

## The OnTrack Reading List of 100 Graphemes and Their Associated Sounds

This is a list of the 100 most common graphemes in English words presented in roughly the order that they appear in the OnTrack Reading Phonics Program. The only common graphemes not listed below are the doubled consonants like bb, dd, ff, gg, etc., which are a trivial matter to teach once the sounds of their single letters have been learned.

a	/a/ae/o/	hat-table-want	ur	/er/	turn
c	/k/s/	cat-city	ear	/er/	learn
d	/d/	den	wr	/r/	wring
f	/f/	fan	ow	/ow/oe/	now-grow
g	/g/j/	gift-gem	ou	/ow/oe/oo/u/	cloud-soul-you-touch
o	/o/oe/oo/	hot-cold-do	ough	/ow/oe/	drought-dough-
s	/s/z/	sit-has		/oo/aw/	through-thought
qu	/k+w/	queen	oe	/oe/	toe
b	/b/	bell	oa	/oe/	float
e	/e/ee/	net-she	o-e	/oe/	tone
h	/h/	hot	i-e	/ie/	pine
i	/i/ie/ee/	sit-find-ski	a-e	/ae/	made
J	/j/	jet	e-e	/ee/	eve
k	/k/	kind	u-e	/ue/oo/	cute-tune
l	/l/	leg	ie	/ie/ee/	pie-field
m	/m/	mat	igh	/ie/	flight
n	/n/ng/	net-bunk	ee	/ee/	steel
p	/p/	pin	ea	/ee/e/ae/	teach-head-break
r	/r/	run	ay	/ae/	stay
t	/t/	toy	ai	/ae/	paid
u	/u/ue/oo/oul/	cut-unit-truth-push	ue	/ue/oo/	cue-clue
v	/v/	van	ew	/ue/oo/	few-chew
w	/w/	wall	oo	/oo/oul/	spoon-shook
x	/k+s/	box	ui	/oo/	fruit
y	/ee/ie/i/	happy-sky-gym	ed	/d/t/	hummed-hopped
z	/z/	zoo	oul	/oul/	should
sh	/sh/	shop	oy	/oy/	toy
ch	/ch/k/sh/	chin-school-chef	oi	/oy/	coin
th	/th/the/	thing-then	aw	/aw/	straw
ck	/k/	stack	au	/aw/	fault
wh	/hw/	when	augh	/aw/	caught
ng	/ng/	stung	le	/oul+l/	settle
ar	/ar/or/er/err/	star-war-dollar-scarce	ve	/v/	serve
or	/or/er/	short-work	me	/m/	some
er	/er/err/	herd-very	ne	/n/	none
ir	/er/	first	se	/s/z/	house-choose

ce	/s/	since
te	/t/	route
ze	/z/	breeze
ge	/j/zh/	large-beige
ere	/err/	where
ey	/ee/ae/	key-they
ei	/ee/ae/e/	weird-vein-heifer
eigh	/ae/	eight
ph	/f/	phone
arr	/err/ar/or	arrow-barred-warrant
err	/err/	cherry
tch	/ch/	match
dge	/j/	bridge
dg	/j/	badger
kn	/n/	knife
ti	/sh/	motion
ci	/sh/	special
si	/sh/zh/	mansion-vision
ssi	/sh/	mission
gn	/n/	gnaw
gu	/g/	guard
gh	/g/	ghost
mn	/m/	hymn
mb	/m/	comb
sc	/s/	scent
st	/s/	hustle
ugh	/f/	laugh
the	/the/	soothe
gue	/g/	league

### Summarizing

- 100 Graphemes
- 55 Consonant Spellings
- 45 Vowel Spellings
- 69 with One Option
- 19 with Two Options
- 8 with Three Options
- 4 with Four Options

Note: The digraphs qu, le, and the letter x each have only one option, but that option consists of two sounds combined, /k+w/, /ou+l/, and /k+s/, respectively.

Thus, 69% of the phonics code can be explicitly taught as a one-to-one correspondence between the grapheme and the sound it represents.