

Problems in Reading

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Sources of Reading Problems



INTELLECTUAL
FACTORS



PHYSICAL
FACTORS



LANGUAGE
FACTORS



EMOTIONAL AND
PSYCHOLOGICAL
FACTORS



ENVIRONMENTAL
FACTORS



EDUCATIONAL
FACTORS



SPECIAL LEARNING
PROBLEMS

Intellectual Factors

Poor readers come from all ability levels.

Good readers tend to perform better on IQ tests than poor readers.

Intelligence and reading achievement are correlated at the upper grades but not at the lower grades.

IQ tests are not intended to measure innate intelligence.

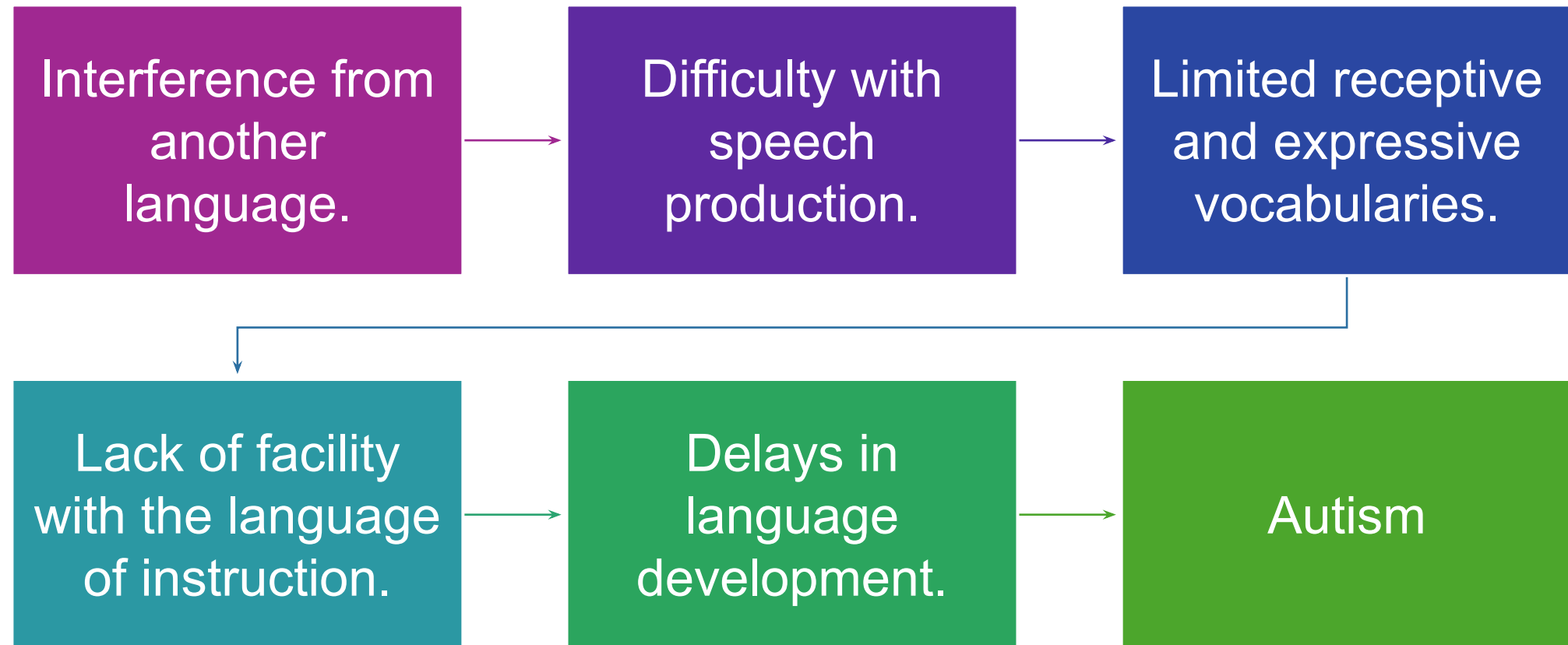
Physical Factors

Visual problems due to visual acuity or the functioning of the eyes.

Auditory problems due to hearing loss, auditory or auditory discrimination.

Hearing loss can interfere with, delay or prevent oral language development as well as the ability to benefit from phonics instruction.

Language Factors



Emotional/Psychologic
al Factors

Behavior-related
issues

Motivational issues

Self-esteem issues

Environmental Factors

Parental support
for literacy

Family situations

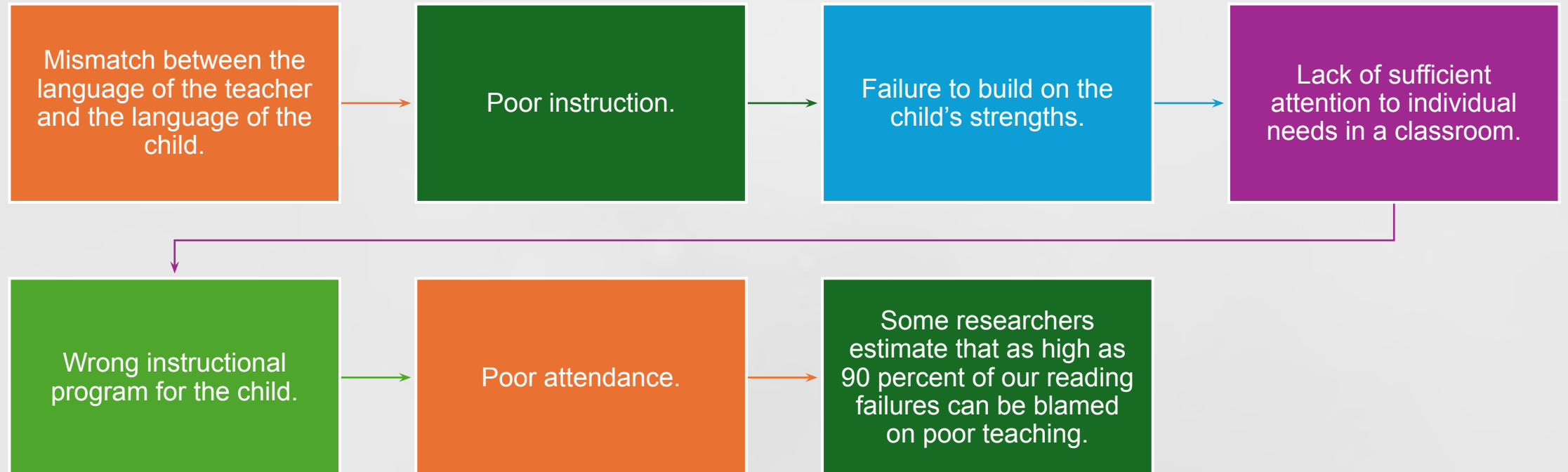
Home influences

Cultural
influences

Access to print
resources
beyond the
classroom

Developmental
experiences

Educational Factors



Special Learning Problems



Dyslexia

Mental
retardation

Learning
disabilities

Helen Robinson's (1946) Classic Study

Robinson studied several factors thought to be causes of reading failure in a group of severely disabled readers.

She found that nearly every student's reading disability was the result of multiple factors.

Robinson concluded from her study that students' reading disabilities are not usually the result of any *single* factor.

Implications for Practitioners

1

Do not become consumed looking for the specific cause or etiology of a child's reading disability.

2

Do not blame the child's home environment.

3

Focus on correcting the reading problem based on sound diagnostic and remedial procedures tailored to the particular student.

Philosophical and Legal Issues re: Special Needs Students

- Public schools are required by law to provide “appropriate educational experiences” for all students, including those with emotional, physical, intellectual and/or cognitive processing problems (Gillet, 2004, p. 436).
- The 1997 Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is a federal law which “stipulates that students with disabilities participate in the same assessments expected of all students; if they are unable to do so, alternative assessment procedures with individualized criteria must be developed and implemented to ensure student progress toward their program goals” (Gillet, 2004, p. 437).