

Considerations in Remote Learning for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Adapted from Vicki M. Anderson AuD, CCC-A, FAAA
Educational Audiology Consultant
ander214@umn.edu



New Hampshire – “All Together Now”
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<https://youtu.be/DCMLk4cES6A>

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Online Education and Website Accessibility

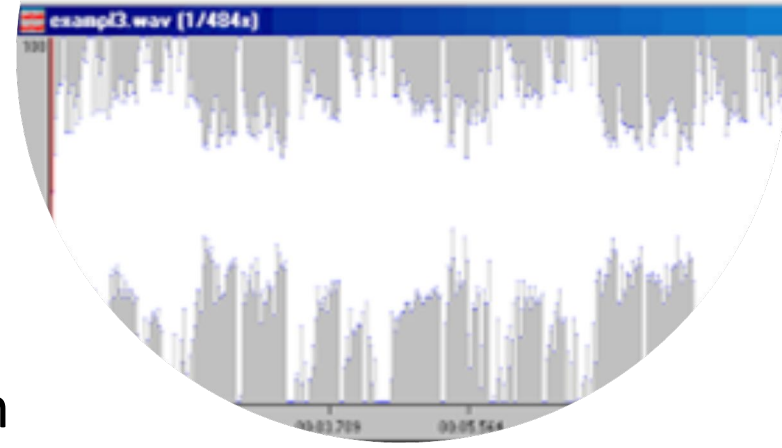
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Access Considerations in Remote Learning

- We can't guarantee the quality of the sound from student's computer/tablet
 - And we don't know if they will be sitting right next to the speaker
- We can't guarantee the quality of the video signal they are receiving
 - We can't guarantee they will be keeping eyes on the screen
 - The educational video may not show a teacher's face for speechreading cues
- We can't control the background noise level
 - Studies have shown home environments are actually very noisy
 - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5784839/>



Needs for Teacher-created or Borrowed Videos

- All AV materials must be captioned
 - This helps with students' reading skills!
- A headphone with attached microphone is recommended especially if there is background noise present
- If you are being video-recorded, try to support student's use of speechreading cues
 - Lighting from in front of you (not back-lit)
 - Keep your hands away from your mouth
 - Face the camera
- Use Clear Speech (This is good Teacher Speech)
 - Enunciate clearly, do not exaggerate
 - Speak at a slightly slower rate
 - Repeat key words or phrases





What Students & Parents Can Do to be Ready to Learn

- Student should sit directly in front of computer, with speaker volume adjusted to a comfortable level
 - The room should be as **quiet** as possible
- Student should **watch** the video, so that any speech-reading cues can be used
- Student should use the **Captioning**, as much as possible.
- Student should be wearing his/her personal hearing instruments (hearing aid(s), cochlear implants, bone anchored hearing aids) if they have them and verify that they are working
 - Personal devices: CI processor light is on, Hearing aids/Baha – turned on; check for auditory reception and comprehension
- If listed in the IEP, the student's Hearing Assistance Technologies (HAT) should be used--the remote microphone plugs into the headphone jack of the computer/tablet
 - FM/Remote Microphone System--- verify by selecting a code word and see if the student can repeat it out of auditory/visual range
 - Speaker System
- Good quality sound-isolating headphones may be used for some students

During Live Presentations-...Ensure the Student is Engaged



- Check that student is wearing his/her hearing instruments and verify that they are working
 - And if they are using their remote microphone system (FM/DM)
 - Or headphones
- Face the camera and student
- Speak at a normal-to-slightly slower rate
- Watch for student's comprehension (student's engagement, parent may help determine this for younger students)
- Check for understanding
 - Ask open-ended questions
- Repeat and/or rephrase as needed
 - If student misses a particular word due to inability to hear or discriminate certain sounds, rephrasing or expanding will help
- Provide visual supplements

