

# How should we communicate with someone who has hearing impairment?

## Short Quiz – A or B??



(1)

- A. Talk as loud as we can and exaggerate mouth movements for them to understand better
- B. Talk with a clear voice, slightly slower and louder than you normally would

(Answer = B) Talking too loud or with exaggerated mouth movements may create confusion or misunderstanding. Just talk naturally. Talking too loud won't help, but talking more clearly would



(2)

- A. Get down to his/her ear level and talk next to his/her ear
- B. Talk in front of him/her face to face in a proper personal communicative distance

(Answer = B) Facing hearing impaired individuals enhances lip-reading, helps them pick up visual cues such as your facial expression, etc., which in turn, facilitate their hearing and understanding of you.

(3)

- A. Invite them to a modern coffee shop with music and others talking, so they feel more comfortable to share
- B. Suggest a meeting in a relatively quiet environment, away from noises and distractions

(Answer = B) Getting rid of noises and distractions as much as possible is quite helpful when communicating with hearing-impaired individuals. Plus, you don't need to shout over noises as you talk.