



Definitions of Hearing Loss

- 1.) **Deaf:** Students usually have a severe to profound hearing loss and ordinarily communicate via sign language.
- 2.) **Hard of Hearing:** Students usually have a mild to severe hearing loss but use speech as their primary mode of communication.
- 3.) **Pre-Lingual vs. Post-Lingual Deafness**
 - a) **Pre-Lingual Deafness:** Students who become deafened before acquiring verbal language:
 - English is a second language
 - May have acquired manual communication when very young
 - May not have acquired language until late in life
 - Have not heard common sounds (tone of voice, a phone ring etc).
 - b) **Post-Lingual Deafness:** Students who become deafened after acquiring language. Students usually have:
 - A better knowledge base
 - Better speech
 - Better written communication

Types of Hearing Loss

- 1.) **Conductive:** occurs when a barrier to sound is present in the outer or middle ear. This type of hearing loss is often treatable medically
- 2.) **Sensorineural:** some sounds may be heard while others are not; usually there is no medical treatment for this type of hearing loss.
- 3.) **Central:** damage to the brain precludes processing of auditory stimuli
- 4.) **Tinnitus:** is a ringing or buzzing in the ear that interferes with hearing and is a symptom of other disorders (e.g., cardiovascular, thyroid, head injury). Tobacco, caffeine and salt can also contribute to tinnitus.



Causes of Hearing Loss

1.) Conductive

Wax	Perforation
Fluid	Tumours
Fractures	

2.) Sensor **neural**

Heredity	Perforations/fractures
Congenital	Noise
Birth trauma	Circulation problems
Disease	Aging
Drugs	Unknown

Syndromes/Diseases with Associated Hearing Loss

Cerebral Palsy	Down's Syndrome
Measles, Mumps, or Meningitis	Usher's Syndrome
Cleft Palate	Muscular Dystrophy
Treachery Collins Syndrome	Congenital Rubella
Crouzon's Syndrome	Turner's Syndrome