



PLEASE CITE WORK AS:

Message Banking, Voice Banking and Legacy Messages

John M. Costello

Boston Children's Hospital

© **2011, 2014**

DEFINITIONS:

Voice Banking is a process of recording a large inventory of your speech that is then used to create a synthetic voice that approximates your natural voice.

Done successfully, this would allow one to spell and create unique messages and then speak them through a synthesizer that approximates one's natural speech. The science behind this process continues to be in development with beta-versions of available software. The ModelTalker is one such project from the University of Delaware Speech Research Lab. The website is: www.asel.udel.edu/speech/ModelTalker.html





Boston Children's Hospital
Until every child is well™

Message Banking with your own

voice *digitally record and store words, phrases, sentences, personally meaningful sounds and/or stories using your natural voice, inflection and intonation.*

These messages are catalogued as .wav files and may then be linked to messages in a variety of augmentative communication technologies or sound storage files. This will allow you to 'retrieve' a message and speak it in your own voice but does not allow you to create novel messages by spelling. If you have recorded individual words, you may combine those words to create unique messages, although the output will sound more staccato than your natural speaking.

Message Banking by proxy is the election of a proxy voice to do all recordings because issues of fatigue, pain or intelligibility may make it difficult for an individual to bank all messages. In this case, the patient may still bank '*legacy messages*' but the majority will be banked by proxy.





Boston Children's Hospital
Until every child is well™

TERMINOLOGY:

Legacy Messages are those messages, often delivered with unique intonation and prosody that are unique or particular to you. It may be a 'trademark' message you say or it may be a trademark *delivery* of a message that many people say. A legacy message does not need to be meaningful to the general population instead it may have unique and personal meaning to only you and a loved one. Further, a legacy message does not need to be real words to be meaningful. It may be the way you clear your throat in a sarcastic manner to communicate "*I told you so*" or it might be the invented pet name you have for a loved one delivered with your unique voice, intonation and prosody. Similarly, legacy message may be that stereotypical thing you say after your favorite sports team scores or it may be a unique greeting you deliver to friends. Those close to you may be helpful with identifying these *Legacy Messages* because sometimes they are so naturally part of socially relating with others, you may not even be aware you are 'known' for them.

Context or 'Relationship' Vocabulary:

are those words, phrases and full messages one uses to effectively participate in an interaction is a specific context such as 'how to help me transition to my wheelchair' or 'talking with my board of directors' or 'discussing my status with my therapist'. It is the predictable *script* in an interaction or a relationship.





THE VOCABULARY:

The following vocabulary was message banked by people with ALS. People graciously permitted us to share their messages and we attempted to organize vocabulary by categories for ease of reference. *This list is NOT intended to be a script from which others record.* It is intended to give people *ideas* of messages that others thought were important.

EXPRESSIONS

Idioms

It's not my cup of tea
Just like a dream
Off the deep end
Once in a blue moon
Out of the clear blue
Practice makes perfect
That's the way the cookie crumbles
You missed the boat

Social Requests

Come talk with me
I want a hug.
I want a kiss.
I'm sorry but I have an appointment now.
Leave me alone
May I go with you?
Sit over here with me.
Would you like to go with me?
You'll have to go.





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Humor

Is that your real name?
 Sssss, I was trying to whistle!
 That was the voice machine talking, not me!
 That's easy for you to say!
 Who programmed this voice machine?

Expressions of feelings

Angry
 Better
 Fed up
 Frightened
 Frustrated
 Good
 Happy
 Lonely
 Mad
 OK
 Overwhelmed
 Sad
 Sick
 Tired
 Worried
 Worse

Time of Day Based Expressions

Did you have a good night's sleep?
 Good morning
 Good night, I hope you sleep well
 Good night, I love you
 Have a good day
 How are you this morning?
 How is your day going so far?
 I'd like a morning snack
 I'd like to eat breakfast
 I'd like to eat dinner





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I'd like to eat lunch
 I'd like to watch the evening news
 It's time for bed
 Pleasant dreams
 What time is it?
 When are they coming?
 When are we leaving?
 When do we start?

Topic Continuations

Alright
 Amazing
 And then...
 Good
 I know it
 I see
 Isn't that wonderful?
 Keep going
 Oh yeah
 Okay
 Really
 Right
 Tell me more
 That's good to know
 That's great
 That's interesting
 Uh huh
 Wow
 Yeah

Appointments

I need a haircut
 I would like to get a manicure/ pedicure
 We need to have the computer guy fix our computer
 I need an appointment to have my eyebrows waxed
 I need an appointment with the dentist
 I need to have my wheelchair fixed
 I need to make an appointment for...





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I need to see the doctor for
I would like to make a date with.....

Equipment Related Phrases

Can you make an adjustment
I can't get it to work
I don't know what happened to it
I'm having the same kind of problem
It doesn't work
It doesn't work properly
It just doesn't work
It works once in a while
Rewind the tape please
Turn it down a little bit please
Turn it off

Physical State Phrases

Can you help me move?
Careful, you are hurting me
Everything bothers me
I am tired
I don't feel like eating
I don't feel very well
I feel angry
I feel sad
I feel great
I feel terrible
I have a headache
I have an itch
I have an itch on my hand
I have an itch on my back
I have an itch on my foot
I need a massage
I need to move
I need to rest
I want to lay on my back
I want to lay on my right (left) side
I want to lay on my stomach





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I would like to lay flat
 I'm cold
 I'm hot
 I'm hungry
 I'm okay
 I'm thirsty
 I'm uncomfortable
 I'm wide awake
 It is very uncomfortable when it cramps.
 It's cramping
 My feet are cold, can I have my slippers (socks, etc.)?
 My head hurts
 Not so good today
 Please move the pillow under my neck
 Please put a pillow between my knees
 Please put a pillow under my arm
 Please rub my neck
 Please rub my shoulders
 Please scratch higher (lower, right, left, harder, softer)

Ice Breaker(Conversation Opener) Phrases

By the way,
 Can we talk?
 Can you understand me okay?
 Come, talk with me
 Did you have a good weekend?
 Did you know that.....?
 Did you see.....?
 Do you have a favorite sport?
 Do you have any brothers or sisters?
 Do you like your kind of work?
 Don't be afraid to ask me questions.
 Excuse me for interrupting
 Hi, my name is
 How are you today?
 How have you been?
 How long have you been doing that?
 How nice to meet you





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

How old are you?
 I can hear and understand everything you say
 I can understand you. It just takes me longer to answer.
 I have a speech problem, I use this machine to talk
 I have ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease
 I have ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease and I have trouble speaking
 I have something to say about that
 I really need to talk with you
 I think that
 I use this machine to communicate
 I would like to
 I'd like to talk to you about something
 I'd rather
 It takes me a little longer to answer, please be patient
 It's nice to finally meet you
 It's nice to meet you
 It's nice to see you again
 I've been meaning to tell you
 I've been thinking about
 I've heard so much about you
 Nice to finally meet you
 Please tell me if you don't understand what I am saying
 Someday I want to
 Tell me about
 Tell me about yourself.
 That's interesting, tell me more
 We need to talk
 What are you here for?
 What do you think about....?
 What do you think of my artificial voice?
 What grade are you in?
 What have you been up to?
 What kind of job do you have?
 What's happening with you?
 What's happening?
 What's new?
 What's your name?
 Where are you going?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Where do you go to school?

Where do you live?

Where do you work?

Phone Conversation Phrases

Call me back when you can

Can you have (someone) call me back?

Can you please hold on for a moment, I have another call?

Do you understand me?

Give me a call in a few minutes

Give me a call tonight

Good to talk to you

Goodbye

How are you?

I enjoyed our phone call

I have a speech problem; I use a machine to talk. Please be patient

I use a machine to help me talk

I will call you soon

I will talk to you soon

I'd like to talk to

I'll let her/him know that you called

I'll look forward to talking to you soon

I'll try and call you

I'm going to call him (her, them)

I'm so happy you called

I'm sorry he/she is not here at the moment; may I ask who's calling?

I'll talk to you soon

Let's talk soon

May I take a message

Nice to talk to you

Talk to you later

Thanks for calling

The number I am trying to dial is ...

This is (give your name)

Goodbye/Farewell Phrases

Come back again soon

Good bye



Costello, J.M. Boston Children's Hospital

Message Banking examples from people with ALS © 2014



Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Good night
 Great to see you again
 Have a nice day
 Have a safe flight
 I enjoyed seeing you, thanks
 I guess I better be going, great to see you
 I have to get going
 I hope to see you again
 I'd like to see you again
 I'll talk to you soon
 I'm so glad I got to meet you
 It was good of you to come today
 It's been a pleasure meeting you
 I've been meaning to call you
 See you later
 See you soon
 So long!
 Talk to you soon
 Thank you for visiting with me
 Thanks for stopping by
 Thanks for visiting
 When will you come back?

Request for Assistance

Can you answer the phone?
 Can you help me, please?
 Can you help me balance the account?
 Can you help me make a deposit in the bank?
 Can you help me reorder checks for my checking account?
 Can you help me shave?
 Can you help me take a shower?
 Can you help me wash my face (hands)?
 Can you help me with the computer?
 Can you help me write a check?
 Can you help to put the groceries away?
 Can you help to clean up?
 Can you keep me company for a while?
 Can you make me something to eat?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Can you move me over there?
 Can you please pick that up off the floor, I dropped it by accident?
 Can you read me a book (magazine)?
 Can you repeat what you just said?
 Can you turn me over?
 Can you turn on the computer?
 Can you turn the TV on?
 Can you wait and help me?
 Can you wash my hair?
 Hand me that, please
 Help
 Help me get dressed
 Help me move this
 Help me put on my pants
 Help me put on my socks
 Help me put this on
 I need information about ...
 I need some help with trying to figure out the best way to communicate with you
 I need the bedpan
 I need the urinal
 I need to be wiped
 I need to take my medicine
 I need you to call my family
 I need you to call the nurse
 May I have something to drink (eat)?
 Please bring that over here
 Please brush my hair
 Please brush my teeth
 Please button my shirt (coat, blouse, jacket)
 Please change the position of the bed (chair) up (down, right, left, back, forward)
 Please come right back
 Please help me get dressed
 Please help me get ready
 Please help me move over there
 Please help me reach for the
 Please open (close) the window
 Please read to me
 Please take me outside





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Please tell me if you understand what I am saying
 Please turn on (off) the heat (A/C)
 Please turn on (off) the lights
 Please turn on/off the radio (IPOD, DVD player, TV)
 Please turn that on (off) for me
 Please wait for me
 This is an emergency!
 Turn that on for me
 Will you be able to help me with?
 Will you stay and help me finish this?
 Will you stay for a while?
 Would you help me with my coat (shoes, pajamas, shirt, pants) please?
 Would you make a phone call for me?

Exclamations

Are you crazy?
 Are you kidding me?
 Are you out of your mind?
 Are you serious?
 Can you believe that?
 Don't be ridiculous
 Excellent
 For God's sake
 Get a life
 Get help now!
 Get out of here
 Give me a break
 I can't believe it
 No kidding
 No Way
 Oh my God
 Perfect
 Really?
 That's amazing
 That's beautiful
 That's crazy
 That's great
 That's gross





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

That's just great
 That's just perfect
 That's really great
 That's the last resort
 That's wonderful
 Unbelievable
 Unfortunately
 What were you thinking?
 What?

Encourage/Discourage Comments

Absolutely not
 Do you really think so?
 How do you know?
 How fabulous for you
 I agree
 I agree with that
 I don't agree
 I don't doubt that
 I don't think so
 I doubt that
 I think I already said that
 I think that is correct
 I wish you wouldn't do that
 I'd really like to talk about it
 I'm not so sure
 I'm sure that's right
 No way, that's wrong
 That's a possibility
 That's correct for sure
 That's really awful
 That's right
 That's true
 Too funny!
 Who said so?
 Why didn't you
 Wow, that's great
 You are amazing





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

You could have helped out a little bit
 You could have...
 You missed the boat
 You're kidding
 You're right about that
 You're wrong about that
 You've done a great job
 You've helped me so much

Location Marker Phrases

Do you know where...
 I am going home
 I don't have to go....
 I don't know where it is
 I go the opposite way
 I had to go back
 I may not go back
 I am ready to go back
 I want to go
 I want to stay...
 I'll meet you there
 I'm going back
 In my room
 Is he gone?
 Put that here (there)
 Side by side
 There's more over there
 We are going....
 Where is it?
 Where should I go?
 It's here
 It's over there
 I'm here
 I'm in the bedroom (kitchen, living room, family room, bathroom, study)

Conversation Modifiers/Repairs

Ah, now I see





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Can you please repeat that?
 Can you wait a moment?
 Could you speak up a little?
 Do you understand me?
 Do you understand what I mean?
 Does anyone have any ideas?
 Excuse me for interrupting
 Excuse me, may I say something?
 Huh?
 I changed my mind
 I didn't hear you
 I don't get it
 I don't understand
 I don't understand what you are saying
 I don't want to talk about it anymore
 I get it
 I have something to say about that
 I need some help with trying to figure out the best way to communicate with you
 I think that's correct
 I'm going to start over
 It's a touchy subject
 I've been meaning to tell you
 Just a minute, I'm not finished
 Just a minute, let me think about that
 Keep going, I need a break
 Let me see that
 Let's change the subject
 Let's do it another time
 Let's not go into that again
 Let's see
 Let's try that again
 No way!
 No, I meant something else
 No, no, no
 Please don't change the subject
 Please let me finish
 Please wait until I finish what I'm trying to say
 Say that again, I missed that





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

That's not true
 That's not what I meant
 Wait, let me rephrase that
 What did you say?
 What do you mean?
 Who are you talking about?
 Would you mind spelling that for me?
 You misunderstood me
 You're right about that
 You're wrong about that

Interpersonal Comments

Are you doing anything special tonight?
 Did you have a good weekend?
 Excuse me
 Fine, how are you?
 Good morning
 Good to see you
 Goodbye
 Goodnight
 Goodnight, sleep tight
 Have a nice day
 Have you been there?
 Have you heard anything?
 Hello
 Hi
 Hi Mom
 Hi Dad
 How are you doing?
 How's it going?
 I'm sorry
 Just a minute
 No, thanks
 Oooops
 Ouch!
 Pardon me
 Please
 See you later





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Tell me about your day
 Tell me about your family
 Thank you
 Watch out
 What do you think about that?
 What's happening with you?
 What's new?
 What's up?
 You look great (tired, sad, happy, bored, frustrated)
 You're welcome

Temporal Markers

A little more often
 A long time ago
 About a week
 All the time
 Any minute now
 Are we finished yet?
 As fast as I can
 As soon as possible
 At lunch
 Before dinner
 Before I go
 Before I go on
 Before you go
 Can I give you my final decision later?
 Can you do it real quick?
 Can't that wait for another time
 Come back later
 Didn't you do it yesterday?
 Don't bother about that right now
 Either today or tomorrow
 For a while
 For good
 Get me up earlier
 Give me a few minutes
 How fast can you do it?
 How Fast?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

How long ago?
 How long did it take?
 How long do you think it will be?
 How long does it take?
 How long will it take?
 How often can I get it?
 How often do you do this?
 I already did
 I came early
 I can't wait that long
 I didn't get it done
 I don't have time today
 I haven't yet
 I might check that out tomorrow
 I remember the last time I did that
 I still have the time
 I still haven't eaten yet
 I used to
 I want it to be over
 I want to hurry up
 I was on time
 If there is time
 If time allows
 I'll be right back
 I'll be waiting
 I'll do that now
 I'll wait
 I'm all done
 I'm almost finished
 I'm finished for tonight
 I'm waiting for it
 It doesn't seem fast enough
 It happened again
 It happens every so often
 It is time to leave
 It isn't the first time
 It takes time
 It took so long





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

It will be a while
 It won't be forever
 It's about time
 It's busy all the time
 It's time
 It's time for the show
 It's time to leave
 Just for a short while
 Just wait and find out
 Late at night
 Maybe later
 Maybe tomorrow
 Most of the time
 No longer
 Not anymore
 Not now
 Not quite yet
 Now it is
 Once again
 Once in a blue moon
 Once in a while
 Once or twice
 Over and over again
 Please hurry up
 Ready and waiting
 Sooner or later
 Take your time, have some patience
 The last time
 Then what after this?
 There's not enough time
 This weekend
 Tomorrow morning
 Too early for me
 Wait a minute
 Wait for the rest of them
 Wait until tomorrow
 We have to wait
 We will do it tomorrow





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

We will get to it later
 We will get to it tomorrow
 What time am I going?
 What time do you think?
 What time is it?
 What time tomorrow?
 What time will you be home?
 What time would I be done?
 What time?
 What took you so long?
 When I feel like it
 When I get done
 When I want to
 When I'm ready
 When is it scheduled?
 When it all took place
 When will you be back?
 When you are here
 When you come back
 When you get back
 Why not do it right away?
 You better hurry
 You've got time

Opinion/Perspective Phrases

A little better
 A rather refreshing outlook
 Absolutely ridiculous
 Boy am I glad!
 Boy, that feels good!
 Exceedingly good
 He can do it
 I am getting it
 I blew it
 I can't figure it out
 I can't stand it





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I did okay
 I didn't mind
 I didn't really want one
 I disagree
 I don't believe it
 I don't care
 I don't feel good
 I don't feel like seeing anybody
 I don't have any idea
 I don't have much choice
 I don't honestly even know what's wrong
 I don't like it
 I don't like it anymore
 I don't like to
 I don't really care
 I don't really like it very well
 I don't remember it being all that hard
 I don't think that's right
 I don't understand what's going on
 I enjoyed myself
 I feel sorry about that
 I feel the same way about it
 I get cranky
 I get scared to death
 I had a great day
 I had a great time
 I hate it
 I honestly don't want to do it
 I hope you're not disappointed
 I like it better
 I love it
 I need it
 I noticed it
 I really feel bad
 I really get off on it
 I really like it
 I really tried
 I said I don't know





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I think he (she) is kind of (cute, nice, mean, arrogant, etc.)
 I think I did it wrong (right)
 I think I didn't do it very well
 I think I messed it up
 I think I've had enough
 I think that's bad
 I think that's good
 I think that's okay
 I think that's right
 I think this is pretty good
 I was doing excellent
 I was so disappointed
 I was so glad
 I'd like to do it
 I'll get used to it
 I'm concerned about it
 I'm doing well
 I'm embarrassed
 I'm feeling a little better
 I'm getting sick of it
 I'm glad
 I'm glad that it's done
 I'm going to do the impossible
 I'm just getting it from all sides
 I'm nervous
 I'm not anxious to take any
 I'm not going to take it
 I'm not mad at you
 I'm really disappointed
 I'm really having a hard time
 I'm really worried about it
 I'm so excited
 I'm still not hungry
 I'm too rushed
 I'm very hot
 I'm very sleepy
 It doesn't make any difference
 It feels good





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

It feels great
 It frustrates me
 It happens to be my favorite
 It is absolutely ridiculous
 It is different alright
 It is just your imagination
 It is very important
 It shook me up no end
 It sounds confusing
 It sounds good
 It sounds good to me
 It still hurts
 It suddenly becomes important
 It was no good
 It was wrong
 It would be much easier
 It's amazing
 Its got me bothered now
 It's not important
 It's not my cup of tea
 It's slightly obvious
 It's so bad
 It's such a hassle
 It's too bad
 It's weird
 It's wonderful
 I've had it
 Just great
 Just plain good
 Kind of tired
 Look out world, here I come
 Makes me mad
 Nobody seems to understand
 Pretty ugly, huh?
 That hurts
 That is amazing
 That isn't fair
 That makes me laugh





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

That should be hard to do
 That will be fun
 That would be great
 That's all right
 That's difficult
 That's easy
 That's hard
 That's logical
 That's my problem
 That's pretty good
 That's what I like
 That's why I feel the way I do
 That's wonderful
 Too much for me
 What a jerk
 What a turkey
 When I am tired
 You will love it

Requests for Specific Information

Am I right or wrong?
 Any particular reason?
 Anyone sitting here?
 Are they any good?
 Are we still going?
 Are you alone?
 Are you busy?
 Are you comfortable?
 Are you glad?
 Are you listening to me?
 Are you okay?
 Are you ready?
 Are you sick?
 Are you working today?
 Are you working tomorrow?
 Can I ask a favor?
 Can I take these with me?
 Can we go to the movies?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Can we make plans for the weekend?
 Can we plan our day for tomorrow?
 Can we plan our day?
 Can you bring me?
 Can you hold this?
 Can you listen to me, please look in my eyes?
 Can you mail this letter (package) for me?
 Can you take me to?
 Could you repeat that?
 Did it hurt?
 Did you get my message?
 Did you have a good weekend?
 Didn't it come?
 Do I have everything?
 Do you agree?
 Do you know where I am going?
 Do you know where we are going?
 Do you know why?
 Do you like him (her, them, etc.)?
 Do you think so?
 Do you want me to?
 Do you want that?
 Does that make sense?
 Have you ever had those?
 How can I get a hold of you?
 How did I do?
 How did it go?
 How did it turn out?
 How do I know when.....?
 How do you feel?
 How do you know?
 How is the weather?
 How long will you be gone?
 How long?
 How much is it?
 How much more is there?
 How much will it cost?
 How much?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

How old are you?
 How was your day at school (work)?
 How was your weekend?
 How will I.....?
 How will you know?
 How's that?
 I want to know what it is
 Is it okay?
 Is she (he) coming?
 Is that a yes or no?
 Is that right?
 Is there anything I can do?
 Isn't that the right thing to do?
 Isn't there any way?
 Just answer my question
 May I interrupt you?
 Should I take it?
 Show me
 Tell me how much
 Tell me what you are doing
 That doesn't answer the question
 Was there something else?
 What about you?
 What am I doing?
 What are you doing this summer?
 What are you doing?
 What are you going to do next?
 What are you going to do tonight?
 What are you here for?
 What are you looking for?
 What are you talking about?
 What are you trying to do?
 What are you trying to say to me?
 What are you waiting for?
 What are your plans for
 What caused it?
 What could possibly happen?
 What did he (she) think about that?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

What did it say?
 What did she (he) say?
 What did you come with?
 What did you do last night?
 What did you do on the weekend?
 What did you do this morning (afternoon, etc)?
 What did you make (do) at school today?
 What do I do now?
 What do you have to do?
 What do you think I said?
 What do you think of it?
 What do you want to do?
 What do you want?
 What does it matter?
 What does that mean?
 What else is on?
 What happened at school today?
 What happened this time?
 What happened to you?
 What happened?
 What happens afterwards?
 What have you been doing?
 What is it?
 What is next?
 What is that?
 What is the definition of...?
 What is the next plan?
 What is wrong?
 What is your schedule?
 What kind is it?
 What kind of shows are on?
 What then?
 What time is it?
 What was he (she) doing?
 What were they?
 What's for lunch (breakfast, dinner)?
 What's going on in your world?
 What's going on there?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

What's going on?
 What's happening now?
 What's next?
 What's on your agenda for today?
 What's so funny?
 What's that doing in here?
 What's that?
 What's the score?
 What's this one for?
 When do we eat?
 When do we go?
 When was the last time that happened?
 When will I see you next?
 Where are they?
 Where are you going?
 Where are you sitting?
 Where can I get it?
 Where did I get this?
 Where did that come from?
 Where do I go?
 Where is?
 Where is everyone?
 Where is it?
 Where is the restroom?
 Where were you?
 Which one is it?
 Who are you looking for?
 Who called?
 Who was that?
 Who's coming?
 Whose is that?
 Why are you concerned?
 Why are you here?
 Why did he (she, you, etc.) go there?
 Why did they go to all that trouble?
 Why did you get so many?
 Why don't you go?
 Why won't you be there?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Why, what do you mean?
 Will I be able to get another one?
 Will I see you next?
 Will it hurt?
 Will you be there?
 Will you call them?
 Will you prepare dinner?
 Would anyone like to play a game?
 Would you get the mail?
 Would you start the shower?
 Would you unload the groceries from the car?
 Would you unpack the groceries?
 Would you?
 You don't mind?
 You know what I think?
 You really believe that?

Generic Request Phrases

Accept my decision
 Are you coming?
 Are you doing anything special this weekend?
 Are you excited?
 As careful as you can
 Be careful
 Be very, very careful
 Bring that over here
 Can I ask a favor?
 Can I do this?
 Can I get a new one?
 Can I try one?
 Can I use it?
 Check if it's right
 Could I have some?
 Did you have a good weekend?
 Do it
 Do you have the time to play?
 Do you mind?
 Don't complain





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Don't do that again
 Don't mess with it
 Drive carefully
 Give me that, please
 Go back to bed
 Grab one of those
 Guess what I want?
 Have you been there?
 Have you heard anything?
 Help me out
 How about it?
 How do you feel about that?
 How many more?
 How would you feel?
 I need help now
 I need it
 I wonder if I could get a new one?
 I would like you to see
 I'd like to see it
 I'll show you what I want
 Let me
 Let me go
 Let me see it
 Let's do it
 Let's go
 Let's play
 Listen to that
 Please find out
 Please get me some
 Please get out of here
 So why don't we do that?
 Someone help me
 Tell me about your day
 Tell me about your family
 This is a request
 Turn it over
 Watch out
 We have to stop





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

We ought to try that
 What do you think about that?
 What's happening with you?
 What's new?
 When you find out, let me know
 When?
 Where?
 Why don't we do that?
 Why don't you give it to me?
 Why don't you put that away?
 Why?
 Will you do me a favor?
 Would you come?
 Would you do it?
 You could help a little
 You'd better come

Conversation Control Phrases

All I'm trying to say is
 As I was saying
 Boy am I glad you called
 But guess what
 Can I talk to you?
 Change the subject
 Come right back please
 Could you repeat what you said?
 Did you understand?
 Didn't you know that?
 Do you know what he did?
 Do you understand what I mean?
 Explain that to me
 Guess what I've got?
 Guess what?
 Haven't I met you before?
 Help me understand that
 How about you?
 How are things going for you?
 How come?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I changed my mind
 I don't understand what happened
 I don't understand your question
 I don't want to interrupt
 I forgot to mention
 I have a great idea
 I have news
 I have something to say about that
 I have to go
 I just remembered
 I know why
 I need to explain
 I really like to talk about it
 I should explain
 I want to go on a date
 I want to know
 I want to show you something
 I want to talk to you about
 I was just curious
 I was just wondering
 I was saying
 I will see you
 I'd better get going
 I'd better go
 I'll have to think of a few more questions
 I'll let you know
 I'll see you around
 I'm curious about
 I'm really glad you dropped by
 Is it a deal?
 Is that okay?
 I've got an idea
 Just one comment
 Just one more thing
 Let me answer
 Let me tell you about it
 Let me tell you what I did
 Let me tell you why





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Let me tell you why I was upset
 Let's do it again
 Let's do it another time
 Let's see now
 Let's try that again
 Listen to me
 May I say something?
 Over and out
 Please don't interrupt
 Please let me finish
 Please wait until I finish what I am trying to say
 See you later
 Tell me about it
 Tell me what you think I said
 Thanks for telling me
 That's all I have to say
 That's all that's happening
 There was something else I was going to ask you
 What are you going to do today?
 What are you talking about?
 What are you trying to tell me?
 What did she say?
 What do you think about that?
 What do you think?
 What is it now?
 What were you about to tell me?
 What?
 What's up?
 What's wrong?
 Will I see you later?
 Would you mind if I talk while you are interrupting?
 You are not going to believe this
 You don't have to go
 You know something?
 You know what I think?
 You know what, I don't understand?

Social Amenities



Costello, J.M. Boston Children's Hospital
 Message Banking examples from people with ALS © 2014



Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Anything I can do?
 Anything's possible
 Are you crazy?
 Are you serious?
 Are you sure you don't mind?
 As far as I'm concerned
 As much as I can
 As usual
 Beats me
 Believe me, it is
 Blows that theory to hell
 Boy, do I ever know
 Can I help?
 Can you beat that?
 Come to think about it
 Could be better
 Don't encourage him (her)
 Don't make me laugh
 Don't mess me up
 Don't worry about it
 Easy for you to say
 Excuse me
 For all I know
 Forget about it
 Hey good looking
 Hi, how are things going?
 How are you?
 How dare you?
 How do you feel?
 I didn't mean it
 I didn't mean to
 I don't mean to cause trouble
 I goofed
 I hope you feel better
 I missed you
 I think you're wonderful
 I want to thank you
 I was just kidding





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I was only joking
 If you don't mind
 I'm glad you're here
 I'm sorry
 It's good to see you
 Loosen up
 Much obliged
 Pardon me
 Please sit down
 Pretty please
 Sorry to keep popping off
 Thank you anyway
 Thank you very much
 Thanks a lot
 Thanks a lot, it really helps
 Thank for the ride
 That helped tremendously
 Wish me luck
 You helped a lot
 You're so nice

Generic Responses Phrases

A little more
 A lot of fun
 Absolutely ridiculous
 At least it isn't any worse
 Change the subject please
 Could be better
 Get out of here
 Give me a break
 Give me some
 Good idea
 Have a heart
 He doesn't do anything
 He doesn't know anything
 He just took off
 He sounds really nice
 Help yourself





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Here's another thing
 Hey good looking
 Hey man, you've got a lot of guts
 Hi, how are things going?
 Honest to goodness
 How about that?
 How are you?
 How could I be mad at you?
 How dare you?
 How did you know?
 How do they know?
 How do you feel?
 I always do
 I am getting along
 I am getting along
 I am sorry to hear that
 I believe it
 I can handle it
 I can't
 I can't answer
 I can't believe it
 I can't figure that out
 I can't help it
 I can't remember
 I can't remember anything else
 I can't tell
 I can't think of anything
 I can't understand
 I certainly did
 I certainly don't mind
 I could probably do better
 I didn't know
 I didn't know that
 I didn't mean it
 I didn't mean to
 I didn't realize that
 I didn't say anything
 I didn't say it was true





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I do not have any idea
 I don't doubt that
 I don't have much choice
 I don't have them
 I don't have time today
 I don't know
 I don't know how
 I don't know what it is
 I don't know which one
 I don't know who did it
 I don't know yet
 I don't mean like that
 I don't mean to cause trouble
 I don't need it
 I don't need it anymore
 I don't really know how
 I don't really need it
 I don't really remember
 I don't remember
 I don't see him (her, them, etc.) anymore
 I don't think so
 I don't think they care
 I don't think you've met him (her, them, etc.)
 I don't understand
 I don't understand it either
 I don't want anything
 I don't want it
 I don't want that
 I don't want to
 I doubt it
 I feel like it
 I forgot
 I forgot about that
 I found it
 I gave my final word
 I go to work
 I goofed
 I greatly appreciate that





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I guarantee it
 I guess
 I guess not
 I guess so
 I had a real busy day
 I hadn't thought about it
 I have no idea
 I have noticed that
 I haven't yet
 I haven't noticed any difference
 I hear you
 I heard from
 I hope it is
 I hope you feel better
 I just don't feel like it
 I just don't think that's true
 I just wanted to find out
 I know
 I know it
 I know it's important
 I know that
 I know what you mean
 I know, I don't need to be reminded
 I like that
 I might as well
 I missed you
 I need more information
 I probably won't
 I promise
 I really do
 I really feel I can't do it
 I really think it's
 I really think it's long enough
 I really tried
 I really try
 I said I don't know
 I said I was
 I still have to





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I suppose so
 I sure hope so
 I think I am ready to go
 I think I did it wrong (right)
 I think it's wrong
 I think it's only fair
 I think not
 I think so, too
 I think that is unnecessary
 I think we ought to do that
 I think you're right
 I think you're wonderful
 I thought I was through
 I thought it would be good for me
 I thought so
 I thought you were going to
 I told you
 I told you I don't know
 I trust you
 I understand
 I understand that
 I want one
 I want to go with you (him, her, them, etc.)
 I want to thank you
 I was going to
 I was just kidding
 I was only joking
 I was only kidding
 I was supposed to
 I was trying to tell you
 I wasn't sure
 I will
 I will not
 I will still need it
 I will try harder
 I wish I knew what happened
 I wish them luck
 I won





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I wonder
 I won't do that
 I won't guarantee anything
 I won't let him
 I worry about that
 I would do something like that
 I wouldn't know about it
 I'd check
 I'd love to
 If I could, I would
 If you don't mind
 If you want to
 I'll ask him (her)
 I'll check
 I'll come back
 I'll deal with it
 I'll decide later
 I'll keep an eye on that for you
 I'll plan on it
 I'll try
 I'm afraid I can't change that
 I'm afraid so
 I'm disappointed
 I'm doing all right
 I'm doing it anyway
 I'm doing well, thank you
 I'm finished
 I'm finished for tonight
 I'm game for trying that
 I'm getting kind of tired
 I'm glad you're here
 I'm going home
 I'm just making a comment
 I'm not a child
 I'm not even sure I want the answers
 I'm not going anywhere
 I'm not talking about that
 I'm not trying to put it off





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I'm not worried about it
 I'm okay
 I'm probably going to be sorry
 I'm probably not going to go out
 I'm sorry
 I'm sorry to hear that
 I'm still thinking about it
 I'm supposed to
 I'm supposed to have
 I'm sure
 I'm sure he'd (she'd they'd you'd, etc.) know better
 In a while
 Is there any doubt
 Is there something wrong with that?
 It certainly did
 It could have been
 It depends
 It didn't turn out that way
 It doesn't matter
 It doesn't matter, I guess
 It has to be
 It is important to me
 It is not that important
 It just seems to always happen like that
 It just wasn't very exciting
 It makes me very nervous
 It might work
 It might work out
 It really helps
 It was so good (bad)
 It would be easier for you
 It's up to you
 It's all right
 It's almost over
 It's completely different
 It's different all right
 It's going to be so much
 It's good to see you





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

It's got nothing to do with it
 It's just your imagination
 It's my friend
 It's not that important
 It's ridiculous
 It's terrible
 It's the truth
 I've been told
 I've got no idea
 I've had the same kind of trouble
 I've heard of that
 I've never heard of it
 Just fine
 Just looking
 Kiss my grits
 Let's not go into that
 Let's not take it to extreme limits
 Let's stop somewhere and eat something
 Let's try again
 Let's try it
 Looks like it
 Loosen up
 Makes you wonder
 Maybe I'll do that
 Maybe they do
 Maybe, maybe not
 Much obliged
 Never mind
 No I'm not
 No joke
 No way
 Nobody told me that
 Not much at all
 Not usually, but in this case
 Not very good today
 Not very good today
 Nothing wrong with that
 Of course





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Of course I do
 Oh darn
 Oh my God
 Okay gorgeous
 One more minute
 One never knows
 Pardon me
 Please sit down
 Please stop nagging
 Poor thing
 Pretty please
 Really
 She didn't give me that impression
 So is mine
 So that's the way it is?
 So what?
 Something like that
 Sorry to keep popping off
 Sure I am
 Thank God
 Thank the Lord for small favors
 Thank you anyway
 Thank you very much
 Thanks a lot
 Thanks a lot, it really helps
 That depends
 That didn't work
 That does the trick
 That helped tremendously
 That is interesting
 That makes me mad
 That surprises me
 That was fun
 That was nice of him (her, them, etc.)
 That won't make a difference
 That would be a big help
 That would be great (awful)
 That's a big deal





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

That's a deal
 That's all
 That's all I know
 That's an idea
 That's better
 That's enough
 That's exactly it
 That's fine
 That's good
 That's got nothing to do with it
 That's gross
 That's it
 That's just great
 That's kind of exciting
 That's kind of unusual
 That's kind of upsetting
 That's my choice
 That's my problem
 That's not right
 That's not the way it works
 That's okay
 That's right
 That's the last resort
 That's the truth
 That's the way it should be
 That's the way it's always been
 That's what I said
 That's why
 That's why I was in there
 There is nothing I can do about it
 There used to be
 There was something else
 There you are
 There's got to be a better way
 There's got to be another way
 There's no more
 There's no way in the world
 There's nothing I can do about it





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

There's nothing more
 They do the strangest things
 They told me that
 They usually do
 They won't
 This is anticipated
 This is different
 This is great
 This thing
 Unfortunately, yes
 Want to bet?
 Well it sure feels like it
 Well it sure looks like it
 Well, anything is possible
 Well, I wouldn't know about that
 What an idea
 What can I do?
 What else am I going to do?
 What luck
 What other choice do I have?
 Why not?
 Wish me luck
 Yes you can
 Yes, I can
 Yes, I can do that
 Yes, I was
 You are kidding
 You bet your britches
 You better believe it
 You better come
 You better not
 You can come up with something better
 You can do it
 You can give it to me
 You can say that again
 You can try but I doubt it
 You could not possibly understand
 You go ahead





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

You have a good day
 You have to wait
 You helped a lot
 You know how it goes
 You know how it works
 You know that
 You know they do
 You know what I mean
 You know what I think
 You know what it takes
 You never know
 You said you'd try
 You should have told me
 You shouldn't have
 You think so?
 You wanna bet?
 You work a lot
 You're coming right back
 You're doing the right thing
 You're not going to believe this
 You're not supposed to
 You're so nice
 You've done everything
 You've got time
 You've got to be kidding
 You've got to be nuts
 You've helped a lot

Nourishment/Food

Are you hungry?
 Can I have a glass of water?
 Can I have a spoon (knife, fork)
 Can I have some chicken?
 Can I have some chips and dip?
 Can I have some mayonnaise (mustard) on my sandwich?
 Can I have some more please?
 Can I have some pickles?
 Can I have something else?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Can I munch on some nuts?
 Can you cut the food for me?
 Can you help me with my breakfast (lunch, dinner, snack, etc.)?
 Can you save this for another time?
 Do we have any chips?
 Do you have any chocolate?
 I am full
 I am not hungry
 I am not hungry anymore
 I am not hungry at all
 I am so hungry
 I am starving
 I can't eatI am allergic to it
 I can't eat another bite
 I could eat this every day
 I don't eat meat
 I don't like this
 I don't think I want any more
 I don't want a snack
 I don't want any dessert
 I don't want anymore
 I don't want eggs
 I don't want to eat breakfast now
 I don't want to eat dinner now
 I don't want to eat lunch now
 I feel like eating something salty
 I feel like eating something sweet
 I hate to eat
 I love to eat
 I need a napkin
 I need something to drink
 I never want to eat that again
 I only eat vegetables
 I really don't like this at all
 I think this tastes so good
 I want to eat now
 I will be ready to eat in a little while
 I would like a candy bar





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I would like a cookie
 I would like a few cherries
 I would like a piece of cake
 I would like a salad
 I would like some ice cream
 I would like some more
 I would like some pretzels
 I would like to eat a steak
 I would like to eat some fish
 I would like to eat some potatoes
 I would like to have a banana
 I would like to have a pear
 I would like to have a piece of fruit
 I would like to have a snack
 I would like to have a soda
 I would like to have an apple
 I would like to have an iced tea (with lemon)
 I would like to have an orange
 I would like to have dessert later
 I would like to have some blueberries
 I would like to have some dessert now
 I would like to have some raisins
 I would like to have some soup
 I would like to have some yogurt and berries
 I would like to have vegetables with my dinner
 I would rather eat
 I'd like my eggs, fried (scrambled, poached)
 I'd like to have some noodles
 I'd like to have some oatmeal (with brown sugar and fruit)
 I'd like to have some pasta
 I'd like to have some toast (with jam/jelly)
 I'd like a bowl of cereal
 I'd like a bowl of soup
 I'd like some cheese on my sandwich
 I'd like to eat breakfast now (soon)
 I'd like to eat dinner soon
 I'd like to eat lunch now
 I'd like to eat lunch soon





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I'd like to have a bagel (toasted) with butter (cream cheese)
 I'd like to have a cup of coffee (with milk and sweetener)
 I'd like to have a cup of hot chocolate
 I'd like to have a cup of tea (with milk and sweetener, lemon)
 I'd like to have a glass of juice
 I'd like to have a glass of milk
 I'd like to have a hamburger with fries
 I'd like to have a hot dog
 I'd like to have a peanut butter and jelly sandwich
 I'd like to have a salad
 I'd like to have a sandwich
 I'd like to have an English muffin
 I'd like to have an omelet
 I'd like to have dinner now
 I'd like to have French toast
 I'd like to have lettuce and tomato on my sandwich
 I'd like to have pancakes (waffles) with syrup
 I'd like to have some fresh fruit
 I'd like to have some onions on my sandwich
 I'd like to have some pizza
 I'd like tuna fish
 I'll finish this later, I'm full
 I'm going to eat
 I'm hungry for some breakfast
 Is there any pie?
 Please make this again
 Thank you for making that for me
 This is a bit too hot
 This is delicious
 What can I have to eat this morning?
 What kind of cookies do you have?
 What's for breakfast?
 What's for dinner?
 What's for lunch?
 Would you like something to drink (eat, snack)?
 You always make the things I like to eat

Likes/Dislikes



Costello, J.M. Boston Children's Hospital
 Message Banking examples from people with ALS © 2014



Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I don't like this music
 I don't like to go there
 I don't like him (her, them)
 I don't like that place
 I don't like that restaurant
 I don't like that with my food
 I don't like this food
 I have always liked that place
 I like a lot of different sports
 I like her (him, them)
 I like ice cream
 I like that place
 I like to do it
 I like to go on car rides
 I like to go there
 I like to go to the movies
 I like to have company come to visit
 I like to listen to music
 I like to listen to my IPOD
 I like to look at the sunset
 I like to see the waves in the ocean
 I like to watch sports on TV
 I like to watch the cooking shows on TV
 I like to watch TV
 I never liked that
 I never liked them (her, him)
 I really like chocolate
 I really like to eat pizza
 I would like to go for a walk
 I'd like to listen to a book on tape
 I'd like to read a book (magazine)
 I'd like to talk about it
 I've always liked that
 I've always liked them (her, him)

Appreciation

Do you know how much I appreciate all you do?
 I am lucky to have you in my life





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I am so grateful for all you have done for me
 I am so happy to have you as a friend
 I am so grateful for all the prayers, thought and support I have received, it's really helped
 I appreciate your friendship
 I could never have done this without your help and support
 I hope you know how much I appreciate you
 I hope you know how much you mean to me
 I love you
 I thank you for everything
 I'm so grateful to have you in my life
 I'm thankful for all you do for me
 It's good to hear your voice
 Thank you for being such a good friend
 Thank you for helping me
 Thank you for just being you
 Thank you for your good wishes
 Thank you for your thoughtfulness
 Thank you for being such a good friend
 Thanks for everything
 Thanks for your help
 That's awfully generous of you
 You are such a good person to help me
 You are the best partner
 Your friendship means so much to me
 Your help means so much to me
 Your support means so much to me

Expressions of Love

Do I tell you often enough how much I love you?
 Do you know how much I love you?
 I am so proud of you
 I love you
 I love you more than I can say
 I miss holding you
 I miss talking to you
 I miss the rhythm of conversation
 I need you
 I want to be together forever





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I want to share the rest of my life with you
 I will always be with you
 I will always be in your heart
 I'm glad you're in my life
 It's so easy to love you
 I've been meaning to tell you how much I love you
 Let's remember to be here for each other
 We are so good together
 What more could I have ever wanted than you?
 You are all I could have asked for
 You are an amazing (wife, mother, child, sister, brother, mom, dad, etc.)
 You are everything I've ever wanted
 You are my best friend
 You are my soul mate
 You are the best
 You are the greatest kids in the world
 You are the most special person
 You make me so happy
 You make my life better

You mean so much to me

Conversing About ALS

ALS affects the body, it does not affect the mind
 ALS sucks
 Fuck ALS
 Fuck Lou Gehrig
 Having this disease has made me ...
 I am determined to ...
 I can hear and understand everything that you are saying
 I can't believe this is happening to me
 I can't stand this
 I can't think about
 I don't want to lose my dignity
 I fear the loss of...
 I feel frightened sometimes
 I hate this life





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I have ALS/Lou Gehrig's disease and I have trouble speaking
 I use this machine to communicate
 I wish I didn't have to go through this
 I worry about ...
 I'm having a great day
 I'm having a very bad day
 It makes me really mad that
 It's hardly fair
 One good thing about this disease is
 Please tell me if you can't understand what I am trying to say
 Sometimes I feel no one can understand what it feels like to go through this
 Sometimes I just need to feel sorry for myself
 Sometimes I just want to scream
 This illness can really get you down
 You can't imagine how difficult this can be

Health and Safety

This is an emergency!
 Get help now!
 I need suction
 Can you help me
 I need help now

Family and Close Friends' Names

Compassion

Don't be annoyed with me
 How could I be mad at you?
 I am here for you
 I am really sorry
 I am sorry
 I feel terrible that you are so unhappy
 I hope everything turns out okay
 I hope everything works out
 I wish I could change things for you
 I wish I could help you





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I wish I could make it easier
 I wish I could make things better for you
 I wish you well
 I would like to help if I can
 I'm really sorry to hear that
 I'm really sorry to put you through this
 I'm sorry I'm not able to help you more
 I'm sorry you are having a bad day
 I'm sorry you don't feel well
 I'm sorry you have to go through this with me
 It didn't seem like it went well, sorry
 Please don't be mad at me
 Try not to be so sad

Environmental/Elements

Another gorgeous day
 Let's go outside
 Another rainy day
 Another snowy day
 Can you make it cooler in here?
 Can you make it warmer in here?
 Can you open the door to let the breeze in?
 I hope it doesn't snow (rain)
 It looks like a blizzard
 It's beautiful outside
 It's bright and sunny outside
 It's cloudy
 It's cold in here
 It's dark in here
 It's drizzling
 It's hot and humid today
 It's hot in here
 It's nice and cool
 It's pouring cats and dogs
 It's raining
 It's raining (snowing sunny, cloudy, foggy) out right now
 It's slippery outside
 It's snowing





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

It's so cold
 It's so windy
 It's too bright in here
 It's too cold to go out
 It's too nice to be inside
 It's very hot
 It's very humid
 Let's just stay inside today
 Please open the window and get some air in here
 The moon is so bright
 The stars are twinkling
 The sun is shining
 The weather is beautiful today
 There is no rain (snow, etc.) in the forecast
 There's a full moon tonight
 There's no humidity in the air
 What a beautiful day
 What's the weather like today?

Occasions/Holidays/Celebrations

Bon voyage
 Congratulations on your graduation
 Congratulations on the birth of your baby
 Congratulations on your engagement
 Congratulations on your wedding
 Enjoy the party
 Enjoy your vacation
 Good luck
 Happy anniversary
 Happy birthday
 Happy Chanukah
 Happy New Year
 Have a great trip
 Have a safe trip
 Have fun at the party
 I am having the best time
 I am so happy to be a part of today
 I haven't had this much fun in a long time





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I hope I can celebrate many more with you
 I hope you celebrate many more
 I'm glad I could be a part of the celebration
 It's good to be here
 It's great for all of us to be together to celebrate
 Merry Christmas
 This is a great party

Personal Care/Needs

Can I have a backrub?
 Can I have a spritz of perfume/cologne?
 Can I have a tissue?
 Can you bring me my IPOD (IPAD, laptop, etc.)?
 Can you dry my hair?
 Can you get me pillow?
 Can you help me
 Can you help me get dressed?
 Can you help me get dried off?
 Can you help me get ready for bed?
 Can you help me put on some makeup?
 Can you help me set up my IPAD?
 Can you play a DVD?
 Can you please comb my hair?
 Can you take out my contact lenses?
 Can you turn on the TV?
 I need a blanket
 I need a pillow
 I need a shower
 I need a tissue
 I need help moving this
 I need help putting on my shoes
 I need my glasses
 I need my hair to be easy to care for
 I need some soap in the shower
 I need some toothpaste
 I need to blow my nose
 I need to care for feminine issues, can you help me?
 I need to lay down





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I need to relax
 I need to shave
 I need to shave my legs
 I need to use the bathroom
 I need your help picking that up
 I want to get my eyebrows waxed
 I want to take a bath
 I want to take a shower
 I want to try a new(different) haircut
 I want to use the laptop
 I want to watch the news
 I would like to brush my teeth
 I would like to comb my hair
 I would like to get a manicure(pedicure)
 I would like to listen to some music
 I would like to listen to the IPOD
 I would like to put on my pajamas
 I would like to use some mouthwash
 I would like to wash my hair
 I've had a problem, can you help me get cleaned up?
 My feet are cold, can I have my slippers (socks, etc.)
 Please cut my fingernails (toenails)
 Please get me my case
 Please get me my handbag
 Please help me wash my face
 Please help me wash my hands
 Please use conditioner to take out the tangles in my hair

Self Determination

Accept my decision
 All I am trying to say is
 Change the subject, please
 Do it
 Don't do that again
 Explain that to me
 Get the hell away from me
 Give me that, please
 How will I ...





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I am doing it
 I can handle it
 I can't move but I am alive
 I don't want that
 I don't want that treatment
 I gave my final word
 I have something to say about that
 I have the choice
 I know, I don't need to be reminded
 I really feel I can do it
 I refuse that treatment
 I think it's long enough
 I want to do it
 I want to know what it is
 I want to talk about...
 I won't guarantee anything
 I would have to question that idea
 I would really like to discuss that further
 If I could, I would
 I'll deal with it
 I'll let you know
 I'm as crazy as I was before
 I'm as sane as I was before
 I'm doing the impossible
 I'm doing well
 I'm finished
 I'm not a child
 I'm not contagious
 I'm not going to take it
 I'm still here you sons of bitches
 I'm too rushed
 It feels great to ...
 It is important to me
 It suddenly becomes important
 It's absolutely ridiculous
 It's my choice
 It's my decision to make
 It's up to me





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

I've had it
 Just tell the truth
 Look out world, here I come
 No I won't
 No I'm not
 Please don't interrupt
 Please don't touch me
 Please get out of here
 Please keep in mind I am a human being
 Please keep in mind I am a person
 Please keep in mind I was very healthy just a short time ago
 Please let me finish, don't anticipate
 Please remove that
 Please stop
 Please stop nagging
 Please wait until I finish what I am trying to say
 Should I be concerned?
 Take that away
 Take that away from me
 That is not fair
 That makes me mad
 That's my problem
 That's all I have to say
 That's my choice
 That's my problem
 That's not the way it works
 That's too much for me
 That's what I like
 That's what I said
 That's why I feel the way I do
 We have to stop
 What are my choices?
 What can I do?
 What is next?
 Yes, I can do that
 You bet your britches
 You can come up with something better
 You could not possibly understand





Suggestions/Initiations

Can you think of something I can do to keep busy?
 Do you need me to help you?
 Do you need my help to explain this?
 Do you want me to help you with your homework?
 Do you want me to take care of that?
 Do you want to go with me to the doctor's appointment?
 Do you want to visit your relatives?
 Does anyone want to go for a walk?
 Does anyone want to go to the beach?
 How about if we just stay inside?
 How about if we light a fire in the fireplace?
 How can I help you?
 How would you like to celebrate our anniversary?
 I could use your input
 I'd be happy to

Should I make that phone call?
 What can we do to make your day more special?
 What do you think we should do?
 What should we do for your birthday?
 Where would you like to go for dinner?
 Would anyone like to play a game?
 Would you be willing to try to go on a vacation?
 Would you like me to help prepare breakfast (lunch, dinner, etc.)?
 Would you like to get tickets for the?
 Would you like to go out for breakfast (lunch, dinner)?
 Would you like to go outside?
 Would you like to go somewhere overnight?
 Would you like to go to see a show?
 Would you like to take a road trip?
 Would you like to try the new restaurant?
 Would you like to watch some TV (a movie)?

Family Routines

Are you getting ready for bed?
 Are you going to prepare dinner?
 Are you picking up the kids?





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Can you take out the garbage?
 Can you bring in the mail?
 Can you fill up the car with gas?
 Can you get the newspaper from outside?
 Can you make a pot of coffee?
 Did you bring the clothes to the cleaners?
 Did you do the laundry?
 Did you pack your lunch?
 Did you put your clothes away?
 Did you start (finish) your homework?
 Did you straighten up your room?
 Don't forget to set your alarm
 Hurry up and eat your breakfast or you'll be late
 Hurry up, you'll miss the bus
 Please set the table
 Who is going to do the grocery shopping?
 Whose turn is it to feed the cat (dog)
 Whose turn is it to walk the dog?
 Whose turn is it to wash the dishes?
 I can make everyone's lunch for tomorrow
 I can fold the laundry

Modifying Other's Behavior

Don't complain
 Don't do that again
 Don't make me laugh
 Don't mess me up
 Stop that
 Stop talking
 Stop what you are doing
 Put that down
 Change the subject
 Don't mess with that
 Stop fidgeting

Agreement/Disagreement Phrases

Absolutely not
 Certainly





Boston Children's Hospital

Until every child is well™

Do you really think so?
 How do you know?
 I agree
 I agree with you
 I believe what you are saying
 I couldn't agree more
 I don't agree with you
 I don't believe you
 I don't doubt that
 I don't think so
 I don't think what you are saying is correct
 I doubt that
 I think you are right
 I think you are wrong
 I'm not so sure
 I'm sure that's right
 No way!
 Not a chance that's correct
 Perfectly said
 That's a possibility
 That's correct
 That's incorrect
 That's not true
 That's right
 That's true
 That's wrong
 Who said so?
 Yes, I agree
 You are incorrect
 You are right
 You are right about that
 You are wrong
 You are wrong about that
 You couldn't be further from the truth
 You missed the boat
 You're kidding
 You've got that right





Boston Children's Hospital
Until every child is well™

Additional recordings completed by people with ALS:

- singing songs including 'happy birthday'
- laughing
- making silly noises or voices for which one is known
- declaratives such as: ah ha, hmmm (with varied intonations), uh ah, etc.
-

