

Self-Reflection: Descriptive Teaching

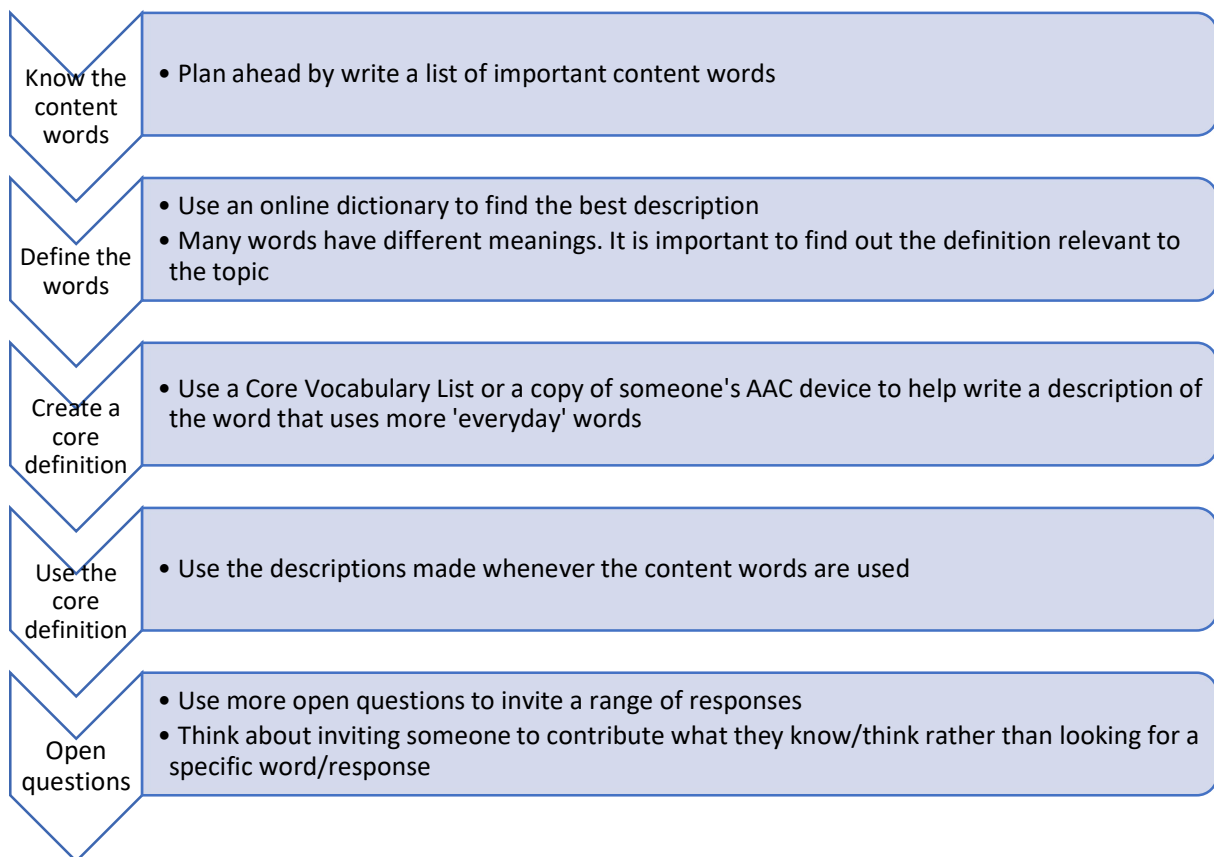
Purpose:

This sheet is designed to establish a snapshot of the sub-skills that contribute to the overall skill of effectively using a descriptive approach with someone with a complex communication need (CCN). It can act to guide personal goal setting and development as a communication partner. Place a mark under the number which reflects current performance in each area.

The reflection can be revisited regularly as part of personal or professional development. Some people may demonstrate different areas of strength.

If you have their consent, videoing yourself during an interaction with an individual is a good way to evaluate how you are going with each of the elements.

Key elements of using a descriptive approach:



Get consent before using an individual's aided communication system.
Respect their right to refuse. **Do not assume** that a yes yesterday is a yes today



Reflection Recording Sheet: Descriptive Teaching

Person completing reflection _____ Role: _____
 Date 1 (x): _____ Date 2 (o): _____ Date 3 (/): _____

Skill	Never		Sometimes		Half the time		Usually		Always	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Know the content words										
Find the best definition										
Write a new definition using 'everyday' words										
Use the new definition alongside the content words										
Use an open approach if asking questions										

Ideas on how to improve:

Know the content words	Find the best definition	Write a new definition using 'everyday' words	Use the new definition alongside the content words	Use an open approach if asking questions
<input type="checkbox"/> Use any documents associated with the topic to find the key words <input type="checkbox"/> Make a list first <input type="checkbox"/> Add to the list over time <input type="checkbox"/> Share the list with others to create a new dictionary	<input type="checkbox"/> Use an online dictionary <input type="checkbox"/> Write the definition with the content words <input type="checkbox"/> Use an electronic format to make this process quicker	<input type="checkbox"/> Find and use a core vocabulary list <input type="checkbox"/> Reword the dictionary definition – sometimes it just needs a slight tweaking <input type="checkbox"/> Get help from other people	<input type="checkbox"/> Print or have the list available when discussing the topic for quick reference <input type="checkbox"/> Share with others so they can use the same descriptions	<input type="checkbox"/> Ask questions that could have more than one answer <input type="checkbox"/> Plan questions ahead of time <input type="checkbox"/> Rethink goals to look less at 'labelling' and more at 'describing', 'predicting'