

Discourse Checklist (Sample)

Name: Katherine M. Date: 3/15/00

Activity: Reminiscence group Setting: seated around table

Observation Time: 15 minutes

Instructions: Check the discourse skill observed.

Discourse Skill	Yes	No	Sometimes	N/A
Initiation				
Gains attention			✓	
Greets others	✓			
Asks questions				
For information			✓	
For clarification		✓		
For action	✓			
Topic Maintenance				
Responds to questions			✓	
Clarification		✓		
Elaboration		✓		
Eye Contact			✓	
Turn-taking				
Easily interrupted				
Interrupts others	✓			
Long speaking turns				
Nonverbal				✓
Proximity				
Too far				
Too close				
Nods head to acknowledge				
Gets attention (points, touches other)				

Comments: _____

Caregiver Support Group Agenda

The agenda in this section is intended as a guideline for a caregiver support group. These sessions provide information on a wide range of issues that can affect family caregivers. Presenting all the information listed here in one setting may be overwhelming to families. Use discretion in tailoring the outlines to your support group by selecting portions that are suitable to their specific needs and training.

The reproducible handouts, pages 79-93, contain useful information to share with families at the meetings and can also be used in conjunction with family consultations. Suggestions for reference books and brochures are made with each topic.

Goals:

- To provide patients with AD and their caregivers with basic information about financial, legal, health, and safety issues; and caregiver stress
- To suggest techniques caregivers may use to improve communication with the person with AD

Unit One: Legal and Financial Issues

This topic is presented first to emphasize the importance of decision-making while the person with AD is still able to take part in the planning. You may want to invite a local legal or financial expert on estate planning and elder issues to give a presentation during this unit.

- I. The importance of planning for the future for families facing Alzheimer's disease
 - A. Families will need to meet to plan for future needs.
 - B. Meetings and discussions are best held early in the disease.
 1. The person with AD may show where important papers are.
 2. The person with AD may explain financial assets and obligations.
 3. These important decisions are made as a partnership between family members.
 - C. All family members should be invited. (Handout 1, page 79)
 1. Be open to compromise.
 2. Make decisions by consensus. Even though everyone may not agree, they should still follow the decisions.

Use the Bathroom

Put a check in the blank for each visit.



7:00

_____ bathroom



9:00

_____ bathroom



11:00

_____ bathroom



1:00

_____ bathroom



3:00

_____ bathroom



5:00

_____ bathroom



7:00

_____ bathroom



9:00

_____ bathroom



Fishing



Fishing

Memory Prompts: tackle box, fishing rod, assortment of lures (Be careful to remove hooks for safety.)

Music: "Gone Fishing"

Context Setting:

Level 1: I remember fishing with my dad. It was summer. We went to the creek near our house. We took drinks and crackers. We always used worms for bait. I would feel a nibble, then another. The bobber would go under the water.

"Now, yank!" said my dad.

Usually the fish got away. But we didn't care. My dad and I had fun fishing.

Level 2: I remember going fishing with my dad on the creek near our farm. We would dig up worms from our garden. Then we would go to a filling station, early in the morning, and get RC colas and some Vienna sausages with crackers. The fishing hole was a couple of miles from the farm and it would take us over half an hour to make our way to it, walking through tangles and briars. The sun would just be up and the summer air getting warmer when we would cast out into the middle of the creek and watch the red plastic bobbers, sitting upright in the water, just waiting for something to take the bait. After awhile, there would be a nibble, and then another, and finally the bobber would disappear.

"Now! Yank now!"

Sometimes the fish would get away, and even if we caught it, it would never be much more than a perch or sunfish. But that wouldn't matter. What was fun was that it was my dad and me, fishing on the creek.

Yes/No Questions:

Do you put a worm on a hook? (yes)

Can you fish in an ocean? (yes)

Is a marlin a saltwater fish? (yes)

Can you fish from an airplane? (no)

Can you fish in the winter? (yes)

Forced-Choice Questions:

Is a bass a fish or a lizard? (fish)

Do most people fish in the winter or the summer? (summer)

Can you fish in a swimming pool or a river? (river)

Does an outboard motor or an eggbeater power a boat? (outboard motor)

Would a bass strike at a lure or a spare tire? (lure)