**Listening Skills ( Taylor Francis )**

1. One reason we believe listening is a critical life competency is because it is fundamental to all other communication competencies – speaking, writing, and reading. Of these competencies, listening is the first communication skill we acquire and use. In fact, you began to listen before you were born.
2. Listening is also key to learning language.
3. Glenn concluded her 1989 article by stating “[a] universal definition of listening from which operational guidelines may be established will not be easy to formulate.”16 Her observations presented a challenge to scholars around the world involved in listening research. After much discussion and debate, the members of the International Listening Association (ILA) adopted the following definition: Listening is “the process of receiving, constructing meaning from, and responding to spoken and/ or nonverbal messages.”17

**Speech communication models look**

1. Speech communication models are rooted in the early work of Ralph Nichols. Known as the “Father of Listening,”
2. . His results suggested that there are a number of elements impacting listening comprehension, including cognitive factors (e.g., intelligence, curiosity, inference- making ability, and ability to concentrate), language- related factors (e.g., reading comprehension, recognition of correct English usage, size of the listener’s vocabulary, ability to identify main ideas), speaker- related factors (e.g., speaker effectiveness, audibility of the speaker, admiration for the speaker), contextual factors (e.g., interest in the subject, importance of the subject, room ventilation and temperature, listener’s physical fatigue), and demographic factors (e.g., listener sex, parental occupation, high school academic achievement).