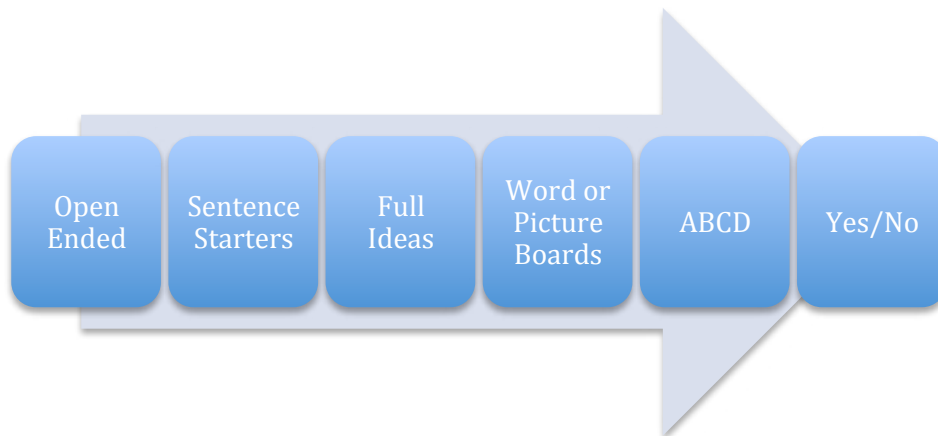


Teaching Others

To Type to Communicate

The goal when teaching someone to type to communicate is to have successful interactions. These support strategies are listed in steps to scaffold successful communication. When you are having difficulty, move in order from Step 1 (most complex) to Step 6 (easiest). At any point if you get an unsuccessful response (i.e. parts of words, random letters, or nothing at all) then you move to the next step to ensure that the person can communicate their message. Understand that each step is easier, but it significantly limits the information that can be expressed. The goal eventually is to be able to use open-ended communication. Remember in this process you are teaching and coaching, NOT testing.



Step 1 > Ask Open Ended Questions

How was your weekend?
Why do you think Fern wanted to protect Wilbur?
What electives do you want to take this semester?

Step 2 > Provide Sentence Starters

This weekend I...
Fern protected Wilbur because...
Next semester I want to take...

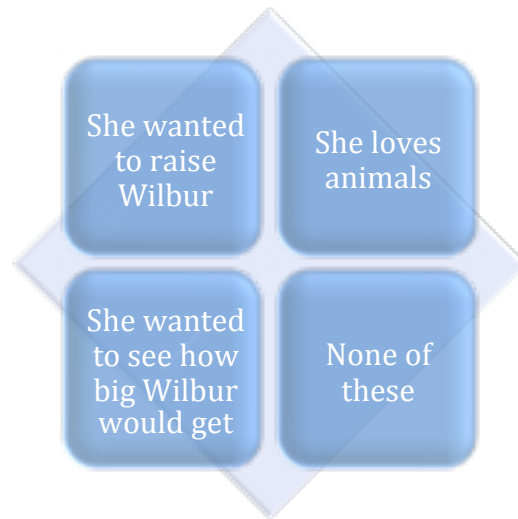
Step 3 > Share Full Ideas

To introduce this say something like...“If I was answering this question I would say...”,
“One thing that could be said about this is...” Then follow this up with another question.
“Would you agree with that?”

“If I had your weekend I think I would say it was adventurous.”
“Some might say it was because she wanted to care for Wilbur.”
“I’ve heard other students say they would like to take theater and photography.”

Step 4 > Use a Word or Picture Board

Write word selections on a dry erase board or piece of paper. Or print out pictures. Divide the area into two, four, or six sections and write word or phrase options in each of the sections. Be sure to have a section that says, “none of these” or “something else.”



Step 5 > Use an ABCD Board

The letter selection can be pre-written on a board or a piece of paper. The communication partner frames questions and present answers so that the person can select the answer that corresponds with the idea they wish to share. This works well with schoolwork and choices such as seating placement, classroom jobs, and materials to use in art.

Next semester are you interested in taking...

- A. photography
- B. computing
- C. theater
- D. something else

Step 6 > Use a Yes/No Board

On a yes/no board or the words yes/no can be written on a piece of paper or a post-it note. The communication partner should frame question in a yes/no fashion. Be sure to only ask one question at a time.

- Was your weekend exciting?
- Was your weekend boring?
- Was part of your weekend interesting?
- Did you go to the football game?
- Did you see your sister?