

## An analogy

The following is an illustration of how this student's hearing ability could affect speech perception (quiet). A common children's story has been used to show how missing even a little hearing (25dB HL) can make it more difficult to understand.

***Won upon a time a itty  
mow when to vit a untry  
mow. The untry mow  
live in a feel. EEE wuz lad  
to shee hi zittyfren.  
A too my ran abowda  
feel and lay unt noo.***

A 25 dB hearing loss is similar to listening with your index fingers plugged into your ears. It is also considered a 'good hearing aid fitting' as hearing aids do not restore normal hearing levels.

What is this well-known children's story?

How much effort and extra time was needed to figure out the story?

What would it have been like if you had never heard the story?

Based on this exercise, what can you think of that would help the child with hearing loss who is always missing fragments of words to comprehend in your classroom?



The story is **The Country Mouse and the City Mouse**

**Once upon a time a city mouse went to visit a country mouse. The country mouse lived in a field. He was glad to see his city friend. The two mice ran about the field and played until noon.**

**Did it help to have the image of the mouse?**

**What could have helped you understand this story more quickly?**

**How could experiencing verbal instruction this way impact the pace of learning?**

**Exercise adapted from Clarke Mainstream Newsletter 1986**