Communication tips
for speaking to someone with hearing loss
Even if someone’s wearing a hearing aid, ask if they need to lipread you.

Find a place to talk that has good lighting, away from noise and distractions.

Make sure the person is looking at you before you start speaking.

Turn your face towards them so they can easily see your lip movements.
Make sure what you’re saying is being understood.

Speak clearly but not too slowly. Speak normally and use facial expressions and gestures.

Get to the point and use simple language.

If the person doesn’t understand what you’ve said, try saying it in a different way.
If you’re talking to one person with hearing loss and one without, focus on both of them.

Don’t shout. It is uncomfortable for someone who uses hearing aids.

Action on Hearing Loss Information Line

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