

Communication Tools within the Stroke and Brain Injury Persona



Topics & Topic Messages

Everyday we have conversations about Topics that are important to us - the weather, what's for dinner or our families. Each Topic has a related Topic picture and Topic Messages. You can communicate by pointing to things in the picture itself or by selecting a message. Use Topics to improve how you communicate about the things you say every single day.



Quick Fires

QuickFires are little words you can use in every Topic and environment. Use them to ask and answer questions, get attention, manage conversations or to be polite. Use them alone or in combination.



Whiteboard

The Whiteboard is like a blank piece of paper that you write or draw on with your finger to help you communicate. Use it to write letters, numbers, or words or to draw pictures to show your communication partner. Your communication partner could use it to write or draw too. You can save your drawing or message to use in a future conversation.



Keyboard

Use the Keyboard to communicate with a single letter to a full word. Your Keyboard may be Alphabetical, QWERTY or AEIOU format and have Word Prediction that will guess the words you might be typing based on the letters you enter.



Rating Scale

The Rating Scale can be used by you and your communication partner to make conversation easier to understand. You can use it to share your opinion ("Great-OK-Bad"), or rate pain clearly (1-10). Your communication partner can use it to make what they say more clear as well.



Word Lists

Word Lists are lists of words organized in categories. In each Topic, there are Word Lists related to that topic. You also have access to all Word Lists from the Toolbar. Word Lists can be customized by adding or deleting words and turning symbols on or off.



Scripts

Scripts are a series of messages that appear in order to help you communicate in situations that are important to you. Scripts can be used to tell stories, share information back and forth, and to practice, as a cue for what to say verbally. Every Topic has three scripts that you can use as is or edit, or you can add your own.



Collages

Collages provide you with the ability to show several pictures or activities at one time. For example, you could have several pictures of yourself participating in activities you enjoy, or several pictures from a vacation to talk about the different places you visited during a trip.

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What are System Levels? A step-by-step system designed to gradually introduce tools for communication and teach you how to use them. There are 5 levels and everyone starts at Level 1. You can progress through the levels at your own pace whether it takes a day, a month, or several months. It is a self-directed system so feel free to stop at the level where you are most comfortable.

TIP #1

Move on to the next System Level when you and your communication partners are using the tools in your current Level even if you still need some help or if you need or want more communication tools.



1 LEVEL

- Topics with 4 related Topic messages
- Whiteboard
- Rating Scale

2 LEVEL

- Additional Topics (swipe or scroll to view)
- Whiteboard with save
- Rating Scale
- Scripts

3 LEVEL

- All tools in the previous levels
- Hotspots
- QuickFires

4 LEVEL

- All tools in the previous levels
- Keyboards
- Word Lists

5 LEVEL

- All tools in the previous levels
- Collages

TIP #2

At Level 2 and above, consider expanding the number of Topics and visible Topic Messages through the Topic Settings in the System Levels menu.

