

The international perspective on Easy English and Easy Read: The journey forward.



Cathy Basterfield

ASID, Adelaide 2019





Labels

Accessible Information

Aphasia Friendly

Clear Communication

Computer Literacy

Easy English

Easy to Read

Easy Read



More Labels

Financial Literacy

Health Literacy

Information for All or Information Friendly

Legal Literacy

Mental Health Literacy

Plain Language

Plain English

Computer Literacy/Digital Literacy



More Labels

Leichte Sprache (German Easy Read)

Selko Kielen (Finnish Easy Reading)

Swedish Easy to Read

European Easy to Read

Easy Italian

Easier English

Belgium, Norway



???

Are we talking about the same thing?

- How do we determine whether Easy Read, Accessible Information, Clear Communication, Leichte Sprache etc is the same , (or not) as Easy English?
- Is Australian Easy English the same as Australian Easy Read?



- Is it for the same audience??

- Is it the same types of information??





IASSID 2019


Scotland

- Approx 100 self-advocates/co-researchers.
- Easy Read program - keynote papers only
- 1 page in main program.






Visual comparison - Basterfield




Physical




This is when someone tries to

- hurt our body in some way.



It can be they

- pinch us
- slap us



- pull our hair
- push us around

or

84 Women with Disabilities Victoria

Easy English



Mate Crime - when people who you think are your friends take advantage of you. For example, they may get you to pay for everything.



Sexual - when someone touches you where you do not want to be touched, without your permission.



Neglect - when you are not given the things you need, like food, clean clothes, medication and help when you need it.



Institutional - when you are not treated properly by people who are paid to look after you. For example, they open your post for you without asking you first.

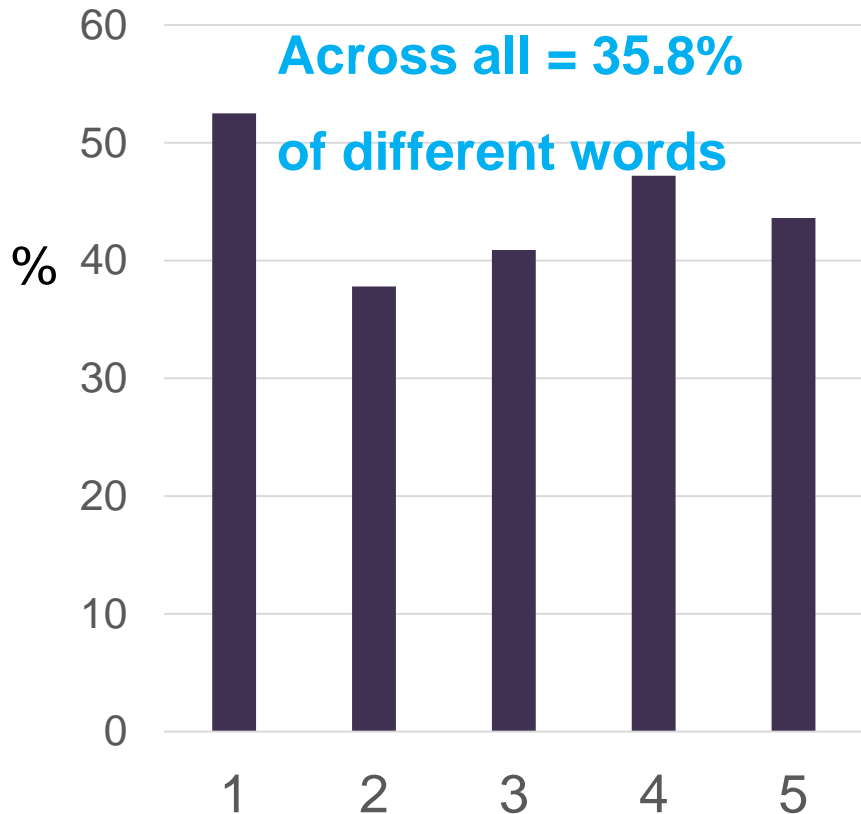


Cyber bullying - being sent unkind or threatening messages by email, text or social media.

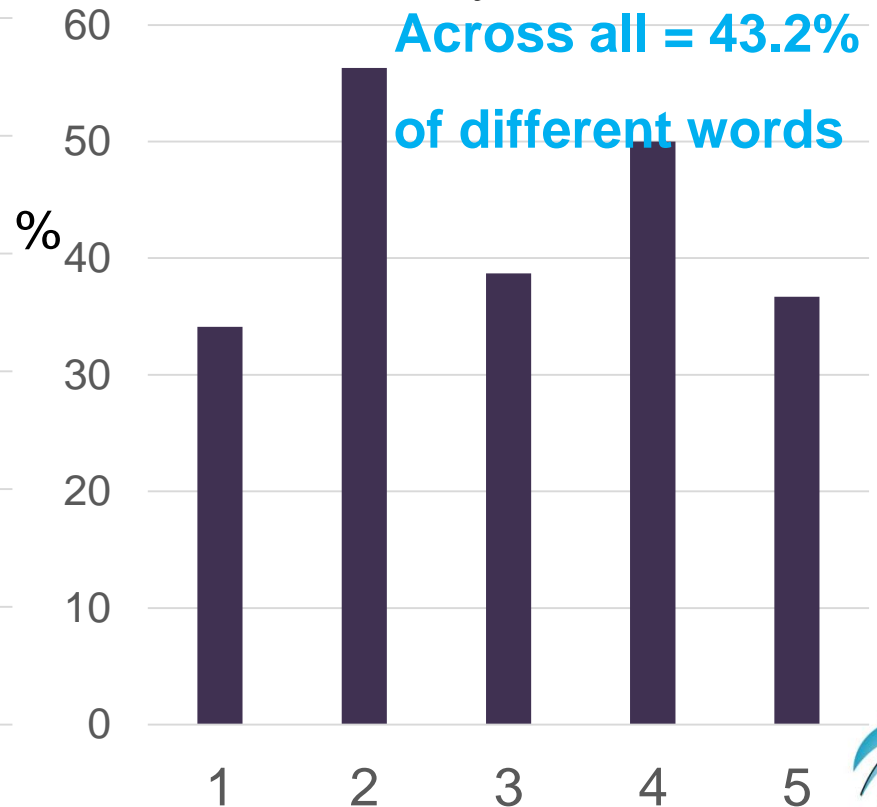
Easy Read

Percentage of different words to words total

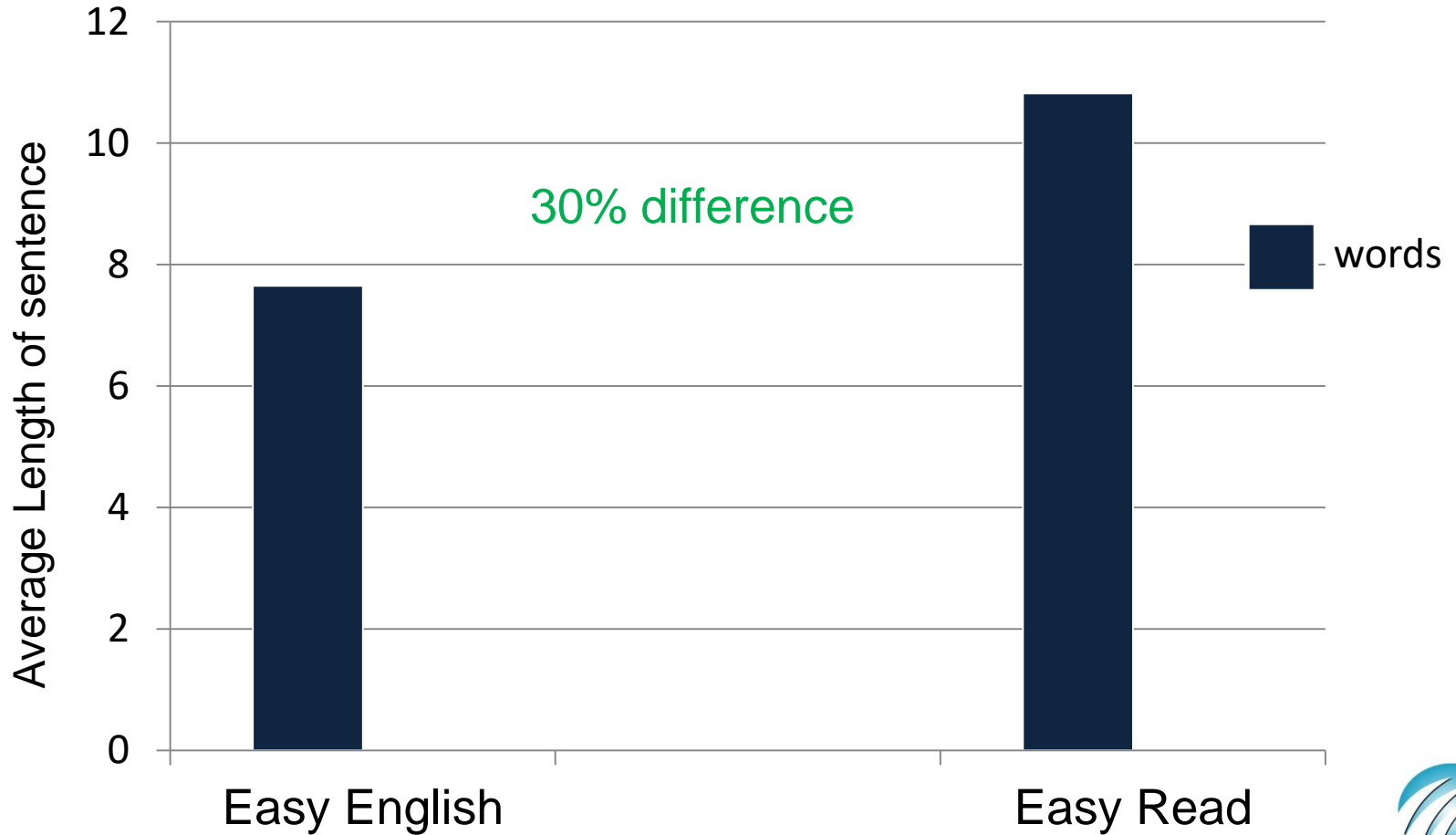
Easy English



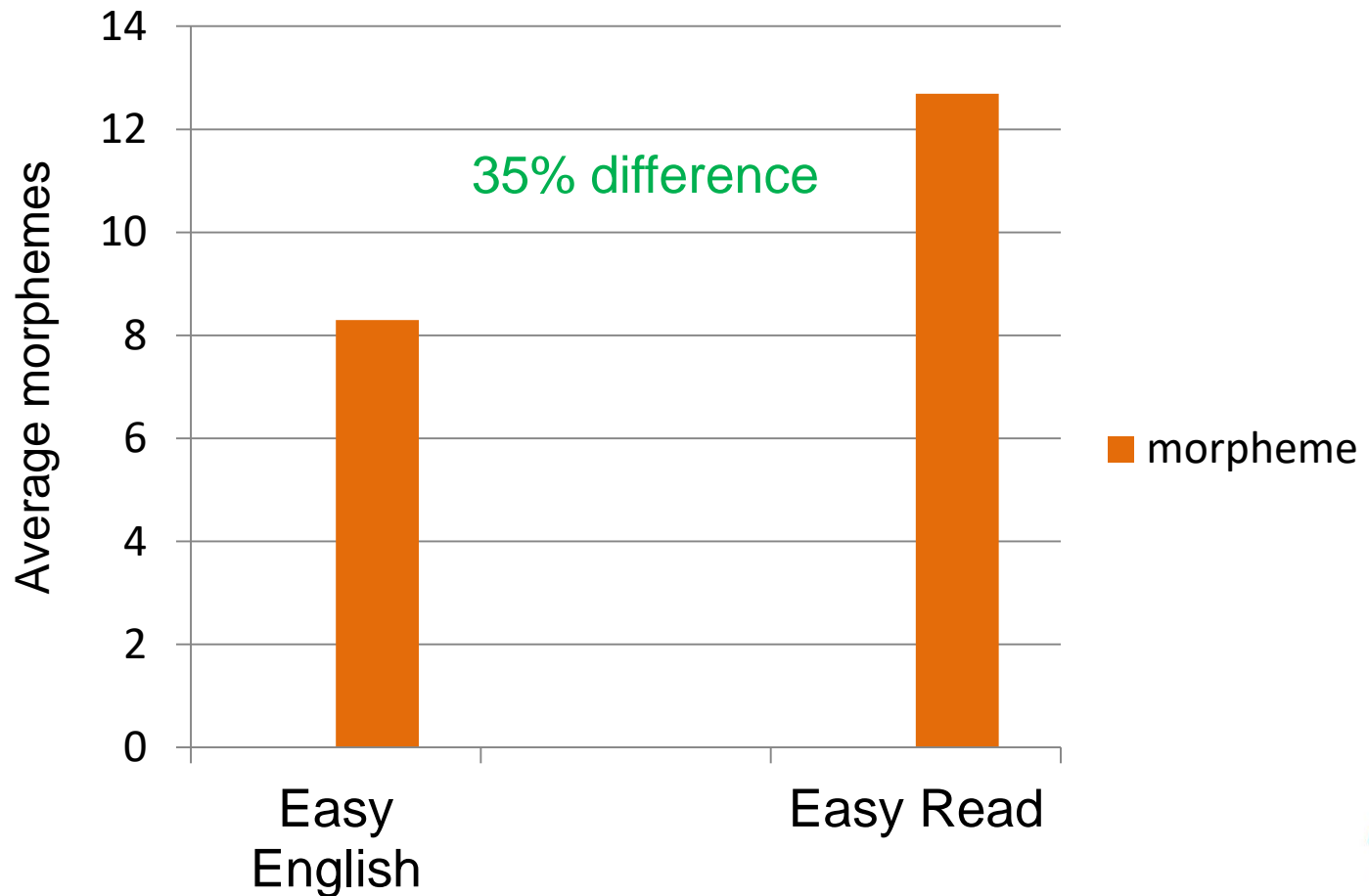
Easy Read



Average words per sentence across all documents



Mean morphemes



Easy Read

Understanding? – Buell

Type of Text	Supported to read text - Mediation	Supported to read text - Mediation
Simple Easy Read (Grade 2 USA)	Yes	No
Complex Easy Read (Grade 14 USA)	Yes	No

Buell: (2019) Do participants with ID respond more accurately to questions that require literal or inferential information taken from an 'easy read' health text? J Appl Research Intellectual Disability Vol 00: pp1-13.



Buell cont'd

- Understanding words age – 9:04 yrs
- Reading age – 7:01 yrs
- **No significant differences**
found in any of the 4 setups



Buell cont'd

- Control for vocabulary/word knowledge –
 - **Simpler** Easy Read text **with support**
 - Significant improvement in understanding the text.

But

- **Need help to construct meaning – life experiences, words.**
- **Not** when Understanding of Reading was controlled.



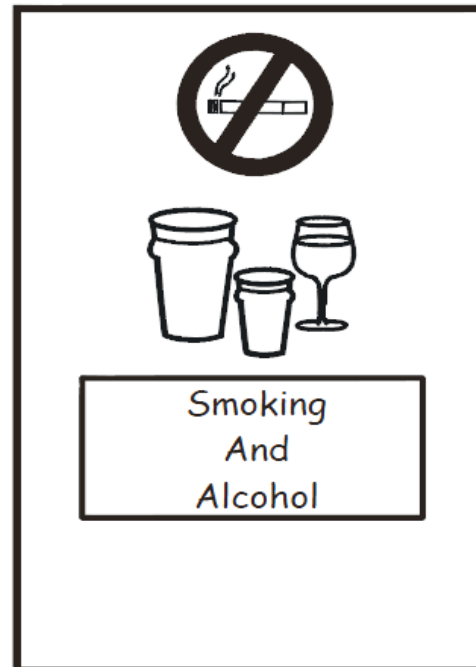
What Easy Read information is used in health consultations? – Chinn

Examples of types of Easy Read

Hug Me Touch Me - Page 2



Ready Made Story



	The doctor will talk to you about how much Mirtazapine you need to take.
	The doctor will tell you how to take your Mirtazapine. You need to take Mirtazapine for some time so that it works best.
	You will usually take Mirtazapine at night.
	If you forget to take your medication you must tell your carer and ask your doctor for advice.
	You should not stop taking your medication suddenly as this could make you feel unwell.

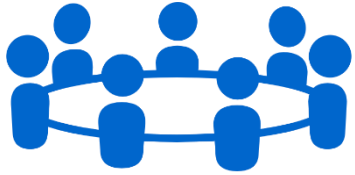
Chinn, D. (2019) An empirical examination of the use of Easy Read health information in health consultations involving patients with intellectual disability's. J Appl Research in Intellectual Disability Vol 00 pp1-16.

Chinn cont'd

Intellectual Disability nurses and GPs

- Unsure how to use
- Push back from client – eg: blood test, losing weight
- Are there similarities with why a Communication Board is not used?





Accessible Information Round Table

- 30 people
- 1 self advocate
- UK, Australia, Germany
- South America, Ireland





Biggest outcome

- **Not** heard or seen Easy English.
- Recognise Easy English
 - is different
 - simpler than Easy Read

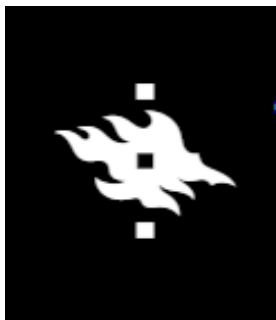


Experienced and new to this work

- Lots of questions – what are the key elements
 - What is working – current research - EBP

- Must work across disciplines
 - therapists
 - linguists
 - designers
 - different people with ID
 - service providers





KLAARA 2019 Helsinki

- No self –advocates
- Target audience
- Images



Leichte Sprache

- Would like all countries to use the term **Easy Language**
- Developed rules – still very complex language
 - 8 syllable words
- Published a number of text books
- Must use one set of images in all texts.

Examples of Leichte Sprache

The screenshot shows the Deutsche Bundesbank website with a simplified layout. The header includes the bank's logo and a navigation menu with categories: Bundesbank, Tasks, Statistics, Service, Press, and Publications. Below the menu, there is a breadcrumb trail: 'Homepage > Easy to read'. The main content area is titled 'Paying with a bank card' and provides information in an easy-to-read format. It includes several illustrations: a person at a newsstand, a hand holding a bank card, a person at a shop counter, a price tag showing '60.00€', and a hand entering a PIN on a mobile phone. The text explains that users often pay with banknotes or coins at newsstands, but sometimes use bank cards at shops. It also mentions that users enter their PIN on their bank cards and that the PIN is secret.

<https://www.bundesbank.de/en/homepage/easy-to-read/paying-with-a-bank-card-618716>

The screenshot shows the 'Your Data Your Rights' website with a simplified layout. The header includes the text 'YOUR DATA YOUR RIGHTS' and a shield icon. The main content area is titled 'Project: Your data. Your rights.' and includes a section '1. What do I find on this website?'. This section explains that the project explains the new rights for data protection and provides information about data protection rules for all people in Europe. It also mentions a game about data protection and provides a link to download information. Below this, there is a section '2. What is data protection?' which explains that data protection means you decide who can use your data and what your data can be used for. The page includes several illustrations: a person at a computer, a map of Europe, a globe, and a person at a computer.

<https://yourdata-yourrights.eu/easy-to-rea>



Minimal English

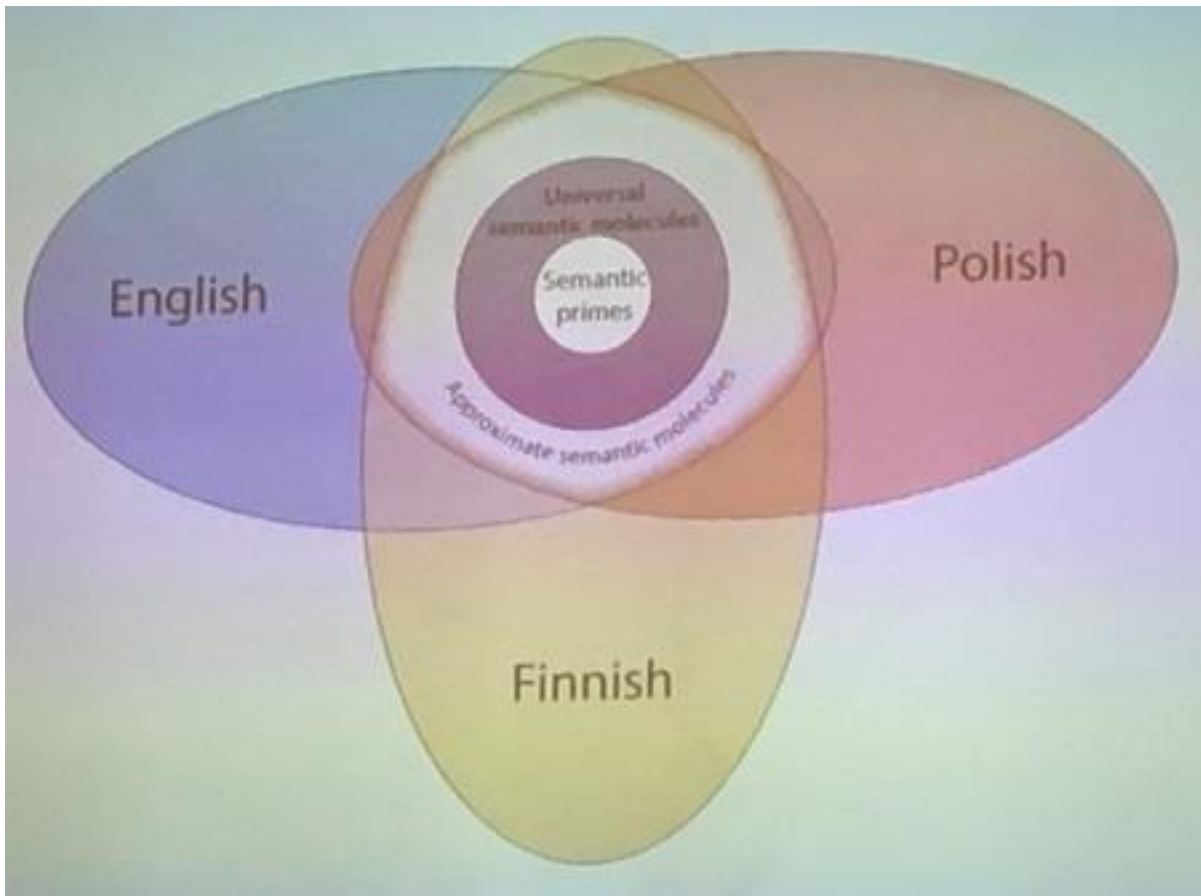
Cliff Goddard - Australia

The basic building blocks of meaning
shared by all languages

65 – semantic primes

Eg: do have there
 good big small

Basic words that can be translated and lose no meaning



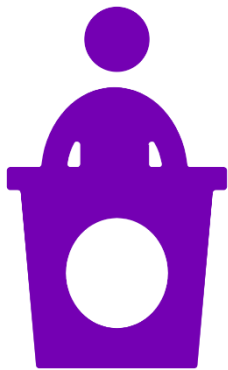
How does this relate to the Easy English or Easy Read Core vocabulary?



2020 conference

Switzerland <http://klaara.ch/>

31 August and 1 September



Call for papers 15 December – March 1





PLAIN 2019 - Oslo

- 400 delegates
- 1 self-advocate

- Definition of Plain Language

A communication is in plain language if its wording, structure, and design are so clear that the intended audience can easily find what they need, understand what they find, and use that information.

<https://plainlanguagenetwork.org>



Access
Easy English

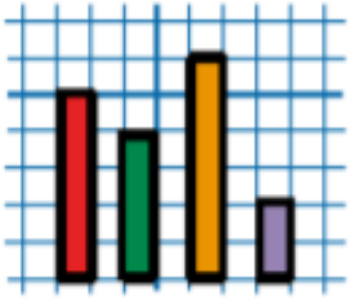


Breaking news



- ISO's TC 37 - approve work starting on an ISO standard for plain language
- Governing Principles and Guidelines



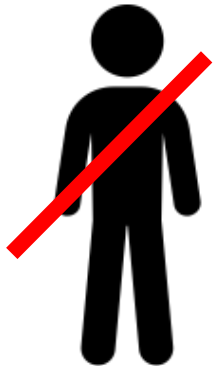


More aware of OECD 2013 PIAAC data

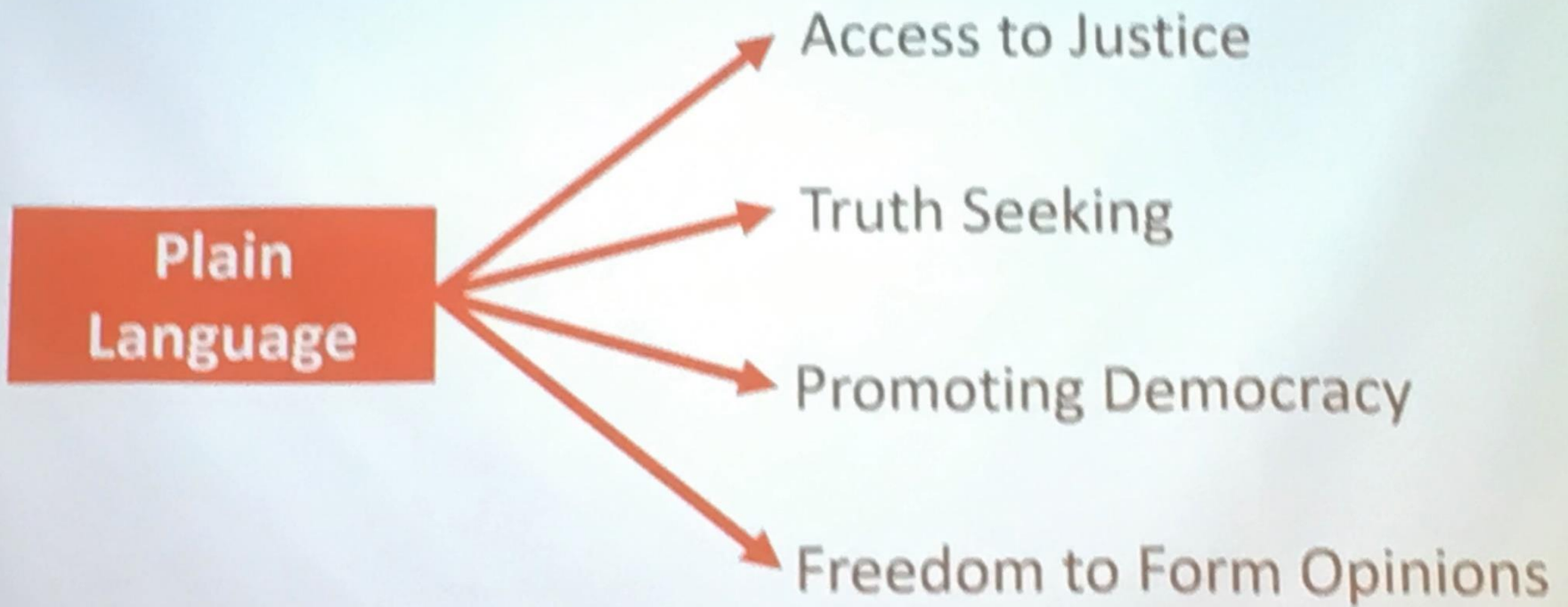


Plain language with infographics

or



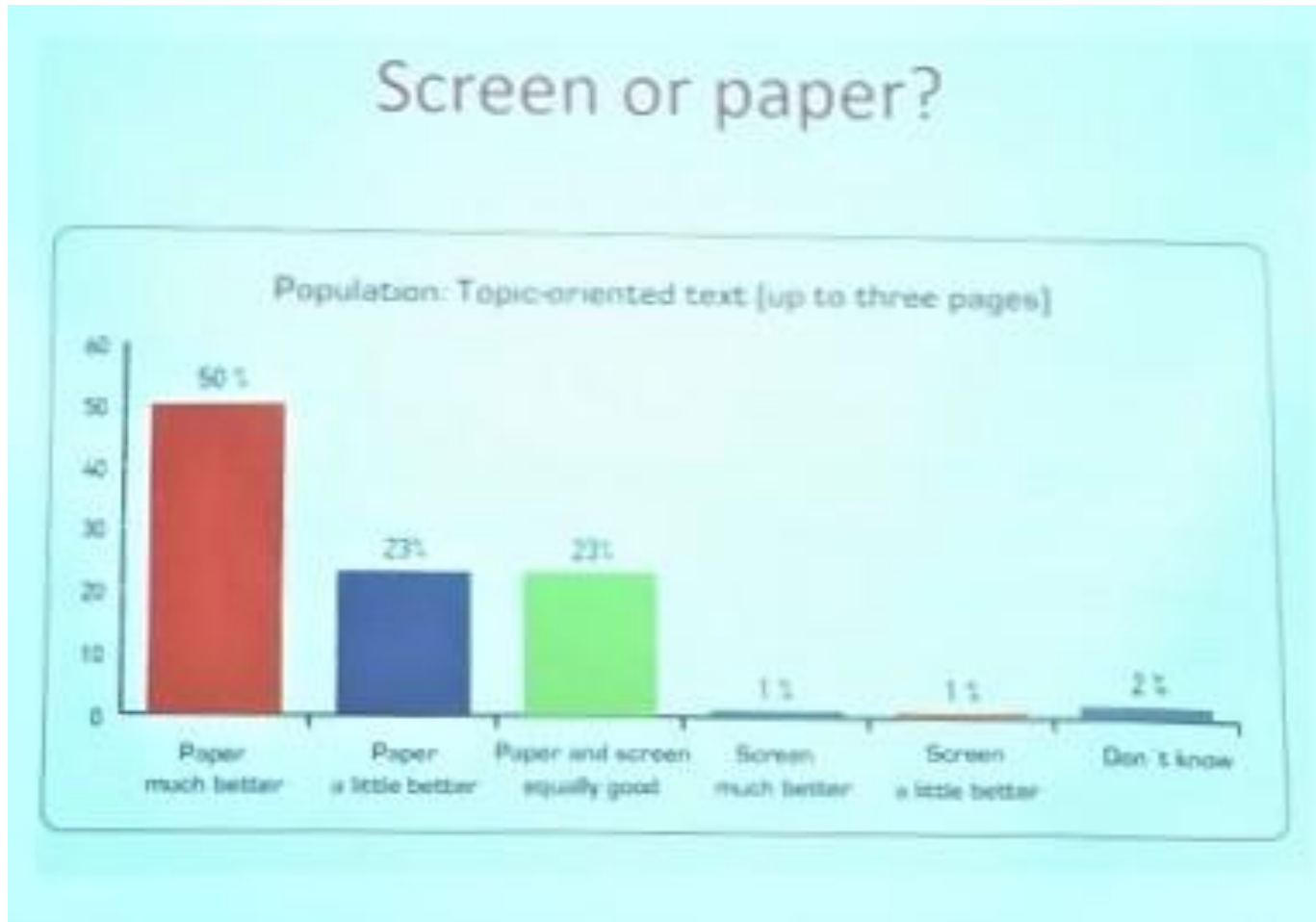
- Simpler Plain Language with photos
– no consumer engagement



**When it comes to data
visualisations, people often
ignore that text and images
are equally important.**



Digital literacy



Kresten Bjerg, Bjerg Kommunikation, Denmark



What's next?

- Research – Easy English
- Engage with international researchers & development
- Linguistics
- Plain Language developers
- Avoid silos.





Access Easy English

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