



MTO 27.1 Examples: Maler, Rhythmic Techniques in Deaf Hip Hop

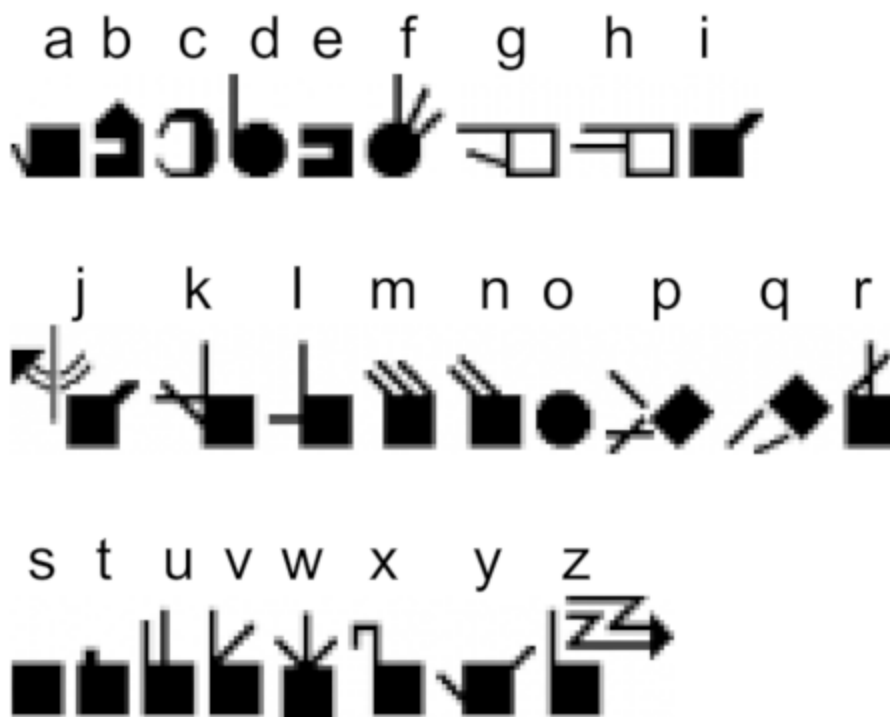
(Note: audio, video, and other interactive examples are only available online)

<https://mtosmt.org/issues/mto.21.27.1/mto.21.27.1.maler.html>

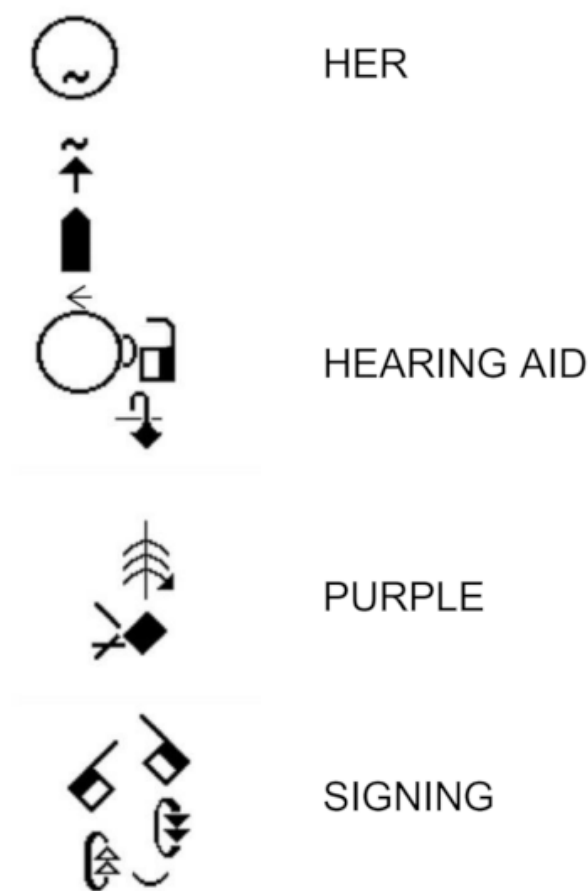
Example 1. The Sutton SignWriting symbol for “sign.”



Figure 1. The letters of the ASL manual alphabet in SignWriting



Example 2. Wawa, “Only ASL One,” opening, transcribed using Sutton SignWriting. The lyrics rapped by Wawa in English are: “Her hearing aids were purple, moving hands in a circle.” Each sign is accompanied here by an English gloss in uppercase letters that summarizes the sign’s meaning.



Example 3. Wawa, “Only ASL One,” opening, transcribed using the dip hop transcription system

Signed Rap

HER HEARING AID PURPLE SIGNING DON'T KNOW

Non-signed Rap

Her hear - ing aids were purp - le mov - ing hands in a cir - cle did - n't

Example 4. Sean Forbes, "A Song For My Haters," verse 2

$\text{♩} = 108$

Signed rap

Non-signed rap

Keyboard

Snare

Bass drum

$\text{♩} = 108$

I ACTUALLY_ HATE PATRONIZED

Actu - a - lly hate be - ing pat - ro - nized,___ or

2

HAVE SMOKE BLOW UP MY ASS_ ONLY SOMETIMES WILL I SPEAK BACK HAVE

hav - ing smoke blown up my ass. But on - ly some-times will I talk back, you have to

4

WORD FLUENT WITH OBSERVATIONS HATE EVERYONE HAVE NO PATIENCE

be a word-smith with ob - ser - vat - ions. Hate - ful to ev - 'ry - one and have no pa - tience, don't

6

DON'T WANT BULLY COMMON HATER

wan - na be bull - ied by the com - mon ha - - - ter.

Example 5. Sean Forbes, "Watch These Hands," verse 2

$\text{♩} = 123$

Signed rap

Non-signed rap

LOOK LOOK-AT ME ANALYZE LOOK-AT FACE

Look - in' look - in' look - in' look - in' look - in' look - in' look - in' look - in'

3

LOOK LIPS YOU ASK ME WHAT WRONG WITH US WHY RIDE SHORT BUS

AT

Look at your lips and you asked... what's wrong... with us, why we rode the short bus, the

6

SMALL BUS TO SCHOOL I LUCKY PAST ENOUGH PAH FINISH L H

short bus to school. I was for - tu - nate e - nough I made it out of Lah - ser High School.

9

THEN BARELY ESCAPE FINISH R I T index_MOST index KIDS I RIDE B-U-S WITH NEVER SEE FIFTEE

And then I made it out-ta R. I. T. most of the kids I rode the bus with nev-er saw fif-teen.

Example 6. Sean Forbes, "I'm Deaf," verse 3

♩ = 90

Signed rap

FEEL

CAN'T

HEAR C - L - E - F

WHAT

Non-signed rap

I can feel the bass, can't hear the treb - le clef,

3

EXPECT

WHEN YOU WORK

DEAF

what do you ex - pect when you're so so deaf?

Example 7. Sean Forbes, "Watch These Hands," opening

♩ = 123

Signed rap

LOOK-AT-ME LOOK-AT-ME NO

LOOK-AT HANDS

EXPRESS EXPERT

Non-signed rap

Watch watch watch these hands they can dance, they can sing,

4

they can dance, they can

Example 8. Sean Forbes, "I'm Deaf," verse 3

♩ = 90

Signed Rap

Non-signed Rap

I PREFER NOT HEAR PREFER NOT HEAR

I'd rath - er not hear, rath - er not list -

3

I PERFECT NOTHING NEVER RESTRICT

- en, I'm the per - fect im - per - fec - tion ne - ver re - strict - ed

Example 9. A transcribed excerpt of Cardi B's "Bodak Yellow" (2017, 0:14-44)

Cardi B

Said lil' bitch you can't fuck with me if you want ed to, these ex - pen-sive these is red bot-toms

4

these is blood-y shoes. Hit the store, I can get 'em both, I don't wan-na choose and I'm quick cut a n-g-ga off so

8

don't get comf(or) ta-ble. Look I don't dance now, I make mon-ey move. Say I don't got-ta dance,

12

I make mon - ey move. If I see you (and)I don't speak, that means

14

I don't fuck with you. I'm a boss, you a work - er bitch, I make blood - y moves.

Example 10. A transcribed excerpt of Kyle’s verse in Donnie Trumpet and the Social Experiment’s “Wanna Be Cool” (2015, 2:32–2:44)

The musical score is in 4/4 time with a tempo of 115 BPM. It features three staves of music with lyrics underneath. Rhyme words are highlighted in colored boxes: orange for 'por - tant' and 'for - tune', blue for 'Good - will' and 'good', and pink for 'Pay - less', 'pay less', and 'bae - less'. The lyrics are: 'It's eas - y and it's so im - por - tant, be - in' cool should-n't cost a for - tune. Bab-y got her jeans from Good - will, but I bet that ass__ look good__ still. O-kay let's re- mem-ber that shop-ping at Pay - less it just means you pay less it don't mean you're bae - less.'

Figure 2. Rhythm-rhyme interaction types in dip hop

<p><u>Type 1</u></p> <p>Signed layer aligned Non-signed layer aligned</p>	<p><u>Type 3</u></p> <p>Signed layer aligned Non-signed layer not aligned</p>
<p><u>Type 2</u></p> <p>Signed layer not aligned Non-signed layer aligned</p>	<p><u>Type 4</u></p> <p>Signed layer not aligned Non-signed layer not aligned</p>

Example 11. Wawa, "Faceless Man," verse 2

♩ = 78

Signed Rap

SANDWICH MILK -index LITTLE - BOY CHILL YOU CAN'T YOU ME MEET ME

Vocal Rap

Sand - wich and milk he said "Lit - tle boy just chill, you can't come with me." I'm like what

3

DON'T CAPTION

ev - er Tom and Jer - ry keep me comp - an - y. It did - n't have

4

BUT ACTIVE - ENJOY LAUGH DONE FINISH

cap - tions but it had act - ions (en)joyed the show, got me laugh - in' times up.

Example 12. Wawa, "Only ASL One," first verse

Signed Rap $\text{♩} = 120$ $4/4$

HER HEARING AID PURPLE. SIGNING DON'T KNOW

Non-signed Rap $4/4$

Her hear - ing aids were purp - le mov - ing hands in a cir - cle did - n't

2

WHAT SAY BECAUSE KNOW I NERVOUS SHE

know what she say - in' but she knew that I was ner - vous. She's

3

LOOK AT ME FUNNY WHY? SIGNING AWKWARD RECENT

loo - kin' at me fun - ny 'cause my signs were ver - y clum - sy star - ted

4

LEARN RECENT LAST MONTH TEACHER SAY I TERRIBLE

lear - in' just a month a - go, teach - ers think I'm ter - ri - ble.

Example 13. Sean Forbes, “Two Blown Speakers,” verse 2

Signed Rap

♩ = 85

PEOPLE MEET___ PROGRESS___ IMPACT___ MANY WAYS___ NOT

Non-signed Rap

Peop-le we meet a-long the way have such an ef-fect in so man-y ways

Signed Rap

EVERY-ONE LOVE YOU ALWAYS ENOUGH___ ALMOST CITY M-E-D-I-A SHOW UP EVERY

Non-signed Rap

Not ev-ery-one loves you but there's alw-ays en-ough in al-most ev-ry town the med-i-a shows up

The image displays a musical score for the song "Two Blown Speakers" by Sean Forbes, specifically verse 2. It compares two versions of the rap: "Signed Rap" and "Non-signed Rap". The "Signed Rap" version includes visual annotations such as hand signs and a tempo marking of 85. The "Non-signed Rap" version is a plain musical notation. The lyrics are written below the notes, and some words are highlighted in colored boxes (blue, orange, purple) to indicate specific features or emphasis. The score is divided into two systems, each with two staves. The first system covers the first two measures, and the second system covers the next two measures. The lyrics are: "PEOPLE MEET___ PROGRESS___ IMPACT___ MANY WAYS___ NOT" and "Peop-le we meet a-long the way have such an ef-fect in so man-y ways" for the first system; and "EVERY-ONE LOVE YOU ALWAYS ENOUGH___ ALMOST CITY M-E-D-I-A SHOW UP EVERY" and "Not ev-ery-one loves you but there's alw-ays en-ough in al-most ev-ry town the med-i-a shows up" for the second system.

Example 14. Sean Forbes, "I'm Deaf," verse 3

The image displays two musical staves for the song "I'm Deaf" by Sean Forbes, verse 3. The top staff is labeled "Signed rap" and the bottom staff is labeled "Non-signed rap". Both are in 4/4 time with a tempo of 90 BPM. Above the staves, two sets of hand signs are shown: a double down arrow for "CAN" and a double up arrow for "KEYS".

Signed rap staff:

- BLIND
- CAN (highlighted in an orange box)
- PIANO
- AND H

Non-signed rap staff:

- Ste - vie Won - der nev - er saw the
- keys (highlighted in a purple box)
- and Hel - len

Second system:


Signed rap staff:

- K
- CAN (highlighted in an orange box)
- COMMUNICATE

Non-signed rap staff:

- Kel - ler was cap - a - ble of com - mun - i - cat - ing (highlighted in a purple box)



Example 15. Signmark, "The Letter," verse 2

Signed Rap $\text{♩} = 98$ $\frac{4}{4}$ 

I LIVE COMMUNITY IN TIGHT KNIT WORLD





Non-signed Rap $\frac{4}{4}$

I live in a comm - u - ni - ty so tight, world - wide.

2  

ONE BLINK LOST ONE OUR WORLD LIFE LOST AGE YOUNG REALLY

In one blink of an eye, we lost one of us. A life ta - ken at an age so

4    

WRONG WHAT? OUR WORLD SHOCKED LIKE RIPPER COME TAKE

young so wrong our whole world was sha - ken. It's like the Rip-per came and took you from us.

