

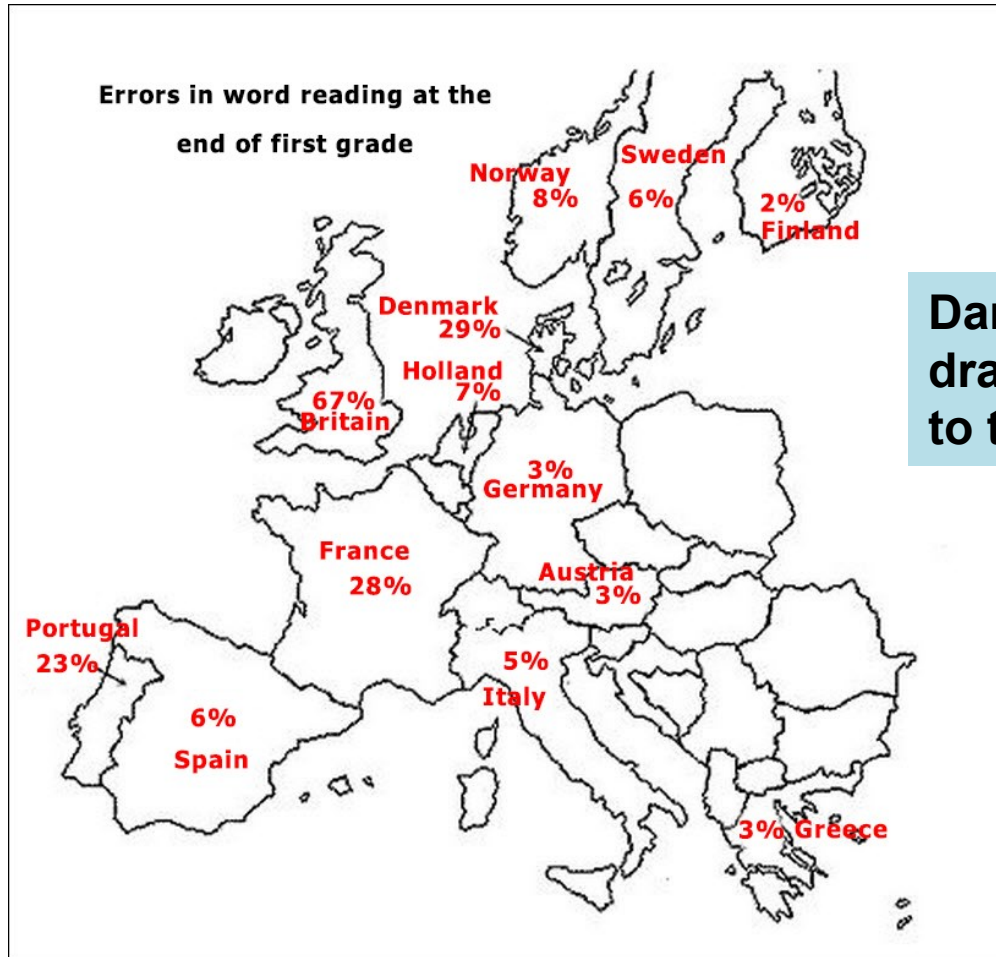
## Module Seven: Part 2

### b) Comparing an opaque code with a more transparent code

To appreciate the degree of difference between examples of an *opaque* alphabetic code and a *transparent* alphabetic code (English v Spanish) and the implications of this difference for learners learning English as a new language in terms of hearing and saying new speech sounds

**Comparing an **opaque** alphabetic  
code with a more **transparent**  
alphabetic code**

# Errors in word reading at the end of first grade



Dan Willingham  
draws attention  
to these findings

Do you know how many  
**vowel** sounds we can identify  
in the English language ?

**a e i o u**

English – around 44 sounds

The English Alphabetic Code

Spanish – half as many sounds!

The Spanish Alphabetic Code

Simple or transparent code

Complex or opaque code