

## Sources of Reading Difficulty: Definitions

Throughout today's session, you may hear some words that are new to you. The purpose of this document is to provide a handy list of words, acronyms, and definitions to support common understanding.

### Frequently Used Words and Definitions

**Automaticity:** The ability to read a word correctly and instantly.

**Background Knowledge:** Pre-existing knowledge of facts and ideas.

**Blending:** Reading words from left to right by linking each letter or group of letters to their sounds.

**Decoding:** The ability to translate a word from print to speech.

**Explicit Instruction:** Teaching that is direct and step-by-step, including explaining and showing how to do something.

**Family:** All parents, guardians, and/or caregivers and the student.

**Fluency:** Reading with sufficient accuracy, rate, and expression.

**Grapheme:** A printed letter or group of letters that represent a sound in a syllable or word.

**Instructional Methods:** Techniques or strategies used by teachers to support students' acquisition and mastery of skills across content areas.

**Language Comprehension:** The ability to extract and construct meaning from spoken language.

**Language Structures:** Includes understanding of syntax (word order) and semantics (word and phrase meanings).

**Literacy Knowledge:** Understanding how to read and interact with the text.

**Multisyllabic Words:** Words with more than one syllable.

**Phoneme:** The smallest sound part in spoken language, like /c/ in "cat."

**Phonemic Awareness:** Ability to hear and manipulate sounds in words.

**Phonics:** Letter-sound correspondence in printed text and writing.

**Phonological Awareness:** The ability to recognize that spoken words are made up of individual sound parts.

**Reading Comprehension:** The ability to extract and construct meaning from text.

**Simple View of Reading (SVR):** The Simple View of Reading is depicted as a multiplication formula. Word Recognition (Decoding) multiplied by Language Comprehension equals Reading Comprehension.

**Syllable:** The unit of pronunciation organized around a vowel.

**Verbal Reasoning:** The ability to understand and use language to reason and solve problems.

**Vocabulary:** Knowledge of, and memory for, word meanings.

**Word Recognition:** The ability to read words accurately and quickly.

## References

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