
Student 4 - Writing Sample 5

Deafness

Deafness is a common ear disease or injury in the world. (*not a good attention getter - it does not make sense*). I'd use: "Approximately 28 million united States residents have a hearing impairment."

Although advancement in medical has been making all the time, many people still suffer from a variety of degrees of deafness because of all kinds of reasons. Many people think that everyone with a hearing loss (*is deafness*). This is not sure. According to an article, "Deafness, most simply defined as an inability to hear." There are different (*reasons of hearing loss that cause deafness?*)

Four types of hearing loss are conductive, sensorineural, mixed, and central or nuclei hearing loss. "Conductive hearing loss is caused by disease or obstruction in the outer or middle ear and usually severe. Conductive hearing impairment can result from ____.

According to the information about the article, the most common causes of conductive hearing loss occur after birth. "A build-up of wax or presence of a foreign object can block the outer ear canal or the eardrum." Another common cause is otitis media. "In otitis media, fluid builds up in the middle ear, so that the bones and ear drum cannot function adequately. The infection behind the ear drum occurs frequently in young children who have many colds." Beside, the rare occasion is "disease or drugs taken by the mother may disrupt development of the outer or middle ear structures."

Sometimes, an accident, or burst of a very loud noise can cause the drum to break and causes a mild temporary hearing loss. Sensorineural hearing loss results from "the damage to the sensory hair cells or the nerves of inner ear and can range in severity from mild to profound deafness." For example, birth trauma, old age, disease such as measles, mumps, viruses and meningitis, affecting the ears, tumors in the inner ear, trauma such as head injuries, noise exposure, ototoxic drugs and family history of sensorineural loss." Among many above reasons, it is important to make sure children should not suffered from hereditary deafness or a defect in the genes before they are born." It a mother takes certain drugs while pregnant, or she has a severe virus of German measles (rubella) early in her pregnancy, the hearing of the unborn child can be damaged."*(required & additional reading for effective oral communication II)*.

In addition, mixed hearing loss is caused by problems in both the outer or middle ear and the inner ear. Central hearing loss is the result of damage to or impairment of the nerves or nuclei of the central nervous system. (*I will find information*). Those many causes about deafness are unavoidable. (*restate this:*) When deafness happens to people, they feel very inconvenient in their lives). Restate: Conductive loss can make people hear reduced the sound of loudness or intensity and didn't pay their attention.

Sensori-neural loss will give deaf people many (*better vocabulary: troubles obstacles, difficulties understanding what people said, unable to hear high-pitched sound such as the high-pitched violin; you could describe your own hearing here it you purpose as learning about hearing loss for your own information*).

Since the problems come to deaf people, there are many effects on deafness.
(*IF this is a transition, I do not understand it*)

First, one of deafness effect is education. Deaf people can't hear spoken language, can't understand the teacher in regular school and can't understand reading. (*why? what is the relationship between listening and reading....how does normal language develop?*) Their writing always has grammar errors and word limited. (*WHY?*) A delay in learning language may cause them make progress more slowly than hearing people. (*This is a whole new topic - now you are talking about what to DO about deafness....that is not causes and effects*): So, "in the 18th century schools were established for deaf school in France by Abb Charles Michel deEpee and in Germany, by the educator Samuel Heinike. The first U.S. school for deaf children was established in 1817 by Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, Laurent Clerc, Mason F. Cogswell." Now America has Gallaudet university and the National Technical Institute for the deaf. So the schools provide deaf people with good opportunities of education and with convenient studying environment.

The special communication methods such as lipreading, ASL, finger spellings are created. In a few other countries, deaf children can't go to mainstream school with hearing students. They don't have colleges for deaf like America, so they face more imaginable difficulties and pressures of study life. Another deafness effect is social life.

(*Now you are back to effects of deafness*): Deaf people can't involve in activities with hearing people because of communication problem. Since deaf people can't hear sounds and feel hard and frustrated to get along with hearing people, some of them became isolated or quiet, lacking of passion about social conversation. They are in silent world, have less communication and have narrow circle of social life. Deafness limits them to get a lot of information like hearing people. Moreover, discrimination and prejudice in society and sense of inferiority of deaf people themselves result that their social life is very limiting. In addition, the deafness effect is employment (*why do deaf people have a problem on job...I have a good article that you can quote*).

Today in U.S., deaf people can work as doctors, lawyers, teachers and so on, except jobs require good hearing. But discrimination against deafness exists. A few companies prefer to hire hearing people than deaf people. Although it is unfair, "many employers are increasingly hiring deaf persons and making adjustment for them, such as adding special telephone devices or providing secretary-interpreters or other accommodations that enable the deaf employee to function effectively on the job." In some countries, low level of education, few choices of jobs and limited economy affect deaf people have less freedom of right to work.

Conquering deafness is a challenge. Understanding causes and effects is important. We should take measures and put in our efforts to prevent increasing deafness disease. Deafness is not a bad thing. Deaf people believe their life can be bright and good. I hope someday there will be a way to cure deafness, to recover their normal hearing and to help them get out of silent world.