

**19.** The method of claim **16**, wherein generating a list of candidate words is based at least in part on one or more words previously typed by the user.

**20.** The method of claim **16**, wherein the dictionary comprises a list of words and associated usage frequency rankings.

**21.** The method of claim **20**, wherein the associated usage frequency rankings are tailored to the user based on previous input from the user.

**22.** A computer program product for use in conjunction with a portable communications device, the computer program product comprising a computer readable storage medium and a computer program mechanism embedded therein, the computer program mechanism comprising:

instructions for receiving a sequence of individual touch points input by a user that form a user-input directed graph;

instructions for comparing the user-input directed graph to respective directed graphs for words in a dictionary;

instructions for generating a list of candidate words based at least in part on the comparing step; and

instructions for presenting at least some of the candidate words to the user.

**23.** A portable communications device, comprising:

a display;

a keyboard;

one or more processors;

memory; and

a program, wherein the program is stored in the memory and configured to be executed by the one or more processors, the program including:

instructions for receiving a sequence of individual touch points input by a user that form a user-input directed graph;

instructions for comparing the user-input directed graph to respective directed graphs for words in a dictionary;

instructions for generating a list of candidate words based at least in part on the comparing step; and

instructions for presenting at least some of the candidate words to the user.

**24.** A portable communications device, comprising:

means for receiving a sequence of individual touch points input by a user that form a user-input directed graph;

means for comparing the user-input directed graph to respective directed graphs for words in a dictionary;

means for generating a list of candidate words based at least in part on the comparing step; and

means for presenting at least some of the candidate words to the user.

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