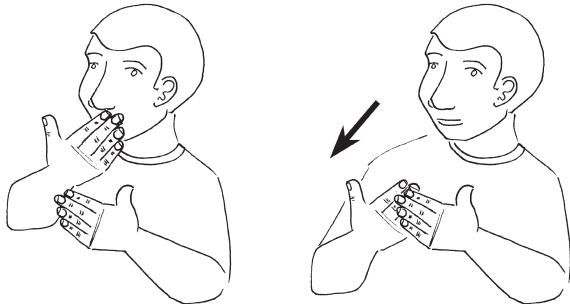


Opposites

We've seen about 35 pairs of opposites in our vocabulary, but we've not quite had enough. The world is full of opposites, and they fill our conversations.

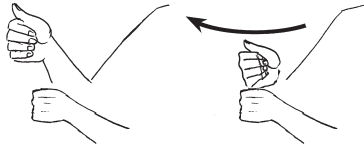


**GOOD, WELL, WELL-BEHAVED, POLITE,
WELL-MANNERED, OBEDIENT, HIGH-QUALITY,
GOOD QUALITY, FIRST-CLASS, FIRST-RATE,
SUPERIOR, EXCELLENT, TREMENDOUS,
DECENT, RESPECTABLE, MORAL, UPRIGHT,
VIRTUOUS, NOBLE, ENJOYABLE, PLEASANT,
SATISFACTORY, RELIABLE, AGREEABLE,
LOVELY, DELIGHTFUL, USEFUL, HELPFUL,
BENEFICIAL, TRUSTWORTHY,
ADVANTAGEOUS**

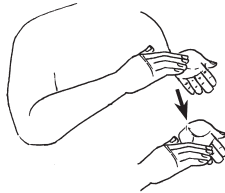
Now there's a mouthful for a simple sign. Some of these synonyms have better signs, but this sign will do just fine for now. It conveys a great deal of meaning. This sign is interchangeable with **THANK YOU** on page 123.



**BAD, NAUGHTY, DISOBEDIENT, UNRULY,
TROUBLESOME, MISCHIEVOUS, EVIL,
WICKED, CORRUPT, IMMORAL, INFERIOR,
DEFICIENT, SUBSTANDARD, FLAWED,
DEFECTIVE, IMPERFECT, SHODDY**

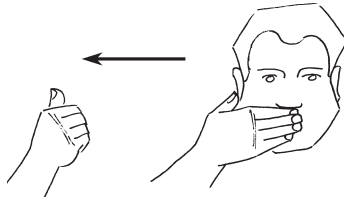


BLAME, ACCUSE



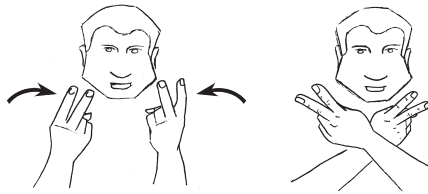
**FORGIVE, PARDON ME, EXCUSE, EXCUSE ME,
ABSOLVE, EXONERATE**

The dominant fingertips brush the subordinate palm. This sign is similar to *clean* on page 140, which uses two flat palms.



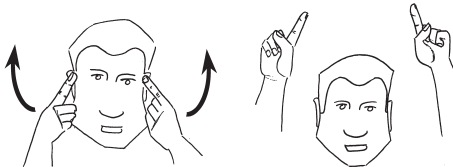
**BETTER, IMPROVED, ENHANCED, EXCEL,
SUPERIOR, OUTDO, OUTSHINE, SURPASS**

BEST begins with *better* and ends by raising the extended thumb with a jerk. The ending is an abbreviated form of *most* on page 164.

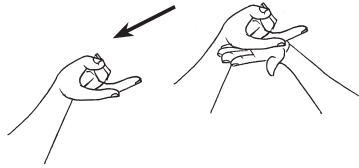


WORSE, INFERIOR, SHODDIER

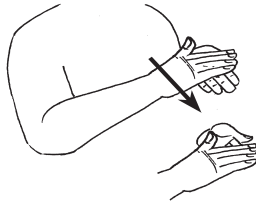
WORST begins with *worse* and ends by raising the extended thumb with a jerk. The ending is an abbreviated form of *most* on page 164.



**SUCCEED, SUCCESS, SUCCESSFUL,
ACCOMPLISH, ACHIEVE, ATTAIN,
PROSPER, TRIUMPH, THRIVE**



FAIL, FAILURE



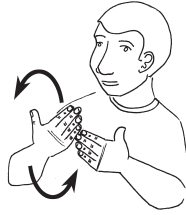
**CLEAN, NICE, PLAIN, NEAT, SPOTLESS,
FRESH, HYGIENIC, STERILE, SANITARY,
IMMACULATE, SPARKLING, UNSOILED,
UNCONTAMINATED, UNPOLLUTED, ORDERLY**

The dominant flat palm slides over the subordinate flat palm.
This sign is similar to *forgive* on pages 124 and 138, which
brushes the dominant fingertips over the subordinate palm.



**DIRTY, UNCLEAN, FILTHY, FOUL, GRIMY, SOIL,
SOILED, MUDDY, SULLIED, IMPURE, GRUBBY,
POLLUTED, NASTY, STAIN**

These fingers are all wiggling.



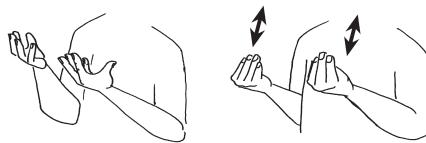
**EASY, EFFORTLESS, PAINLESS, PAIN-FREE,
TROUBLE-FREE, STRAIGHT FORWARD,
UNCOMPLICATED, SIMPLE, UNDEMANDING**

The dominant hand circles around two or more times, tapping the back of the subordinate fingers. This is similar to *almost* on page 154, which has only one motion.



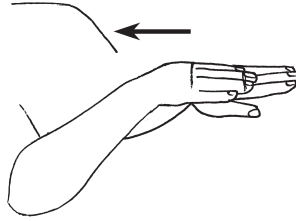
**HARD, DIFFICULT, PROBLEMATICAL, TRICKY,
TOUGH, CHALLENGING, DEMANDING, SOLID,
FIRM, STIFF, RIGID**

The index and middle fingers are bent as in the *X – hand shape*.



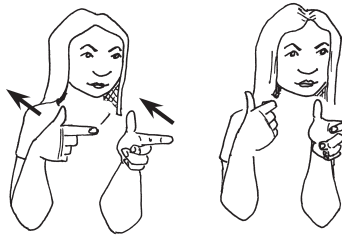
SOFT, SPONGY

This is similar to *wet* on page 151. *Soft* is signed two or more times with a flowing rhythmic quality. *Wet* is signed very abruptly once or twice.

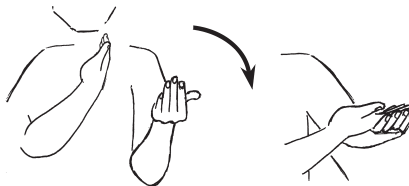


**SLOW, SLUGGISH, UNHURRIED,
DAWDLING, TEDIOUS**

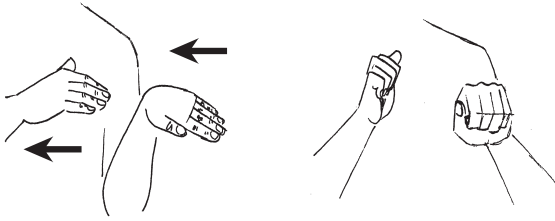
The dominant hand moves backward along the top of the subordinate hand and arm. How slowly it moves depends on the message. A *pained expression* emphasizes slowness.



**FAST, QUICK, AUTOMATIC, SPEEDY, RAPID,
SWIFT, PROMPT, HASTY, IMMEDIATE,
EXPRESS, EXPEDITIOUS, ABRUPT**



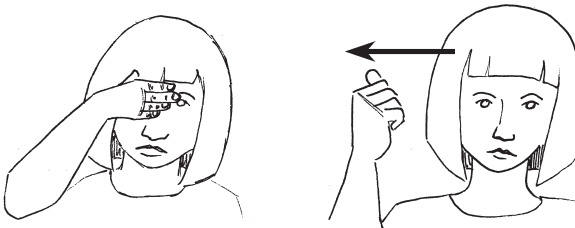
ARRIVE, REACH, LAND



**LEAVE, DEPART, GO, TAKE OFF, EVACUATE,
WITHDRAW, RUN OFF, DISAPPEAR, EXIT**

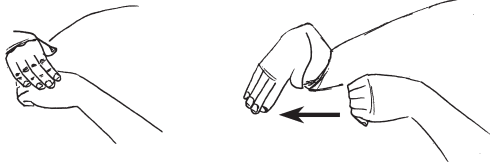


**REMEMBER, MEMORY, RECALL,
RECOLLECT**



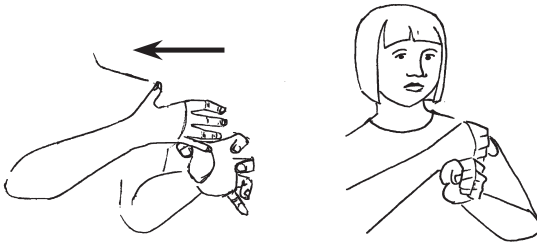
FORGET

It's wiping something from the mind.

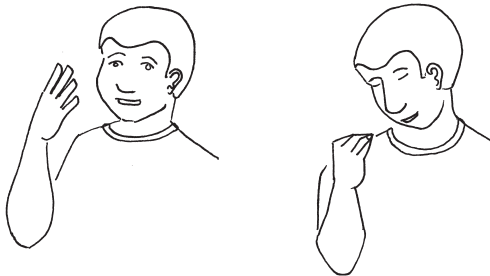


SEND, TRANSMIT, DISPATCH

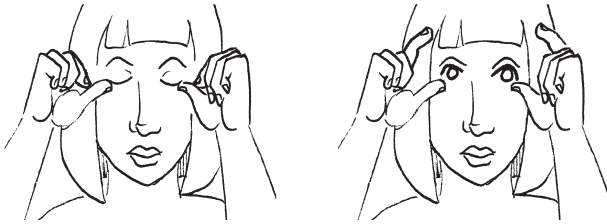
This could be a directional sign, moving in the direction of transmission.



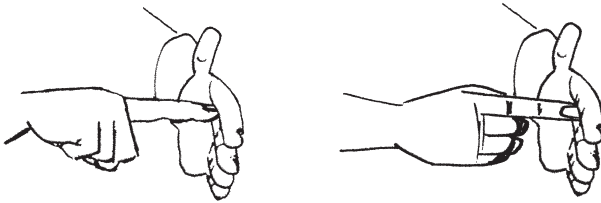
**GET, ACQUIRE, OBTAIN, PROCURE,
RECEIVE, GRAB**



**SLEEP, NAP, SNOOZE, DOZE,
SLUMBER, CATNAP**



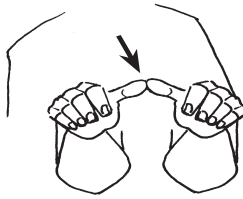
**AWAKE, AWAKEN, STIRRING, ALERT,
AROUSE, WAKE UP, OPEN EYES**



**BEGIN, START, COMMENCE, INITIATE, ORIGIN,
ORIGINATE, ACTIVATE, INSTIGATE**

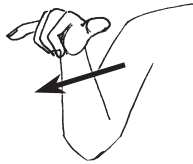


STOP, CEASE, DESIST, HALT



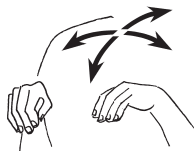
**CONTINUE, ENDURE, TO LAST, LASTING,
PERMANENT, PERSEVERE, PERSIST, REMAIN,
STAY, MAINTAIN, PROLONG**

The movement is forward.



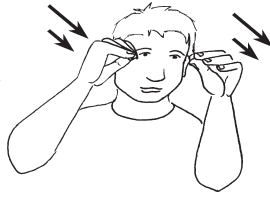
STAY, REMAIN

This is the same hand shape as *this* and *that* on page 99,
which uses more wrist action.



MOVE, SHIFT, BUDGE, MIGRATE, PLACE, PUT

The hands move in tandem in any direction that seems
appropriate.



**TEACH, EDUCATE, INDOCTRINATE,
INDOCTRINATION, INSTRUCT,
INSTRUCTION**

Add *-er* on page 133 for **TEACHER**.



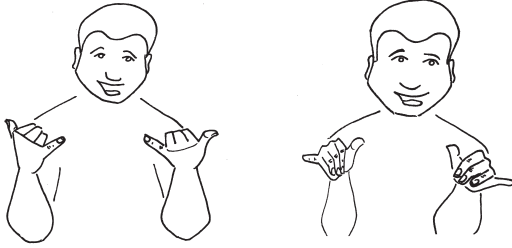
LEARN, EDUCATION

Add *-er* on page 133 for **STUDENT**.



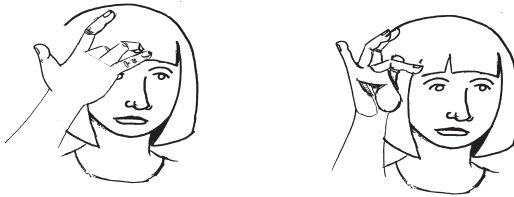
**WORK, JOB, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR,
OCCUPATION, TASK, TOIL**

Add *-er* on page 133 for **WORKER** and **LABORER**.

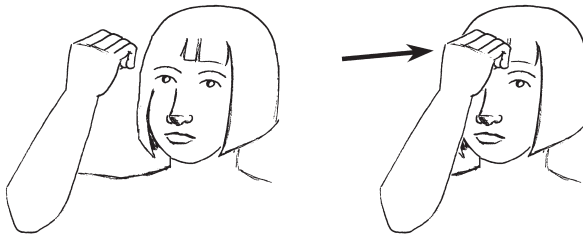


PLAY, FROLIC, RECREATION

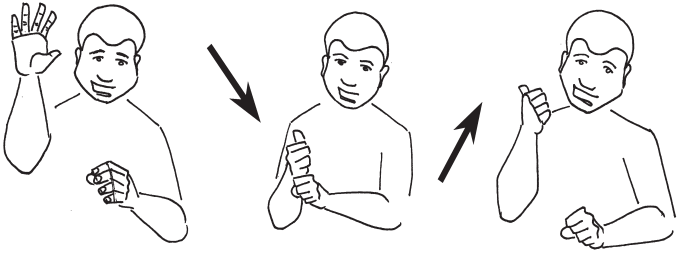
Wiggle both hand shapes. Use *T – hand shapes* for **TOYS**.



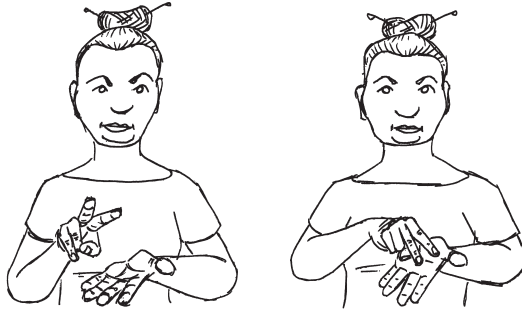
**SMART, INTELLIGENT, CLEVER,
SHARP, QUICK, BRIGHT**



**DUMB, STUPID, UNINTELLIGENT,
DENSE, SLOW, BRAINLESS**



WIN, TRIUMPH, VICTORY, PREVAIL

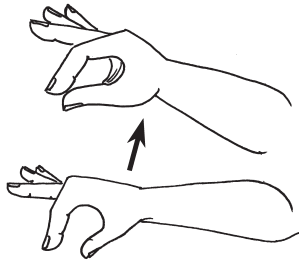


LOSE (a contest)



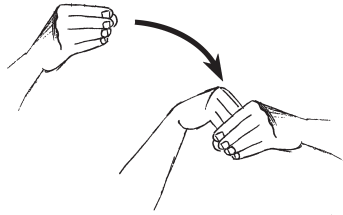
LOSE, LOST, MISPLACE, FORFEIT, DROP

As if dropping something.

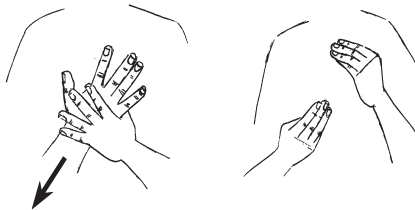


**FIND, DISCOVER, LOCATE, UNEARTH, UNCOVER,
STUMBLE ON, PICK, CHOOSE, SELECT**

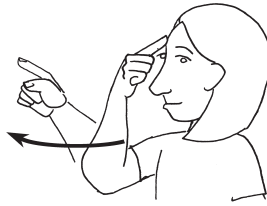
Imagine picking up something. Use two hands if there are a lot of things.



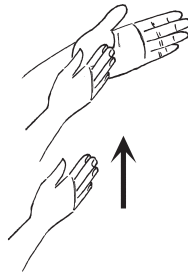
IN, INSIDE, INTO, WITHIN



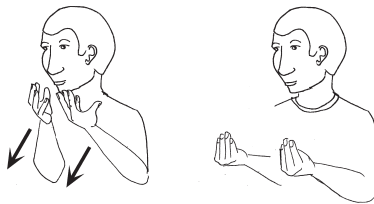
**OUT, ABSENCE, ABSENT, DEPLETED, GONE,
DISAPPEAR, EXTINCT, MISSING, VANISH**



FOR, PRO



**AGAINST, ANTI, VERSUS, IN OPPOSITION,
HOSTILE TO**

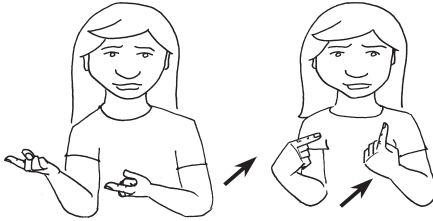


**WET, DAMP, MOIST, SOAKED, SIPPING,
DRENCHED, SOGGY, DRIPPING**

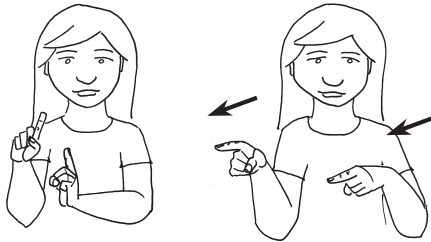
The sign begins in front of the mouth. This is similar to *soft* on page 141. *Soft* is signed two or more times with a flowing rhythmic quality. *Wet* is signed very abruptly once or twice.



**DRY, ARID, WATERLESS, PARCHED,
DEHYDRATED**

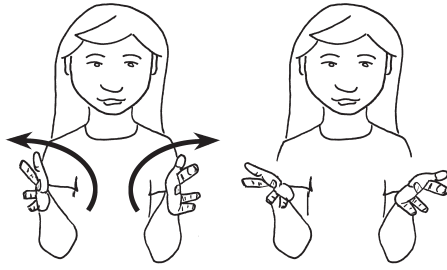


COME

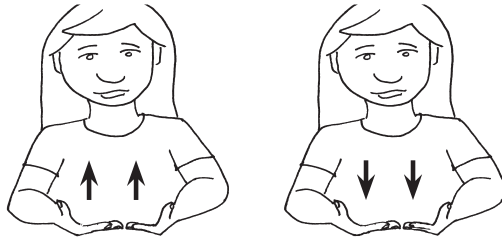


GO, TRAVEL

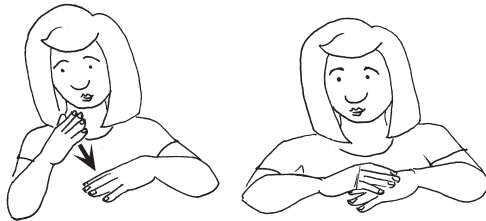
This can be a directional sign. Move it in the direction of *travel*.



LIGHT, BUOYANT, FLUFFY, WISPY



HEAVY

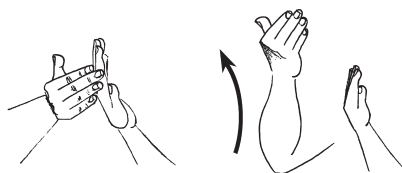


ON



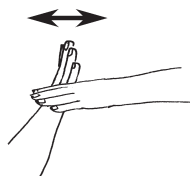
OFF

Opposites help define our reality, but we don't live in a world of extremes. Opposites are merely opposing sides of the neutral bar, and there's a great deal of gray between the poles. Things can be *almost* this or that, or anywhere in *between*.



ALMOST, NEARLY

This sign is similar to *easy* on page 141. *Almost* is signed only once while *easy* repeats the sign two or more times.



BETWEEN

We're back to the scale we started with on page 49.