

# REMEDIAL READING

## What are Some Types of Disabilities?

Dallman and De Boer (1978) defines reading retardation as a backwardness in reading that can be corrected by special instruction. A child is retarded if he reads well below grade level but has the capacity to perform at a higher level.

## Reading Specialist agree on the definition of the following terms:

- a. *Reading deficiency* - a mild to severe retardation in learning to read which is disparate with the individual's general intelligence and with his cultural, linguistic, and educational experience.
- b. *Reading retardation*- originally used to designate the condition of all children whose reading was significantly below age and grade norm, regardless of the children's potential or intelligence.
- c. *Reading disability* - refers to retarded readers whose mental ability should enable them to read considerably better than they do. This is synonymous with reading deficiency.
- d. *Underachiever in reading* - restricted to those whose reading performance is not below age and grade standards but who are judged to be functioning significantly below their own potential level in reading. It is used broadly to designate the slow learner, the disabled reader, the bright underachiever, the reluctant reader, and the culturally or socially deprived pupil.
- e. *Dyslexia* - defective reading which may represent loss of competency following brain injury or degeneration or a developmental failure to profit from reading instruction. It is often classified as Developmental (a general failure in reading) or as specific (in contrast to general learning failure). It demotes severe reading disability in an individual who is free from mental defects, serious primary neurotic traits, and all gross neurological defects. This is of constitutional and not an environmental origin. It is often genetically determined. It is a term often used by medical specialists to define a subgroup within the group referred to by the term reading disability.