Homophenes

Previously I described how each speech sound has a matching lipshape or viseme made when the neck, lips, teeth, tongue and cheeks move to make the sound and that some sounds have visemes that are very similar to others.

Where more than one sound shares the same viseme or shape, they are referred to as homophenes.

For example, the sounds:

- 'p' as in **p**at
- 'b' as in bat, and
- 'm' as in <u>m</u>at

all share the same viseme and form a homophene group.

Similarly the sounds:

- 'f' as in fail, and
- 'v' as in veil

share the same viseme and form another homophene group.

There are seven consonant homophene groups including the two described above. The other consonant homophene groups are:

- 'w' as in wail, and
- 'qu' as in **qu**ail
- 'sh' as in **sh**eep
- 'ch' as in <u>ch</u>eap, and
- 'j' as in jeep
- 's' as in <u>s</u>ip, and
- 'z' as in **z**ip
- 't' as in tame
- 'd' as in dame, and
- 'n' as in name
- 'k' as in pick
- 'g' as in pig, and
- 'ng' as in ping