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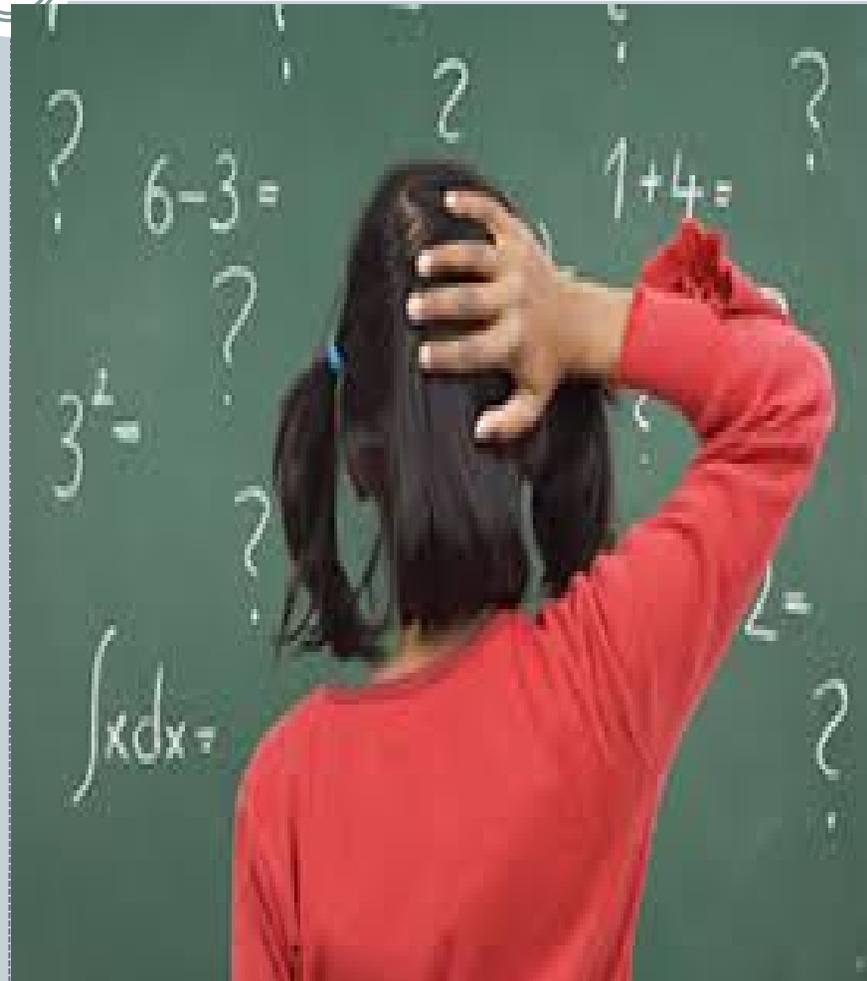
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Learning Disability

- U.G.Sem.- 4
- Paper- MJC- 6
- Educational Psychology



Learning Disability



- Learning disability (LD) is a neurodevelopmental disorder affecting the brain's ability to process information, causing persistent difficulties in reading (dyslexia), writing (dysgraphia), math (dyscalculia), or other academic/life skills despite average or above-average intelligence.

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- These "hidden disabilities" create a gap between potential and achievement, stemming from neurological differences in how the brain receives, stores, or uses information, and aren't due to emotional issues or lack of instruction.

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The DSM -5 defines a specific learning disorder as follows:

"A heterogeneous group of disorders characterized by persistent difficulties with learning academic skills in a variety of domains, including reading, spelling, written expression, and mathematics."

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- The DSM-5 further emphasizes that symptoms must have persisted for at least 6 months despite the provision of appropriate interventions.
- A learning disability may manifest as difficulty listening, thinking, speaking, writing, spelling, reading, or doing arithmetic calculations.

Key Characteristics

- **Neurological Basis:**
- LDs are rooted in the brain's wiring, affecting basic psychological processes like listening, thinking, speaking, reading, writing, spelling, and math.
- **Intelligence Discrepancy:**
- Individuals often have normal or high intelligence but struggle significantly in specific learning areas.

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- **Specific Deficits:** Difficulties can manifest as slow reading, poor spelling, trouble with math facts, organizing thoughts, or understanding social cues.
- **Lifelong Condition:** LDs are not curable but manageable with appropriate support and strategies.

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- **Exclusions:** They are distinct from learning problems caused by intellectual disability, emotional disturbance, vision/hearing issues, or cultural/economic disadvantage.