How do I know if my current AAC user is a Gestalt Language Processor?

Does your AAC User...

Use Echolalia with a Device

Have Decreased Flexibility with Words Across Contexts

Script with a Device

Have Overgeneralized Motor Patterns with Device

Some Additional Ways to Identify...

Child is not responding to traditional analytic language treatment approaches

Child sings, hums or vocalizes with rich intonation

Child has long strings of unintelligible utterances

Child shows signs of gestalt thinking
(e.g. prefers whole groups of items over parts
or may become upset when pieces are missing/views
some routines as "whole" complete sequences
not to be changed)

Rewinds shows, songs, or movies
to specific sections to re-watch frequently.

General Do's and Don'ts : AAC for GLP

DOs:

- Customize the device for personalized scripts
- Model scripts on the device
- Program and use scripts across contexts (e.g., playing, transitions, meals, engaging in media)
- Program and model scripts across different language functions (e.g., commenting, , protesting, sharing joy)
- Honor and accept all forms of communication and be open to using different forms of AAC to expand communication

DONTs:

- Use a "standard" set of gestalts
- Change the main page/templated organization of the device (this will be needed at later stages)
- Take scripts literally
- Program without a vision/plan for future NLA stages
- Use traditional analytic support strategies (e.g., sentence strips, recasting, extension)