Core Vs. Fringe Vocabulary

✓ It is essential that core and fringe vocabulary be accessible to an AAC user. The combination of both core and fringe words allow for language skills to grow and enhance, when appropriately modeled and implemented.

✓ It is important to know the difference when beginning to implement the QuickTalker Freestyle (QTF).

Core Words	Fringe Words
• Most commonly used words during our day to day; ~80%. • Typically found on the home page. • Can be implemented across any activity. • Includes general nouns, verbs, pronouns, prepositions, etc. • Should be accessible at all times. • Supports motor planning. • Examples of core words: go, want, more, stop, see, like, open, you, in, under, it, help, etc. • Example of core phrases: "Can I have more", "let's go", "I want more", "need help", etc.	• Remaining words we use; ~20%. • The frequency of use varies depending on the communicator. • Primarily made up of specific nouns. • Can be personalized specific to the communicator's preferences and needs. • Used for more specific topics, events, and experiences. • Can significantly increase motivation to communicate. • Examples of fringe words: ketchup, mall, slippers, door, teacher, etc.

The combination of core and fringe words is essential to spontaneous communication!

"Can I have more ketchup",   "Let's go to mall",   "I want more slippers",

"Teacher need help, open door"

✓ When used in conjunction, you, as the SLP, are modeling beyond labeling objects and are allowing your client to increase the variety of their functions of communication.

✓ Pre-programmed phrases and sentences can be useful at times, but it reduces the desire and ability to communicate spontaneously and make adjustments to the message.

✓ As a reminder, you do not need to model full sentences! Stick to modeling key core and fringe words and expand as needed.

Contact our ableCARE team for assistance editing and customizing the QTF:
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Contact our Medical Data Support team for questions about data collection to support your recommendation for the QTF:
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