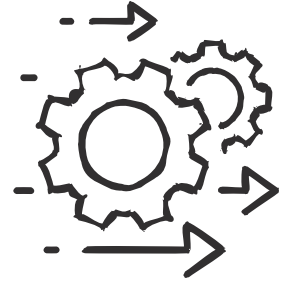


Name:

## Getting fluent

More practice helps!



Suppose your reading rate is not that fast.

You may miss some words as you read.

When you read out loud, it may not sound smooth.

### How can your reading improve? Practicing with a partner helps!

- The first time you read a passage out loud is a “cold read.”
- In a cold read, the words and ideas are still new to you.
- You may stumble or slow down.

### What happens after the cold read?

- You practice the passage different ways.
- Then you do a “warm read.”
- The warm read should be smoother and faster.

# Reading in phrases

When you read fluently, you read in phrases.

Phrases are groups of words that make sense together.

Here is a sentence from the passage, “What’s Your Birth Order?”

Different from first-borns, middle children don’t begin life believing that they are special.

If you read this sentence **without** good phrasing, it might sound like this:

Different . . . from . . . first-borns . . . middle . . . children . . . don’t . . . begin . . . life . . . believing . . . that . . . they . . . are . . . special.

**With** good phrasing, you pause between groups of words. It sounds like this:

Different from first-borns . . . middle children don’t begin life . . . believing that they are special.

When you read in phrases, it sounds like talking.

## Day One

# What's Your Birth Order?

### Part 4: Phrase-cued reading

- Read the passage **out loud** in phrases to your partner.
- Pause at each / mark for a phrase.
- Also pause at each // mark that shows the end of a sentence.

Are you the baby of the family? // Or the first-born? // Are you a middle child? // Were you born first, / second, / or later in your family? // Psychologists say that your birth order / can shape your personality. //

Barack Obama was older / in his family of two children. // So was Yankees captain, / Derek Jeter. // Beyoncé was also the oldest in her family. // What do first-borns have in common? // Often they show confidence / and a strong desire to be in charge. // On the flip side, / first-borns can worry too much. // They may be overly afraid of making mistakes. //

Different from first-borns, / middle children don't begin life / believing that they are special. // From the very start, / middle children have to share / and take turns. // Like President Kennedy / and sports star Magic Johnson, / middle children are often very social. // They can show special talent / at bringing people together. //

Youngest children have to try harder / to get attention. // They sometimes get away with things / when older children are expected to be responsible. // It's no surprise that some famous comedians / were the youngest in their families. // Cameron Diaz, / Stephen Colbert, / and Whoopi Goldberg / were all the babies of their families. // Telling jokes and acting silly / got them noticed when they were growing up. //

What about only children? // Like first-borns, / they grow up with extra attention. // They are more likely to attend college / and earn more as adults. //

Is birth order destiny? // Definitely not. // But family roles help to make us / who we are. //

I read the passage in phrases out loud to my partner.