

**Supplemental Material S1.** Complete list of participant responses. Responses are shown in full, separated into those that were included in the analysis ( $n = 37$ ) and those that were excluded due to limited content ( $n = 16$ ). Comments by the interviewer are included in brackets and begin with "MEF." Any names used have been replaced with a single initial in brackets for anonymity, e.g., [D].

**Included Participant Responses ( $n = 37$ )**

- "It's uh- it's really bad uh thing I feel because I like to talk. I used to like to talk. But when there things that I want to say, and I can't say them, that really bothers me."
- "Um. Um. (Inaudible) Um. I know, I know how you're feeling. Um. Um. Because I was a teacher so when when fuh-fuh- especially for for what I do, I used to do um people just thinkin I-I-I'm different. With some, with somebody else. So I mmmm I always have to take my time." [MEF: Sure. And if you take your time you can get it out?] "Right."
- "Phasia. Sometimes me, but that um. Phasia out-outside no little bit. Little bit. Um. My wife better, but that that that's it. I don't care, but it's okay. Oh! Guh little boys. Little boys two. Okay. Me but that's it."
- "Um. Because I know several languages, I try to (pause) think of all the vocabulary that I have. Most of it is English now. So um. But sometimes it it's a um conversation about other things like um. Not myself. Um I try to get back to my Hungarian or whatever or or um. Yeah so." [MEF: So when you're having a conversation like with me, scuse me, I only speak English. So if you had to use English with me are there times where there's an idea that you want to express but you can't using English?] "Yes. Um not- not often. Like 10 percent would be... Now, now two years ago b-before the study I would I would think of a lot of other um language but because of, English is my first language now. So that's why. So I don't draw back to my other languages."
- "When I'm talking somethin. Uh. When uh- When I wanna tell somebody it doesn't come outta my mouth. And it's... Sometimes I get mad. I get mad. I do. I get mad. Or I'll say, that's alright! Forget it! Don't, just forget it! And that's what I do. "
- "Um... Frus- frustrating."
- "Frustrating. Um... I actually have to almost close my eyes and try to pull the the image and to to get to relay it out to me."
- "I don't-every everyday! Cause I can't can't do it. I can't do it. Everyday (sounds) but or everyday but so it's a problem."
- "I don't like it. I get, I be I be hurt when when when I can't say say different things."
- "Um the words in are on my brain but I can't say that word that I want to say. Most of the time."
- "Um. Now it's, believe it or not, it's okay. Uh I have a stroke of uh seven years plus. And it was really tough as you can imagine. And now half I can say wife specifically no it's wrong."
- "Oh god. Um I have a hard time with um specific pictures that are inside my my mind. That get a little tangled up. Um...Like flowers and things of that nature. I have a difficult time with those. [MEF: You said that they are pictures in your head? But then actually getting the word out is tricky.] "Yeah, I'll I'll if I can get the first letter of the word generally I get through it. But if I have a couple additional letters with it, it does work better."

- "It's really frustrating. It's... it's the thing I don't like is I remember way I used to be. I'm gonna cry because I so. I I I I ca-can't get over this. And I don't know why. It's so many years. But it still bothers me."
- "What do you mean?" [MEF: Can you tell me anything else about that?] "I have a concept but can't get the right words so I spend more time uh trying to say it with something else that I can give to them. I substitute for what I can't get."
- "Uh frustrated and it's stumping me all the time."
- "It's frustrating. But I learn to take my time and get my point across."
- [MEF: Do you ever know what you want to say but you can't say it out loud?] "Now pretty much I can. I would say that... that first year forget it you know, it was um too hard of understanding 100% little even saying. Even if I did understand enough I want to at least say something and couldn't. That was that first year." [MEF: Now are there any times when you can't say a word out loud?] "Yeah, that's still. But I'm like lalalalala" [MEF: So much better!] "Yeah! I literally can say so much. And then I go (gestures) you know that place? I still don't know how to say, it starts with a b. I'm literally showing (gestures) I know this, and I know that, but if I said something else (gesturing to different parts of her body). This one I still don't remember the meaning of this. And I have to ask."
- [MEF: Do you ever know what you want to say but you can't say it out loud?] "Yeah I do but I have to say one way or another." [MEF: Okay. So you find a way to say it?] "Yeah."
- "Uh I feel frustrated. I can't put the words together to get my thought out. So lots of times I usually don't don't um advise um I don't I don't open my mouth because I feel like I'm gonna say something stupid. So lotta lot of times. Opening my house. (sounds) (grabs paper and demonstrated on scale) I get something I want open, see here, and I realize it would be down here." [MEF: Okay] "And every uh" [MEF: Well just to give you some feedback, since we met you today you've told us I think everything you wanted to and it's been pretty clear. So...] "Well it's it's. It might be clear to you but because I'm I'm I don't know. I I get frustrated because I can't communicate to my wife, to people at work. Have to go to channels I know are gonna work. Um very 15 years of frustration. Um so I don't know."
- "Um. Take like um um this weekend. I'm involved with the men's group uh um. um. um. Ventially we're gonna set up the wine thing um um I told uh Fa- I told uh [D] what [J] was telling me um I couldn't get it out. [MEF: So you probably knew what [J] had told you but it just wasn't] "Yes. I had to say a [G] you tell him. (laughs)" [MEF: Good thing [G] was there!] "Yes! (laughs) Yeah." [MEF: So sometimes when you're maybe telling a story or something like that. Um Okay!]
- "I will say there'll be a few uh uh um damnits and uh I'll try another word. And sometimes like I will say I'm gonna say uh water and I'll say beer. I will get whiskey and I will get... And then I'll water."
- "Because I I can't uhh precisely the best words I'd like to say. I have to um. Sometimes have to say something that was similar but not exactly what I like to say. I like to be more precise. But I'd have to sit down and relax and think about it sometimes and end of the conversation it's gone."
- "Askin me? Um. Depends! I mean it depends if uh it's too private. I don't like talking about it." [MEF: So I'm asking about um whether because of your aphasia you have

trouble saying words that you want to. If there are things that you want to say but you can't because of aphasia.] "I can't respond quickly. That's the main thing. Um. Now between the lotta spanish people and I speak to them and I find myself (grunts). And I have to change a different words to to explain. So... I'm I'm comfortable as far as being direct information but I don't try to hide anything because I can't say it correctly. And I have to change my words to provide information. [MEF: So sometimes something you say doesn't come out correctly?] "Yes sometimes. Yeah."

- "Frustrating."
- "There will, I will be looking for a specific word and I can't find it. And one of the things I'm doing right now, I'm going to a neuropsychologist. And also a speech therapist to sort of get behind that blockage. I tend to stop breathing and I um get frustrated. If uh for instance I'm in the grocery store and I want avocados and I can't remember the word for avocados I'll just change the subject with the clerk and I'll be embarassed and I'll walk away." [MEF: It seems like uh in conversation you do pretty well.] "I do." [MEF: We've been talking quite a bit today and I haven't seen you have those blockages.] "It it's higher it's very rare that it's some word like avocado. It's usually what I call twenty-five cent words versus five-cent words. Uh the words that are used less frequently."
- "Um knowing fine. But talking is talking is hard."
- "Um I know that the feeling would be that. I am aware- keenly aware that I have something to say but we can't we can't note that we can't execute the word itself. Um I don't know if that's sufficient for you but I mean that's pretty common for uh for uh for me at this point."
- "Uh frustration."
- "Frustrating. One word- frustrating." [MEF: That's the most common word that I hear when I ask these questions.] "That is, well it's it's really a s, it's a really interesting phase. Um my wife gets a kick out of it. I I can think of a word, but I can't say it. You can give me the first letter, but I I cant- kill me I can't. To try to do it." [MEF: And that's exactly what my questions are going to be about, is that feeling of knowing what you want to say but not being able to.] "Yeah being, yeah being frustrated."
- "Um my head my my head is saying it but my mouth not saying it at all."
- "Um frustrating um. That's um. I say it word um ball, and um no no (sounds) that's (shakes head) Yeah." [MEF: So maybe sometimes the wrong word comes out?] "Right right."
- "Um uh hm. (sounds) Hm. Sometimes I don't (sounds) (starts crying)."
- "Frustrated. Bad. Good, bad bad. Oh my. Very bad! Incredibly bad. Oh my god."
- "I. There's a lot going on up here. Then I only only on had to high school. But um I'm a baptist now. But I'm uh buddhist. I still do Buddhism. Lots of things combine in there. But I can't voice it. But but so. At times (phone rings). I'll put this on (unintelligible). [MEF: So that was a, that was a good description. You said there's lots of things going on up here but you can't voice it.] "Yeah. Yeah it's it's like I can't do it. But But what can't do verbally I try to um think of something or what's the thing you um you speak it out like..." [MEF: Gesture it? Act it out?] "Yeah. Yeah So it's it's it's always one this um other ways to phrase it."
- "Um (pause) Not often. That's different from what other people want to hear." [MEF: What do you mean?] "Well when I know when I want to say usually you know I'm

something I'm thinking about so it comes out usually. But if it's something that someone else asks me a question I can't sometimes I can think things in my mind. But getting it out takes me a little while." [MEF: Okay. So to answer that question you said not often which to me says that occasionally, that happens but not often.] "Yes, occasionally. I hope I'm answering it right. Af- after we start doing things who knows it may turn out that that's wrong." [MEF: Oh that's ok. For for what we're starting with, there's no right answer. Um I'm just trying to get a sense of what you feel about what's going on in your head and how that relates to what you can say out loud. Um because your perception of it, is important. Regardless of what you do on everything we do next.] "I'd say close but not definitely I have problems."

- "Um there's several ways. One is I can't the the right uh the right person the right um where I don't get the right meaning or purpose I I just I'm like I'm thinking I can't- I know the word I just can't remember the word. And and so sometimes I just don't talk about it. You know or it'll it'll just be a short time then I'll see the word. Okay now I know wanna say. Specially when I'm doing technical information or or or name, When I'm trying to get, that person what's his name I can't remember it. Oh! [N] ok, [N]." [MEF: Something really specific.] "Yes." [MEF: And so you said that's one way that it can happen. What else, what else happens?] "The, the other I have the word but I can't proper I can't speak the right word. Maybe it's close, and I have to think about it. And sometimes you know, sometimes it's just immediately no problem. Sometimes I know the word, I kinda have it. But I I I don't get the right, I don't say it correctly. And and then I have to think about it and and it's interesting. Some of the words are like um specially like about my stroke. Words about that, like I think one of them I've even practiced this. Like um seizure. Because I had a seizure as part of that process. And for the longest time I couldn't remember that word I know what I'm trying to say so I kinda practiced it a little bit. And have little tricks. You know like I think of seizure like, seizure is like Augustus seizure. And I say oh seizure well it kinda makes sense. [MEF: That's so good! That's a really good one.] "So sometimes I try to to help practice but so so I guess it's those kinda two things, it's either I know word exactly and I can, but I can't. And I don't be kinda silly so I just didn't say it because I couldn't properly say it. And then other is I just can't remember, I know the word I have it in my head. But what's that word what's that word. Like um like this one's even one. Like uhh I know this in my head. Flap- flashlight. I need a flashlight. And and and I just can't. It doesn't immediately take and and some of those I try to practice em. But there's so many of those. So those are kinda the two."
- "Um I have uhhhh um I have some things I want to say. But I just can't say them."

### Excluded Participant Responses ( $n = 16$ )

- "Uh. Mmm. I- I- (sounds). I don't. Uhhh."
- "Um. (sounds) Can't ever explain that feeling. Um. No. mmm. Um. Can't ever explain that feeling. Yes but uh. Um. Yeah."
- "Um. Uh scribe. Um. Every moment um I don't know. Um. I don't know."
- "(Laughs) Well you know the see um see party in my head. (Laughs) Yeah sure you know. Yes."
- "Um. Uh. [MEF: Take your time.] "I want to go to the bathroom. No no no. [MEF: Okay. Okay. I was gonna say, we could go.]
- [MEF: Do you ever know what you want to say but you can't say it out loud?] "No." [MEF: So I'm gonna ask that one more time. This is about your aphasia. And I'm just asking again to make sure that I'm understanding. Do you ever know what you want to say but you can't say it out loud?] "No." [MEF: So I'm gonna just describe to you what other people with aphasia sometimes tell us about their ability to say words.] "Alright. And actually (laughs) the more I think about that question (sighs) I guess it's a yes. But it's not all the time, it's like s s I don't know, cause" [MEF: Just sometimes?] "Yeah sometimes. It's like I mean, it's.. If I was s s. If I was to give it a scale I would say... I don't know, 1% percent of the time. But that 1% is just enough, it's just enough that you notice it."
- "What the what the s-talk out loud, um... What does stroke hard."
- "(long silence)"
- "No. (laughs)"
- (no response)
- "(sounds) alway." [MEF: Always?] "Yeah." [MEF: You know what you wanna say but you can't say it.] "Yeah. Yeah. (gives a thumbs up)"
- "I see it and I like it. I I can't see the people all the time."
- "Um no. But yes yes ah yes."
- "Hm. Just can't. You know."
- \*camera was not working in beginning\* [MEF: So you said, I can do it but I cannot sometimes.]
- "Um it's it's it's say um birds and birds and and this. This uh is is uh words and laugh then it's it shifts."