

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

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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

Complex or opaque code

Spanish – half as many sounds!

Simple or transparent code