

Comprehension in Broca's Aphasia

- Appears to be normal but patients just can't seem to reply how they want to; have no difficulty understanding normal conversation.
- Patients have difficulties with word order, find it hard to identify the object and subject of the sentence.

Wernicke's Aphasia

- Patients have trouble with language comprehension
- Damage is Wernicke's Area; region in the temporal lobe and located behind the auditory cortex

Symptoms and effects of Wernicke's Aphasia

- When asked questions, patients are able to answer but not accurately and answers are slightly unrelated to the question; debate as it is uncertain whether the patient really understands the question
- Speech is fluent but repetition and comprehension is impaired
- Prone to paraphasic errors

↳ **Verbal** - substitute semantically similar words e.g. bus for car (full name: circumlocution)

↳ **Literal** - substitute words that sound similar, may be nonsense words e.g. kerch for wrench

Comprehension in Wernicke's Aphasia

- May be comprised of two subtypes
 - ↳ **Word Recipients** - unable to accurately recognise words
 - ↳ **Comprehension Impairment** - inability to understand the content of the speech

Boston Classification of Aphasias

- Dissociation; one element remains intact where another is lost/damaged
- Double Dissociation; patients suffer from opposing dissociations e.g. one patient may lose expressive language and maintain descriptive language while the other patient suffers the opposite
- Suggests that language functions are independent e.g. Broca's Aphasia and Wernicke's Aphasia affect different areas of the brain
- **Dunn and Kirsner (2003)** - one function could be more vulnerable to certain types of damage or certain tasks might be more difficult