



ALS Augmentative Communication Program

PLEASE CITE WORK AS:

Message Banking, Voice Banking and Legacy Messages

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DEFINITIONS:

Voice Banking is a process of recording a large inventory of your speech that is then used to create a synthetic voice that approximates your natural voice.

Done successfully, this would allow one to spell and create unique messages and then speak them through a synthesizer that approximates one's natural speech. The science behind this process continues to be in development with beta-versions of available software. The ModelTalker is one such project from the University of Delaware Speech Research Lab. The website is: www.asel.udel.edu/speech/ModelTalker.html

Message Banking™ with your own

voice digitally record and store words, phrases, sentences, personally meaningful sounds and/or stories using your natural voice, inflection and intonation.





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These messages are catalogued as .wav files and may then be linked to messages in a variety of augmentative communication technologies or sound storage files. This will allow you to 'retrieve' a message and speak it in your own voice but does not allow you to create novel messages by spelling. If you have recorded individual words, you may combine those words to create unique messages, although the output will sound more staccato than your natural speaking.

Message Banking™ by proxy is the election of a proxy voice to do all recordings because issues of fatigue, pain or intelligibility may make it difficult for an individual to bank all messages. In this case, the patient may still bank '*legacy messages*' but the majority will be banked by proxy.

TERMINOLOGY:

Legacy Messages™ are those messages, often delivered with unique intonation and prosody that are unique or particular to you. They are your 'isms'. It may be a 'trademark' message you say or it may be a trademark *delivery* of a message that many people say. A legacy message does not need to be meaningful to the general population instead it may have unique and personal meaning to only you and a loved one. Further, a legacy message does not need to be real words to be meaningful.





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It may be the way you clear your throat in a sarcastic manner to communicate “*I told you so*” or it might be the invented pet name you have for a loved one delivered with your unique voice, intonation and prosody. Similarly, legacy message may be that stereotypical thing you say after your favorite sports team scores or it may be a unique greeting you deliver to friends. Those close to you may be helpful with identifying these *Legacy Messages* because sometimes they are so naturally part of socially relating with others, you may not even be aware you are ‘known’ for them.

Context or ‘Relationship’

Vocabulary: are those words, phrases and full messages one uses to effectively participate in an interaction is a specific context such as ‘how to help me transition to my wheelchair’ or ‘talking with my board of directors’ or ‘discussing my status with my therapist’. It is the predictable *script* in an interaction or a relationship.





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THE VOCABULARY:

The following vocabulary was message banked by people with ALS. People graciously permitted us to share their messages and we attempted to organize vocabulary by categories for ease of reference. This list is NOT intended to be a script from which others record. It is intended to give people ideas of messages that others thought were important.

EXPRESSIONS

Idioms

It's not my cup of tea
Just like a dream
Off the deep end
Once in a blue moon
Out of the clear blue
Practice makes perfect
That's the way the cookie crumbles
You missed the boat

Social Requests





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Come talk with me
I want a hug.
I want a kiss.
I'm sorry but I have an appointment now.
Leave me alone
May I go with you?
Sit over here with me.
Would you like to go with me?
You'll have to go.

Humor

Is that your real name?
Sssss, I was trying to whistle!
That was the voice machine talking, not me!
That's easy for you to say!
Who programmed this voice machine?

Expressions of feelings

Angry
Better
Fed up
Frightened
Frustrated
Good
Happy
Lonely
Mad
OK
Overwhelmed
Sad
Sick
Tired
Worried
Worse

Time of Day Based Expressions

Did you have a good night's sleep?





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Good morning
Good night, I hope you sleep well
Good night, I love you
Have a good day
How are you this morning?
How is your day going so far?
I'd like a morning snack
I'd like to eat breakfast
I'd like to eat dinner
I'd like to eat lunch
I'd like to watch the evening news
It's time for bed
Pleasant dreams
What time is it?
When are they coming?
When are we leaving?
When do we start?

Topic Continuations

Alright
Amazing
And then...
Good
I know it
I see
Isn't that wonderful?
Keep going
Oh yeah
Okay
Really
Right
Tell me more
That's good to know
That's great
That's interesting
Uh huh
Wow
Yeah





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Appointments

I need a haircut
I would like to get a manicure/ pedicure
We need to have the computer guy fix our computer
I need an appointment to have my eyebrows waxed
I need an appointment with the dentist
I need to have my wheelchair fixed
I need to make an appointment for...
I need to see the doctor for
I would like to make a date with.....

Equipment Related Phrases

Can you make an adjustment
I can't get it to work
I don't know what happened to it
I'm having the same kind of problem
It doesn't work
It doesn't work properly
It just doesn't work
It works once in a while
Rewind the tape please
Turn it down a little bit please
Turn it off

Physical State Phrases

Can you help me move?
Careful, you are hurting me
Everything bothers me
I am tired
I don't feel like eating
I don't feel very well
I feel angry
I feel sad
I feel great
I feel terrible
I have a headache





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I have an itch
I have an itch on my hand
I have an itch on my back
I have an itch on my foot
I need a massage
I need to move
I need to rest
I want to lay on my back
I want to lay on my right (left) side
I want to lay on my stomach
I would like to lay flat
I'm cold
I'm hot
I'm hungry
I'm okay
I'm thirsty
I'm uncomfortable
I'm wide awake
It is very uncomfortable when it cramps.
It's cramping
My feet are cold, can I have my slippers (socks, etc.)?
My head hurts
Not so good today
Please move the pillow under my neck
Please put a pillow between my knees
Please put a pillow under my arm
Please rub my neck
Please rub my shoulders
Please scratch higher (lower, right, left, harder, softer)

Ice Breaker(Conversation Opener) Phrases

By the way,

Can we talk?

Can you understand me okay?

Come, talk with me

Did you have a good weekend?

Did you know that.....?

Did you see.....?





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Do you have a favorite sport?
Do you have any brothers or sisters?
Do you like your kind of work?
Don't be afraid to ask me questions.
Excuse me for interrupting
Hi, my name is
How are you today?
How have you been?
How long have you been doing that?
How nice to meet you
How old are you?
I can hear and understand everything you say
I can understand you. It just takes me longer to answer.
I have a speech problem, I use this machine to talk
I have ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease
I have ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease and I have trouble speaking
I have something to say about that
I really need to talk with you
I think that

I use this machine to communicate
I would like to

I'd like to talk to you about something
I'd rather

It takes me a little longer to answer, please be patient
It's nice to finally meet you
It's nice to meet you
It's nice to see you again
I've been meaning to tell you
I've been thinking about

I've heard so much about you
Nice to finally meet you
Please tell me if you don't understand what I am saying
Someday I want to

Tell me about

Tell me about yourself.
That's interesting, tell me more
We need to talk
What are you here for?





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What do you think about...?
What do you think of my artificial voice?
What grade are you in?
What have you been up to?
What kind of job do you have?
What's happening with you?
What's happening?
What's new?
What's your name?
Where are you going?
Where do you go to school?
Where do you live?
Where do you work?

Phone Conversation Phrases

Call me back when you can
Can you have (someone) call me back?
Can you please hold on for a moment, I have another call?
Do you understand me?
Give me a call in a few minutes
Give me a call tonight
Good to talk to you
Goodbye
How are you?
I enjoyed our phone call
I have a speech problem; I use a machine to talk. Please be patient
I use a machine to help me talk
I will call you soon
I will talk to you soon
I'd like to talk to
I'll let her/him know that you called
I'll look forward to talking to you soon
I'll try and call you
I'm going to call him (her, them)
I'm so happy you called
I'm sorry he/she is not here at the moment; may I ask who's calling?
I'll talk to you soon
Let's talk soon





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May I take a message
Nice to talk to you
Talk to you later
Thanks for calling
The number I am trying to dial is ...
This is (give your name)

Goodbye/Farewell Phrases

Come back again soon
Good bye
Good night
Great to see you again
Have a nice day
Have a safe flight
I enjoyed seeing you, thanks
I guess I better be going, great to see you
I have to get going
I hope to see you again
I'd like to see you again
I'll talk to you soon
I'm so glad I got to meet you
It was good of you to come today
It's been a pleasure meeting you
I've been meaning to call you
See you later
See you soon
So long!
Talk to you soon
Thank you for visiting with me
Thanks for stopping by
Thanks for visiting
When will you come back?

Request for Assistance

Can you answer the phone?
Can you help me, please?
Can you help me balance the account?





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Can you help me make a deposit in the bank?
Can you help me reorder checks for my checking account?
Can you help me shave?
Can you help me take a shower?
Can you help me wash my face (hands)?
Can you help me with the computer?
Can you help me write a check?
Can you help to put the groceries away?
Can you help to clean up?
Can you keep me company for a while?
Can you make me something to eat?
Can you move me over there?
Can you please pick that up off the floor, I dropped it by accident?
Can you read me a book (magazine)?
Can you repeat what you just said?
Can you turn me over?
Can you turn on the computer?
Can you turn the TV on?
Can you wait and help me?
Can you wash my hair?
Hand me that, please
Help
Help me get dressed
Help me move this
Help me put on my pants
Help me put on my socks
Help me put this on
I need information about ...
I need some help with trying to figure out the best way to communicate with you
I need the bedpan
I need the urinal
I need to be wiped
I need to take my medicine
I need you to call my family
I need you to call the nurse
May I have something to drink (eat)?
Please bring that over here
Please brush my hair





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Please brush my teeth
Please button my shirt (coat, blouse, jacket)
Please change the position of the bed (chair) up (down, right, left, back, forward)
Please come right back
Please help me get dressed
Please help me get ready
Please help me move over there
Please help me reach for the
Please open (close) the window
Please read to me
Please take me outside
Please tell me if you understand what I am saying
Please turn on (off) the heat (A/C)
Please turn on (off) the lights
Please turn on/off the radio (IPOD, DVD player, TV)
Please turn that on (off) for me
Please wait for me
This is an emergency!
Turn that on for me
Will you be able to help me with?
Will you stay and help me finish this?
Will you stay for a while?
Would you help me with my coat (shoes, pajamas, shirt, pants) please?
Would you make a phone call for me?

Exclamations

Are you crazy?
Are you kidding me?
Are you out of your mind?
Are you serious?
Can you believe that?
Don't be ridiculous
Excellent
For God's sake
Get a life
Get help now!
Get out of here
Give me a break





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I can't believe it
No kidding
No Way
Oh my God
Perfect
Really?
That's amazing
That's beautiful
That's crazy
That's great
That's gross
That's just great
That's just perfect
That's really great
That's the last resort
That's wonderful
Unbelievable
Unfortunately
What were you thinking?
What?

Encourage/Discourage Comments

Absolutely not
Do you really think so?
How do you know?
How fabulous for you
I agree
I agree with that
I don't agree
I don't doubt that
I don't think so
I doubt that
I think I already said that
I think that is correct
I wish you wouldn't do that
I'd really like to talk about it
I'm not so sure
I'm sure that's right





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No way, that's wrong
That's a possibility
That's correct for sure
That's really awful
That's right
That's true
Too funny!
Who said so?
Why didn't you
Wow, that's great
You are amazing
You could have helped out a little bit
You could have...
You missed the boat
You're kidding
You're right about that
You're wrong about that
You've done a great job
You've helped me so much

Location Marker Phrases

Do you know where...
I am going home
I don't have to go....
I don't know where it is
I go the opposite way
I had to go back
I may not go back
I am ready to go back
I want to go
I want to stay...
I'll meet you there
I'm going back
In my room
Is he gone?
Put that here (there)
Side by side





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There's more over there
We are going...
Where is it?
Where should I go?
It's here
It's over there
I'm here
I'm in the bedroom (kitchen, living room, family room, bathroom, study)

Conversation Modifiers/Repairs

Ah, now I see
Can you please repeat that?
Can you wait a moment?
Could you speak up a little?
Do you understand me?
Do you understand what I mean?
Does anyone have any ideas?
Excuse me for interrupting
Excuse me, may I say something?
Huh?
I changed my mind
I didn't hear you
I don't get it
I don't understand
I don't understand what you are saying
I don't want to talk about it anymore
I get it
I have something to say about that
I need some help with trying to figure out the best way to communicate with you
I think that's correct
I'm going to start over
It's a touchy subject
I've been meaning to tell you
Just a minute, I'm not finished
Just a minute, let me think about that
Keep going, I need a break
Let me see that
Let's change the subject





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Let's do it another time
Let's not go into that again
Let's see
Let's try that again
No way!
No, I meant something else
No, no, no
Please don't change the subject
Please let me finish
Please wait until I finish what I'm trying to say
Say that again, I missed that
That's not true
That's not what I meant
Wait, let me rephrase that
What did you say?
What do you mean?
Who are you talking about?
Would you mind spelling that for me?
You misunderstood me
You're right about that
You're wrong about that

Interpersonal Comments

Are you doing anything special tonight?
Did you have a good weekend?
Excuse me
Fine, how are you?
Good morning
Good to see you
Goodbye
Goodnight
Goodnight, sleep tight
Have a nice day
Have you been there?
Have you heard anything?
Hello
Hi
Hi Mom





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Hi Dad
How are you doing?
How's it going?
I'm sorry
Just a minute
No, thanks
Oooops
Ouch!
Pardon me
Please
See you later
Tell me about your day
Tell me about your family
Thank you
Watch out
What do you think about that?
What's happening with you?
What's new?
What's up?
You look great (tired, sad, happy, bored, frustrated)
You're welcome

Temporal Markers

A little more often
A long time ago
About a week
All the time
Any minute now
Are we finished yet?
As fast as I can
As soon as possible
At lunch
Before dinner
Before I go
Before I go on
Before you go
Can I give you my final decision later?
Can you do it real quick?





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Can't that wait for another time
Come back later
Didn't you do it yesterday?
Don't bother about that right now
Either today or tomorrow
For a while
For good
Get me up earlier
Give me a few minutes
How fast can you do it?
How Fast?
How long ago?
How long did it take?
How long do you think it will be?
How long does it take?
How long will it take?
How often can I get it?
How often do you do this?
I already did
I came early
I can't wait that long
I didn't get it done
I don't have time today
I haven't yet
I might check that out tomorrow
I remember the last time I did that
I still have the time
I still haven't eaten yet
I used to
I want it to be over
I want to hurry up
I was on time
If there is time
If time allows
I'll be right back
I'll be waiting
I'll do that now
I'll wait





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I'm all done
I'm almost finished
I'm finished for tonight
I'm waiting for it
It doesn't seem fast enough
It happened again
It happens every so often
It is time to leave
It isn't the first time
It takes time
It took so long
It will be a while
It won't be forever
It's about time
It's busy all the time
It's time
It's time for the show
It's time to leave
Just for a short while
Just wait and find out
Late at night
Maybe later
Maybe tomorrow
Most of the time
No longer
Not anymore
Not now
Not quite yet
Now it is
Once again
Once in a blue moon
Once in a while
Once or twice
Over and over again
Please hurry up
Ready and waiting
Sooner or later
Take your time, have some patience





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The last time
Then what after this?
There's not enough time
This weekend
Tomorrow morning
Too early for me
Wait a minute
Wait for the rest of them
Wait until tomorrow
We have to wait
We will do it tomorrow
We will get to it later
We will get to it tomorrow
What time am I going?
What time do you think?
What time is it?
What time tomorrow?
What time will you be home?
What time would I be done?
What time?
What took you so long?
When I feel like it
When I get done
When I want to
When I'm ready
When is it scheduled?
When it all took place
When will you be back?
When you are here
When you come back
When you get back
Why not do it right away?
You better hurry
You've got time

Opinion/Perspective Phrases





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A little better
A rather refreshing outlook
Absolutely ridiculous
Boy am I glad!
Boy, that feels good!
Exceedingly good
He can do it
I am getting it
I blew it
I can't figure it out
I can't stand it
I did okay
I didn't mind
I didn't really want one
I disagree
I don't believe it
I don't care
I don't feel good
I don't feel like seeing anybody
I don't have any idea
I don't have much choice
I don't honestly even know what's wrong
I don't like it
I don't like it anymore
I don't like to
I don't really care
I don't really like it very well
I don't remember it being all that hard
I don't think that's right
I don't understand what's going on
I enjoyed myself
I feel sorry about that
I feel the same way about it
I get cranky
I get scared to death
I had a great day
I had a great time
I hate it





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I honestly don't want to do it
I hope you're not disappointed
I like it better
I love it
I need it
I noticed it
I really feel bad
I really get off on it
I really like it
I really tried
I said I don't know
I think he (she) is kind of (cute, nice, mean, arrogant, etc.)
I think I did it wrong (right)
I think I didn't do it very well
I think I messed it up
I think I've had enough
I think that's bad
I think that's good
I think that's okay
I think that's right
I think this is pretty good
I was doing excellent
I was so disappointed
I was so glad
I'd like to do it
I'll get used to it
I'm concerned about it
I'm doing well
I'm embarrassed
I'm feeling a little better
I'm getting sick of it
I'm glad
I'm glad that it's done
I'm going to do the impossible
I'm just getting it from all sides
I'm nervous
I'm not anxious to take any
I'm not going to take it





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I'm not mad at you
I'm really disappointed
I'm really having a hard time
I'm really worried about it
I'm so excited
I'm still not hungry
I'm too rushed
I'm very hot
I'm very sleepy
It doesn't make any difference
It feels good
It feels great
It frustrates me
It happens to be my favorite
It is absolutely ridiculous
It is different allright
It is just your imagination
It is very important
It shook me up no end
It sounds confusing
It sounds good
It sounds good to me
It still hurts
It suddenly becomes important
It was no good
It was wrong
It would be much easier
It's amazing
Its got me bothered now
It's not important
It's not my cup of tea
It's slightly obvious
It's so bad
It's such a hassle
It's too bad
It's weird
It's wonderful
I've had it





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Just great
Just plain good
Kind of tired
Look out world, here I come
Makes me mad
Nobody seems to understand
Pretty ugly, huh?
That hurts
That is amazing
That isn't fair
That makes me laugh
That should be hard to do
That will be fun
That would be great
That's all right
That's difficult
That's easy
That's hard
That's logical
That's my problem
That's pretty good
That's what I like
That's why I feel the way I do
That's wonderful
Too much for me
What a jerk
What a turkey
When I am tired
You will love it

Requests for Specific Information

Am I right or wrong?
Any particular reason?
Anyone sitting here?
Are they any good?
Are we still going?
Are you alone?
Are you busy?





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Are you comfortable?
Are you glad?
Are you listening to me?
Are you okay?
Are you ready?
Are you sick?
Are you working today?
Are you working tomorrow?
Can I ask a favor?
Can I take these with me?
Can we go to the movies?
Can we make plans for the weekend?
Can we plan our day for tomorrow?
Can we plan our day?
Can you bring me?
Can you hold this?
Can you listen to me, please look in my eyes?
Can you mail this letter (package) for me?
Can you take me to?
Could you repeat that?
Did it hurt?
Did you get my message?
Did you have a good weekend?
Didn't it come?
Do I have everything?
Do you agree?
Do you know where I am going?
Do you know where we are going?
Do you know why?
Do you like him (her, them, etc.)?
Do you think so?
Do you want me to?
Do you want that?
Does that make sense?
Have you ever had those?
How can I get a hold of you?
How did I do?
How did it go?





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How did it turn out?
How do I know when.....?
How do you feel?
How do you know?
How is the weather?
How long will you be gone?
How long?
How much is it?
How much more is there?
How much will it cost?
How much?
How old are you?
How was your day at school (work)?
How was your weekend?
How will I.....?
How will you know?
How's that?
I want to know what it is
Is it okay?
Is she (he) coming?
Is that a yes or no?
Is that right?
Is there anything I can do?
Isn't that the right thing to do?
Isn't there any way?
Just answer my question
May I interrupt you?
Should I take it?
Show me
Tell me how much
Tell me what you are doing
That doesn't answer the question
Was there something else?
What about you?
What am I doing?
What are you doing this summer?
What are you doing?
What are you going to do next?





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What are you going to do tonight?
What are you here for?
What are you looking for?
What are you talking about?
What are you trying to do?
What are you trying to say to me?
What are you waiting for?
What are your plans for
What caused it?
What could possibly happen?
What did he (she) think about that?
What did it say?
What did she (he) say?
What did you come with?
What did you do last night?
What did you do on the weekend?
What did you do this morning (afternoon, etc)?
What did you make (do) at school today?
What do I do now?
What do you have to do?
What do you think I said?
What do you think of it?
What do you want to do?
What do you want?
What does it matter?
What does that mean?
What else is on?
What happened at school today?
What happened this time?
What happened to you?
What happened?
What happens afterwards?
What have you been doing?
What is it?
What is next?
What is that?
What is the definition of....?
What is the next plan?





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What is wrong?
What is your schedule?
What kind is it?
What kind of shows are on?
What then?
What time is it?
What was he (she) doing?
What were they?
What's for lunch (breakfast, dinner)?
What's going on in your world?
What's going on there?
What's going on?
What's happening now?
What's next?
What's on your agenda for today?
What's so funny?
What's that doing in here?
What's that?
What's the score?
What's this one for?
When do we eat?
When do we go?
When was the last time that happened?
When will I see you next?
Where are they?
Where are you going?
Where are you sitting?
Where can I get it?
Where did I get this?
Where did that come from?
Where do I go?
Where is?
Where is everyone?
Where is it?
Where is the restroom?
Where were you?
Which one is it?
Who are you looking for?





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Who called?
Who was that?
Who's coming?
Whose is that?
Why are you concerned?
Why are you here?
Why did he (she, you, etc.) go there?
Why did they go to all that trouble?
Why did you get so many?
Why don't you go?
Why won't you be there?
Why, what do you mean?
Will I be able to get another one?
Will I see you next?
Will it hurt?
Will you be there?
Will you call them?
Will you prepare dinner?
Would anyone like to play a game?
Would you get the mail?
Would you start the shower?
Would you unload the groceries from the car?
Would you unpack the groceries?
Would you?
You don't mind?
You know what I think?
You really believe that?

Generic Request Phrases

Accept my decision
Are you coming?
Are you doing anything special this weekend?
Are you excited?
As careful as you can
Be careful
Be very, very careful
Bring that over here
Can I ask a favor?





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Can I do this?
Can I get a new one?
Can I try one?
Can I use it?
Check if it's right
Could I have some?
Did you have a good weekend?
Do it
Do you have the time to play?
Do you mind?
Don't complain
Don't do that again
Don't mess with it
Drive carefully
Give me that, please
Go back to bed
Grab one of those
Guess what I want?
Have you been there?
Have you heard anything?
Help me out
How about it?
How do you feel about that?
How many more?
How would you feel?
I need help now
I need it
I wonder if I could get a new one?
I would like you to see
I'd like to see it
I'll show you what I want
Let me
Let me go
Let me see it
Let's do it
Let's go
Let's play
Listen to that





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Please find out
Please get me some
Please get out of here
So why don't we do that?
Someone help me
Tell me about your day
Tell me about your family
This is a request
Turn it over
Watch out
We have to stop
We ought to try that
What do you think about that?
What's happening with you?
What's new?
When you find out, let me know
When?
Where?
Why don't we do that?
Why don't you give it to me?
Why don't you put that away?
Why?
Will you do me a favor?
Would you come?
Would you do it?
You could help a little
You'd better come

Conversation Control Phrases

All I'm trying to say is
As I was saying
Boy am I glad you called
But guess what
Can I talk to you?
Change the subject
Come right back please
Could you repeat what you said?
Did you understand?





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Didn't you know that?
Do you know what he did?
Do you understand what I mean?
Explain that to me
Guess what I've got?
Guess what?
Haven't I met you before?
Help me understand that
How about you?
How are things going for you?
How come?
I changed my mind
I don't understand what happened
I don't understand your question
I don't want to interrupt
I forgot to mention
I have a great idea
I have news
I have something to say about that
I have to go
I just remembered
I know why
I need to explain
I really like to talk about it
I should explain
I want to go on a date
I want to know
I want to show you something
I want to talk to you about
I was just curious
I was just wondering
I was saying
I will see you
I'd better get going
I'd better go
I'll have to think of a few more questions
I'll let you know
I'll see you around





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I'm curious about
I'm really glad you dropped by
Is it a deal?
Is that okay?
I've got an idea
Just one comment
Just one more thing
Let me answer
Let me tell you about it
Let me tell you what I did
Let me tell you why
Let me tell you why I was upset
Let's do it again
Let's do it another time
Let's see now
Let's try that again
Listen to me
May I say something?
Over and out
Please don't interrupt
Please let me finish
Please wait until I finish what I am trying to say
See you later
Tell me about it
Tell me what you think I said
Thanks for telling me
That's all I have to say
That's all that's happening
There was something else I was going to ask you
What are you going to do today?
What are you talking about?
What are you trying to tell me?
What did she say?
What do you think about that?
What do you think?
What is it now?
What were you about to tell me?
What?





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

What's up?
What's wrong?
Will I see you later?
Would you mind if I talk while you are interrupting?
You are not going to believe this
You don't have to go
You know something?
You know what I think?
You know what, I don't understand?

Social Amenities

Anything I can do?
Anything's possible
Are you crazy?
Are you serious?
Are you sure you don't mind?
As far as I'm concerned
As much as I can
As usual
Beats me
Believe me, it is
Blows that theory to hell
Boy, do I ever know
Can I help?
Can you beat that?
Come to think about it
Could be better
Don't encourage him (her)
Don't make me laugh
Don't mess me up
Don't worry about it
Easy for you to say
Excuse me
For all I know
Forget about it
Hey good looking
Hi, how are things going?
How are you?





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

How dare you?
How do you feel?
I didn't mean it
I didn't mean to
I don't mean to cause trouble
I goofed
I hope you feel better
I missed you
I think you're wonderful
I want to thank you
I was just kidding
I was only joking
If you don't mind
I'm glad you're here
I'm sorry
It's good to see you
Loosen up
Much obliged
Pardon me
Please sit down
Pretty please
Sorry to keep popping off
Thank you anyway
Thank you very much
Thanks a lot
Thanks a lot, it really helps
Thank for the ride
That helped tremendously
Wish me luck
You helped a lot
You're so nice

Generic Responses Phrases

A little more
A lot of fun
Absolutely ridiculous
At least it isn't any worse
Change the subject please





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Could be better
Get out of here
Give me a break
Give me some
Good idea
Have a heart
He doesn't do anything
He doesn't know anything
He just took off
He sounds really nice
Help yourself
Here's another thing
Hey good looking
Hey man, you've got a lot of guts
Hi, how are things going?
Honest to goodness
How about that?
How are you?
How could I be mad at you?
How dare you?
How did you know?
How do they know?
How do you feel?
I always do
I am getting along
I am getting along
I am sorry to hear that
I believe it
I can handle it
I can't
I can't answer
I can't believe it
I can't figure that out
I can't help it
I can't remember
I can't remember anything else
I can't tell
I can't think of anything





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I can't understand
I certainly did
I certainly don't mind
I could probably do better
I didn't know
I didn't know that
I didn't mean it
I didn't mean to
I didn't realize that
I didn't say anything
I didn't say it was true
I do not have any idea
I don't doubt that
I don't have much choice
I don't have them
I don't have time today
I don't know
I don't know how
I don't know what it is
I don't know which one
I don't know who did it
I don't know yet
I don't mean like that
I don't mean to cause trouble
I don't need it
I don't need it anymore
I don't really know how
I don't really need it
I don't really remember
I don't remember
I don't see him (her, them, etc.) anymore
I don't think so
I don't think they care
I don't think you've met him (her, them, etc.)
I don't understand
I don't understand it either
I don't want anything
I don't want it





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I don't want that
I don't want to
I doubt it
I feel like it
I forgot
I forgot about that
I found it
I gave my final word
I go to work
I goofed
I greatly appreciate that
I guarantee it
I guess
I guess not
I guess so
I had a real busy day
I hadn't thought about it
I have no idea
I have noticed that
I haven't yet
I haven't noticed any difference
I hear you
I heard from
I hope it is
I hope you feel better
I just don't feel like it
I just don't think that's true
I just wanted to find out
I Know
I know it
I know it's important
I know that
I know what you mean
I know, I don't need to be reminded
I like that
I might as well
I missed you
I need more information





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I probably won't
I promise
I really do
I really feel I can't do it
I really think it's
I really think it's long enough
I really tried
I really try
I said I don't know
I said I was
I still have to
I suppose so
I sure hope so
I think I am ready to go
I think I did it wrong (right)
I think it's wrong
I think it's only fair
I think not
I think so, too
I think that is unnecessary
I think we ought to do that
I think you're right
I think you're wonderful
I thought I was through
I thought it would be good for me
I thought so
I thought you were going to
I told you
I told you I don't know
I trust you
I understand
I understand that
I want one
I want to go with you (him, her, them, etc.)
I want to thank you
I was going to
I was just kidding
I was only joking





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I was only kidding
I was supposed to
I was trying to tell you
I wasn't sure
I will
I will not
I will still need it
I will try harder
I wish I knew what happened
I wish them luck
I won
I wonder
I won't do that
I won't guarantee anything
I won't let him
I worry about that
I would do something like that
I wouldn't know about it
I'd check
I'd love to
If I could, I would
If you don't mind
If you want to
I'll ask him (her)
I'll check
I'll come back
I'll deal with it
I'll decide later
I'll keep an eye on that for you
I'll plan on it
I'll try
I'm afraid I can't change that
I'm afraid so
I'm disappointed
I'm doing all right
I'm doing it anyway
I'm doing well, thank you
I'm finished





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I'm finished for tonight
I'm game for trying that
I'm getting kind of tired
I'm glad you're here
I'm going home
I'm just making a comment
I'm not a child
I'm not even sure I want the answers
I'm not going anywhere
I'm not talking about that
I'm not trying to put it off
I'm not worried about it
I'm okay
I'm probably going to be sorry
I'm probably not going to go out
I'm sorry
I'm sorry to hear that
I'm still thinking about it
I'm supposed to
I'm supposed to have
I'm sure
I'm sure he'd (she'd they'd you'd, etc.) know better
In a while
Is there any doubt
Is there something wrong with that?
It certainly did
It could have been
It depends
It didn't turn out that way
It doesn't matter
It doesn't matter, I guess
It has to be
It is important to me
It is not that important
It just seems to always happen like that
It just wasn't very exciting
It makes me very nervous
It might work





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

It might work out
It really helps
It was so good (bad)
It would be easier for you
It's up to you
It's all right
It's almost over
It's completely different
It's different all right
It's going to be so much
It's good to see you
It's got nothing to do with it
It's just your imagination
It's my friend
It's not that important
It's ridiculous
It's terrible
It's the truth
I've been told
I've got no idea
I've had the same kind of trouble
I've heard of that
I've never heard of it
Just fine
Just looking
Kiss my grits
Let's not go into that
Let's not take it to extreme limits
Let's stop somewhere and eat something
Let's try again
Let's try it
Looks like it
Loosen up
Makes you wonder
Maybe I'll do that
Maybe they do
Maybe, maybe not
Much obliged





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Never mind
No I'm not
No joke
No way
Nobody told me that
Not much at all
Not usually, but in this case
Not very good today
Not very good today
Nothing wrong with that
Of course
Of course I do
Oh darn
Oh my God
Okay gorgeous
One more minute
One never knows
Pardon me
Please sit down
Please stop nagging
Poor thing
Pretty please
Really
She didn't give me that impression
So is mine
So that's the way it is?
So what?
Something like that
Sorry to keep popping off
Sure I am
Thank God
Thank the Lord for small favors
Thank you anyway
Thank you very much
Thanks a lot
Thanks a lot, it really helps
That depends
That didn't work





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

That does the trick
That helped tremendously
That is interesting
That makes me mad
That surprises me
That was fun
That was nice of him (her, them, etc.)
That won't make a difference
That would be a big help
That would be great (awful)
That's a big deal
That's a deal
That's all
That's all I know
That's an idea
That's better
That's enough
That's exactly it
That's fine
That's good
That's got nothing to do with it
That's gross
That's it
That's just great
That's kind of exciting
That's kind of unusual
That's kind of upsetting
That's my choice
That's my problem
That's not right
That's not the way it works
That's okay
That's right
That's the last resort
That's the truth
That's the way it should be
That's the way it's always been
That's what I said





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

That's why
That's why I was in there
There is nothing I can do about it
There used to be
There was something else
There you are
There's got to be a better way
There's got to be another way
There's no more
There's no way in the world
There's nothing I can do about it
There's nothing more
They do the strangest things
They told me that
They usually do
They won't
This is anticipated
This is different
This is great
This thing
Unfortunately, yes
Want to bet?
Well it sure feels like it
Well it sure looks like it
Well, anything is possible
Well, I wouldn't know about that
What an idea
What can I do?
What else am I going to do?
What luck
What other choice do I have?
Why not?
Wish me luck
Yes you can
Yes, I can
Yes, I can do that
Yes, I was
You are kidding





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

You bet your britches
You better believe it
You better come
You better not
You can come up with something better
You can do it
You can give it to me
You can say that again
You can try but I doubt it
You could not possibly understand
You go ahead
You have a good day
You have to wait
You helped a lot
You know how it goes
You know how it works
You know that
You know they do
You know what I mean
You know what I think
You know what it takes
You never know
You said you'd try
You should have told me
You shouldn't have
You think so?
You wanna bet?
You work a lot
You're coming right back
You're doing the right thing
You're not going to believe this
You're not supposed to
You're so nice
You've done everything
You've got time
You've got to be kidding
You've got to be nuts
You've helped a lot





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Nourishment/Food

Are you hungry?
Can I have a glass of water?
Can I have a spoon (knife, fork)
Can I have some chicken?
Can I have some chips and dip?
Can I have some mayonnaise (mustard) on my sandwich?
Can I have some more please?
Can I have some pickles?
Can I have something else?
Can I munch on some nuts?
Can you cut the food for me?
Can you help me with my breakfast (lunch, dinner, snack, etc.)?
Can you save this for another time?
Do we have any chips?
Do you have any chocolate?
I am full
I am not hungry
I am not hungry anymore
I am not hungry at all
I am so hungry
I am starving
I can't eatI am allergic to it
I can't eat another bite
I could eat this every day
I don't eat meat
I don't like this
I don't think I want any more
I don't want a snack
I don't want any dessert
I don't want anymore
I don't want eggs
I don't want to eat breakfast now
I don't want to eat dinner now
I don't want to eat lunch now
I feel like eating something salty
I feel like eating something sweet





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I hate to eat
I love to eat
I need a napkin
I need something to drink
I never want to eat that again
I only eat vegetables
I really don't like this at all
I think this tastes so good
I want to eat now
I will be ready to eat in a little while
I would like a candy bar
I would like a cookie
I would like a few cherries
I would like a piece of cake
I would like a salad
I would like some ice cream
I would like some more
I would like some pretzels
I would like to eat a steak
I would like to eat some fish
I would like to eat some potatoes
I would like to have a banana
I would like to have a pear
I would like to have a piece of fruit
I would like to have a snack
I would like to have a soda
I would like to have an apple
I would like to have an iced tea (with lemon)
I would like to have an orange
I would like to have dessert later
I would like to have some blueberries
I would like to have some dessert now
I would like to have some raisins
I would like to have some soup
I would like to have some yogurt and berries
I would like to have vegetables with my dinner
I would rather eat
I'd like my eggs, fried (scrambled, poached)





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I'd like to have some noodles
I'd like to have some oatmeal (with brown sugar and fruit)
I'd like to have some pasta
I'd like to have some toast (with jam/jelly)
I'd like a bowl of cereal
I'd like a bowl of soup
I'd like some cheese on my sandwich
I'd like to eat breakfast now (soon)
I'd like to eat dinner soon
I'd like to eat lunch now
I'd like to eat lunch soon
I'd like to have a bagel (toasted) with butter (cream cheese)
I'd like to have a cup of coffee (with milk and sweetener)
I'd like to have a cup of hot chocolate
I'd like to have a cup of tea (with milk and sweetener, lemon)
I'd like to have a glass of juice
I'd like to have a glass of milk
I'd like to have a hamburger with fries
I'd like to have a hot dog
I'd like to have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich
I'd like to have a salad
I'd like to have a sandwich
I'd like to have an English muffin
I'd like to have an omelet
I'd like to have dinner now
I'd like to have French toast
I'd like to have lettuce and tomato on my sandwich
I'd like to have pancakes (waffles) with syrup
I'd like to have some fresh fruit
I'd like to have some onions on my sandwich
I'd like to have some pizza
I'd like tuna fish
I'll finish this later, I'm full
I'm going to eat
I'm hungry for some breakfast
Is there any pie?
Please make this again
Thank you for making that for me





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

This is a bit too hot
This is delicious
What can I have to eat this morning?
What kind of cookies do you have?
What's for breakfast?
What's for dinner?
What's for lunch?
Would you like something to drink (eat, snack)?
You always make the things I like to eat

Likes/Dislikes

I don't like this music
I don't like to go there
I don't like him (her, them)
I don't like that place
I don't like that restaurant
I don't like that with my food
I don't like this food
I have always liked that place
I like a lot of different sports
I like her (him, them)
I like ice cream
I like that place
I like to do it
I like to go on car rides
I like to go there
I like to go to the movies
I like to have company come to visit
I like to listen to music
I like to listen to my IPOD
I like to look at the sunset
I like to see the waves in the ocean
I like to watch sports on TV
I like to watch the cooking shows on TV
I like to watch TV
I never liked that
I never liked them (her, him)
I really like chocolate





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I really like to eat pizza
I would like to go for a walk
I'd like to listen to a book on tape
I'd like to read a book (magazine)
I'd like to talk about it
I've always liked that
I've always liked them (her, him)

Appreciation

Do you know how much I appreciate all you do?
I am lucky to have you in my life
I am so grateful for all you have done for me
I am so happy to have you as a friend
I am so grateful for all the prayers, thought and support I have received, it's really helped
I appreciate your friendship
I could never have done this without your help and support
I hope you know how much I appreciate you
I hope you know how much you mean to me
I love you
I thank you for everything
I'm so grateful to have you in my life
I'm thankful for all you do for me
It's good to hear your voice
Thank you for being such a good friend
Thank you for helping me
Thank you for just being you
Thank you for your good wishes
Thank you for your thoughtfulness
Thank you for being such a good friend
Thanks for everything
Thanks for your help
That's awfully generous of you
You are such a good person to help me
You are the best partner
Your friendship means so much to me
Your help means so much to me
Your support means so much to me





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Expressions of Love

Do I tell you often enough how much I love you?
Do you know how much I love you?
I am so proud of you
I love you
I love you more than I can say
I miss holding you
I miss talking to you
I miss the rhythm of conversation
I need you
I want to be together forever
I want to share the rest of my life with you
I will always be with you
I will always be in your heart
I'm glad you're in my life
It's so easy to love you
I've been meaning to tell you how much I love you
Let's remember to be here for each other
We are so good together
What more could I have ever wanted than you?
You are all I could have asked for
You are an amazing (wife, mother, child, sister, brother, mom, dad, etc.)
You are everything I've ever wanted
You are my best friend
You are my soul mate
You are the best
You are the greatest kids in the world
You are the most special person
You make me so happy
You make my life better

You mean so much to me

Conversing About ALS

ALS affects the body, it does not affect the mind
ALS sucks
Fuck ALS





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Fuck Lou Gehrig
Having this disease has made me ...
I am determined to ...
I can hear and understand everything that you are saying
I can't believe this is happening to me
I can't stand this
I can't think about
I don't want to lose my dignity
I fear the loss of....
I feel frightened sometimes
I hate this life
I have ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease and I have trouble speaking
I use this machine to communicate
I wish I didn't have to go through this
I worry about ...
I'm having a great day
I'm having a very bad day
It makes me really mad that
It's hardly fair
One good thing about this disease is
Please tell me if you can't understand what I am trying to say
Sometimes I feel no one can understand what it feels like to go through this
Sometimes I just need to feel sorry for myself
Sometimes I just want to scream
This illness can really get you down
You can't imagine how difficult this can be

Health and Safety

This is an emergency!
Get help now!
I need suction
Can you help me
I need help now

Family and Close Friends' Names





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Compassion

Don't be annoyed with me
How could I be mad at you?
I am here for you
I am really sorry
I am sorry
I feel terrible that you are so unhappy
I hope everything turns out okay
I hope everything works out
I wish I could change things for you
I wish I could help you
I wish I could make it easier
I wish I could make things better for you
I wish you well
I would like to help if I can
I'm really sorry to hear that
I'm really sorry to put you through this
I'm sorry I'm not able to help you more
I'm sorry you are having a bad day
I'm sorry you don't feel well
I'm sorry you have to go through this with me
It didn't seem like it went well, sorry
Please don't be mad at me
Try not to be so sad

Environmental/Elements

Another gorgeous day
Let's go outside
Another rainy day
Another snowy day
Can you make it cooler in here?
Can you make it warmer in here?
Can you open the door to let the breeze in?
I hope it doesn't snow (rain)
It looks like a blizzard
It's beautiful outside
It's bright and sunny outside





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

It's cloudy
It's cold in here
It's dark in here
It's drizzling
It's hot and humid today
It's hot in here
It's nice and cool
It's pouring cats and dogs
It's raining
It's raining (snowing sunny, cloudy, foggy) out right now
It's slippery outside
It's snowing
It's so cold
It's so windy
It's too bright in here
It's too cold to go out
It's too nice to be inside
It's very hot
It's very humid
Let's just stay inside today
Please open the window and get some air in here
The moon is so bright
The stars are twinkling
The sun is shining
The weather is beautiful today
There is no rain (snow, etc.) in the forecast
There's a full moon tonight
There's no humidity in the air
What a beautiful day
What's the weather like today?

Occasions/Holidays/Celebrations

Bon voyage
Congratulations on your graduation
Congratulations on the birth of your baby
Congratulations on your engagement
Congratulations on your wedding
Enjoy the party





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Enjoy your vacation
Good luck
Happy anniversary
Happy birthday
Happy Chanukah
Happy New Year
Have a great trip
Have a safe trip
Have fun at the party
I am having the best time
I am so happy to be a part of today
I haven't had this much fun in a long time
I hope I can celebrate many more with you
I hope you celebrate many more
I'm glad I could be a part of the celebration
It's good to be here
It's great for all of us to be together to celebrate
Merry Christmas
This is a great party

Personal Care/Needs

Can I have a backrub?
Can I have a spritz of perfume/cologne?
Can I have a tissue?
Can you bring me my IPOD (IPAD, laptop, etc.)?
Can you dry my hair?
Can you get me pillow?
Can you help me
Can you help me get dressed?
Can you help me get dried off?
Can you help me get ready for bed?
Can you help me put on some makeup?
Can you help me set up my IPAD?
Can you play a DVD?
Can you please comb my hair?
Can you take out my contact lenses?
Can you turn on the TV?
I need a blanket





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I need a pillow
I need a shower
I need a tissue
I need help moving this
I need help putting on my shoes
I need my glasses
I need my hair to be easy to care for
I need some soap in the shower
I need some toothpaste
I need to blow my nose
I need to care for feminine issues, can you help me?
I need to lay down
I need to relax
I need to shave
I need to shave my legs
I need to use the bathroom
I need your help picking that up
I want to get my eyebrows waxed
I want to take a bath
I want to take a shower
I want to try a new(different) haircut
I want to use the laptop
I want to watch the news
I would like to brush my teeth
I would like to comb my hair
I would like to get a manicure(pedicure)
I would like to listen to some music
I would like to listen to the IPOD
I would like to put on my pajamas
I would like to use some mouthwash
I would like to wash my hair
I've had a problem, can you help me get cleaned up?
My feet are cold, can I have my slippers (socks, etc.)
Please cut my fingernails (toenails)
Please get me my case
Please get me my handbag
Please help me wash my face
Please help me wash my hands





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Please use conditioner to take out the tangles in my hair

Self Determination

Accept my decision
All I am trying to say is ...
Change the subject, please
Do it
Don't do that again
Explain that to me
Get the hell away from me
Give me that, please
How will I ...
I am doing it
I can handle it
I can't move but I am alive
I don't want that
I don't want that treatment
I gave my final word
I have something to say about that
I have the choice
I know, I don't need to be reminded
I really feel I can do it
I refuse that treatment
I think it's long enough
I want to do it
I want to know what it is
I want to talk about...
I won't guarantee anything
I would have to question that idea
I would really like to discuss that further
If I could, I would
I'll deal with it
I'll let you know
I'm as crazy as I was before
I'm as sane as I was before
I'm doing the impossible
I'm doing well
I'm finished





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

I'm not a child
I'm not contagious
I'm not going to take it
I'm still here you sons of bitches
I'm too rushed
It feels great to ...
It is important to me
It suddenly becomes important
It's absolutely ridiculous
It's my choice
It's my decision to make
It's up to me
I've had it
Just tell the truth
Look out world, here I come
No I won't
No I'm not
Please don't interrupt
Please don't touch me
Please get out of here
Please keep in mind I am a human being
Please keep in mind I am a person
Please keep in mind I was very healthy just a short time ago
Please let me finish, don't anticipate
Please remove that
Please stop
Please stop nagging
Please wait until I finish what I am trying to say
Should I be concerned?
Take that away
Take that away from me
That is not fair
That makes me mad
That's my problem
That's all I have to say
That's my choice
That's my problem
That's not the way it works





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

That's too much for me
That's what I like
That's what I said
That's why I feel the way I do
We have to stop
What are my choices?
What can I do?
What is next?
Yes, I can do that
You bet your britches
You can come up with something better
You could not possibly understand

Suggestions/Initiations

Can you think of something I can do to keep busy?
Do you need me to help you?
Do you need my help to explain this?
Do you want me to help you with your homework?
Do you want me to take care of that?
Do you want to go with me to the doctor's appointment?
Do you want to visit your relatives?
Does anyone want to go for a walk?
Does anyone want to go to the beach?
How about if we just stay inside?
How about if we light a fire in the fireplace?
How can I help you?
How would you like to celebrate our anniversary?
I could use your input
I'd be happy to

Should I make that phone call?
What can we do to make your day more special?
What do you think we should do?
What should we do for your birthday?
Where would you like to go for dinner?
Would anyone like to play a game?
Would you be willing to try to go on a vacation?
Would you like me to help prepare breakfast (lunch, dinner, etc.)?
Would you like to get tickets for the?





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Would you like to go out for breakfast (lunch, dinner)?
Would you like to go outside?
Would you like to go somewhere overnight?
Would you like to go to see a show?
Would you like to take a road trip?
Would you like to try the new restaurant?
Would you like to watch some TV (a movie)?

Family Routines

Are you getting ready for bed?
Are you going to prepare dinner?
Are you picking up the kids?
Can you take out the garbage?
Can you bring in the mail?
Can you fill up the car with gas?
Can you get the newspaper from outside?
Can you make a pot of coffee?
Did you bring the clothes to the cleaners?
Did you do the laundry?
Did you pack your lunch?
Did you put your clothes away?
Did you start (finish) your homework?
Did you straighten up your room?
Don't forget to set your alarm
Hurry up and eat your breakfast or you'll be late
Hurry up, you'll miss the bus
Please set the table
Who is going to do the grocery shopping?
Whose turn is it to feed the cat (dog)
Whose turn is it to walk the dog?
Whose turn is it to wash the dishes?
I can make everyone's lunch for tomorrow
I can fold the laundry

Modifying Other's Behavior

Don't complain
Don't do that again





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

Don't make me laugh
Don't mess me up
Stop that
Stop talking
Stop what you are doing
Put that down
Change the subject
Don't mess with that
Stop fidgeting

Agreement/Disagreement Phrases

Absolutely not
Certainly
Do you really think so?
How do you know?
I agree
I agree with you
I believe what you are saying
I couldn't agree more
I don't agree with you
I don't believe you
I don't doubt that
I don't think so
I don't think what you are saying is correct
I doubt that
I think you are right
I think you are wrong
I'm not so sure
I'm sure that's right
No way!
Not a chance that's correct
Perfectly said
That's a possibility
That's correct
That's incorrect
That's not true
That's right
That's true





ALS Augmentative Communication Program

That's wrong
Who said so?
Yes, I agree
You are incorrect
You are right
You are right about that
You are wrong
You are wrong about that
You couldn't be further from the truth
You missed the boat
You're kidding
You've got that right

Additional recordings completed by people with ALS:

- **singing songs including 'happy birthday'**
- **laughing**
- **making silly noises or voices for which one is known**
- **declaratives such as: ah ha, hmmm (with varied intonations), uh ah, etc.**
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