

UNITY™ PATTERNS

Unity™ is the name of the dominant vocabularies in PRC's AAC devices. The power of Unity™ is in its emphasis on core vocabulary, paired with the use of systematic patterns to generate vocabulary.

This document was designed to support the Unity™ patterns in any sequenced version of Unity. There may be some minor variation in the appearance or arrangement of the icons in the different versions of Unity, as it is not possible to maintain absolute consistency when the number of key locations varies.

There are only five main patterns that govern the organization of Unity vocabulary:

Pattern 1: Icon + Grammar Label

Pattern 2: Pronouns

Pattern 3: Pronoun Phrases

Pattern 4: Grammar Label + Icon

Pattern 5: Icon + Activity Row

- As you learn each pattern, you can use it to find additional vocabulary.
- Learning the patterns empowers you to find vocabulary without memorizing the icon sequence for each word.

Please note: Examples are shown with embellished icons turned off. If embellished icons were on, some of the icons would change to offer a more concrete representation of the vocabulary item.

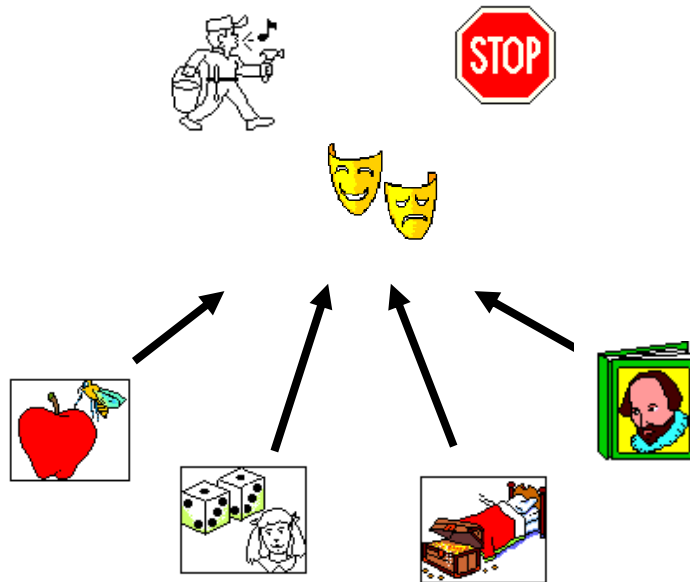
ADDITIONAL RESOURCE ON UNITY™

- Contact your regional consultant: (800) 848-8008.
- Visit the UNITY section of PRC's website:
<http://www.prentrom.com/language/unity/index.php>
- Attend a UNITY e-training: <http://www.prentrom.com/training>
- Send a request to info@prentrom.com

UNITY PATTERN 1

ICON + GRAMMAR LABEL



Pattern 1 generates nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs ending in -ly.



First select a colored icon.

Then select one of these grammar labels:

	Unity 45	Unity 60	Unity 84	Unity 144
Verb				
Noun				
Adjective				
Adverb				

Note the change in the grammar labels for nouns
adjectives  






and

PRACTICE WITH UNITY PATTERN 1

Fill in the words generated by **ICON + GRAMMAR LABEL** for the following table.






Note: Not all icons will have all four grammar forms.

	Verb	Noun	Adject.	Adverb
				
				
				

Select a few additional colored icons, and explore what they say using Pattern 1.

EXPANSION ON PATTERN 1: DOUBLE HIT ON ICON + GRAMMAR LABEL

A single hit + verb generates a high frequency verb. A double hit on the same icon + verb generates another verb related to the icon, but this verb is somewhat less frequently used.

	 read		Read
		 teach	Teach
	 call		Call
		 speak	Speak










UNITY PATTERN 2

PRONOUNS









Pattern 2 generates up to five different pronoun sets (subject pronouns, object pronouns, possessive adjectives, possessive pronouns, and reflexive pronouns). Not all pronoun forms are available in Unity 45.







Pronoun keys are colored yellow and appear as a group of keys on the left side of the display.

The following icons are used in Pattern 2:





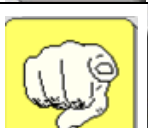



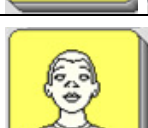



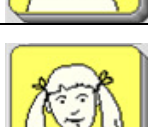

Icon	Used in	Icon	Used in
	I, me, my, mine, myself		We, us, our, ours, ourselves
	You, you, your, yours, yourself		They, them, their, theirs, themselves
	He, him, his, his, himself		Used for object pronoun and possessive adjective
	She, her, her, hers, herself		Used for possessive pronoun and possessive adjective
	It, it, its, its, itself		

Subject Pronouns















		I			It
		You			We

		He			They
		She			

Object pronouns

		Me			It
		You			Us
		Him			Them
		Her			

Possessive pronouns

		My			Its
		Your			Our
		His			Their
		Her			

Possessive adjective

		Mine			Its
		Yours			Ours
		His			Theirs
		Hers			

Reflexive adjectives

		Myself			Itself
		Yourself			Ourselves
		Himself			Themselves
		Herself			

Can you say all the subject pronouns? Now try a few of the object pronouns. Say "I," "me," "my." How do you say "mine?"















UNITY PATTERN 3

Pronoun Phrases

Pronoun phrases consist of a pronoun and a verb. Frequently occurring verbs are stored in pronoun phrases. Use of pronoun phrases is very efficient for the augmented communicator. These are often taught early, and used as carrier phrases for a wide variety of useful messages. There are four forms of pronoun phrases.




Statement







Select the pronoun key once, followed by the desired verb key. This is often taught as "Pronoun + Picture."

		I can			It can
		You can			We can
		He can			They can
		She can			

Question

This is the reverse of the statement form. Select the desired verb key, followed by the pronoun key. This is often taught as "Picture + Pronoun."

		Can I			Can it
		Can you			Can we

 	Can he	 	Can they
 	Can she		



Negative Statement




The negative ("not" or "knot") is inserted between the pronoun and the verb.
 "Pronoun Not Picture."

  	I can't	  	It can't
  	You can't	  	We can't
  	He can't	  	They can't
  	She can't		







Negative Question

The negative ("not" or "knot") is inserted between the verb and the pronoun.
 "Picture Not Pronoun."

  	Can't I	  	It can't
  	You can't	  	We can't
  	He can't	  	They can't

			She can't	
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Here are some additional verbs that are programmed with pronouns as phrases. Try some of them out using the pattern for pronoun phrases.

	Like		Want		Go*
	Have		Do		Need



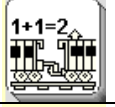

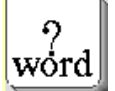
*In pronoun phrases, this gives you the present progressive tense ("I am going"), which provides a nice beginning step for talking about the future.


When you select a pronoun key once, look at the verbs that are now predicted. You can now see all of the verbs that are stored in pronoun phrases.

UNITY PATTERN 4

GRAMMAR LABEL + ICON

Pattern 4 generates interjections, determiners, prepositions, question words, and adverbs without -ly.

















Interjections		"Pop-up" words*	Examples: Cool, yikes, awesome, hi
Determiners		"Pointing" words	Examples: This, that, each
Conjunctions		"Linking" words	Examples: And, because, but
Prepositions		"Bridge" words	Examples: To, at, by, of
Question words		Question words	Examples: What, who, where

Adverbs		Adverbs not ending in -ly	Examples: Much, yet, very
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*Interjections, or “pop-up” words, can be a fun place to start. They are used frequently throughout the day, so you can teach initiation as well as encourage communication that is appropriate in virtually all situations.

Select the desired grammar icon, and look at the predicted keys to find vocabulary items in that grammatical class. For determiners, conjunctions, and prepositions, the most frequently occurring word in that class is generated by a double hit on the grammar icon. Can you say “that?” “and?” “to?” Try out a few words for each of the six grammar icons that utilize this pattern. Can you find each of the words listed as examples in the preceding chart?

Note: This document was developed with embellished icons turned off. This approach is especially useful when learning icons by location, which in turn can become an automatic movement pattern. However, for some learners, turning embellished icons on, resulting in a more concrete depiction of the target word, can be useful, especially when the word is first introduced. The decision about having embellished icons on or off should be based on what you know about the learning style of the individual you are teaching. Here are a few examples of the difference:

Word	Emb. Icons Off	Emb. Icons On
Ouch	 	 
About	 	 
Over	 	 
Where	 	 


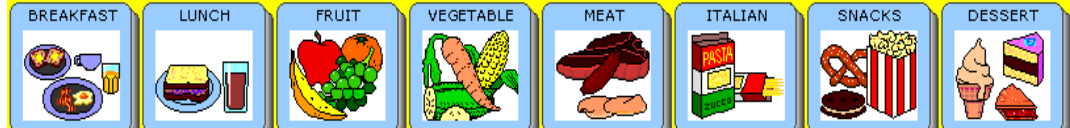

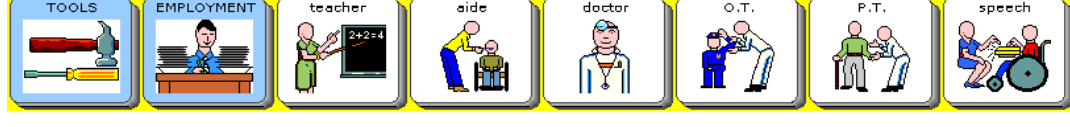

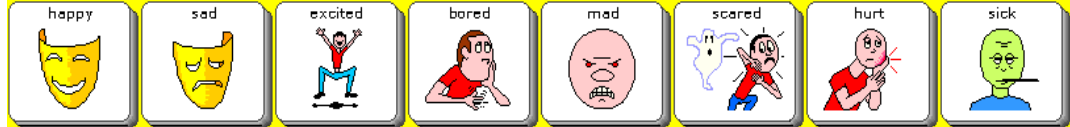
The setting for turning embellished icons on or off is in the feedback menu in the toolbox.

UNITY PATTERN 5

ICON + ACTIVITY ROW


Pattern 5 provides access to additional vocabulary in the activity row (top row).

When some of the colored icons are selected, they will provide access to vocabulary in the activity row that is related to that icon. For example, when you select "apple," the activity row offers specific food categories and food words.

The icons in the activity row that are framed in blue represent categories. When you select a blue-framed icon, it will take you to an activity row that contains specific words in that category. Can you say "banana?" "ice cream?"

What vocabulary do you find in the activity row if you select each of these icons?

NOW LET'S TALK!

Use this summary of the rules to help you say the practice sentences.

Pattern 1	Icon + Grammar Label	Nouns, Verbs, Adjectives
Pattern 2	Pronouns	Pronouns - subject, object, poss.,
Pattern 3	Pronoun Phrases	Pronoun + Picture Pronoun + Not + Picture Picture + Pronoun Picture + Not + Pronoun
Pattern 4	Grammar Label + Icon	Interjections, Determiners, Conjunctions, Prepositions, Question Words, Adv. w/o -ly
Pattern 5	Icon + Activity Row	Specific words related to the icon

Practice Sentences: Hints are available at the bottom of the page.

I want / iced tea,/ please.¹

I need / help.²

I can / help / you.³

What / do you want?⁴

I feel / excited.⁵

I want / that.⁶

More Practice Sentences

No more hints!

He wants / water.

Yum!

She wants / milk.

Good / work!

I don't want / ice cream.

Help / me,/ please.

They want / pizza.

I like /salad.

We don't want / pizza.

She sees / it.

Do you want / help?

What / do you want?

Do they need / help?

Where / do you want / to go?

I need / that.

She is / pretty.

I can / say / that.

Do you want / me / to help / you?

¹ Pattern 3, 5, 4

² Pattern 3, 1

³ Pattern 3, 1, 2

⁴ Pattern 4,3

⁵ Pattern 3, 5

⁶ Pattern 3, 4