

# SignWriting Workshop in UK, Aug 2010

Taught by Suzanne Pach, Organized by Practice Makes Perfect, Southport



Teacher Suzanne Pach

## Workshop Report

**From Maureen Doyle, Practice Makes Perfect, Southport, Merseyside, UK, August 27, 2010**

We had a great day. It went too quickly! Congratulations to Suzanne. The workshop was very good, well planned and presented. Everyone said it was "great", and "fun with the juggling ball demonstrations." All evaluation forms said: "wanted longer", "very well presented", and regarding the contents of the workshop, "better than expected" and they said the handouts were "professional quality". There were 10 participants and several asked to have more workshops, including in London.



Above, left to right: Workshop teacher Suzanne Pach with Maureen Doyle, director of Practice Makes Perfect in Southport, the organization that presented the workshop; and Judith Garman from Stockport.

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**Left:** Gan Lu, from the University of Central Lancashire, speaks with teacher Suzanne Pach. Gan Lu's doctoral work is in software development, working on a project called **Automatic Hand Gesture Recognition for SignWriting**, which uses a glove to produce sign language movement written in SignWriting.

Below: The **Cooling Down Dance** document which participants are reading is available for download on the web: [www.signwriting.org/uk/GB09.html](http://www.signwriting.org/uk/GB09.html)



**Above:** Left to right: Workshop participants Gan Lu, Jackie Aughton and Terry Paget perform arm movements written in Suzanne Pach's charming **Cooling Down Dance** document.



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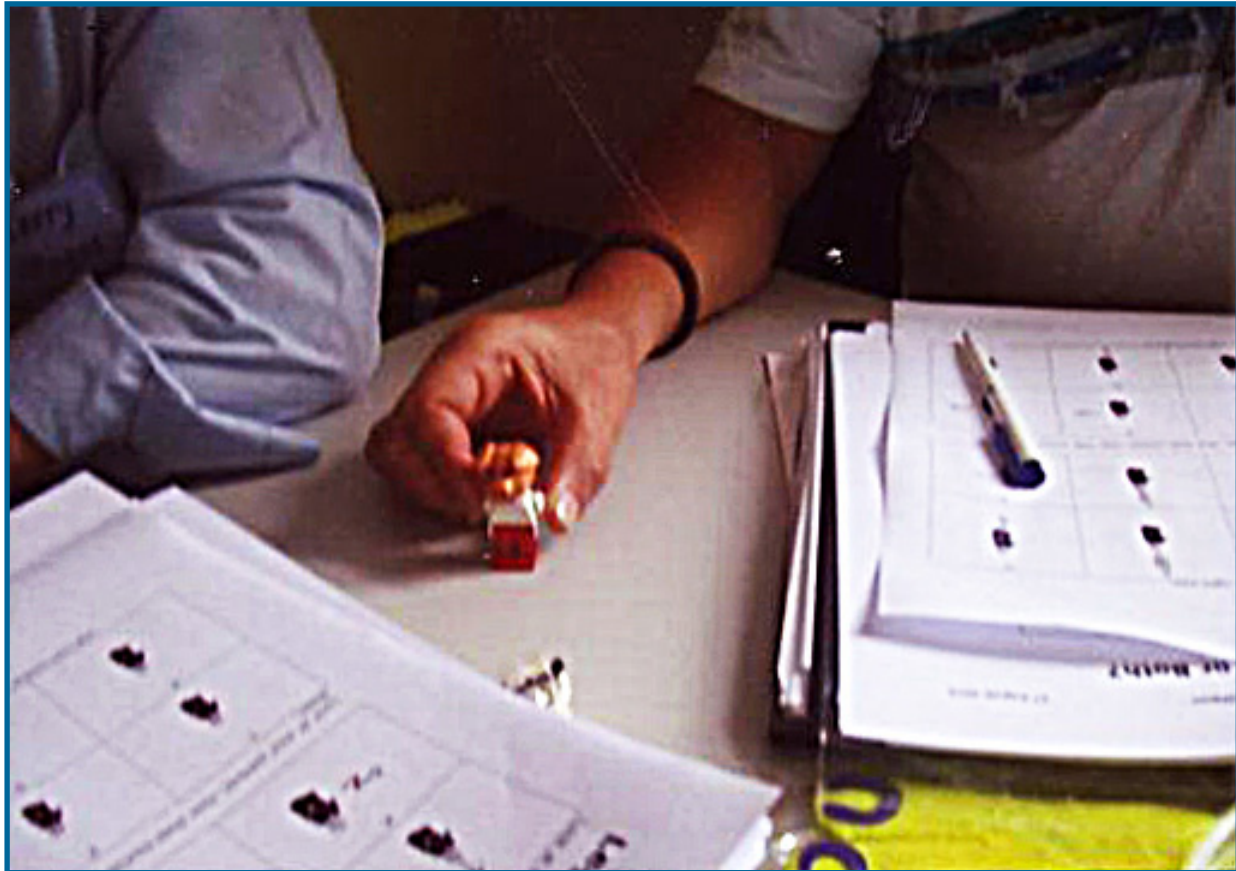
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## Left: Unique teaching tools...

Mavis Husbands holds a tiny Lego Man toy, moving the Lego Man in different directions, while another workshop participant writes the movement with SignWriting movement arrows. This was one of several creative teaching tools designed by Suzanne to help students learn SignWriting, not based on any one sign language, but based on writing general movement. Then later participants learned to apply this knowledge to writing British Sign Language (BSL). The **Lego Man worksheets**, along with other fun games such as **SignWriting Bingo**, can be downloaded on the SignWriting Workshop UK homepage:

[www.signwriting.org/uk/GB09.html](http://www.signwriting.org/uk/GB09.html)



**Above:** Workshop participants were given Lego Man toys to move in different directions. Other participants would write the movement of the toy on provided worksheets. Download worksheets on the Workshop UK homepage.

**Comment from teacher Suzanne Pach in an email following the workshop:** "I was very impressed with how quickly everyone grasped the different aspects of SignWriting and how well they recognised most of the written BSL example signs (which shows that SignWriting makes sense)...."

**Comment from participant in an email following the workshop:** "I would not have believed how much one can take in and learn in the space of a single day. This was not just "dipping-the-toe-in-the-water" training and tuition, it was the real thing... A genuinely positive experience all round...."

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Above: Left to right: Maureen Doyle, Judith Garman, Hugh Landsdowne, Pam Trujillo, and Gan Lu.

## Message from a workshop participant...

"With gratitude, I would like to say the workshop on Friday was a wonderful experience for me. Thanks to everyone so much for the effort you have put in. Thanks for Suzanne your clear and plain teaching, and the facilitator Maureen who organised this. Not only have I learned a lot from the workshop, but more, I'm being strengthened in faith that SignWriting will become extremely useful and widespread in BSL."



Above: Left to right: Jackie Aughton, Terry Paget, Neil Lewis, Mavis Husbands and Maria Nolan.

Right: Participants received a packet of SignWriting booklets, documents in BSL, a DVD on BSL and refreshments.



## Want to schedule a SignWriting Workshop in your area of the UK? Contact us:

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<http://www.practicemakesperfect.org.uk/>  
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...OR...

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