

CLASSROOM MODIFICATIONS TO ENHANCE LISTENING

Preferential Classroom Seating

- Seat student away from distracting noises
- Seat student near teacher's area of instruction
- Allow flexibility of seating if area of instruction changes
- Isolate student, using study carrels if available, for individual seatwork, tests, or tutoring

Peer Assistance

- Use a "buddy system" to alert the student to attend and to be sure the student has assignments and special instructions
- Use a note taker to take or copy notes

Alerting: Look and Listen

- Gain eye contact with the student before giving class instructions
- Tap the student gently on the shoulder or hand to gain attention
- Call the student by name
- Use "secret sign" to remind the student to listen

Teaching Techniques

- Speak directly and at a moderate rate
- Give clear and concise directions
- Use familiar vocabulary and less complex sentence structures when giving instructions
- Simplify information by giving it in small segments
- Rephrase or restate instructions in simple terms
- Require student to repeat instructions to ensure understanding
- Preview topic to be presented by introducing new vocabulary and outlining new subjects ahead of time
- Use visual aids such as overhead projectors, illustrations, and maps
- Use concrete, experiential lessons when possible
- Write assignments on board, as well as giving them orally
- Be sure student writes assignments in a specific place
- Allow breaks between intense periods of instruction
- Alternate difficult instruction with simpler activities to avoid fatigue
- Use a consistent routine of activities to allow student to have a smoother transition from one subject to the next

Self-Esteem

- Be positive and encouraging when working with student
- Provide praise for effort and successes
- Encourage student to pursue activities in which he or she can excel