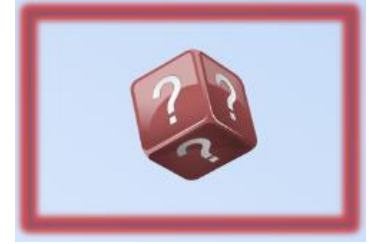


Race to the Brain Game

Hearing Devices and Listening Environments



ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY			
#	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
1.	What is a FM/DM system? A hearing device that someone wears that sends their voice into my brain from my hearing aids/cochlear implant.	Describe what an FM/DM system does. It sends the talker's speech directly to my hearing aids/cochlear implant so that I can hear better.	What do the initials FM and DM stand for? The type of signal transmitted: Frequency Modulated signals (radio waves) or digitally modulated signals.
2.	How does your FM/DM system sound different from your hearing aids or cochlear implant? Louder and clearer in school because I can hear when someone is talking at a distance or if there is background noise.	How is your FM/DM system different from your hearing aids or cochlear implant? HAs work best in quiet and when close to the talker. The DM/FM helps me hear across distance and when there is noise.	How is your FM/DM system different from your hearing aids or cochlear implant? How is it similar? HAs work best in quiet and when close to the talker. The microphones pick up all sounds around me. The DM/FM helps me hear across distance and when there is noise. The microphone mostly picks up the talker's voice. Both pick up sounds using microphones and both help me hear my best.
3.	Who comes to help you in school with your DM system? The educational audiologist or the teacher of the deaf/hard of hearing.	What is the difference between your audiologist at the clinic and your audiologist at school? The school audiologist knows more about what I need to hear at school and how my hearing loss affects how I learn/socialize.	Explain why it is important to have an audiologist come see you at school. The audiologist checks to be sure my hearing aids and FM/DM are working well at school. She helps the teacher and my friends understand it too. She helps me to understand my hearing loss.
4.	Label the parts of your FM/DM system.	Label and explain the parts of your FM/DM system.	Label and explain the parts of your FM/DM system.

5.	How often do you need to charge your FM/DM system? At the end of every school day, no matter what the battery light says.	Describe how you set up your FM/DM system so it charges. I plug the charging cord into the bottom of the FM/DM transmitter. I make sure that it is charging by looking for the light.	Even though you charged your FM/DM microphone yesterday after school, it isn't charged in the morning. What could be wrong? The plug was bumped and came out of the wall so it didn't charge. The charger is not working. The FM/DM charging port is not working.
6.	Is it important to make sure that your FM/DM is working each day? Yes, I need to check that it is working every morning.	Explain how you (and your teacher) check your FM/DM system to make sure it is working properly each day. Say the 6 Ling sounds in a quiet room. My teacher asks me a secret question at the start of each day. My teacher looks for lights on my hearing aids.	Explain how you ensure that your FM/DM system is working properly each day. I listen for my teacher's voice coming through the FM/DM microphone, when sitting or standing from a distance.
7.	You have a substitute teacher. Pretend to go up to her and ask her to use your FM/DM system.	You have a substitute teacher. She is happily wearing your FM/DM system but she didn't actually turn it on. How would you deal with this situation? Approach her and show her how to turn it on/mute it.	You have a substitute teacher and she isn't using your FM/DM system. Describe what your FM/DM system is, what she needs to do, and why it is so important for you. This is my FM/DM system. It sends your voice right into my brain through my hearing aids. Without it I can't understand what you are saying. Put it around your neck/clip the mic to your shirt and turn it on. This is how you can mute it.
8.	It is cold in the classroom and your teacher is wearing a scarf. She is using your FM/DM system, but you hear some on-and-off scratchy sounds. What could you say or do? Tell her that you can't hear her voice because her scarf is rubbing on the microphone.	Your teacher sometimes wears scarves or jewelry that touch the FM/DM microphone and makes scratchy or clicking noises in your hearing aids/cochlear implants. What could you say? Tell her that I can't hear her voice because her scarf/jewelry are sending distracting noises	Your teacher is using your FM/DM system. You hear your teacher's voice but also some scratchy/clicking sounds on and off. What is something that could cause this? What can you do? The microphone rubbing or touching clothing or jewelry.

		through the microphone to my brain.	Tell my teachers that I can't hear her voice because her scarf/jewelry are sending distracting noises through the microphone to my brain.
9.	Your teacher sometimes places the microphone too far from her mouth for you to hear clearly. Is this good for listening? Where should it be? No, it should be high on her chest (the sternum).	Your teacher sometimes places the microphone too far from her mouth for you to hear clearly. How would you ask her to use it properly? Approach her and explain how her voice is clearer when the microphone is placed high, in the center of the chest (sternum).	Your teacher is using your FM/DM system, but her voice seems very quiet. What is something that could cause this? What would you do? The FM/DM mic is too far away from her mouth or too far to the side. Approach her and explain how her voice is clearer when the microphone is placed high, in the center of the chest (sternum).
10.	Your teacher is wearing the FM/DM system, but you can't hear her. What do you do? Put up my hand and tell her. Use our "signal" to let her know.	Your teacher is wearing the FM/DM system, but you can't hear her. What might be wrong? It might not be on, it might be muted, my batteries might be dead, it might not be connected, it may be broken.	Your teacher is wearing the FM/DM system, but you can't hear her. What might be wrong? How do you fix it? It might not be on, it might be muted, my batteries might be dead, it might not be connected, it may be broken.
11.	Your teacher forgot to switch on the FM/DM microphone. What do you do? Put up my hand and tell her. Use our "signal" to let her know. Approach her and tell her.	When you entered the classroom you placed the FM/DM system on the teacher's desk but she forgot to clip it on or switch it on before starting to teach the class. How could you let her know she needs to use it? Put up my hand and tell her. Use our "signal" to let her know. Approach her and tell her.	Your teacher repeatedly clips on the FM/DM mic after her 'start up' comments to the class. How would you explain to her why this is difficult for you? I want to be able to hear all of what you say but without the FM/DM system I really struggle to understand you. Maybe give an example: last week I didn't hear the information about the field trip.
12.	Other than your teacher, who else at school can wear your FM/DM system?	You have a hard time understanding your classmates during partner or group work. What could you say?	You have a hard time understanding classmates during class discussions. Would using the DM/FM system help?

	Friends, principal, other teachers, lunch supervisors, parents	I can't understand my friends during partner or group work. Can they please use the FM/DM system? Can our group please go work in a quieter space?	What can you ask your teacher to do? I can't understand my friends during class discussions/ Would you be able to pass my FM/DM mic around? Can you please repeat or summarize what they say? Can you please write key words on the board?
13.	Can you wear earphones? Why not? What do you do instead? No, but I can plug my FM/DM system in to a device and hear through my hearing aids.	How do you connect your FM/DM system to computer/iPad/chrome book? When would you do this? I can't use earplugs. Instead, I plug one end of my audio cord into the device and the other end into the bottom of my FM/DM system.	How do you listen to a laptop computer/iPad/chrome book? What are the parts that you need called? Why do you do this? I can listen through my hearing aids by plugging one end of my audio cord into the device and the other end into the bottom of my FM/DM system. I do this because putting earphones over my hearing aids doesn't let me hear as well.
14.	A classmate asks, "What is that thing? Why do you need it?" What would you tell him about your FM/DM system? That is my _____. It helps me hear our teacher better.	A classmate asks, "What is that thing? Why do you need it?" What would you tell him about your FM/DM system? That is my _____. It helps me hear people better - especially when they are far away or when its noisy.	Why is an FM/DM system important for listening and learning in the classroom? Classrooms are noisy, people are usually talking at me from a distance and there is a lot of vocabulary I don't know. With the FM/DM system I don't have to work as hard to understand.
15.	What are the situations in which an FM/DM system helps you the most in school? When it is noisy or I'm trying to hear people talk from far away.	What are the situations in which an FM/DM system helps you the least in school? What do you do in those situations to help you hear and understand?	What accommodations do you need to communicate and learn in your classrooms? Do your accommodation needs vary from class to class?
16.	Using the FM/DM system is called an "accommodation" for students with hearing loss. What is another "accommodation" that helps you to hear and understand at school?	What is an example of an "accommodation" for students with hearing loss? Use of the FM/DM system, Pre-teaching of vocabulary, Writing exams in a quiet room with extra time.	Using an FM/DM system is one type of accommodation to help 'equal the playing field' for students with hearing loss. What does 'equal the playing field' mean?

	Working in a quiet space. Sitting close to the teacher. Learning vocabulary in a quiet space. Taking listening breaks.		Using the FM/DM system helps me to hear more like my peers.
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