

Examination of Speech

Part A: Dysarthria

Listen for:

- Rhythm
 - Slurring (*facial weakness/cerebellar*)
 - Scanning – equal emphasis on all syllables
- Speed (*slow in cerebellar*)
- Volume (*↓ in cerebellar/EP*)
- Monotonous speech (*EP*)
- Pronunciation
- Difficulty with consonants (*Pseudobulbar*)
- urdling/nasal sound (*Bulbar palsy/neuromuscular weakness*)

Pronunciation:

- Yellow lorry – tests LINGUAL sounds
- Peter Piper picked a pepper – to test LABIAL sound
- Bulbar or Pseudobulbar palsy (*spastic speech*)

Count to 30 to assess muscle fatigue (*NMJ*)

Cough & say 'Aaaah'

- Lack of palatal movement (*Bulbar palsy*)

Part B: Dysphasia

Listen for:

- Fluency
 - Non-fluent/broken (abnormal word order) – *Expressive*
 - Fluent - *Receptive*
- Appropriateness of content
 - Paraphasias (*Receptive*)
 - Neologisms (*Receptive*)
 - Jargon dysphasia (*Receptive*)

Identify a common object (*Nominal dysphasia*)

Repeat a simple sentence (*Conductive/Receptive*)

Perform a three-stage command (*Receptive*) N.B. Avoid visual clues.

Read aloud a sentence (*Dyslexia – Receptive*)

Write a sentence (*Dysgraphia – Expressive*)

Part C: Dysphonia

Listen for hoarseness/huskiness