Politically correct language

What do you think the following words and expressions mean, i.e. how are they said in normal or traditional English?

- sanitation engineer
- mail carrier
- physically challenged
- mentally challenged/learning difficulties
- hearing impaired
- seniors
- visually impaired
- follically challenged/comb free
- fire fighter
- visually challenged
- lacking a formal education
- living impaired
- chair
- banned

Try to find any that you weren’t sure about on the next page.
**Discussion questions**
- Which examples of politically correct language are ridiculous? Which ones are actually jokes, do you think?
- Which expressions in the lists of politically incorrect language would you avoid using?
- Do you have similar issues in your own language?
- The words above and divided into three sections by how they are politically incorrect. What are the three sections? Are these all equally important?
- What are the arguments for and against politically correct language? Which side do you fall on?

**Practice**
*Without looking at the top of the last page, work together to say the things at the bottom in more indirect, polite or politically correct ways.*

Try to think of politically correct expressions for other negative words, e.g. the ones above that you haven’t talked about yet, and see if the other groups can guess what you are talking about.