside Wikipedia, first go to the Sign Language Wikipedia main page:

American Sign Language Wikipedia

<https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/ase>

Brazilian Sign Language Wikipedia

<https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/bzs>

Portuguese Sign Language Wikipedia

<https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/psr>

Tunisian Sign Language Wikipedia

<https://incubator.wikimedia.org/wiki/Wp/tse>

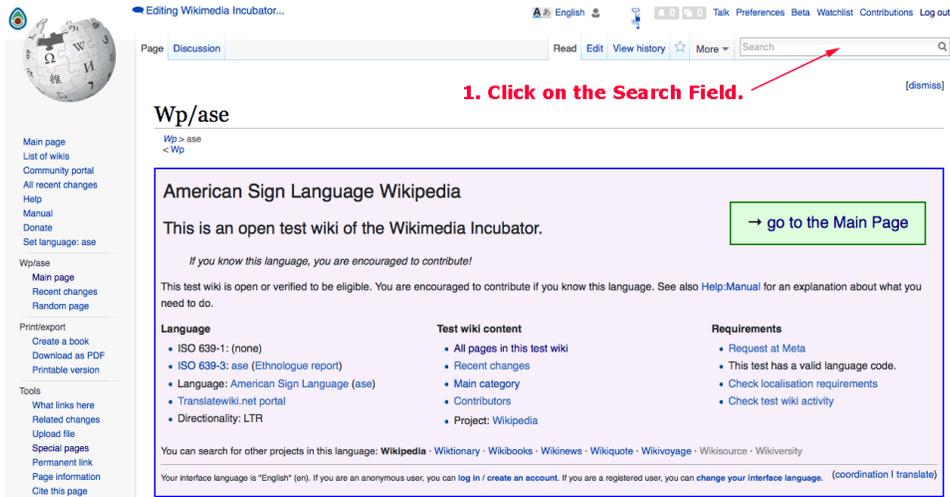
Want a Wikipedia in your Sign Language? Write to us to set it up for you:

Sutton@signwriting.org yyairrand@gmail.com slevin@signpuddle.net

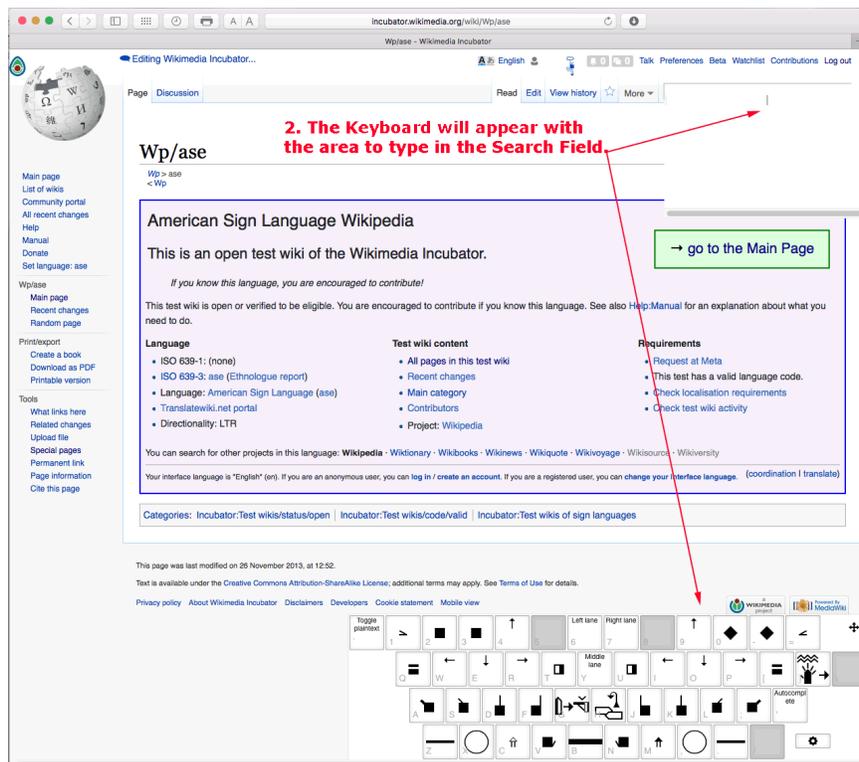
INSIDE WIKIPEDIA continued...

HOW TO START THE KEYBOARD ON THE MAIN PAGE OF WIKIPEDIA

1. On the Main Page, click on the Search Field in the upper right corner:



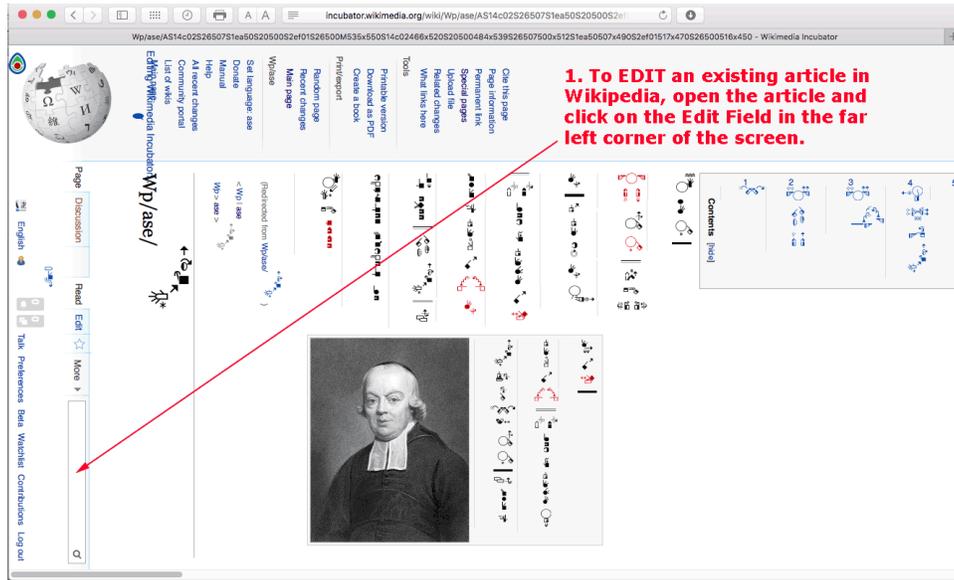
2. The RAND SignWriting Keyboard appears at the bottom right of the Wikipedia page and a cursor appears in the Search Field (in the upper right corner):



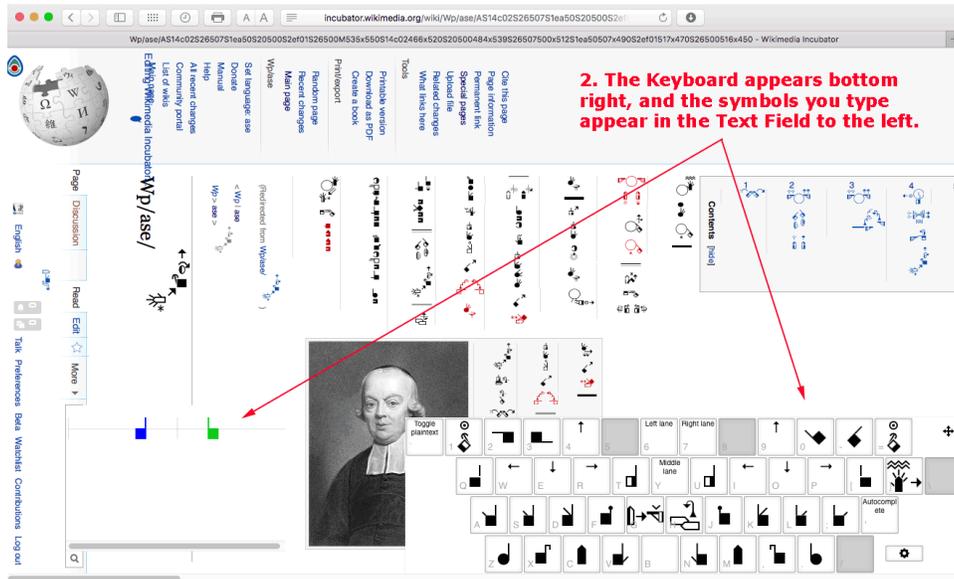
INSIDE WIKIPEDIA continued...

HOW TO START THE KEYBOARD INSIDE A WIKIPEDIA ARTICLE

1. Open an article. Click on the Edit Field in the lower left corner:



2. The RAND SignWriting Keyboard appears at the bottom right of the Wikipedia page and a cursor appears in the Edit Field (in the lower left corner):



3. SET YOUR TYPING PREFERENCES

PREFERENCES BUTTON is located on the bottom right of the keyboard.

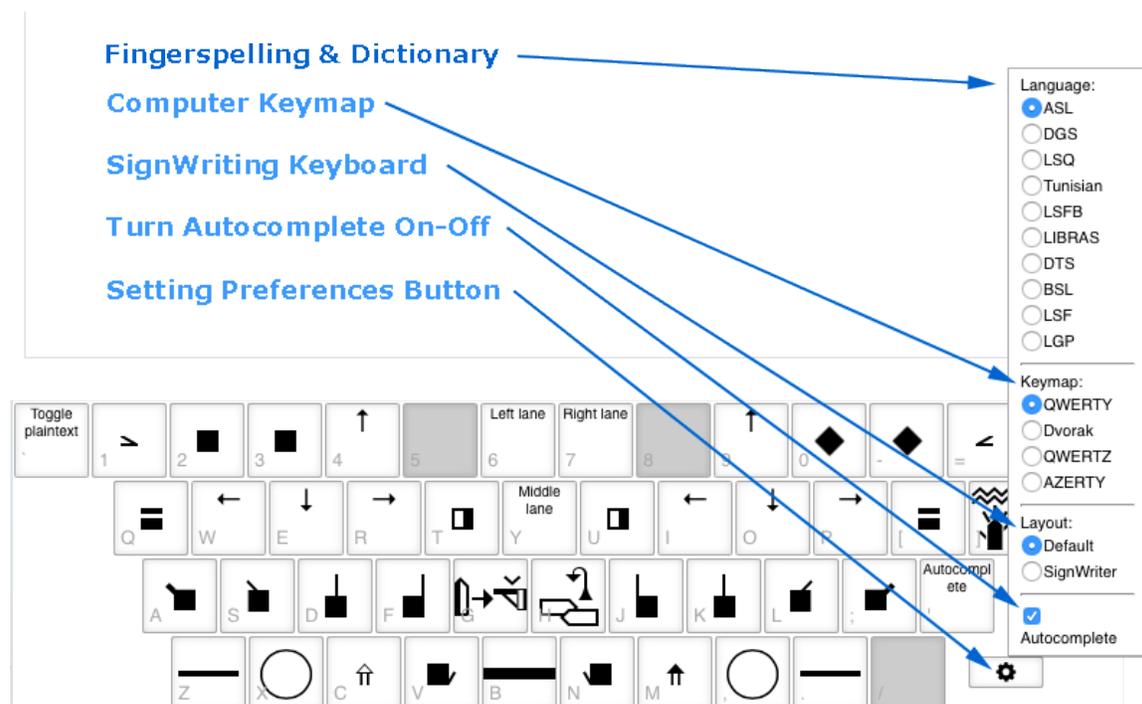
LANGUAGE BUTTON: Choose your Sign Language for fingerspelling and dictionaries that are connected to the Autocomplete feature.

KEYMAP BUTTON: Choose between QUERTY, DVORAK, QWERTZ, and AZERTY keyboards.

KEYBOARD LAYOUT BUTTON: There are two ways to type SignWriting. Choose between the RAND Keyboard design or the SignWriter DOS Keyboard design.

AUTOCOMPLETE BUTTON: The Autocomplete feature automatically searches the SignPuddle Online Dictionary and places similar signs underneath your typing in light blue, to give you choices of signs that are already written. To choose a sign that is in light blue from Autocomplete, tap on the Autocomplete Key, located on the far right of the second row (Home Row). The sign will change from light blue to black and will be inserted into your document.

Typing Preferences for the RAND SW Keyboard



4. HOW TO MOVE THE KEYBOARD

THE MOVE KEYBOARD BUTTON is located on the top right of the keyboard.

1. Hold down your mouse on the Move Button.
2. Drag your keyboard anywhere on the page

Welcome to the SignWriting Keyboard.

Press the ` key to switch between signs and plain text.

Ctrl+C (⌘-C on Macs) can be used to copy the FSW.

Please leave feedback on [the script's talk page on the Incubator](#).

If you can, please [contribute a translation](#) of the text used by this script.

The Move Keyboard Button

Hold down the button to drag keyboard anywhere on the screen...

Drag Up

The image shows two instances of the SignWriting Keyboard interface. The top instance is in its default position. The bottom instance is moved upwards, as indicated by a red arrow labeled "Drag Up". A red arrow points from the text "Hold down the button to drag keyboard anywhere on the screen..." to the "Move Keyboard Button" (a hand icon with a plus sign) on the right side of the keyboard. Another red arrow points from the text "Drag Up" to the same button on the moved keyboard.

5. TYPE SPOKEN LANGUAGE

THE PLAIN TEXT KEY is located on the top left of the keyboard. It is the very last key on the left top row. Tap on the Plain Text Key to start typing spoken language. The words will type down in vertical columns, matching the direction of writing signs. Tap on the Plain Text Key again to return to typing signs.

available symbols.

allow users to add text more quickly than is possible with a point-and-click system, while providing a comprehensive set of to a website with a sign language username, to write a blog or comment on a blog post in sign language, and so on. The aim is to into a search box, a form, a chat room, or a discussion forum, as well as to edit a wiki page or other online document. To log in The SignWriting Keyboard script will enable users to seamlessly type SignWriting text directly into text boxes on the web, whether not type has been a significant barrier to general internet use in sign language.

two years ago by Stephen Steinkil, made it possible for websites to qualify as SignWriting text, the fact that users could it, including being able to input sign language text efficiently and seamlessly. While the SignWriting Viewer script, developed in order to develop a functioning sign language internet, users must be able to both read the content and generally interact with

Welcome to the SignWriting Keyboard.

Press the ` key to switch between signs and plain text.

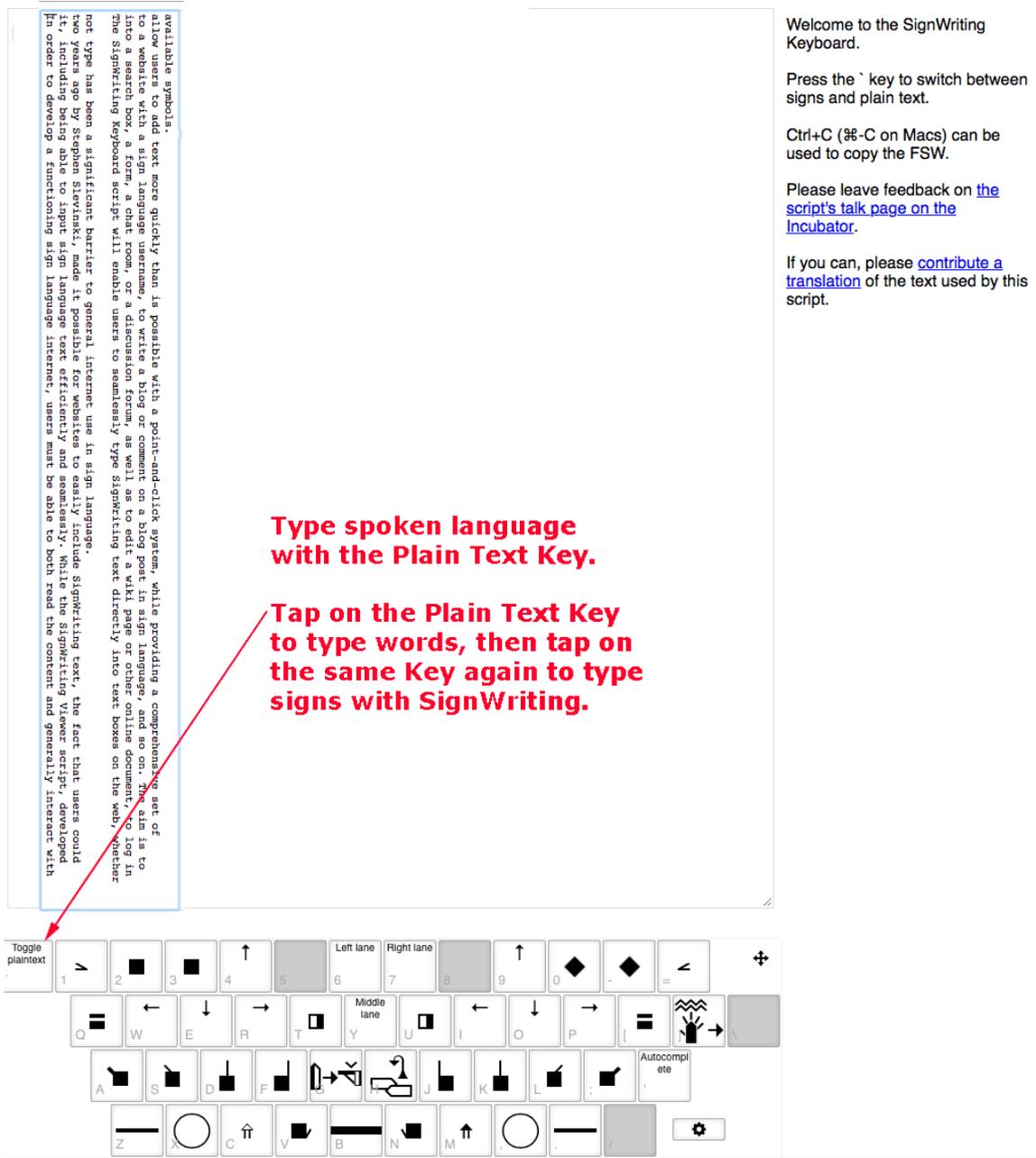
Ctrl+C (⌘-C on Macs) can be used to copy the FSW.

Please leave feedback on [the script's talk page on the Incubator](#).

If you can, please [contribute a translation](#) of the text used by this script.

Type spoken language with the Plain Text Key.

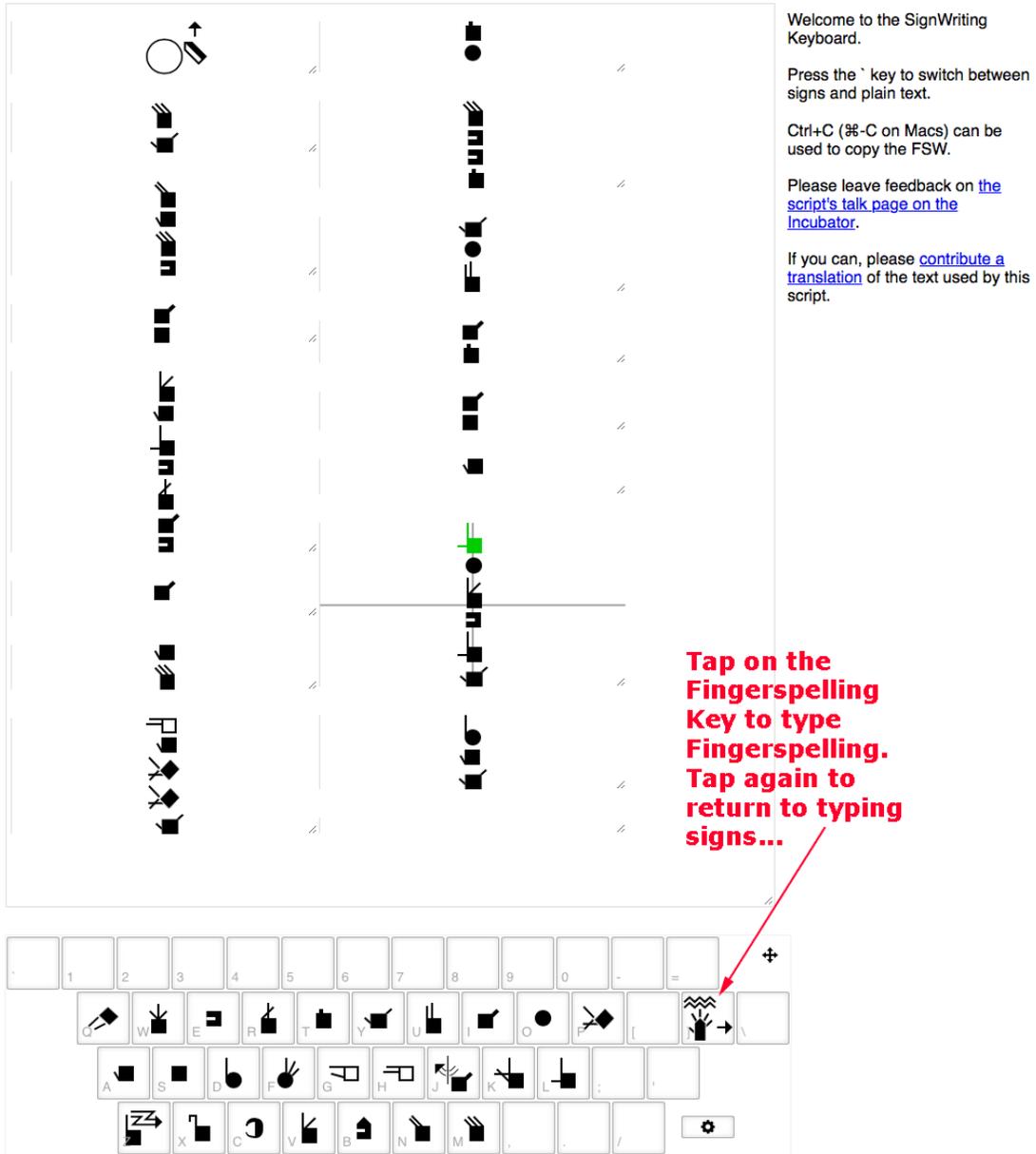
Tap on the Plain Text Key to type words, then tap on the same Key again to type signs with SignWriting.



The image shows a screenshot of the SignWriting Keyboard application. At the top, there is a text input area with a vertical scroll of text. Below this is a keyboard with various keys, including a 'Toggle plaintext' key on the top left. To the right of the keyboard, there is a welcome message and instructions. A red arrow points from the 'Toggle plaintext' key to the text input area.

6. TYPE FINGERSPELLING

THE FINGERSPELLING KEY is located on the second row from the top, on the far-right key of the keyboard, above the Return or Enter Key. Tap on the Fingerspelling Key to start typing fingerspelling. The fingerspelling will type down in vertical columns, matching the direction of writing signs. Tap on the Fingerspelling Key again to return to typing signs.



Welcome to the SignWriting Keyboard.

Press the ` key to switch between signs and plain text.

Ctrl+C (⌘-C on Macs) can be used to copy the FSW.

Please leave feedback on [the script's talk page on the Incubator](#).

If you can, please [contribute a translation](#) of the text used by this script.

Tap on the Fingerspelling Key to type Fingerspelling. Tap again to return to typing signs...

The image displays the SignWriting Keyboard interface. It features a central area with two vertical columns of signs. The left column contains signs for the letters C, W, E, R, T, Y, U, I, O, F, and a space key. The right column contains signs for the letters A, S, D, F, G, H, J, K, L, and a space key. A red arrow points to the Fingerspelling Key, which is located on the second row from the top, on the far-right key of the keyboard, above the Return or Enter Key. The keyboard also includes a settings gear icon in the bottom right corner.

7. TYPE SIGN LANGUAGE WITH THE RAND KEYBOARD DESIGN

KEYBOARD DESIGN IS IN A RIGHT-LEFT SPLIT

Typing SignWriting with the **RAND KEYBOARD** feels like playing chords on a piano. There is a **RIGHT SIDE** of the keyboard for the right hand, and a **LEFT SIDE** of the keyboard for the left hand.

Place your four fingers on the Home Row (the second row from the bottom).

The right four fingers are placed on the J, K, L, and ; keys. The left four fingers are placed on the A, S, D, and F keys. Place your thumbs on the V and N keys on the bottom row:



TYPE HANDSHAPES BY TYPING ACTION FINGERS

Handshapes are typed by Action Fingers.

What are Action Fingers? SignWriting hand symbols are categorized by Action Fingers. There are 10 groups of hands, and each group is based on how many Action Fingers are extended. Group 1 includes all of the hand symbols that use the Index Finger. Group 2 includes all of the hand symbols that use both the Index and Middle Fingers. See the next page for a listing of the 10 Hand Groups.