

ACTIVITY 7-6:

IDENTIFYING AND PROBLEM SOLVING DIFFICULTIES IN AUDITORY PROCESSING

When clients have difficulty with processing auditory information, the first step is for them to identify when a breakdown in processing occurs so that they can repair the breakdown as needed. Clients may start this process by identifying and saying something general such as, "I didn't get that." This is a great first step in repairing the communication breakdown. Ultimately, the client needs to give more specific information to the speaker about what they missed so that the most efficient repair can be made (e.g., repeating the last piece of information said rather than the entire thing). Figure 7-1 shows a flow chart I use to help the client identify potential specific sources of breakdown in processing. To incorporate fluency strategies, the client can explain things on the flow chart after concepts have been presented, teaching others about what they have learned. Or the clinician and client can watch instances of processing breakdowns on video and identify what the listener should have done (or did do if applicable) to repair the breakdown. Ultimately, as processing breakdowns occur in the course of other activities, the client can use the flow chart to identify what happened and a potential solution. All discussions, role plays, and applications to real life can involve reinforcement of fluency strategies.

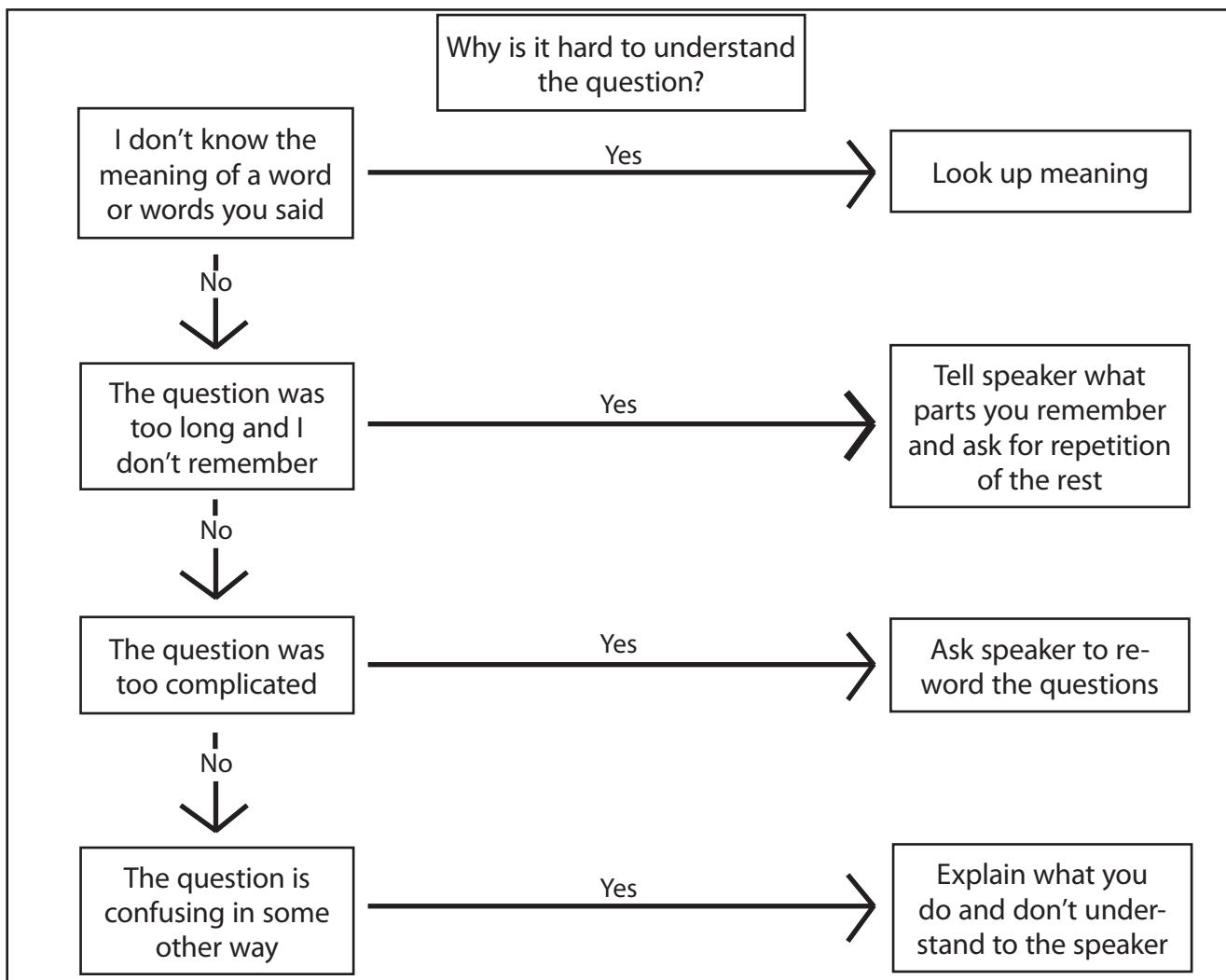


Figure 7-1. Flow chart to identify source of breakdown in auditory processing.