

The 110 phonetic families

679 traditional Chinese characters, each ringed around the component that carries its sound. Color grades how much of that sound survives in today’s Taiwan Mandarin reading — only 33% are still read exactly like their phonetic head.

漢字星圖

the phonetic head · 110

same syllable and tone · 185 (33%)
青 qīng → 清 qīng

same syllable, other tone · 147 (26%)
青 qīng → 情 qíng

rhymes only · 237 (42%)
青 qīng → 精 jīng

