

## Hearing

### Lesson focus

Terminology	Functional language
Hearing loss	Agreeing / disagreeing
	Starting a conversation / Inviting others to join in a conversation

### 1 Discussion.

a) Work in groups of three or four. What are some phrases you can use for giving your opinion, agreeing and disagreeing? Post your ideas on Google Jamboard. Use the phrases to discuss the points below.

- How can you communicate with someone who can't hear or who has difficulty hearing?
- In your opinion, what are some of the things deaf people might be tired of being asked?

b) Watch this [video](#) and write down some questions deaf people find annoying. What are some of their responses?

- Can you sign? If so, why did you learn sign language? If not, would you like to learn? Why?
- Do you think the hearing population should be taught to sign in schools? Why? Why not?

d) Reflect on the functional language you used. What phrases did you practise?

**2 Terminology & listening.**

a) Work in groups of four. Brainstorm answers to the question below and make notes in the box.

- What are some of the causes that can lead to hearing loss?

b) Watch Dr Cliff Olson give a [short presentation](#) about types of hearing loss.

- Which three categories of hearing loss does he mention?
- Which causes does he include in each category?
- Did he mention any of the causes you discussed in the previous task?

- Reflect on the terminology you have learnt from the discussion and the video; write down at least five expressions.

c) Work in pairs. First, make a list of phrases for starting a conversation and inviting your partner to share their opinion. Next, use the phrases in a discussion.

- How **would** you feel if you **were** losing your hearing?
- What signs **could** alert you to the fact that you **were** losing your hearing?
- What **would** you do to cope with your new situation?

d) Join another pair and come up with at least five signs of hearing loss. Use the phrases from the previous activity to start a conversation and to ask your partner for their opinion.

e) Quickly scan [this text](#).

- Do you have the same signs of hearing loss?
- Which new specialised expressions have you learnt from this activity? Make a list of at least five.

f) Dr Olson is an **audiologist**. What kind of doctor is he? Work in groups of three to find out and then share.

- What kind of specialists are these?
  - **ENT**

- **Otologist**

g) How do deaf people communicate? First make notes **on your own** and then compare with **two other people**.

- Read an [excerpt](#) about communication of deaf individuals and note down any expressions you find useful.

**3 Listening, reading & discussion.**

a) What kind of concepts or notions do you associate with Deaf culture? First, write down some ideas on your own; then, compare with the person sitting next to you.

b) Watch a [debate](#) where American actress Marlee Matlin, who is deaf, gives her views on cochlear implantation and the Deaf culture. Make notes and then compare with your partner.

1. What does she think needs to be done in the discussion about cochlear implantation?

2. Would she have a cochlear implant? Why? Why not?

3. Is she against cochlear implantation? What are her reasons?

4. How does she define the Deaf culture?

5. Why can't hearing people understand members of the Deaf community?

- Do you agree with Marlee's views? Why? Why not?

d) You will read a text about terms that deaf or hard of hearing people use to identify themselves and the terms that they find offensive. Work in small groups (3-4). Each of you will read a different part of the text. Share the main ideas with the others in the group. To access the text, click [here](#) or find it in the Interactive Syllabus.

- Do you agree or disagree with the text? Why? Why not?

- Did you come across any unfamiliar expressions? If so, what?

**4 Optional.** Watch a video related to hearing loss or the lives of deaf or hard of hearing people. Post the link, a summary and your thoughts to the discussion forum. Remember to respond to your colleagues' posts.

**5 Reflection.** Take a minute to think about what you've learnt this week. Write down a few points and share them with your partner.

- ✓ Skills:
- ✓ Language functions:
- ✓ Vocabulary:
- ✓ Grammar:
- ✓ Other:
- ✓ What went well?
- ✓ What needs more work?
- ✓ What was useful/useless?
- ✓ What was fun/boring?