



INGREDIENTS TO BE A COMPETENT SPEECH-LANGUAGE THERAPIST

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Outline

1.

5 ingredients to be a competent speech-language therapist

2.

Curriculum of speech and hearing sciences at HKU.

3.

Sharing by current student (Anson Kwan, Year 2)

4.

Questions & Answers

Imagine you or your family member had a communication disorder, and needed to see a speech-language therapist

What qualities would you look for?

caring, resourceful, trustworthy, understanding, respect you



Five key ingredients

Strong
communication
skills

Good listening &
observation skills

Strong
analytical
mind

Enjoy working
with people

Be passionate
(with a helping
heart)

Five key ingredients

1. Strong communication skills

- With patients, family members and other professions.
- Build good rapport.
- Present assessment results.
- Teach therapeutic tasks.

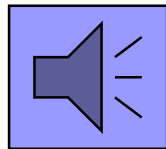


Five key ingredients (cont.)

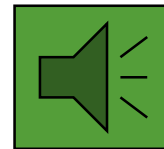
2. Good listening & observation skills

- Be sensitive to patient's needs.
- Be sensitive to note subtle differences.

Sample A



Sample B



3. Strong analytical mind

- We work as a detective.
- Examine, observe, get hints, set hypothesis.
- Test your hypothesis during on-going treatment.
- Revise your hypothesis, whenever necessary.

Five key ingredients (cont.)

4. Enjoy working with people

- Be a good team player.
- Patients, caretakers, teachers, medical doctors, nurses, physiotherapists, social workers, occupational therapists, etc.



5. Be passionate (with a helping heart)

- Serves as the foundation for other ingredients.
- Motivates you to do better.

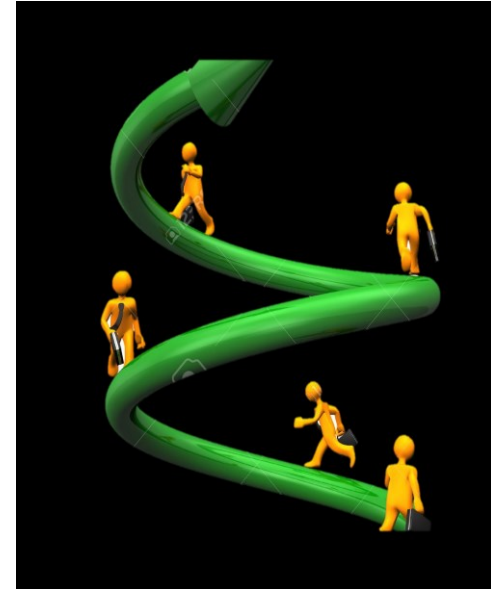
How do we prepare our students?

Strong theoretical knowledge

- Reinforce your theoretical knowledge across years through spiral learning.

Clinical practicum

- 300 hours of direct clinical contact, working with clients with communication and swallowing disorders.
- Simulation clinic.



How do we prepare our students? (cont.)



Experiential learning

- Events (e.g., Green Voice Day, World Swallowing Day).
- Embedded in coursework.
- Visits at external organisations, clinics and schools.
- Wuhan clinic experience.

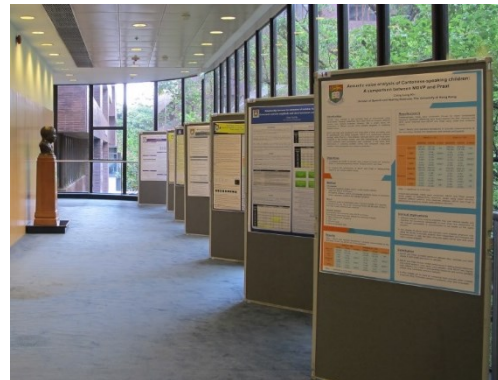
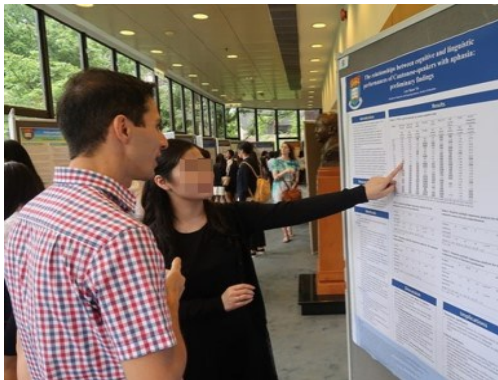




How do we prepare our students? (cont.)

Research opportunities

- Final year research project in year 5 (Capstone).
- Research laboratories.
- University-level research fellowships (Laidlaw Undergraduate Research & Leadership Programme, University Research Fellowship Programme).





Admissions Tips

Application:

- Only consider applicants who put our programme in their Band A choices.
- Include a personal statement in the application.

At the interview:

- Show us your passion toward the programme.
(Voluntary work, shadowing experiences can be an advantage but not compulsory.)
- Clear understanding about the curriculum.



Admissions scores (2021 intake)

- Best 6 subjects (English: Level 4 or above)
Note: Biology NOT compulsory subject.
- All subjects are counted equally.
- Median 38 (2021 JUPAS Admissions).
- Expected Score 34.

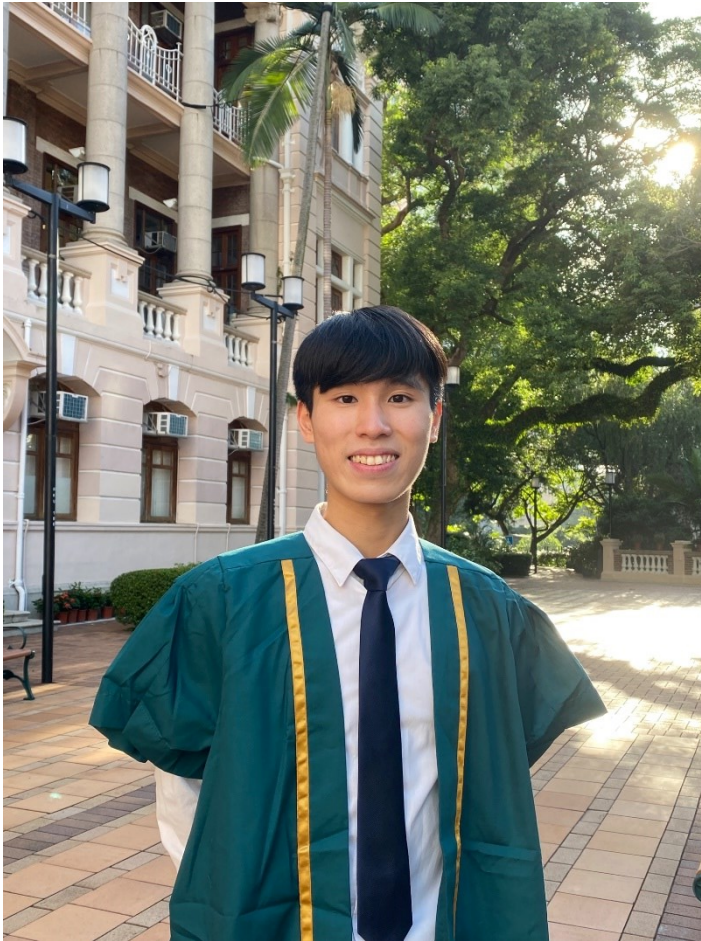
Conversion of levels into scores:

$5^{**}=8.5$, $5^*=7$, $5=5.5$, $4=4$, $3=3$, $2=2$, $1=1$, others=0.

Source: <https://admissions.hku.hk/apply/jupas>



Sharing by our student



Anson Kwan

Year 2 SHS Student

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS