Open & closed indices

- An open index is available for indexing and search requests
- A closed index will refuse requests
 - Read and write requests are blocked
 - Necessary for performing some operations



Dynamic and static settings

- Dynamic settings can be changed without closing the index first
 - Requires no downtime
- Static settings require the index to be closed first
 - The index will be briefly unavailable
- Analysis settings are static settings



Opening & closing indices

- Fairly quick, but might not be an option for production clusters
 - E.g. mission critical systems where downtime is unacceptable
- Alternatively reindex documents into a new index
 - Create the new index with the updated settings
 - Use an index alias for the transition

