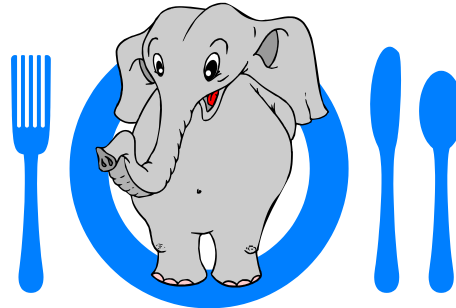


Do you remember this old elephant joke?

How do you eat  
an elephant?

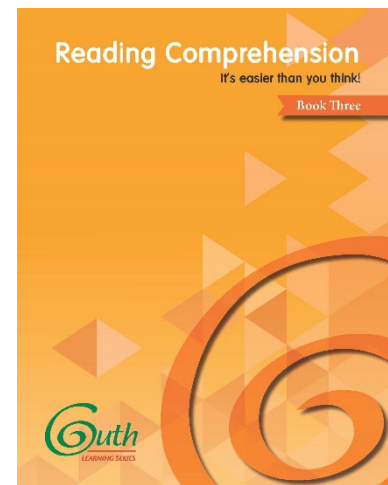
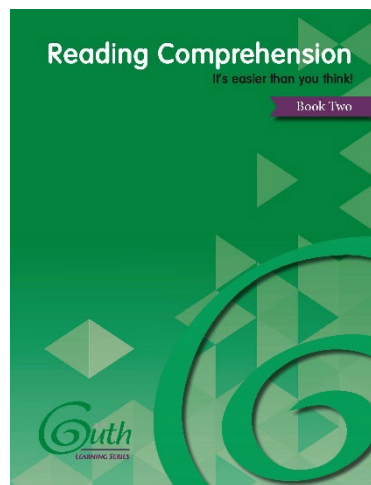
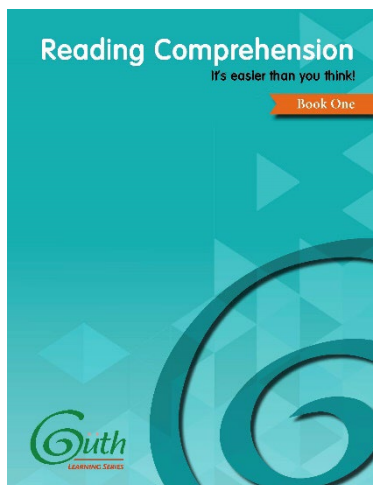


Answer:  
One bite at a time

This 3-book reading comprehension series uses the same approach.

How do you comprehend a passage?  
It's easier than you think!

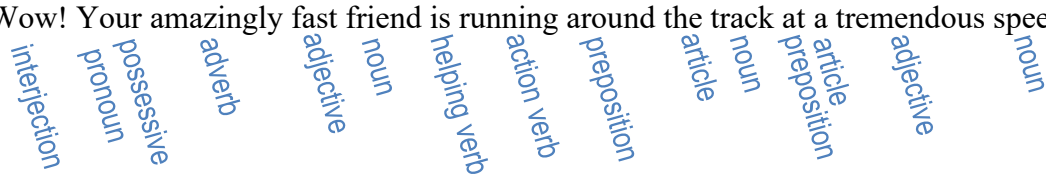
Answer:  
One sentence at a time



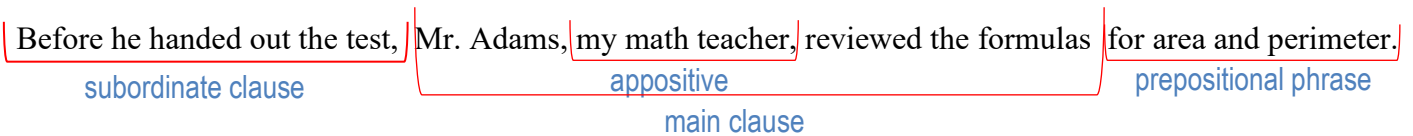
**Reading Comprehension: Books One, Two, and Three**  
 take a unique, easy to understand approach to Language Arts instruction.

**Instead of teaching students to label parts of speech...**

Wow! Your amazingly fast friend is running around the track at a tremendous speed.

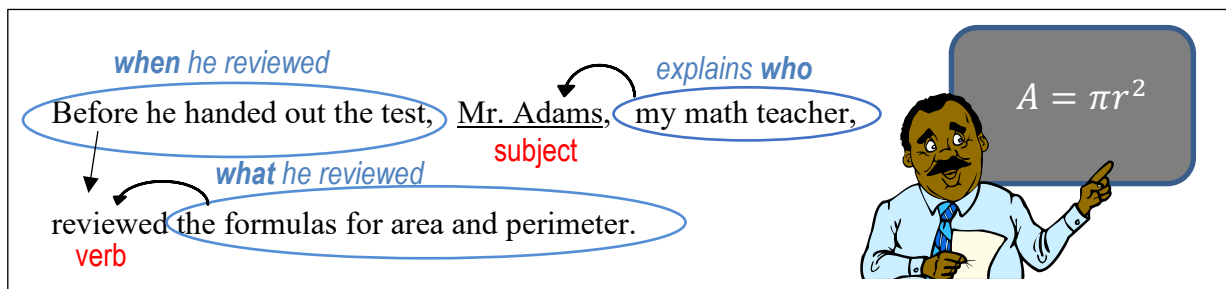
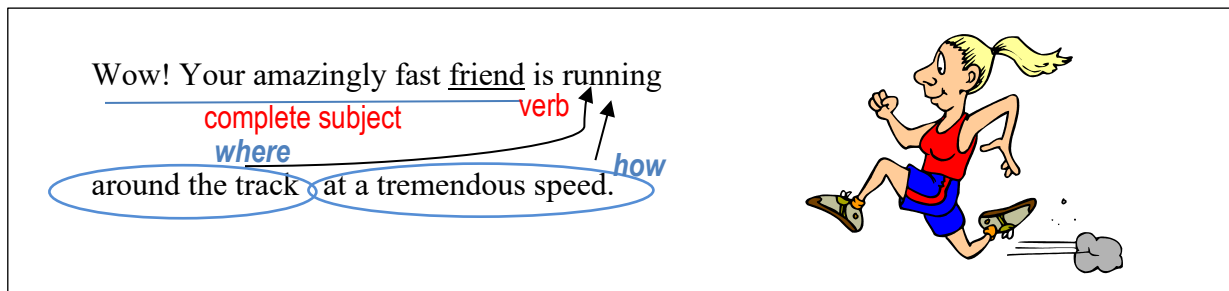


**Instead of identifying the types of phrases and clauses...**



**Students are taught how to...**

- recognize the purpose of every chunk of information in a sentence
- visualize as they read



**Every part of a sentence has a purpose.** The focus in this reading comprehension series is for students to recognize the **purpose** of every chunk of words in a sentence. Reading comprehension improves when students recognize **why** an author included every word, phrase, or clause.

Read the sentences below and consider the answers to questions 1-2.

The girl who helped **Sophia is Hani's friend.**

Every country except **Brazil signed the trade agreement.**

1. Who is Hani's friend?

A. An unidentified girl

B. Sophia

2. Did Brazil sign the trade agreement?

C. Yes

D. No

The student who answered questions 1 and 2 above, did not understand the **purpose** of the words **who helped Sophia** and **except Brazil**. This student picked out the words **Sophia is Hani's friend**, completing ignoring the first part of the sentence. Likewise, this student incorrectly grouped the words **Brazil signed the trade agreement** together, not realizing the **purpose** of the words **except Brazil**.

Now, consider these same sentences when they are correctly marked using this unique approach.

The girl **who helped Sophia** is Hani's friend.

Every country **except Brazil** signed **the trade agreement**.

The diagram illustrates the correct marking of the two sentences. In the first sentence, 'The girl' is underlined, 'who helped Sophia' is circled with an arrow labeled 'which one' pointing to 'girl', and 'is Hani's friend' is circled with an arrow labeled 'clarifies' pointing to 'who helped Sophia'. In the second sentence, 'Every country' is underlined, 'except Brazil' is circled with an arrow labeled 'clarifies' pointing to 'signed', and 'the trade agreement' is circled with an arrow labeled 'what' pointing to 'signed'. Blue wavy lines are placed under the words 'is' and 'signed'.

In this series, students receive the perfect balance of explicit instruction in grammar, sentence structure, and punctuation to help them understand every sentence they read, but students don't get overwhelmed or frustrated with excessive labeling and diagramming. When students understand the **purpose** of all the words in a sentence, the type of mistakes made in questions 1 and 2 rarely happens.

Teaching students to comprehend really is easier than you think!