Aphasia

Components of a definition

When is Aphasia aphasia?
  - shared features of language impairment across diagnostic categories
  - overlap of symptomatology

Resolution

Darley (1982)
Impairment as a result of brain damage, of the capacity for interpretation and formulation of language symbols: multimodality loss or reduction in efficiency of the ability to decode and encode conventionally meaningful linguistic elements: disproportionate to impairment of other intellective functions; not attributable to
dementia, confusion, sensory loss, or motor dysfunctions and manifested in reduced availability of vocabulary, reduced efficiency in application of syntactic rules, reduced auditory retention span and impaired efficiency in input and output.

Darley definition continued

Current position
  - aphasia should be differentiated from the impairment associated with other disorders
  - qualifiers:
    - abrupt onset
    - circumscribed/focal brain lesion
    - language processing deficit in all language modalities
    - language deficit disproportionate to other intellectual functions