

Lesson 8  
READ THIS STORY #2, Basic

## Tommy Wilson

Tommy Wilson was born in a parsonage in Virginia. He was the son, grandson and nephew of Presbyterian ministers. His family became concerned about him because he was very slow to recognize the letters of the alphabet. To Tommy, a “b” looked like a “d.” Tommy was 11 before he was able to put letters together to understand words. It took him longer than anyone else to get through a book.

Tommy also had problems forming letters and writing words on paper. He learned to type after buying one of the first typewriters available in 1883. In later years, Tommy told his wife that he had always been a slow fellow in mental development. But we now know that wasn’t true. He just had dyslexia.

His parents promoted his self-confidence, and he believed in his own abilities. His father stimulated his thoughts and inspired him to think clearly and to express himself well verbally.

When Tommy grew older, he became interested in politics. As a tribute to his mother, Tommy decided to drop his first name and use his middle name, which was Woodrow--his mother’s maiden name.

Woodrow Wilson not only graduated from Princeton, he became president of that university. Later, he was governor of New Jersey. Then he became the 28th President of the United States.