

Do the preparation exercise first. Then read the text and do the exercises to check your understanding.

Preparation

Match the vocabulary with the correct definition and write a–h next to the numbers 1–8.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 1..... in the front row | a. to speak with difficulty because you repeat the first sound of some words |
| 2..... to take part in | b. really sad |
| 3..... a rapper | c. the ability to speak |
| 4..... to get stuck | d. a person who works with people who have difficulties with speaking |
| 5..... a speech therapist | e. to be unable to continue or make progress |
| 6..... miserable | f. to participate in |
| 7..... speech | g. in the line of seats that are nearest to the front (at a concert, play, etc.) |
| 8..... to stutter | h. a person who performs hip-hop or rap music by speaking words to music |

1. Check your understanding: true or false

Circle *True* or *False* for these sentences.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| 1. Tom has difficulty saying certain words. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 2. Tom really likes Luke Williams. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 3. Tom doesn't know how to make his stutter better. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 4. Ryan Colby wants to be friends with Tom. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 5. Tom's performance in the science fair goes exactly as planned. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 6. The audience like Tom's performance in the science fair. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 7. Luke called Tom to laugh at him. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |
| 8. After the dinner with Luke and his dad, Tom's stutter gets worse. | <i>True</i> | <i>False</i> |

2. Check your understanding: gap fill

Complete the sentences with a word from the box.

| | | | |
|-------|-----|----|------|
| about | was | at | to |
| at | to | on | like |

1. His name's Luke Williams. He's Welsh. I can't stop thinking _____ him.
2. It will take a long time _____ write about today.
3. The phone _____ ringing when I came down for breakfast.
4. Then I heard someone laughing. It sounded _____ Ryan Colby.
5. So they were ringing up to laugh _____ me. Nice!
6. After we finished, suddenly everyone in the school wanted _____ be my friend.
7. I checked my phone _____ lunchtime and I've got 187 new friend requests!!!
8. Dad invited him to stay for dinner. They got _____ really well.

Discussion

What did you think of the story?

Do you ever write down your thoughts in a diary or a blog?

Learner Reflection

What did you learn from doing this reading activity?

I learnt ...

I enjoyed ...

I didn't enjoy ...