

E) Speech/Communication Disorders

■ **A speech disorder is an impairment of voice, articulation of speech sounds, and/or fluency. These impairments are observed in the transmission and use of the oral symbol system.**

■ **A language disorder is therefore the impairment or deviant development of comprehension and/or use of a spoken, written, and/or other symbol system. The disorder may involve: the form of language, the content of language, and/or the function of language in communication in any combination.**

■ **A communication disorder is an inability to understand or use speech and language to relate to others in society. This can be divided into four areas:**

Language - this involves listening, speaking, reading and writing

Articulation - the pronunciation of sounds and words

Voice - the sound produced by vibration of the vocal cords

Stuttering - a disruption in the normal flow or rhythm of speech