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Auditory Discrimination

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Synonyms

[Auditory processing](#)

Definition

Auditory discrimination is part of phonology, which is one of the five components of language. It is the ability to recognize differences in phonemes (the smallest unit of sound in a language), including the ability to identify words and sounds that are similar and those that are different. Auditory discrimination tests are performed to measure a person's phonological awareness, such as the ability to compare and contrast speech sounds, separate and blend phonemes, identify phonemes within spoken words, and combine phonemes into spoken words. Impaired auditory discrimination

should be addressed early in child development, as it is pertinent to learning. Auditory discrimination ability or phonological awareness skills are correlated with reading performance.

Cross-References

- [Auditory Processing Disorder](#)
- [Language](#)
- [Phonological Awareness](#)
- [Phonological Disorders](#)
- [Phonology](#)

References and Readings

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