aphasiatoolbox.com

This anagram exercise is designed to help a person with aphasia and its related reading and writing problems improve his/her ability to talk, read and spell using phonics, the letter-sound interaction. Phonics involves learning the sounds that letters and groups of letters make when they are spoken aloud. AphasiaPhonics is an aphasiatoolbox treatment module that helps a client use phonics skill to maximize aphasia recovery.

Basic treatment exercise steps:

1 Show the patient a consonant and vowel combination printed on paper (e.g., "CA _ ").

2 Have the patient read the letters and silently / mentally add a consonant to the end. (e.g., "CA + B).

3 The patient decides if it is a real word or a nonsense word. (YES or NO). This is called a lexical decision.

4 . If the answer is YES, have the client describe or talk about the meaning of the word ("taxi; go to the airport, yellow) WITHOUT saying the word our loud. This holds the mental representation of the word active, helping to rewire the brain.

5 Then have the client say the word aloud and type (or write) it.

6 If NO, go to the next word.

7 Repeat steps 1-4 with the remaining consonant letters of the alphabet (C, D, F, G, H, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R, S, T, V, W, X, Y, Z).

How to make this basic exercise easier:

• Say the word aloud for the patient. (Saying a nonsense word can be very difficult for many people with aphasia but can be a very therapeutic activity).
• Continue with other consonant vowel combinations.
• Use the words in sentences.
• Use with a cumulative, cyclical approach.

How to make this basic exercise harder:

• Expand to 4-letter words.
• Increase phonetic/letter complexity (ra_e).
• Use initial letter closure (_een).
• If the patient determines that he/she has made a real word, have him/her provide a definition of the word.

How to expand this basic exercise:

• Have the patient read words from the nonsense word list out loud.

How to get extra practice for this basic exercise:

• On the Aphasia Sight Reader at www.aphasiatoolbox.com use the: Lexical Semantic Meltdown exercise in the AphasiaPhonics Module: or the Phonological Assembly exercise in the AphasiaPhonics Module

Additional SLP resources for this protocol are available