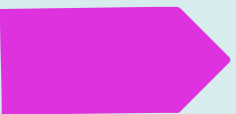




# Phonics

@Barnehurst



English is  
complex



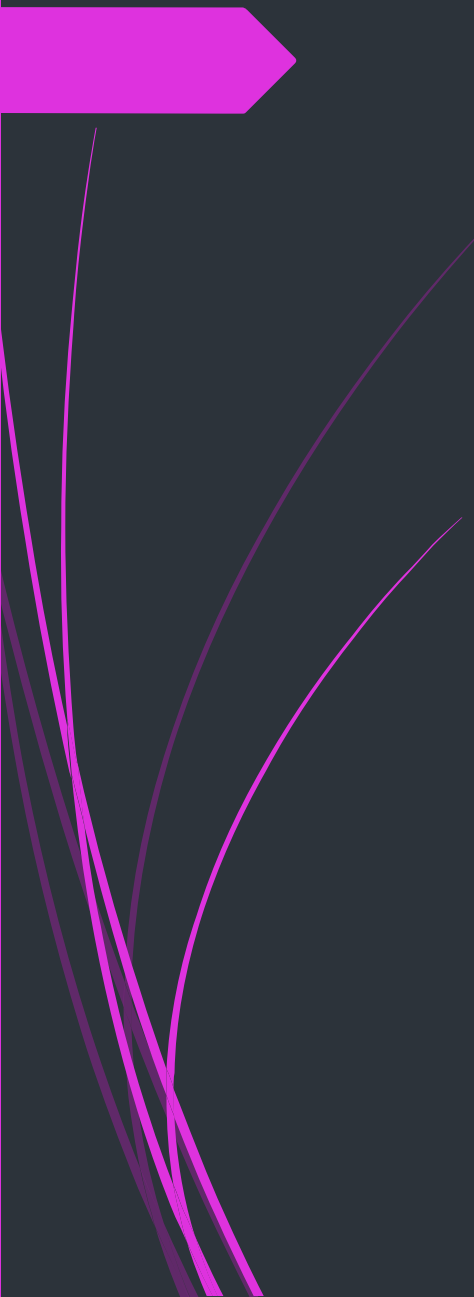
How many letters are there in  
English?



How many sounds are there in  
English?



How many different ways can  
these sounds be spelt?



# How do we teach reading @Barnehurst?

- ➡ Phonics
- ➡ Whole class reading
- ➡ DSR

# Useful definitions

## Phoneme

- ▶ A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound in a word.
- ▶ Feel/watch how your mouth changes when you say a word, every time your mouth moves/changes shape you are saying a new phoneme, e.g. b-r-i-ck
- ▶ There are 44 phonemes in the English language

## Grapheme

- ▶ Graphemes represent how a phoneme is spelt. Each grapheme is a unit of sound regardless of how many letters there are.

e.g. The word b-r-igh-t is made up of 4 phonemes; the igh phoneme is represented by 3 letters but only makes one phoneme.

- ▶ A grapheme can represent more than one phoneme e.g. C = cat and city

### What is a phoneme?

A **phoneme** is the smallest unit of sound in a word.

Example:  
/k/



### What is a grapheme?

A **grapheme** is the way we write a phoneme.

Example:  
/k/ can be written 5 ways  
c k ck qu ch



## Diagraph

- Two letters, which makes 1 phoneme. e.g. duckck
- A consonant diagraph contains two consonants

e.g. sh ck th ll

- A vowel diagraph contains at least one vowel

e.g. ai ee ar oy

## Split Diagraph

- A diagraph in which the two letters are not adjacent e.g. make

## Trigraph

- Three letters, which make 1 phoneme. e.g. light

# What is Phonics?



- Phonics is a method for teaching reading and writing.
- It develops phonemic awareness – the ability to hear, recognise and use the sounds within words.
- Learners are also taught the correspondence between sounds and the graphemes that represent them.
- Phonics is currently the main way in which children in British primary schools are taught to read in their earliest years.
- Children will also be taught other skills, such as whole-word recognition ('tricky words'), book skills and a love and enjoyment of reading.



Phonics, taught in a structured way, is generally accepted to be the most effective way to teach reading and writing.



This assists with their confidence, accuracy and fluency.



Phonics should not be taught in isolation - children also need to learn other reading and comprehension skills alongside phonic knowledge.

# Why are children taught Phonics?





# How we teach phonics

- At Barnehurst we teach phonics from Early Years. We base our phonics on the Letters and Sounds programme that was issued by the DFE in 2007.
- Children are taught reading and spelling daily throughout the week, and each session will follow a structured format.
- The activities used to teach will vary and can be adapted. They are multisensory and appeal to different learning styles. They involve games and individual and group activities as well as teacher-led sessions.
- Teachers will assess children's understanding throughout each session and will also assess knowledge of sounds to see whether a child is ready to move on to the next phase.
- We teach our children letter formations through rhymes.





# Letters and sounds

## Nursery

- Phase 1 – focus on listening skills

## Reception

- Phase 2 – s,a,t,p ..... Matching sounds to graphemes, blending and segmenting cvc ( s-a-t )
- Phase 3 – ch, sh, igh, oa Blending and segmenting ( sh-o-p )
- Phase 4 – no new sounds.

Blending and segmenting polysyllabic words ( siting ) , compound words ( starfish ) and longer words cvcc or ccvc ( jump , cram )

## Year 1

- Phase 5 – alternative sounds ai – ay – a-e - a ( rain, may, make, acorn)

## Year 2

- Beyond phase 5– spelling rules ( y changes to i, add es for plural – baby = babies)

# Tricky words



## ► Reception and Year1

100 Frequency words

Next 200 Frequency words

Common Exception words

# Phonics screening

- At the end of Year One all the children in the country take a test called a Phonics Screening. The aim is to check that children are making progress in phonics.
- They have to read 40 words some of which are real and others nonsense words. We call the nonsense words 'Alien words' and the children practice reading them.
- The check is not about passing or failing but checking appropriate progress is being made. If children do not reach the required standard, then the teacher will be in touch to discuss plans and offer additional, tailored support to ensure that your child can catch up. Children progress at different speeds so not reaching the threshold score does not necessarily mean there is a serious problem. Your child will re-sit the check the following summer term.
- *For the last few years, the threshold mark (or pass standard) set by the government has been 32 correct answers out of 40.*



# Real words



day

2012 PrimaryTools.co.uk

finger

2012 PrimaryTools.co.uk

slide

2012 PrimaryTools.co.uk

dentist

2012 PrimaryTools.co.uk

newt

2012 PrimaryTools.co.uk

starling

2012 PrimaryTools.co.uk

# Alien words

blan



voo



steck



jound



hild



terg

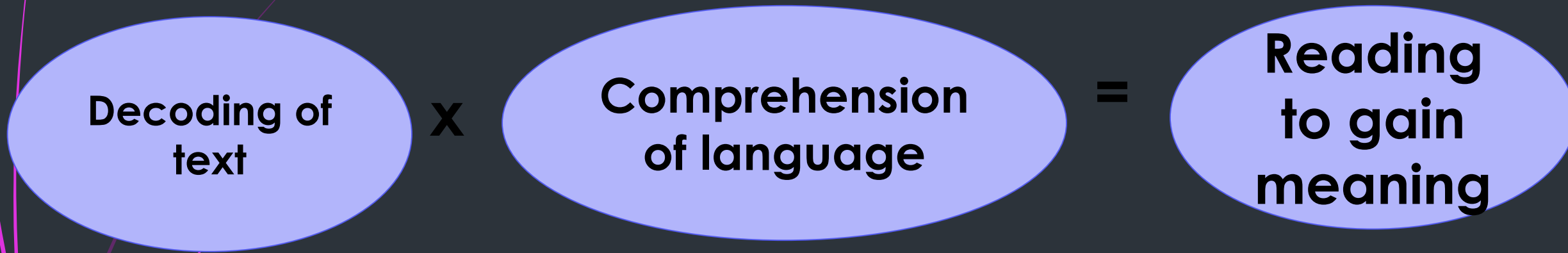


## How is the phonics check administered?

- ▶ It is done by familiar adults in the school such as classroom teachers. Children are in a quiet environment and are tested one at a time. It usually takes 5 – 10 minutes and if children need to stop and come back later that is perfectly fine.
- ▶ The school will report your child's results to you by the end of the summer term as well as to the local authority, but the results won't be published in a league table as with SATs. If you have any concerns, do talk to your teacher about this in a parents' meeting or after school.



# The simple view of reading





## Language Comprehension

### Background Knowledge

facts, concepts, etc.

### Vocabulary

breadth, precision, links, etc.

### Language Structures

syntax, semantics, etc.

### Verbal Reasoning

inference, metaphor, etc.

### Literacy Knowledge

print concepts, genres, etc.

## Word Recognition

### Phonological Awareness

syllables, phonemes, etc.

### Decoding

alphabetic principle, spelling-sound correspondence

### Sight Recognition

of familiar words

# Many Strands Are Woven into Skilled Reading

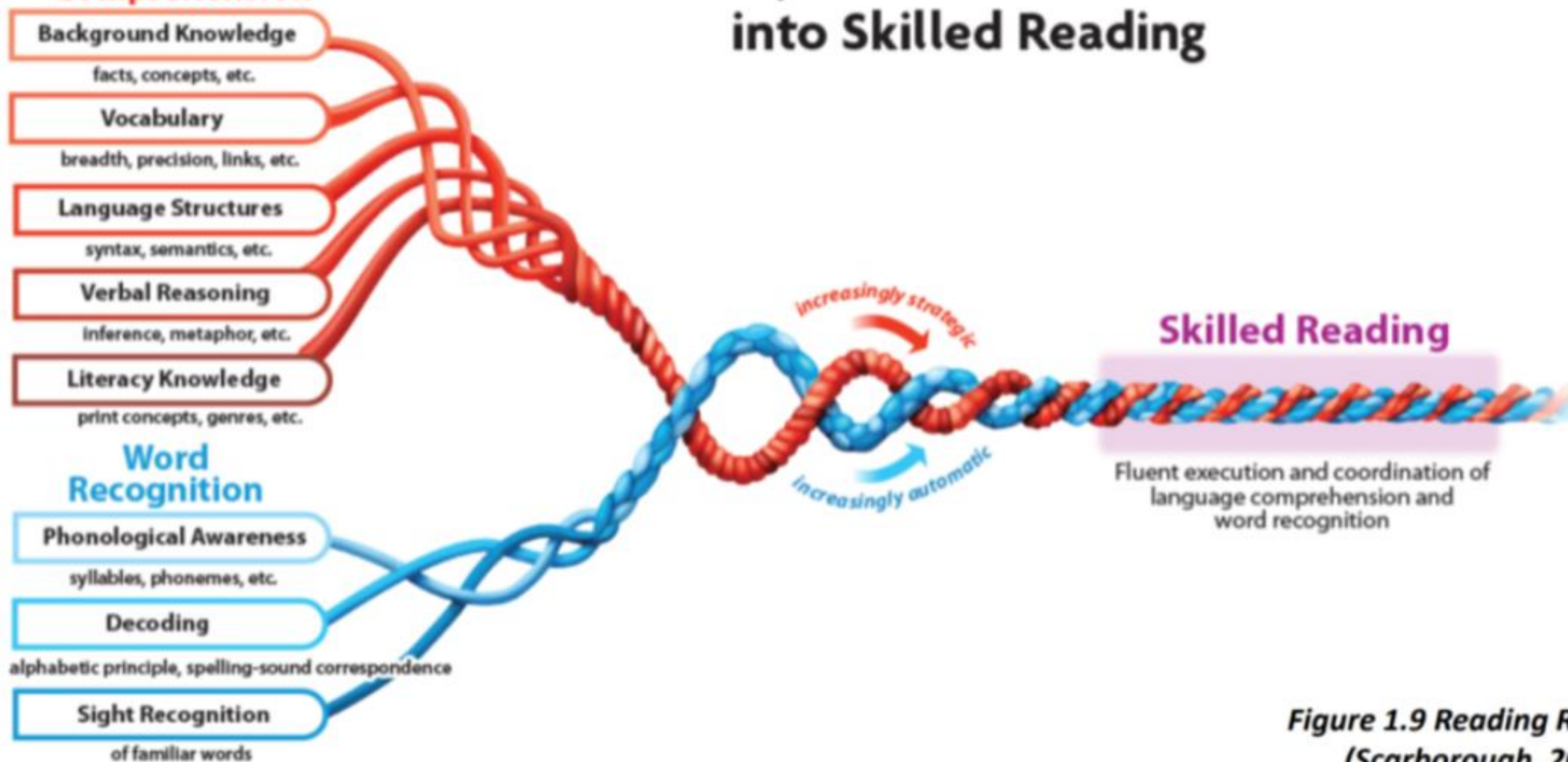


Figure 1.9 Reading Rope  
(Scarborough, 2001)

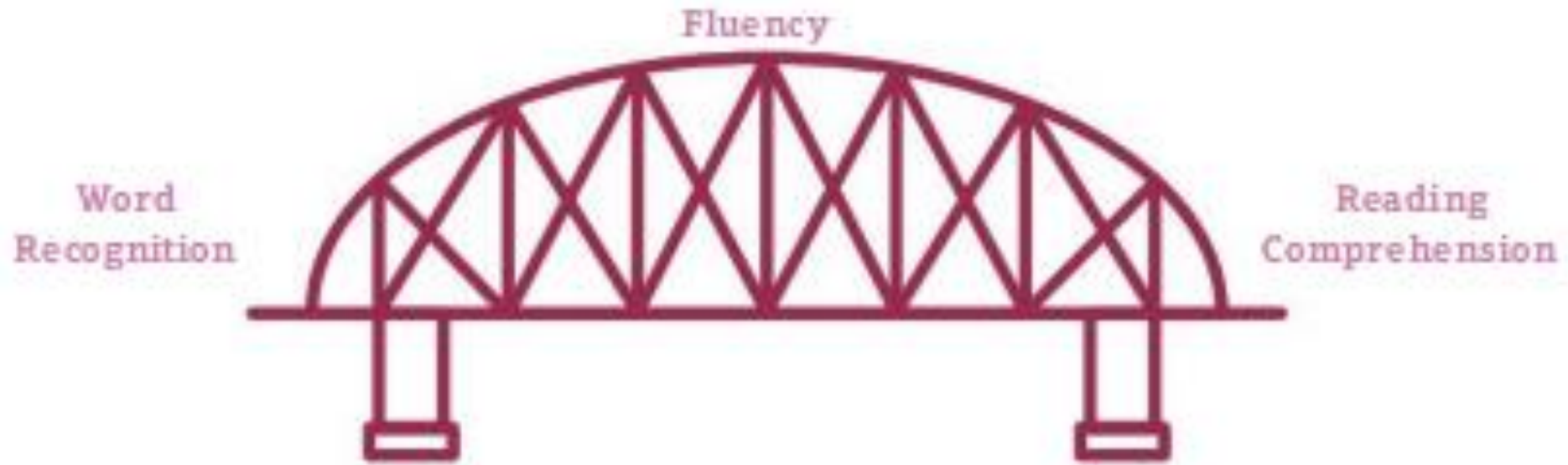


# What is fluency

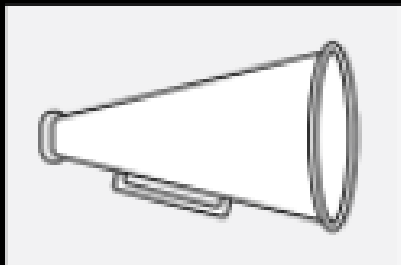
- Reading fluency can be defined as reading with accuracy (reading words correctly), automaticity (reading words at an appropriate speed without great effort) and prosody (appropriate stress and intonation).



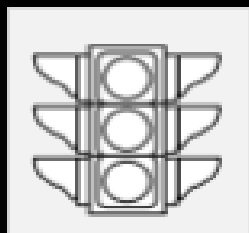
# Why is reading fluency important?



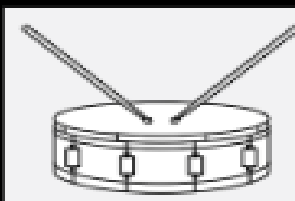
Fluency is not the end in itself but is a critical bridge to comprehension. Frees cognitive resources to process meaning



*Read with expression.*



*Read with automatic word recognition.*



*Read with rhythm and phrasing.*



*Read with smoothness.*



for when  
I get stuck

- 1 SOUND it out.
- 2 Look for CHUNKS (syllables).
- 3 HIGHLIGHT word families.
- 4 SKIP, then go back and REREAD.
- 5 Back up and REREAD.
- 6 Think: What would make sense?

gl → a → d



# More information



The Federation of Barnehurst Schools

Headteacher: **Mrs Louise Shields**



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## Phonics

### Phonics@Barnehurst

#### Intent

Reading lies at the heart of the curriculum at Barnehurst Federation school. We recognise reading as a key life skill, which underpins access to the rest of the curriculum. We empower all our children to take ownership of their learning, through exciting daily, systematic and consistent, high quality phonics teaching. This is tailored to the needs of individual children, no matter their background. Ensuring that every child, can access and develop skills, which will ultimately develop their confidence in early reading is our aim. We achieve equality of opportunity for all our children through the consistency of our approach.

Our approach to phonics ensures that our children are resilient and that they grow in confidence as they become fluent readers.

Using our tailored phonics approach, our children learn to read fluently so that they can put all their energy into comprehending what they read. We passionately believe that teaching children to read and write independently is one of the core purposes of a primary school, enabling them to access a broad and exciting, global curriculum and ensuring they flourish as learners throughout their time at our school. These fundamental skills not only hold the keys to the rest of the curriculum but also have a huge impact on children's self-esteem and future life chances.



At Barnehurst we use systematic teaching of phonics to support children in learning to read and write. As children progress in their phonic knowledge, they will move on from learning letters and the sounds

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