Aphasia is a condition that affects the brain and leads to problems using language correctly.

It is the result of damage to the parts of the brain involved in speaking, reading, writing and understanding others.

Ways that the brain can become damaged:
» Stroke
» Severe head injury
» Brain tumor
» Health conditions that cause progressive loss of cells from the brain, such as Alzheimer’s disease
» Infections, such as Meningitis and Encephalitis
Communication tips

» Minimise distraction and background noise
» Make eye contact with the person
» Ensure their full attention
» Pitch, pause & pace use short clear sentences
» Speak clearly (articulate)
» Remove unnecessary words
» Use familiar words avoid metaphors and abstract language
» Ask one question at a time: do you want tea? Do you want coffee?
» Use facial expression, tone of voice, pointing and gesture to explain yourself
» Be patient give the person space to respond
» Clarify and rephrase when necessary, especially with numbers

For FULL communication strategies visit: www.aphasianow.org/resources and click on ‘communication strategies’