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Writing a good speech is tough. Many get stuck not knowing how to organize their thoughts, leading to boring speeches. Our guide breaks it down step by step, so you can write speeches that really connect. Plus, we've added some topics, examples, and tips to inspire you and give you a kickstart. So, let's start with the basics! A speech is a verbal presentation given to an audience as a means to express ideas, share information, or persuade others. A speech can serve various purposes such as informing, persuading, entertaining, or inspiring the listeners. Speech writing is the process of creating a clear and organized script for a spoken presentation. This involves planning the content, choosing the right tone, and structuring the speech so the message is communicated clearly to the audience. Speech writers carefully choose words, phrases, and rhetorical devices to maximize the impact of the spoken words. They aim to engage, persuade, or inspire the listeners. Good speech writing is a skill that requires careful planning, research, and attention to detail.

Elements of Good Speech Writing Writing a great speech is all about getting a few things right. Let's break down what makes a speech really work: **Clear and to the Point:** Make sure your message is crystal clear and focused. Know what you want to say and stick to it. **Know Your Audience:** Understand who you're talking to. What do they care about? What do they already know? Customize your speech to fit their interests and level of understanding. **Start Strong:** Grab your audience's attention from the get-go. Use a catchy opening line or an interesting fact to hook them in right away. **Keep It Organized:** A good speech flows smoothly from one point to the next. Divide it into sections—beginning, middle, and end—and make sure each part connects logically to the next. **Stay on Topic:** Don't overload your speech with too much information. Stick to your main message and use examples that support it. **End Strong:** Finish your speech with a bang. Summarize your main points and leave your audience with something to think about or act on.

Practice Makes Perfect: Rehearse your speech until you're confident. Pay attention to your pace, tone, and body language to make sure you're delivering your message effectively. Now that you know what elements make a good speech, let's look into the steps to write one. **How to Write a Speech?** Writing a good speech that engages your audience requires careful planning and execution. Whether you're preparing a persuasive presentation or an informative talk, the following ten steps will guide you from the initial concept to the final delivery:

- Step 1: Define Your Purpose and Audience** Begin by identifying the main objective of your speech. Are you looking to inform, persuade, entertain, or inspire your audience? Understanding your purpose will shape the tone, content, and structure of your speech. Know your audience's demographics, interests, and expectations. Consider factors such as age, education, beliefs, and cultural background. Tailor your speech to resonate with your specific audience.
- Step 2: Choose a Topic** Select a topic that aligns with your purpose and audience's interest. Ensure your topic is not too broad or too narrow. You should be able to cover it effectively within your allotted time.
- Step 3: Research and Gather Information** Thoroughly research your chosen topic. Utilize reputable sources such as books, articles, academic journals, and trusted websites. Take detailed notes during your research to have a wealth of information and supporting evidence for your speech.
- Step 4: Create a Strong Thesis** Your thesis statement is the core message of your speech. It should be clear, concise, and specific. It encapsulates the key idea you want to convey to your audience. This statement will guide the content and structure of your speech.
- Step 5: Develop an Outline** Divide your speech into three main sections: Introduction, Body, and Conclusion. Each section serves a distinct purpose. Outline the main points you want to cover within the body of the speech. Organize them logically, and ensure each point supports your thesis.
- Step 6: Write the Introduction** Craft a compelling introduction that captures your audience's attention. Use a hook, such as a relevant quote, story, or question, to pique their interest. Provide context to help your audience understand the topic, and introduce your thesis statement to set the direction for your speech.
- Step 7: Build the Body** This section, expand on the main points outlined earlier. Each main point should be a clear and distinct idea. Support your points with evidence, examples, and data. Use transitions to guide your audience smoothly from one point to the next, creating a coherent flow.
- Step 8: Craft a Memorable Conclusion** Summarize the key points you've made in the body of your speech. Reiterate your thesis statement to reinforce your central message. End with a compelling closing statement that leaves a lasting impression on your audience. This can be a call to action, a thought-provoking statement, or a memorable quote.
- Step 9: Edit and Revise** Review your speech for clarity, grammar, and coherence. Check for any inconsistencies or unclear language and make the necessary changes.
- Step 10: Practice and Rehearse** Practice your speech multiple times to become familiar with the content and the order of your points. Work on your delivery skills, including tone, pace, and body language. Practicing in front of a mirror or recording yourself can help you identify areas for improvement.

Bonus Step: Get Feedback! If possible, conduct a practice run in front of a small audience. This can be friends, family, or classmates. Listen to their feedback and address any concerns or suggestions. Incorporating feedback can significantly enhance your speech.

Speech Writing Format: Creating an impactful speech requires following a structured speech format to ensure that your message is conveyed clearly and engages your audience. Here is a standard speech writing pattern to guide you through the process:

- 1. Introduction:** Hook: Start the speech with a compelling hook, such as a question, quote, anecdote, or startling fact, to grab the audience's attention. Provide Context: Give your audience a brief overview of the topic and its relevance.
- 2. Body:** Main Points: Divide the body of your speech into two to five main points or sections, each supporting your thesis statement. Supporting Evidence: For each main point, provide supporting evidence, data, examples, or anecdotes to make your argument compelling.
- 3. Conclusion:** Summarize Key Points: Briefly recap the main points you've covered in the body of your speech. Restate Thesis: Rewrite your thesis statement to reinforce your central message.
- Closing Statement:** End with a memorable closing statement that leaves a lasting impression, which can be a call to action, a thought-provoking idea, or a final quote.

To get started, you can check out this speech writing template: [Title of Your Speech](#)

Introduction: Attention Grabber: Start with a hook to capture the audience's attention. Introduce the Topic: Briefly introduce the topic you will be discussing. Thesis Statement: State the main idea or purpose of your speech. Body: Main Point 1: Topic Sentence Supporting Details Main Point 2: Topic Sentence Supporting Details Main Point 3: Topic Sentence Supporting Details Conclusion Summary: Summarize the key points you have made. Restate Thesis: Reinforce the main idea or purpose of your speech. Closing Statement: End with a memorable closing thought or call to action. Learn more about speech format in this insightful guide to get a better understanding!

Types Of Speech Writing There are many types of speeches, and they are combined into different categories. We will take a look at some basic types of speech writing:

- Informative Speeches:** Entertaining Speeches
- Motivational Speeches:** Special Occasion Speeches
- Now, let's explore each type in more detail:**
- Informative Speeches:** An informative speech aims to educate or provide information to the audience. These speeches typically focus on facts, data, and explanations. Examples: Informative speeches can cover a wide range of topics, such as scientific discoveries, historical events, technological advancements, or explanations of complex concepts.
- Persuasive Speeches:** A persuasive speech aims to convince or persuade the audience to adopt a particular viewpoint or take a specific action. These speeches often employ persuasive techniques and emotional appeals. Examples: Persuasive speeches can address issues like climate change, social justice, political candidates, or consumer choices, urging the audience to support a particular stance or take action.
- Entertaining Speeches:** Entertaining speeches are designed to amuse and entertain the audience. They often include humor, anecdotes, and storytelling. Examples: Stand-up comedy routines, humorous storytelling, and funny anecdotes are examples of entertaining speeches.
- Motivational Speeches:** Motivational speeches are meant to motivate and uplift the audience. They often incorporate personal stories, motivational quotes, and themes of resilience and hope. Examples: Speeches by notable figures like Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" address social change. Others like commencement speeches inspire graduates to embrace the future.
- Special Occasion Speeches:** Special occasion speeches are delivered during specific events or celebrations. These speeches can include toasts, eulogies, wedding speeches, and more. Examples: A eulogy at a funeral, a wedding toast, or a commencement address at a graduation ceremony are all examples of special occasion speeches.
- Speech Writing Topics:** The topic is the first and foremost thing that you need to write a speech. Here are some amazing speech-writing topic ideas to help you get started.
- Persuasive Speech Topics:** The impact of climate change on our future
- Social media and mental health: is it time for regulation?** The importance of vaccination in preventing disease outbreaks
- The ethics of artificial intelligence and privacy**
- The benefits of renewable energy for a sustainable future**
- Find more persuasive speech topics in our extensive list.**
- Demonstration Speech Topics:** How to create a delicious and healthy smoothie bowl
- DIY home renovation: painting techniques and tips**
- The art of crafting homemade natural soap**
- Mastering Yoga: a guided sun salutation sequence**
- Gardening for beginners: planting your first vegetable garden**
- Impromptu Speech Topics:** If I could travel anywhere in the world right now, I would go to...
- The most influential person in my life and why**
- What superpower I wish I had and how I'd use it**
- A book that changed my perspective on life**
- The best piece of advice I've ever received and how it impacted me**
- For more inspiring topics check out our impromptu speech topics blog!**
- Entertaining Speech Topics:** The art of dad jokes: Making people laugh with cheesy humor.
- Embarrassing moments at family gatherings: A humorous take**
- Hilarious autocorrect fails in text messaging**
- The funny side of pets and their quirky behaviors**
- Epic food mishaps in the kitchen: Tales of culinary disasters**
- Check out our blog for more entertaining speech topics!**
- Informative Speech Topics:** The science behind Covid-19 vaccines
- Exploring the history and impact of the internet**
- The art of sustainable gardening and urban farming**
- Understanding cryptocurrency and blockchain technology**
- The wonders of space exploration: mars missions and beyond**
- Motivational Speech Topics:** I'm proud of you my son"
- My dad will say this to me**
- Positive thinking boosts your self-confidence**
- It is perfectly fine for a boy to cry**
- Same-sex couples should be allowed to adopt a child**
- My parents proud**
- Looking for more inspirational speech topics?** Read our motivational speech topics blog to get inspired!
- Speech Writing Examples:** When it comes to learning the art of speech writing practical guidance is important. To show effective speech writing techniques and structure, here are some short speech writing examples for students. These speech writing samples will help you understand how to craft compelling speeches that resonate with your audience.
- Example #1:** Ladies and gentlemen, Today, I want to share a simple yet powerful message with you: Believe in yourself. The journey of life is filled with challenges, obstacles, and moments of doubt. But it's in those moments that your belief in yourself can make all the difference. Think about your dreams, your goals, the things that truly matter to you. They are within your reach, but only if you have the unwavering faith that you can achieve them. Remember, some of the most successful people in the world faced countless rejections and failures, but they never gave up. They believed in themselves and their abilities. Every day, when you wake up, tell yourself that you are capable, you are strong, and you are destined for greatness. Don't let fear or self-doubt hold you back. Embrace challenges as opportunities to learn and grow. In the words of Henry Ford, "Whether you think you can, or you think you can't, you're right." So, choose to believe you can, and you'll be amazed at what you can achieve. Your journey begins with self-belief, and the world is waiting to witness your greatness. Keep believing, keep pushing, and success will be yours.
- Example #2:** Ladies and gentlemen, today, I have the delightful task of sharing with you the best joke I've ever heard. Laughter is a universal language, a force that unites us all. So, without further ado, here's the joke that never fails to tickle my funny bone. Why did the scarecrow win an award? Because he was outstanding in his field! Isn't that a classic? It's simple, clean, and has that surprise factor that makes a great joke. But what makes a joke truly the best is not just the punchline but the way it brings people together in laughter. Laughter is a fantastic gift we all share. It breaks down barriers, transcends language, and for a moment, it unites us. It's an escape from the mundane, a burst of joy in our daily lives. As we navigate through life's challenges, let's remember the power of humor. Let's find joy in the simple things, share a joke, and bring a smile to someone's face. After all, as the saying goes, "A day without laughter is a day wasted." So, cherish the best jokes you've heard, and spread the gift of laughter wherever you go. Thank you, and here's to laughter and the best jokes that brighten our days!
- Example #3:** Here is another example of speech writing class 11: Good morning, respected teachers and fellow students, Today, I want to talk about something that affects us all—the importance of environmental conservation. Our planet is facing serious challenges, and it's up to us to protect it. Environmental conservation means protecting our natural resources and the environment. This includes keeping our air and water clean, safeguarding wildlife, and using resources responsibly. Why is this important? Our environment gives us everything we need to survive—clean air, water, food, and shelter. However, human activities like deforestation, pollution, and overuse of resources are damaging our planet. If we don't act now, we'll face severe consequences like climate change, loss of biodiversity, and resource depletion. One major reason to focus on conservation is to fight climate change. Burning fossil fuels releases greenhouse gasses that cause global warming, leading to extreme weather, rising sea levels, and ecosystem disruption. By conserving energy and using renewable sources, we can reduce our carbon footprint and help combat climate change. Protecting wildlife is also crucial. Many species are endangered due to habitat loss, pollution, and illegal hunting. By preserving natural habitats and enforcing protection laws, we can save these species and maintain ecosystem balance. Water conservation is vital to. Freshwater is limited, and with the growing population, the demand is increasing. Simple actions like fixing leaks, using water-efficient appliances, and being mindful of our water use can help conserve this precious resource. As students, we can contribute by reducing, reusing, and recycling materials to minimize waste. Participating in tree planting, clean-up drives, and awareness campaigns can also make a significant impact. Educating ourselves and others about environmental issues and advocating for sustainable practices can lead to positive change. In conclusion, environmental conservation is everyone's responsibility. By making small changes in our daily lives and encouraging others to do the same, we can protect our planet. Let's take action now to ensure a healthier, more sustainable world for ourselves and future generations. Thank you. For additional samples, read through our speech examples blog!
- Speech Writing Tips:** Follow these tips for writing a speech that not only informs but also inspires and persuades.
- Audience Analysis:** Before you start, conduct a thorough audience analysis. Understand their interests, knowledge, and expectations.
- Engaging Speech:** Craft an engaging speech that captures your audience's attention from the start. Use rhetorical questions or captivating anecdotes.
- Short Sentences:** Keep your sentences concise and easy to follow. Short sentences are more impactful.
- Connect with the Audience:** Make your audience feel involved. Use relatable examples and stories to establish a connection.
- Great Speech Structure:** Organize your speech with a clear structure, including an introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Rhetorical Questions:** Utilize rhetorical questions to stimulate thought and engagement.
- Memorable Sentence Structures:** Create memorable sentence structures that stick in their memory and the audience remembers the key message.
- Public Speaking:** Remember that public speaking requires practice, so rehearse your speech multiple times to boost confidence and delivery. Moving towards the end, for effective communication, speech writing is a skill that can empower you to inform, persuade, and inspire your audience. This comprehensive guide has walked you through the essential steps, outlines, and examples to help you craft a compelling and memorable speech. If you think you are good at speaking but not so good at writing and this bothers you a lot, then there is no harm in getting some help. We at MyPerfectWords.com can save you from embarrassment by helping you write an outstanding speech. With our custom essay writing help, you'll buy speech that not only communicates your message effectively but also grabs your audience's attention. So request 'just do my essay' today and get solution to all your writing worries! In speech writing starting lines play a crucial role. You can start your speech with the following: Thought provoking question: "Have you ever wondered what it takes to change the world?" A powerful quote: "As Nelson Mandela once said, 'It always seems impossible until it's done.'" A surprising fact: "Did you know that every minute, over 500 hours of video are uploaded to YouTube?" An engaging story: "Let me tell you about a young girl who defied all odds to achieve her dreams." Clarity: Make sure your message is clear and easily understandable. Purpose: Define the main objective of your speech and stick to it. Audience Awareness: Understand your audience's demographics, interests, and expectations.
- Structure:** Organize your speech into introduction, body, and conclusion.
- Content Relevance:** Choose topics and information that are relevant and meaningful to your audience.
- Impact:** Deliver a memorable message that leaves a lasting impression.
- Practice:** Rehearse your speech multiple times for smooth delivery and confidence.
- Authenticity:** Speak sincerely to establish trust and connection with your audience.
- Language:** Use simple and concise language appropriate for your audience.
- Impact:** Dr. Barbara is a highly experienced writer and author who holds a Ph.D. degree in public health from an Ivy League school. She has worked in the medical field for many years, conducting extensive research on various health topics. Her writing has been featured in several top-tier publications.
- Struggling With Your Paper?** Get a custom paper written at 50% DISCOUNT with a FREE Turnitin report, and a 100% money-back guarantee!
- Order Now at 50% OFF!**
- UNLIMITED TIME ONLY! OFFER EXPIRES SOON!**
- Order Now**
- Human vocal communication using spoken language** For the process of speaking to a group of people, see **Public speaking**. For other uses, see **Speech (disambiguation)**. Speech production is visualized by real-time MRI Part of a series on **Linguistics** **Outline** **History** **Index** **General linguistics** **Diachronic Lexicography** **Morphology** **Phonology** **Pragmatics** **Semantics** **Syntax** **Syntax-semantics interface** **Typology** **Applied linguistics** **Acquisition** **Anthropological** **Applied Mathematical** **Computational** **Conversation analysis** **Corpus linguistics** **Discourse analysis** **Determinism** **Distance Documentation** **Ethnography** **of communication** **Ethnomethodology** **Forensic History of linguistics** **Interlinguistics** **Neurolinguistics** **Philology** **Philosophy of language** **Phonetics** **Psycholinguistics** **Sociolinguistics** **Text** **Translating and interpreting** **Writing systems** **Theoretical frameworks** **Formalist** **Generative** **Glossematics** **Functional** **Cognitive** **Construction** **grammar** **Functional Discourse Grammar** **Grammaticalization** **Interactional linguistics** **Prague** **Systemic functional** **Usage-based** **Structuralism** **Topics** **Autonomy of syntax** **Compositionality** **Conservativity** **Iconicity** **Internationalism** **Internet linguistics** **LGBTQ linguistics** **Origin of language** **Orisomology** **Orthography** **Philosophy of linguistics** **Prescriptionism** **Second-language acquisition** **Theory of language** **Terminology** **Portalvate Speech** is the use of the human voice as a medium for language. Spoken language combines vowel and consonant sounds to form units of meaning like words, which belong to a language's lexicon. There are many different intentional speech acts, such as informing, declaring, asking, persuading, directing, acts may vary in various aspects like enunciation, intonation, loudness, and tempo to convey meaning. Individuals may also unintentionally communicate aspects of their social position through speech, such as sex, age, place of origin, physiological and mental condition, education, and experiences. While normally used to facilitate communication with others, people may also use speech without the intent to communicate. Speech may nevertheless express emotions or desires; people talk to themselves sometimes in acts that are a development of what some psychologists (e.g., Lev Vygotsky) have maintained is the use of silent speech in an interior monologue to vivify and organize cognition, sometimes in the momentary adoption of a dual persona as self addressing self as though addressing another person. Solo speech can be used to memorize or to test one's memorization of things, and in prayer or in meditation. Researchers study many different aspects of speech: speech production and speech perception of the sounds used in a language, speech repetition, speech errors, the ability to map heard spoken words onto the vocalizations needed to recreate them, which plays a key role in children's enlargement of their vocabulary, and what different areas of the human brain, such as Broca's area and Wernicke's area, underlie speech. Speech is the subject of study for linguistics, cognitive science, communication studies, psychology, computer science, speech pathology, and acoustics. Speech compares with written language,[1] which may differ in its vocabulary, syntax, and phonetics from the spoken language, a situation called diglossia. The evolutionary origin of speech is subject of debate and speculation. While animals also communicate using vocalizations, and trained apes such as Washoe and Kanzi can use simple sign language, no animals' vocalizations are articulated phonemically and syntactically, and do not constitute speech. Main article: **Origin of speech** Although related to the more general problem of the origin of language, the evolution of distinctively human speech capacities has become a distinct and in many ways separate area of scientific research.[2][3][4][5][6] The topic is a separate one because language is not necessarily spoken; it can equally be written or signed. Speech is in this sense optional, although it is the default modality for language. Places of articulation (passive and active): 1. Exo-labial, 2. Endo-labial, 3. Dental, 4. Alveolar, 5. Post-alveolar, 6. Pre-palatal, 7. Palatal, 8. Velar, 9. Uvular, 10. Pharyngeal, 11. Glottal, 12. Epiglottal, 13. Radical, 14. Postero-dorsal, 15. Antero-dorsal, 16. Lateral, 17. Apical, 18. Sub-apical. Monkeys, non-human apes and humans, like many other animals, have evolved specialised mechanisms for producing sound for purposes of social communication.[7] On the other hand, no monkey or ape uses its tongue for such purposes.[8][9] The human species' unprecedented use of the tongue, lips and other moveable parts seems to place speech in a quite separate category, making its evolutionary emergence an intriguing theoretical challenge in the eyes of many scholars.[10] Determining the timeline of human speech evolution is made additionally challenging by the lack of data in the fossil record. The human vocal tract does not fossilize, and indirect evidence of vocal tract changes in hominid fossils has proven inconclusive.[10] Main articles: Speech production and Linguistics Speech production is an unconscious multi-step process by which thoughts are generated into spoken utterances. Production involves the unconscious mind selecting appropriate words and the appropriate form of those words from the lexicon and morphology, and the organization of those words through the syntax. Then, the phonetic properties of the words are retrieved and the sentence is articulated through the articulations associated with those phonetic properties.[11] In linguistics, articulatory phonetics is the study of how the tongue, lips, jaw, vocal cords, and other speech organs are used to make sounds. Speech sounds are categorized by manner of articulation and place of articulation. Place of articulation refers to where in the neck or mouth the airstream is constricted. Manner of articulation refers to the manner in which the speech organs interact, such as how closely the air is restricted, what form of airstream is used (e.g. pulmonic, implosive, ejectives, and clicks), whether or not the vocal cords are vibrating, and whether the nasal cavity is opened to the airstream.[12] The concept is primarily used for the production of consonants, but can be used for vowels in qualities such as voicing and nasalization. For any place of articulation, there may be several manners of articulation, and therefore several homorganic consonants. Normal human speech is pulmonic, produced with pressure from the lungs, which creates phonation in the glottis in the larynx, which is then modified by the vocal tract and mouth into different vowels and consonants. However humans can pronounce words without the use of the lungs and glottis in alaryngeal speech, of which there are three types: esophageal speech, pharyngeal speech and buccal speech (better known as Donald Duck talk). Main article: **Speech error** Speech production is a complex activity, and as a consequence errors are common, especially in children. Speech errors come in many forms and are used to provide evidence to support hypotheses about the nature of speech.[13] As a result, speech errors are often used in the construction of models for language production and child language acquisition. For example, the fact that children often make the error of over-regularizing the -ed past tense suffix in English (e.g. saying 'sing-ed' instead of 'sang') shows that the regular forms are acquired earlier.[14][15] Speech errors associated with certain kinds of aphasia have been used to map certain components of speech onto the brain and see the relation between different aspects of production; for example, the difficulty of expressive aphasia patients in producing regular past-tense verbs, but not irregulars like 'sing-sang' has been used to demonstrate that regular inflected forms of a word are not individually stored in the lexicon, but produced from affixation to the base form.[16] Main article: **Speech perception** Speech perception refers to the processes by which humans can interpret and understand the sounds used in language. The study of speech perception is closely linked to the fields of phonetics and phonology in linguistics and cognitive psychology and perception in psychology. Research in speech perception seeks to understand how listeners recognize speech sounds and use this information to understand spoken language. Research into speech perception also has applications in building computer systems that can recognize speech, as well as improving speech recognition for hearing- and language-impaired listeners.[17] Speech perception is categorical, in that people put the sounds they hear into categories rather than perceiving them as a spectrum. People are more likely to be able to hear differences in sounds across categorical boundaries than within them. A good example of this is voice onset time (VOT), one aspect of the phonetic production of consonant sounds. For example, Hebrew speakers, who distinguish voiced /b/ from voiceless /p/, will more easily detect a change in VOT from -10 (perceived as /b/) to 0 (perceived as /p/) than a change in VOT from +10 to +20, or -10 to -20, despite this being an equally large change on the VOT spectrum.[18] Main article: **Language development** Most human children develop proto-speech babbling behaviors when they are four to six months old. Most will begin saying their first words at some point during the first year of life. Typical children progress through two or three word phrases before three years of age followed by short sentences by four years of age.[19] Main article: **Speech repetition** In speech repetition, speech being heard is quickly turned from sensory input into motor instructions needed for its immediate or delayed vocal imitation (in phonological memory). This type of mapping plays a key role in enabling children to expand their spoken vocabulary. Masur (1995) found that how often children repeat novel words versus those they already have in their lexicon is related to the size of their lexicon later on, with young children who repeat more novel words having a larger lexicon later in development. Speech repetition could help facilitate the acquisition of this larger lexicon.[20] See also: **Speech disorder** This section needs more reliable medical references for verification or relies too heavily on primary sources. Please review the contents of the section and add the appropriate references if you can. Unsourced or poorly sourced material may be challenged and removed. Find sources: "Speech" - news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR (August 2022) There are several organic and psychological factors that can affect speech. Among these are: Diseases and disorders of the lungs or the vocal cords, including paralysis, respiratory infections (bronchitis), vocal fold nodules and cancers of the lungs and throat. Diseases and disorders of the brain, including alogia, aphasias, dysarthria, dystonia and speech processing disorders, where impaired motor planning, nerve transmission, phonological processing or perception of the message (as opposed to the actual sound) leads to poor speech production. Hearing problems, such as otitis media with effusion, and listening problems, auditory processing disorders, can lead to phonological problems. In addition to dysphasia, anomia and auditory processing disorder impede the quality of auditory perception, and therefore, expression. Those who are deaf or hard of hearing may be considered to fall into this category. Articulatory problems, such as slurred speech, stuttering, lisping, cleft palate, ataxia, or nerve damage leading to problems in articulation. Tourette syndrome and tics can also affect speech. Various congenital and acquired tongue diseases can affect speech as can motor neuron disease. Psychiatric disorders have been shown to change speech acoustic features, where for instance, fundamental frequency of voice (perceived as pitch) tends to be significantly lower in major depressive disorder than in healthy controls.[21] Therefore, speech is being investigated as a potential biomarker for mental health disorders. Speech and language disorders can also result from stroke,[22] brain injury,[23] cerebral palsy,[24] or emotional issues.[25] Main article: **Speech-language pathology** Speech-related diseases, disorders, and conditions can be treated by a speech-language pathologist (SLP) or speech therapist. SLPs assess levels of speech needs, make diagnoses based on the assessments, and then treat the diagnoses or address the needs.[26] Broca's and