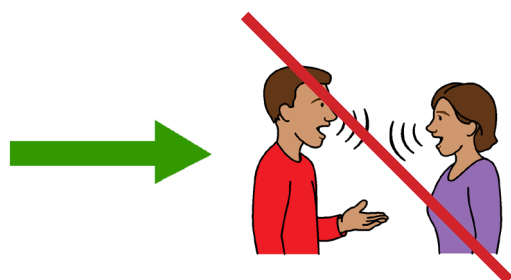
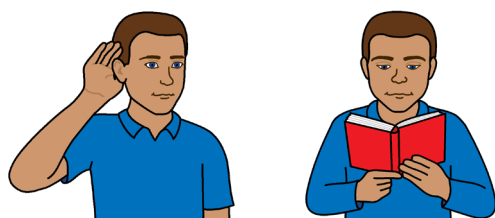


# Communication problems in Australia

Communication problems are problems with

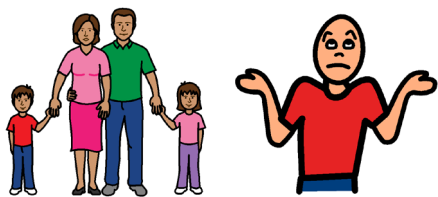
- speaking
- hearing
- listening
- understanding
- social skills
- reading
- writing
- using voice.



## What can cause communication problems?

There are lots of causes. For example,

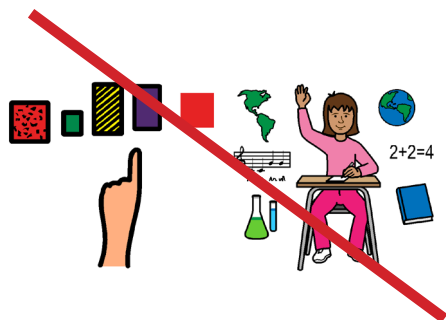
- brain disorders from birth, like autism, Down syndrome and cerebral palsy
- medical problems, like cleft palate and lumps on the vocal cords
- hearing impairment
- diseases, like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease
- brain damage from accident or illness.



Sometimes communication problems

- can be in families
- have **no** known cause.

### What might happen to people with a communication problem?

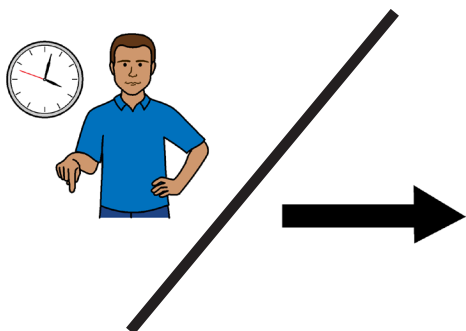


A communication problem can make it hard to

- speak up or make decisions
- learn
- find a job.

It can also be hard to

- make friends
- stay safe
- have good mental health.



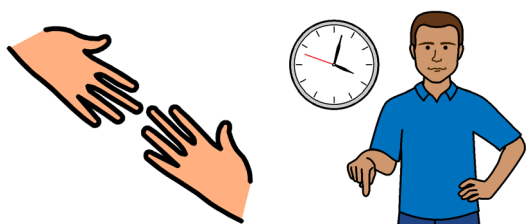
A communication impairment can be

- mild to severe
- for a short time or for life.



People with communication impairment can be

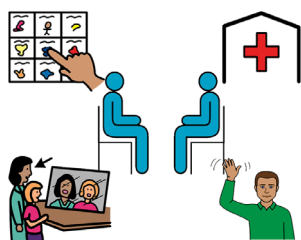
- cross
- embarrassed
- very sad.



### **When to get help?**

As soon as possible.

This can make a big difference.

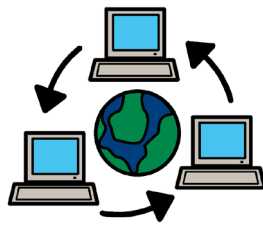


### **Where can you get help?**

Contact a speech pathologist in your local area.

Speech pathologists can

- do an assessment
- give advice
- give therapy
- find the right tools for you.



### **Find a local speech pathologist**

Speech Pathology Australia

Website [www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au)

Click on - Find a Speech Pathologist.



### **How to become a speech pathologist**

You need to do a course at University.

To find out more contact

Speech Pathology Australia

Phone 1300 368 835

Website [www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au)

Click on - information for the community.

Scope's Communication Resource Centre wrote the Easy English.  
September 2013 [www.scopevic.org.au](http://www.scopevic.org.au)

To see the original, contact Speech Pathology Australia  
[www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au](http://www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au)

Mayer-Johnson LLC says we can use the Picture Communication  
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