

TAJWEED 2.0

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TAJWEED 2.0

THE ARTICULATION POINTS OF THE LETTERS

مخارج الحروف

★ The Articulation Point

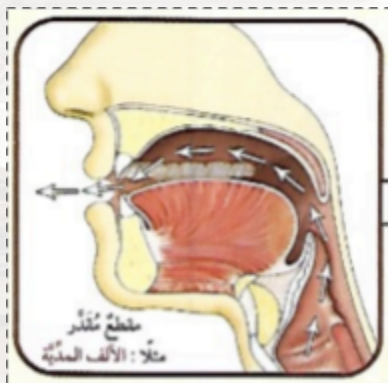
- The articulation point (مَخْرَج) is the place of emitting the letter when pronouncing it that differentiates the specific letter from other letters.
- The singular of articulation points (مَخَارِج) in Arabic is: مَخْرَج

The root word of مَخْرَج is خ / ر / ج which means to go out.

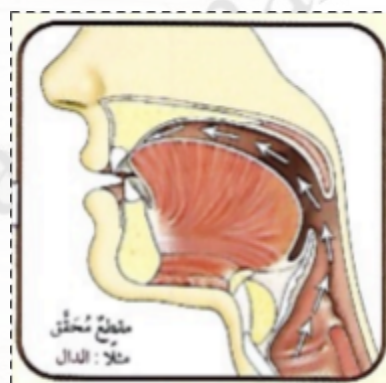
- In Arabic, مَخْرَج means an exit. While in Tajweed, مَخْرَج is the place from where the letter is emitted.

★ A Letter (الحرف):

- A letter is a sound that depends on a specific or approximate articulation point.
- Using the correct articulation point of a letter is necessary to utter the letter correctly, and of course this is even more important when reciting the book of Allah, the Qur'an.
- Almost all the articulation points in Arabic are specific places, but there are some that have an approximate area of articulation (the madd letters that come from the empty space of the mouth and throat).



An approximate articulation point
e.g. the lengthening alif ا



A specific articulation point
e.g. the letter د

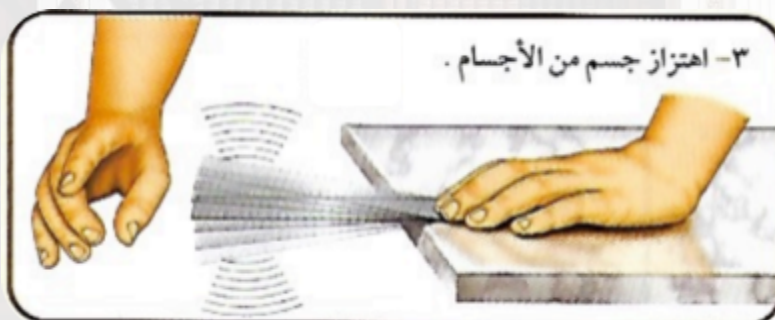
★ How do sounds occur in nature?



- i. Collision of two objects:
- ii. Divergence of two objects between which are cohesive forces:



- iii. Vibration of an object:

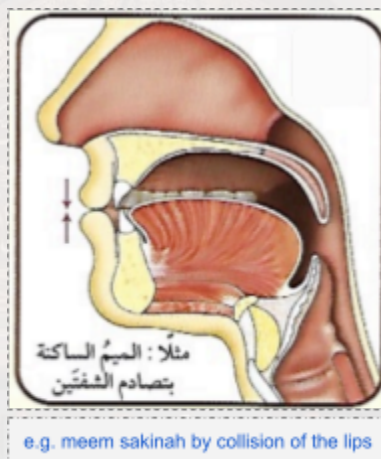


- iv. Friction of a course object against another:

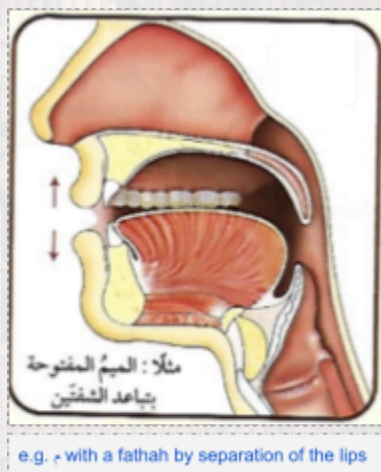


★ How do letters occur in the Human Speech System?

- i. The non vowelled (sakin) letter: It is emitted by collision between the two parts of the speech organ.

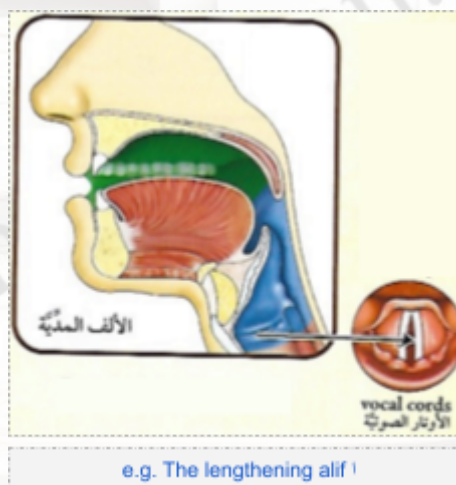


- ii. The vowelled letter: It is emitted by separating between the two parts of the speech organ accompanied by the articulation point of the origin of its harakah: مَ، مِ، مُ.

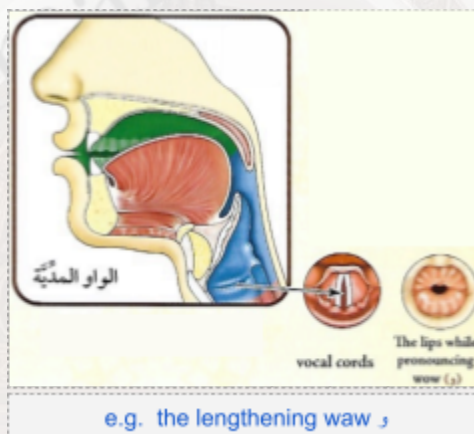


- iii. The letters of lengthening (مد) and softness (لين): They are emitted by the vibration of the vocal cords in the larynx.

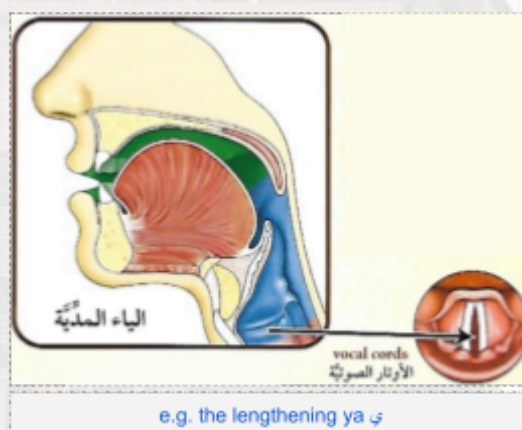
- ♦ It is accompanied by opening of the mouth with the letter alif (ا), while the tongue is in the position of rest.



- ♦ It is accompanied by circling the lips with the letter waw (و) while raising the furthest part of the tongue.

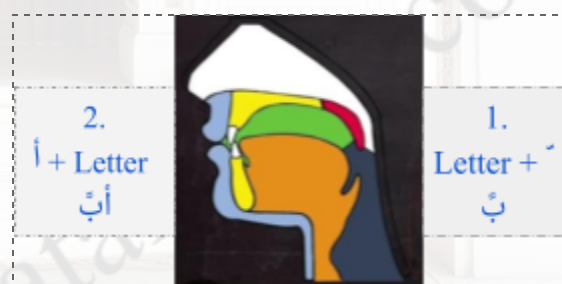


- ♦ It is accompanied by lowering the lower jaw and raising the middle of the tongue with the letter ya (ي).



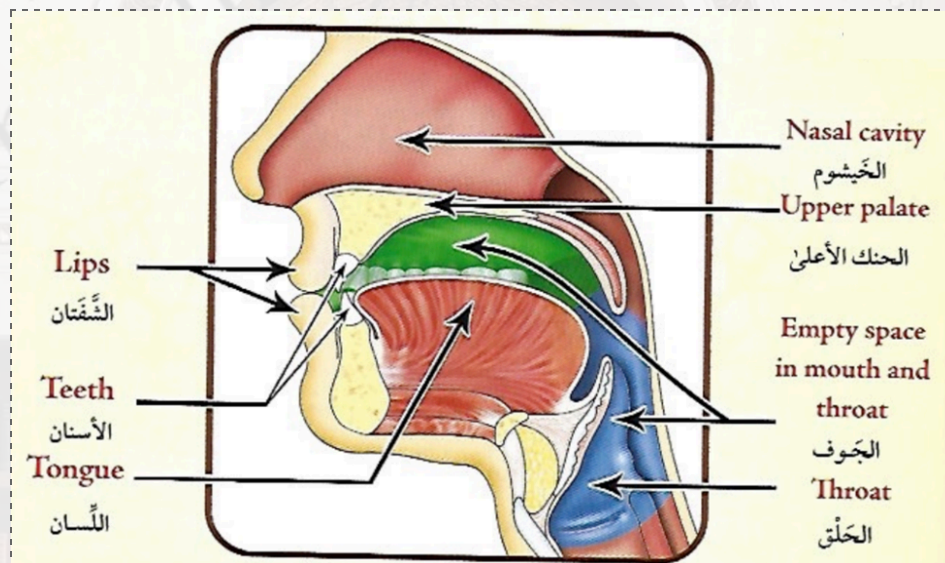
★ Determining the articulation point of a letter:

1. Pronounce the letter with a shaddah سّ i.e double the letter.
2. Pronounce the letter without a vowel (with sukoon) and put a hamza before the letter that you are checking.



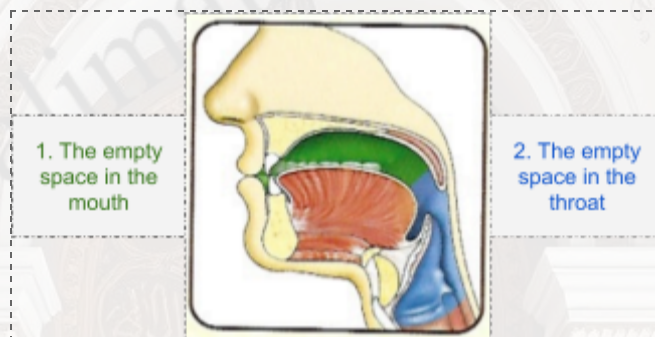
★ The 5 Articulation Points:

- There are five general articulation points and within them are the specific or general articulation points of the Arabic letter:

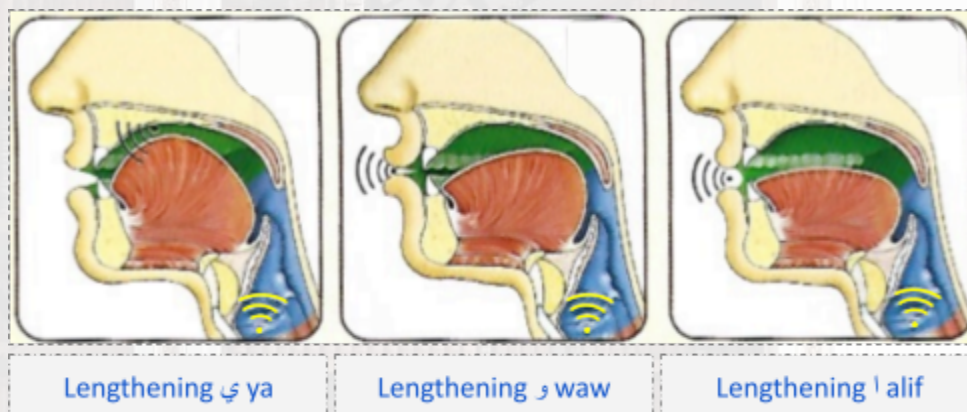


1. **The empty space in the mouth and the throat (الجوف):** It has 1 articulation point for 3 letters.
2. **The Throat (الحلق):** It has 3 articulation points for 6 different letters which are pronounced from the deepest, middle and the closest part of the throat.
3. **The Two lips (الشفتان):** They have 2 articulation points for 4 letters.
4. **The Nose (الخيشوم):** From the hole of the nose towards the inside of the mouth, here there is 1 articulation point of Ghunnah.
5. **The Tongue (اللسان):** It has 10 articulation points for 18 letters.

1. THE EMPTY SPACE (الجوف):



- ♦ Jawf is known as the empty space in the mouth and throat, also known as the oral cavity.
- ♦ From this non-specific area, the 3 letters of Madd (lengthened letters) originate, which are:
 - i. Alif Sakinah preceded by a fatha (ألف ساكنة - مفتوح ما قبلها)
 - ii. Yaa Sakinah preceded by a kasra (ياء ساكنة - مكسور ما قبلها)
 - iii. Waw Sakinah preceded by a dhamma (واو ساكنة - مضموم ما قبلها)



- ♦ These 3 madd letters do not have a specific space that they finish at like the other letters, instead these letters finish with the stopping of the sound.

2. THE THROAT (الحلق):

- ♦ There are 6 letters of the throat: ع, هـ, ح, خ, غ, ج
- ♦ There are 3 articulation points for six letters of the throat. These 3 areas are:

- i. أقصى الحلق - The deepest part of the throat, meaning farthest from the mouth and closest to the chest. From here two letters are articulated: ه, ع
- ii. وسط الحلق - From middle part of the throat, two other letters are articulated: ح, ع
- iii. أدنى الحلق - The closest part of the throat, meaning closest to the mouth. From here two letters are articulated: غ, خ

3. THE TWO LIPS (الشفتان):

- ♦ The four letters that are articulated from the lips are: ف, ب, و, م.
- ♦ There are 2 articulation points for 4 letters:
 - i. Fa ف - The fa is articulated when the tip of the upper incisors touches the inner part of the lower lip.
 - ii. Baa ب - The baa is articulated by closing the wet parts of the lips together.
 - iii. Meem م - the meem is articulated by closing the dry parts of the lips together.
 - iv. Waw و - The un-lengthened waw is articulated by forming a circle of the two lips without the two lips meeting completely.
- ♦ These 4 letters are called ¹الحروف الشفوية.

4. THE NOSE (الخيشوم)

- ♦ This is the area from where the Ghunnah is produced.
- ♦ Ghunnah is a characteristic and not a letter.
- ♦ The Ghunnah is a characteristic of Noon and Meem, in all cases, that is especially prevalent when they have a shaddah on them.

What is Ghunnah?

It is a nasal sound coming from the nasopharynx without any influence from the tongue.

¹ Because they are articulated from the lips.

5. THE TONGUE (اللسان)

- ◆ There are 18 letters which exit from the tongue:

ق, ك, ج, ش, ي, ت, د, ط, ذ, ظ, ث, ل, ن, ر, ز, س, ص, ض

- ◆ There are 10 articulation points for these eighteen letters: These ten articulation points are distributed over four areas of the tongue, which are:

- i. أقصى اللسان - Deepest part of the tongue
- ii. وسط اللسان - Middle part of the tongue
- iii. حافة اللسان - The side (edge) of the tongue
- iv. طرف اللسان - Tip of the tongue

i. أقصى اللسان - Back of the Tongue

- ◆ 2 letters are pronounced from the back of the tongue

1. Qaaf ق - It is pronounced when the root of the tongue touches the soft part of the palate.
2. Kaaf ك - It is pronounced when the root of the tongue touches the hard part of the palate (closer to the mouth).

ii. وسط اللسان - Middle part of the tongue

- ◆ 3 letters are pronounced from the middle of the tongue. They are pronounced when the middle part of the tongue touches the part of the palate which is directly above it.

1. Jeem ج
2. Sheen ش
3. Yaa ي

- ◆ These letters are called ²الحروف الشجرية because they are articulated from the center of the mouth/ middle of the mouth.

iii. حافة اللسان - The side (edge) of the tongue

- ◆ There are 2 letters that are pronounced from the sides of the tongue.

² because they are articulated from the center of the mouth/ middle of the mouth.

1. Laam ل - The letter laam originates from the front edge of the tongue touching the back gums of the upper 6 teeth.
2. Dād ض - The letter Dād comes from the back edge of the tongue connected to the upper molar teeth.

iv. طَرَفُ اللّسان - Tip of the tongue

- ◆ There are 5 articulation points for 11 letters that are pronounced from the tip of the tongue.
- ◆ 3 letters are articulated from the top part of the tip of the tongue, touching the roots of the upper incisors.

1. Tāa ط
2. Daal د
3. Taa ت

- ◆ These 3 letters are called ³الحروف النطعية.
- ◆ 3 letters are articulated from between the tip of the tongue and the plates of the upper and lower incisors. This leaves a small gap between the tongue and incisors (hence the whistle sound).

1. Zaa ز
2. Seen س
3. Sād ص

- ◆ These letters are called ⁴الحروف الأسلية.
- ◆ 1 letter is articulated from the tip of the tongue touching the roots of the upper incisors.

➤ Noon ن

- ◆ 1 letter is articulated when the tip of the tongue touches the gums of the upper incisors - we must very slightly roll the tongue.

➤ Raa ر

³ due to their articulation position close to the elevated area above the gums.

⁴ due to their emergence from the tip of the tongue.

- ◆ 3 letters are articulated when the top of the tip of the tongue touches the bottom edges of the top 2 incisors. (part of the tongue will stick out)

1. Thaa ث

2. Thal ذ

3. Thâa ظ

- ◆ These letters are called الحروف الثَّوِيَّة⁵.

⁵ because their articulation point is somewhat close to the gums.

صِفَات الحُرُوف CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LETTERS

★ An Introduction to Sifat (صفات)

- Linguistic Meaning (الصفات لغة):

الصفات لغة : جمع الصفة وهي ما قام بالشيء من المعاني حسيا.

"It's the plural form of the word 'sifa' & it is the properties/characteristics of something."

- Technical Definition (الصفات اصطلاحًا):

الصفات اصطلاحًا: كيفية يوصف بها الحروف عند حصوله في المخرج التي تميزه عن الحروف من نفس المخرج.

"It is the added characteristics given to a letter while being produced from its makhraj that distinguish it from letters of the same makhraj."

- The Arabic word صفة means a characteristic. Its plural صفات refers to the characteristics of each of the Arabic letters. The characteristics of the letters are like personality traits in people. They give each letter some special qualities that characterize the letter's individuality.
- Different letters have different characteristics.
For example, we must pronounce some letters with a heavy/thick accent (الإستعلاء), while other letters are pronounced with a light/thin accent (الإستفال). Some letters need to be said in a whisper (همس), while other letters are pronounced audibly (جهر). Some have the characteristic of adhesion (الإطباق), while others have the characteristic of opening (الإنفتاح).

○ OBJECTIVE

- ◆ The knowledge of صفات will help us recognize letters that have one characteristic and all the remaining letters that have the opposite characteristic.
- ◆ Ibn Al Jazari in his poem, “Al-Muqaddimah” wrote:

" إِذْ وَاجِبٌ عَلَيْهِمْ مُحْتَمٌّ ؛ قَبْلَ الشُّرُوعِ أَوَّلًا أَنْ يَعْلَمُوا
مَخَارِجَ الْحُرُوفِ وَالصِّفَاتِ ؛ لِيَلْفِظُوا بِأَفْصَحِ اللُّغَاتِ "

As it is compulsory upon them, before starting (recitation of Qur'an), firstly to know “

The origin of the letters and their characteristics, so as to pronounce it in the most

eloquent of Languages.”

★ Permanent Characteristics (الصفات اللازمة)

○ What is Sifat Al Lazimah?

Al Sifat Al Lazimah are the ‘Permanent characteristics’ of letters. These characteristics are part of the *essence* of the letter, which cannot be removed from it; the absence of its characteristics will make the letter indistinguishable from another letter. These characteristics are the *rights* of the letter which must be fulfilled.

Note: The characteristics are most clear and noticeable when they are pronounced with a sukun on the letter. Remember, One letter can have multiple characteristics.

There are two types of Permanent characteristics:

1. Characteristics with Opposites (الصفات المتضادة)
2. Characteristics without Opposites (الصفات غير المتضادة)

Characteristics with Opposites (الصفات المتضادة)**Characteristics without Opposites**

(الصفات غير المتضادة)

1. Al-Jahr (الجر) \neq Al-Hams (الهمس) [Audibility] [Whispering]	1. As Safeer (الصفير) [Whistling]
2. Ash Shidda (الشدة) \neq At Tawassut (التوسط) \neq Ar Rakhawa (الرَخَاوَة) [Entrapping] [Partial flow] [Flowing]	2. Al Leen (اللين) [Softness]
3. Al Isti'la (الاستعلاء) \neq Al Istifaal (الاستفال) [Elevation] [Lowering]	3. Al Qalqalah (القفلة) [Echoing]
4. Al Itbaaq (الإطباق) \neq Al Infitaah (الانفتاح) [Closing] [Opening]	4. At Takreer (التكرير) [Repetition]
5. Al Idhlaaq (الإذلاق) \neq Al Ismat (الإصمات) [Ease] [Restraint]	5. At Tafashi (التفشي) [Diffusion]
	6. Al Istiṭala (الاستطالة) [Extension]
	7. Al Inhiraaf (الانحراف) [Inclination]

الصفات اللازمة**صفات الحروف العربية**الصفات غير
المتضادة

الصفات المتضادة

★ Characteristics with opposites - الصفات المتضادة

If a single letter or a group of letters have a specific characteristic, the rest of the letters NOT in the group have the opposite characteristic.

All 28 letters of the alphabet have one characteristic or its opposite characteristic. There are **FIVE** sets of characteristics with opposites. These are:

TYPE	Pair of Opposites	زوج من الأضداد
SET I	Letters of Whisper \rightleftharpoons Letters of Audibility	الهمس \rightleftharpoons الجهر
SET II	Letters of Fluency \rightleftharpoons Letters of Restraint	الإذلاق \rightleftharpoons الإصمات
SET III	Letters of Strength \rightleftharpoons Letters of Weakness	الشدة \rightleftharpoons الرخاوة
SET IV	Letters of Closing \rightleftharpoons Letters of Opening	الإطباق \rightleftharpoons الإنفتاح
SET V	Letters of Elevation \rightleftharpoons Letters of Lowness	الاستعلاء \rightleftharpoons الاستفال

VISUAL CHART:

Think of them as switches:

A letter must choose one side of each switch:

	جهر	vs		همس
	إذلاق	vs		إصمات
	رخاوة	vs		شدة
	انفتاح	vs		إطباق
	استفال	vs		استعلاء

1. Whisper and Apparent (الهمس والجهر)

Al-hams (الهمس)	Al-Jahr (Opposite of Hams) (الجهر)
<p>It is a characteristic that refers to a flow of breath during pronunciation.</p> <p>For the letters ت and ك, the flow of breath should stop a little and then exhale.</p> <p>The mnemonic of these letters are:</p> <p>{سَكَتَ فَحَثَّهُ شَخْصٌ}</p>	<p>All the remaining letters.</p> <p>The opposite of whispering is audibility. Audibility means that there is a trapping of breath instead of flow of breath during pronunciation.</p> <p>This quality exists for all of the remaining letters that are NOT letters of Al-hams.</p>

2. Fluency and Restraint (الإذلاق والإصمات)

Fluency (الإذلاق)	Restraint (الإصمات)
<p>An easy flow of sound takes place during pronunciation of these letters, as they emerge from the tip of the tongue and lips.</p> <p>The mnemonic of these letters are:</p> <p>{فَرَمِنْ لُبٌّ}</p>	<p>All the remaining letters.</p> <p>The emergence of the remaining letters from the inside of the mouth and throat is not as easy flowing as the letters of fluency (الإذلاق).</p>

3. Strength and Weakness (الشدة والرخاوة)

Strength (الشدة)	Moderation (التوسط)	Weakness (الرخاوة)
<p>Stopping or trapping the flow of sound during pronunciation, creates a force that makes the letters come out as strongly pronounced letters.</p> <p>The mnemonic of these letters are:</p> <p>{أَجْدُ قَطُّ بَكَتْ}</p>	<p>These letters are neither fully forceful nor fully soft.</p> <p>The trapping of the flow of sound does not take place fully as with the letters of Strength (الشدة). It is present, but not for very long.</p> <p>The mnemonic of these letters are:</p> <p>{لِنْ عُمَرُ}</p>	<p>All the remaining letters.</p> <p>All of the remaining letters have a flow of sound during pronunciation because there is no trapping of the flow of breath.</p>





4. Closing and Opening (الإطباق و الانفتاح)

Closing (الإطباق)	Opening (الإنفتاح)
<p>While pronouncing these letters, the back of the tongue meets what lies opposite to it - the roof of the mouth.</p> <p>It is as if the tongue rises upward in conflict with whatever is above it.</p> <p>ط ظ ص ض</p> <p><i>Notice that the beginning shape of all these letters is like the raised back tongue!</i></p>	<p>All the remaining letters.</p> <p>For these letters, the tongue does not rise up in conflict.</p> <p>There is an opening between the tongue and the roof of the mouth, making a difference in how the letters sound out.</p>

5. Elevation and Lowness (الاستعلاء و الاستفال)

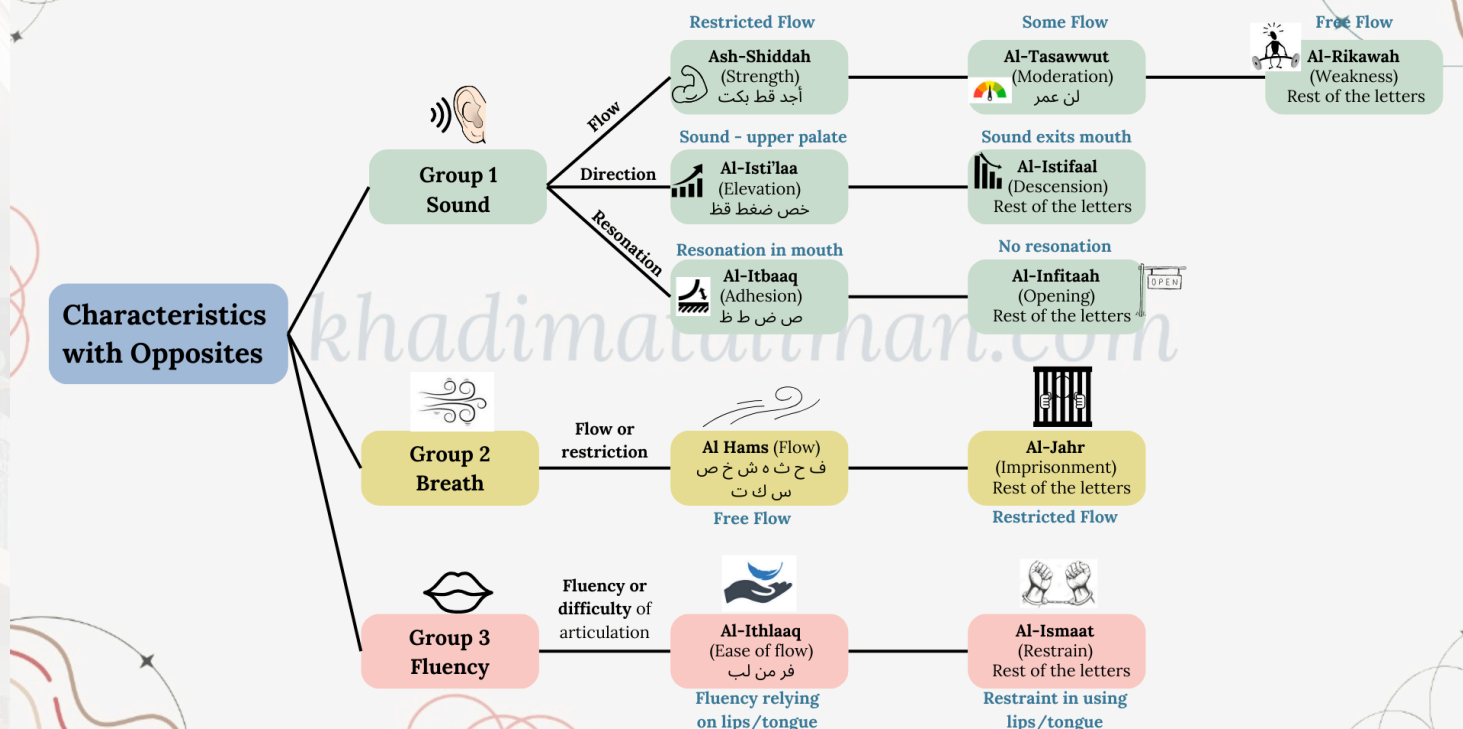
Elevation (الاستعلاء)	Situational Elevation/ Lowness	Lowness (الاستفال)
<p>While pronouncing these letters, you should elevate the back of the tongue to produce a thick or heavy sound.</p> <p>The mnemonic of these letters are:</p> <p>{حُصَّ ضَغَطٍ قِظْ}</p>	<p>Ra (ر) and laam (ل) are <i>sometimes pronounced as thick letters and sometimes as thin letters</i>, depending on the situation in which Ra (ر) and laam (ل) are placed.</p>	<p>All the remaining letters.</p> <p>These letters have the quality of lowness.</p> <p>Lower the back of the tongue, so that the tongue lies flat on the floor of the mouth, to produce a thin or light sound.</p>

Let's take an example, with a letter ق:

ق
<p>(Voiced)  جهر</p> <p>(Heavy)  إصمات</p> <p>(Sound stops)  شدة</p> <p>(Open, not stuck)  انفتاح</p> <p>(Elevated, tongue up)  استعلاء</p>

So, ق has one characteristic from each pair.

Part 1: Characteristics with Opposites



★ The Quality of Elevation or Thickness

The letters (خ ص ض غ ط ق ظ) are letters of elevation or thickness. It is important to know that the thickness, or elevation quality, of these letters range between strong to weak. The Harakah (حركة) on the thick letter, or the letter preceding the thick letter, determines how strong or weak the thickness sound is of a thick letter.

The strongest thickness occurs when the thick letter has a fathah and is followed by an alif maddiyah. The weakest thickness occurs when the thick letter has a kasrah on it. The table below provides the level of thickness and examples of these levels of thickness.

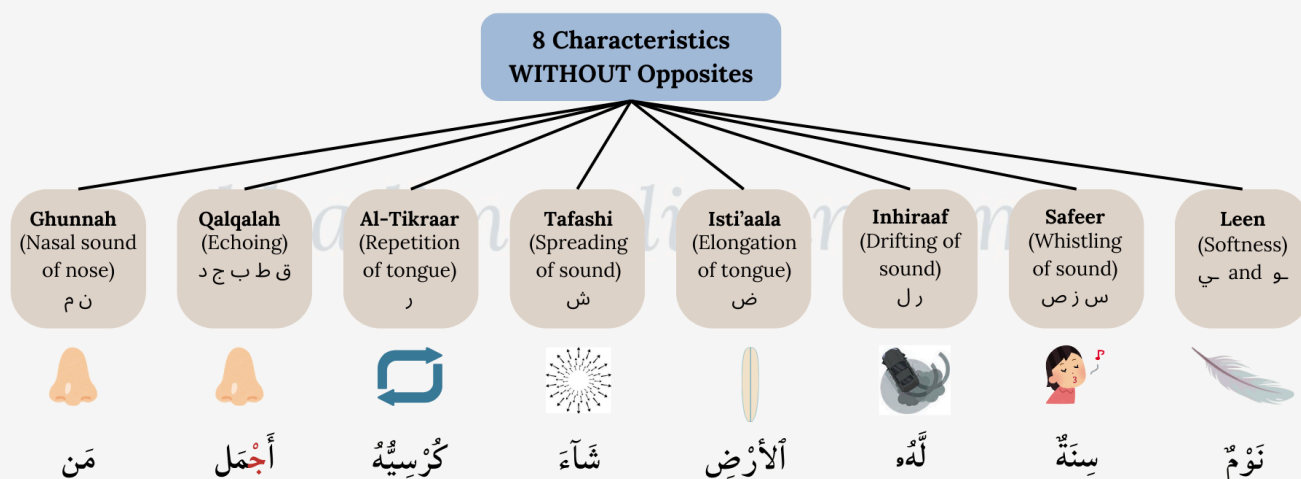
Strongest					Weakest
Thick letter followed by an Alif Maddiyah	Thick letter has a fathah	Thick letter has a dammah	Thick letter has a sukoon preceded by a dammah	Thick letter has a sukoon preceded by a kasrah	Thick letter has a kasrah
الْقَارِعَةُ	خَيْرًا يَرَهُ	خُسْرٍ	لَا أَقْسِمُ	أَوْ إِطْعَامٌ	سُطِحَتْ

★ Characteristics without opposites - الصفات غير المتضادة

The characteristics of letters without opposites are specific صفات that belong to only some letters. The remaining letters do not have the opposite qualities. There are eight characteristics of letters that do not have opposites. These are:

1. Nasal Hum (الغنة)
2. Echo (القلقلة)
3. Repetition (التكرير)
4. Spreading (التفشي)
5. Elongation (الإستطالة)
6. Inclination (الإنحراف)
7. Whistling (الصفير)
8. Softness (اللين)

Part 2: Characteristics without Opposites



1. Nasal Hum (الغنة)

We learned in the previous Chapter that ن is a letter of the tongue and م is a letter of the lips. When ن and م have a shaddah, as in نّ and مّ, they become letters of nasal cavity because these mushaddadah (مشددة) letters must be recited with the quality of nasal hum or Ghunnah (غنة). The length of the nasal hum for Ghunnah (غنة) varies, depending on the situation of the letters (نّ), (مّ), (نْ), (مْ), (نَ), (مَ), (نِ), (مِ).

إِنَّا أَعْطَيْنَاكَ الْكَوْثَرَ

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ النَّاسِ

2. Echo (القفلّة)

The quality of (القفلّة) is the Jerk/Echo or Vibration quality of the letters in the mnemonic (قطب جد), that is, the letters (ق ط ب ج د), when these letters are in a saakinah form. The echo needs to be observed whenever any of these letters have a sukoon on them.

(Refer Tajweed 3.0 doc for more information on Qalqalah)

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ الْفَلَقِ

أَلَمْ نَشْرَحْ لَكَ صَدْرَكَ

3. Repetition (التكرير)

At-Takrir (التكرير) is a characteristic that belongs only to the letter (ر). At the correct point of articulation, (ر) saakinah has a natural tendency to repeat itself non-stop. We need to carefully pronounce (ر) so that the sound of (ر) is not repeated.

فَأَثَرُنْ

فَأَرْغَبْ

4. Spreading (التفشي)

At-Tafashshi is a quality only of the letter (ش). When we pronounce (ش), we feel the spreading of air inside our mouth during pronunciation. This is why (ش) is called a spreading letter.

أَلَمْ نَشْرَحْ
وَأَلْمُشْرِكِينَ

5. Elongation (الاستطالة)

Al-Istiṭālah is a characteristic only of the letter (ض). The elongation of the letter (ض) is felt as a push from the tongue's back sides towards the front during pronunciation. This quality is the most strong when (ض) is saakinah.

وَأَضْرِبْ
يَضْحَكُونَ

6. Inclination (الانحراف)

Al-Inhiraaf is a mutual characteristic of the letters (ل) and (ر). Due to the points of articulation of the letters, we feel the tongue inclines backward towards the point of articulation of (ل) when we are saying (ر), and the tongue inclines forward towards the point of articulation of (ر) when we are saying (ل). This quality is strongest when (ل) and (ر) are saakinah.

الرَّقَابِ
الرَّجَالِ

7. Whistling (الصفير)

The letters (ص), (س), and (ز) have the quality called “whistling”. We should hear a hissing or whistling sound when we pronounce (س) and (ص), and a buzzing sound when we

pronounce (ز). We should give enough time to these letters when they are saakinah so that we are able to pronounce the whistle sound.

تُسْقَى مِنْ
نَصْرُ اللَّهِ
الْحَزَنُ

8. Softness (اللين)

The letters (و) and (ي) are called Al-Lin (اللين) letters, or letters of softness, because of the easy-flowing sound from the lips and the middle tongue. This quality is prominent when (و) and (ي) are saakinah and the preceding letter has a fatha.

For example, in the word (وَلَسَوْفَ), here, (و) is saakinah and the preceding letter (س) has a fatha.

خَوْفَ
الْمَوْتُ
قُرَيْشٍ

الأسنان TEETH

- Adults normally have 32 teeth, while some people can have less than this.
- There are 4 types of teeth:

1. Incisors: They have two types:

- **Central Incisors (الثنايا)** - They are 4 in total, 2 on top and 2 on bottom.
- **Lateral Incisors (الرَّبَاعِيَّات)** - They are 4 in total, 2 on top and 2 on bottom.

Singular - ثَنِيَّة,

Dual - ثَنِيَّتَيْن,

Plural - ثَنَائِيَا

2. Canines (الأنياب): They are 4 in total, 2 at the top and 2 at the bottom.

3. Premolars (ضَوَاحِك): They are 4 in total, 2 on top and 2 on the bottom.

4. Molars (الطَّوَّاحِين): They are 12 in total, three on each side, on each of the upper and lower set of teeth.

5. Wisdom Teeth (النَّوَاجِد): They are 4 in number, for those who have wisdom teeth.

