“Official” Definition of Dyslexia

“Dyslexia is a specific learning disability that is neurobiological in origin. It is characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities. These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction. Secondary consequences may include problems in reading comprehension and reduced reading experience that can impede growth of vocabulary and background knowledge.”

International Dyslexia Association, 2002
Let’s break that down...
Neurodiversity of dyslexia: unique differences in the way brains develop and function
characterized by difficulties with accurate and/or fluent word recognition and by poor spelling and decoding abilities.

- Word recognition
- Reading fluency
- Spelling
- Writing
These difficulties typically result from a deficit in the phonological component of language...
...that is often unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and the provision of effective classroom instruction.