

Communication method for the deafblind I

Hearing

Communication method utilizing the sense of hearing

- Voice

Vision

Communication method utilizing the visual sense

- Written letters (normal letters)
Transcript
- Short distance sign language
(Low vision sign language)

Vision/Touch

Communication method utilizing the senses of vision and touch

- Japanese character method
Finger spelling
- Roman character method
Finger spelling

Touch

Communication method utilizing the sense of touch

- Tactile sign language
- Braille transcript
- Finger Braille
- Handwriting letters

Communication method utilizing the **visual sense**

- **Written letter transcript**
 - It is a method whereby person use pen and paper to write things down while sitting next to the deafblind who are able to use visual sense.
 - The type and size of pen, letter size and letter-spacing need to be adjusted as necessary.
 - Instead of handwriting transcripts, note taking utilizing a PC is becoming popular.
- **Short distance sign language (Low vision sign language)**
 - When the individual's sight is weak, eyesight is narrow, or there is glare, read sign language by sitting a proper distance from the signer.
 - Position and direction of a light source, such as lighting or sunlight, needs to be considered depending on how it is seen each individual.

Communication method utilizing the senses of **vision and touch**

- **Japanese character finger letters**
 - There is a method whereby the deafblind read by touching the finger letters and read by keeping a certain distance.
 - Finger letters that correspond to Japanese characters move up/down/left/right, depending on the letters, and are therefore generally utilized as a supporting method to regular sign language.
- **Roman character finger letters**
 - There is a method whereby the deafblind reads by touching the finger letters and reads by keeping a certain distance.
 - There are two types of finger letters that correspond to Japanese writing systems and to the alphabet.
 - Roman character finger letters have slight movements, and have less than a half the number of letters compared to the Japanese one, therefore some Deafblind use it as a main communication method.

Communication method for the person who is deafBlind II

Communication method utilizing the **sense of hearing**

- **Voice**
 - It is a method whereby one speaks into the person's ear or to their hearing aid; this with the deafblind who are able to use the sense of hearing.
 - Volume, intonation of the voice and speed need to be adjusted as necessary depend on audibility or condition on hearing.
 - Ease of hearing tend to rely heavily on "voice quality" and "if the voice is familiar."

Communication method utilizing the **sense of touch**

- **Tactile sign language (Touch reading sign language)**
 - When the person is totally blind or has difficulty reading sign language by seeing with their eyes, this method allows for the person to read the shape and position of sign language by directly touching the hands.
 - If reading by direct touch is difficult, there is a method to shape the fingers of that deafblind to the word in the sign language in order to read sign language.
- **Braille transcript**
 - Read Braille letters that are typed onto a paper tape while it is spoken using a German-made stenograph for Braille called *Brista*.
 - If the deafBlind is not used to *Brista*, an alternative method is to utilize a Braille typewriter, such as the Perkins brailier or a Braille board.
- **Finger Braille**
 - Treat six long fingers of as six keys of the Braille typewriter. Directly touch six long fingers of the deafblind.
 - Combinations of fingers change depending on key allocations and positional relationships of typewriter (Perkins-style or Write-Brailier style)

- **Handwriting letters**

- Method to communicate by writing characters such as hiragana, katakana, and kanji on the palm of the deafblind's hand using the fingertips, etc.
- Method to take the finger of the deafblind and write on the desk or palm.
- Many deafblind individuals can communicate using handwritten letters, but there are individual differences on what letter is easy to understand and how they are to be read.

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