

Yes–No Questions

Functional Activity Ideas

Activities

Take a walk. Go to the library, school office, hallway, an available classroom, lunch room, storage room, etc.

Use information from class. Provide answers to advanced curriculum material.

Ask questions related to student's interests, including favorite movies, toys, television shows, etc.

Example Statements

"Is that a book?"

"Are we in the cafeteria?"

"Are we in the speech room?"

"Water is a liquid." Pause. "Is water a liquid?" "Is water a solid like metal?"

"Do you like the Transformers?"

"Have you ever played soccer?"

"Do you like video games?"

Methods of Criterion Elicitation

Receptive

Answering Accurately – Use pictures if necessary. Questions that are basic orientation or curriculum relevant may not require pictures. Some methods of adjusting difficulty are:

Cues – Provide information, gesture with head nods or hand shakes, sign language, written cues, etc.

Consistency – Use only yes questions or only no questions.

Semantic Familiarity – Adjust by using questions at or just above student's individual level.

Syntactic Complexity – Modify tense, add phrases, negation, etc.

Expressive – Asking yes and no questions is a skill that may be appropriate for advanced students.

Goal Suggestions

Carolina will answer mixed basic orientation yes and no questions with 80% accuracy, such as "Are you in second grade?" and "Do you know how to swim?"

Dakota will answer mixed curriculum relevant yes and no questions with 70% accuracy, such as "Does a thermometer measure temperature?" and "Is up the opposite of above?"

Additional Practice

Write or type seven to ten questions at student's level on a piece of paper with "helper" next to a blank line at the bottom. Send home, and provide incentives for a signed return.

Enlist classroom teachers, aides, or resource room teachers for additional help. Tell them that you are working on providing accurate answers to "yes-no" questions. Often other professionals don't even realize that a student may need help with this skill.