

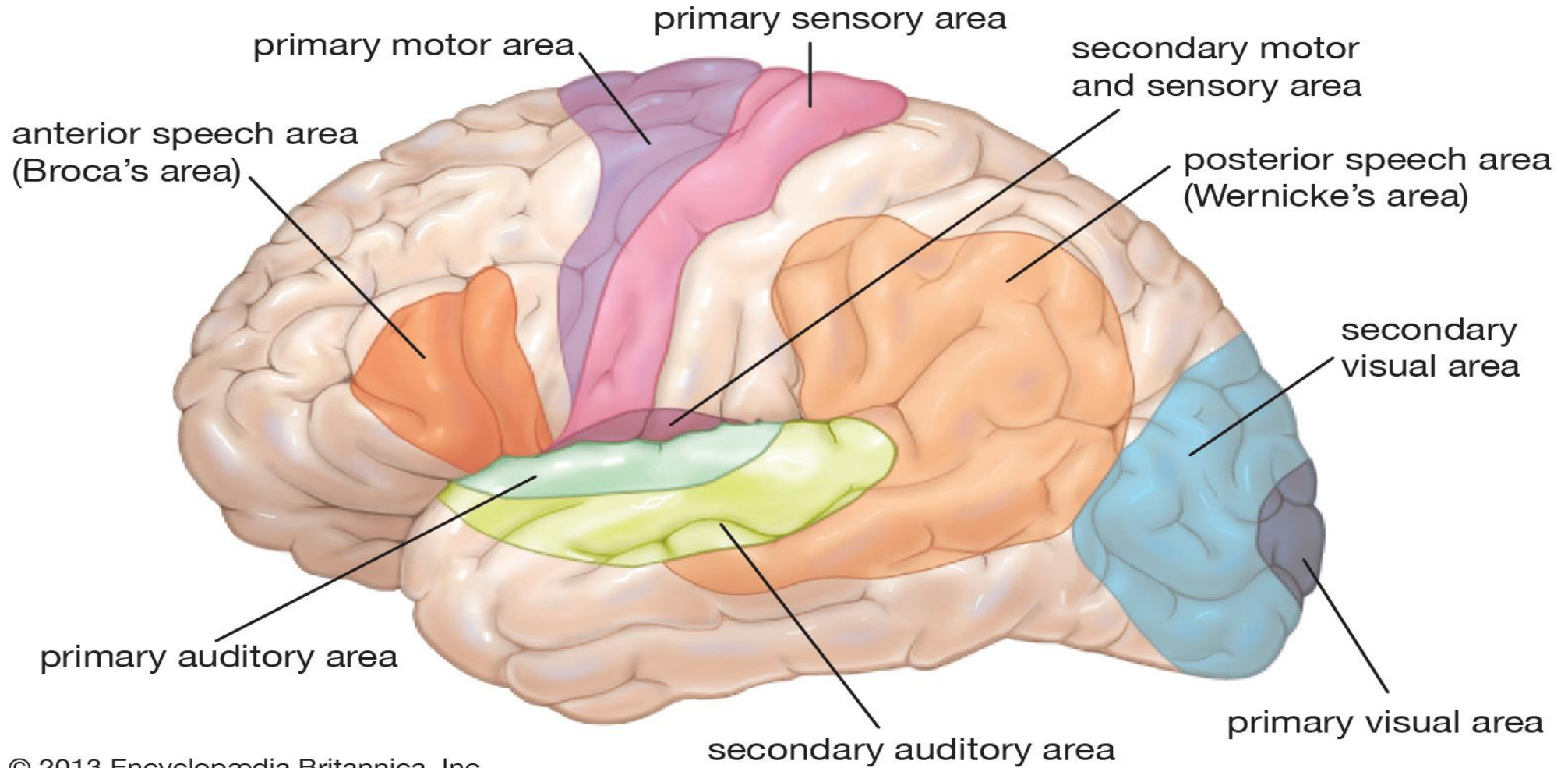


PSYCHOLINGUISTICS

LECTURE 08

APHASIAS (1)

STUDY THE IMAGE FIRST



APHASIA

- According to OXFORD ADVANCED LEARNERS' DICTIONARY "Aphasia is the loss of ability to produce or understand speech because of brain damage".
- **Whereas according to DICTIONARY OF LINGUISTICS an aphasia is:**
- "An aphasia is the loss of the ability to use and understand language, usually caused by damage to the brain. The loss may be total or partial, and may affect spoken and/or written language ability".
- The loss of ability may be caused by injury to the brain as a result of accident or a stroke which may result in a complete or partial language loss. The situation may remain longer, permanent or timely depending on the intensity and nature of damage. This loss of ability in language use is termed as aphasia.

TYPES OF APHASIA

Types of Aphasia

Fluent?

Is speech fluent?

Comprehends?

Can you comprehend of spoken messages?

Repeats?

Can the person repeat words or phrases?

No —

Yes —

Global aphasia

Mixed transcortical aphasia

Broca's aphasia

Transcortical motor aphasia

Wernicke's aphasia

Transcortical sensory aphasia

Conduction aphasia

Anomic aphasia

BROCA'S APHASIA

- Broca's aphasia occurs due to a damage to Broca's area located in the left hemisphere of the brain, named after French scientist Paul Broca. {see the image}
- Broca's aphasia is a form of aphasia in which the person knows what they want to say but is unable to produce the words or sentence. It is also known as **non-fluent aphasia** and expressive aphasia, and its severity can range from mild to severe. People with Broca's aphasia are typically aware of their communication difficulties.

CONT...

- Broca's aphasia is often described as having the words "on the tip of your tongue." It is called non-fluent aphasia because the sufferer's speech is effortful and involves starts and stops.
- Another defining feature is that if sentences are produced, they often have incorrect syntax, or word order and grammar.
- People with Broca's aphasia are often able to understand most of what is said to them, but they have trouble responding.

CONT...

- The one suffering from Broca's aphasia can also experience less obvious communication impairments. This can include yes/no confusion, or saying yes when they really mean no. Using the correct pronouns can also be difficult and the individual might use "he" to refer to a woman.
- Speech therapy can be very helpful for people with Broca's aphasia. People with Broca's aphasia can improve in their communication abilities for a long time following a stroke, especially with therapy and support.

CHARACTERISTICS OF BROCA'S APHASIA

- Speech can be very difficult and limited to a few words
- Small words like prepositions, articles and conjunctions are especially difficult and often left out
- Sentences can be disjointed and/or scrambled
- Word substitutions can occur, such as “pen” instead of “pencil,” or “week” instead of “month”
- Speech can be laborious and halting
- Writing abilities often mirror speech

WERNICKE'S APHASIA

- Wernicke aphasia is caused due to a damage to the Wernicke area of the brain. People with Wernicke's aphasia typically speak in long sentences, and speech comes easily. However, when you get closer, you will realize that the words they are saying do not make any sense – or might not even be real words.
- Wernicke's aphasia is characterized by fluent speech that does not make sense. Because of this, Wernicke's aphasia is also known as fluent aphasia and receptive aphasia. Wernicke's aphasia is sometimes referred to as “word salad” because speech tends to include random words and phrases thrown together.

CHARACTERISTICS OF WERNICKE'S APHASIA

- Speech is fluent with typical prosody and intonation
- Speech does not make sense; the words do not make a coherent thought
- Speech often includes neologisms, or invented words that have no meaning
- Impairment with repeating words/phrases
- Impairment understanding spoken language, often severe
- Writing is impaired and output resembles spoken language
- Reading comprehension is impaired
- Most people with Wernicke's aphasia are not aware of their errors

ANOMIC APHASIA

- Anomic aphasia is a mild form of aphasia in which the individual has difficulty with word-finding, or naming items.
- In anomic aphasia, speech is typically fluent and produced with seeming ease. However, the individual might have trouble retrieving specific words, especially nouns and verbs.
- People with anomic aphasia will typically speak in complete, grammatically correct sentences. However, they might use vague words like “thing” or describe an item that they cannot name.

EXAMPLE:

- For instance, someone who cannot think of the word “apple” might say, “I ate a red, round fruit for lunch.” Speech therapists can work with people with anomia on tasks to improve their naming and word-finding.

CHARACTERISTICS OF ANOMIC APHASIA

- People with anomic aphasia usually have good comprehension; they can understand spoken messages
- They usually are able to read
- They might have the same difficulty with word retrieval when writing as they do when speaking
- People with anomic aphasia are often able to successfully communicate using strategies to work around their word-finding difficulties
- People with anomic aphasia are sometimes able to produce the word when given a cue, like the first letter of the word

PRIMARY PROGRESSIVE APHASIA

- Primary progressive aphasia (PPA) is different from the other types of aphasia because it is not caused by a stroke or other brain injury. PPA results from dementia and is considered a neurodegenerative disease. This means that there is a loss of brain tissue, and symptoms get worse over time.
- Speech and language are the primary areas affected in the early stages. In later stages, other symptoms related to dementia may appear, such as memory loss.

THE THREE TYPES OF PRIMARY PROGRESSIVE APHASIA

- **Semantic:** Difficulty with naming items and comprehending the meaning of words
- **Nonfluent/agrammatic:** A reduced amount of speech output and difficulty pronouncing words. Speech becomes slower and halting, and there is impairment with sentence structure and grammar.
- **Logopenic:** impairments in word-finding. Likely to also have difficulty repeating spoken language.

GLOBAL APHASIA

- Global aphasia is the most severe form of aphasia. In global aphasia, all language modalities are affected – speaking, comprehension, reading, and writing.
- Global aphasia results from damage to multiple language centers in the brain, including Broca's area and Wernicke's area. Global aphasia is likely to occur immediately following a stroke or brain injury.
- It might be reclassified as a different type of aphasia when improvements are made.

CONT...

- Speech therapy can be helpful for people with global aphasia. A speech-language pathologist (SLP) can provide treatment techniques to work on recovery. In addition, the SLP can identify ways to improve communication right away, such as using simple pictures and drawings. Pictures and drawings are easier for a person with global aphasia to understand and identify.

CHARACTERISTICS OF GLOBAL APHASIA

- Very few or no spoken words
- If words are spoken, it is likely to be a single word and might contain errors, (word and sound substitutions)
- Difficulty repeating words
- Understanding spoken language is very difficult
- Likely unable to write
- Ability to read is typically severely impaired

CONDUCTION APHASIA

- Conduction aphasia is a type of aphasia in which the main impairment is in the inability to repeat words or phrases. Other areas of language are less impaired (or not at all). It is also known as **associative aphasia**.
- A person with conduction aphasia can usually read, write, speak, and understand spoken messages. Some people have mild impairments with spoken language, such as word-finding difficulty or paraphasias (word and sound substitutions).

CONT...

- However, a person with conduction aphasia may be unable to repeat words, phrases, or sentences. A person with mild conduction aphasia might be able to repeat words and short phrases but have difficulty with long or complex sentences.
- Someone with severe conduction aphasia might be unable to repeat short phrases or even single words. People with conduction aphasia are typically aware of their errors, but have a hard time correcting them.

CONT...

- Conduction aphasia is considered a mild form of aphasia and is relatively rare.
- People with conduction aphasia can use strategies like writing information down instead of repeating it.

CHARACTERISTICS OF CONDUCTION APHASIA

- Can usually understand spoken messages
- Are able to read, write, and speak
- Word-finding difficulty
- Use word and sound substitutions
- Unable to repeat words, phrases or sentences

TIP-OF-THE –TONGUE (TOT)

- Tip-of-the-tongue is an aphasia in which a speaker despite knowing a word for the desired situation, fails to find it.

- For example:

- I met a trouble while I was working during my,,,mmm meee,,mee

Sorry I am sorry.

OTHER MINER APHASIAS

- **Agraphia** is difficulty in writing; a medical condition in which a person loses the ability of write.
- **Alexia** the inability to recognize written words or letters usually because of a brain damage, is difficulty in reading.
- **Anomia** is difficulty in using proper nouns.
- **Agrammatism** is difficulty in using grammatical words like prepositions, articles, etc. **(some important aphasias will be discussed in next lecture)**