

## **Break it down: Reading Comprehension**

For reading comprehension, there are three ways we would adapt the content so my brother would be able to better focus on and process key parts of the information.

- **Break the reading passage into sections** so he focuses on one section at a time
- **Create a fill-in-the blanks version** so my brother focuses on each and every word from the original text as he fills out the blanks
- **Multiple choice questions** to make him focus on the key words and test his comprehension

**We also focused on readings that were on topics my brother found interesting, e.g., sports.**

***This is a sample passage (I have used a simplified example so you see how it is broken down):***

Cricket is a sport that is played with a bat and ball. It was founded in England. It is played between two teams. Each team has 11 players. One team gets a turn to bat while the other team fields. Each turn is called an innings. The fielding team has to bowl and catch the ball on the field. Then the teams switch sides.

Bowling is to throw the ball to the batsman. The batting team will have two players on both sides of the pitch. The pitch is a narrow strip of land in the center of the field. The batsmen will try to hit the ball to the field and run to the other side of the pitch before a person on the field catches it or throws it back.

**We break it into two portions for the worksheets.**

## Portion 1:

### Original text:

Cricket is a sport that is played with a bat and ball. It was founded in England. It is played between two teams. Each team has 11 players. One team gets a turn to bat while the other team fields. Each turn is called an innings. The fielding team has to bowl and catch the ball on the field. Then the teams switch sides.

### Fill in the blanks (you can look at the original text as you fill it in):

\_\_\_\_\_ is a sport that is played with a \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. It was founded in \_\_\_\_\_. It is played between \_\_\_\_\_ teams. Each team has \_\_\_\_\_ players. One team gets a turn to bat while the other team fields. Each turn is called an \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_\_ team has to bowl and catch the ball on the field. Then the teams switch sides.

### Multiple choice (can refer to the text the first few times to learn the words and then practice the questions without the text to refer to)

(1) Where was cricket founded?

- (a) France
- (b) England
- (c) Spain
- (d) United States

(2) How many teams play in a cricket game?

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 2
- (d) 5

(3) How many players are there on a cricket team?

- (a) 5
- (b) 11
- (c) 8
- (d) 10

## Portion 2:

### Original text:

Bowling is to throw the ball to the batsman. The batting team will have two players on both sides of the pitch. The pitch is a narrow strip of land in the center of the field. The batsmen will try to hit the ball to the field and run to the other side of the pitch before a person on the field catches it or throws it back.

### Fill in the blanks (you can look at the original text as you fill it in):

\_\_\_\_\_ is to throw the ball to the batsman. The batting team will have \_\_\_\_\_ players on both sides of the pitch. The \_\_\_\_\_ is a narrow strip of land in the center of the field. The batsmen will try to hit the ball to the field and \_\_\_\_\_ to the other side of the pitch before a person on the field \_\_\_\_\_ it or \_\_\_\_\_ it back.

### Multiple choice (can refer to the text the first few times to learn the words and then practice the questions without the text to refer to)

(1) What is throwing the ball to the batsman called?

- (a) Innings
- (b) Fielding
- (c) Bowling
- (d) Batting

(2) How many players will be batting at a given time?

- (a) 1
- (b) 2
- (c) 3
- (d) 5

(3) What is the narrow strip of land in the middle of the field called?

- (a) Pitch
- (b) Batting
- (c) Fielding
- (d) Cricket