

# Wesley Pryor

# Lesson outcomes: Understanding AT and people who use AT

After this lesson, you will:

## UNDERSTAND MORE ABOUT THE EXPERIENCE OF ACCESSING AND USING AP

Lesson time

> Approximately 60-90 minutes

Competencies and behaviours

**Further strengthen knowledge about:**

- > AP overall – types, definitions, categories, specialist/consumer products
- > Stakeholders, especially consumers
- > Experiences, including barriers and benefits

Extensions

- > Visit to AP facility?
- > Presentation from local AP service provider/s

Links to rATA manual

> Product flipcharts



# Assistive products

Discuss:

*What are some examples you're aware of (friends, family, selves)*

*What term/s are the most common?*

- Assistive products
  - used by people to carry out tasks they may not otherwise be able to do well, or at all.
  - used by children, adults and older people.
- Also called
  - assistive technology
  - assistive technologies,
  - assistive devices
  - assistive aids
  - 'aids and appliances'



# AP supports people to

Discuss:

*Choose a product or two from each category. What does it help a person do?  
How might it affect one or more of these outcomes*

- Do what they want or need to do
- To be included
- Maintain or improve health
- Replace or change function
- Reduce unwanted function (movement, body shapes, etc)
- Usually specialised, but often modified 'consumer' products



# A day in the life

- Watch the [video](#)





# The APL

## APL Activity

*Trainer: Allow time for internet searching. Share findings in group as time allows*

- Highlight 5 products you know the *least* about
- Exchange in groups about the products:
  - What do they do?
  - Who might use them?
  - Who might be not be able to access them?



# The APL

## APL Activity

*Trainer: Allow time for internet searching. Share findings in group as time allows*

**You could:**

- break into small groups by different product types
  - Highlight or cross off products as they are discussed
  - Highlight any products that are still unclear for Q&A sessions
- you know the *least* about the products:
- What do they do?
- Who might use them?
- Who might be not be able to access them?



# Product categories

Review:

*Look at the product flip charts.*

*Continue to highlight any that are unclear or causing issues.*

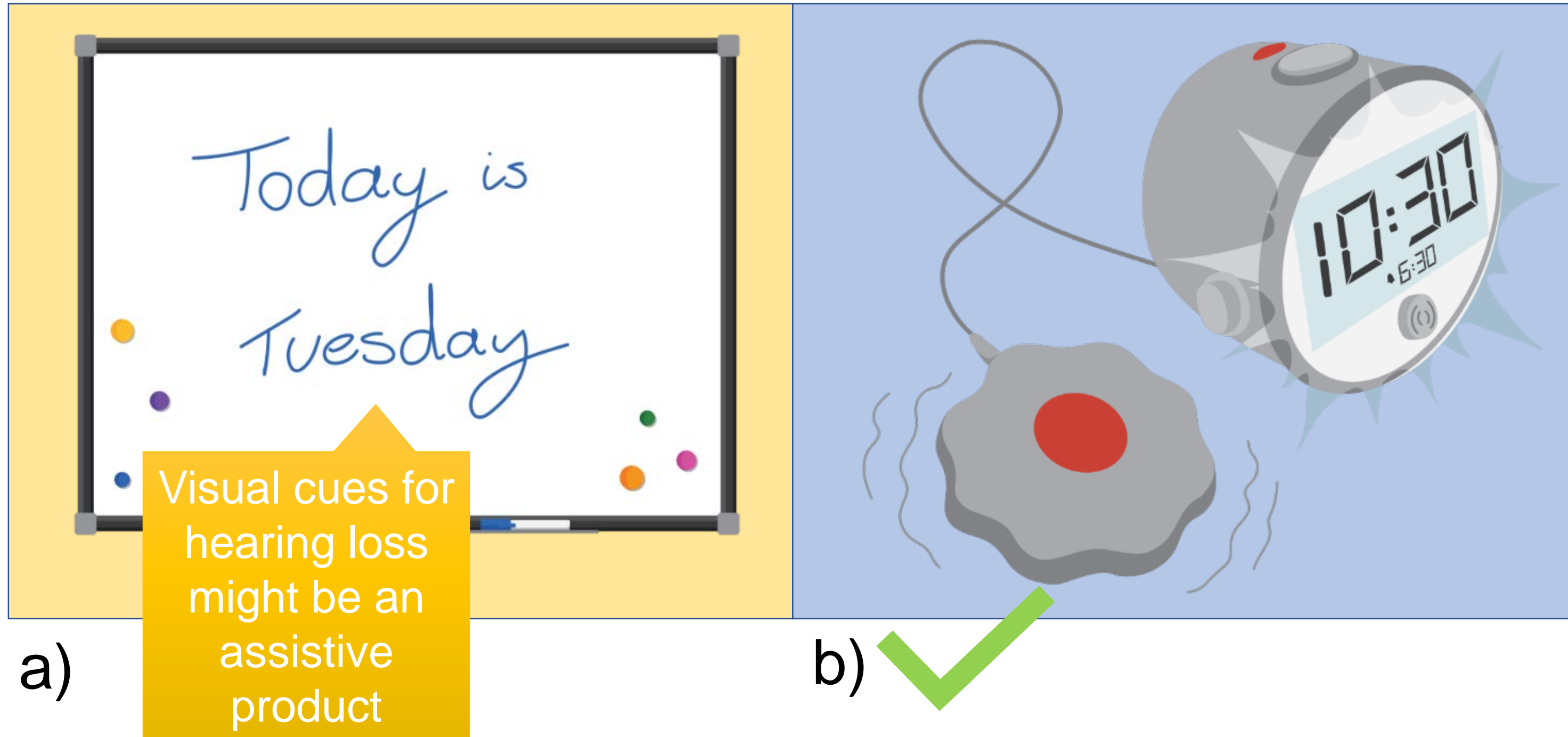
- **Mobility products:**  
Walking aids, portable ramps, and grab bars
- **Seeing/vision products:**  
reading glasses, magnifiers, audio players, talking and/or touching watches, and white canes
- **Hearing products:**  
hearing aids and alarm signallers that use light, sound, and vibration
- **Communication products:**  
communication boards, books, and card
- **Cognition (& remembering):**  
pill organisers and whiteboards to remember things
- **Self-care and environment products:**  
toilet and shower chairs, absorbent cloths



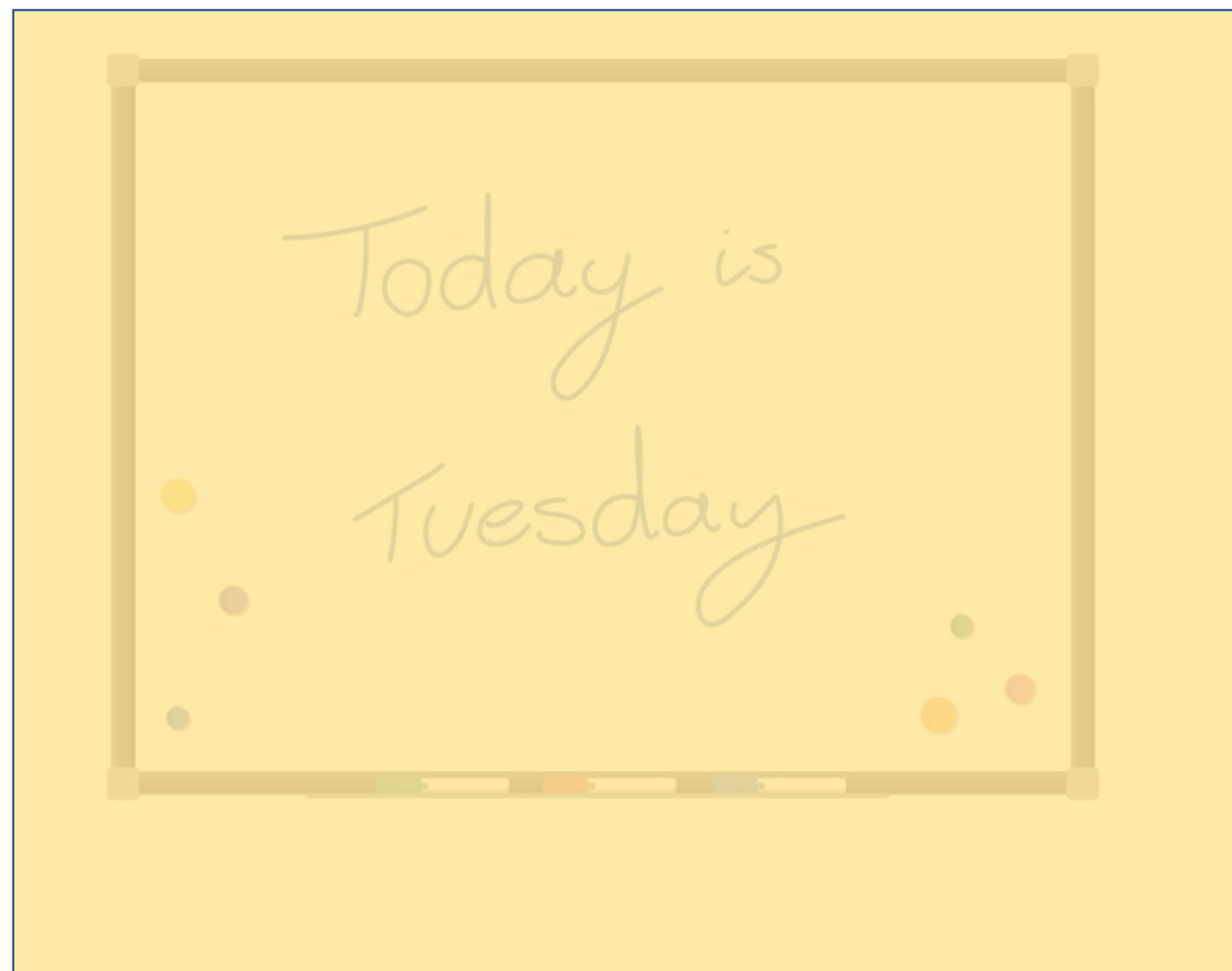




# Which product for hearing difficulties?



# Which product for hearing difficulties?



a)

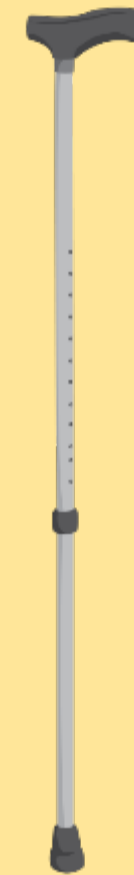
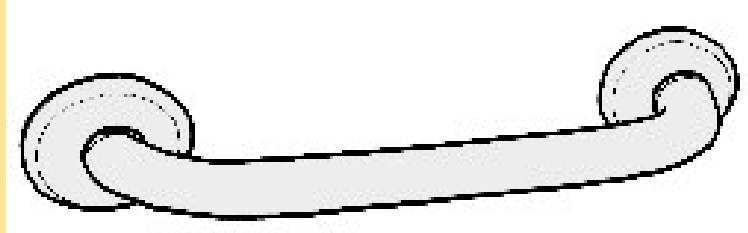


b)

'buzzer'  
alarm clock



# Which product/s for mobility?



a) Hand rail

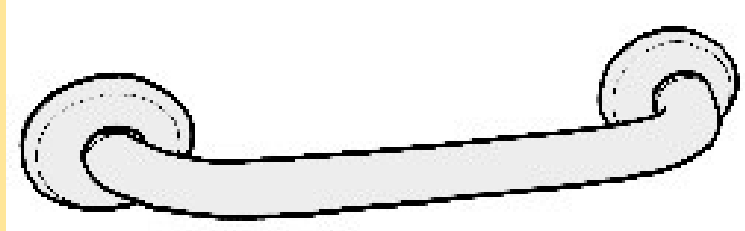
b) Toilet chair

c) Walking stick

d) White cane

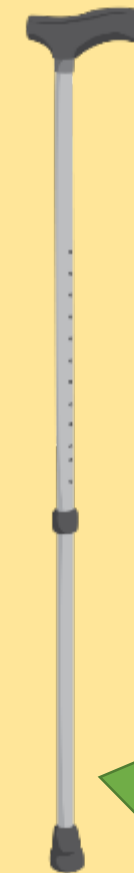


# Which products for mobility?



# Balance, strength

## Self-care (safe toilet use)



# Balance, strength

a) Hand rail

## b) Toilet chair



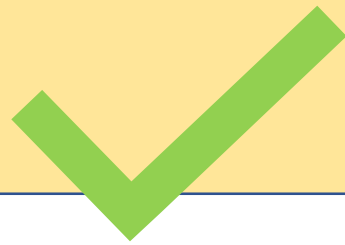
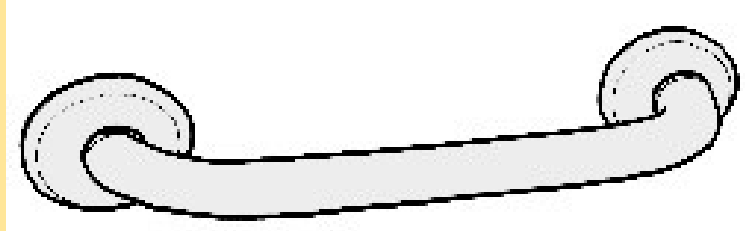
c) Walking stick

d) White cane





# Which products for mobility?

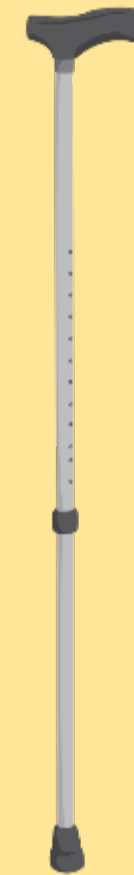


a) Hand rail



The product might be used by people with mobility difficulties

b) Toilet chair



c) Walking stick

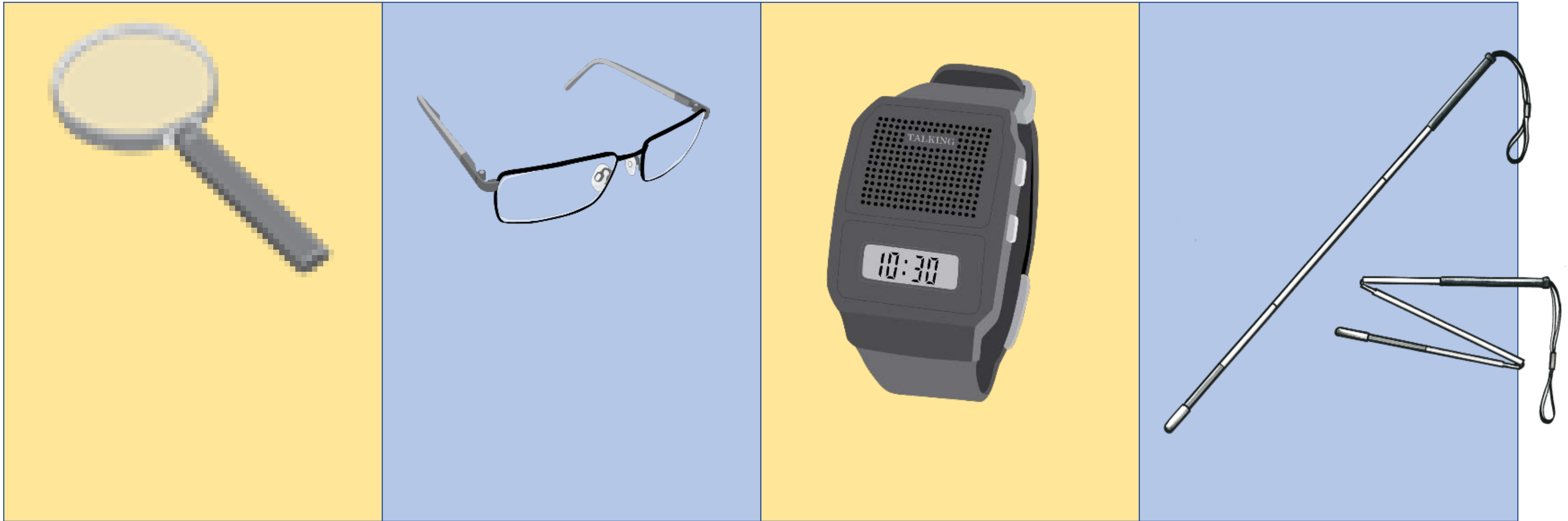


This products helps with mobility but is used by people who are blind/low-vision

d) White cane



# Which products for seeing/vision?



a) Magnifying glass

b) Spectacles

c) Talking watch

d) White cane



# Which products for seeing/vision?



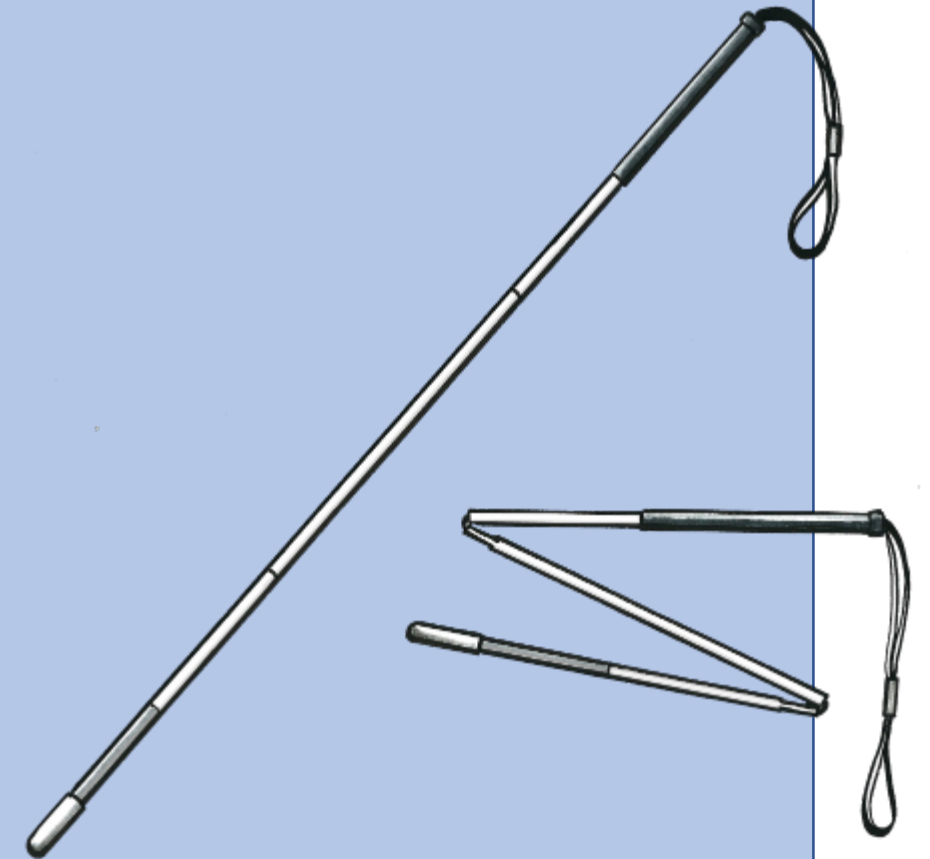
a) Magnifying glass



## b) Spectacles



### c) Talking watch



d) White cane



# What is this product?

a) Fall warning system

b) Alarm signaller

c) Communication board

d) Hearing Aid



# What is this product?

a) Fall warning system

b) Alarm signaller

c) Communication board

d) Hearing Aid



Worn in the ear (or occasionally with a larger amplifier somewhere else)

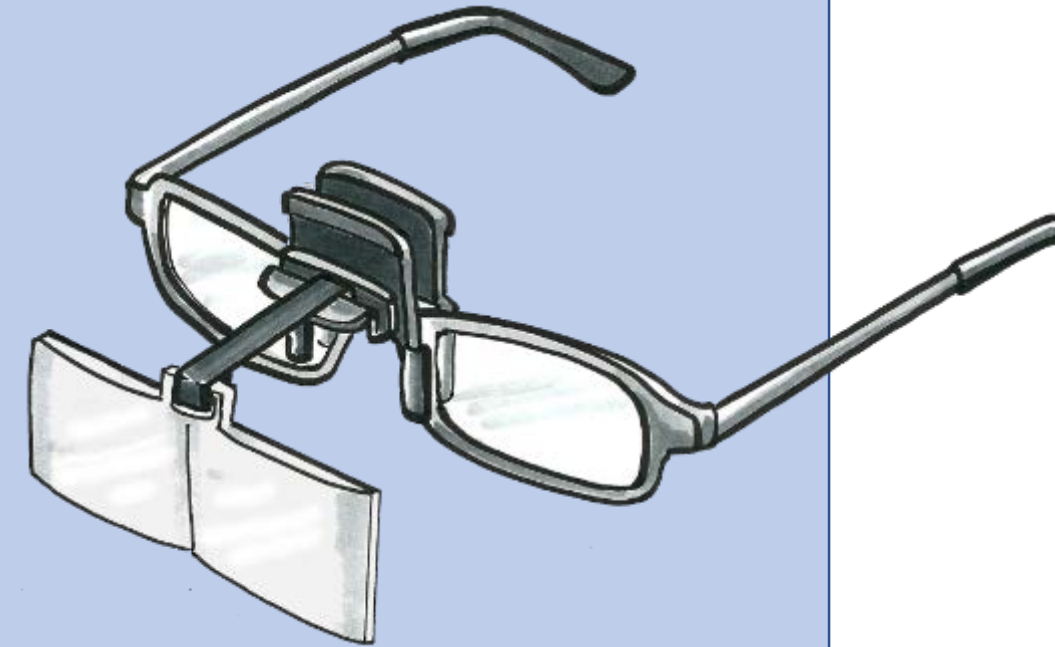
A fairly common product in some countries, but rare in others. Can be quite low-tech options.





# Which products are communication products?

YES						NO
						
						
						
						
						
						



a)

b)

c)

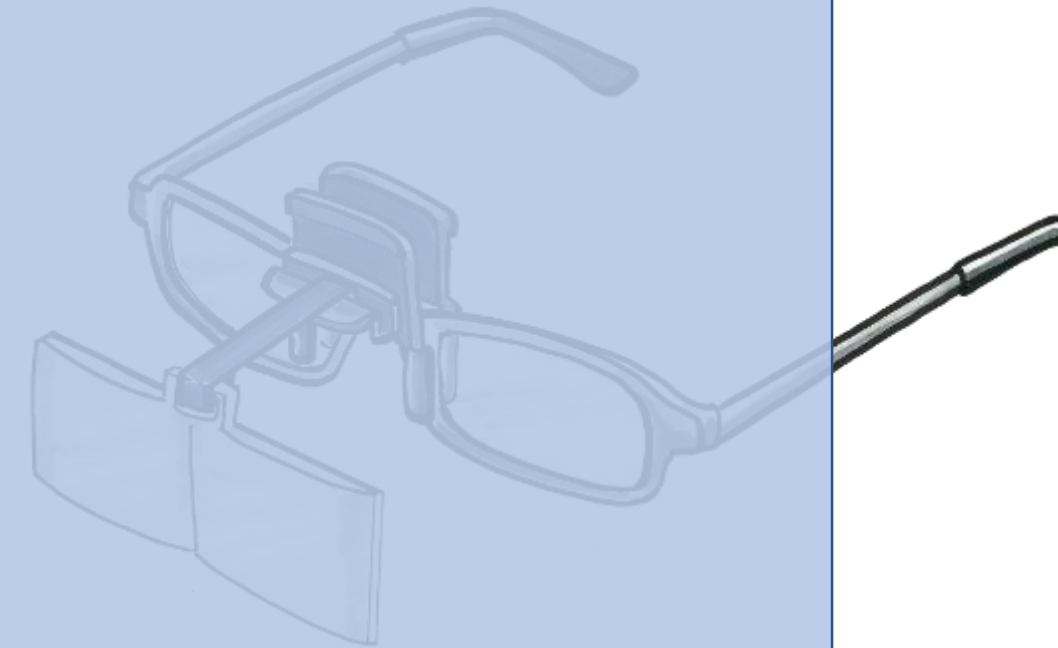
d)



# Which products are communication products?



Communication boards  
common products for people with  
communication difficulty due to: motor  
(moving) difficulty OR cognitive disability



Mobile phones and tablets  
are NOT ALWAYS assistive products.

If they are:  
specifically modified (apps) or  
provided specifically for functional  
difficulties, they can be recorded as  
AP

a)

b)

c)



d)





# What is this assistive product for?

a) Heart problems

The product might be used by people with heart problems, but it does not 'support or modify function'

✓ b) Remembering

✓ c) Cognition

Used to help remember when to take the correct medication.

? d) Vision

Tactile models often used by people with low-vision





# Mobility

- The most products on the APL
- The products we usually think about first
- Many different conditions/functional difficulties and uses
  - Injury, congenital impairment, aging, neurological issues, diabetes, etc





# Which of the following is NOT a mobility product



a)

b)

c)

d)



# Which of the following is NOT a mobility product



All of these products are used by people with different types of 'mobility' difficulties.

a)

b)

c)

d)





# Which product/s is/are an ORTHOSIS (orthotic device, splint, brace)




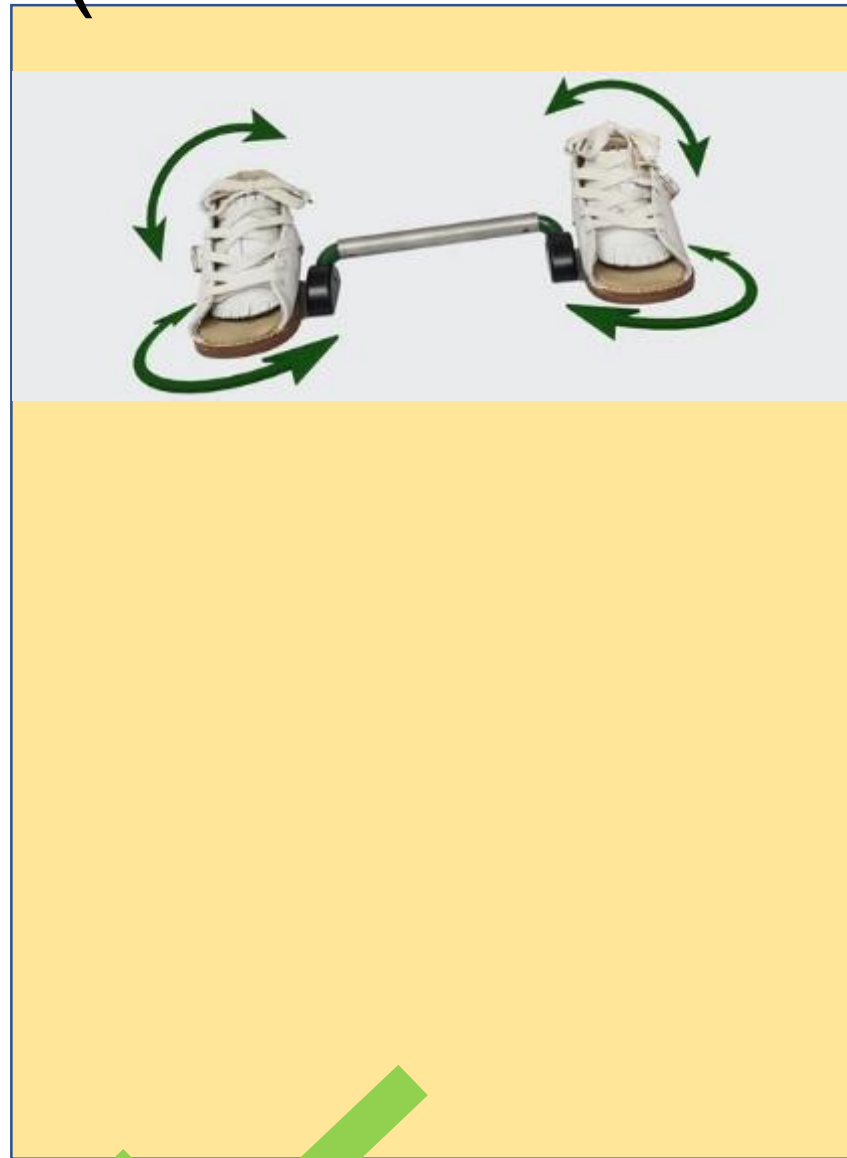
a)

b)

c)


d)





**b)**

c)



# Which product/s is/are an ORTHOSIS (orthotic device, splint, brace)



Device worn  
(attached to body)  
to assist, prevent  
or change  
movement



Device worn  
(attached to body)  
to assist, prevent  
or change  
movement



a) ✓

c)

d) ✓





# Knowledge check: What have we learned?

- All products on the AP list are important
- Some are very uncommon
- Different countries have different products
- Some products are not always ‘assistive products’
- The respondent is often an expert on what products do, their name, etc.
- Everyone knows many of these products



# What product is this?

a) Wheelchair (manual for active use)

b) Wheelchair, basic push type

c) Electric wheelchair

d) Shower chair



# What product is this?

Handles for pushing

a) Wheelchair (manual for active use)

✓  
b) Wheelchair, basic push type

No cushion

c) Electric wheelchair

d) Shower chair

Small wheels





# Which wheelchair is 'for active use'?



a)





b)

c)

d)



# Which wheelchair is 'for active use'?

 <p>Push rim</p>	 <p>Cushion</p>	 <p>Still may have handles</p>	 <p>'electric wheelchair' (has battery power source)</p>
<p>a) ✓</p>	<p>b) ✓</p>	<p>c) ✓</p>	<p>d)</p>





# True/False: This is a mobility product

A) TRUE

B) FALSE





# True/False: This is a mobility product

A) TRUE

B) FALSE

PROBABLY NOT.  
An example of an  
unmodified consumer  
product'





# What does this product do?

a) Reduces pressure on body

b) Used for bathing

c) Helps move around

d) Product is never an AP



# What does this product do?

✓ a) Reduces pressure on body

b) Used for bathing

c) Helps move around

d) Product is never an AP



# Match the product and the function



Digital  
magnifier  
(low vision)

Braille writer  
(Blind/low  
vision)

Recorder  
(cognition)

Personal alarm  
(mobility,  
cognition)





# Match the product and the function



Personal alarm  
(mobility,  
cognition)

Digital  
magnifier  
(low vision)

Recorder  
(cognition)

Braille writer  
(Blind/low  
vision)



# Match the product and the function



Shower chair  
(with postural  
support)

Spinal orthosis  
(mobility)

Shower chair

Toilet Chair



# Match the product and the function



Shower chair  
(with postural  
support)

Spinal orthosis  
(mobility)

Shower chair

Toilet Chair

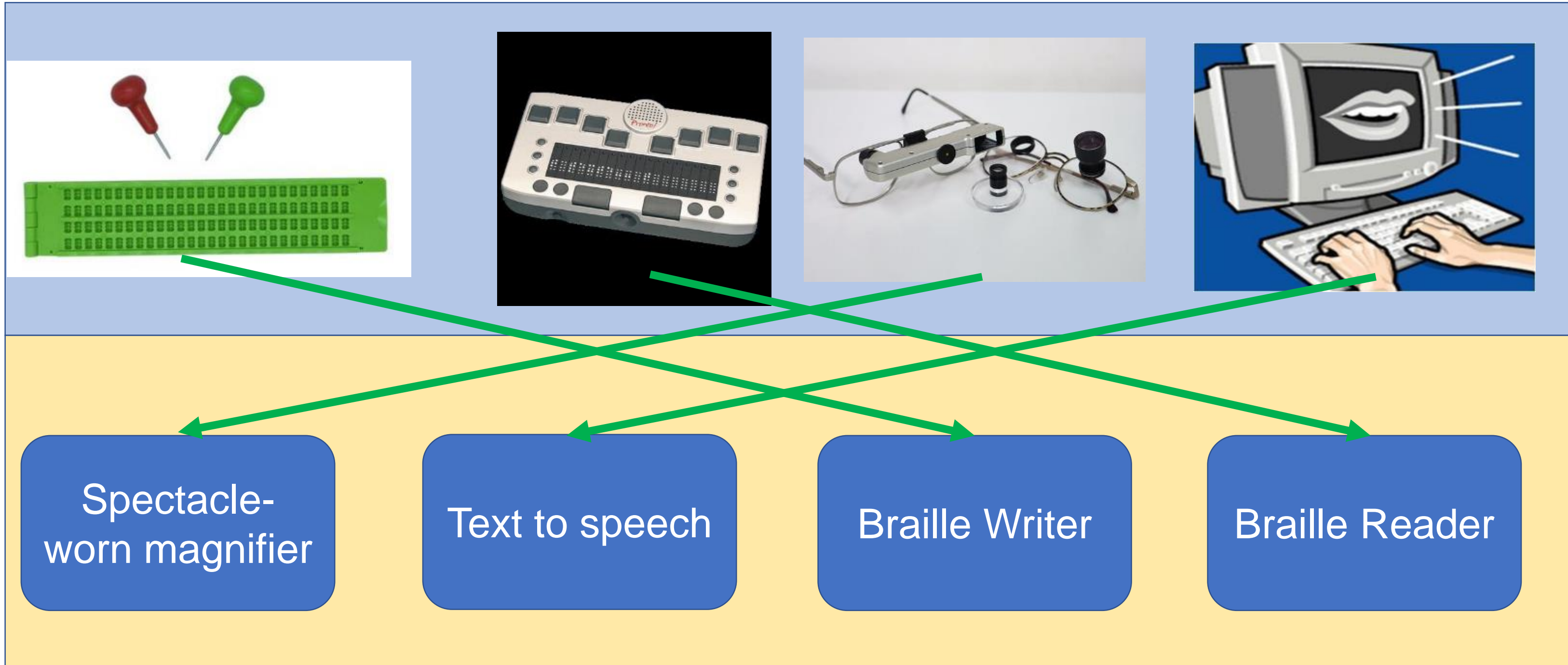








# Match the product and the function



# What products might Hai use?

*Hai studies accounting at university in Vietnam. All his education has been in schools specialised for blind students. He reports 'cannot see at all' in the rATA.*





# What products might Hai use?

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# Name a product that is likely to be used by:

Open text (enter answer in 1 box)

Someone with a <i>spinal cord injury</i>	
Someone with <i>complications from diabetes</i>	
Someone with <i>dementia</i>	
A <i>healthy older person</i>	



# Name a product that is likely to be used by:

Open text (enter answer in 1 box)

Someone with a <i>spinal cord injury</i>	Hearing aid
Someone with <i>complications from diabetes</i>	spectacles
Someone with <i>dementia</i>	A walking aid
A <i>healthy older person</i>	Spectacles, iPhone, shower chair

Don't make too many assumptions about what products people might USE or NEED. People have different needs at different times in their life.



# Extending this activity

- Quick quiz:
  - Cover the names of products, ask teams to challenge each other to name products
- Flashcard challenge:
  - Cut out all the items.
  - Challenge your participants one by one to name and describe the product for 'points'.

