



Mixed receptive-expressive language disorder



A mixed receptive-expressive language disorder means a child finds it difficult to speak and understand what others are saying.

The child may display the following signs:

Domain	Characteristics
Expressive Language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Using limited vocabulary▪ Difficulty forming grammatically correct sentences and questions▪ Difficulty telling a complete story▪ Difficulty recalling words▪ Difficulty conveying ideas clearly
Receptive Language (comprehension) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Difficulty following directions▪ Difficulty understanding what others have said to them▪ Difficulty answering questions (who/what/where, yes/no)▪ Difficulty identifying objects

Common Questions

Q: Is mixed receptive-expressive language disorder treatable?

A: Yes, getting help early leads to the best results. The time it takes for treatment will be different for each child. Some children may overcome their language difficulties, while others may continue to have difficulties throughout their life.

Q: What is augmentative and alternative communication (AAC)?

A: AAC is a way to communicate without speaking, such as using gestures (sign language) or an app on a tablet. An SLP may suggest AAC to help improve language skills. It is important to know that AAC does not stop a child from speaking, and it has been shown to help them learn language better.

Treatment

A speech-language pathologist (SLP) helps with this disorder. Each child's treatment plan is different. The SLP might use fun activities, games, worksheets, or books to improve specific language skills.



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For more information about speech and language disorders, please scan the QR code to visit the Riley Children's website.

