

What is your
opinion on this
statement?

PHONICS IS THE ONLY EFFECTIVE WAY OF
TEACHING CHILDREN TO READ.

Let's unpick this statement

Phonics teaches
children to decode
words

Is reading only
about decoding?

What about
reading
comprehension?

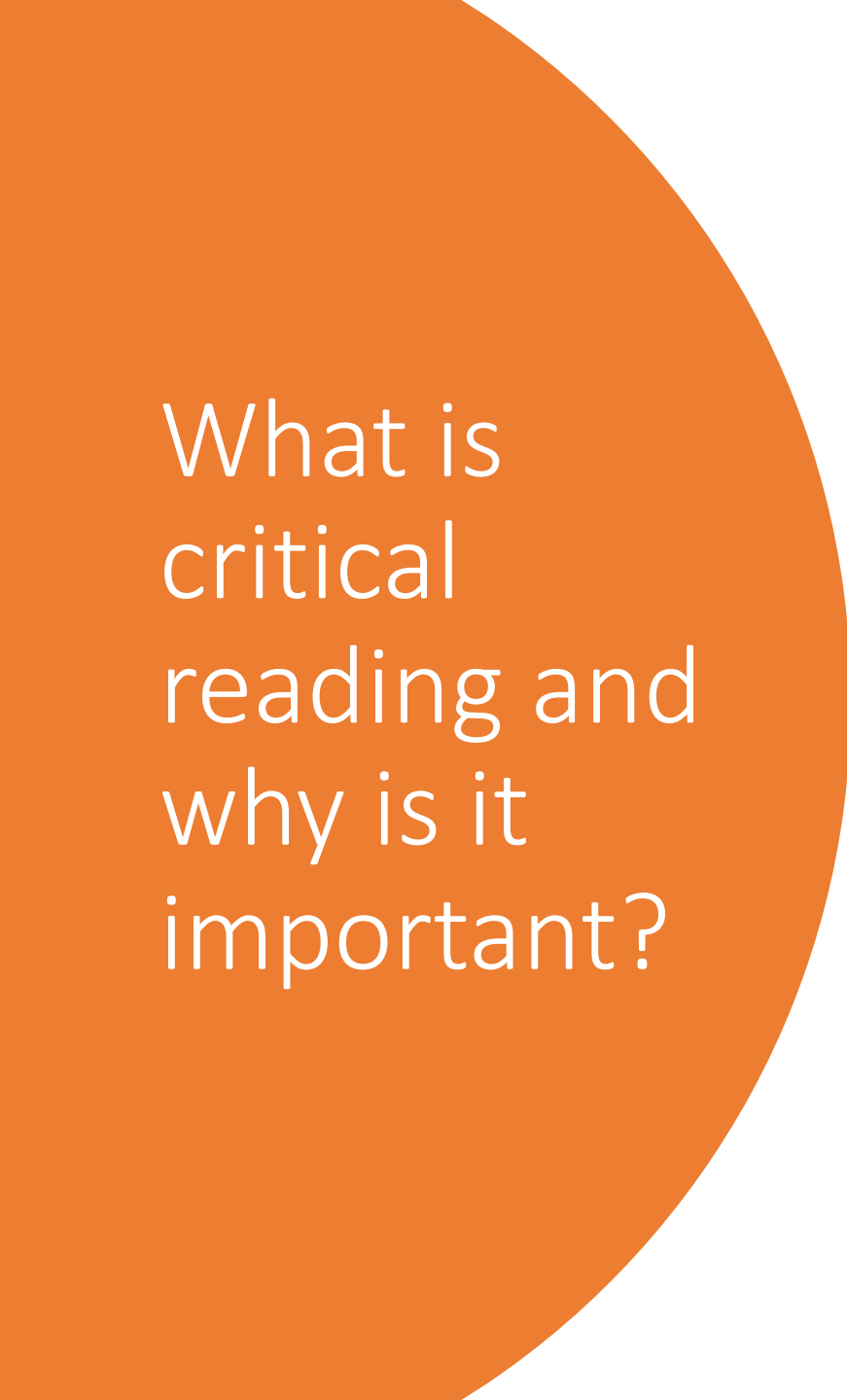
Can we
comprehend
without decoding?

Are all words in
our language
phonetically
decodable?

Will phonics work
for every child?

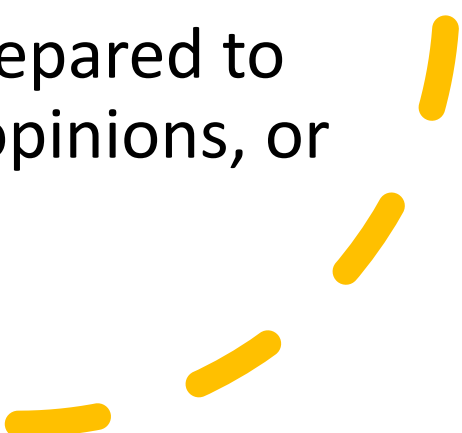
So how can
we
summarise
and engage
in the
academic
debate?

Yes phonics is important and an effective approach in the teaching of decoding. Those children who can automatically & swiftly decode new words will become more fluent readers. However, just because a child can decode a new word, this does not mean they can understand the meaning of that word. Further teaching needs to be done to develop vocabulary and to discuss the meaning of that work within the context of the sentence and text.

A large orange circle on the left side of the slide, containing the text 'What is critical reading and why is it important?'.

What is
critical
reading and
why is it
important?

The most dominant features of critical reading are to:

- examine the evidence or arguments presented;
 - consider any influences on the evidence or arguments;
 - check the limitations of study design or focus;
 - examine the interpretations made; and
 - decide to what extent you are prepared to accept the authors' arguments, opinions, or conclusions.
- 
- A decorative yellow dashed line in the bottom right corner of the slide.

Details you may want to record when reading

Focus	Considerations
Researcher bias	Who is the author and what are their intentions? What is their role? Why are they writing on this subject? Is their rationale clear and underpinned by theory?
Intended audience	Who is the writing aimed at? Who would be interested? Why is the author trying to reach this audience?
Setting	Where has the research been set? Is it representative of other settings and therefore, are the findings/conclusions transferable?
Methodology	What methodology was used? Was this a sensible choice? Are the data collection methods underpinned by the methodology?
Sample size & sample profile	Is the size and profile of the sample robust? Is the sample large enough? Does the profile of the sample allow us to generalize?
Type of data	Is the data broad enough? Does it represent a clear and unbiased portrait? Has it been analysed in enough depth?
Limitations/conclusions	Is the research robust enough? Are there gaps in the argument? Are the conclusions/recommendations supported by the data?

You
opportunity
to apply the
key points
we have
covered

- Vosniadou, S. (2020) “Bridging Secondary and Higher Education. The Importance of Self-regulated Learning,” *European Review*. Cambridge University Press, 28(S1), pp. S94–S103.
- You can find the article [here](#).
- Read the article twice. Once to understand the key points made and the second time to identify aspects of criticality.
- Use the critical framework to make notes about the article and support your critical reading (see next slide for framework.)

Notetaking Framework to support critical reading

- The notetaking framework should bring a critical focus to your reading.
- Read the article once to gain an overview and on the second reading, use the framework to support your reflection and critical thinking.

Author; intended audience; evidence of bias; rationale & context; is it supported by theory/ <u>policy</u> ?	
What are the main points in the paper? Are they 'argued' and criticised? Are alternative viewpoints considered?	
What are the recommendations? Are there limitations?	
After reading the paper, has it made you reflect on your own experiences and understanding?	



Critical Reading - our initial thoughts

Once you have completed the critical reading exercise, try to summarise each section of the framework and share your initial ideas.

Author; intended audience; evidence of bias; rationale & context; is it supported by theory/policy ?

+

What are the main points in the paper? Are they 'argued' and criticised? Are alternative viewpoints considered?

+

What are the recommendations? Are there limitations?

+

After reading the paper, has it made you reflect on your own experiences and understanding?

+

Sharing your thoughts...

- Once you have completed your notetaking, summarise the key points for each section on the Padlet wall.
- Just click on the + symbol to add your thoughts under each of the headings.
- You can find the Padlet wall [here](#)

Final thoughts...

- We hope you have found this introductory workshop valuable and to support your understanding further, the following texts can be accessed before your programme begins.
- Fisher, A. (2011) Critical Thinking – second edition – [You can access this text here](#)
- McPeck, J. (2016) Critical Thinking and Education – [you can preview the first three chapters of this text here](#)
- Wallace, M & Wray, A. (2011) Critical Reading and Writing for Postgraduates – [You can access this text here](#)