ABSTRACT Presentation 74 SignWriting Symposium 2018

The Importance of SignWriting for the Literacy of the Deaf from the Perspective of the Learner of LIBRAS, Whose Native Language is Spanish

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The present paper deals with the importance of Sign Language Writing/SignWriting System (SLW/SWS) in the deaf literacy, since the childhood education. The study suggests that using Sign Language Writing could change the education of deaf students who, knowing Sign Language and SLW/SWS would make it natural to assimilate school content. Moreover, it would facilitate and help overcome learning difficulties due to lack of knowledge of Portuguese written language. The research shows that, if SLW/SWS is first introduced, before Portuguese writing, a reasoning stimulus is produced to learn the second language by helping the deaf make a comparison between the SLW/SWS and the one produced in Portuguese. Another point is that, if the SLW/SWS is presented together with Portuguese, it will help the deaf concerning understanding and automatic reading. This is because sign language writing for deaf students provides a more natural learning, away from the language barrier and the embarrassment arising from the incompetence feeling.