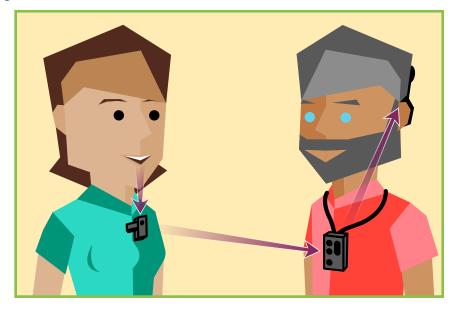


# Assistive technology

### Frequency modulation (FM) systems

FM systems use microphones worn by specific speakers to transmit sound directly from the speaker's microphone to your cochlear implant. FM systems are called a variety of names. Some examples are the Roger pen, the mini mic, or a lapel microphone. Some variations may require you to wear a personal receiver, like a neck loop.

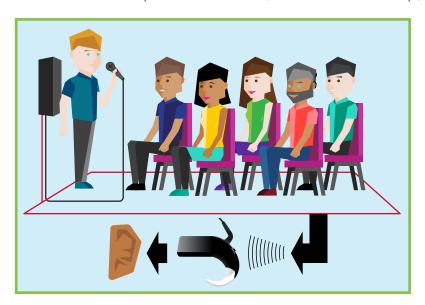
FM systems can be helpful in a variety of difficult physical environments and social interactions. For example, you can use an FM system in a noisy restaurant to ensure you hear your



dining partner. You can also use FM systems with younger children who may not fully understand the optimal communication strategies to use with adults who have cochlear implants.

#### Audio loop systems

Audio loop systems are often located in large spaces, like schools, churches, and theaters. A cable, called the induction loop, hearing loop, or audio loop, circles the entire room. This cable transmits sound to either a personal receiver, such as a neck loop, headphones, speakers, or directly to



your cochlear implant. To use the audio loop system, the telecoil or t-coil on your cochlear implant must be on.

Audio loop systems are extremely helpful when speech is at a distance, and you are not able to speechread. Audio loop systems can also be helpful in locations that have poor lighting or positioning, such as many theaters and airports.

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**RESOURCE 10** 

#### **Connecting accessories**

Connecting accessories link different media devices to your cochlear implant. These accessories are often cables, like a personal audio cable, that plug directly into your cochlear implant and into the media device. The sound from the devices is then transmitted to your cochlear implant. Sometimes the accessories will not have a cable, but will connect wirelessly through Bluetooth. Check your cochlear implant user manual to see if your processor is compatible with Bluetooth technology.



Connecting accessories are critical to using many media devices, including televisions, cellphones, iPods, computers, and tablets.

## **Captioning**



Captioning is written text instead of spoken word. Many forms of technology can be captioned, such as captioned TV shows, movies at the theater, live shows, and phone calls using a captioned phone. You can visit websites, such as <a href="www.captionfish.com">www.captionfish.com</a>, to see what movies are captioned at your local theater. You can also have real-time speech captioned using Communication Access Realtime Translation or CART.

Captioning is a critical form of alternative communication that can be used in difficult hearing

environments. Captioning is very helpful in places that have poor lighting (e.g. movie theaters), speech at a distance (e.g. live shows), and group meetings.