

DYSLEXIA, DYSPRAXIA

by Dr Nicholas Foo Siang Sern, Editorial Board Member

Why the sadness in your eyes, Grandpa?

*You too, this thing that we have
Dyslexia, dyspraxia runs in our line
One or the other, perhaps both together
My mother and brother your mother too
Finally these two have come to you*

*They showed up bit by bit
The bigger you grew
The fretful baby one could not soothe
Became a toddler full of sensitivities
Just a difficult child one thought*

*Anxious temperament
Eyes finding normal light too bright
Little sounds scare you
Fine clothes too rough
Small things a crying fit triggered*

*Bumping, tripping, frequently falling
Weak muscles and great pain
Hindered you while playing games
Spilling and dropping
Unusual way of pen holding*

*Learning to read was tough
Difficulty with phonological decoding
Language meaning and structure confusing
Expression of thought a mess
Chinese characters a fright*

*Writing made your hand cramp
Copying and drawing lines
A challenge to complete these tasks
School was doubly tiring
So much more sleep you need*

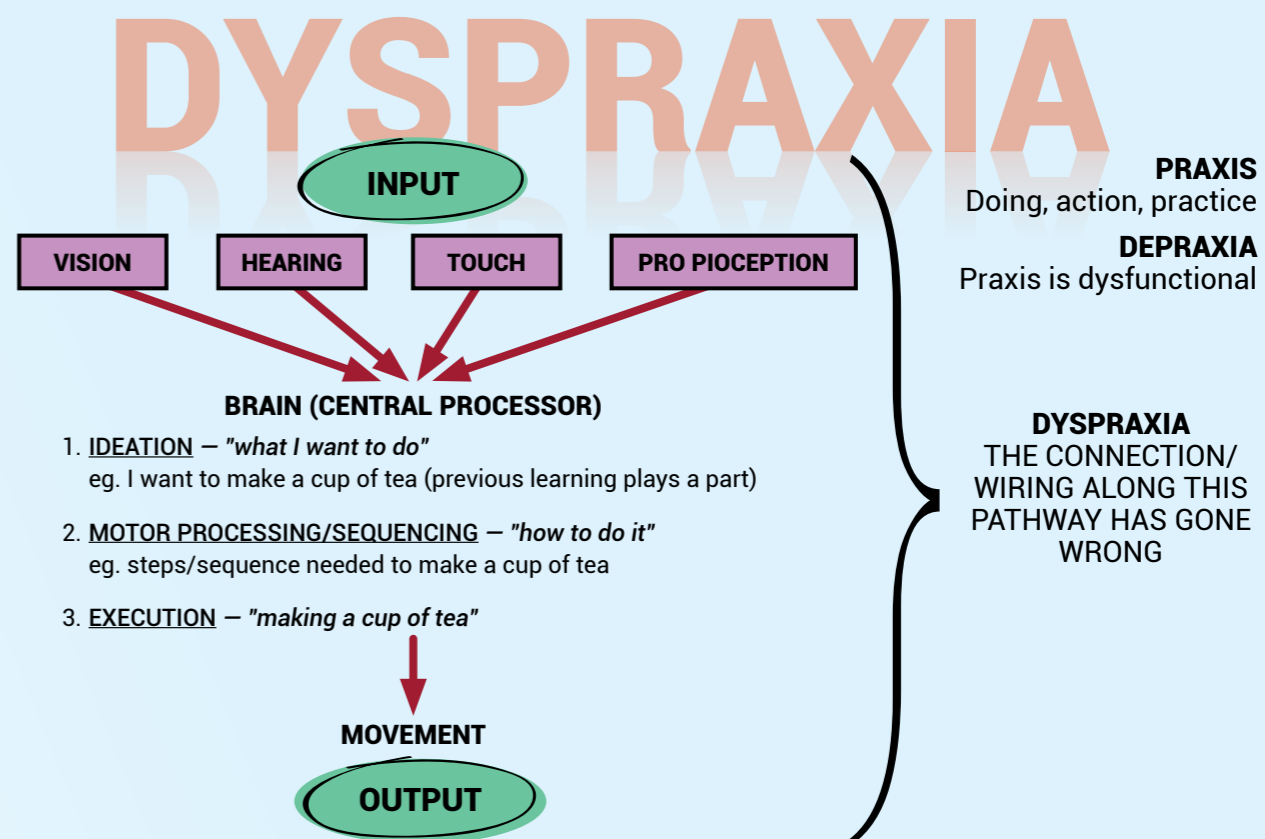
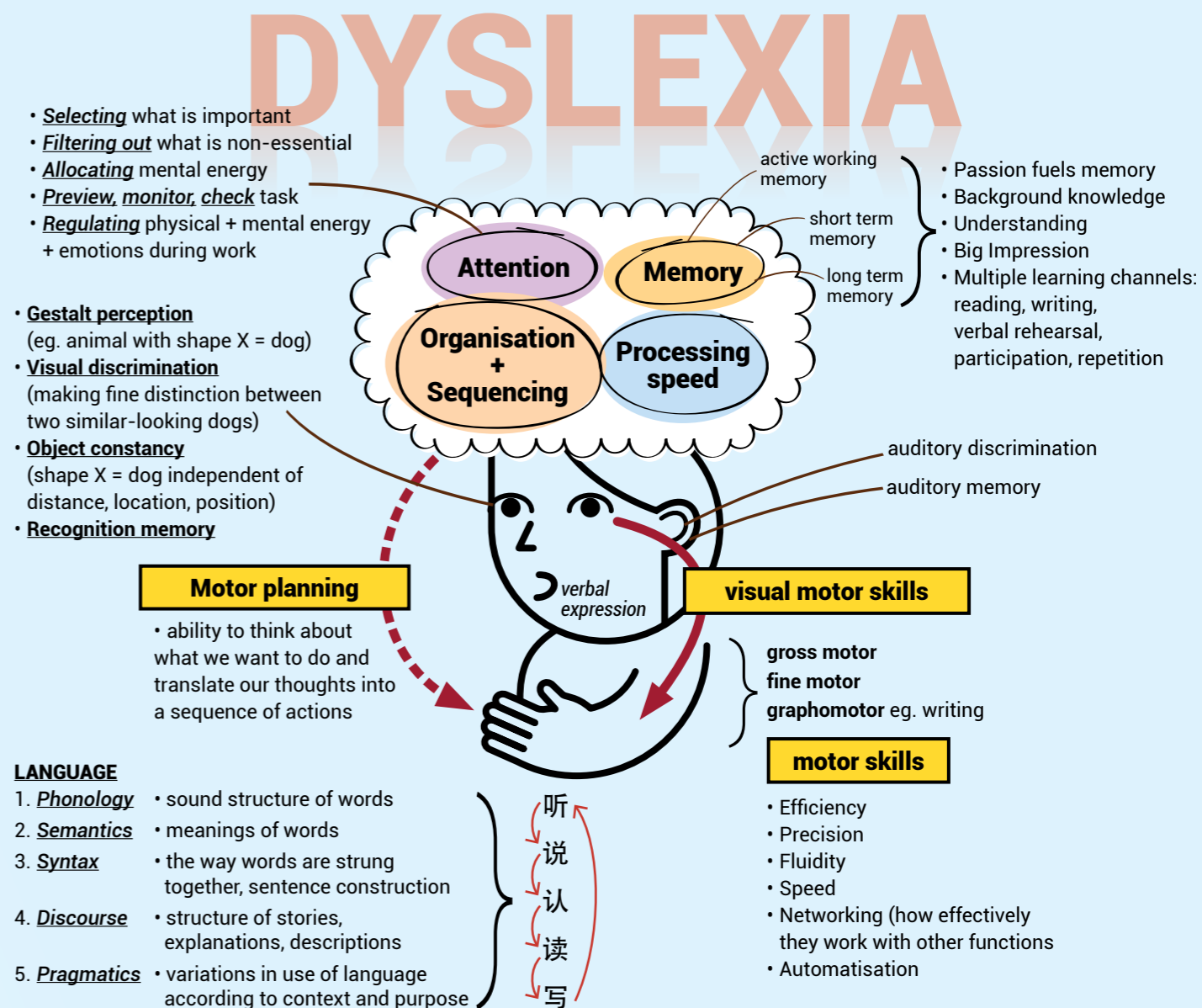
*I could say the things gone wrong
But you've put up a good fight
Now able to read and write
Your speech is sounding okay
And I know you're pretty bright*

*A curious and creative mind
Difficulties breed resilience
From sadness comes tenderness
Strength amongst your weakness
Some day all this you'll find*

*One who looks normal
Yet battling with internal difficulties
Well hidden from sight
The road is long so keep your chin up
Unexpected blessings lift you when down*

*Now take my hand
Stand up and try again
Yes grandpa knows it all
You see my child, not sadness
But tenderness in my eyes*

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FAMILY MEDICINE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY 2016

COLLEGE 45th AGM

30 July 2016 (Saturday)
2.00pm
College of Medicine Building
Auditorium (Level 2)
16 College Road Singapore 169854

Family Medicine
Commencement Ceremony 2016
2.00 - 3.30pm ♦ Auditorium (Level 2)

Tea Reception
3.30 - 4.00pm ♦ Function Room (Level 1)

College 45th AGM
4.00 - 6.00pm ♦ Auditorium (Level 2)

College of Family Physicians Singapore