

DecodeForge — Flashcards

A Spark & Anvil printable flashcard deck. Quiz yourself on the DecodeForge cast's curriculum — one card at a time.

How to use these cards

Fold each sheet down the middle line so the answers are hidden. Read the **question** on the left, say your answer out loud, then **unfold** to check the right side. Testing yourself — then checking — is one of the most powerful ways to remember. Get one wrong? That's the best kind of practice: try it again tomorrow.

Want real flashcards? Cut along the fold line and the rows into cards — question on one side, answer on the other.

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How to use these cards

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1. Phoneme-grapheme review

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
How many sounds do you hear in the word lunch?	4 — Lunch has 4 sounds: /l/ /u/ /n/ /ch/. The digraph ch spells a single sound.
In the word buzz, which spelling makes the /z/ sound at the end?	zz — Buzz ends in the /z/ sound spelled zz. A double z is a common way to spell /z/ at the end of a short word.
In the word duck, the /k/ sound at the end is spelled by which letters?	ck — Duck ends with /k/ spelled ck. We use ck for /k/ right after a short vowel in a one-syllable word.
Which letter spells the vowel sound in the middle of bed?	e — The short vowel sound /e/ in the middle of bed is spelled with the letter e.
How many sounds do you hear in the word grab?	4 — Grab has 4 sounds: /g/ /r/ /a/ /b/. In the blend gr you hear both sounds.
How many sounds do you hear in the word black?	4 — Black has 4 sounds: /b/ /l/ /a/ /k/. The two letters ck spell a single /k/ sound.
In the word cage, which letters spell the /j/ sound at the end?	ge — Cage ends with /j/ spelled ge. We use dge only right after a short vowel (as in badge); after a long vowel we use ge.
Which letter spells the LAST sound in the word dog?	g — The last sound in dog is /g/, spelled with the letter g.
Which word STARTS with the same sound as phone?	fun — Phone starts with /f/ (spelled ph). Fun also starts with /f/ (spelled f). Both begin with the same sound spelled two different ways.
How many sounds do you hear in the word spring?	5 — Spring has 5 sounds: /s/ /p/ /r/ /i/ /ng/. The blend spr is three sounds and ng is one, so six letters spell five sounds.
Which letter spells the vowel sound in the middle of sun?	u — The short vowel sound /u/ in the middle of sun is spelled with the letter u.
How many sounds do you hear in the word cat?	3 — Cat has 3 sounds: /k/ /a/ /t/. Here each letter spells one sound.
The word chip begins with a sound spelled by which two letters?	ch — The /ch/ sound at the start of chip is spelled with the digraph ch. It is a different sound from /sh/.
The word when begins with a sound spelled by which two letters?	wh — When begins with the digraph wh. It is spelled w then h, so the answer is wh.
How many sounds do you hear in the word she?	2 — She has 2 sounds: /sh/ /e/. The digraph sh is one sound even though it is two letters.
How many sounds do you hear in the word flag?	4 — Flag has 4 sounds: /f/ /l/ /a/ /g/. The blend fl is two sounds, not one.
The word thin starts with a sound spelled by which two letters?	th — The /th/ sound at the start of thin is spelled with the digraph th — two letters, one sound.
The /ng/ sound at the end of sing is spelled by which letters?	ng — The /ng/ sound at the end of sing is spelled ng — two letters making one sound. /nk/ is a different ending, as in sink.

How many sounds do you hear in the word stop?	4 — Stop has 4 sounds: /s/ /t/ /o/ /p/. In a blend like st you still hear each sound.
Which letter spells the FIRST sound in the word map?	m — The first sound in map is /m/, spelled with the letter m.
The /f/ sound can be spelled f or ph. Which word spells /f/ with ph?	phone — Phone spells its /f/ sound with ph. Fun and leaf and off all spell /f/ with the letter f.
The word quick begins with the /kw/ sound spelled by which letters?	qu — Quick starts with /kw/, spelled qu. In English the letter q is almost always followed by u.
The word ship begins with a sound spelled by which TWO letters?	sh — The /sh/ sound at the start of ship is spelled with the digraph sh — two letters, one sound.
In the word cold, which letter spells the /k/ sound at the start?	c — The /k/ sound has several spellings, but in cold it is spelled with the letter c.
Which word has the /sh/ sound in it?	fish — Fish ends with the /sh/ sound spelled sh. Fist, sit, and fit have an /s/ or /t/ sound but no /sh/.

2. Consonant blends

⌘ Question (fold →)	Answer
Which word begins with a THREE-letter blend?	split — Split begins with the three-letter blend spl (/s/ /p/ /l/). Stop, flag, and clap have only two-letter blends.
How many sounds are in the word stump?	5 — Stump has 5 sounds: /s/ /t/ /u/ /m/ /p/ — the st blend and the mp blend each keep both sounds.
The word blend itself starts with which blend?	bl — Blend begins with the blend bl (/b/ /l/) — a fitting first sound!
Which word starts with the blend sn?	snap — Snap starts with the blend sn (/s/ /n/). Nap and sap have only one consonant at the start.
Is sh in the word shell a blend or NOT a blend?	not a blend (it is a digraph — one sound) — sh is a digraph, not a blend — the two letters make ONE sound /sh/. In a blend you would hear both letters.
In the word lamp, which sounds make the ending blend?	/m/ /p/ — Lamp ends with the blend mp — the sounds /m/ and /p/ both show.
The word slip begins with which blend?	sl — Slip starts with the blend sl (/s/ /l/).
How many sounds are in the word clap?	4 — Clap has 4 sounds: /k/ /l/ /a/ /p/. The blend cl keeps both sounds.
Which word starts with the blend tr?	trip — Trip starts with the blend tr (/t/ /r/). Tip, top, and tap have one consonant before the vowel.
Which letters make the blend at the END of hand?	nd — Hand ends with the blend nd — /n/ then /d/, two sounds you both hear.
How many sounds are in the word spend?	5 — Spend has 5 sounds: /s/ /p/ /e/ /n/ /d/ — both the sp and nd blends keep each sound.
Which two letters make the BLEND at the start of stop?	st — Stop starts with the blend st — you hear /s/ AND /t/, two sounds that keep their own sound.
How many sounds are in the word plan?	4 — Plan has 4 sounds: /p/ /l/ /a/ /n/. The blend pl keeps both sounds.
In a BLEND like the fl in flag, how many sounds do you hear?	2 — A blend keeps each sound, so fl is 2 sounds: /f/ /l/. (A digraph like sh would be 1 sound.)
The word desk ends with which blend?	sk — Desk ends with the blend sk (/s/ /k/).
Which word starts with the blend cr?	crab — Crab starts with the blend cr (/k/ /r/). Cab, car, and cat have only one consonant before the vowel.
Which word begins with the blend sw?	swim — Swim starts with the blend sw (/s/ /w/).
Which word ends with the	belt — Belt ends with the blend lt (/l/ /t/). Bell ends in one sound /l/; bet and bed

blend it?	end in one consonant.
Which word starts with the blend dr?	drum — Drum starts with the blend dr (/d/ /r/).
Which word has a blend at BOTH the start and the end?	blast — Blast has a blend at both ends: bl (/b/ /l/) at the start and st (/s/ /t/) at the end. Blot has only the start blend; last and best have only the end blend.
The word fast ends with which blend?	st — Fast ends with the blend st (/s/ /t/).
Which word begins with the blend fr?	frog — Frog starts with the blend fr (/f/ /r/). Fog, for, and fox have one consonant before the vowel.
Which word begins with the THREE-letter blend str?	street — Street begins with the three-letter blend str (/s/ /t/ /r/). Treat has tr, sweet has sw — only two-letter blends.
Which two letters make the blend at the start of grab?	gr — Grab begins with the blend gr — /g/ then /r/.
Which word ends with the blend mp?	jump — Jump ends with the blend mp (/m/ /p/). Jam, jag, and jab end in a single consonant sound.

3. Consonant digraphs

⌘ Question (fold →)	Answer
The digraph wh in whale spells which sound?	/w/ — In most American English the digraph wh is pronounced /w/, as in whale.
Which digraph spells /k/ right after a short vowel, as in back?	ck — After a short vowel in a one-syllable word we spell /k/ with the digraph ck, as in back, duck, sock.
Which word has the /th/ sound at the START?	thumb — Thumb starts with the digraph th (/th/). Tub, time, and team start with /t/.
Which word has the digraph th?	bath — Bath ends with the digraph th (/th/). Bat, ban, and bad end in single consonant sounds.
Which is a digraph, NOT a blend?	th — th is a digraph — one sound /th/. st, fl, and gr are blends where you hear both letters.
Which two letters spell the /ch/ sound in chin?	ch — The /ch/ sound at the start of chin is spelled ch. (tch spells /ch/ only at the end after a short vowel, like catch.)
Which word ends in the /ng/ sound spelled ng?	song — Song ends with the digraph ng (/ng/). Son ends in /n/.
Which word contains a digraph?	whip — Whip has the digraph wh (one sound /w/). Trip (tr), spin (sp), and clap (cl) all start with blends.
The word that begins with which digraph?	th — That begins with the digraph th (a voiced /th/, as in this and them).
Which word ends with the digraph ng?	king — King ends with the digraph ng (/ng/), one sound. Kin ends in /n/.
Which digraph spells the sound at the start of when?	wh — When starts with the digraph wh.
Which word starts with the digraph ch?	chop — Chop starts with the digraph ch (/ch/). Cop, cap, and cup start with /k/.
How many sounds are in the word lunch?	4 — Lunch has 4 sounds: /l/ /u/ /n/ /ch/. The digraph ch is one sound.
Which word begins with the digraph sh?	shell — Shell starts with the digraph sh (/sh/). Sell starts with /s/.
How many sounds are in the word chip?	3 — Chip has 3 sounds: /ch/ /i/ /p/. The digraph ch counts as one sound.
The ck in duck spells which sound?	/k/ — ck is a digraph spelling one sound, /k/. We use ck for /k/ right after a short vowel.
The letters sh in ship make how many sounds?	1 — sh is a digraph: two letters, ONE sound /sh/.
Which two letters spell the /sh/ sound in fish?	sh — Fish ends with the digraph sh (/sh/).

Which word ends with the digraph ch?	much — Much ends with the digraph ch (/ch/).
Which word uses ph to spell the /f/ sound?	graph — Graph ends with ph, a digraph that spells /f/. The others end in different sounds.
Which word has TWO digraphs in it?	church — Church has TWO digraphs: ch at the start and ch at the end (/ch/ /er/ /ch/). Chip, shell, and wish each have only one digraph.
How many LETTERS and how many SOUNDS are in shed?	4 letters, 3 sounds — Shed has 4 letters (s, h, e, d) but 3 sounds (/sh/ /e/ /d/) — the digraph sh uses two letters for one sound.
How many sounds are in the word ship?	3 — Ship has 3 sounds: /sh/ /i/ /p/.
How many sounds are in the word shop?	3 — Shop has 3 sounds: /sh/ /o/ /p/.
How many sounds are in the word think?	4 — Think has 4 sounds: /th/ /i/ /n/ /k/. The digraph th is one sound, and nk is /n/ + /k/.

4. Short vowels in closed syllables

⌘ Question (fold →)	Answer
How many sounds are in the closed syllable desk?	4 — Desk has 4 sounds: /d/ /e/ /s/ /k/. It is a closed syllable with short /e/.
Which of these is NOT a closed syllable?	go — Go ends in the vowel o (an OPEN syllable, long o). Got, gum, and gap all end in consonants (closed, short vowels).
Which word has the short /a/ sound?	map — Map is a closed syllable (ends in p) so a says its short sound /a/. Mane and made have magic-e (long a); may has a vowel team.
Which word has a short vowel?	spot — Spot is a closed syllable, short /o/. Spoke is magic-e; sport and spore are r-controlled (or).
Which word is a closed syllable with short /o/?	job — Job is closed by b (short /o/). Joke is magic-e (long o).
How does the vowel sound in the closed syllable jam?	short /a/ — Jam is closed by m, so a is short /a/.
In a CLOSED syllable, the vowel sound is usually...	short — A closed syllable ends in a consonant that closes in the vowel, so the vowel says its short sound.
How many sounds are in the closed syllable strong?	5 — Strong has 5 sounds: /s/ /t/ /r/ /o/ /ng/. Short /o/, opened by the str blend and closed by the ng digraph.
The vowel in the word wish is short because the syllable is...	closed (ends in the consonant digraph sh) — Wish ends in the digraph sh, which closes the syllable, so i is short /i/.
Which word has short /a/ closed by a blend?	camp — Camp is a closed syllable — short /a/ closed by the blend mp. The others are magic-e (long a).
The word fish has which vowel sound?	short /i/ — Fish is a closed syllable (ends in sh), so i is short /i/.
Which word has the short /i/ sound?	lift — Lift is a closed syllable (short /i/ closed by ft). Life is magic-e; lie and light are long i.
What is the vowel sound in the word shut?	short /u/ — Shut is closed by t, so u is short /u/.
Which word is a closed syllable?	pin — Pin ends in the consonant n, closing the short /i/. Pine is magic-e, pie and pay are vowel teams.
Which word has the short /e/ sound?	net — Net is a closed syllable, short /e/. Neat, knee, and need use the ea/ee vowel teams (long e).
What vowel sound does e make in bed?	short /e/ — Bed is closed by the consonant d, so e says short /e/.
Sort this word: is bath open or closed?	closed (short a, ends in th) — Bath ends in the consonant digraph th, so it is a closed syllable with short /a/.
Which word has the short /u/ sound?	cup — Cup is closed by p, so u is short /u/. Cube and cute are magic-e (long u).

Which word has a short vowel closed by TWO consonants?	milk — Milk is a closed syllable with short /i/ closed by the blend lk. Mile and mime are magic-e (long i).
How many sounds are in the closed syllable clock?	4 — Clock has 4 sounds: /k/ /l/ /o/ /k/. Short /o/ closed by the ck digraph.
Which word has the short /o/ sound?	hop — Hop is a closed syllable, so o is short /o/. Hope is magic-e (long o).
Which word is NOT a closed syllable?	me — Me ends in the vowel e (open syllable, long /e/). Met, men, and mend are closed (short /e/).
The word run ends in a consonant, so it is a...	closed syllable (short u) — Run ends in the consonant n, so it is a closed syllable with short /u/.
Which word keeps the short /i/ sound (a closed syllable)?	fin — Fin is a closed syllable — short /i/ closed by n. Fine, five, and file are magic-e (long i).
What sound does u make in the word bug?	short /u/ — Bug is closed by g, so u is short /u/.

5. Silent-e (magic-e) syllables

⌘ Question (fold →)	Answer
In magic-e words, the silent e reaches back over how many consonants?	one — Magic-e reaches back over ONE consonant to make the vowel long (the v-c-e pattern: cape, bike, hope).
How many sounds are in the word cake?	3 — Cake has 3 sounds: /k/ /a/ /k/. The magic e is silent, so 4 letters spell 3 sounds.
Which word does NOT have magic-e?	send — Send is a closed syllable (short /e/). Made, ride, and code all have magic-e.
Which is the correct magic-e spelling of the long-o word that means the place where you live?	home — Home is spelled with magic-e (h-o-m-e): long /o/, silent e.
How does the vowel change from kit to kite?	short /i/ becomes long /i/ — Adding magic-e turns the short /i/ in kit into the long /i/ in kite.
Add magic-e to cap. What word do you get?	cape — cap + silent e = cape (long /a/).
Say the word made. What is the vowel sound?	long /a/ — Made has magic-e, so a is long /a/.
Which word has a short vowel (NO magic-e)?	plum — Plum is a closed syllable (short /u/). Plume and plane have magic-e; prune has a vowel team.
Add magic-e to tub. What word do you get?	tube — tub + silent e = tube (long /u/).
Which word has the LONG /i/ sound?	bike — Bike has magic-e, so i is long /i/. Bit, big, and bin are short /i/.
Take the e off of cane. What short-vowel word is left?	can — Cane without magic-e is can — the a goes back to short /a/.
Which word has a LONG vowel because of magic-e?	note — Note has magic-e, so o is long /o/. Not, nod, and nab are closed syllables (short o/a).
Why is the e in the word have NOT a true magic-e (the a is short)?	have is an exception — the vowel stays short even with a final e — Have is a common exception: it ends in e but the a is SHORT. (English avoids ending words in v, so an e is added, but it does not act as magic-e.)
What does the silent e do in the word cake?	makes the a say its long name /a/ — The magic e is silent and makes the vowel say its long name: cake has long /a/.
How many sounds are in the word smile?	4 — Smile has 4 sounds: /s/ /m/ /i/ (long) /l/. The magic e is silent, so 5 letters spell 4 sounds.
Which word has long /e/ from magic-e?	Pete — Pete has magic-e (long /e/). Pet, pen, and peg are short /e/.
Which word has the long /o/ sound?	rope — Rope has magic-e (long /o/). Rob, rot, and rod are short /o/.

Which word has the long /a/ sound?	game — Game has magic-e (long /a/). Gas and gap are short /a/.
Which word has the long /i/ sound from magic-e?	slime — Slime has magic-e (long /i/) even with the sl blend. Slim, slip, and slit are short /i/.
Which pair shows a short vowel turning long with magic-e?	pin → pine — pin → pine adds magic-e, turning short /i/ into long /i/.
Which word has magic-e?	time — Time ends in silent e, making i long /i/.
Which word means the OPPOSITE of a closed syllable and has long /u/?	cube — Cube has magic-e (long /u/). Cub, cut, and cup are short /u/.
In the word hope, which letter is silent?	e — The final e in hope is silent — it makes o long but is not pronounced.
Which pair are both magic-e words?	cane and tune — Cane and tune both have magic-e (long a, long u). The other pairs include a short-vowel closed syllable.
What is the vowel sound in the word these?	long /e/ — In these, magic-e makes the first e long /e/ (the last e is silent).

6. Vowel teams

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
Which of these words has TWO vowel teams in it?	railroad — Railroad has two vowel teams: ai (rail) and oa (road). Road, rain, and boat each have only one.
In many vowel teams, which vowel 'does the talking'?	the first one (it says its long name) — In teams like ai, ea, oa, the FIRST vowel usually says its long name and the second is silent (a helpful rule of thumb, with exceptions).
How many sounds are in the word soap?	3 — Soap has 3 sounds: /s/ /o/ (long, from oa) /p/.
The ow in cow spells which sound?	/ow/ (as in ouch) — In cow, ow spells the /ow/ diphthong. (ow can also spell long /o/ in snow — two jobs.)
Which word has the vowel team that makes /oi/?	joy — Joy ends in oy = /oi/. Jog, jot, and job are short /o/.
Which word uses ee?	green — Green uses ee = long /e/. Grin, grim, and grip are short /i/.
Which vowel team spells the long /a/ in rain?	ai — Rain uses the vowel team ai for long /a/.
Which word uses ee for long /e/?	feet — Feet uses the vowel team ee = long /e/.
Which word has ow spelling LONG /o/?	snow — Snow uses ow for long /o/. Cow, now, and owl use ow for the /ow/ glide.
Which word has a vowel team, NOT a magic-e?	rain — Rain uses the vowel team ai. Rake, rate, and race are magic-e words (long a a different way).
Which word has the vowel team ay for long /a/?	play — Play ends in the vowel team ay = long /a/. Plan is a closed syllable (short a).
Which word uses the vowel team ea to make long /e/?	leaf — Leaf uses ea = long /e/. Left, leg, and let are short /e/.
The vowel team oa in boat spells which sound?	long /o/ — oa is a vowel team for long /o/, as in boat, coat, road.
The word boil has which vowel team?	oi — Boil has the vowel team oi (/oi/).
Which team spells /oi/ at the END of a word, as in boy?	oy — oy spells /oi/ at the end of a word (boy, toy); oi is used in the middle (coin, boil).
Which word has the ou /ow/ team?	mouth — Mouth has the vowel team ou (/ow/). Moth is short /o/.
The vowel team oi in coin spells which sound?	/oi/ (as in boy) — oi is a vowel team (diphthong) spelling the /oi/ sound, as in coin and boy.
Which team makes long /a/ USUALLY at the end of a	ay — ay spells long /a/ at the end of words (day, play); ai is used in the middle (rain,

word?	train).
How many sounds are in the word coach?	3 — Coach has 3 sounds: /k/ /o/ (long, from oa) /ch/. Five letters, three sounds.
The vowel team ou in cloud spells which sound?	/ow/ (as in cow) — ou in cloud spells the /ow/ diphthong, as in out and loud.
How many sounds are in the word rain?	3 — Rain has 3 sounds: /r/ /a/ (long, from ai) /n/. Four letters, three sounds.
How many vowel SOUNDS are in the word team?	1 — Team has one vowel sound: the vowel team ea makes a single long /e/.
Which word has the vowel team oa?	road — Road uses oa = long /o/. Rod, rot, and rock are short /o/.
Sort it: does the word train use a vowel team or magic-e?	vowel team (ai) — Train uses the vowel team ai for long /a/ — two vowels together, not magic-e.
Which word has the long /e/ vowel team ea?	beach — Beach has the vowel team ea = long /e/. Bench is a closed syllable (short e).

7. R-controlled vowels

⌘ Question (fold →)	Answer
Which word has ur for /er/?	burn — Burn uses ur for /er/. Bun, ban, and bin are short vowels.
Which word has the ar sound?	charm — Charm has the r-controlled ar (/ar/). Chat, chap, and champ are short /a/ (closed syllables).
The word girl uses which spelling for /er/?	ir — Girl uses ir for /er/.
Sort it: is the a in card short, long, or r-controlled?	r-controlled (/ar/) — The a in card is r-controlled — the r after it makes the /ar/ sound.
Which word has an r-controlled vowel?	park — Park has the r-controlled ar (/ar/). Pack, pat, and pan are short /a/.
Which word has the /or/ sound?	fork — Fork has the r-controlled vowel or (/or/).
Which word has the /or/ sound?	storm — Storm has the r-controlled or (/or/).
Which word has the /or/ sound?	north — North has the r-controlled or (/or/). Not and nod are short /o/.
Which word has er making /er/?	fern — Fern uses er for /er/. Fen, fan, and fun are short vowels.
In an r-controlled syllable, the vowel is...	neither short nor long — the r changes it — When r follows a vowel it controls it, so the vowel is neither its short nor long sound.
Which word is r-controlled, NOT a short vowel?	hard — Hard has the r-controlled ar (/ar/). Had, ham, and hat are short /a/.
Which three spellings all make the SAME /er/ sound?	er, ir, ur — er (her), ir (bird), and ur (turn) all spell the same /er/ sound — which makes them tricky to spell.
Which word has the ar /ar/ sound?	barn — Barn has the r-controlled vowel ar (/ar/). Ban, bat, and bad are short /a/.
Which word has the ar /ar/ sound?	shark — Shark has the r-controlled ar (/ar/). Shack is short /a/.
How many sounds are in the word corn?	3 — Corn has 3 sounds: /k/ /or/ /n/. The or is one r-controlled vowel.
Because er, ir, and ur sound the same, the hard part is...	knowing which spelling a word uses — Since er/ir/ur all say /er/, the challenge is spelling — you often have to remember or look up which one a word uses.
Which pair rhymes because they share the /er/ sound?	her and fur — Her (er) and fur (ur) both say /er/, so they rhyme. Car and care do not (ar vs air).
The word her has which r-controlled spelling?	er — Her uses er for /er/.
The ar in car spells which	

sound?	/ar/ (as in star) — ar is an r-controlled vowel spelling /ar/, as in car and star.
Which word has the /or/ sound spelled or?	sport — Sport has the r-controlled or (/or/). Spot is short /o/.
How many sounds are in the word third?	3 — Third has 3 sounds: /th/ /er/ (from ir) /d/. Five letters, three sounds.
How many sounds are in the word start?	4 — Start has 4 sounds: /s/ /t/ /ar/ /t/.
How many sounds are in the word star?	3 — Star has 3 sounds: /s/ /t/ /ar/. The ar is a single r-controlled vowel sound.
Which word has the /er/ sound spelled ur?	turn — Turn uses ur for /er/.
The word bird has which r-controlled spelling?	ir — Bird uses ir for the /er/ sound.

8. The six syllable types

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
What type of syllable is rain?	vowel-team — Rain is a vowel-team syllable — two vowels (ai) for one sound.
Which is a consonant-le syllable?	-tle in little — -tle is a consonant-le syllable (t + l + silent e), as in little.
Which word is a closed syllable?	desk — Desk is closed (short /e/). Day and toe are vowel teams; fly is open (y as long i).
Which syllable type tells you the vowel is SHORT?	closed — A closed syllable (ends in a consonant) signals a short vowel.
Which word is an open syllable spelled with y?	my — My is an open syllable where y acts as a vowel saying long /i/. Mit, mid, mix are closed.
Which syllable type ends in a VOWEL and has a long vowel sound?	open — An open syllable ends in a vowel and the vowel is long (me, go, hi).
The word maple splits into ma-ple. What type is ma-?	open (long /a/) — In maple, ma- is an open syllable (long /a/) and -ple is consonant-le.
What type of syllable is note?	magic-e — Note is magic-e (VCe) — silent e makes o long.
Which word is a magic-e syllable?	cute — Cute is magic-e (long /u/). Cut, cub, and cup are closed (short /u/).
What type of syllable is bird?	r-controlled — Bird is r-controlled (ir → /er/).
What type is the first syllable of table (ta-)?	open (long /a/) — In table, the first syllable ta- is open (ends in a vowel), so a is long /a/.
Which word is a vowel-team syllable?	seat — Seat is a vowel-team syllable (ea → long /e/). Set, sit, sat are closed.
What type of syllable is cake?	magic-e (vowel-consonant-e) — Cake is a magic-e (VCe) syllable — silent e makes the vowel long.
What type of syllable is go?	open — Go is an open syllable — ends in a vowel, so the vowel is long /o/.
What type of syllable is car?	r-controlled — Car is an r-controlled syllable — the r after the vowel makes /ar/.
What type of syllable is she?	open — She is open — ends in a vowel, long /e/.
Which syllable type has TWO vowels next to each other?	vowel-team — A vowel-team syllable has two vowels together making one sound.
Which word is an r-controlled syllable?	corn — Corn is r-controlled (or → /or/). Con, cot, cod are closed (short /o/).
What type is the second syllable of table (-ble)?	consonant-le — -ble is a consonant-le syllable (a final stable syllable: consonant + l + silent e).
Why does knowing the syllable type help you read?	it tells you whether the vowel is short, long, or r-controlled — The syllable type predicts the vowel sound, which is the key to decoding a chunk correctly.
Which word is an OPEN syllable?	hi — Hi is open (ends in vowel, long /i/). Hit, him, and hip are closed (short /i/).

Which word is an OPEN syllable?	no — No is open (long /o/). Not, nod, nob are closed (short /o/).
Sort it: the word care is which type?	r-controlled (are → /air/) — Care is r-controlled — the are spells /air/, not a plain long /a/. The r controls the vowel even with a final e.
What type of syllable is boat?	vowel-team — Boat is a vowel-team syllable (oa → long /o/).
What TYPE of syllable is cat?	closed — Cat is a closed syllable — ends in a consonant, short vowel.

9. Dividing two-syllable words

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
Where do you split the word cabin (first vowel is short)?	cab / in — Cabin splits VC/V after the consonant: cab-in. The first syllable is closed (short /a/).
Where do you split contest?	con / test — Contest splits VC/CV: con-test.
How many syllables does the word every-day word 'basket' have?	2 — Basket has 2 syllables: bas-ket (VC/CV between s and k).
Keep the consonant-le chunk together: where do you split candle?	can / dle — For a consonant-le word, the final chunk takes the consonant before le: can-dle.
When there is ONE consonant between two vowels, try splitting first...	before the consonant (V/CV) — first vowel long — With one middle consonant, first try V/CV (split before it) so the first syllable is open and long — like ti-ger. If that word is not real, try VC/V (cab-in).
Where do you split the word tiger (first vowel is long)?	ti / ger — Tiger splits V/CV before the single consonant: ti-ger. The first syllable is open (long /i/).
How many syllables are in the word banana?	3 — Banana has 3 syllables: ba-na-na.
Split and read: how do you chunk the word fantastic?	fan / tas / tic — Fantastic chunks into fan-tas-tic — split between the middle consonants, giving three closed (short-vowel) syllables.
Where do you split rabbit?	rab / bit — Rabbit splits between the double consonants: rab-bit.
Where do you split the word paper (first vowel long)?	pa / per — Paper splits V/CV: pa-per. First syllable open (long /a/); second is r-controlled (er).
How many syllables are in the word rabbit?	2 — Rabbit has 2 syllables (2 vowel sounds): rab-bit.
You split a word and the first chunk is a real, sayable syllable. That means...	your split probably worked — try reading it — Chip's strategy: split, say each chunk, and if the word sounds right, it worked. If not, flex the split (try V/CV vs VC/V).
Every syllable must have at least one...	vowel sound — Every syllable has exactly one vowel SOUND — that is why counting vowel sounds counts syllables.
Where do you split the word picnic?	pic / nic — Picnic splits VC/CV: pic-nic (both closed, short vowels).
Where do you split the word napkin?	nap / kin — Napkin splits VC/CV between the two middle consonants: nap-kin. Both are closed (short vowels).
Where do you split the word pilot (first vowel long)?	pi / lot — Pilot splits V/CV: pi-lot. First syllable open (long /i/).
In the VC/CV pattern, the first syllable is usually...	closed (short vowel) — When you split between two consonants (VC/CV), the first syllable ends in a consonant — closed, short vowel.
Where do you split the word	

magnet?	mag / net — Magnet splits VC/CV: mag-net.
Where do you split the word robot (first vowel long)?	ro / bot — Robot splits V/CV: ro-bot. First syllable open (long /o/).
Do NOT split a digraph. Where do you split the word bathtub?	bath / tub — Never split a digraph like th. Bathtub splits bath-tub, keeping th whole.
Where do you split sunset?	sun / set — Sunset splits between the two words / two consonants: sun-set.
How many syllables are in the word open?	2 — Open has 2 syllables: o-pen (V/CV, first syllable open, long /o/).
How many syllables are in the word wonderful?	3 — Wonderful has 3 syllables: won-der-ful.
Where do you split muffin?	muf / fin — Muffin splits between the double consonants: muf-fin.
Where do you split the word insect?	in / sect — Insect splits VC/CV: in-sect.

10. Decoding long words (3+ syllables)

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
Chunk the word helicopter.	hel / i / cop / ter — Helicopter chunks hel-i-cop-ter (the i is its own open syllable).
When a long word looks scary, Chip's advice is to...	break it into small chunks you can say — A long word is just small, sayable chunks in a row — break it up, read each chunk, blend. (Anti-shame: big words are not scary, just chunky.)
How many syllables are in the word butterfly?	3 — Butterfly has 3 syllables: but-ter-fly.
Chunk the word sunflower.	sun / flow / er — Sunflower chunks sun-flow-er: closed + vowel-team (ow) + r-controlled (er).
Chunk the word microphone.	mi / cro / phone — Microphone chunks mi-cro-phone: open + open + magic-e (ph spells /f/).
How many syllables are in the word September?	3 — September has 3 syllables: Sep-tem-ber.
Chunk the word basketball.	bas / ket / ball — Basketball chunks bas-ket-ball.
The FIRST step to decode a long word is to...	find the vowels — Finding the vowels shows how many syllables there are and where to split — the first step to chunking a long word.
If your first chunking does not make a real word, you should...	flex the split and try again — If a chunked word does not sound real, flex: try the first vowel long then short, or move the split — then blend again.
How many syllables are in fantastic?	3 — Fantastic has 3 syllables: fan-tas-tic.
How many syllables are in the word invisible?	4 — Invisible has 4 syllables: in-vis-i-ble.
Chunk and read: how do you split reptile?	rep / tile — Reptile chunks rep-tile: rep is closed (short e), tile is magic-e (long i).
Put it all together: the best way to read a brand-new long word is to...	find the vowels, chunk into syllables, read each chunk, then blend — The decoding strategy: find the vowels, chunk into syllables, read each chunk, then blend and say it fast. This works on any word — no guessing needed.
Chunk the word remember.	re / mem / ber — Remember chunks re-mem-ber: open (long e) + closed + r-controlled (er).
After you read each chunk slowly, the LAST step is to...	blend the chunks and say the word fast — After decoding each chunk, blend them and say the word fast — that is when you hear the real word (Segwyn's step).
How many syllables are in the word electricity?	5 — Electricity has 5 syllables: e-lec-tri-ci-ty.

How many syllables are in the word watermelon?	4 — Watermelon has 4 syllables: wa-ter-mel-on.
Keep the digraph whole: chunk the word toothbrush.	tooth / brush — Toothbrush chunks tooth-brush — keep the th and sh digraphs whole.
How many syllables are in the word important?	3 — Important has 3 syllables: im-por-tant.
How many syllables are in the word community?	4 — Community has 4 syllables: com-mu-ni-ty.
Chunk the word dinosaur.	di / no / saur — Dinosaur chunks di-no-saur: open + open + vowel-team (au).
How many syllables are in the word calendar?	3 — Calendar has 3 syllables: cal-en-dar.
How many syllables are in the word alphabet?	3 — Alphabet has 3 syllables: al-pha-bet (keep the ph digraph whole).
Chunk the word umbrella.	um / brel / la — Umbrella chunks um-brel-la.
Chunk the word crocodile.	croc / o / dile — Crocodile chunks croc-o-dile: closed + open + magic-e (long i).

11. Prefixes

⌕ Question (fold →)	Answer
Add dis- to agree. What word do you get?	disagree — dis + agree = disagree (to not agree).
What does the word untie mean?	to undo a knot (opposite of tie) — un- reverses the base: untie = the opposite of tie.
Which word has the prefix un-?	unfair — Unfair = un- + fair (a real base word). Uncle, until, and under start with u-n but have no base word — the un is not a prefix there.
A word can have a prefix AND still be decodable — the prefix just...	adds a meaning chunk to the front you read first — A prefix adds a meaning-chunk to the front. You read it first, then the base — the base's spelling does not change (most of the time), so the word stays decodable.
What does 'nonstop' mean? (non- = not)	without stopping — non- means 'not': nonstop = not stopping / without a stop.
Preheat the oven means to heat it...	before you use it — pre- means before: preheat = heat before.
Which prefix means 'again'?	re- — re- means 'again' (redo, replay). un-/dis-/mis- have other meanings.
The base word in disappear is...	appear — Removing dis- from disappear leaves the base word appear.
Which word has a prefix meaning 'not'?	unsafe — unsafe = un- (not) + safe. Reheat is 'again'; preview is 'before'.
Add un- to the word lock. What word do you get?	unlock — un + lock = unlock (to not-lock / open).
What does mis- mean in misspell?	wrongly — mis- means 'wrongly': misspell = spell wrongly.
Add re- to build. What word do you get?	rebuild — re + build = rebuild (build again).
What does unpack mean?	to take things OUT (the opposite of pack) — un- reverses the base: unpack = the opposite of pack (take things out).
How does a prefix help you READ a long word?	it is a known chunk you can peel off the front — A prefix is a familiar chunk — peel it off the front, read the base word, then put them together. Prefixes make long words shorter to tackle.
What is the base word in rewrite?	write — Removing re- from rewrite leaves the base word write.
Which prefix would you add to 'appear' to mean 'stop being seen'?	dis- (disappear) — dis- + appear = disappear (to stop being seen). reappear would mean appear again.
What does re- mean in redo?	again — re- means 'again': redo = do again.

What is the base word in the word unkind?	kind — Removing the prefix un- from unkind leaves the base word kind.
What does the prefix un- mean in unhappy?	not — un- means 'not': unhappy = not happy.
What does preview a movie mean?	to see part of it before it comes out — pre- (before) + view (see) = preview: to see beforehand.
What does pre- mean in preview?	before — pre- means 'before': preview = view before.
What does dis- mean in dislike?	not / the opposite of — dis- means 'not' or 'the opposite of': dislike = not like.
Read this long word by peeling the prefix: unfriendly. The prefix is...	un- — The prefix in unfriendly is un- (not). Peel it, read 'friendly', then blend.
Which word means 'to fill again'?	refill — re- means again: refill = fill again.
What does misread mean?	to read wrongly — mis- means wrongly: misread = read wrongly.

12. Suffixes and spelling-change rules

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
Add -ed to cry. What is the correct spelling?	cried — y-to-i rule: cry → cried (change y to i, add -ed).
Add -ed to bake. What is the correct spelling?	baked — Drop-e rule: bake → baked (drop the e, add -ed).
Add -ed to hop. What is the correct spelling?	hopped — Doubling rule: hop → hopped. (Note: hoped comes from hope — a different word.)
Add -ing to make. What is the correct spelling?	making — Drop-e rule: make → making.
What does the suffix -ed usually show?	the action happened in the PAST — -ed usually marks the past tense: jumped = jump in the past.
What is the base word in kindness?	kind — Removing -ness from kindness leaves the base word kind.
What does -less mean in hopeless?	without — -less means 'without': hopeless = without hope.
Add -ing to sit. What is the correct spelling?	sitting — Doubling rule: sit → sitting.
The suffix -tion (as in action) usually spells which sound?	/shun/ — -tion is a chunk that sounds like /shun/: action, motion, nation.
Why does knowing suffix spelling-rules help you decode?	you can spot the base word even when its ending changed — Knowing the drop-e, doubling, and y-to-i rules lets you undo the change and recognize the base word — so running is just run, and happier is just happy.
Add -er to happy. What is the correct spelling?	happier — y-to-i rule: change y to i before a suffix (when a consonant comes before the y): happy → happier.
Add -es to fox. What is the correct spelling?	foxes — After x (also s, ss, ch, sh) we add -es: fox → foxes.
What is the base word in carefully?	care — Carefully = care + -ful + -ly. Peeling both suffixes leaves the base word care.
What is the base word in jumping?	jump — Removing -ing from jumping leaves the base word jump.
What does -ful mean in helpful?	full of — -ful means 'full of': helpful = full of help.
What does -ly do in the word quickly?	turns it into HOW something is done (an adverb) — -ly turns a word into one that tells HOW: quick → quickly (do it in a quick way).
Which spelling of the base + -ing is correct for the word 'smile'?	smiling — Drop-e rule: smile → smiling.

Add -ing to swim. What is the correct spelling?	swimming — Doubling rule: swim → swimming.
What does -er mean in teacher?	a person who does the action — -er can mean 'a person who does it': teacher = one who teaches.
Add -ing to run. What is the correct spelling?	running — Doubling rule: in a one-syllable word with one short vowel and one final consonant, double the consonant before a vowel suffix: run → running.
Add -s to the word toy. What is the correct spelling?	toys — When a vowel comes before y (toy), just add -s: toys. (The y-to-i rule only applies when a consonant precedes the y, like baby→babies.)
When do you DOUBLE the final consonant before -ing?	one syllable, one short vowel, one final consonant — Double when the word has one syllable, one short vowel, and one final consonant (run→running). Jump does not double (two final consonants).
The suffix -s or -es on a noun usually means...	more than one (plural) — -s / -es makes a noun plural (more than one): cat → cats.
Add -ing to hope. What is the correct spelling?	hoping — Drop-e rule: drop the silent e before a suffix that starts with a vowel: hope → hoping.
Read the long word by peeling the suffix: unhelpful. The suffix is...	-ful — Unhelpful = un- + help + -ful. Peel the prefix and suffix off help to read the whole word.

13. Greek and Latin roots

⌘ Question (fold →)	Answer
The root photo means 'light'. A photograph is made with...	light — photo = light, graph = draw, so a photograph is an image drawn with light.
The root vis/vid means 'see'. What does visible mean?	able to be seen — vis = see, so visible = able to be seen.
Which word does NOT share the root struct (build)?	insect — Insect does NOT have struct (it has sect = cut). Construct, structure, and destruction all share struct (build).
Which two words share the root spect (look)?	inspect and spectator — Inspect and spectator both share spect (look). The other pairs mix different roots.
Which word family would 'export, portable, porter' all belong to?	the port (carry) family — Export, portable, and porter all share the root port (carry) — one root, a whole word family.
The root form means 'shape'. What does transform mean?	to change the shape of — form = shape, so transform = change the shape. (A uniform is one shape for everyone.)
A root is the part of a word that...	carries the main meaning — A root carries the main meaning; prefixes and suffixes attach to it to change or extend that meaning.
The root spect means 'look'. What does inspect mean?	to look closely at — spect = look, so inspect = to look closely at. (A spectator looks on.)
Why are Greek and Latin roots useful for a reader?	one root unlocks a whole family of long words — Learning one root (like port = carry) unlocks a whole family of words — a powerful shortcut for reading and understanding long academic words.
The root tele means 'far/distant'. What does a telephone do?	carries sound from far away — tele = far, phone = sound, so a telephone brings sound from far away.
Put it together: 'spect' means look and 'in-' means in/into. So 'inspect' means...	to look into / examine — in- (in/into) + spect (look) = inspect: to look into or examine. Combining part-meanings unlocks the whole word.
The root dict is in which two words?	predict and dictionary — Predict and dictionary both share dict (say). The other options mix in different roots.
The root graph means 'write/draw'. What is an autograph?	your own name written by you — graph = write, auto = self, so an autograph is your own name written by you.
The root therm means 'heat'. What does a thermometer measure?	heat / temperature — therm = heat, so a thermometer measures heat (temperature).
The root cycle/cyclo means 'circle/wheel'. What is a bicycle?	a two-wheeled ride — cycle = wheel, bi = two, so a bicycle has two wheels. (A tricycle has three.)
The root dict means 'say/tell'.	to say words for someone to write — dict = say/tell, so dictate = to say words

What does dictate mean?	aloud (for someone to write). A dictionary tells you what words say.
Which word shares the root port (carry)?	import — Import has the root port (carry in). Insect, planet, and picnic do not share it.
The root tract means 'pull/drag'. What does a tractor do?	it pulls things — tract = pull, so a tractor pulls. (To attract is to pull toward; to subtract is to pull away.)
The root aud means 'hear'. What is an audience?	people who listen/hear — aud = hear, so an audience is the people who hear/listen.
The root micro means 'small'. A microscope lets you see things that are...	very small — micro = small, scope = look, so a microscope lets you look at very small things.
The root port means 'carry'. What does transport mean?	to carry across / from place to place — port = carry, so transport = carry across. (A portable thing can be carried; a porter carries bags.)
The root aqua means 'water'. What is an aquarium?	a water tank for fish — aqua = water, so an aquarium is a water tank.
How does knowing a root help you read AND understand a new word?	the root is a known chunk that also gives a meaning clue — A root is a chunk you can read AND a meaning clue — so spotting port or spect helps you both decode the word and figure out what it means.
The root scrib/script means 'write'. What is a scribble?	quick, messy writing — scrib = write, so a scribble is quick, messy writing.
The root struct means 'build'. What does construct mean?	to build — struct = build, so construct = to build. (A structure is a built thing.)

14. Combining prefix + root + suffix

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
The suffix -able / -ible usually means...	able to be / can be — -able / -ible means 'able to be' or 'can be': readable = able to be read.
Which parts build 'transportable'?	trans + port + able — trans (across) + port (carry) + able (can be) = transportable: able to be carried.
Build: pre + dict + able. What do you get?	predictable — pre (before) + dict (say) + able (can be) = predictable: can be said beforehand.
Which long word is built from re + play + able?	replayable — re (again) + play + able (can be) = replayable: able to be played again.
Which built word means 'not full of help'?	unhelpful — Unhelpful = un- (not) + help + -ful (full of) = not full of help. Helpful is the opposite; helpless means without help.
What is the ROOT (meaning core) of disrespectful?	spect (from respect) — Disrespectful = dis- + respect + -ful; the meaning root is spect (look), as in respect = to look again at with regard.
Build: pre + view + ing. What do you get?	previewing — pre (before) + view + -ing = previewing: seeing beforehand.
Build a word: un + break + able. What do you get?	unbreakable — un (not) + break (root) + able (can be) = unbreakable: cannot be broken.
Reading a long word by its parts is powerful because you get...	both how to say it AND what it means — Morpheme parts are both sound-chunks (to decode) and meaning-chunks (to understand) — so building a word from parts unlocks pronunciation AND meaning together.
What is the base/root of 'reconstruction'?	struct (build) — Reconstruction = re- + construct + -ion; the meaning root is struct (build).
To read a long word by its parts, first peel the...	prefix off the front and the suffix off the end, leaving the root — Peel the prefix and suffix, and the root is left. Read root, add back the parts, blend — and you also know the meaning.
Build: un + friend + ly. What do you get?	unfriendly — un- (not) + friend + -ly = unfriendly: not in a friendly way.
Build: dis + agree + ment. What do you get?	disagreement — dis- (not) + agree + -ment (state of) = disagreement: the state of not agreeing.
The whole point of kits 11-14 is that a long word is really just...	a root with parts added on the front and end — A long word is a root plus a prefix and/or suffix. Peel the parts, read the root, blend — and the parts even tell you the meaning. Big words are just built words.
What does 'rewritable' mean from its parts?	able to be written again — re- (again) + write + -able (can be) = rewritable: able to be written again.
Prefa, Rootley, and Fixby each build one part. Fixby adds the...	suffix at the END — In the ensemble, Prefa adds the prefix (front), Rootley holds the root (core), and Fixby adds the suffix (end).

How many morphemes are in 'disrespectful'?	3 — Disrespectful = dis- + respect + -ful = 3 morphemes (treating respect as the base).
How many meaning-parts (morphemes) are in 'unbreakable'?	3 — Unbreakable has 3 morphemes: un + break + able.
Build: re + construct + ion. What do you get?	reconstruction — re (again) + construct (build) + ion (the act of) = reconstruction: the act of building again.
What are the THREE parts of unbreakable?	prefix un-, root break, suffix -able — Unbreakable = un- (prefix, not) + break (root) + -able (suffix, can be).
Build: in + vis + ible. What do you get?	invisible — in- (not) + vis (see) + -ible (able to be) = invisible: not able to be seen.
Peel the parts of 'unforgettable'. The root is...	forget — Unforgettable = un- + forget + -able (the t doubles). The root is forget.
What does 'unhelpful' mean, built from its parts?	not full of help — un- (not) + help + -ful (full of) = unhelpful: not full of help.
What does 'unstoppable' mean from its parts?	not able to be stopped — un- (not) + stop + -able (can be) = unstoppable: not able to be stopped.
Build: mis + understand + ing. What do you get?	misunderstanding — mis- (wrongly) + understand + -ing = misunderstanding: understanding wrongly.

15. Fluency: accuracy, automaticity, prosody

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
A comma in a sentence tells a fluent reader to...	take a short pause — A comma signals a short pause, helping you phrase the sentence naturally.
Which is a healthy, kind way to think about a slow first read?	'This is my warm-up — it gets smoother each time.' — A slow first read is a warm-up, not a failure — repeated reading makes it smoother. (Anti-shame: effort and growth, never judgment.)
Fluent readers use punctuation as...	road signs for pauses and tone — Punctuation marks are road signs for a reader — they cue pauses, stops, and tone.
Listening to a fluent model read the passage first helps because...	you hear how the smooth version should sound — Hearing a fluent model gives you a target for pacing, phrasing, and expression to aim for in your own reads.
A question mark (?) tells your voice to usually...	rise at the end — A question mark usually signals a rising tone at the end — part of reading with expression.
'Prosody' (expression) in reading means...	reading with the right rhythm, phrasing, and tone — Prosody is expression — reading with natural rhythm, phrasing, and tone, the way you would talk.
'Rate' in fluency means...	a natural, comfortable pace (not too slow, not racing) — Rate is your reading pace — the goal is a natural, comfortable speed, like speaking, not the fastest possible.
On your FIRST read of a new decodable passage, it is normal to be...	a little slow and careful — that is fine — The first read is careful — that is expected. Smoothness grows with each repeat. (Slow first reads are normal, not a failure.)
The best way to build fluency on a passage is to...	read it again several times (repeated reading) — Repeated reading — reading the same decodable passage a few times — is the proven way to build fluency.
If you stumble on a word during a fluency read, the best move is to...	decode it, then re-read the phrase smoothly — Decode the tricky word using your skills, then re-read the phrase so it flows — that is how accuracy and fluency work together.
Which shows good phrasing of 'The dog ran to the park'?	The dog / ran / to the park — Good phrasing groups words that go together: The dog / ran / to the park. Word-by-word (The / dog / ran...) is choppy.
The main reason we practice fluency is to...	free up the brain to understand the meaning — Fluency is not about speed for its own sake — it frees the brain from decoding so it can focus on understanding.
When your reading of a passage finally 'flows,' it usually means...	the words have become automatic for you — When a passage flows, the words have become automatic — you are no longer stopping to decode, so it sounds smooth.
A period (.) at the end of a sentence tells you to...	make a full stop and let your voice drop — A period marks a full stop and your voice usually drops — it groups the sentence into one thought.
Reading in PHRASES (small groups of words) instead of word-by-word makes reading...	smoother and easier to understand — Reading in meaningful phrases (not one word at a time) is smoother and helps meaning come through.

Fluency is best measured by accuracy, rate, AND...	expression (prosody) — Fluency has three parts: accuracy, rate (a natural pace), and prosody (expression).
Why does fluency help you UNDERSTAND what you read?	when decoding is automatic, your brain is free to think about meaning — When you do not have to work hard to decode each word, your brain has room to think about what the text MEANS — fluency is the bridge to comprehension.
Why should a fluency passage be DECODABLE (words you can already sound out)?	so you practice smoothness, not brand-new decoding — A decodable passage uses words you can already sound out, so repeated reading builds SMOOTHNESS instead of getting stuck on new decoding.
What does 'fluent' reading mean?	reading smoothly, accurately, and with expression — Fluent reading is accurate, smoothly paced, and expressive — not just fast.
Exclamation point (!) usually means read it with...	extra energy or feeling — An exclamation point signals strong feeling or emphasis — read it with extra energy.
'Automatic' word reading means...	you read the word instantly, without sounding it out — Automaticity is reading a word instantly, without stopping to sound it out — which frees your brain to understand.
Which is the BEST goal for fluency practice?	accurate first, then smooth and expressive — Fluency is accuracy first, then a smooth pace and expression. Racing while making errors is not fluency.
Being ACCURATE means...	reading the words correctly — Accuracy means reading the words correctly. It comes first — smooth, expressive reading is built on top of accurate reading.
Put it together: fluency = accuracy + a natural rate + ...	expression, so meaning comes through — Fluency is accuracy + a natural rate + expression (prosody) — together they let the meaning of the text come through.
Reading a passage 3-4 times usually makes each read...	smoother and more expressive than the last — With each repeat, the words become more automatic, so your reading gets smoother and more expressive — the point of repeated reading.

16. Reading decodable passages + light comprehension

⌂ Question (fold →)	Answer
Read: 'Sam felt unhappy when his team lost.' How did Sam feel?	not happy — Unhappy = un- (not) + happy. Sam felt not happy when his team lost.
Decode: 'The report was UNREADABLE because of the smudges.' Unreadable means...	not able to be read — Unreadable = un- (not) + read + -able (able to be): not able to be read.
You just read a whole passage smoothly and understood it. That means you used...	decoding AND fluency AND comprehension together — Reading a passage smoothly and understanding it uses decoding (sounding out), fluency (smoothness), and comprehension (meaning) — all together.
Read: 'The train sped down the track and past the farm.' What did the train pass?	the farm — The train sped past the farm.
Read: 'The big dog ran fast to the pond.' Where did the dog run?	to the pond — The sentence says the dog ran to the pond. Reading the words accurately gives you the answer.
Read: 'Nate ate a ripe grape and a slice of lime.' Which two foods did Nate eat?	a grape and a slice of lime — Nate ate a ripe grape and a slice of lime — the sentence names both.
Decode the underlined word: 'The path was very SLIPPERY after the rain.' What does slippery describe?	how the path was (easy to slip on) — Slippery (slip-per-y) describes the path — it was easy to slip on after the rain.
Read: 'Zara planted a tiny seed. Weeks later, a green sprout appeared.' What happened to the seed?	it grew into a sprout — Over weeks the seed grew into a green sprout — a sequence you follow by reading both sentences.
Chunk and read the underlined word: 'We will REBUILD the sandcastle.' What will we do?	build it again — Rebuild = re- (again) + build. We will build the sandcastle again.
Read: 'The wet frog sat on a flat log by the stream.' Where did the frog sit?	on a flat log — The frog sat on a flat log.
Read: 'After the long hike, the campers were exhausted.' Exhausted means...	very tired — Exhausted means very tired — the clue is 'after the long hike.'
Read: 'Leo shared his snack with Mia because she forgot hers.' Why did Leo share?	Mia forgot her snack — Leo shared because Mia forgot hers — the word 'because' points to the reason.
Chunk the underlined word: 'The trail was UNFAMILIAR to the hikers.' Unfamiliar means...	not known / not familiar — Unfamiliar = un- (not) + familiar. The trail was not known to the hikers.

Read: 'The puppy was playful, but the old cat just wanted to nap.' Which animal wanted to rest?	the old cat — The word 'but' contrasts the playful puppy with the old cat, who just wanted to nap.
Read: 'Meg had a red kite. It got stuck in a tall tree.' What got stuck?	the kite — 'It' refers to the kite, which got stuck in the tree.
Decode the underlined word: 'The scientist made an important DISCOVERY.' The base/root inside discovery relates to...	cover (to un-cover / find) — Discovery = dis- + cover + -y; to discover is to un-cover or find something. The core is cover.
In 'The chef will bake a cake and a batch of buns,' how many things will the chef bake?	two (a cake and buns) — The chef will bake two things: a cake and a batch of buns.
Read: 'The storm was so loud that the dog hid under the bed.' Why did the dog hide?	the storm was loud — The dog hid because the storm was so loud — a cause-and-effect you get from reading it accurately.
Read: 'The baker mixed flour, sugar, and eggs in a big bowl.' What did NOT go in the bowl?	salt — Flour, sugar, and eggs went in; salt was not mentioned. Careful reading spots the detail.
The big idea of DecodeForge is that ANY word can be read if you...	break it into chunks, decode each, blend, and read for meaning — Any word — even a long, new one — can be read by chunking it, decoding each part, blending, and reading for meaning. That is the whole DecodeForge toolkit, and it means you never have to guess.
Read: 'The cat chased the mouse but it ran into a hole.' What ran into the hole?	the mouse — The mouse (being chased) ran into the hole to escape the cat.
Read: 'Kim was thrilled to win first prize at the science fair.' How did Kim feel?	very happy / excited — Thrilled means very happy or excited — Kim felt great about winning first prize.
Read: 'Jade will plant seeds in the spring so they grow tall.' When will Jade plant?	in the spring — Jade will plant in the spring.
Decode the long word: 'The magician did an amazing trick.' The word 'amazing' has which base word?	amaze — Amazing = amaze + -ing (drop the e). The base word is amaze.
Read: 'The old bridge creaked as the heavy truck crossed slowly.' How did the truck cross?	slowly — The truck crossed slowly (the -ly word tells how).

Keep going

You practiced **400 cards** from DecodeForge. Come back to the ones you missed — spaced-out practice makes them stick.

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