

# communication

## COMMUNICATION WITH APHASICS - Chapter Two Resource

Aphasia is a total or partial loss of the power to use or understand words. It is often the result of a stroke or other brain damaged.

- Get the client's attention and eliminate distractions in the immediate area.
- Be patient, communicate only one idea at a time and allow plenty of time to communicate.
- Speak slowly, using simple, concrete adult language. Use short phrases.
- Be honest with the client. If you can't understand what is being said, don't pretend you do.
- Ask the client what works best to communicate, what techniques or devices can aid communication.
- Allow the client to complete thoughts and struggle with words. Avoid being too quick to guess what the client is trying to express.
- Encourage the client to write what he/she is trying to use and readout loud.
- Using gestures and pointing may be useful.
- Use touch to aid in concentration, communication, reassurance and encouragement.