Visual Scene Displays

**Purposes:**
1. To provide a brief introduction to persons with aphasia
2. To examine the role of context in aphasia intervention
3. To describe the Visual Scenes Display Project
4. To present experiences of 3 persons with aphasia

Aphasia and Apraxia

- **Aphasia:** A language interpretation (reception) and formulation (expression) impairment resulting from an acquired brain injury
- **Apraxia of Speech:** A neurogenic speech disorder that is characterized by erroneous production of speech sounds, reduced rate of speech, increased time in transitioning between sounds, syllables, and words, and disordered prosody

Review of Capability

- Reductions in comprehension and expression of language including retrieving words or sentence structures

Review of Capability

- Relatively preserved intellectual ability
- Relatively preserved visual-spatial ability
- Preserved memory
- May experience reduction in processing speed, attention, problem solving
Range of Capabilities

- Wide range of differences
  - Residual capabilities
  - Overall severity
  - Response to intervention

Aphasia Intervention

- Reduce the severity of the impairment with the goal of restoring language processing.
- Develop and maintain compensatory strategies to support communication interaction
- Both

Listeners

- Severe aphasia not only impacts the speaker, but also the listener(s)
- For more severe aphasia, the listener must play an important role in co-constructing messages and intents
- It is common for a person (or a couple of people) close to the individual with aphasia to adopt the role of communication facilitator or interpreter.

Impact on Social Roles

- Prior to aphasia, the individual has usually lived a typical life with multiple social roles and relationship.
- Severe aphasia dramatically reduces one's social network
- A goal of intervention is to maintain and expand their social network.

AAC and Aphasia

Wide range of strategies are currently employed to support communication interaction depending on needs and capabilities of the individual:
- Drawing (Lyons)
- Written Choice (Garrett)
- Communication Books: To support attempts to communicate through residual speech
- AAC devices—Often to support specific functions—telephone, presentations, routine communication such as greetings, prayers, jokes, and so on.

Goal of the Current Project

- The VISUAL SCENES project is designed to develop strategies to provide persons with aphasia (and apraxia) with visual contextual support to navigate the options of AAC strategies and to communicate messages
Hello

John Wayne
Roles he played
What is your favorite John Wayne movie?
Clark Gable
Gone with the Wind
What else have you seen him in?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Home  Back

Hello

Clue 1
Clue 2
Clue 3
Clue 4
Clue 5

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Home  Back

Hello

Veteran's honor rose
I love roses.
What kind of flowers do you like?
Mandevilla
Tell me about your flowers

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Home  Back

Hello

First Roses
45 years ago
Tell me about your first house?
Golden Shower
Do you have a favorite flower?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Home  Back

Hello

The mums are blooming
Tell me about your favorite flowers
Purple mums
Your favorite season

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Home  Back

Hello

Please Clean

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Home  Back
Ron
Low tech visual scenes
Kristy Weissling, SLP
Context in therapy

Today's session

Not good 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very good

Pictures you used

Not good 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Very good

Visual Scenes and traditional therapy

I want to eat at ______. Are we eating at ______?
Let's go to ______.

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