

LANGUAGE

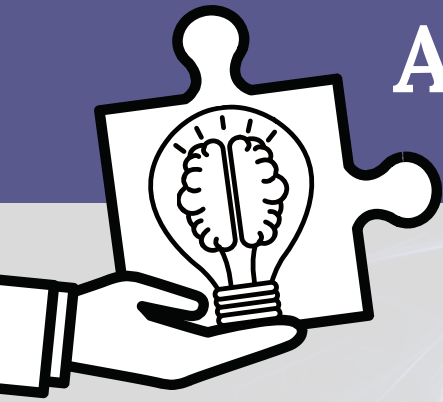


Language problems can exist in receptive skills (ability to understand what is said or written) as well as in expressive skills (ability to express an idea.)

LOOK FOR:

- Failing to complete written/verbal tasks
- Trouble participating in conversation or reluctance to speak (*especially in group settings*)
- May appear easily frustrated, inattentive, or vague
- Difficulty recalling words when speaking or writing
- Difficulty following directions or recalling what was said (*requesting repetition of information.*)
- Slowed/delayed speech or hyperverbal (*speaking rapidly, non-stop talking*)





ACCOMMODATIONS FOR PROFESSIONALS

- Encourage verbal summary or paraphrase important information back to you
- Suggest recording key points on paper or by voice recording
- Give directions, or ask questions slowly, repeat if necessary, and allow additional time for response
- Add as much visual content as possible to communicate. (e.g., instead of giving a hand-out with large blocks of text, use pictures, graphs or maps to convey as much of the relevant information as possible)
- Abstract concepts and sarcasm can be difficult to understand, so aim to be concrete. For example, try to stay away from figurative speech (e.g., “music to my ears”)
- With seemingly negative social behavior (e.g., inappropriate tone of voice, lack of eye contact, standing too close.) Be patient, point out those problems, model prosocial cues, and have the individual practice
- Provide clear expectations and concise feedback
- Using alternative formats can help individuals express their thoughts and ideas more easily (e.g., encourage use of art or music)



CITATIONS

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