

Text Messaging

Examples of how to use text messaging with picture symbols and eye gaze

These aim to:

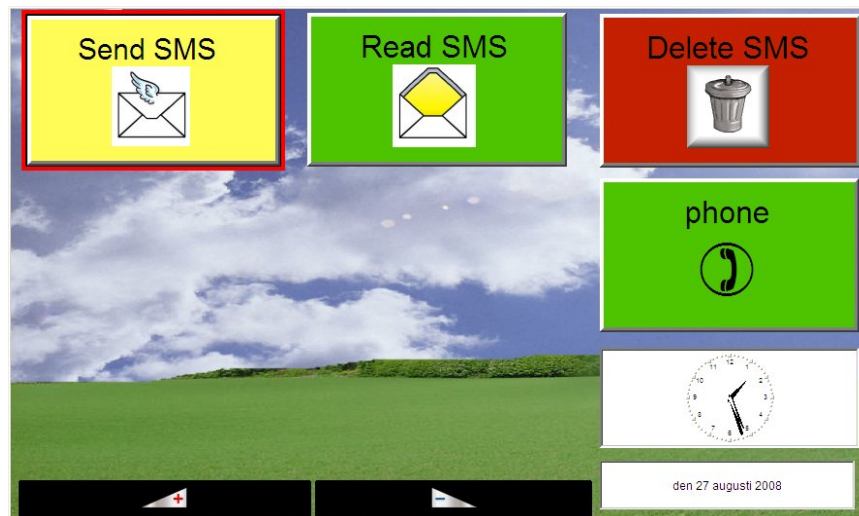
1. Enable use of text messaging for users who cannot use a cell phone and cannot read or write.
 2. Possible to adapt to the users skill level. The amount of cells/choices and the size of target must be individually adapted after the user's cognitive skills and eye gaze performance.
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How does the grid work?

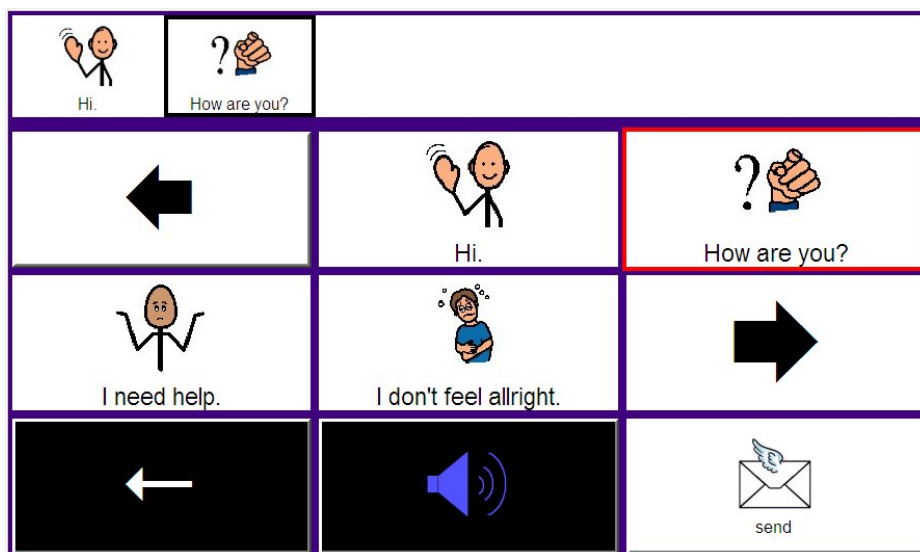
This grid set is designed for users of augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) who cannot use a regular cell phone and who cannot read/write sufficiently to use regular text messaging. This grid set fits as introduction to an unfamiliar user who considers it helpful with pre made phrases. Other users may prefer a complete vocabulary to be able to compose messages more freely.

The software used is Rolltalk Workshop and to be able to send text messages the computer must be connected with a mobile phone (or have that possibility built in). The user composes a message using his/her regular symbol system but the communication partner receives a regular text messages. When the user receives a message it appears as text and it is read by the speech synthesis. This grid set can be a part of a more complex communication grid set.

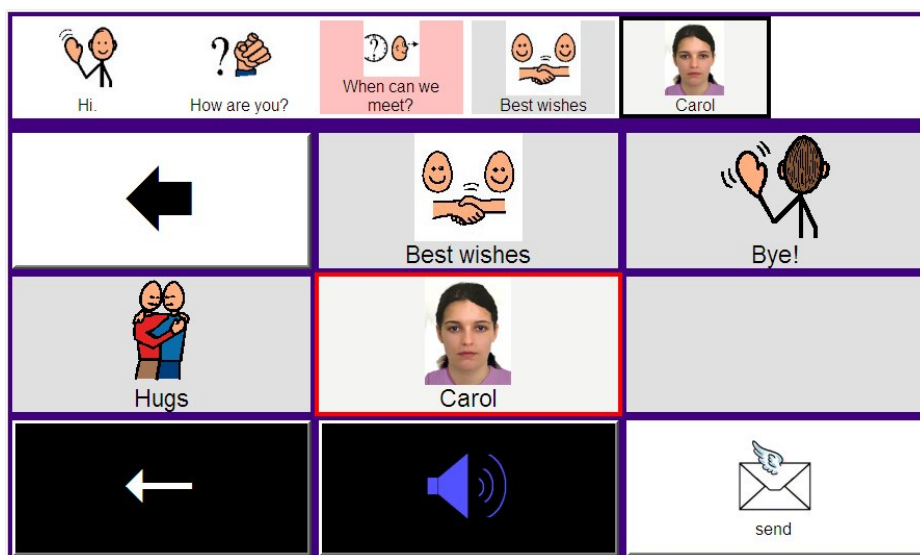
On the menu page the user can chose to compose and send text messages (SMS), to read messages, to delete messages, to phone and to change the volume. There is also information about time and date which can be read with the speech synthesis. When writing a message pre made phrases are used, these are categorized in different "pages" which helps the unfamiliar user to compose message. Some of the "pages" are illustrated here. When sending the message the user chooses the receiver from a personalised address book where people can be represented with pictures or symbols.



1. Menu grid.



2. Grid for start of a message. Every page contains functions for erasing symbols, listening to the message and for sending the message.



3. Choosing greetings.

How were these grids made?

The grid set was made in Rolltalk Workshop, but other communication software offer similar possibilities.

Download

This grid set can be downloaded on the COGAIN website but can only be used if you have a licence or a demo of Rolltalk Workshop.

http://www.cogain.org/user_involvement/exemplars/writing-and-computer-control/