

This week at the Center:

Groups focused on technology. This means vocabulary and communication tasks centered on using, describing and sequencing the development of common technology such as phones, cars and TVs.

What's right for you?

Finding a language task that is at the right difficulty level and is interesting is the key! Don't get bogged down in where the tasks you pick falls in the task order of complexity. You want practice that is engaging AND at a level that you get a language workout but not so frustrating that you give up! The Intersection is available to everyone at the Center so it covers a wide range of abilities. Pick what works for you today!!

A word about the name:

The Intersection is where home meets the Center. So many wonder what happens behind closed doors or how do I help at home or are lost as to where to even begin. Check out the Intersection for ways to keep using your language at home and keep moving on your road to recovery.

Member Portal:

These are no available on our website in the **Member Portal**. Try it out!

Password: survivor

Listening and Reading:

- Try some new technology! Listen to a podcast. Use your iPhone or computer. Search for: The Stroke Comeback Center podcast (link on our website too), This American Life or search for topics that interest



you. On your iPhone, use this icon Listen to people tell you stories!

- Read a blog! The Center has one of these too! Find it here: <https://aphasiawillnotbesilent.blogspot.com/>
- Use pictures or small common pieces of technology (phone, watch, calculator, garage door opener, remote control) and have someone name them and you point to the one they are naming, to make it harder have them describe the function...you tell time with it. You could also match the written word to the picture or object.
- Practice listening to yes / no questions. Again, this takes some work from a partner. Here is an example: Do you plug in your TV, Did the radio come before the microwave?
- Have someone state a common technology such as TV, phone, car. Listen for items that don't fit in that category such as banana or shirt and indicate when you hear one.

Talking and Writing:

- Many of the listening tasks above will also challenge your speech or writing. Listen to a podcast or read a blog and start a conversation with someone! You could also write a summary.
- Talk or write about your first radio or TV experience!
- Try out the Voice memo feature on your iPhone. You can record messages & send them to a friend, family



or



We can help you to send them if you need it!

Supported Conversation:

We all need help! Many members at the Center benefit from their conversational partner giving them some help. This means always encourage use of gestures, or use of a communication book, have paper nearby for writing or drawing, and give choices. When you don't understand, say so!

Questions or suggestions:

This is a work in progress! Email me (Melissa) with questions or concerns. I am happy to help!

msr@strokecomebackcenter.org

- Use common objects in your house (phone, watch, calculator, can or door opener, remote control). Name or write the name of each object. To make it harder, explain what you do with it. Don't forget big pieces of technology too like the washing machine, dishwasher. Harder to spell for sure!
- Answer questions that all start the same way. Go for a whole sentence, phrase or yes or no. Pick what works for you today. Do you use the microwave? Do you use the coffee pot? Do you use the grill?
- Have someone name each piece of technology for you and try to repeat it. Go for the whole word or just the first sound. Whatever works for you!!

Multi-modal (speech, gestures, writing)

- Gesture what you would do with common pieces of technology such as the phone, a car, a TV, the iPad or a watch.
- Put out two picture choices and play would you rather. For example: Would you rather wear a standard watch or an Apple watch? Would you rather ride in a sports car or a truck? What about a tank or a boat? Be creative! You might be surprised!!
- Show a piece of technology the SCC member may not be using. Try a game of solitaire on the iPad, demonstrate and practice how to use the Keurig. Let them do it!

Do something together!

- Watch a show or movie. Try closed-captioning. Does it help the survivor to understand? Rate the show after you're done, you can use thumbs up / down, or a 1-10 scale. Use pictures of the actors or actresses to be more specific.
- Practice listening to navigation. Pick a destination and program it in. Have the survivor indicate when you are supposed to turn (if you are driving) or have them listen and follow if they are driving. Be smart about this! If this is hard, stay on side streets and go at low traffic times. Maybe you go get an ice cream or just to pick up dog food. Either way, good functional practice!
- Make a dish or a meal. Be reasonable about what you decide to make. Lots of technology use here!