Types of Hearing Loss

Conductive Hearing Loss
Conductive hearing loss means that something in the outer or middle ear is stopping the sound from reaching the inner ear and the hearing nerve. Conductive hearing loss is often correctible or reversible. Possible causes of conductive hearing loss include ear infections, a hole in the ear drum, wax accumulation in the ear canal, and abnormalities of the outer and/or middle ear.

Sensorineural Hearing Loss
Sensorineural hearing loss means there is damage to the inner ear or hearing nerve. Sensorineural hearing loss is usually permanent. Those with sensorineural hearing loss often benefit from hearing aids or other types of amplification. Possible causes of sensorineural hearing loss include certain medications or medical treatments, noise exposure, and trauma.

Mixed Hearing Loss
Mixed hearing loss means that the loss of hearing is due to a combination of conductive and sensorineural factors.