Role Play – The learner

You are an adult learner attending a learning session in your local library for the first time. As a frail elderly learner you have a number of difficulties to overcome in order to learn how to use a computer. For example, you are very nervous as have never used a computer before; you have poor eyesight and are hard of hearing.

Today you will meet your volunteer and are anxious as have heard it is senior pupils from the local school who will be supporting you during the sessions.

Exercise 1 – Learning how to use the mouse

Remember the mousing tutorial? This time to experience the difficulty an adult learner may encounter learning to use a mouse for the first time you will use your non-writing hand and try and operate the mouse. Also, a number of changes have been made to the computer to make using the mouse even more difficult.

Exercise 2 – Poor eyesight!

The text below has been made very small. How difficult is this for you to see – can you even read it?

Follow the instructions below and find a chocolate cake recipe for a diabetic once you have found the information move on to task 2.

IneedcheapflightsfromamsterdamtolondonthenuptoaberdeenIwillalsoneedaccommodationbookedformystayinaberdeenIwillbestayingatotalof2nightsmovetotask3

Exercise 3 – Hard of hearing

For this next exercise the volunteer will whisper a number of tasks to you.

Consider the following:

- Did you hear what they said?
- If you didn’t hear what they said, how many times did you have to ask them to repeat the task?
- How did it make you feel asking them to repeat what they are saying?
- How difficult did you find not being able to hear what they instructed you to do?
- Were you able to conduct the task your tutor asked you to do?
- Did you feel flustered or what other emotion did you feel?
Role Play – The volunteer

Exercise 1 -

Advise your learner that they will work through the mousing tutorial. Using the information below retrieve the relevant website for your learner.

Remember, they are a complete beginner so you will need to explain to them how you operate a mouse.

www.pbclibrary.org/mousing

What advice would you give the learner to try and make this task easier?

How would you boost their confidence and encourage them?

Exercise 2 – Poor eyesight

The purpose of this next task is to consider how you could help a learner that has poor eyesight. Remember, the learner may feel frustrated that they cannot read this the paragraph below. How would you deal with this frustration and make the learner feel at ease? You have the ‘easy to read’ version in italics in front of you, therefore it is quite clear to you what is required of this exercise. What can you do to help your learner here? I don’t mean showing them the ‘easy to read’ version.

Note: There is no right or wrong reason. Try and adapt the task to fit learner’s needs and difficulty.

Follow the instructions below and find a chocolate cake recipe for a diabetic once you have found the information move on to task2.

I need cheap flights from Amsterdam to London then up to Aberdeen I will also need accommodation booked for my stay in Aberdeen I will be staying a total of 2 nights move to task3

Exercise 3 – Hard of hearing

The purpose of this next task is to consider how difficult it may be for a learner who is hard of hearing.

Whisper the following tasks to your learner. Remember, you may have to whisper the task in more than one occasion. What could you do to help the learner overcome this difficulty?

- Find an image of a gird and cleek using Google.
- Search for a cam follower.

Again there is no right or wrong answer, consider approaches or strategies you could adopt to help this learner through each task.

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