Onset-Rime and Phonemic Awareness

Phoneme blending is the process of smoothly blending phonemes to form words. 

/M/ /a/ /n/ blends together to make the word man.

Phoneme segmentation is the process of isolating individual phonemes within a word. 

Consider the word bat. The first sound is /b/, the second sound is /a/, and the last sound is /t/.

Phoneme segmentation is particularly important for spelling unknown words when students begin writing. Students need to be able to break the word into phonemes and write the letter(s) that represents each phoneme.

Phoneme manipulation refers to adding, deleting, or substituting phonemes in words. 

If I add /s/ to the end of tap, I have taps. 

If I delete the /h/ in ham, I have am. 

If I substitute the /b/ in bag with /r/, I have rag.

Onset-rime blending is combining the initial consonant or consonant cluster (the onset) with the vowel and consonant sounds that come after it (the rime). The onset /sh/ and rime /irt/ combine to make the word shirt.

Onset-rime segmentation is separating the initial consonant or consonant cluster (the onset) from the vowel and consonant sounds that come after it (the rime). Shirt can be segmenting into its onset /sh/ and rime /irt/.

(ITORA, 2000; Clark & Uhry, 1995)