

**Agenda:**

- 8:00-8:30 Registration Check-in & Continental Breakfast
- 8:30-10:00 What is abstract language?
- 10:00-10:15 Refreshment Break
- 10:15-11:45 Cognitive-based intervention strategies
- 11:45-12:45 Lunch Break
- 12:45-2:15 Ambiguity, humor, and types of inferences
- 2:15-2:30 Refreshment Break
- 2:30-4:00 Teaching abstract language
- 4:00-4:15 CEU Paperwork & Evaluation Completion

No variable credit will be offered for this conference. Attendees must be present for the entire conference to earn CEU credit.

Rochester Hearing & Speech Center is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language/Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. Each session is offered for .6 CEUs intermediate, professional level. ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products, or clinical procedures.



Rochester Hearing & Speech Center  
1000 Elmwood Avenue Suite 400  
Rochester, NY 14620-3092

*A conference on*

**Intervention Strategies for  
Enhancing Abstract  
Language & Thinking Skills**

October 13, 2007



*presented by*

*Cecile C. Spector, Ph.D.*

*Sponsored by*



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ROCHESTER, NY

## Intervention Strategies for Enhancing Abstract Language & Thinking Skills

Children, adolescents, and adults with impaired language abilities, in general, have been found to have significantly poorer comprehension of abstract language than their peers with typically developing language. The many aspects of abstract language (e.g. figurative language, ambiguity, humor, and inferencing) play a considerable role in the language we use in our everyday lives. The inability to understand and use abstract language may result in academic, social, job related and personal difficulties. Fortunately, it is possible to enhance critical thinking skills and improve abstract language understanding.

This workshop will provide facilitators with the background and strategies necessary to help individuals, ages 9 through adult, who need to improve their comprehension and use of abstract language. Learners will be able to:

- Describe the various types of abstract language and their effect on specific populations
- Discuss cognitive-based intervention strategies that facilitate the comprehension and use of the various elements of abstract language
  - Identify the specific elements of ambiguity, humor and types of inferences
  - Explain how to design and use supportive contexts for teaching abstract language

Excellent for Speech-Language Pathologists, Special Education teachers, ESL teachers, Reading specialists, and teachers of the hearing impaired.

### Cecile C. Spector, Ph.D, CCC-A

Cecile Cyril Spector, PhD, has worked in the field of speech-language pathology for over 30 years. She received her BA and MA from Brooklyn College, and her PhD from New York University. Dr. Spector has provided clinical services in public schools, private practice, and at the Hofstra University clinic. She taught a wide range of courses as a faculty member and director of the Speech-Language Department of Long Island University—Orangeburg Campus.

Dr. Spector has made numerous research presentations and given workshops that have focused on various aspects of humor, ambiguity, figurative language, phonological awareness, and, more recently, inferencing. Her books, *Saying One Thing, Meaning Another; Sound Effects; As Far As Words Go; and Between the Lines* have been published by Thinking Publications (now published by Super Duper Publications). As a clinician, Dr. Spector has worked with individuals from 18 months to 80-plus years. Language-learning disabled adolescents and adults who incurred brain injury as a result of strokes or accidents were the populations that sparked her interest in the subtleties of abstract language.

### Registration Form

**Registration Fee:**

**\$135.00 by September 26th, 2007**

**\$150.00 if received after September 26th, 2007**

**\$85.00 Student Rate (School ID photocopy required)**

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE is September 30th, 2007**

**Registration includes materials, box lunch and ASHA CEU processing fee**

**Lodging Information sent with registration confirmation**

Participation in the conference is by pre-registration only. Cancellations will be honored if we are notified in writing or by phone no later than *October 8, 2007* (your payment less a \$20 administrative fee will be returned). Written confirmation of registration, location and driving directions will be provided to all participants upon receipt of registration form and fee.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE/AFFILIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Please contact me, as I require accommodations for special learning needs.

Please contact me, as I have special dietary needs.

To Register: Tear off and complete the form.  
Make check payable to Rochester Hearing & Speech Center

Fax: (585) 442-4114

Mail:

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