



### Objective

The student will read with proper phrasing, intonation, and expression in chunked text.

### Materials

- ▶ Chunked passage  
*Make two copies and laminate.*
- ▶ Original passage  
*Make two copies and laminate.*

### Activity

Students read text which has been divided into meaningful chunks, then reread it fluently without the slash marks.

1. Rank students by reading ability from highest performing to lowest performing. Split the class in half and pair the top ranked high-performing student with the top ranked low-performing student. Continue pairing in that order.
2. Provide each student with a copy of the passage.
3. Working together, student one (higher performing student) reads the entire passage with intonation and expression while pausing briefly between chunks (or phrases) at slash marks.
4. Student two (lower performing student) then reads the same passage with intonation and expression while pausing briefly between chunks (or phrases) at slash marks.
5. Student one reads the passage without the slash marks using proper phrasing, intonation, and expression.
6. Student two reads the same passage without the slash marks using proper phrasing, intonation, and expression.
7. Reverse roles and repeat activity.
8. Peer evaluation

The image shows two copies of a reading chunk titled "Harry's Hiccups" from the "Fluency Reading Chunks" series, labeled "F.011". The left copy has slash marks at the end of each sentence to indicate where to pause. The right copy is the same text but without the slash marks. The text describes Harry getting hiccups on the bus and how he and his friends try to help him.

### Extensions and Adaptations

- ▶ Chunk and read other passages according to instructional-independent reading level range.
- ▶ Repeat using a timer.
- ▶ Read passage divided line-by-line in a chunked format and reread in original format.

## Harry's Hiccups

What started out / as a typical day / would soon turn into / one of the most unusual days / Harry ever had. // His mom came in / and woke him up at 7:00 / so he could get ready for school. // Breakfast was the same cereal / he ate every day / along with his banana / and glass of juice. // As he left, / he grabbed his homework and backpack. // He reminded his mom / that he had a baseball game that night. //

He was on the bus / when they began. // He was involved in a conversation / with his friends when, / out of nowhere, / he began to hiccup. // He excused himself / and thought that would be the end of it. // Instead, / it was only the beginning. // He hiccupped again and again until, / finally, / one of his friends said, / "Okay, Harry enough. // You're starting to bother me / and everyone else on the bus."// The problem was / they weren't small inaudible hiccups. // No, / they were loud enough / for everyone to hear. // They also got to be painful. //

The hiccups persisted / throughout the day. // This had never happened / to Harry before. // His teacher tried to be understanding / and suggested he get some water. // When that didn't work, / one of the students / tried to startle him / as a way to stop the hiccups. // Another student suggested he breathe / into a bag. // None of these remedies worked. // Harry continued to hiccup. // When they got to be too loud, / everyone decided he should go / see the nurse. // His classmates did not want to be rude, / but no one wanted to sit with him at lunch, / so he sat at a table by himself. //

Harry thought the hiccups / might go away / when he started playing baseball. // But, / instead, / he hiccupped and struck out. // The coach told Harry / it probably would be better / if he sat out / the rest of the game. // That night / when he tried to do his homework, / all he could do was hiccup. // What if he had the hiccups / for the rest of his life? // Upset and worn out, / Harry went to bed. // The last thing he remembered / was hiccupping. // The next morning / when he woke up / he opened his eyes and inhaled. // All was normal. // Harry was happy / to be quiet that day. //

## Harry's Hiccups

What started out as a typical day would soon turn into one of the most unusual days Harry ever had. His mom came in and woke him up at 7:00 so he could get ready for school. Breakfast was the same cereal he ate every day along with his banana and glass of juice. As he left, he grabbed his homework and backpack. He reminded his mom that he had a baseball game that night.

He was on the bus when they began. He was involved in a conversation with his friends when, out of nowhere, he began to hiccup. He excused himself and thought that would be the end of it. Instead, it was only the beginning. He hiccupped again and again until, finally, one of his friends said, "Okay, Harry enough. You're starting to bother me and everyone else on the bus." The problem was they weren't small inaudible hiccups. No, they were loud enough for everyone to hear. They also got to be painful.

The hiccups persisted throughout the day. This had never happened to Harry before. His teacher tried to be understanding and suggested he get some water. When that didn't work, one of the students tried to startle him as a way to stop the hiccups. Another student suggested he breathe into a bag. None of these remedies worked. Harry continued to hiccup. When they got to be too loud, everyone decided he should go see the nurse. His classmates did not want to be rude, but no one wanted to sit with him at lunch, so he sat at a table by himself.

Harry thought the hiccups might go away when he started playing baseball. But, instead, he hiccupped and struck out. The coach told Harry it probably would be better if he sat out the rest of the game. That night when he tried to do his homework, all he could do was hiccup. What if he had the hiccups for the rest of his life? Upset and worn out, Harry went to bed. The last thing he remembered was hiccupping. The next morning when he woke up he opened his eyes and inhaled. All was normal. Harry was happy to be quiet that day.

## Cooking Up Trouble

Jill and her dad  
went to the bakery  
for breakfast.  
Jill could see the baker  
placing trays  
in the massive oven.  
The baker asked Jill  
if she would like  
a tour of the kitchen.  
Jill smiled  
and said, "Yes!"  
The baker demonstrated  
how the large mixer worked,  
showed them the oven,  
and the huge baker's  
preparation table.  
Then the baker told them  
how he combines the ingredients  
to make the dough.  
As Jill listened,  
the glistening switch  
on the giant mixing machine  
caught her eye.  
She extended her hand  
and flipped the switch.  
"Whir!" went the machine.  
The baker, Jill, and her dad  
tried to dart  
out of the way.  
Chocolate cake batter splattered  
around the room

and all over Jill.  
The baker lunged  
toward the machine  
and turned it off.  
Jill wanted to cry  
and was afraid  
to look at her dad  
or the baker.  
Unexpectedly the baker  
started to laugh.  
Then, Jill's dad  
started to laugh.  
Jill still felt dreadful,  
but she began to giggle too.  
Jill's dad sat  
and had a cup of coffee  
while Jill cleaned up  
the chocolate cake batter.  
When she had completed the job,  
she asked the baker  
to accept her apology  
for making the mess.  
He smiled and said,  
"That's okay."  
Then, he offered her a box  
to take with her.  
When she got outside the bakery,  
she peered in the box  
to see a huge piece  
of chocolate cake.  
Jill smiled.

## Cooking Up Trouble

Jill and her dad went to the bakery for breakfast. Jill could see the baker placing trays in the massive oven. The baker asked Jill if she would like a tour of the kitchen. Jill smiled and said, “Yes!”

The baker demonstrated how the large mixer worked, showed them the oven, and the huge baker’s preparation table. Then the baker told them how he combines the ingredients to make the dough. As Jill listened, the glistening switch on the giant mixing machine caught her eye. She extended her hand and flipped the switch. “Whir!” went the machine.

The baker, Jill, and her dad tried to dart out of the way. Chocolate cake batter splattered around the room and all over Jill. The baker lunged toward the machine and turned it off. Jill wanted to cry and was afraid to look at her dad or the baker. Unexpectedly the baker started to laugh. Then, Jill’s dad started to laugh. Jill still felt dreadful, but she began to giggle too.

Jill’s dad sat and had a cup of coffee while Jill cleaned up the chocolate cake batter. When she had completed the job, she asked the baker to accept her apology for making the mess. He smiled and said, “That’s okay.” Then, he offered her a box to take with her. When she got outside the bakery, she peered in the box to see a huge piece of chocolate cake. Jill smiled.