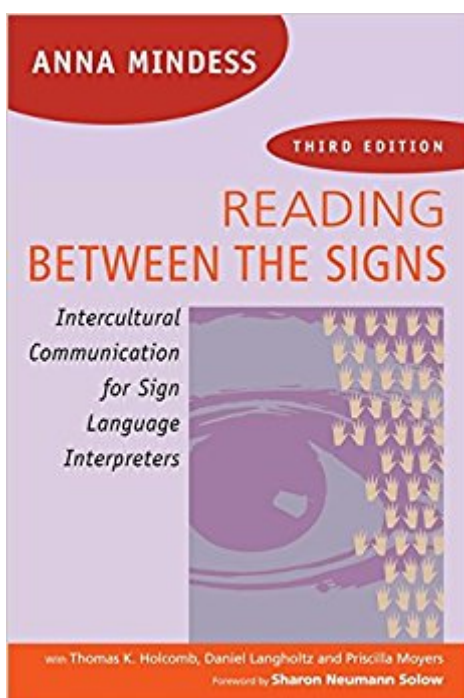


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# Reading Between The Signs: Intercultural Communication For Sign Language Interpreters 3rd Edition



## Synopsis

In *Reading Between the Signs*, Anna Mindess provides a perspective on a culture that is not widely understood—American Deaf culture. With the collaboration of three distinguished Deaf consultants, Mindess explores the implications of cultural differences at the intersection of the Deaf and hearing worlds. Used in sign language interpreter training programs worldwide, *Reading Between the Signs* is a resource for students, working interpreters and other professionals. This important new edition retains practical techniques that enable interpreters to effectively communicate their clients' intent, while its timely discussion of the interpreter's role is broadened in a cultural context. **NEW TO THIS EDITION:** New chapter explores the changing landscape of the interpreting field and discusses the concepts of Deafhood and Deaf heart. This examination of using Deaf interpreters pays respect to the profession, details techniques and shows the benefits of collaboration.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Mindess's first book helps the professional sign language interpreter provide more effective service through an understanding of deaf culture and cross-cultural communication. Mindess, herself a veteran interpreter, introduces the main concepts of intercultural communication in the first half of her work, drawing on examples from anthropology, linguistics, and related fields. She highlights differences between hearing culture and deaf culture in America that can compromise clarity in translation situations. Finally, Mindess explores the responsibilities of translators and their primary

role as mediators, recognizing that American Sign Language (ASL) translators raised outside deaf culture must learn its nuances to maintain professional quality. In comparison, Melanie Metzger's more research-oriented *Sign Language Interpreting: Deconstructing the Myth of Neutrality* (Gallaudet Univ., 1999) reveals how interpreters influence a translation interaction. Although less academic in nature, Mindess's book is a better resource for the interpreter and is recommended for large public libraries and appropriate educational and professional settings. Andy Wickens, Univ. of Illinois-Chicago Lib. of the Health Sciences Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A must-read! An enlightening book . . . a defining document in the literature of Deaf culture. •Eileen Forestal, Professor, ASL Studies / Interpreting Training, Union County College  
A dazzling application of the tools of intercultural communication that illuminates Deaf and hearing cultures and their differences . . . This is a book for everyone interested in Deaf culture. •Harlan Lane, Author of *The Mask of Benevolence: Reading Between the Signs*, Third Edition, adds a terrific new chapter about Deaf heart and the tradition of Deaf interpreters, and includes the reflections of several Deaf interpreters on their experiences working with Deaf consumers, detailing ways we utilize cultural adjustments for more effective communication. Essential reading for anyone working with Deaf people or seeking a greater understanding of communication between Deaf and hearing culture. •Ai-Media

I had to read this book for my interpreting license. As a whole the book was very long and drawn out. It was also somewhat confusing as it continually switched back and forth to the now requirements and the past desired attitude toward interpreters. It was however informative and yes I would recommend it to another sign language interpreter.

I'm not an interpreter, but this book explained the nuances of Deaf culture and how it relates to other cultures. If you skip over the passages specific for interpreting, this is a wonderful resource for oral deaf adults familiarizing themselves with the cultural mores prevalent in the Deaf community.

This book entitled "*Reading Between the Signs: Intercultural Communication for Sign Language Interpreters (2nd edition)*" is the most indepth study of cultural mediation that I have ever seen. Anna Mindness does a wonderjul job of helping an interpreter to see where communication barriers exist, and then explain how to bridge those gaps. Why are cultures different? What is cultural

mediation? How do you convey a message between conflicting cultures? What tools can effective interpreters use to empower the clients we serve toward better communication when obstacles exist? After reading this book, I found myself making adjustments in interpreting, and was able to see positive results in terms of faithfully communicating source language messages to the recipients. If one reads this book, and applies the principles learned toward their work, it will assist in making them a better interpreter, and ultimately a better communicator between cultures. I highly recommend this book to others and express my thanks to the author for putting the elements of intercultural communication together in one great volume.

Listen up ITP trainers! "Reading Between the Signs" is a true gem and should be required reading for all students in Interpreter Training Programs nationwide. Mindess and her publisher's copy editors possess the requisite skills to render a typographically error-free book with pleasing margins and fonts, unlike Alcorn and Humphrey's "So You Want to Be an Interpreter," a required text of many ITPs. Unlike Alcorn and Humphrey, who dutifully introduce and briefly discuss cross-cultural differences and how they influence sign language interpreting, Mindess thoughtfully and thoroughly takes the reader on an extended journey with deep, eye-opening analysis and a plethora of real-world examples that interpreters encounter every day. It's easy to understand the content with so many supporting examples of it throughout the text. Like an engaging movie, play, or book that requires the moviegoer, theatergoer, or reader to use his/her critical thinking skills and comparisons to one's own experiences to what s/he experiences in that particular media, Mindess' book goes by quickly, because the content is so well-developed and on-point. I found this book quite by accident. It was on a reading list of an online course I took to prepare for the NIC Knowledge Exam. I found it to be extraordinarily helpful in filling in the gaps I had regarding cross-cultural communication between the hearing and Deaf communities. It answered a lot of questions I had and I felt much better having read it before taking the NIC Knowledge Exam (which I successfully passed). A must-have on your professional bookshelf!

Needed this for a college class. I still use it from time to time. Good reference book!

Good primer for the NIC written test. Great book to add to your reference library for future reference and discussion with colleagues you mentor.

Great book about the Deaf community

Great price, super fast shipping, exactly as described. Thank you!

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