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Library ID117 Assignment
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My annotated bibliography lists sources relating to a career in which I'm potentially interested in pursuing: speech-language pathologist. This career blends a few subject areas that I'd like to study at college: cognitive and neuro- psychology, language, and physiology.

Annotated Bibliography

Breznick, Alan. "Coaches Work with Executives on Presentations to Win Contracts; Helping Others Find Their Voice." *The Washington Post* 1 June 1998, Final ed.: 10. *National Newspaper Index*. Web. 7 Oct. 2011.

This newspaper article describes the work of Helene Jeffreys, a speech-language pathologist who provides professional voice coaching to business executives to help them win contracts with the government. For example, her company helps executives to speak more loudly and clearly and make eye contact. While I knew speech pathologists worked in schools and hospitals, I didn't know that business people could also benefit from their help. I had thought of speech pathologists as focused on speech disorders only, but now I know there are other applications of the profession. Great!

Brody, Jane E. "Trying Anything and Everything for Autism." *The New York Times* 20 Jan. 2009: 7. *National Newspaper Index*. Web. 7 Oct. 2011.

This article tells the story of how important speech therapy has been to helping one family's autistic son communicate. His mother says "if not for speech therapy five or more days a

week...Casey would not have the limited language skills he now has, which enable him to speak in short sentences, make his needs known and share things that excite him". This was a powerful story: it emphasized the impact that speech therapy can make on a family with a child who has special needs. Being able to communicate is such an essential human characteristic and an important everyday need.

Children with Cleft Lip and Palate. Films Media Group, 1995. *Films on Demand*. Web. 7 Oct. 2011.

This video discusses the treatment of children with cleft palate, a facial birth defect. There are teams of specialists at hospitals working with these children, including plastic surgeons, orthodontists, and speech therapists. This condition of cleft palate is not one I knew of before watching the film. One clip showed the speech therapist working with a child who had his palate re-constructed. He still couldn't pronounce the letter "p", for example, so the therapist was doing specific exercises with him. This film introduced me to "cleft palate" and to some of the specific exercises speech therapists use with such patients.

Gleason, Jean Berko. *The Development of Language*. 6th ed. Boston: Pearson/Allyn and Bacon, 2005.

Print.

This book describes how children acquire language and how language develops from birth into adulthood. It breaks down language acquisition into different parts: grammar, sounds, and word meanings. It had never occurred to me how complex it is for babies to learn language, that there are all these different parts – it's really amazing how this happens. I also liked how the book discussed the development of language in the brain, because of my interests in neuro-psychology and learning how the brain works. But this also made me realize that taking a course in linguistics would be helpful to my studies.

Van, Riper Charles, and Robert L. Erickson. *Speech Correction: an Introduction to Speech Pathology and Audiology*. 9th ed. Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1996. Print.

This book is a great introduction to speech pathology. In particular it provides an overview to all the types of speech disorders and categorizes them into different groups. I read that there are different kinds of voice disorders, language disorders, and fluency disorders. One fluency disorder I read about in more detail was stuttering. It was interesting to read the discussion about the origins of stuttering – some say it's all “nature” (genetic), while others think that nurture (our environment) is also important. This book in general is helpful because it helped me learn about the range of disorders that a speech-language pathologist may work with.