

Linguistic features of Afrikaans

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9 November 2022



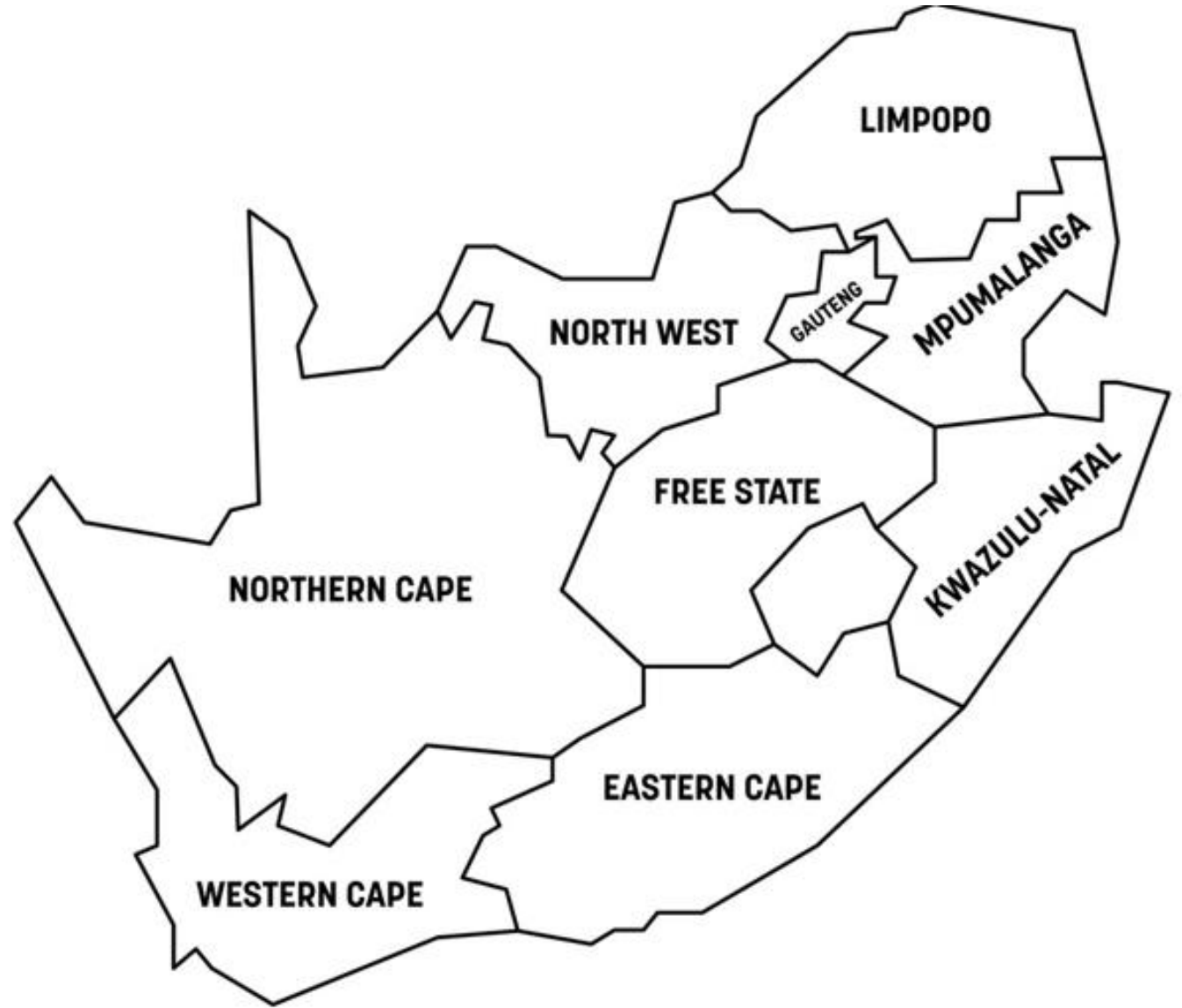
Contents

- Afrikaans in South Africa
- What do we know about Afrikaans?
- What do we know about Afrikaans as a language?
- How does this inform a process such as developing benchmarks?



Afrikaans in South Africa

- The situation across the country



**EARLY
GRADE
READING
BENCHMARKS**

Origin of Afrikaans

- Where does it come from?
- What influences it?
- Language varieties
- What does this mean for early grade reading?



The different language varieties of Afrikaans

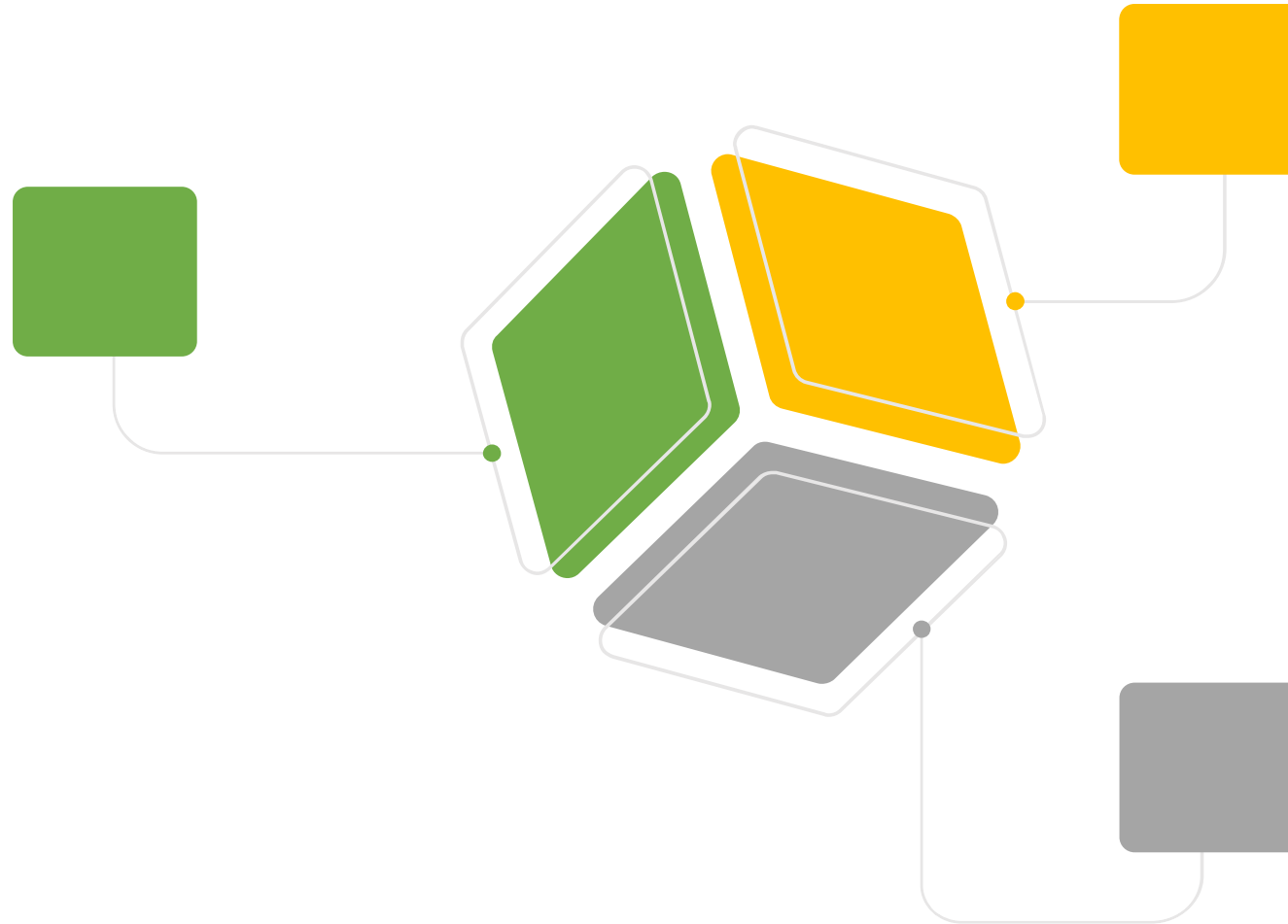
Kaapse Afrikaans

originally spoken by
slaves
Blatjang, atjar
Adam Small



Stellenbosch

UNIVERSITY
IYUNIVESITHI
UNIVERSITEIT



Oranjerivierafrikaans

originally spoken by the
Khoi
dagga, kerie, kamma,
hoeka, kwagga, aitsa!
Namakwaland, Namibië

Oosgrensafrikaans

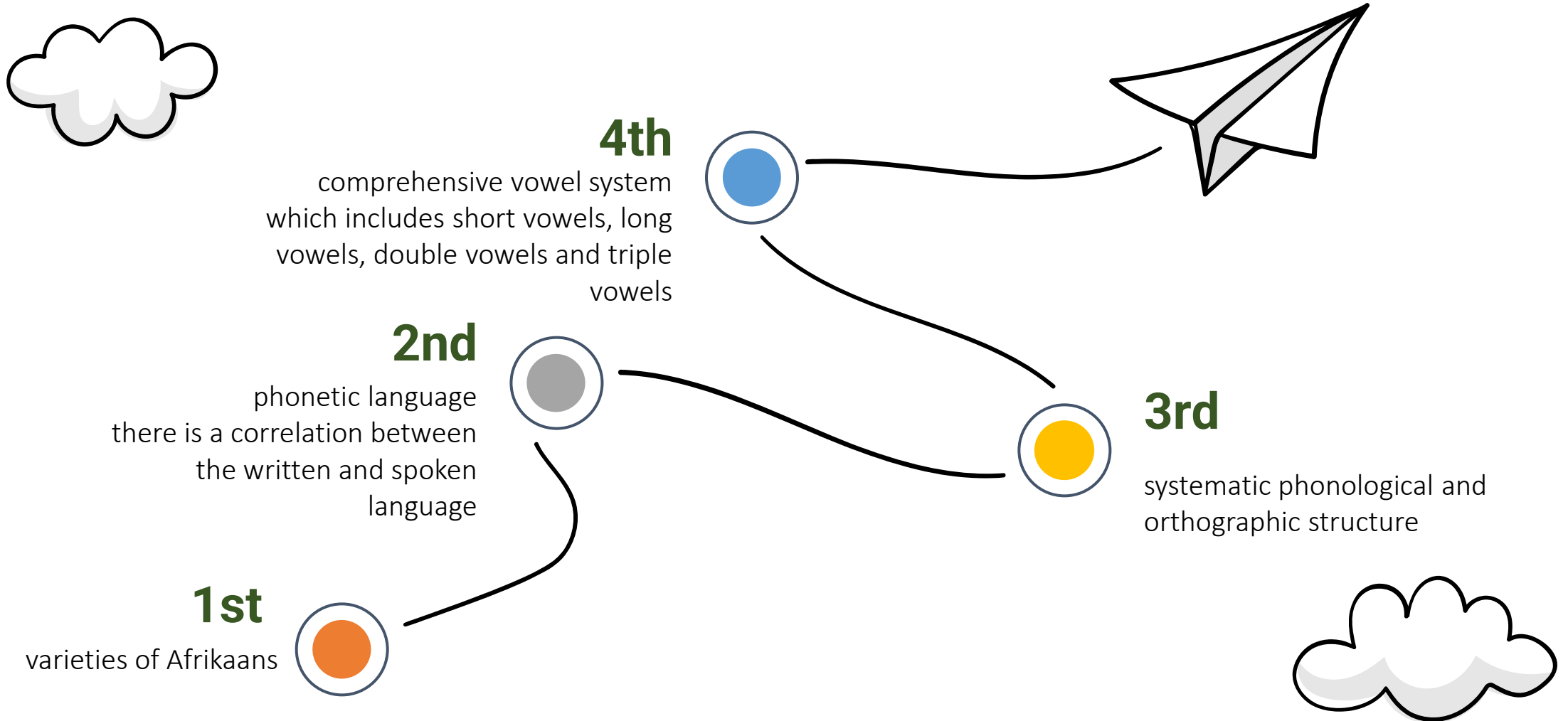
Originally spoken by the
cattle farmers in the
interior
Hy (ken) net praat.
→ kan
Flat form of Dutch



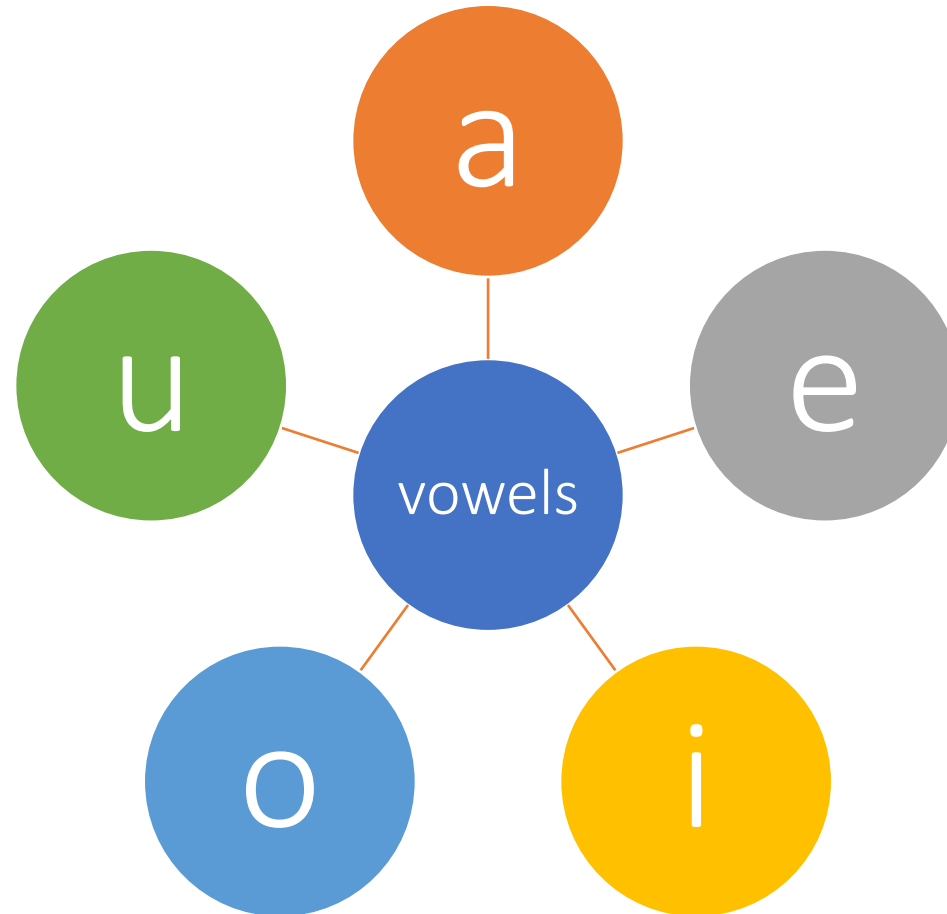
basic education
Department:
Basic Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reading Benchmarks for African Languages

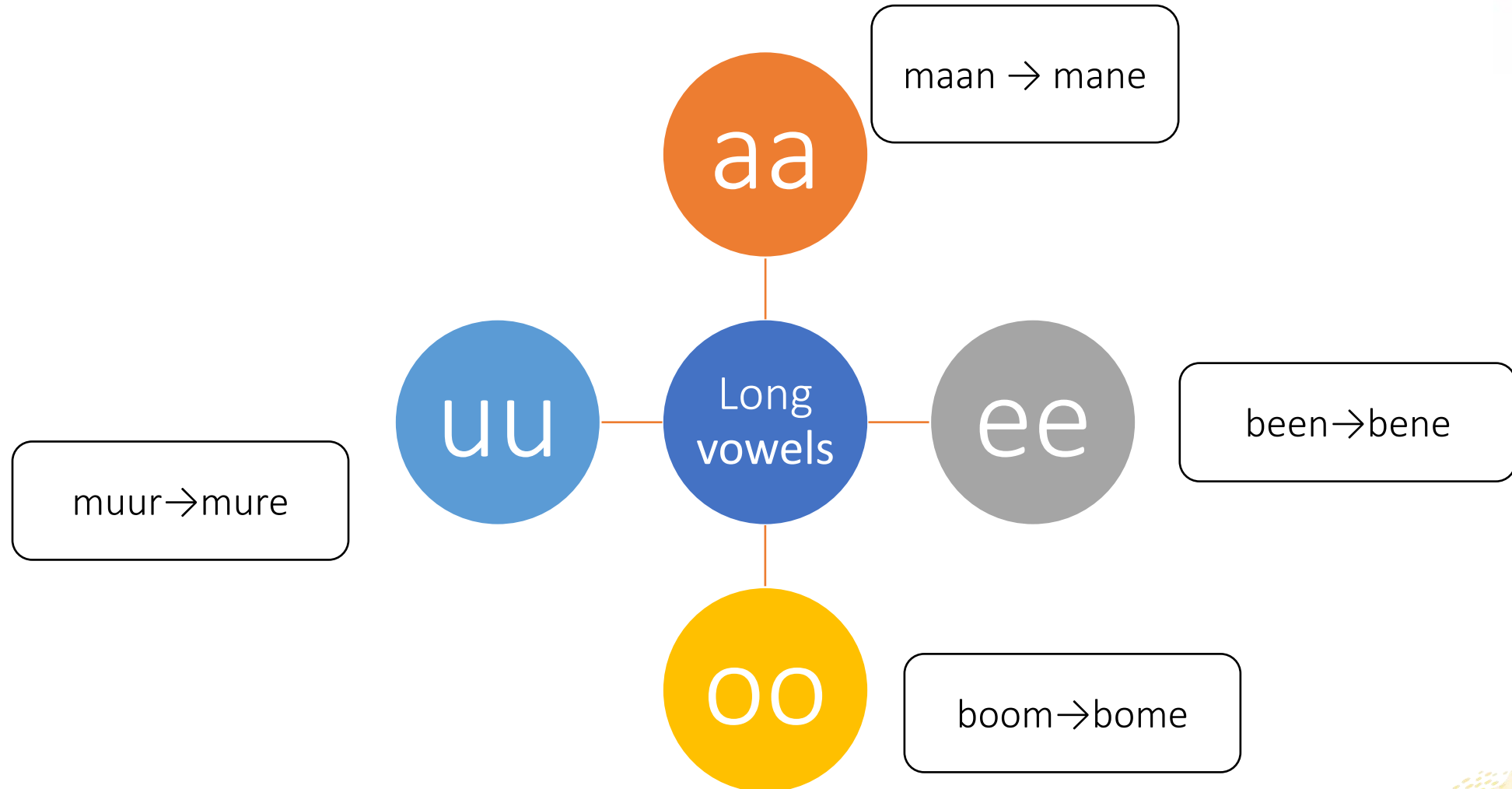
What does this mean for Early Grade Reading?



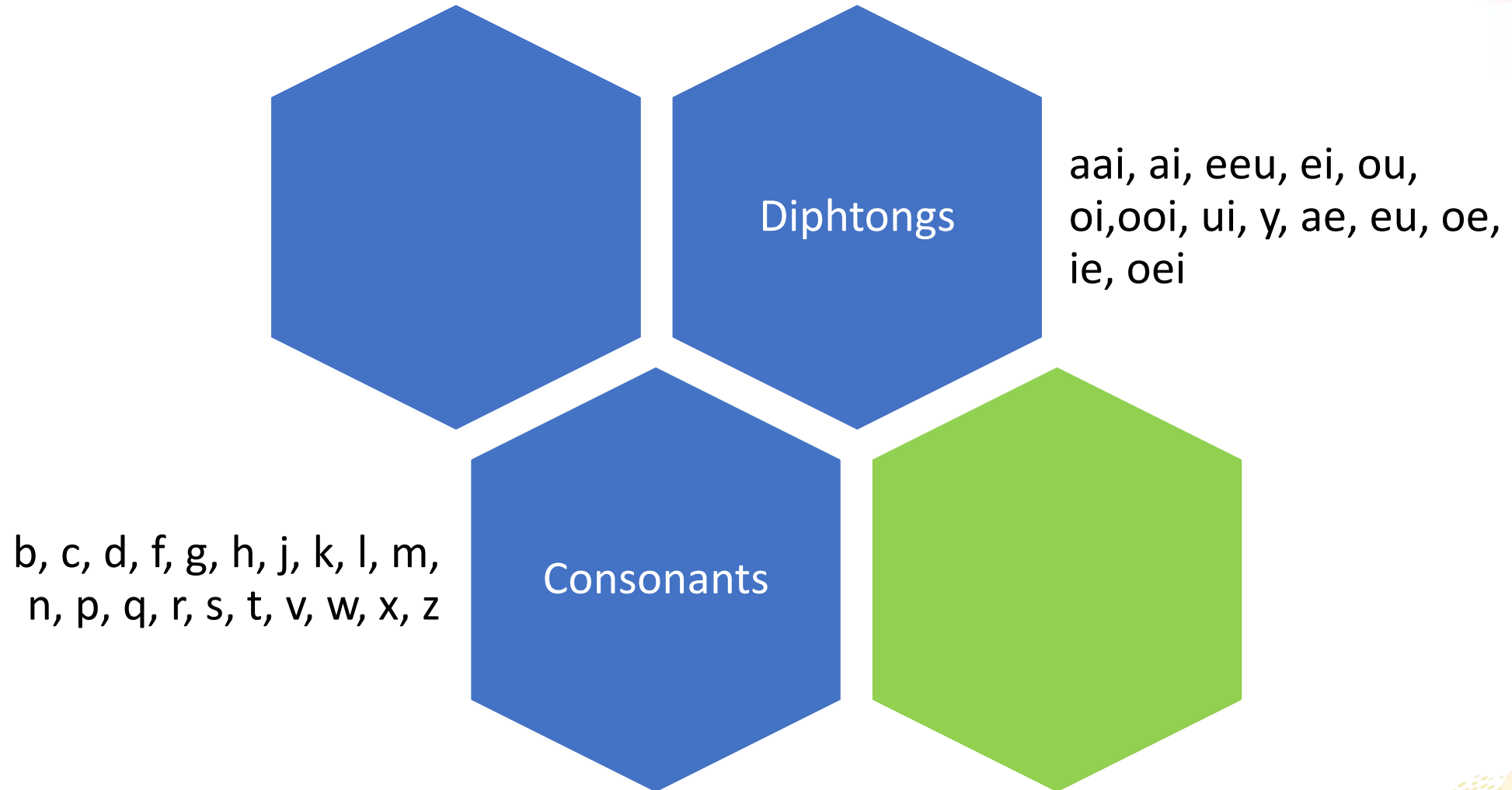
Language structure



Language structure



Language structure



Language structure

ch

- Chemie (chemistry) → ch sounds like **g** in gaan

dj

- Baadjie (Jacket/blazer) → dj sounds like **k** in hanky

sj

- Sjef (chef) → sj sounds like **sh** in shop

tj

- Tjek (cheque) → tj sounds like **ch** in child

Blatjang



What do we know about Afrikaans as a language?



1

phonetic



2

one thing – one word!



3

no c's, q's or x's



4

f at beginning
→ probably a v



5

v at beginning
→ probably a w

What do we know about Afrikaans as a language?



6

d and t sound the same at the end of a word



7

silent e and silent i make vowels sound long



8

punctuation marks are used to help us read words



9

Logical and rule based



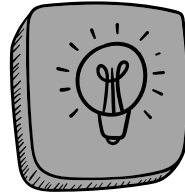
?

So what tools do learners get to understand/learn this?

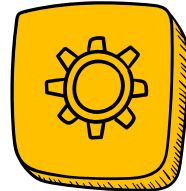
So what makes Afrikaans different?



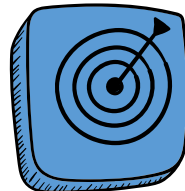
One thing – one word! → compound words



What are we teaching and why?



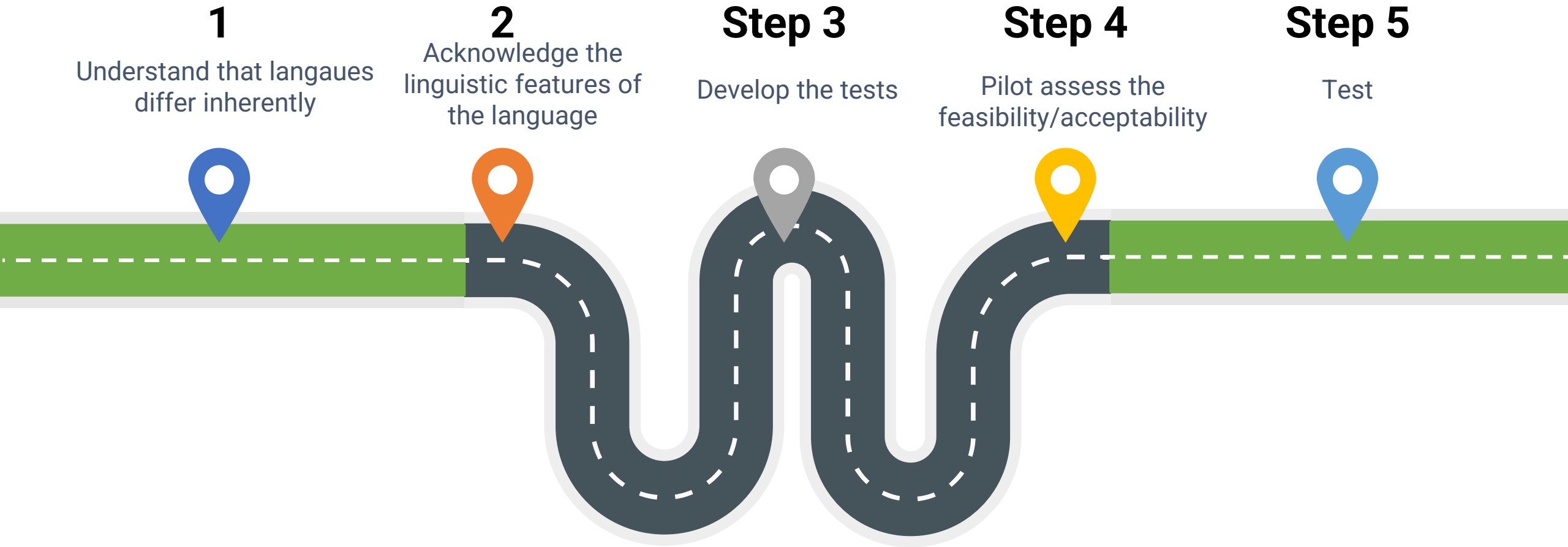
Are learners provided with enough knowledge and skills to read and identify words correctly



Reuseitverkoping



Setting benchmarks for Early Grade Reading (Afrikaans)



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