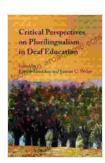
Critical Perspectives on Plurilingualism in Deaf Education

Plurilingualism, the ability to use multiple languages, is a growing phenomenon in Deaf education. Deaf students are increasingly exposed to and using multiple languages, both spoken and signed. This has led to a growing interest in plurilingualism in Deaf education and the need to consider its implications for teaching, learning, and assessment.



Critical Perspectives on Plurilingualism in Deaf

Education by Kristin Snoddon

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This article explores the critical perspectives on plurilingualism in Deaf education. We will discuss the challenges and opportunities for Deaf students to acquire and use multiple languages. We will also consider the implications of plurilingualism for teaching, learning, and assessment in Deaf education.

Challenges of Plurilingualism in Deaf Education

There are a number of challenges that Deaf students face in acquiring and using multiple languages. These challenges include:

- **Access to language models.** Deaf students may not have access to native-speaking models of multiple languages, which can make it difficult for them to acquire the languages' phonology, grammar, and vocabulary.
- **Cognitive demands.** Acquiring and using multiple languages can be cognitively demanding, especially for Deaf students who may have other learning challenges.
- **Social factors.** Deaf students may face social pressures to use only one language, which can make it difficult for them to develop and maintain proficiency in multiple languages.

Opportunities of Plurilingualism in Deaf Education

Despite the challenges, plurilingualism can also offer a number of opportunities for Deaf students. These opportunities include:

- **Enhanced communication.** Plurilingual Deaf students can communicate with a wider range of people, both Deaf and hearing.
- **Cognitive benefits.** Acquiring and using multiple languages can improve Deaf students' cognitive skills, such as memory, attention, and problem-solving.
- **Cultural enrichment.** Plurilingual Deaf students can experience the cultures associated with the languages they know, which can broaden their perspectives and understanding of the world.

Implications for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

The growing number of plurilingual Deaf students has implications for teaching, learning, and assessment in Deaf education. These implications include:

Teaching

- Teachers need to be aware of the challenges and opportunities of plurilingualism for Deaf students.
- Teachers need to provide Deaf students with access to nativespeaking models of multiple languages.
- Teachers need to use teaching methods that are appropriate for plurilingual Deaf students.

Learning

- Deaf students need to be motivated to acquire and use multiple languages.
- Deaf students need to have opportunities to use multiple languages in meaningful ways.
- Deaf students need to be assessed in ways that are fair and equitable.

Assessment

- Assessments of Deaf students' language skills need to be adapted to take into account their plurilingualism.
- Assessments need to be designed to measure Deaf students' abilities in all of the languages they know.
- Assessments need to be fair and equitable for all Deaf students.

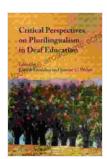
Plurilingualism is a growing phenomenon in Deaf education. It offers a number of challenges and opportunities for Deaf students. Teachers, researchers, and policymakers need to be aware of these challenges and opportunities in Free Download to ensure that Deaf students have the best possible educational experiences.

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 Deaf student signing in multiple languages. Retrieved from https://www.deafeducation.org/resources/articles/plurilingualism-deafeducation



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