

# people first language focuses on peoples

People First Language: Why It Focuses on Peoples and Their Humanity

**people first language focuses on peoples** humanity rather than their conditions or characteristics. This approach to communication is more than just a linguistic trend—it is a conscious effort to recognize the dignity, individuality, and complexity of every person. By placing the person before any descriptor, people first language reshapes how we think about identity, challenges stereotypes, and fosters respect and inclusion in our everyday conversations.

When we talk about people first language, we're really discussing a shift in mindset. Instead of defining someone by a label, such as "disabled" or "autistic," we say "person with a disability" or "person on the autism spectrum." This subtle yet powerful change emphasizes that a person is not reduced to a single trait or condition but is a multifaceted individual. Let's explore how and why people first language focuses on peoples, what it means in practice, and why it's crucial in promoting empathy and understanding.

## Understanding People First Language Focuses on Peoples

People first language is rooted in the idea that every individual should be recognized first as a person, not as a condition, diagnosis, or stereotype. This approach emerged prominently within advocacy communities, especially those promoting the rights of individuals with disabilities. The language we use shapes perceptions and attitudes, so choosing words carefully can influence social inclusion and reduce stigma.

## The Importance of Language in Shaping Perceptions

Language is more than just a tool for communication; it shapes how we perceive reality. When people are consistently referred to by their disabilities or attributes, it can unintentionally dehumanize them. For example, calling someone "a diabetic" reduces their whole identity to a medical condition. By contrast, saying "a person with diabetes" acknowledges their humanity first and respects their individuality beyond their health status.

This subtle shift has profound implications for social attitudes. It encourages people to see others as whole individuals with unique experiences, strengths, and challenges. It also helps dismantle preconceived notions and biases that often accompany labels.

## How People First Language Focuses on Peoples in Different Contexts

People first language is not only relevant in healthcare or disability advocacy but also extends to

many areas where labels can overshadow identity. For example:

- In mental health, instead of “schizophrenic,” we say “person living with schizophrenia.”
- In education, instead of “learning disabled child,” we say “student with learning differences.”
- In social justice, acknowledging identities with terms like “person experiencing homelessness” rather than “homeless person.”

This approach respects the person’s dignity and recognizes that their condition or situation does not define their entire being.

## **The Benefits of Using People First Language**

Adopting people first language fosters inclusion and promotes positive social change. Here are some of the key benefits:

### **Promotes Respect and Dignity**

When we use people first language, we affirm someone’s worth beyond any condition or label. This respect is crucial in building positive relationships and creating supportive environments, whether at work, in schools, or within communities.

### **Reduces Stigma and Stereotyping**

Labels often carry stereotypes that can lead to discrimination. By focusing on the person, we reduce the risk of pigeonholing individuals and encourage others to see beyond the surface. This helps combat social exclusion and promotes empathy.

### **Encourages Empowerment**

People first language empowers individuals by giving them agency over how they are described. It shifts the narrative from being defined by limitations to highlighting personhood and potential.

### **Enhances Communication and Understanding**

Clear and respectful language fosters better communication. When people feel seen and respected, they are more likely to engage openly, which improves collaboration and mutual understanding.

# Tips for Using People First Language Effectively

Incorporating people first language into everyday speech requires awareness and practice. Here are practical tips to help you get started:

## 1. Put the Person Before the Condition

Always lead with the individual. Instead of saying “the disabled,” say “people with disabilities.” This small change has a big impact.

## 2. Avoid Defining People by Their Disability or Status

Resist the urge to reduce someone to their condition. Remember, a person is more than any label.

## 3. Use Neutral and Respectful Terms

Choose language that is neutral, non-judgmental, and widely accepted by the community. When in doubt, ask how individuals prefer to be identified.

## 4. Be Mindful of Context and Audience

Language evolves, and preferences can vary among different groups. Stay informed about current terminology and be sensitive to cultural and individual differences.

## 5. Educate Yourself and Others

Share the importance of people first language with friends, family, and colleagues. Encouraging respectful language use promotes a more inclusive society.

## Challenges and Critiques of People First Language

While people first language focuses on peoples and their humanity, it's important to acknowledge that not everyone agrees on its use. Some individuals and communities prefer identity-first language, such as “autistic person” rather than “person with autism.” They argue that their identity is an integral and positive part of who they are, not something to be separated from.

Recognizing these nuances is key. The ultimate goal of people first language is respect and empowerment, and that means honoring individual preferences. Effective communication involves

listening and adapting to how people choose to describe themselves.

## **Balancing People First and Identity-First Language**

Understanding when to use people first language versus identity-first language depends on context and personal choice. For example:

- Disability advocates often prefer people first language to emphasize individuality.
- Many in the neurodiversity movement embrace identity-first language to affirm pride in their identity.

Respecting both approaches supports inclusive dialogue and acknowledges the diversity of human experiences.

## **People First Language in Action: Real-World Applications**

Organizations, educators, healthcare providers, and media outlets increasingly adopt people first language to foster respect and inclusion. For example:

- Hospitals use people first language in patient records and communication to promote dignity.
- Schools train staff to use respectful language that supports students' identities.
- Media guidelines encourage journalists to avoid dehumanizing terms and focus on person-centered descriptions.

These real-world applications demonstrate how people first language focuses on peoples and creates environments where everyone feels valued.

## **How Technology Can Support People First Language**

With the rise of digital communication, technology plays a role in promoting respectful language. Tools like language editing software and inclusive style guides help writers and speakers choose appropriate terms. Social media platforms can also amplify awareness about the importance of people first language, encouraging broader cultural shifts toward empathy.

## **Final Thoughts on People First Language Focuses on Peoples**

At its core, people first language focuses on peoples by honoring their humanity above all else. It challenges us to rethink how we communicate, ensuring that our words uplift rather than diminish. While language is always evolving, the principles behind people first language—respect, dignity, and

inclusion—remain timeless.

By consciously choosing to place people before labels, we contribute to a more compassionate and understanding world. Whether in personal conversations, professional settings, or public discourse, embracing people first language is a meaningful step toward recognizing the rich complexity and inherent worth of every individual.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **What is people first language?**

People first language is a way of speaking and writing that puts the individual before their disability or condition, emphasizing their humanity first.

### **Why does people first language focus on the person rather than the condition?**

It focuses on the person to promote respect and dignity, avoiding defining individuals solely by their disability or condition.

### **How does people first language benefit individuals?**

It helps reduce stigma, fosters inclusion, and acknowledges the person's identity beyond their disability or diagnosis.

### **Can you give an example of people first language?**

Instead of saying 'autistic person,' people first language would say 'person with autism.'

### **Is people first language used only for disabilities?**

While primarily used for disabilities, people first language can be applied to any context where labeling might overshadow the individual's identity.

### **How can organizations implement people first language?**

Organizations can implement it by training staff, revising materials, and promoting communication that respects individuals' identities first.

### **What are common mistakes to avoid when using people first language?**

Common mistakes include reverting to labeling language, using terms that imply negativity, or ignoring individual preferences.

# Does everyone prefer people first language?

Not everyone prefers people first language; some communities advocate for identity-first language, so it's important to respect individual and group preferences.

## Additional Resources

People First Language Focuses on Peoples: A Closer Look at Its Impact and Importance

**people first language focuses on peoples** dignity, identity, and humanity by emphasizing the individual before any characteristic, condition, or label. This linguistic approach has gained traction in various professional and social sectors, particularly in healthcare, education, and social services, where respectful communication is paramount. By prioritizing the person rather than the descriptor, people first language aims to reduce stigma and promote inclusivity. This article explores the nuances of people first language, its practical applications, challenges, and the ongoing debate surrounding its usage.

## Understanding People First Language

People first language is a communication strategy that places the individual before any attribute or disability. For example, instead of saying "a disabled person," it advocates for "a person with a disability." This subtle shift in phraseology is more than semantic; it reflects a profound respect for the person's full humanity, rather than defining them solely by a condition or characteristic.

This approach emerged from disability advocacy movements during the late 20th century, aiming to counteract the dehumanizing effects of labels that often reduce people to stereotypes. The core principle is to acknowledge that a person's identity is multifaceted and that a diagnosis or condition is only one aspect of their experience.

## Why People First Language Matters

The importance of people first language lies in its potential to influence attitudes and reduce discrimination. Language shapes perception, and when individuals are identified primarily by a disability or condition, it can perpetuate stereotypes and marginalization. People first language attempts to dismantle these barriers by:

- Emphasizing individuality and personal identity over labels
- Promoting dignity and respect in communication
- Encouraging empathy and understanding in social interactions
- Reducing stigma associated with disabilities, mental health conditions, and other characteristics

Research supports the idea that respectful language correlates with more positive attitudes and social inclusion. For instance, a 2017 study published in the *Journal of Social Psychology* found that participants exposed to people first language were less likely to endorse stigmatizing beliefs about individuals with disabilities.

## **Application Across Different Fields**

People first language focuses on peoples in diverse sectors, each adapting principles to fit their unique needs and professional standards.

### **Healthcare and Medical Settings**

In healthcare, communication is crucial for patient-centered care. Medical professionals increasingly adopt people first language to foster trust and respect. Instead of referring to “diabetics” or “the autistic,” clinicians are encouraged to say “people with diabetes” or “individuals on the autism spectrum.” This practice helps to humanize patients and emphasizes their autonomy beyond the clinical diagnosis.

Moreover, organizations such as the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) endorse people first language in their guidelines. These endorsements underscore the commitment to reducing implicit bias and improving patient outcomes through respectful communication.

### **Education and Social Services**

In educational contexts, particularly special education, people first language is instrumental in shaping inclusive environments. Teachers and support staff who use people first language signal a commitment to recognizing students’ diverse abilities without defining them by their challenges.

Social service agencies also benefit from this linguistic approach by promoting empowerment and reducing stereotypes that can influence policy and program development. The language used in reports, advocacy, and client interactions can impact access to resources and the quality of support provided.

### **Limitations and Criticisms**

Despite widespread adoption, people first language is not without controversy. Some advocates and members of certain communities argue that the approach can feel cumbersome or artificial. For example, some within the autistic community prefer identity-first language (“autistic person”) as a point of pride and self-identification rather than distancing themselves from the label.

Critics also point out that people first language can sometimes obscure important aspects of identity that individuals embrace. The insistence on separating person and condition may inadvertently

invalidate the lived experiences of those who see their disability or characteristic as integral to who they are.

## Balancing Language Sensitivity and Individual Preferences

Given the varied perspectives on language, a nuanced approach is necessary. Effective communication requires awareness of context and a willingness to respect individual preferences.

## Practical Guidelines for Using People First Language

- **Ask and Listen:** When possible, ask individuals how they prefer to be described and honor their choices.
- **Use People First Language as Default:** In formal writing and professional settings, default to people first language unless otherwise directed.
- **Stay Informed:** Language evolves, and staying updated on best practices and community preferences is essential.
- **Be Consistent but Flexible:** Consistency in respectful language fosters inclusion, but flexibility acknowledges diversity within groups.

## The Role of Organizations and Media

Organizations play a critical role in standardizing language use that is respectful and inclusive. Many institutions have style guides that incorporate people first language principles to guide employees, educators, and communicators.

Media outlets, with their broad influence, have a responsibility to model respectful language. The choice of words in news stories, documentaries, and social media posts can shape public perception and social norms. People first language focuses on peoples by consistently reinforcing the value of every individual beyond labels or diagnoses.

## The Future of People First Language

As society continues to prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion, the role of language remains central. People first language, while not a perfect or universally accepted solution, represents a meaningful step toward more humane and respectful communication.



Technological advancements in natural language processing and AI offer new opportunities to promote people first language in automated systems, improving how information about individuals is conveyed and ensuring dignity is maintained in digital communication.

Moreover, ongoing dialogue between advocates, individuals with lived experience, and professionals will likely shape the evolution of language in ways that respect both individuality and community identity.

People first language focuses on peoples not just as a linguistic preference but as a reflection of a broader societal commitment to respect and inclusion. Understanding its applications, benefits, and challenges enables more thoughtful communication that honors the complexity of human identity.

## **People First Language Focuses On Peoples**

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### **people first language focuses on peoples: Teaching and Learning in Art Education**

Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt, 2019-10-08 In this student-centered book, Debrah C. Sickler-Voigt provides proven tips and innovative methods for teaching, managing, and assessing all aspects of art instruction and student learning in today's diversified educational settings, from pre-K through high school. Up-to-date with the current National Visual Arts Standards, this text offers best practices in art education, and explains current theories and assessment models for art instruction. Using examples of students' visually stunning artworks to illustrate what children can achieve through quality art instruction and practical lesson planning, Teaching and Learning in Art Education explores essential and emerging topics such as: managing the classroom in art education; artistic development from early childhood through adolescence; catering towards learners with a diversity of abilities; integrating technology into the art field; and understanding drawing, painting, paper arts, sculpture, and textiles in context. Alongside a companion website offering Microsoft PowerPoint presentations, assessments, and tutorials to provide ready-to-use-resources for professors and students, this engaging text will assist teachers in challenging and inspiring students to think creatively, problem-solve, and develop relevant skills as lifelong learners in the art education sector.

### **people first language focuses on peoples: The Economics of the Multilingual Workplace**

François Grin, Claudio Sfreddo, François Vaillancourt, 2011-01-25 This book proposes a path-breaking study of the economics of multilingualism at work, proposing a systematic approach to the identification and measurement of the ways in which language skills and economic performance are related. Using the instruments of economic investigation, but also explicitly relating the analysis to the approaches to multilingualism at work developed in the language sciences, this interdisciplinary book proposes a systematic, step-by-step exploration of the issue. Starting from a general identification of the linkages between multilingualism and processes of value creation, it reviews the contributions of linguistics and economics before developing a new economic model of production in which language is taken into account. Testing of the model using data from two countries provides quantitative estimations of the influence of multilingualism on economic processes, showing that foreign language skills can make a considerable contribution to a country's GDP. These findings have significant implications for language policy and suggest strategies helping

language planners to harness market forces for increased effectiveness. A technical appendix shows how the novel technical and statistical procedures developed in this study can be generalized, and applied wherever researchers or decision makers need to identify and measure the value of multilingualism.

**people first language focuses on peoples: Language in Focus** Kasia Papaja, Katarzyna Papaja, 2016-12-14 Applied Linguistics is a field of academic enquiry that deals with the theoretical and empirical investigation of real issues which focus on language. These issues include aspects of linguistics, first or second language acquisition, literacy, language disorders, foreign language learning and teaching, bilingual education, linguistic discrimination, and language policy, among others. New approaches, new theoretical concepts and new methods are a prerequisite for dealing with particular educational issues, and, as such, this book focuses on the challenges and opportunities that emerge from this. It brings together selected presentations given at the LIF2014 conference, which took place in Antalya, Turkey. The main focus of this event was to reflect the internationality of the English language by drawing academicians, researchers, teachers and educational authorities from all over the world and providing them with the opportunity to exchange an interdisciplinary dialogue on the theoretical as well as purely practical implications of Applied Linguistics and ELT.

**people first language focuses on peoples: California PSSC Exam Study Guide** Claude Russell Sweeney, Master the California PSSC Exam with the Only Complete Study Guide Available! Preparing for your California Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification? This comprehensive exam prep guide is specifically designed for the 120-question PSSC test administered through Pearson VUE. Complete Exam Coverage: 500+ practice questions with detailed answer explanations All 17 core competencies required by CalMHSA California-specific Medi-Cal regulations and requirements Recovery principles and wellness planning strategies Ethics, boundaries, and professional standards Crisis management and safety planning techniques Cultural competence and advocacy skills Documentation and administrative responsibilities Four Full-Length Practice Tests: Practice Test 1: Foundational Concepts (120 questions) Practice Test 2: Applied Scenarios (120 questions) Practice Test 3: Full Exam Simulation (120 questions) Practice Test 4: Focus Area Review (120 questions) Proven Study Methods: Test-taking strategies for the 2.5-hour computer-based exam Memory aids and study techniques for adult learners Quick reference guides and summary cards Performance analysis tools to identify weak areas Time management tips for exam day success Essential Resources Included: WRAP wellness planning templates Safety planning forms and checklists Recovery-oriented documentation examples California county-specific program information Continuing education requirements and resources Perfect for: Aspiring peer support specialists in California Mental health workers seeking PSSC certification Individuals in recovery pursuing professional credentials Current peer specialists preparing for exam retakes Training programs needing comprehensive study materials Join thousands of certified peer specialists making a difference in California's behavioral health system. This study guide provides the knowledge and confidence needed to pass your PSSC exam on the first attempt. Transform your lived experience into professional expertise. Start your certification journey today!

**people first language focuses on peoples: Recognising Human Rights in Different Cultural Contexts** Emily Julia Kakoullis, Kelley Johnson, 2020-06-26 This book explores the journey of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) as it is interpreted and translated from International Human Rights Law into domestic law and policy in different cultural contexts. Beginning with reflections on 'culture', 'disability' and 'human rights' from different disciplinary perspectives, the work is then organised as 'snapshots' of the journey of the CRPD from the international level to the domestic; the process of ratification, the process of implementation, and then the process of monitoring the CRPD's implementation in States Parties cultural contexts. Leading global contributors provide cutting-edge accounts of the interactions between the CRPD and diverse cultures, revealing variations in the way that the concept of 'culture' is defined. This collection will appeal to academics and students in Law and Socio-Legal Studies, Disability Studies,

Policy Studies and Social Work, Sociology, Anthropology; and those training to be service providers with persons with disabilities.

**people first language focuses on peoples: Relapse Prevention and Recovery Promotion in Behavioral Health Services ,**

**people first language focuses on peoples:** *The Neuroscience of Everyday Life* Winnie Dunn, Timothy J. Wolf, Lorie Gage Richards, Dawn M. Nilsen, 2025-01-22 By weaving vignettes and case studies throughout, this fascinating and original textbook provides an accessible primer not only on the key principles of neuroscience but, crucially, how they may manifest in the everyday lives of people with neurological conditions. Each chapter begins with the story of a person or family, including a description of what they want to do in their everyday life, before presenting the neuroscientific principles that underlie this person's situation. Rather than a technical book about neuroanatomy, physiology, or pathology, the spotlight is on understanding the way that neurological differences impact a person's life. Through focusing on a particular condition, each chapter highlights a different aspect of the nervous system, and what happens when things change. A wide range of topics are covered, from conditions such as Parkinson's, dementia, MS, and autism, to conditions resulting from traumatic events such as spinal cord injuries, stroke, and chronic pain. The goal of the book is to trace a thread from neuroscience to how the nervous system affects active participation in daily activities. This approach gives students and professionals a thorough and informed grounding to support problem-solving in practice, improving evidence-based assessment, interventions, and outcomes. Following current evidence-based teaching practices, this text emphasizes engaged teaching/learning methods throughout each chapter to encourage students' own active discovery. This ground-breaking text will be essential reading for any health science students as well as professionals in practice.

**people first language focuses on peoples:** *The Oxford Handbook of Indigenous Sociology* Maggie Walter, Tahu Kukutai, Angela Gonzales, Robert Henry, 2023 *The Oxford Handbook of Indigenous Sociology* challenges the traditional way that Indigenous Peoples and Societies are understood within the discipline. It does so by bringing together 40 leading and emerging Indigenous scholars from across the CANZUS Countries to provide, for the first time, an authoritative, state of the art survey of Indigenous sociological thinking. These authors demonstrate that the Indigenous sociological voice is a new sociological paradigm and demonstrates a distinctively Indigenous methodological approach.

**people first language focuses on peoples:** *The SAGE Deaf Studies Encyclopedia* Genie Gertz, Patrick Boudreault, 2016-01-05 The time has come for a new in-depth encyclopedic collection of articles defining the current state of Deaf Studies at an international level and using the critical and intersectional lens encompassing the field. The emergence of Deaf Studies programs at colleges and universities and the broadened knowledge of social sciences (including but not limited to Deaf History, Deaf Culture, Signed Languages, Deaf Bilingual Education, Deaf Art, and more) have served to expand the activities of research, teaching, analysis, and curriculum development. The field has experienced a major shift due to increasing awareness of Deaf Studies research since the mid-1960s. The field has been further influenced by the Deaf community's movement, resistance, activism and politics worldwide, as well as the impact of technological advances, such as in communications, with cell phones, computers, and other devices. A major goal of this new encyclopedia is to shift focus away from the "Medical/Pathological Model" that would view Deaf individuals as needing to be "fixed" in order to correct hearing and speaking deficiencies for the sole purpose of assimilating into mainstream society. By contrast, *The Deaf Studies Encyclopedia* seeks to carve out a new and critical perspective on Deaf Studies with the focus that the Deaf are not a people with a disability to be treated and "cured" medically, but rather, are members of a distinct cultural group with a distinct and vibrant community and way of being.

**people first language focuses on peoples:** *Cognitive Psychology* Michael W. Eysenck, Mark T. Keane, 2020-03-09 The fully updated eighth edition of *Cognitive Psychology: A Student's Handbook* provides comprehensive yet accessible coverage of all the key areas in the field ranging

from visual perception and attention through to memory and language. Each chapter is complete with key definitions, practical real-life applications, chapter summaries and suggested further reading to help students develop an understanding of this fascinating but complex field. The new edition includes: an increased emphasis on neuroscience updated references to reflect the latest research applied 'in the real world' case studies and examples. Widely regarded as the leading undergraduate textbook in the field of cognitive psychology, this new edition comes complete with an enhanced accompanying companion website. The website includes a suite of learning resources including simulation experiments, multiple-choice questions, and access to Primal Pictures' interactive 3D atlas of the brain. The companion website can be accessed at: [www.routledge.com/cw/eysenck](http://www.routledge.com/cw/eysenck).

**people first language focuses on peoples: Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination** Mary E. Kite, Bernard E. Whitley, Jr., 2016-06-10 *Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination* provides a comprehensive and compelling overview of what psychological theory and research have to say about the nature, causes, and reduction of prejudice and discrimination. It balances a detailed discussion of theories and selected research with applied examples that ensure the material is relevant to students. Newly revised and updated, this edition addresses several interlocking themes, such as research methods, the development of prejudice in children, the relationship between prejudice and discrimination, and discrimination in the workplace, which are developed in greater detail than in other textbooks. The first theme introduced is the nature of prejudice and discrimination, which is followed by a discussion of research methods. Next comes the psychological underpinnings of prejudice: the nature of stereotypes, the conditions under which stereotypes influence responses to other people, contemporary theories of prejudice, and how values and belief systems are related to prejudice. Explored next are the development of prejudice in children and the social context of prejudice. The theme of discrimination is developed via discussions of the nature of discrimination, the experience of discrimination, and specific forms of discrimination, including gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and appearance. The concluding theme is the reduction of prejudice. An ideal core text for junior and senior college students who have had a course in introductory psychology, it is written in a style that is accessible to students in other fields including education, social work, business, communication studies, ethnic studies, and other disciplines. In addition to courses on prejudice and discrimination, this book is also adapted for courses that cover topics in racism and diversity. For instructor resources, consult the companion website (<http://www.routledge.com/cw/Kite>), which includes an Instructor Manual that contains activities and tools to help with teaching a prejudice and discrimination course; PowerPoint slides for every chapter; and a Test Bank with exam questions for every chapter for a total of over 1,700 questions.

**people first language focuses on peoples: The People's Faith** Nicholas E. Denysenko, 2018-10-19 Works of liturgical theology tend to be produced by experts who draw from the sources and explain the meaning of the liturgy to the lay people. When such explanations are firmly grounded in the sources, the academy accepts and celebrates them as genuine works of liturgical theology. Liturgical theology requires an examination from a different perspective: the lay people's. How do the lay people explain their understanding of the liturgy in their own words? Drawing from the results of parish focus groups and a clergy survey, *The People's Faith* presents the liturgical theology of the lay people in the Orthodox Churches of America. *The People's Faith* presents original findings on how ordinary laity experience the Divine Liturgy, Holy Communion, Lent and Easter, liturgical change, and gender roles in the Liturgy. The author brings the laity's views into dialog with the prevailing liturgical theology in the Orthodox Church and identifies several topics worthy of theological reflection. The people's veneration for tradition tops a list of liturgical issues worthy of further research, including ecumenical aspects of the Eucharist, the relationship between liturgy and theological anthropology, and a desire to receive divine compassion during ritual celebration.

**people first language focuses on peoples: African Disability Rights Yearbook Volume 7** 2019 , 2019-01-01 *African Disability Rights Yearbook Volume 7* 2019 2019 ISSN: 2311-8970 Pages: 279 Print version: Available Electronic version: Free PDF available About the publication *The African*

Disability Rights Yearbook aims to advance disability scholarship. Coming in the wake of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, it is the first peer-reviewed journal to focus exclusively on disability as human rights on the African continent. It provides an annual forum for scholarly analysis on issues pertaining to the human rights of persons with disabilities. It is also a source for country-based reports as well as commentaries on recent developments in the field of disability rights in the African region.

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**BOOK REVIEW**

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**people first language focuses on peoples: Language Policy in the People's Republic of China**

Minglang Zhou, Hongkai Sun, 2006-04-11

Language matters in China. It is about power, identity, opportunities, and, above all, passion and nationalism. During the past five decades China's language engineering projects transformed its linguistic landscape, affecting over one billion people's lives, including both the majority and minority populations. The Han majority have been juggling between their home vernaculars and the official speech, Putonghua - a speech of no native speakers - and reading their way through a labyrinth of the traditional, simplified, and Pinyin (Roman) scripts. Moreover, the various minority groups have been struggling between their native languages and Chinese, maintaining the former for their heritages and identities and learning the latter for quality education and socioeconomic advancement. The contributors of this volume provide the first comprehensive scrutiny of this sweeping linguistic revolution from three unique perspectives. First, outside scholars critically question the parities between constitutional rights and actual practices and between policies and outcomes. Second, inside policy practitioners review their own project involvements and inside politics, pondering over missteps, undergoing soul-searching, and theorizing their personal experiences. Third, scholars of minority origin give inside views of policy implementations and challenges in their home communities. The volume sheds light on the complexity of language policy making and implementing as well as on the politics and ideology of language in contemporary China.

**people first language focuses on peoples: Lifespan Human Function and Occupation**

Anne F. Cronin, 2024-08-05

Lifespan Human Function and Occupation provides allied health students with a thorough and nuanced understanding of human development through a unique multi-dimensional framework, including biological, psychological, and sociological perspectives, which can then be translated into best-practice in their professional careers. The book is divided into three complementary sections. Section 1 provides a thorough overview to the key concepts within occupational science, before introducing the life course perspective, detailing individual developmental theories in context with social and environmental determinants of health, as well as presenting Bronfenbrenner's bioecological theory to illustrate the overarching role of culture in the development process. The following section explores nine distinct life stages, from prenatal and

infancy to parenthood and fragile adulthood, with each chapter providing a thorough profile informed by the theoretical building blocks of Section 1. There is discussion of key issues such as substance abuse, job insecurity, working life conditions, early childhood development, structural racism, and impacts of COVID-19. The final section of the book, meanwhile, explores developmental differences and unpredictable, non-normative influences, such as trauma and developmental disability. This section includes a chapter focused on disability advocacy, as well as a chapter on neurodevelopmental disabilities. With each chapter featuring a range of pedagogical features, including learning objectives, case examples, and review questions, this comprehensive textbook will be essential reading for students across occupational therapy, physical therapy, athletic training, and other healthcare and rehabilitation disciplines, as well as those studying public health.

**people first language focuses on peoples: *A People's History of American Higher Education*** Philo A. Hutcheson, 2019-06-19 This pathbreaking textbook addresses key issues which have often been condemned to exceptions and footnotes—if not ignored completely—in historical considerations of U.S. higher education; particularly race, ethnicity, gender, and class. Organized thematically, this book builds from the ground up, shedding light on the full, diverse range of institutions—including small liberal arts schools, junior and community colleges, black and white women's colleges, black colleges, and state colleges—that have been instrumental in creating the higher education system we know today. *A People's History of American Higher Education* surveys the varied characteristics of the diverse populations constituting or striving for the middle class through educational attainment, providing a narrative that unites often divergent historical fields. The author engages readers in a powerful, revised understanding of what institutions and participants beyond the oft-cited elite groups have done for American higher education. *A People's History of American Higher Education* focuses on those participants who may not have been members of elite groups, yet who helped push elite institutions and the country as a whole. Hutcheson introduces readers to both social and intellectual history, providing invaluable perspectives and methodologies for graduate students and faculty members alike. This essential history of American higher education brings a fresh perspective to the field, challenging the accepted ways of thinking historically about colleges and universities.

**people first language focuses on peoples: *The Inclusive Management Strategy*** Camelia M. Fawzy, Brenda Shore, 2019-04-30 Camelia Fawzy and Brenda Shore offer draw upon more than 40 years of research and practical business experience to support leaders and managers' efforts in transforming organizations and providing inclusive work opportunities for people with disabilities.

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