Characters

Abstract Character

The idea behind a character.

Some abstract characters do not get a visual form such as the character for the space between words

<non-breaking space>

Grapheme 1 Diacritic

Grapheme 2 Base

Orthographic Character

á

Unicode codepoint

U+xxxx

Some get a visual form

Glyph
Optional visual shape applied to an abstract character

Unicode Character - the union of an abstract character with a Unicode codepoint

Composed Character

a + ´ = á
more than one unicode codepoint

Pre-composed Character

á = á
Multi glyph character with one unicode codepoint

No language relevant meaning applied to shapes

a a a a

Same Unicode Character - Different Glyphs

style information
(also called design)

Italic, **Bold**, Narrow, etc.

Writing system
consists of characters used plus upped-lower case mappings

a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z ß ä ö ü

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z   Ä Ö Ü

, . ! ? " " << >> : ; @

How to use characters in the writing system
How to divide words
How to punctuate sentences and indicate grammar
How to spell words

Orthography

Orthographic Character

'Letter' *of the* 'Alphabet'
'Abugida'
'Abjad'

'Syllabogram' 'Syllabary'
'Logogram' 'Logographic Script'

Accentmarks

Diacritics

Are examples of:

Graphemes
Shapes with meaning in an orthography

May be expressed as:

One unicode codepoint

Pre-composed Character

Multiple unicode codepoints

Multiple unicode codepoints

Composed Character