

ABL Reading Terminology

- [Definition of Terms](#)

Definition of Terms

BlueTone

A BlueTone is a unique identifier for sub-word items. Most commonly, a BlueTone is a phoneme (sound) - grapheme (spelling) pair. There are other sub-word items that are represented by a BlueTone, including consonant combos (2 or more consonants that typically represented as a single unit), combinations (consonant and vowel combinations that are typically grouped together), or non-sound characters that are important for the word meaning but are not used as a sound element (example -- the word "can't" contains an apostrophe (')) that is necessary for the word mean, but does not represent a phoneme (sound) element

Phoneme

A Phoneme is a unit of spoken sound. Most languages, including English, have between 40 and 50 phonemes. The number of English phonemes has been debated. For purposes of this project, there are XX vowel sounds, XX consonant sounds, XX consonant combos, and XX combinations. For most languages, there are 2 types of phonemes: vowel sounds and consonant sounds. Variations of languages (eg English-US vs English-UK) typically have differences in the auditory signal for the phonemes, in particular the vowel sounds.

Grapheme

A Grapheme is a letter or letter combination that represents 1 phoneme (sound) in a word. Graphemes range from 1 to 4 letters, with some graphemes split across the word