Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. **What is speech tracking?**
   - A structured "conversation-like" task that combines sentence identification and auditory comprehension
   - Consists of give-and-take elements of naturally occurring conversations

2. **What happens during speech tracking?**
   - Speaker reads a story to listener, one line at a time
   - Listener repeats back what he/she heard verbatim
   - Task performance improves when listener:
     o Can follow the story
     o Respond quickly

3. **What is KTH speech tracking?**
   - Computer-based speech tracking procedure for auditory training
   - Allows clinician to control presentation of material and keep track of an individual's mean tracking rate easily

4. **What are the purposes/benefits of speech tracking?**
   - Listener is exposed to a variety of functional, everyday vocabulary in a structured task
   - Participant practices listening to sentence-length

5. **What is the ultimate goal of speech tracking?**
   - To help adults with hearing loss attain a tracking rate of at least 50 words per minute, which in turn will improve their communication ability in daily life

6. **Who uses the software?**
   - Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists

7. **Who benefits from KTH Speech Tracking?**
   - Adults with hearing aids, cochlear implants who struggle with speech understanding in quiet and/or noise

8. **What data is collected?**
   - Speech tracking rate (words per minute correctly repeated)
   - Some research has shown that individuals with normal hearing can track speech at a rate of approximately 100 words per minute. It has been estimated that with a tracking rate of 50/60 wpm and use of speechreading, individuals can follow conversational speech.

9. **How to use the data?**
   - It is used to keep track of client performance and progress by session. The software saves detailed data for ease of chart-making and discussing progress.

10. **Can I customize KTH for my clients? Can I use my own materials?**
    - Time can be adjusted to client needs. Traditionally, we have used 5-minute segments for a total of 25 minutes per session.
    - Materials can be customized. You can input any materials into the software (out of copyright books, newspaper stories, magazine stories, etc). For directions, please see the "Writing New Text for KTH" document available [here.](#)