

SOCIAL COMMUNICATION SKILLS – THE PRAGMATICS CHECKLIST

Child's Name _____ Date _____ Completed by _____	Not Present	Uses NO Words (Gestures - Preverbal)	Uses 1-3 Words	Uses Complex Language
Parent: These social communication skills develop over time. Read the behaviors below and place an X in the appropriate column that describes how your child uses words/language, no words (gestures – preverbal) or does not yet show a behavior.				
Pragmatic Objective				
INSTRUMENTAL – States needs (I want....)				
1. Makes polite requests				
2. Makes choices				
3. Gives description of an object wanted				
4. Expresses a specific personal need				
5. Requests help				
REGULATORY - Gives commands (Do as I tell you...)				
6. Gives directions to play a game				
7. Gives directions to make something				
8. Changes the style of commands or requests depending on who the child is speaking to and what the child wants				
PERSONAL – Expresses feelings				
9. Identifies feelings (I'm happy.)				
10. Explains feelings (I'm happy because it's my birthday)				
11. Provides excuses or reasons				
12. Offers an opinion with support				
13. Complains				
14. Blames others				
15. Provides pertinent information on request (2 or 3 of the following: name, address, phone, birthdate)				
INTERACTIONAL - Me and You...				
16. Interacts with others in a polite manner				
17. Uses appropriate social rules such as greetings, farewells, thank you, getting attention				
18. Attends to the speaker				
19. Revises/repairs an incomplete message				
20. Initiates a topic of conversation (doesn't just start talking in the middle of a topic)				
21. Maintains a conversation (able to keep it going)				
22. Ends a conversation (doesn't just walk away)				
23. Interjects appropriately into an already established conversation with others				
24. Makes apologies or gives explanations of behavior				
25. Requests clarification				
26. States a problem				
27. Criticizes others				
28. Disagrees with others				
29. Compliments others				
30. Makes promises				
WANTS EXPLANATIONS - Tell me Why...				
31. Asks questions to get more information				
32. Asks questions to systematically gather information as in "Twenty Questions"				
33. Asks questions because of curiosity				
34. Asks questions to problem solve (What should I do? How do I know?)				
35. Asks questions to make predictions (What will happen if...?)				
SHARES KNOWLEDGE & IMAGINATIONS - I've got something to tell you...				
36. Role plays as/with different characters				
37. Role plays with props (e.g., banana as phone)				
38. Provides a description of a situation which describes the main events				
39. Correctly re-tells a story which has been told to them				
40. Relates the content of a 4-6 frame picture story using correct events for each frame				
41. Creates an original story with a beginning, several logical events, and an end				
42. Explains the relationship between two objects, actions or situations				
43. Compares and contrasts qualities of two objects, actions or situations				
44. Tells a lie				
45. Expresses humor/sarcasm				
TOTAL FOR EACH COLUMN				

AUTHOR OF CHECKLIST: Goberis, D. (1999) Pragmatics Checklist (adapted from Simon, C.S., 1984).

Goberis, Beams, Dalpes, Abrisch, Baca, Yoshinaga-Itano (2012). The missing link in language development of deaf and hard of hearing children: Pragmatic Language Development. Semin Speech Lang, 33(04), 297-309 <https://www.thieme-connect.de/ejournals/pdf/10.1055/s-0032-1326916.pdf>

The format of this information was designed by Karen L. Anderson, PhD, 2013, Supporting Success for Children with Hearing Loss <https://successforkidswithhearingloss.com>