

[0040] If the user action is performance of a second gesture on the current character string in the second area (306—Perform gesture on the current character string . . .), the current character string is maintained in the first area (310). In some embodiments, a whitespace is appended to the end of the current character string in the first area. In some embodiments, the second gesture includes one or more taps on the current character string in the second area.

[0041] In some embodiments, the device displays a plurality of suggested replacements in the word selection area. In these embodiments, the user may select the desired replacement by performing a gesture on the desired replacement. However, if the user activates a key associated with the delimiter, a replacement is selected from amongst the plurality in accordance with one or more default rules. For example, a default rule may be that the highest ranked suggested replacement is selected.

[0042] In some embodiments, if the current character string in the first area was replaced with the suggested replacement, the user may review the current character string that was replaced. The user may perform a third gesture on the suggested replacement in the first area. After the third gesture is performed, the (original) current character string is displayed in the first area for a predetermined amount of time. In some embodiments, the third gesture includes one or more taps on the suggested replacement in the first area. Further details regarding reviewing the replaced current character string is described below in relation to FIGS. 5A-5B.

[0043] Attention is now directed to FIGS. 4A-4I, which illustrate a user interface for providing word recommendations in accordance with some embodiments. In a portable electronic device 200, text 218 entered by the user via a keyboard 210 or other input may be displayed in a first area, e.g. display tray 214. A cursor or insertion marker 220 may be displayed in the display tray 214 to indicate the insertion position of the next entered character.

[0044] The text 218 may include one or more strings separated by one or more delimiters, such as spaces and punctuation. The end-most string in the text 218 may be highlighted as the current character string 222 (FIG. 4B). The current character string 222 may be a complete or incomplete word. The device 200 may display one or more suggested replacements 224 (for example, “car” in FIG. 4D; “car,” “cat,” “cabinet,” and “candle” in FIG. 4F) in a second area, e.g. word selection area 216. A duplicate 226 of the current character string 222 may also be displayed in the word selection area 216. In some embodiments, the suggested replacement(s) and the current character string duplicate 226 are displayed on opposite sides of the word selection area 216. For example, the suggested replacement(s) may be displayed in the left side of the word selection area 216 and the current character string duplicate 226 may be displayed in the right side of the word selection area 216.

[0045] The user may perform a gesture (such as a tap on the touch screen) on either the duplicate 226 of the current character string 222 or the suggested replacement 224. If the user taps on the duplicate 226 of the current character string 222 in the word selection area 216 with a finger 212, as indicated by the finger contact area 228 in FIG. 4B, the current character string 222 is left as is in the display tray 214. If the user taps on the suggested replacement 224 in the word selection area 216 with a finger 212, as indicated by the finger contact area

228 in FIG. 4D, the current character string 222 is replaced in the display tray 214 by the suggested replacement 224 (FIG. 4E).

[0046] As an example, the current character string 222 “cae” is highlighted, as shown in FIG. 4B. If the user taps the duplicate 226 of the current character string 222 in the word selection area 216, the current character string “cae” is completed and becomes part of the text 218 for which the device 200 is not providing suggested replacements, as shown in FIG. 4C. In some embodiments, a space is added to the end of the completed current character string, as shown in FIG. 4C. In some embodiments, the completed current character string (“cae” in FIG. 4C) is added to the dictionary 136. If the user taps instead the suggested replacement 224 “car” in the word selection area 216 (FIG. 4D), the current character string “cae” is replaced in the display tray 214 with the suggested replacement “car,” as shown in FIG. 4E. In some embodiments, a space is added to the end of the replaced current character string in the display tray 214, as shown in FIG. 4E.

[0047] Returning to FIG. 4D, if the user hits (as indicated by the finger contact area 228 on the space bar 227) a key on the keyboard 210 that is associated with a delimiter, such as a space bar 227, the current character string 222 in the display tray 214 is replaced by the suggested replacement 224, and the delimiter associated with the key that was hit by the user is appended to the end of the suggested replacement in the display tray 214.

[0048] In some embodiments, the device 200 may display a plurality of suggested replacements 224 for a current character sequence 222 in the word selection area 216, as shown in FIG. 4F. A user may perform a gesture (e.g., a tap) on one of the plurality of suggested replacements to select that suggested replacement. The current character sequence 222 is replaced with the selected suggested replacement. As an example, in FIG. 4F, suggested replacements for the current character string “cae” include “car,” “cat,” “cabinet,” and “candle.” If the user taps on the suggested replacement “cabinet,” as indicated by the contact area 228 in the word selection area 216, the current character string “cae” is replaced in the display tray 214 with the selected replacement “cabinet,” as shown in FIG. 4G. If the user hits a key on the keyboard 210 that is associated with a delimiter, the current character string 222 in the display tray 214 may be replaced by the suggested replacement 224 in the word selection area 216 that is highest ranked (e.g., “car” in FIG. 4F). In some embodiments, the suggested replacements 224 are displayed in ranking order (ascending or descending, depending on the particular embodiment and/or user preferences) in the word selection area 216, so that the user may identify which suggested replacement is the highest ranked.

[0049] In some embodiments, if the current character string 222 is longer than a predefined length (based on the number of characters), the duplicate 226 of the current character string 222 in the word selection area 216 may show a subset of the characters in the current character string 222. For example, the duplicate 226 may show the first six characters of the current character string 222, as shown in FIG. 4H. As another example, the duplicate 226 may show the first three and the last three characters of the current character string 222.

[0050] As shown in FIG. 4I, in some embodiments, the highest ranked suggested replacement 240 is displayed within the space bar 227. If the user performs a predefined gesture on or near the touch screen display (e.g., taps or touches the space bar 227), the current character string 222 is