What is a contextually relevant scene?

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Collaborative Team

Research Team:
University of Nebraska – Lincoln\textsuperscript{1}, Kearney\textsuperscript{2}, & Omaha\textsuperscript{3}
- David Beukelman\textsuperscript{1}
- Aimee Dietz\textsuperscript{1,3}
- Karen Hux\textsuperscript{1}
- Miechelle McKelvey\textsuperscript{1,2}
- Sarah Wallace\textsuperscript{1}
- Kristy Weissling\textsuperscript{1}
Visual Scene Displays

What are Visual Scene Displays?
Who benefits from them?
When and where are they useful?
How do you make them?
Why do they help?
Fundamental Challenges in Aphasia Intervention

- Not everyone with aphasia regains sufficient skills to become a functional speaker
- The “Multiple Multiples” Challenge
  - Multiple people
  - Multiple topics
  - Multiple situations
- Aphasia intervention philosophies
  - Restorative approaches
  - Compensatory approaches
  - Combined approaches
Rationale for Using Visual Scene Displays

- Make use of preserved skills of people with chronic aphasia
  - Visual-spatial processing
  - Retention of information about life experiences
  - Retention of general world knowledge
Contextually-Rich Visual Images

- Provide a way to represent meaning
- Support navigation within an AAC system
- Serve as a platform for co-constructing messages
- Establish a shared communication space
- Allow for integration with other types of communication supports
Definition of Contextually-Rich Images

Pictures, photographs, or images that represent situations, places, or experiences by depicting people or objects in relation to one another, the natural environment, and the central action of a scene.

- Do not require inferences or verbalizations by a person with aphasia or a communication partner.
- Contrast with portraits and iconic symbols that contain limited, usually decontextualized, information.
  - Holistic framework
  - Convey the "gist" of a situation or event
  - Provide support for conversational exchanges

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Evaluating Images for Contextual Richness

Four criteria:

- Environmental context (setting, people, objects, and activities)
- Interaction with people or the environment
- Personal relevancy
- Clarity regarding elements key to the implied relationships
# Rating Scales

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>High</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Low</th>
<th>Absent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environment</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Interaction</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Personal relevance</strong></td>
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Environment: High
Interaction: High
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: Satisfies all the elements for being a good contextually-rich picture to support a story
Environment: Absent
Interaction: Absent
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: Typical portrait that does not convey any contextual or interaction information
Environment: Absent
Interaction: Absent
Personal relevance: Absent
Clarity: High
Comment: Only serves to identify an object; typical of pictures available in stimulus sets

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Environment: High
Interaction: High
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: Low
Comment: View is too distant to provide sufficient detail to support a conversation

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Environment: Absent
Interaction: Low
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: More contextual richness and interaction are necessary to communicate a story; typical of pictures supplied by families
Environment: Medium
Interaction: High
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: Good picture for communicating about a favorite activity
Environment: High
Interaction: Medium
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: Could be a good signature photo for communicating a story about golfing with a grandchild
Environment: Medium or High
Interaction: Absent
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: Low
Comment: Serves only to identify a location or specific objects in a room

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Environment: High
Interaction: High
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: Good picture to communicate a story about a child’s birthday party
Environment: Absent  
Interaction: Absent  
Personal relevance: Low  
Clarity: High  
Comment: Lack of context, interaction, and relevancy are problematic
Environment: High
Interaction: High
Personal relevance: High
Clarity: High
Comment: Good picture to communicate a story
Environment: High
Interaction: Low
Personal relevance: Low
Clarity: Low
Comment: Serves only to identify a location; does not communicate a story