Categories of Description	Child's response - example
1 - No expressed meaning and / or purpose of numeral.	Extract related to car number plate Interviewer: OK, so why are those numbers on the car? Child: 'cause it's lovely to do drawing on cars.
2 - Description of actions associated with the context and object, rather than number-focused meaning of numeral	Extract related to size label on t-shirt showing '6 years' Interviewer: Why is that there, do you think on the T shirt, that 6? Child: Because you have to wear it.
3 - Meaning and / or purpose of numeral misaligned with object and context.	Extract related to poster showing date: 20 May Interviewer: And that one [pointing to the 20]? Child: Uh, it's 20. There might be 20 things in it or if it's a book or something, there's 20 pages.
4 - Meaning and / or purpose of numeral linked to the object but misaligned with context.	Extract related to £1 sticker on bag of sweets Interviewer: Why is that number on the candy, do you think? Child: Because there's a lot.
5 - Recognition that the numeral has a meaning and / or purpose, but the specific communicative message of the numeral not expressed.	Extract related to bus number Interviewer: So, why is that 6 there on the bus? Child: Because that's the number of it.
6 - Meaning and / or purpose not fully expressed but recognition of a specific communicative message in line with culturally shared rules.	Extract related to size label on t-shirt showing "size 9" Interviewer: Why is that number there on your T shirt? Child: So you can see if it's big, or small or medium.
7a - Fully expressed meaning and / or purpose implicitly drawn from symbol (e.g., £) accompanying numeral.	Extract related to £1 sticker on bag of sweets Interviewer: What does that number 1 mean on that bag? Child: Because there's nothing else, it might be one pound.
7b - Fully expressed meaning and / or purpose of numeral in line with culturally shared rules.	Extract related to number on LEGO box Interviewer: So, what does that mean, that there? Child: There's 25 pieces?
8 - Fully expressed meaning and / or purpose of numeral, in line with culturally shared rules, with examples provided.	Extract related to numerals on alarm clock Child: There's numbers round it, because the hands can get to them to tell you what time it isfor instance, if the hand is at 12 o'clock, it's 12. o'clock, lunch time.