

Comparison table of language representations

	Minspeak	Single Meaning Picture System	Alphabetic
Summary	<p>‘Minimum effort speech’</p> <p>Motor planning! A consistent sequence of 2-3 icons together, which represent 1 word.</p> <p>Icon sequences give rise to a consistent and unique motor pattern for each word in the system.</p>	<p>1 icon = 1 word</p> <p>An array of core words + category based folders which require navigation to select words.</p>	<p>Keyboard which converts text to speech</p>
Examples	LAMP Words for Life, Unity	PODD, Proloquo2go, Touch Chat Word Power.	Predictable, ESSENCE.
Basic layout	<p>1 picture = multiple meanings</p> <p>Words stored in three layers.</p> <p>Layer 1 – simple verbs Layer 2 – verb synonyms, adjectives pronouns, collective nouns, prepositions, social interjections, question words. Layer 3 - nouns</p>	<p>Home page includes core vocabulary with links to category specific folders</p> <p>May step you through a sentence using predictive text or icons.</p>	<p>Keyboard layout</p> <p>Some come with QWERTY and ABCD keyboard</p>
How are words stored?	Nouns/verbs/adjective/a dverbs etc all have a pre-determined place which	Category folders (e.g. Food, people, places, activities, people, describing words) with	User types on keyboard to produce words



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	stays consistent on each page	links in between each folder.	Some systems will feature predictive text or prestored phrases
Number of page hits per word	Maximum 2-3 page hits required for LAMP WFL. Maximum 4 for Unity. Will take user back to home page each time they produce a word	3 + page hits to find any word. User needs to navigate through forward/backward through system to get back to home page	Depends on the system Little navigation required as user just needs to use the keyboard.
Number of icons	Finite (icons put together to form a 'code')	Thousands	26 icons on QWERTY keyboard plus number/ other function keys if programmed in
Cells per page	84	Varies	Varies
File types/ variations?	LAMP Words for Life 1-hit LAMP Words for Life Transition LAMP Words for Life Full	N/A	QWERTY vs ABCD keyboard
Masking	Yes (Vocabulary Builder or Making on the fly)	Yes, but will not work as effectively if the same words are repeated in multiple places.	N/A
Speed of icon selection	Slow to learn, but speed increases over time with practice and modelling.	Slow to learn, but speed increases over time with practice and modelling if vocabulary remains consistent. If vocabulary size increases, navigation and icon selection can become slower.	Slow to learn, but speed increases over time with practice and modelling.



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Client attributes	<p>Lots of research around ASD population and benefits of LAMP WFL</p> <p>Can be used with any diagnosis with a range of language abilities.</p> <p>Brand new user with no prior language system</p> <p>Cannot categorise words</p> <p>Poor attention/regulation</p> <p>Poor literacy</p> <p>Poor navigation skills through other apps.</p>	<p>Good Literacy skills/word recognition</p> <p>Able to categorise words into word categories.</p> <p>Able to visually scan a page</p> <p>Good visual acuity</p> <p>Strong visual memory/symbol recognition</p> <p>Strong navigating skills</p>	<p>Literacy skills</p> <p>Does not want to use a symbol based system</p>
Customisation	<p>Little customisation needed</p>	<p>Customisation ++</p>	<p>N/A</p>
Other features	<p>Vocabulary Builder/ Making on the fly</p> <p>Word finder – will show you the icon sequence for any word in the system and guide you there.</p> <p>Pre stored phrases (e.g. social phrases, ‘about me’ phrases. (Unity only)</p> <p>Phonics keyboard to early blending and segmenting Data logging with Realize Language™, a tool to help measure and maximize use</p>	<p>Predictive icons, will change depending on previous selections</p> <p>Pre stored phrases (e.g. social phrases, ‘about me’ phrases.</p> <p>Same word can appear in multiple locations → multiple ways of getting to one word</p>	<p>Other features</p>



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	Internal notebooks for storing chunks of text which can be copied into a word processor or spoken.		



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