Technical Vocabulary: the definitions



| phoneme The smallest unit of sound in a word - often referred to as "a sound" | grapheme A letter (or sequence of letters) that represent(s) a phoneme | grapheme – phoneme correspondence (GPC) The match between a phoneme and a grapheme | polysyllabic word A word with more than one syllable |
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| blending Squashing sounds (phonemes) together to make larger units such as syllables or words | segmenting Breaking words or parts of words into the component sounds (phonemes) | sounding (as a verb) Saying the phonemes that each grapheme represents in order to blend them | sound-talk Saying the sounds in a word and then blending them back together as a whole word |
| recognition Saying the phoneme when shown the grapheme | recall Finding or writing the grapheme that represents a particular phoneme | consonant A speech sound in which the breath is at least partly obstructed | adjacent consonant Two or more consonants next to each other at the beginning or end of a word or syllable |
| digraph A phoneme that is represented by two letters | trigraph A phoneme that is represented by three letters | split digraph A digraph that is separated within a word | vowel A speech sound pronounced without any stricture in the vocal tract |