

Handbook of Exercises for Language Processing

by Andrea M. Lazzari and Patricia Myers Peters

Skill	Ages
■ language	■ 6 through adult
	Grades
	■ 1 and up

Evidence-Based Practice

- Communication is a fundamental human need. Meeting this need by facilitating and enhancing communication in any form can be vital to a client's well-being (NSA, 2005).
- Intervention for word finding should include retrieval strategies, word finding accommodations, and patient self-awareness (German, 2009).
- Therapy should include tasks that focus on semantic processing, including semantic cueing of spoken output, semantic judgments, and categorization (RCSLT, 2005).
- Asking wh- questions is a common method of teaching. Difficulty answering wh- questions affects a child academically, linguistically, and socially (Parnell, Amerman, & Hartin, 1986).
- A study by Feng and Powers (2005) found that grammatical mini-lessons targeting students' error patterns resulted in improved short- and long-term accuracy.

HELP 2 incorporates these principles and is also based on expert professional practice that is functionally based.

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Dedication

This book is respectfully dedicated to Russel Murphy and the Reverend Curtis Robertson.

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Specific Word Finding

Specific word finding tasks are used as a means of building vocabulary and word retrieval skills through association of certain words with common phrases and/or contextual cues. Stimulation of this area through repeated practice of word finding exercises will aid the student in recall of specific words in conversation when common associative cues are present, as well as enhancing speed of recall of common vocabulary words in conversation. Some students may have an adequate receptive knowledge of the vocabulary presented in this section, but need repeated drill work in order to facilitate retrieval of this vocabulary for expressive use.

For some students, it may be helpful or necessary to provide initial phonemic cues for the target words when first working with these exercises. These cues should be gradually faded until word retrieval is accomplished solely with contextual cues.

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Specific Word Finding

Task A: Phrase Completion for Initial Verbs

Fill in the blank to finish each phrase. The first one is done for you.

1.	<u>Open</u>	the door	25	the phone
2.		the light	26	a bubble
3.		dinner	27	an airplane
4.		a car	28	a mountain
5.		a story	29	a fire
6.		the television	30	a knot
7.		a game	31	a movie
8.		a cake	32	a bicycle
9.		the floor	33	a package
10.		a snowman	34	the trash
11.		the leaves	35	the horn
12.		your hands	36	a ladder
13.		a book	37	the lawn
14.		a bow	38	the steps
15.		a letter	39	your belt
16.		your eyes	40.	a balloon
17.		your shoes	41	a phone call
18.		the plants	42.	some seeds
19.		a milk shake	43.	the window shade
20.		your hair	44	a bill
21.		a ball	45	a test
22.		your feet	46	the salt
23.		a kite	47	a match
24.		a fish	48	a photograph

Specific Word Finding

Task H: Completion of Comparative Phrases

Fill	in the blank to complete each phrase.	The fi	rst one is done for you.
1.	As quiet as a	19.	As hard as a
2.	As busy as a	20.	As straight as an
3.	As cold as	21.	As cool as a
4.	As easy as	22.	As old as the
5.	As sly as a	23.	As pretty as a
6.	As stubborn as a	24.	As pleased as
7.	As free as a	25.	As high as a
8.	As quick as a	26.	As gentle as a
9.	As clear as	27.	As happy as a
10.	As tame as a	28.	As hairy as an
11.	As clean as a	29.	As light as a
12.	As good as	30.	As tough as
13.	As slow as	31.	As big as
14.	As dark as	32.	As strong as an
15.	As smooth as	33.	As sharp as a
16.	As mad as a	34.	As right as
17.	As skinny as a	35.	As fresh as a
18.	As fit as a		
I.E.P.	Goal: The client will complete comparative phrases u	vith an	appropriate noun with 90% or greater accuracy.
-	cific Word Finding k I: Completion of Common Sayings	and F	Proverbs
	nplete each sentence with the best word		rds. The first one is done for you.
1.	Put on a happy <u>face</u>	•	
2.	That's the way the	0	erumbles.

3. Don't count your chickens before they ______.

Categorization

Task A: Completion of Categories

List one or more things that belong to the same category as the words listed. The first one is done for you.

1.	apple, cherry, banana, /ime, /emon, strawberry
	roast beef, chicken, pork,
	ankle, foot, neck,
	shoe, hat, dress,
	chalk, desk, notebook,
	bird, helicopter, kite,
	ice, snow, Popsicle,
	fire, stove, sun,
	water, juice, milk,
	ball, plate, button,
	cake, pie, pudding,
	cat, dog, skunk,
	seesaw, jacks, slide,
	brick, barbells, bowling ball,
	bed, chair, table,
	candy, potato chips, pretzels,
	hammer, axe, saw,
	fish, coral, seaweed,
	ring, bracelet, locket,
	bat, mitt, mask,
	John, Alex, James,
	Susan, Jennifer, Tammy,
	Smith, Johnson, Myers,
	,,,

Wh-Questions

This section consists of a variety of questions which incorporate reception, discrimination, association, vocabulary, and memory skills. Answering a specific question involves many language processing skills, and the inability to answer questions can be due to a deficit in one or more of these skill areas.

In order to answer a question, the question must be received by the student, discriminated from other questions, and associated with past experience or knowledge. Specific and appropriate vocabulary must be recalled and the question and answer must be retained for a sufficient amount of time for this assimilation, comparison, and response to occur.

Difficulty is most often encountered in discrimination of the type of question asked. Students may give a *who* response to a *where* question, or tell *how* instead of *why*. For this reason, drill with contrasting *Wh*-Questions is recommended and is included in this section to be used after practice with the various groups of *Wh*-Questions has been done and the various forms have been mastered by the student.

Answering Wh-Questions is a fundamental conversational tool and therefore should be incorporated into plans for remediation of expressive language deficits.

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Grammar

Task D: Generation of Possessive Forms

Read the first sentence in each set. Complete the other sentences with a possessive pronoun. The first one in each set is done for you.

I.	
1.	The boy was given a brand new bicycle.
	The bicycle belongs to The bicycle is
2.	For her birthday, Maria received a book from her aunt.
	The book belongs to The book is
3.	The little girl had on a pink sweater.
	The sweater is The sweater belongs to
4.	Mike and George saved their money and bought a wagon.
	The wagon belongs to The wagon is
5.	In Teddy's room, there is a set of battleships.
	The battleships are The battleships belong to
6.	Helen's new sneakers were blue and white.
	The sneakers belong to The sneakers are
7.	Marta bought a chair for the kitchen.
	The chair is The chair belongs to
8.	Mark wrote a story for the school newspaper.
	The story belongs to The story is
9.	The flowers were picked out of Lin's garden.
	The flowers are The flowers belong to
10.	The tourists bought a tour map of the area.
	The map belongs to The map is
11.	The children made cookies for the dinner.
	The cookies are The cookies belong to