

Unit 1: Matching and Identification

A client's ability to understand and complete matching and identification tasks is often impaired as a result of aphasia. The client may have lost the ability to determine how shapes, numbers, letters, or words are alike or different. A client may no longer understand what the concept of matching means.

For clients with anomia, the matching and identification tasks stimulate expressive language, making the use of these activities especially helpful for them.

The matching and identification tasks begin simply, with single, more concrete items (that are not loaded with meaning) and progress to more complex tasks. The tasks are also designed to improve the client's ability to process auditory, graphic, and visual material.

Overall, the tasks in this section are receptive but can be used to build other skills, like expressive language, visual recognition, and fine motor skills.

Therapy Suggestions

Use the activities as they are to improve the ability to understand the task.

- Say or describe the shapes or pictures as the client completes the activity with a motor response like pointing. This process often stimulates the client to repeat the name of the object spontaneously.
- Use these activities to help the client regain the understanding that symbols stand for words, words stand for objects, and letters stand for sounds — necessary skills for reading.
- Repeat the activities matching a picture to words and sentences to improve the client's word finding skills.
- Help improve visual identification and memory skills by covering pictures and asking the client to recall visual information he saw on the page.

Choose the word that matches the definition.

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|--|------------|----------|----------|
| 1. what you write on | paper | spell | fold |
| 2. a building material | bricks | wall | porch |
| 3. this makes a car run | auto | drive | gasoline |
| 4. a place to go swimming | lifeguard | pool | wet |
| 5. an article of clothing | warm | shoulder | suit |
| 6. cosmetics | makeup | color | face |
| 7. items a florist sells | thanks | flowers | odors |
| 8. a learning institution | school | teach | book |
| 9. the coldest season | summer | hot | winter |
| 10. what you use to clean your teeth | toothbrush | chew | mouth |
| 11. a safe place to deposit your money | coins | loan | bank |
| 12. a sharp device used for shaving | razor | sharp | beard |
| 13. a beverage | glass | juice | orange |
| 14. used to wipe your mouth | napkin | clean | rub |
| 15. an instructor | book | learn | teacher |

Choose the word or phrase that answers each question.

1. How do you boil an egg?
in hot water in the oven in a frying pan
2. Which animal sleeps hanging by its tail?
raccoon opossum squirrel
3. Who was Martin Luther King, Jr.?
civil rights leader singer actor
4. In which sport can you make a touchdown?
baseball soccer football
5. Who delivers packages?
mail carriers secretaries doctors
6. How many sides are in an octagon?
8 10 12
7. At what time is it midnight?
11:00 a.m. 12:00 a.m. 6:00 a.m.
8. Where is Miami?
city Cuba Florida
9. What does a barber do?
cut hair fix teeth repair cars
10. What is an abbreviation?
shortened word lesson alphabet
11. What is the Red Cross?
hospital organization sickness
12. Which is a breed of dog?
collie collar brown

Choose a topic and write a letter about it.

1. Write a letter to a relative to tell him or her about a trip you took.

2. Write a letter to a friend to say thank you for a gift you received from him or her.

3. Write a letter to cancel a magazine subscription.

4. Write a letter to a restaurant manager to complain about poor service.

5. Write a letter to explain that you've already paid a bill that was sent to you again.