

CORE WORDS

Core words are high frequency words that are used for a variety of reasons across many different settings. These words are typically verbs, adjectives, and pronouns. They are rarely nouns. Core words make up over 85% of what we say in our everyday speech.

On a speech-generating device, core words show up repeatedly on many different pages. They generally remain in the same spot on each page. Their frequent presence in the communication system reflects their frequency of use in our daily communication.

Examples of CORE WORDS

play	more	help	different
finished	up	down	again
put	in	out	want
look	little	my	you



FRINGE VOCABULARY

Fringe vocabulary are very specific words for a specific activity or situation. They are mostly nouns.

On a speech-generating device, fringe vocabulary words do not show up repeatedly in the communication system. They are found on a specific page based on that topic.

Examples of FRINGE VOCABULARY

ball	bubbles	movie	song
Elmo	book bag	dog	iPad
car	shirt	head	toothbrush
cookie	flower	table	Walmart



This resource was created in collaboration with the Functional Communication Clinic at Penn State Health.