

# Introduction

As a speech-language pathologist in the medical setting, the need for targeting functional communication skills for daily activities has always been a primary focus of treatment. When patients experience stroke or head injury, deficits in listening, talking, reading, and writing may arise. Breakdown in any one or more of these areas will affect how patients perform essential skills needed for daily living.

With the intervention of skilled clinicians and appropriate materials, patients often improve their ability to function independently. Unfortunately, comprehensive functional reading activities have not always been available to quickly reference and reproduce. This led me to develop numerous reading tasks on my own for both adolescents and adults. Patients and families find these exercises challenging, while speech-language pathologists appreciate the wide variety of stimulating and essential topics.

I hope you find the following activities useful as you plan individualized therapy with goals directed toward improving functional reading comprehension skills. In addition to the pages contained in this manual, please use your patient's own reading material to further improve his or her ability to function independently.

LBK