

My name is Frances. I have lived in Oklahoma City all my life. I went to Douglas High School to the eleventh grade. I got married at the age of eighteen. I have been married for fifty years. I have three children. They are girls, Brenda, Linda, and Janice. I have ten grandchildren and have been a foster parent for ten years.

I have been struggling with reading all my life. When I was in school I did not get what I needed to learn to read. Reading and Spelling are very hard for me. I am attending classes now to improve myself by learning to communicate better.

Not being able to read has caused me some lonely times. It makes it difficult to participate in many group activities. I am embarrassed when I can't order off of a menu or read a street sign. I avoid any situation that might require me to read or write. Even a party can be scary if games are played. I just want to be able to relax and have fun. Instead I stay at home a lot to keep from facing the possibility of anyone knowing I can't read.

This is a struggle but I am getting better everyday, and I feel that it is worth all the hard work. As my reading and spelling improve, I realize that I am gaining victory over this problem in my life.

Frances Alexander