

READING - Part 1 Comprehension

An autistic person may:

- **Develop good word recognition skills.**
- **Have very poor reading comprehension.**
- **Struggle to move attention from word recognition to text comprehension.**
- **Know word and sentence meaning but not the message of the whole text.**
- **Focus on details/single words rather than a coherent whole.**
- **Have strong syntactic skills but weak semantic skills.**
- **Have comprehension difficulty at the text level due to underconnectivity.**
- **Have comprehension difficulty with longer text due to memory deficit.**
- **Have strength in rote memory.**
- **Struggle with complex text needing organizational strategies for memory.**
- **Prefer expository text (factual/scientific).**
- **Struggle with more abstract narrative text**
- **Struggle with narrative text that requires social understanding/reasoning.**
- **Have Hyperlexia: advanced decoding and delayed comprehension skills.**

Reading

Two types of processing:

- word identification
- language processing of words into a message

**Factors necessary for comprehension
beyond literal meaning of text:**

- awareness of story structure
- inferencing
- monitoring of comprehension

Reading Comprehension

Complex cognitive process

that requires:

- inferencing and attention
- purpose for reading
- prior vocabulary and
topic knowledge

Hyperlexia

- Advanced word recognition skills
- Poor comprehension development