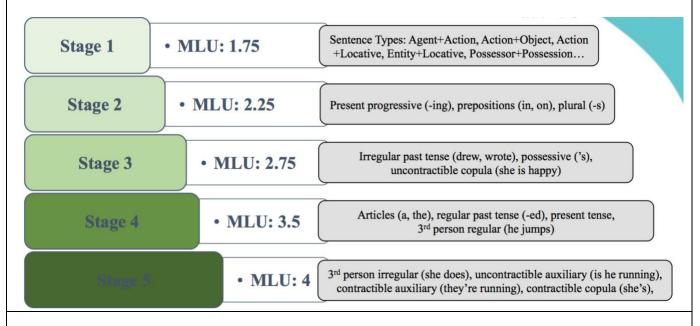


**Language Stages** 

#### Language Development *Typical Language Development?* •Structure and forms of words • Morpheme = smallest unit of **Morphology** Roger Brown (1973) identified meaning stages that provide a framework • Dance – danced – dancer ... from which we can predict the path of typically expressive language development. •Rules governing word order and **Syntax** Focuses on morphology and word combinations syntax.

#### Language Stages I-V (According to Brown)



#### *Language Stages for AAC (According to the AAC Language Lab)*

- 1. Prentke Romich Company (PRC) Language Lab
- 2. Compilation of different information detailing different stages of language development
- 3. Information for teachers, speech-language pathologists, and parents
- 4. Free resources and access to all materials through a subscription
- 5. Detail 6 stages of language development





**Language Stages** 

Language Stages for AAC	
Stage 1	• 1 word at a time; direct another's behavior, make requests, label items & objects
Stage 2	2-3 word phrases, combining words to make more meaningful phrases
Stage 3	Using meaningful word order, progressive –ing, plural -s
Stage 4	Learning grammar and sentence structure, questions, negatives irregular past tense
Stage 5	• Possessive 's, 3 <sup>rd</sup> person present, regular past tense
Stage 6	Correct grammar and word order, increasing complexity

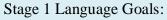
#### Emergent communicator

- Generally using 1 word at a time
- 1 word could mean continuation/recurrence, nomination, negation, etc.









- 1. Use single words to communicate
- 2. Increase vocabulary
- 3. Direct another's behavior using single words
- 4. Make requests using single words
- 5. Express negatives using single words
- → http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStage1





**Language Stages** 

### Combining words to communicate

- Some 1-word, 2-word, and even 3-word phrases
- S+O, S+V, V+O...





#### Stage 2 Language Goals:

- 1. Combine 2-3 words to build phrases
- 2. Increase vocabulary
- 3. Increase use of meaningful phrases
- 4. Use 2-3 words to direct another's behavior
- 5. Use 2-3 words to make requests
- 6. Use 2-3 words to express negatives
- → http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStage2

#### Language Stage 3

- Introduction of morphemes!
- Start using progressive –ing
- Start using plural –s
- Beginning to use basic prepositions (in, on)
- Most often using 2-3 word phrases





#### Stage 3 Language Goals:

- 1. Combine words to form simple sentences
- 2. Increase vocabulary
- 3. Use plural nouns
- 4. Use simple sentences to direct another's behavior
- 5. Use simple sentences to make requests
- 6. Use simple sentences to express negatives
- 7. Use –ing for present progressive verbs
- 8. Use propositions
- 9. Start to use infinitives (to+verb)
- → http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStage3



**Language Stages** 

# Wh questions start! Irregular past tense starts to emerge Possessive 's develops Stage 4 Language Goals: 1. Combine words to form simple sentences 2. Increase vocabulary



- 3. Ask simple wh- questions
- 4. Ask questions using pronoun-verb phrases (interrogatives)
- 5. Use simple sentences to direct another's behavior
- 6. Use simple sentences to make requests
- 7. Use simple sentences to express negatives
- 8. Use irregular past tense
- 9. Start to use adjectives
- 10. Start to use "is" and "are" correctly
- → http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStage4

# Distinguish between regular and irregular past tense use Use third person regular tense Use articles "a" and "the" Stage 5 Language Goals: Combine words to form simple complete sentences Increase vocabulary Use simple complete sentences to direct another's behavior Use simple complete sentences to make requests



- 5. Use simple complete sentences to express negatives
- 6. Use past tense verbs "was" and "were"
- 7. Use past tense –ed appropriately
- 8. Start to use articles "a" and "the" correctly
- 9. Use third person singular 's
- 10. Add possessive 's to nouns
- 11. Start to use future tense
- → http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStage5



**Language Stages** 

#### Language Stage 6

- Uses just about all parts of speech
- Correct word order
- Complex sentences through use of conjunctions
- Reflexive pronouns
- Indefinite pronouns





#### Stage 6 Language Goals:

- 1. Combine words to form simple complete sentences
- 2. Increase vocabulary
- 3. Continue to use simple complete sentences to direct another's behavior
- 4. Continue to use complete sentences to make requests
- 5. Continue to use complete sentences to express negatives
- 6. Use conjunctions to build complex sentences
- 7. Start to use reflexive pronouns correctly
- 8. Start to use indefinite pronouns correctly
- 9. Start to use contractions (isn't)
- → http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStage6

#### **Language Summary**

- Language Stages (Brown) = Predictable path of language development
- Language Stages for an individual using AAC are similar
- Language-Based AAC Intervention focusing on different elements
- Individuals may present with "splintered" skills and/or goals

Watch a webinar reviewing information regarding Language Stages and AAC.

→ http://bit.ly/AACLanguageStagesWebinar

