



*A good eye and ear for detail combined with loads of patience make Lisa June a top captioner.*  
Photo: Billie Fairdough

## Lisa's job is watching movies

**Lisa June watches all sorts of programs for a living and it can take her three or four weeks to watch a 90-minute feature movie.**

That is because Lisa is a captioner, and while she watches she transcribes what is said into subtitles for the scenes.

Lisa has been a captioner at Shenton College's Deaf Education Centre for about five years, graduating to that job from a position as a note-taker for deaf students.

Today she has developed her expertise to such a level that she was recently asked to Victoria's Bendigo Deaf Education facili-

ty to help set up its captioning facility.

She said Shenton College's centre was the perfect model for others.

It caters for 27 deaf and hearing-impaired students. Lisa said it was the best-resourced high school for deaf students that she knew of in WA.

"Most schools don't have the facilities we have for deaf students - we have the note-takers, the interpreters, the teachers - and some of them are actually deaf teachers," she said.

"We have a classroom set up with special technology like a white board and other facilities that allow our students to com-

municate with other deaf students across Australia.

"And then we have the captioning centre."

Captioning is a lengthy process. It begins with transcribing the movie or program to text.

"So we listen and type exactly what we hear and put that through the computer, which involves a couple of different processes," Lisa said.

"Then we line it up to match in with the words on the screen and then burn it."

Lisa said it was much more accurate than voice-to-text programs, which she found frustrating and which sometimes resulted in poor captioning.