A Quick Overview of Cued Speech

Cued Speech for American English

Visually providing the building blocks needed for communication, language development, and literacy.

/d, p, zh/  /ee, ur/
/k, TH, v, z/  /aw, e, ue/
/h, r, s/  /a, i, oo/
/b, n, wh/  /consonant alone/
/l, sh, w/  /consonant alone 1 1/2 - 3/4" down /uh/ 1" forward /ah, oe/
/g, j, th/  /ay, oi/
/ch, ng, y/  /ie, ou/

Development of Cued Speech: Dr. R. Orin Cornett developed the system in 1965–1966...
- with the primary goal of improving literacy.
- to overcome the problem of accessing spoken language.
- to provide access to the phonemes of language through vision, using the information from the mouth and one hand.

Cued Speech Facts: Cued Speech was developed to aid the acquisition of literacy skills in deaf students. Cued Speech...
- does NOT require any hearing or speech.
- is NOT a language.
- is a closed system adapted to more than 60 languages and dialects.
- DOES show the phonemes (consonants and vowels) of spoken languages visually.
- requires synchronization of both the hand and mouth to send a complete message.
- IS a visual mode of communication.

Advantages of cued American English: Cuers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing meet or surpass hearing peers in linguistic competence. These cuers...
- can acquire and use the same language other family members use at home.
- receive visual access to English from their transliterators; therefore, they do not rely on interpretation.
- have English skills that match the skills of their hearing peers.
- have an accurate phonological model of a spoken language.
- can learn foreign languages as easily as hearing children.

Deaf Community: Cuers can be members of the deaf community. These cuers are like signers who are deaf because...
- they use a visual form of communication.
- speech is not necessary for communication.
- a majority learn to sign fluently.
- utilize any of a variety of assistive devices.

Hearing Community: Cuers can be members of the hearing community. Cuers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing are like adults who are oral/aural because...
- English is their first language.
- they use speech, speechreading, and/or listening with hearing individuals.
- utilize any of a variety of assistive devices.

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