Introduction
It was assumed that hearing damage impacts the cognitive processes represented in specific brain centres of a child. However, hearing impairment contributes to the reorganisation and compensation of such disorder through the increased activity of other centres of Central Nervous System (CNS).

The goal of our study
The purpose of this paper was to assess the brain's compensation abilities in children with unilateral hearing loss.

Methods
In order to assess the cognitive abilities, the Polish version of the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children was used.

Results
The study comprised 142 children, the study group of which included 60 children with sensorineural hearing loss aged from 6 to 16. Among them, 26 children were diagnosed with right hearing loss and 34 children – with left hearing loss. On the basis of the conducted tests, we saw that hearing impairment affects the intelligence level, as well as the organisation and structure of cognitive processes. The obtained cognitive ability profiles of the hearing impaired present the neuropsychological outcomes of reorganisation of a well-functioning brain. We saw that people with left hearing loss have higher verbal intelligence; the patients with right hearing loss, in turn, have higher non-verbal intelligence.

Conclusion
As left hearing loss favourably affects the level of linguistic skills, this indicates the compensation abilities of the left hemisphere which is responsible for verbal processes. As the right hearing loss reinforces visual analysis and the synthesis processes thereof, as well as "picture" reasoning, this demonstrates that the right hemisphere, responsible for non-verbal processes, also has compensation abilities.