





Aphasia

Aphasia is a **communication disorder** that affects a person's ability to **communicate** and **process language**. Aphasia is caused by a **brain injury**, such as a stroke, head injury, tumour or progressive neurological disorder.

Aphasia can make it difficult for someone to:

-  Speak
-  Understand spoken language
-  Read
-  Write

Aphasia affects language, not intellect

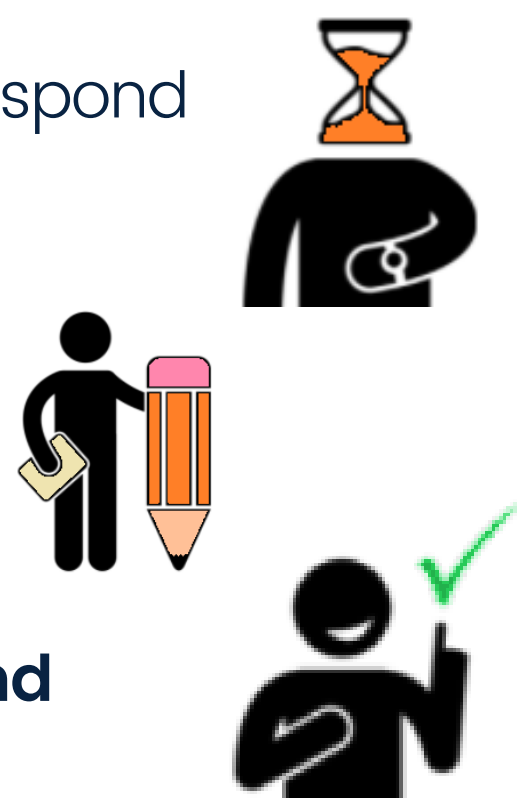
People with aphasia **know** what they **want to say**, but cannot **get the words out**.



How can I help?

The person may communicate better if you:

- Give the person **time** to respond
- Ask **yes/no** questions
- Offer pencil and paper
- **Verify** that you **understand** the message



The person may understand better if you:

- Speak **slowly** and **clearly**
- Use **short sentences**
- Do **not** shout
- **Repeat** and **rephrase** your message
- Use **writing, drawing** and meaningful **gestures**

