

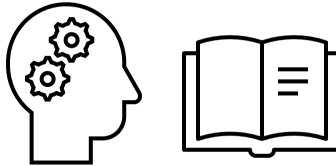
Two types of reading problems in aphasia

Authors: J. Vivian Dickens, Andrew T. DeMarco, Candace M. van der Stelt, Sarah F. Snider, Elizabeth H. Lacey, John D. Medaglia, Rhonda B. Friedman and Peter E. Turkeltaub

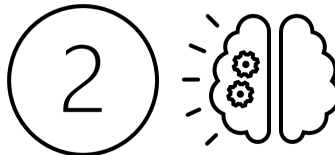
An accessible version of:

Two types of phonological reading impairment in stroke aphasia

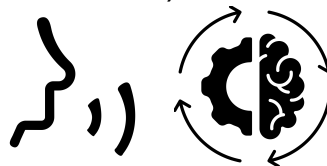
- People with **Aphasia** often have a **reading problem** called **Alexia**



- This study found **two types** of Alexia caused by **different brain damage**

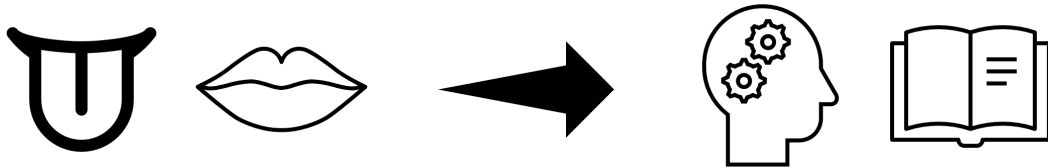


- The first reading problem results from damage to a **motor speech area** in the brain (left frontal lobe)

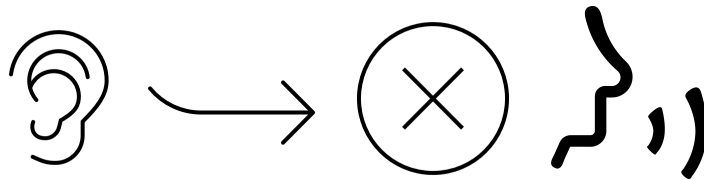


- o Damage to the motor speech area makes reading **unfamiliar words** hard (like 'mub')

- o This suggests that **sounding out** new words relies on **motor memories**



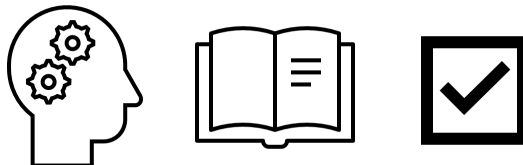
- The second reading problem results from brain damage that



disconnects the
(left parietal lobe)

hearing and speaking brain areas

- o Disconnecting memories of hearing and speaking makes reading all words hard, including familiar words like 'tub' and unfamiliar words like 'mub'
- This study helps us understand the different ways people with aphasia struggle with reading



- Speech therapy targeting **motor speech** and **linking hearing and speaking memories** may **help people with aphasia read better**