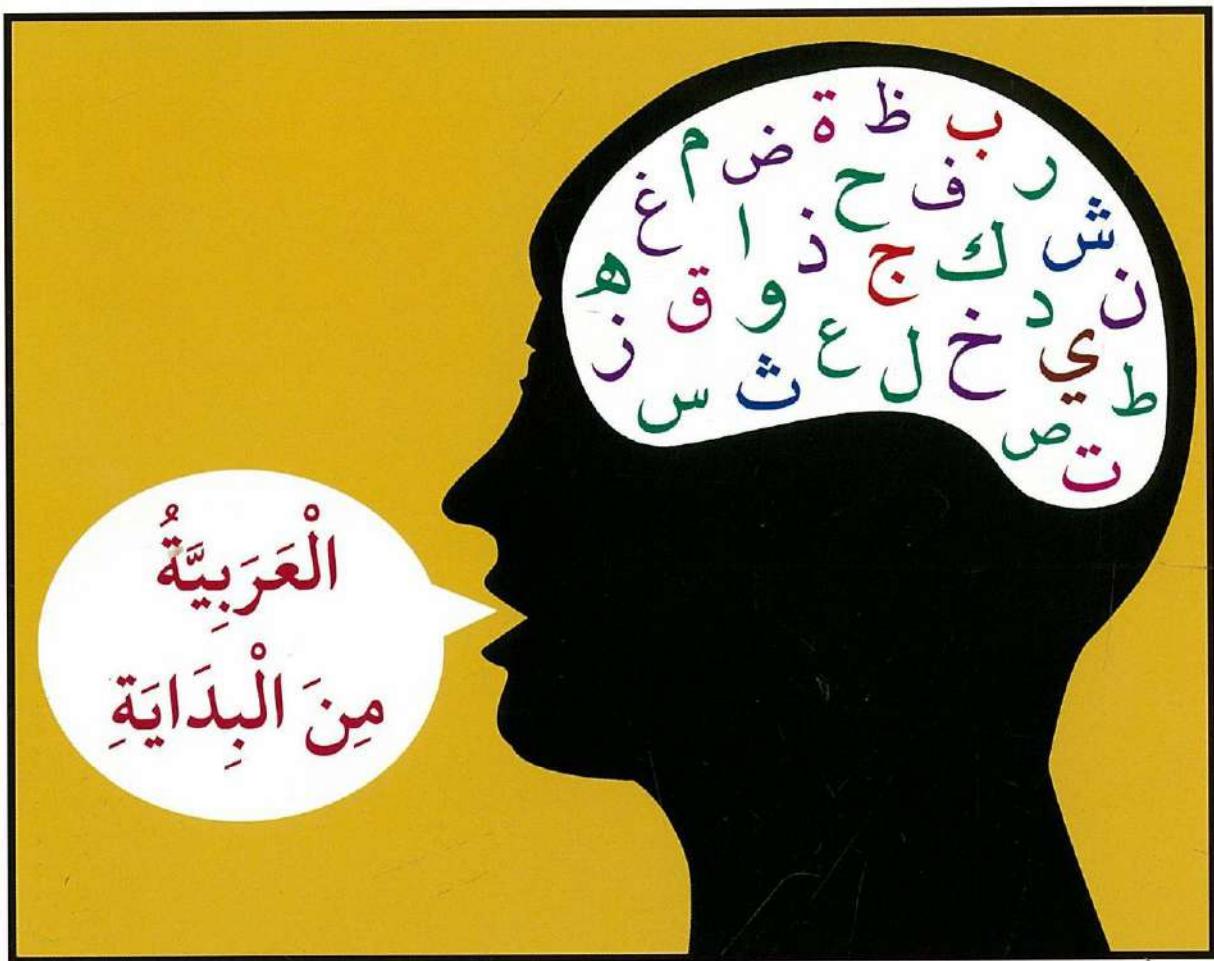


ARABIC FROM THE BEGINNING



PART ONE

Dr. Imran Hamza Alawiye

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Arabic from the Beginning: Part One

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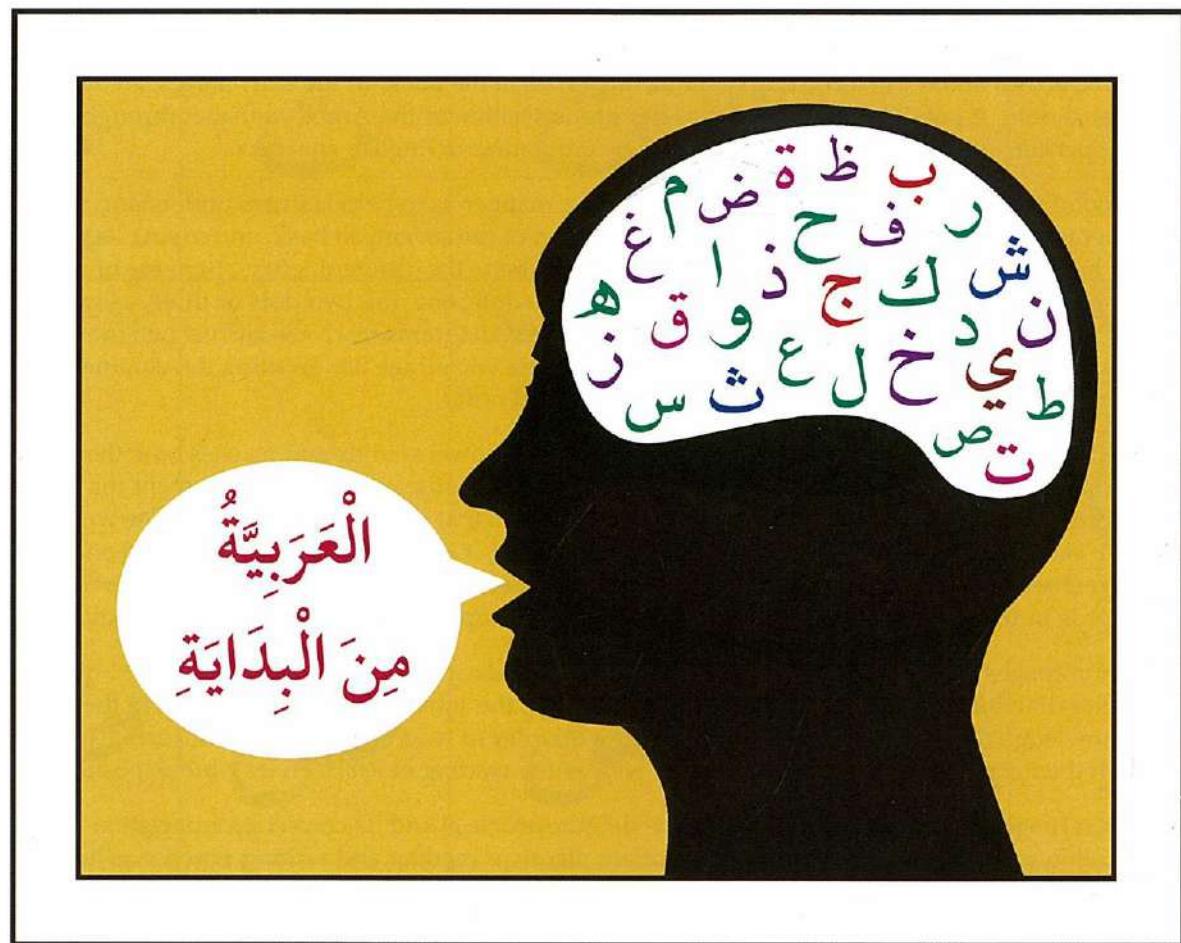
Anglo-Arabic Graphics Ltd is a publishing company that, since its inception in 1991, has specialised in the publication of books and educational resources to teach Arabic in a non-Arabic-speaking environment to learners across a broad age range. Our core objective is to make Arabic accessible to everyone through the provision of easy-to-follow textbooks and supporting materials.

We are best known for our series 'Gateway to Arabic', 'Arabic Without Tears' and 'The Key to Arabic' which are widely used in educational establishments in the United Kingdom as well as overseas. We have distributors in many countries including the USA, Australia, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Nigeria and some parts of Europe.

This latest work, 'Arabic from the Beginning: Part One', draws on more than two decades of experience in developing an effective methodology for teaching the Arabic alphabet and basic reading and writing skills. It is organised in a logical, progressive manner to enable the student to acquire a good level of reading and writing proficiency within a remarkably short time period. We are confident that this book will prove to be an excellent teaching resource within the classroom environment as well as for independent study.

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Arabic from the Beginning
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ARABIC FROM THE BEGINNING

PART ONE

Dr. Imran Hamza Alawiye

Introduction

The objective of this book is to teach students how to read and write Modern Standard Arabic in its vowelised form. It assumes no prior knowledge of the Arabic language whatsoever and is therefore ideally suited to absolute beginners. Apart from use in the classroom, it may be used for self study and, to this end, it is our intention to produce an audio CD recording of all the materials in the book. In the early stages, we recommend that the learner should, if possible, fine tune his or her pronunciation of the Arabic alphabet through the help of a native Arabic speaker, since certain letter sounds will be unfamiliar to English speakers.

The first section of the book (pages 3–11) is set out in such a manner as to help learners understand the way the Arabic alphabet is structured, by starting with an examination of the seventeen basic underlying letter shapes and then showing how dots are added to some of these shapes to create the different letters. For ease of reference, the letters are colour coded according to whether they have no dots, one dot, two dots or three, as well as the positioning of the dots above or below the letter shape. Arrowed diagrams teach the correct pen movement and direction for writing each individual letter. The written exercises encourage handwriting development, letter recognition skills, as well as a knowledge of Arabic alphabetical order.

The second section (pages 12–47) concentrates on the three short vowel sounds and teaches how the letters of the alphabet are joined together to form words. Arrowed diagrams show the correct pen movement for joining the letters, and there is also an explanation about the six special letters that do not join to the left. The words on pages 28–41 illustrate each of the letters of the alphabet in turn, showing it in its beginning, middle and end forms. The various exercises provide ample practice in reading vowelised letters as well as reading and writing simple three-letter words in their joined form, progressing from guided copying to independent letter joining tasks.

The third section (pages 48–63) covers the three long vowel sounds and the diphthongs ‘-ay’ and ‘-ow’. It also teaches the other diacritical marks such as the *tanween* endings, the *sukoon* and the *shadda* to help the learner gain a thorough knowledge of all the rules they need to know in order to read vowelised Arabic texts. The section concludes with the introduction of *alif al-maqṣura*, as well as the reading of *hamza* in its various positions.

The final section (pages 64 to the end) focuses on the definite article *al* and its correct pronunciation in relation to whether it is followed by a sun or a moon letter. It offers plenty of reading and writing practice to help the learner hone this important skill. By the end of the book, the student should have gained confidence in reading and writing Arabic text, though without an understanding of the grammatical rules and structures at this stage.

Specific Recommendations for Teachers

Although the English translation of many of the words that appear in this book is provided, it cannot be overly stressed that the purpose of the Arabic words is chiefly for reading and writing practice and not for the teaching of vocabulary. It would be unreasonable for the teacher to expect students to learn the meanings of all the words presented as this would be burdensome and may prove a source of discouragement. Rather, we recommend that the teacher should wait until part two of the series before encouraging vocabulary acquisition. In book two, words are introduced in smaller batches with ample opportunity for the student to apply them in a meaningful manner in a variety of written and spoken contexts.

However, we do recommend that you use the materials in this book for dictation exercises, rather than just engaging the students in copying and reading practice. This will help the students to tune their ear to Arabic and learn to distinguish between the sounds that English speakers often confuse such as:

ت	س	ض	ذ	ظ	ح	ه	ق	ك
<i>taa'</i> and <i>ṭaa'</i> ,	<i>seen</i> and <i>ṣaad</i> ,	<i>daal</i> and <i>ḍaad</i> ,	<i>dhaal</i> and <i>ẓaa'</i>	<i>ḥaa'</i> and <i>haa'</i>			<i>qaaf</i> and <i>kaaf</i> .	

It would also be beneficial if you were to test the students' understanding of how to join letters by putting groups of three or four isolate letters up on the board and asking the students to work out how to join them together correctly. This would test their knowledge not just of the shape each letter takes according to its position within a word, but also their understanding and recognition of the six special letters that cannot be joined to the left. We also recommend dictating complete sentences to the students by the time they come to the end of the book to check their recognition of the sun and moon letters and their understanding of the rules governing ‘al’.

We hope you will find this book clear and logical, that it will help your students to progress easily, and that you and your students will find the experience enjoyable and rewarding.

الْحُرُوفُ الْعَرَبِيَّةُ

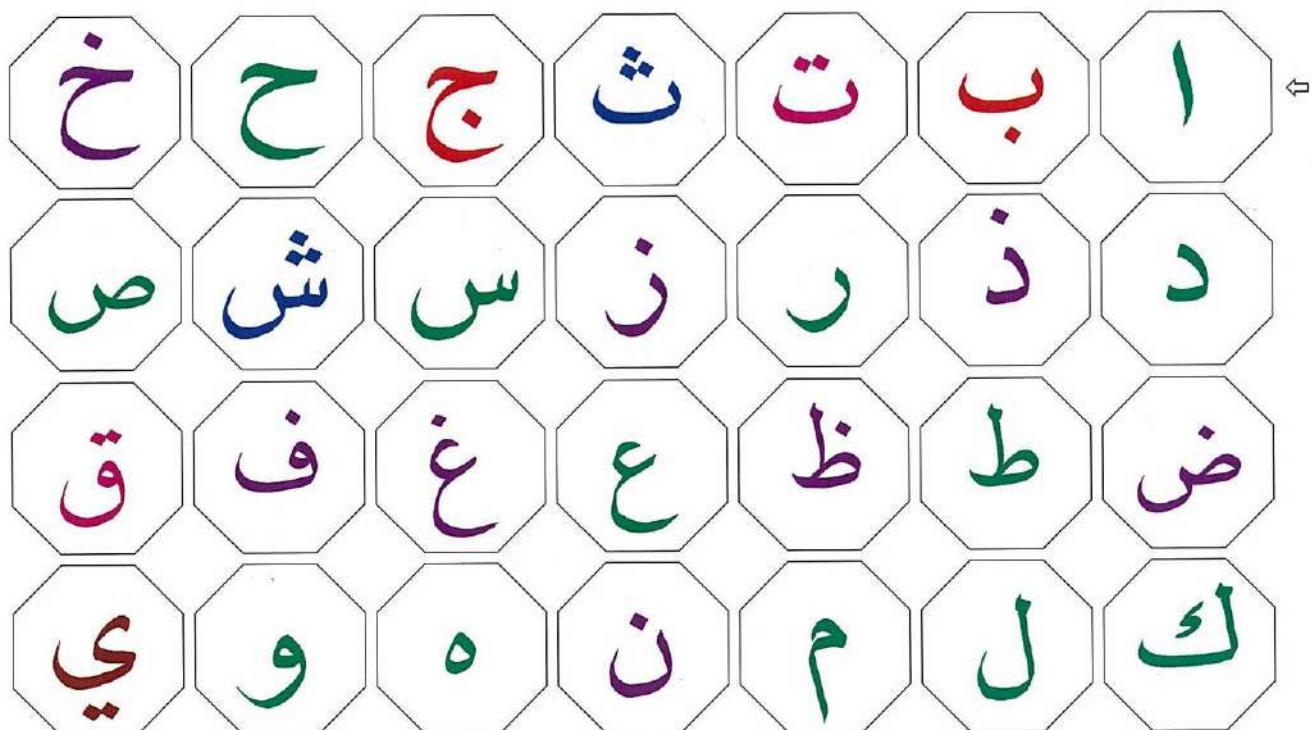
The Arabic alphabet

Jeem	Thaa'	Taa'	Baa'	Alif
ج	ث	ت	ب	ا
Raa'	Dhaal	Daal	Khaa'	Haa'
ر	ذ	د	خ	ح
Daad	Saad	Sheen	Seen	Zayn (also Zaay)
ض	ص	ش	س	ز
Faa'	Ghayn	Ayn	Zaa'	Taa'
ف	غ	ع	ظ	ط
Noon	Meem	Laam	Kaaf	Qaaf
ن	م	ل	ك	ق
		Yaa'	Waaw	Haa'
		ي	و	ه

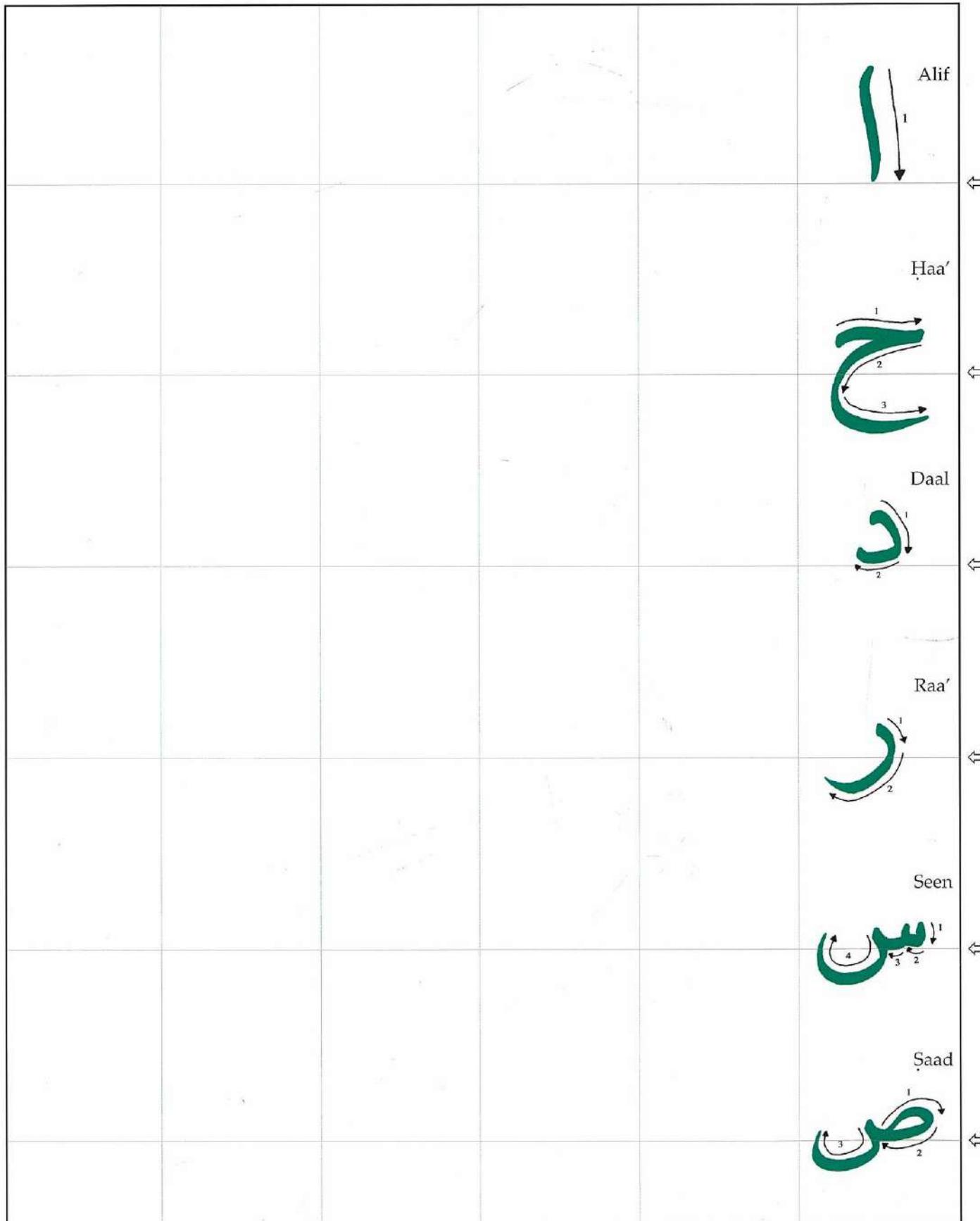
Arabic is written from right to left across the page. The Arabic alphabet is based on the set of seventeen basic letter shapes shown below. Some of these shapes exist as letters on their own. Others have one, two or three dots added above or below the letter shape.

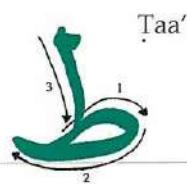
ا ب ح د ر س
ص ط ع ف ك ل
م ن ه و ي

Look at the complete alphabet below. Can you tell which of the above shapes each of the letters is based on? The letters have been colour-coded according to the number and position of the dots. For example, the letters with one dot on top are all purple.



The following set of letters has no dots. Copy each letter five times onto the red line provided, working from right to left across the page. Use the numbered arrows to guide your pen movement, and pay careful attention to the positioning of each letter in relation to its base line.

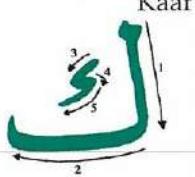




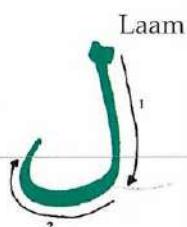
Taa'



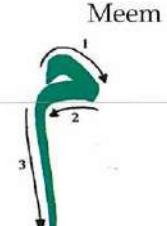
Ayn



Kaaf



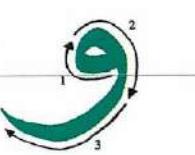
Laam



Meem

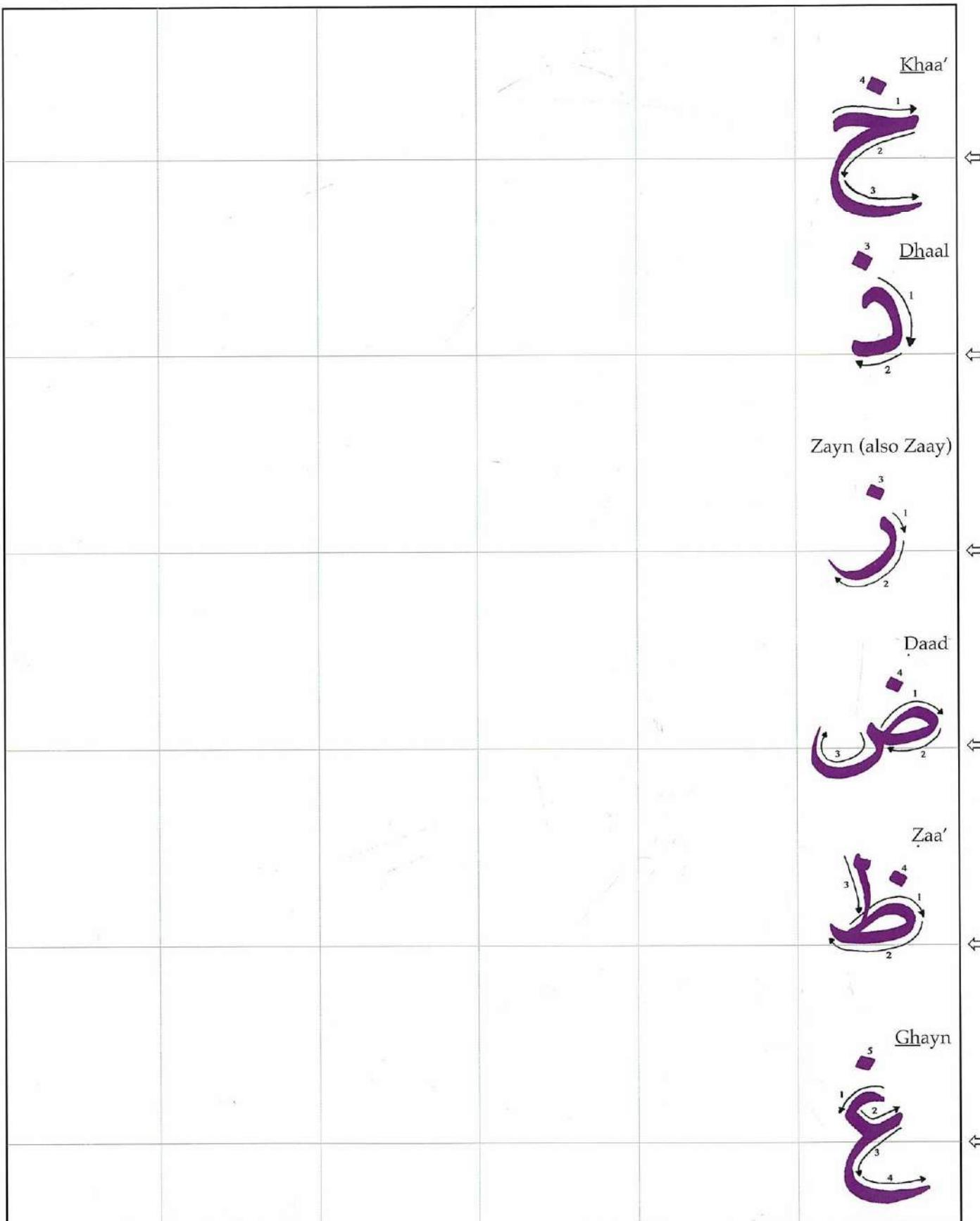


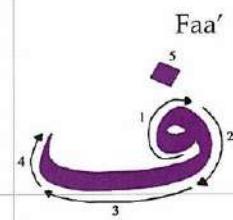
Haa'



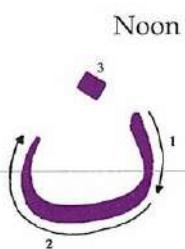
Waaw

The following set of letters has one dot above the base shape. Copy each letter five times onto the line provided, working from right to left. Use the numbered arrows to guide your pen movement, and pay careful attention to the positioning of each letter in relation to its base line.



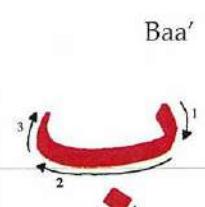


Faa'

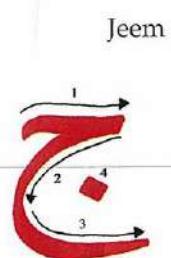


Noon

The following set of letters has **one dot below** the base shape. Copy each letter five times onto the base line provided, working from right to left across the page.

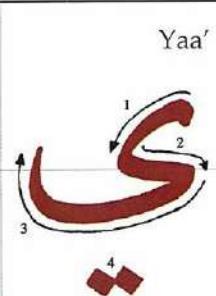


Baa'



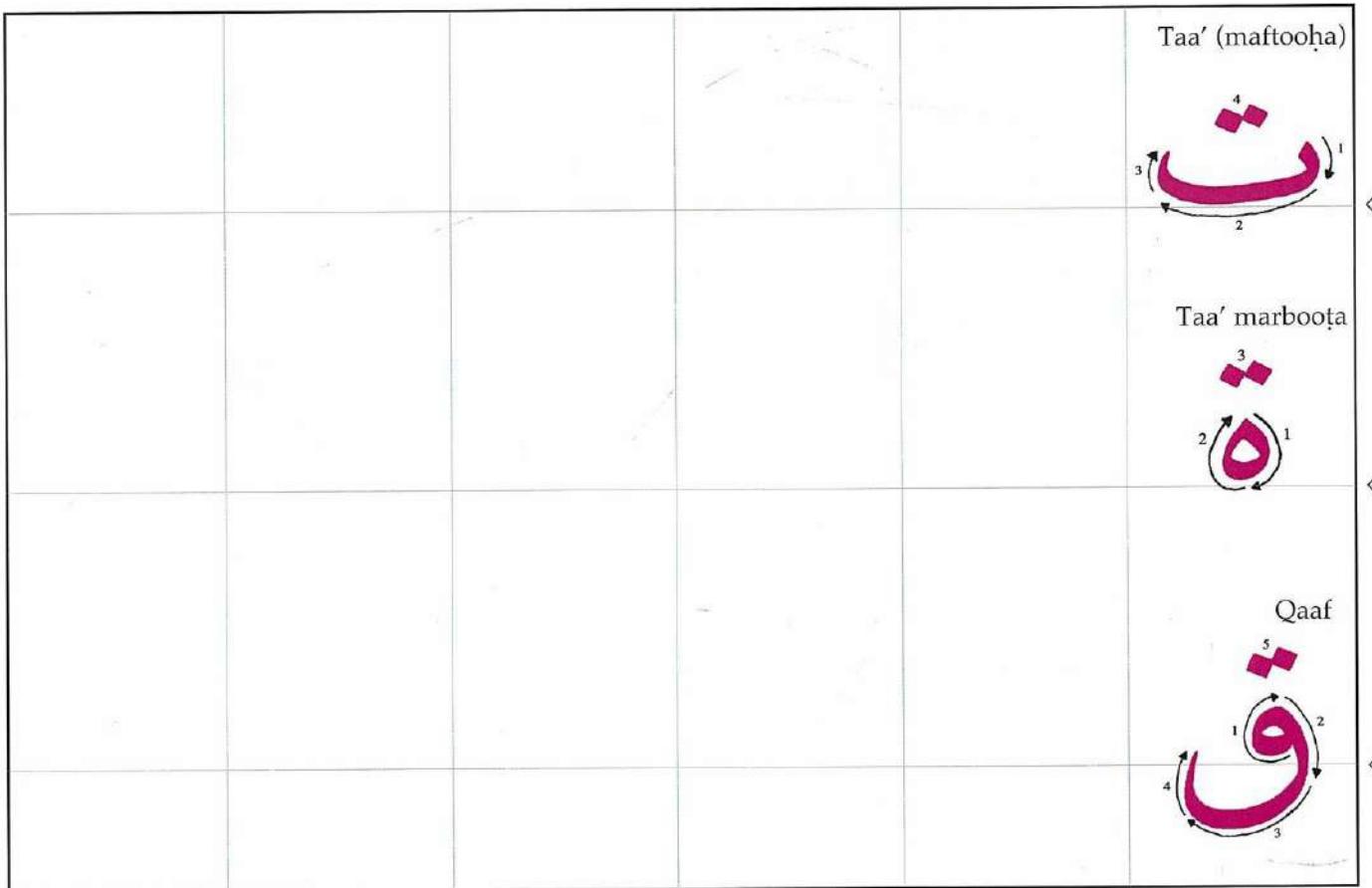
Jeem

The following letter has **two dots below** the base shape. Copy the letter five times onto the base line provided, working from right to left across the page.

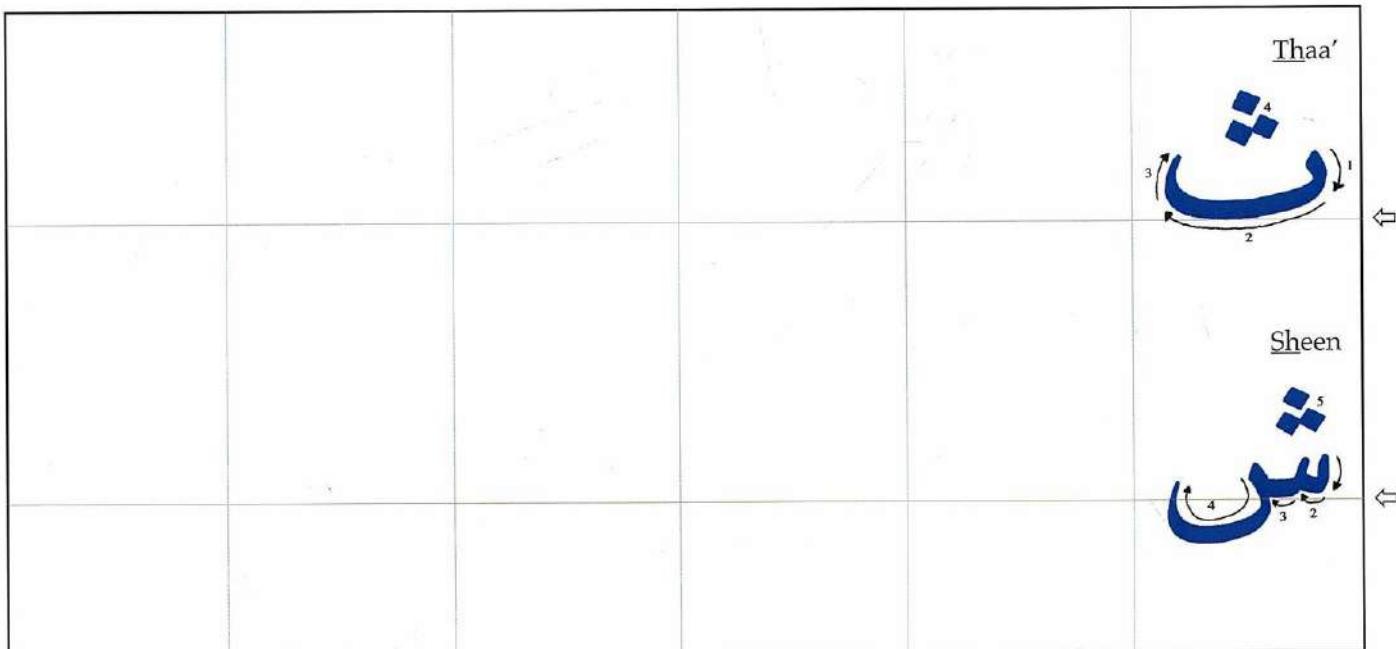


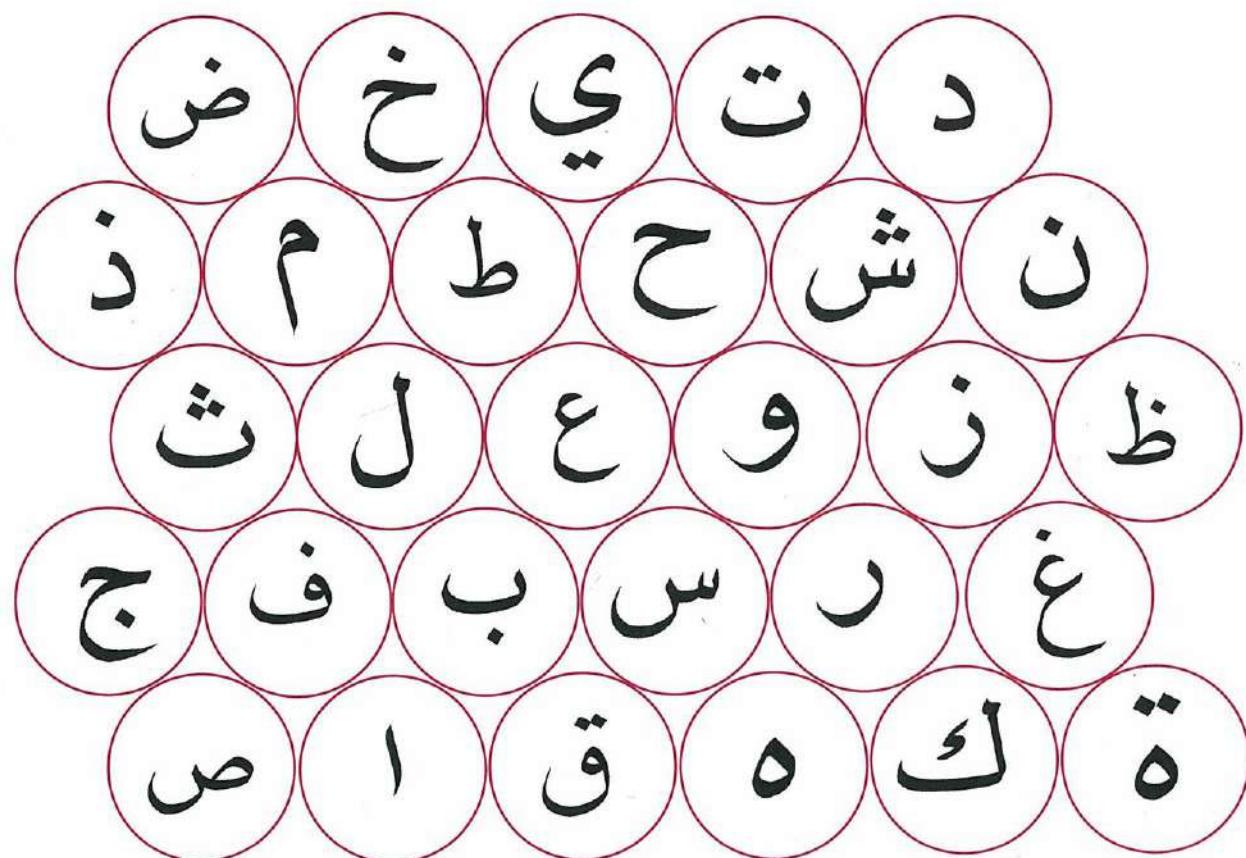
Yaa'

The following set of letters has **two dots above** the base shape. The letter *taa'* sometimes takes a different shape known as *taa' marbooṭa* in Arabic or 'tied taa'' (as opposed to *taa' maftooḥa* or 'open taa'), as if the two ends of the boat-shaped base have been brought upwards and tied together. Copy each letter five times onto the base line provided, working from right to left.



The following set of letters has a triangular pattern of three dots above the base shape. Copy each letter five times onto the base line provided, working from right to left across the page.





Copy each letter of the alphabet shown above next to its English name below on the lines provided.

Waaw	Saad	Dhaal
Khaa'	Faa'	Taa'
Kaaf	Meem	Thaa'
Raa'	Haa'	Seen
Baa'	Taa'	'Ayn
Daad	Yaa'	Noon
Ghayn	Haa'	Jeem
Zayn (Zaay)	Alif	Qaaf
Taa' marboota	Zaa'	Laam
	Sheen	Daal

Copy out the complete alphabet onto the lines provided, working from right to left across the page. Say the names of the letters to yourself as you copy them.

ا ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش ص

ب

ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ل ك م ن ه و ي



Fill in the missing letters in each of the following five-letter sequences, as in line number one.

ق

9 ⇔

ظ

10 ⇔

س

11 ⇔

ت

12 ⇔

و

13 ⇔

ر

14 ⇔

ح ث ح

15 ⇔

م

16 ⇔

ث ح ح خ د

1 ⇔

ش ص

2 ⇔

د ذ

3 ⇔

م ن

4 ⇔

ز س

5 ⇔

ل غ

6 ⇔

خ ت

7 ⇔

ع ص

8 ⇔

الْحَرَكَاتُ الْقَصِيرَةُ وَالْهَمْزَةُ

The short vowels and hamza

Fat-ḥa

Kasra

Damma

There are three short vowel sounds in Arabic: fat-ḥa, which makes an 'a' sound as in the English word 'man'; kasra, which makes an 'i' sound as in the English word 'bit'; and ḍamma which makes an 'u' sound as in the English word 'hut'. Fat-ḥa and ḍamma are written above the letters of the alphabet, whereas kasra is written below them. To read a vowelised letter, simply take the sound of the letter (for example, the sound of the letter noon is 'n'), and then add the 'a', 'i' or 'u' vowel sounds. Study the following examples:

nu	ni	na	shu	shi	sha
bu	bi	ba			

The character below is called a hamza. Copy it out eight times on the line provided.



The first letter of the alphabet, alif, is a weak letter which does not really have a sound of its own. However, if a hamza is written on or below the alif together with one of the short vowels, then the alif will take the sound of the vowel. Study the following:

u	i	a

Note how the hamza with kasra sits underneath the alif, whereas the hamza with fat-ḥa and the hamza with ḍamma sit on top of the alif.

For each of the tables numbered from one to three below, copy out the alphabet together with the short vowels onto the line below the letters. In the first table, a fat-ḥa has been added to each letter; in the second, a kasra; and in the third, a ḍamma. Practise reading the vowelised letters out loud for each of the four tables.

 												1.
 												2.
 												3.

2.

ءِ بِ تِ ثِ جِ حِ خِ دِ ذِ رِ زِ سِ شِ صِ	بِ
---	----

ضِ طِ ظِ عِ غِ فِ قِ لِ مِ نِ هِ وِ يِ	
--	--

3.

أُ بِ تِ ثِ جِ حِ خِ دِ ذِ رِ زِ سِ شِ صِ	بِ
---	----

ضِ طِ ظِ عِ غِ فِ قِ لِ مِ نِ هِ وِ يِ	
--	--

4.

أُءِ أُ بِ بِ تِ تِ تِ ثِ ثِ ثِ دِ دِ دِ	
ذِ ذِ ذِ رِ رِ رِ نِ نِ نِ سِ سِ سِ شِ شِ شِ	
صِ صِ صِ ضِ ضِ ضِ طِ طِ طِ ظِ ظِ ظِ عِ عِ عِ	
غِ غِ غِ فِ فِ فِ قِ قِ قِ لِ لِ لِ لِ لِ لِ	
مِ مِ مِ نِ نِ نِ هِ هِ هِ وِ وِ وِ يِ يِ يِ يِ	

Reading practice with the short vowels and hamza

Read aloud the following groups of three letters, together with their vowel sounds, working from right to left across the page.

عَلِمْ	جَهْل	نَجَحَ	طَلَعَ	
رَسَبَ	خَرِسَ	قَبُحَ	صَغُرَ	رَسَبَ
حَسْنَ	لَفَظَ	فَقَدَ	نَثَرَ	حَسْنَ
وَجَدَ	أَكَلَ	شَرِبَ	هَضَمَ	وَجَدَ
هُدِمَ	بُنِيَ	ذَهَبَ	ثَقُلَ	هُدِمَ
رَجَاعَ	لَبِسَ	كُتِبَ	ضَغَطَ	رَجَاعَ
دَخَلَ	خَرَجَ	خَلَعَ	زَحَافَ	دَخَلَ
أَخَذَ	تَعِبَ	خُلِقَ	بَدَا	أَخَذَ

سَمِعَ	يَبِسَ	تَرَكَ	قَرَأَ
36	35	34	33
سَأَلَ	زَلِقَ	رُفِعَ	رُزِقَ
40	39	38	37
سَطَعَ	نَدِمَ	نَفَثَ	فَهِمَ
44	43	42	41
طَرَأَ	شَبَعَ	ذُكْرَ	بَعَثَ
48	47	46	45
بَحَثَ	ضَحِكَ	وَضَعَ	أَمْرَ
52	51	50	49
مُنْعَ	غَفَرَ	سَبَقَ	جَلَسَ
56	55	54	53
عَمِلَ	حَمَلَ	غَضِبَ	مَلَأَ
60	59	58	57
دَأَبَ	ظَاهَرَ	زَرَعَ	ظُلِّمَ
64	63	62	61
صَنَعَ	ثَبَاتَ	أَمْنَ	تَبِعَ
68	67	66	65

Letters in their joined forms: Baa', Taa' and Thaa'

Arabic is written in a joined-up form. So far, you have learned how to print the individual letters of the alphabet. Now you need to learn how and when they join together, and how the shape of each letter changes according to its position within a word.

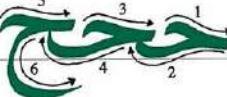
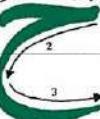
In what follows, each letter is shown in its isolate, beginning, middle and end forms, as well as three of the same letter joined together. Taa' marboota is only ever used at the end of a word, so it may only take the two shapes shown in the third row below (isolate and end forms).

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



Letters in their joined forms: Jeem, Haa' and Khaa'

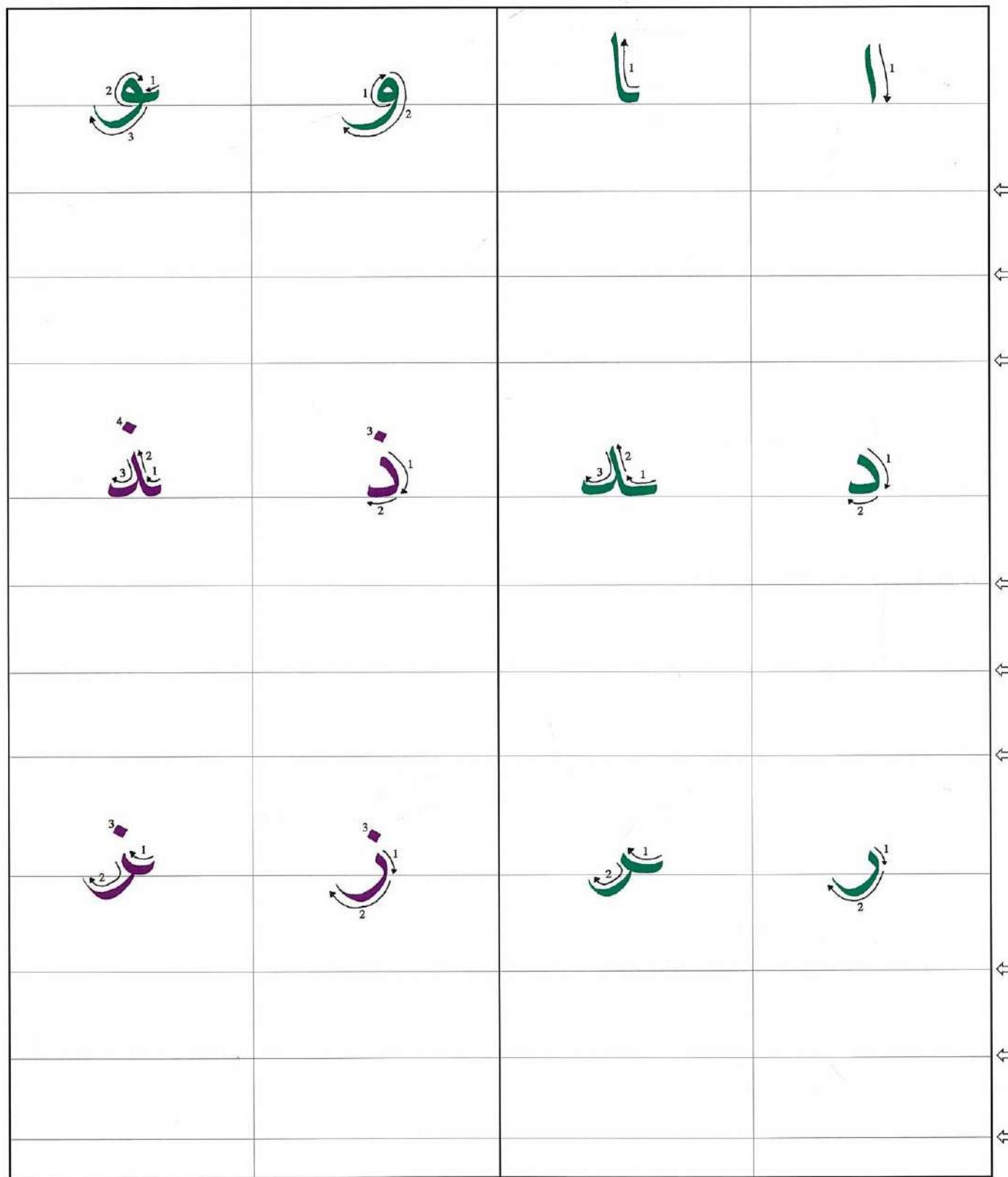
Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.

Lift and reposition your pen before doing steps 3 and 5. 	Lift and reposition your pen before doing step 2. 	Lift and reposition your pen before doing step 2. 		
				
				

The six special letters: Alif, Daal, Dhaal, Raa', Zayn and Waaw

The six special letters below can only be joined from the right-hand side. They cannot join onto letters to the left of them. Therefore, they can only take two shapes: the isolate shape and the end shape.

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



Study the following groups of letters, paying careful attention to the behaviour of the six special letters from the previous page. Note how they may be joined by non-special letters from the right hand side, but can never join onto letters to the left of them.

و ج د و جد	8
ذ ر ة ذرة	9
ج ذ و ر جذور	10
أ خ ذ أخذ	11
ج ر ذ جرذ	12
ز ح ا ح زجاج	13
ز و ج ة زوجة	14

ا د ب ادب	1
ا خ ذ اخذ	2
د ا و د داود	3
ذ ب ا ب ذباب	4
ب د ا بدا	5
ر ج ا رجا	6
ح رو ر حرو	7

Now try joining the following groups of letters for yourself, applying the rules you have learned.

ج وا ز	6
ز وج ا ت	7
ح د و د	8
و ر د ة	9
د ر ج ا ت	10

و ث ب و ثب	1
ت ا ج ر	2
ج و ا د	3
ر و ح	4
ح ح ج ز	5

Letters in their joined forms: Seen and Sheen

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



Letters in their joined forms: **Şaad** and **Daad**

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.

Lift and reposition your pen before doing steps 6 and 12.



Lift and reposition your pen before doing step 2.



Lift and reposition your pen before doing step 2.



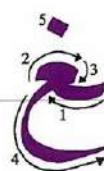
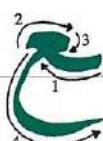
Letters in their joined forms: Taa' and Zaa'

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



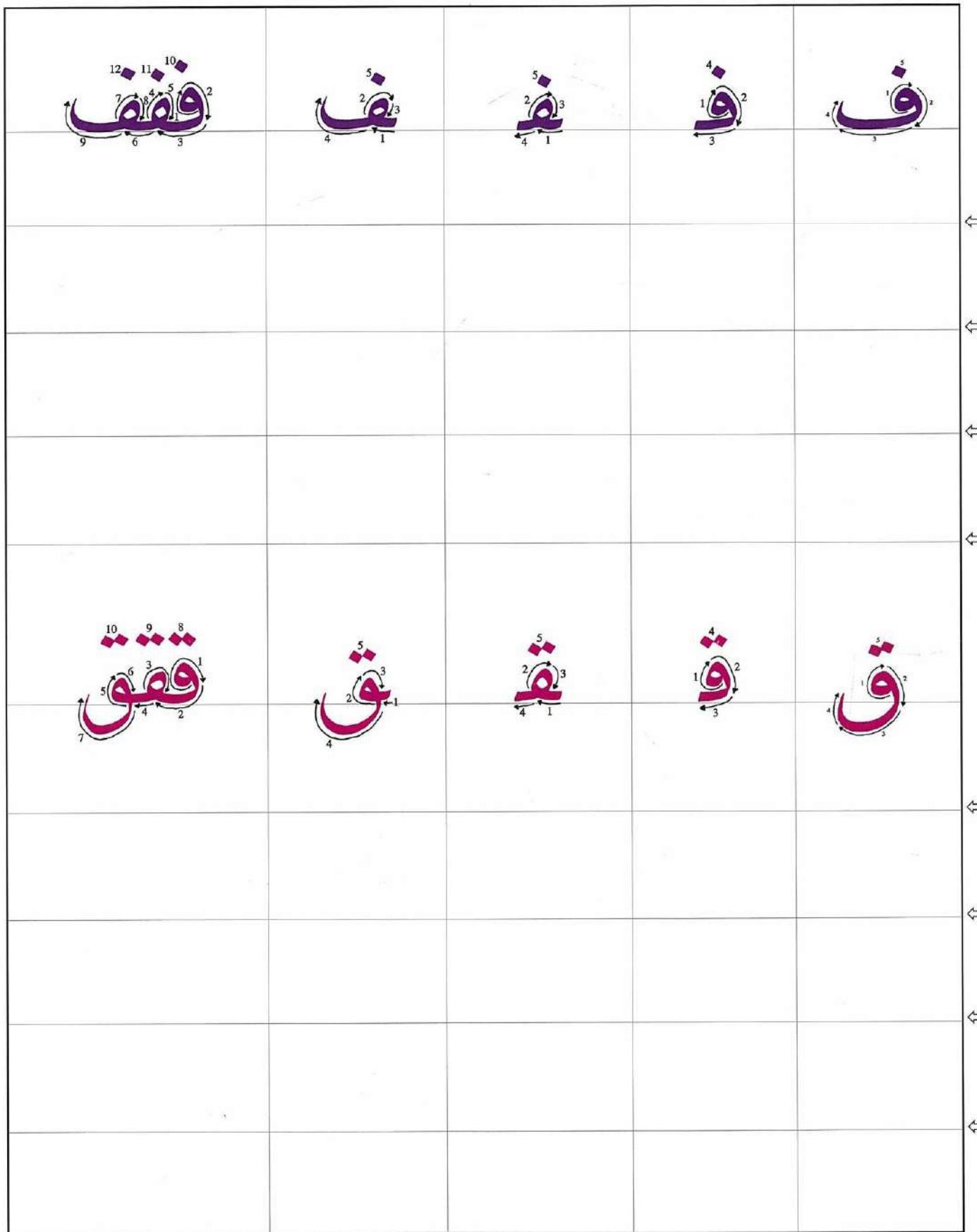
Letters in their joined forms: 'Ayn and Ghayn

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



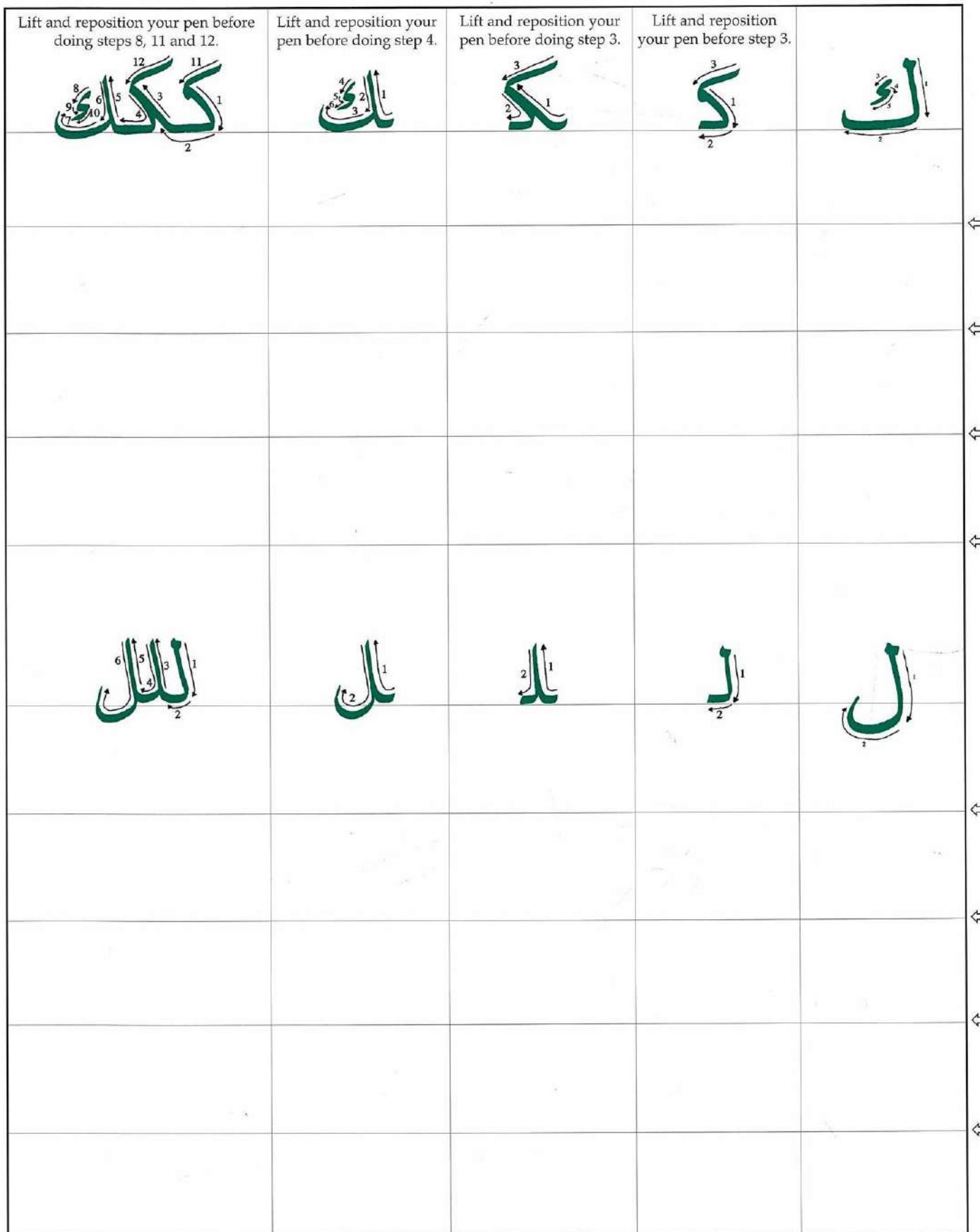
Letters in their joined forms: Faa' and Qaaf

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



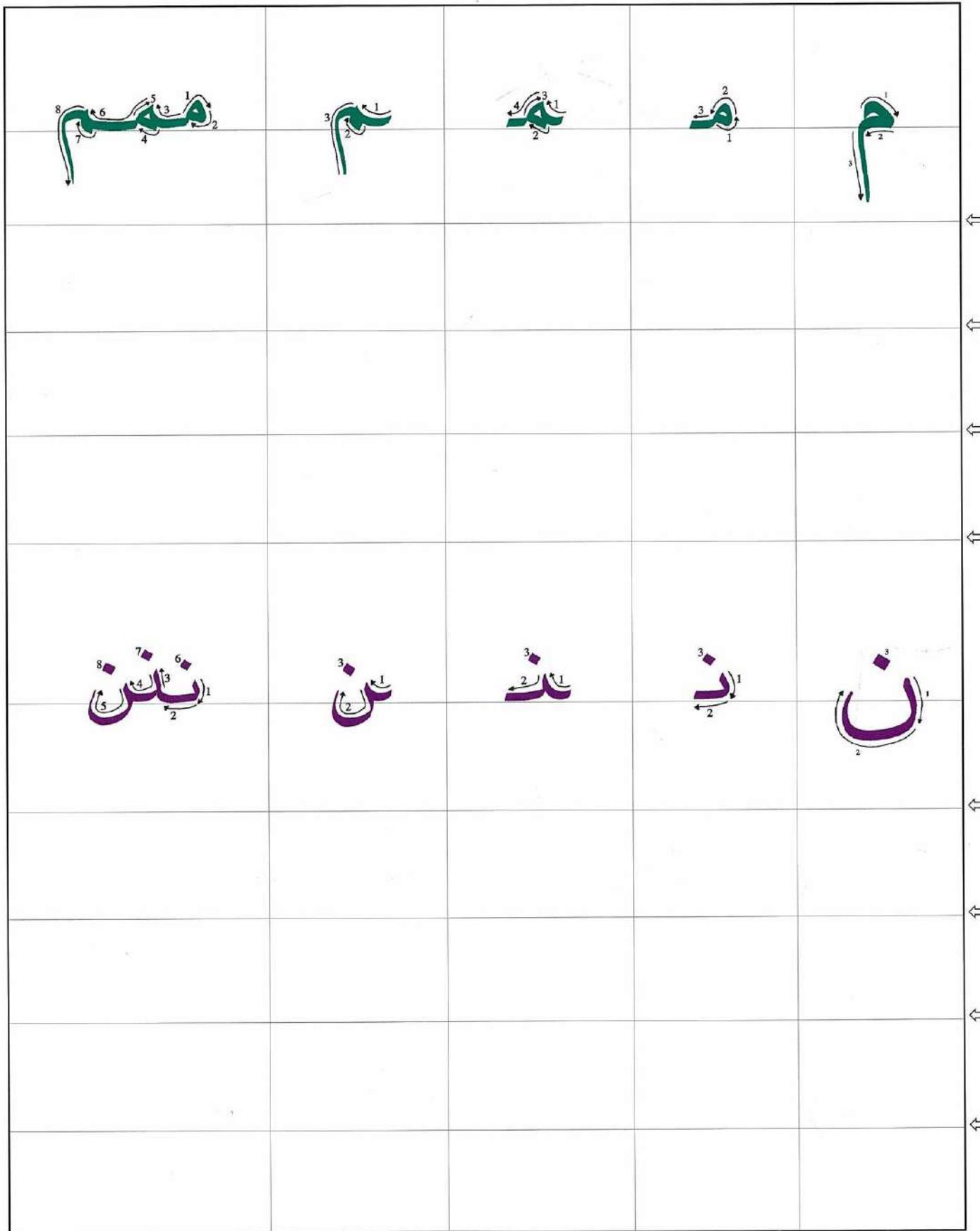
Letters in their joined forms: Kaaf and Laam

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



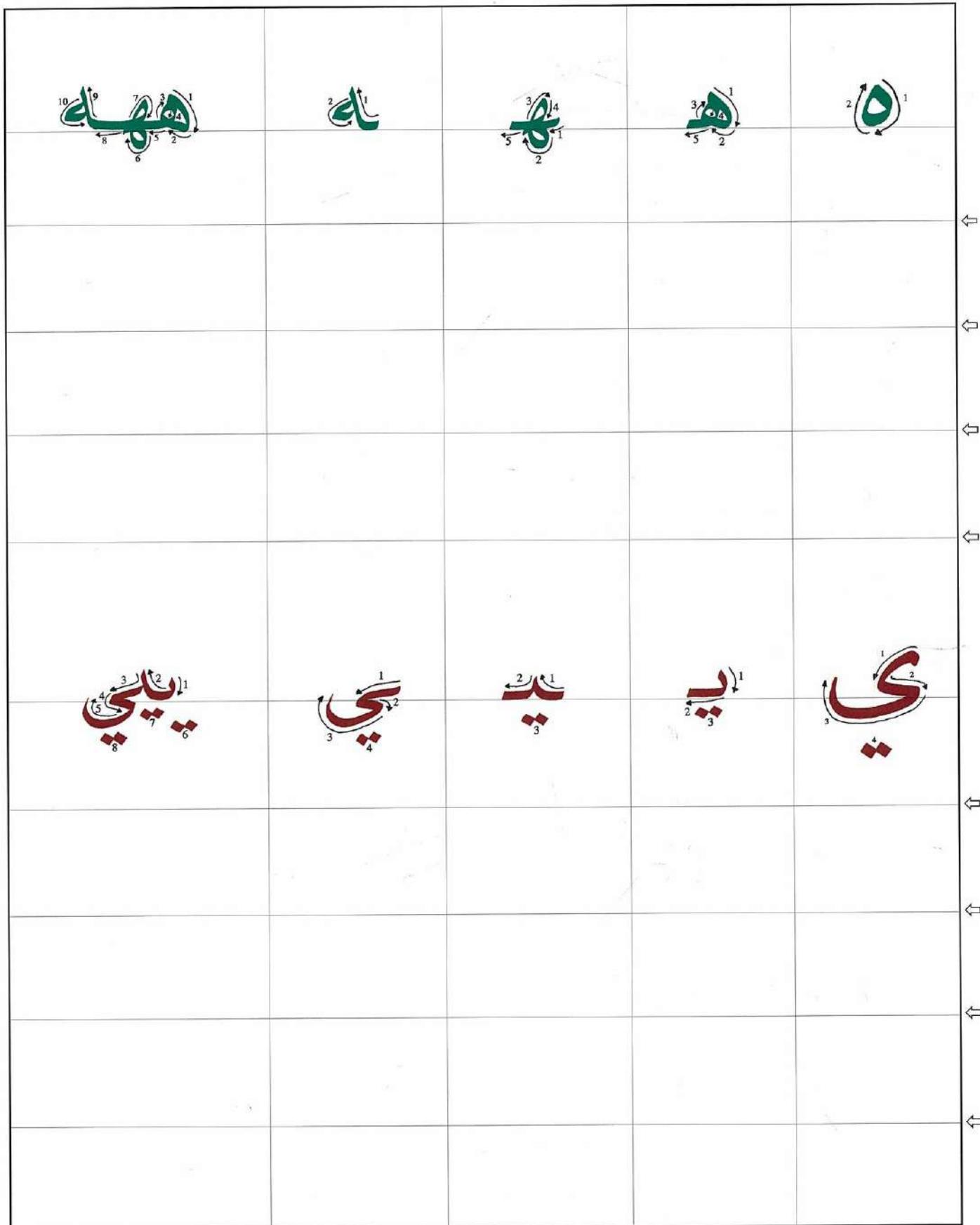
Letters in their joined forms: Meem and Noon

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



Letters in their joined forms: Haa' and Yaa'

Copy each of the rows of letters onto the lines provided. Make sure you copy from right to left across the page. Pay careful attention to the direction of the arrows as shown on each letter.



Practice with joining letters: Alif and Baa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he ordered	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ
	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ	أَمْرَ
he asked	سَأَلَ	سَأَلَ	سَأَلَ	سَأَلَ	سَأَلَ
he read	قَرَا	قَرَا	قَرَا	قَرَا	قَرَا
he swallowed	بَلَعَ	بَلَعَ	بَلَعَ	بَلَعَ	بَلَعَ
he was full	شَبَّعَ	شَبَّعَ	شَبَّعَ	شَبَّعَ	شَبَّعَ
he wrote	كَتَبَ	كَتَبَ	كَتَبَ	كَتَبَ	كَتَبَ

Practice with joining letters: Taa' and Thaa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he was tired	تَعِبَ تَعِبَ تَعِبَ	تَعِبَ تَعِبَ تَعِبَ
he insulted	شَتَمَ شَتَمَ شَتَمَ	شَتَمَ شَتَمَ شَتَمَ
it grew	نَبَتَ نَبَتَ نَبَتَ	نَبَتَ نَبَتَ نَبَتَ
he stood firm	ثَبَتَ ثَبَتَ ثَبَتَ	ثَبَتَ ثَبَتَ ثَبَتَ
he sprinkled	نَشَرَ نَشَرَ نَشَرَ	نَشَرَ نَشَرَ نَشَرَ
he fooled around	عَبَثَ عَبَثَ عَبَثَ	عَبَثَ عَبَثَ عَبَثَ

Practice with joining letters: Jeem and Haa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he was cowardly	جَبْنَ	جَبْنَ	جَ بُ نَ	جَ بُ نَ
he prostrated	سَجَدَ	سَجَدَ	سَ جَ دَ	سَ جَ دَ
it resulted	نَتَحَ	نَتَحَ	نَ تَ حَ	نَ تَ حَ
he praised	حَمِدَ	حَمِدَ	حَ مِ دَ	حَ مِ دَ
he withdrew	سَحَبَ	سَحَبَ	سَ حَ بَ	سَ حَ بَ
he wiped	مَسَحَ	مَسَحَ	مَ سَ حَ	مَ سَ حَ

Practice with joining letters: Khaa' and Daal

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he suffered
a loss

خَسِرَ خَسِرَ رَخْسِرَ خَسِرَ

he was miserly

بَخِلَ بَخِلَ لَبَخِلَ بَخِلَ

he copied

نَسَخَ نَسَخَ نَسَخَ نَسَخَ

he entered

دَخَلَ دَخَلَ لَدَخَلَ دَخَلَ

he regretted

نَدِمَ نَدِمَ مَدِمَ نَدِمَ

he supported

سَنَدَ سَنَدَ دَسَنَدَ سَنَدَ

Practice with joining letters: Dhaal and Raa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he stored	ذَخَرَ	ذَخَرَ ذَخَرَ ذَخَرَ	ذَخَرَ ذَخَرَ ذَخَرَ
he vowed	نَذَرَ	نَذَرَ نَذَرَ نَذَرَ	نَذَرَ نَذَرَ نَذَرَ
he took	أَخَذَ	أَخَذَ أَخَذَ أَخَذَ	أَخَذَ أَخَذَ أَخَذَ
he rode	رَكِبَ	رَكِبَ رَكِبَ رَكِبَ	رَكِبَ رَكِبَ رَكِبَ
he drank	شَرِبَ	شَرِبَ شَرِبَ شَرِبَ	شَرِبَ شَرِبَ شَرِبَ
he felt	شَعَرَ	شَعَرَ شَعَرَ شَعَرَ	شَعَرَ شَعَرَ شَعَرَ

Practice with joining letters: Zayn and Seen

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he exhaled

زَفَرَ

زَفَرَ

زَفَرَ

زَفَرَ

it had to be done

لَزِمَ

لَزِمَ

لَزِمَ

لَزِمَ

لَزِمَ

he was unable,
incapable of

عَجِزَ

عَجِزَ

عَجِزَ

عَجِزَ

عَجِزَ

he heard

سَمِعَ

سَمِعَ

سَمِعَ

سَمِعَ

سَمِعَ

he acquired,
he earned

كَسَبَ

كَسَبَ

كَسَبَ

كَسَبَ

كَسَبَ

he frowned

عَبَسَ

عَبَسَ

عَبَسَ

عَبَسَ

عَبَسَ

Practice with joining letters: Sheen and Şaad

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he was cured, healed	شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ	شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ	شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ شُفِيَ
it became dry	نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ	نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ	نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ نَشِفَ
he engraved	نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ	نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ	نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ نَقَشَ
he was patient	صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ	صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ	صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ صَبَرَ
he supported, backed s.o. up	نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ	نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ	نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ نَصَرَ
it decreased, diminished	نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ	نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ	نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ نَقَصَ

Practice with joining letters: Daad and Taa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

ضَحِكَ لَكَ ضَحِكَ ضَحِكَ
he laughed

نَضِيجَ نَضِيجَ نَضِيجَ
it ripened

خَفَضَ خَفَضَ خَفَضَ خَفَضَ
he reduced,
lowered,
decreased

طَلَبَ طَلَبَ طَلَبَ طَلَبَ
he requested

لَطْفَ لَطْفَ لَطْفَ لَطْفَ
he was friendly,
pleasant

مَشَطَ مَشَطَ مَشَطَ مَشَطَ
he combed

Practice with joining letters: Zaa' and 'Ayn

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he appeared	ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ	ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ ظَهَرَ
he looked	نَظَرَ نَظَرَ نَظَرَ نَظَرَ نَظَرَ	نَظَرَ نَظَرَ نَظَرَ نَظَرَ نَظَرَ
he memorized; he preserved	حَفِظَ حَفِظَ حَفِظَ حَفِظَ حَفِظَ	حَفِظَ حَفِظَ حَفِظَ حَفِظَ حَفِظَ
he worked	عَمِلَ عَمِلَ عَمِلَ عَمِلَ عَمِلَ	عَمِلَ عَمِلَ عَمِلَ عَمِلَ عَمِلَ
he played	لَعِبَ لَعِبَ لَعِبَ لَعِبَ لَعِبَ	لَعِبَ لَعِبَ لَعِبَ لَعِبَ لَعِبَ
it shone, it glittered	لَمَعَ لَمَعَ لَمَعَ لَمَعَ لَمَعَ	لَمَعَ لَمَعَ لَمَعَ لَمَعَ لَمَعَ

Practice with joining letters: Ghayn and Faa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he washed

غَسَلَ غَسَلَ غَسَلَ

it became small

صَغُرَ صَغُرَ صَغُرَ

he reached

بَلَغَ بَلَغَ بَلَغَ

it slipped away

فَلَتَ فَلَتَ فَلَتَ

he jumped

قَفَزَ قَفَزَ قَفَزَ

he picked,
harvested

قطَفَ قَطَفَ قَطَفَ

Practice with joining letters: Qaaf and Kaaf

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he accepted, he received	قَبِلَ قَبِلَ	قَبِلَ	قَبِلَ	قَبِلَ
he lost (s.th.)	فَقَدْ فَقَدْ	فَقَدْ	فَقَدْ	فَقَدْ
he spoke, he uttered	نَطَقَ نَطَقَ	نَطَقَ	نَطَقَ	نَطَقَ
he concealed, he hid (s.th.)	كَتَمَ كَتَمَ	كَتَمَ	كَتَمَ	كَتَمَ
he inhabited, lived, dwelt	سَكَنَ سَكَنَ	سَكَنَ	سَكَنَ	سَكَنَ
he grabbed, seized, held	مَسَكَ مَسَكَ	مَسَكَ	مَسَكَ	مَسَكَ

Practice with joining letters: Laam and Meem

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he wore

لَبِسَ لَبِسَ لَبِسَ لَبِسَ لَبِسَ

he stole,
he robbed (s.o.)

سَلَبَ سَلَبَ سَلَبَ سَلَبَ سَلَبَ

he failed

فَشَلَ فَشَلَ فَشَلَ فَشَلَ فَشَلَ

he prevented

مَنَعَ مَنَعَ مَنَعَ مَنَعَ مَنَعَ

he kept
quiet, was
silent

صَمَتَ صَمَتَ صَمَتَ صَمَتَ صَمَتَ

he knew

عَلِمَ عَلِمَ عَلِمَ عَلِمَ عَلِمَ

Practice with joining letters: Noon and Haa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he grew up; it developed	نَشَأَ	نَشَأَ	نَشَأَ	نَشَأَ
he made, manufactured	صَنَعَ	صَنَعَ	صَنَعَ	صَنَعَ
he was sad	حَزِنَ	حَزِنَ	حَزِنَ	حَزِنَ
he whispered	هَمَسَ	هَمَسَ	هَمَسَ	هَمَسَ
he rose up, he got up	نَهَضَ	نَهَضَ	نَهَضَ	نَهَضَ
he was stupid	سَفِهَ	سَفِهَ	سَفِهَ	سَفِهَ

Practice with joining letters: Waaw and Yaa'

Learn how to join the letters by copying out the words onto the line provided below each row, working from right to left across the page. Read each word out loud.

he arrived	وَصَلَ وَصَلَ وَصَلَ	وَصَلَ
it was folded	طُويَ طُويَ طُويَ طُويَ	طُويَ
invasion; raid (ghazw)	غَزوَ غَزوَ غَزوَ غَزوَ	غَزوَ
he inherits	يَرِثُ يَرِثُ يَرِثُ يَرِثُ	يَرِثُ
house (bayt)	بَيْت بَيْت بَيْت بَيْت	بَيْت
he forgot	نَسِيَ نَسِيَ نَسِيَ نَسِيَ	نَسِيَ

Practice with joining letters

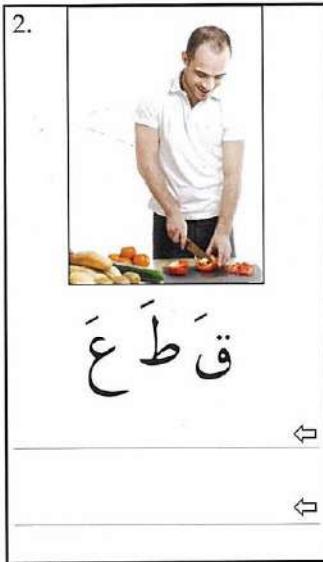
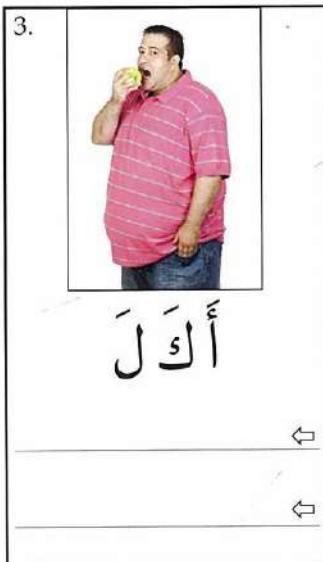
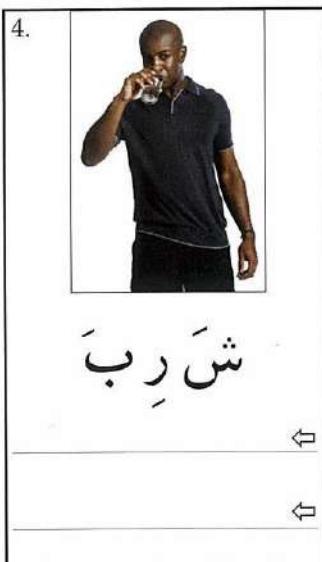
Join the groups of letters to make words on the lines provided. Read each word aloud.

He drank

He ate

He cut, chopped

He opened

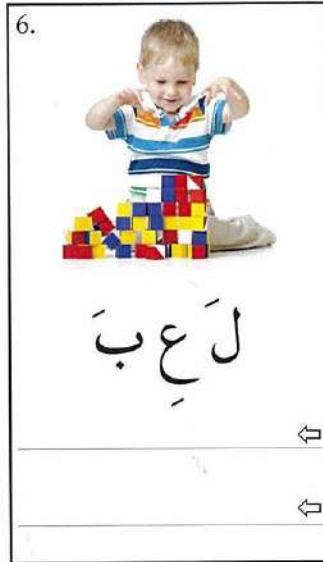
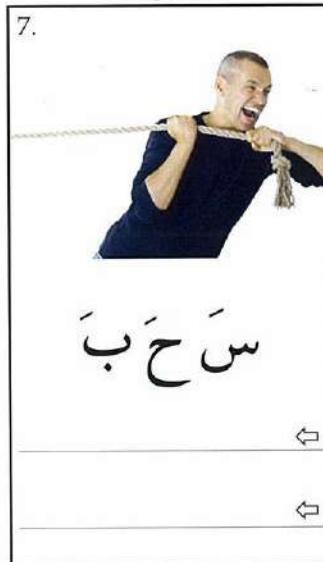


He pushed

He pulled

He played

He laughed



He washed

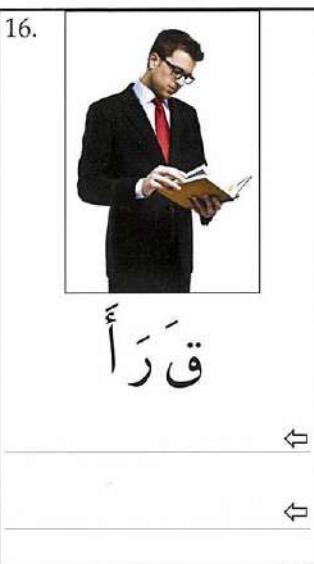
He weighed

He planted

He dug

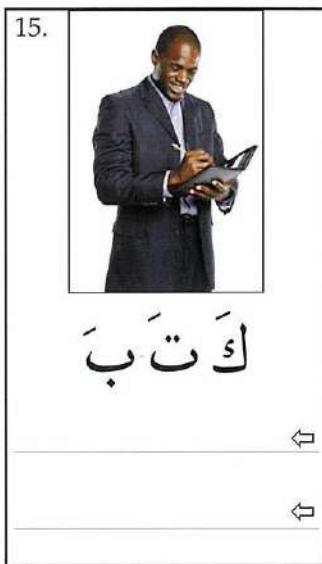


He read



قَرَأَ

He wrote



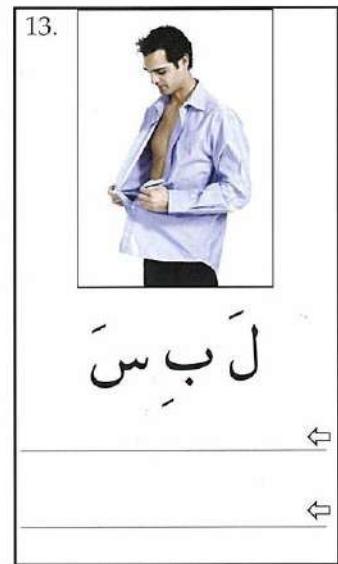
كَتَبَ

He swept



كَنَسَ

He dressed



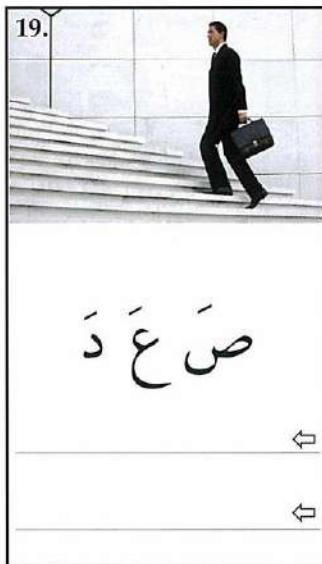
لَبِسَ

He went down, descended



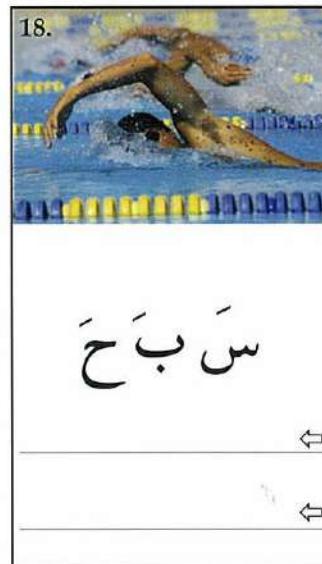
نَزَلَ

He went up, ascended



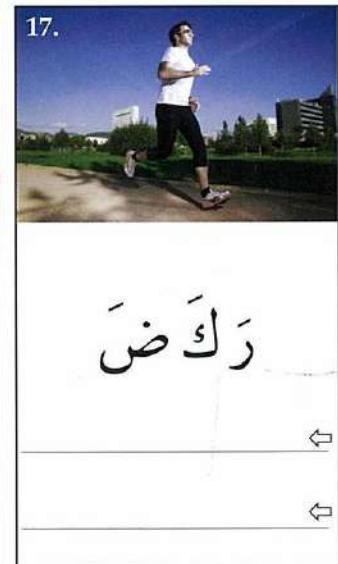
صَعَدَ

He swam



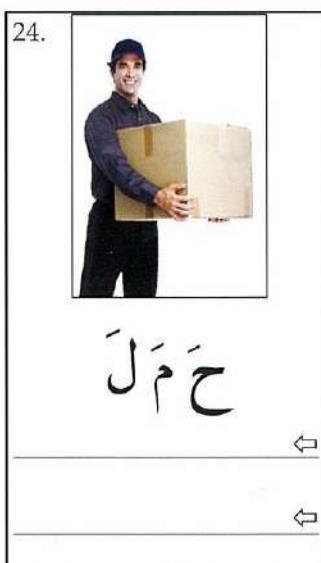
سَبَحَ

He jogged, ran



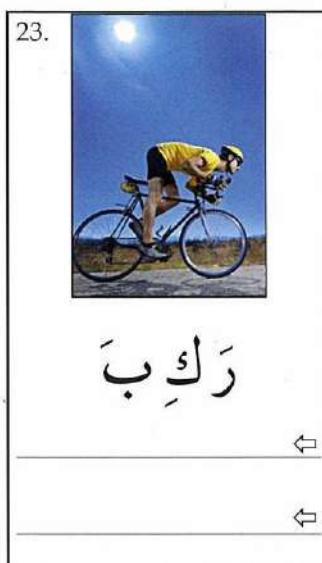
رَكَضَ

He carried



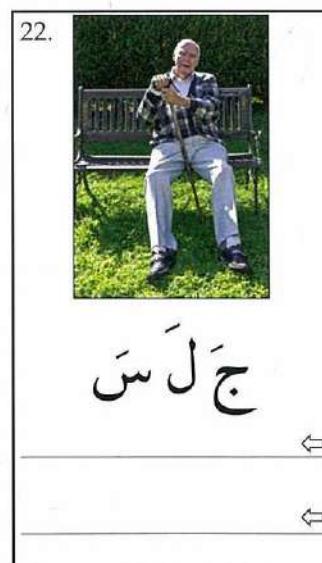
حَمَلَ

He rode



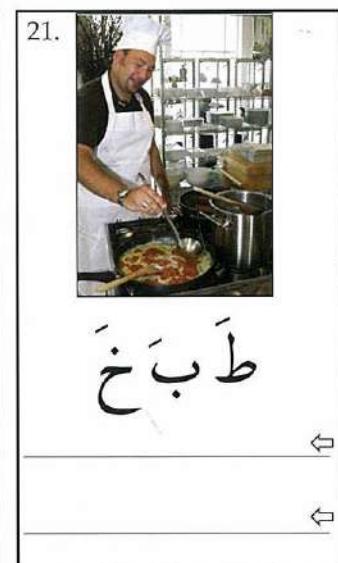
رَكِبَ

He sat



جَلَسَ

He cooked



طَبَخَ

Practice with joining letters

Join the groups of letters to make words on the lines provided. Read each word aloud.

he did not know	جَهْلٌ	12
he returned	رَجَعٌ	13
he peeled	قَشَرٌ	14
he met, encountered	لَقِيَ	15
he examined	فَحَصَ	16
he created	خَلَقَ	17
he regretted, felt sorry	أَسِفَ	18
he refused	رَفَضَ	19
he went out, left, exited	خَرَجَ	20
he harvested	حَصَدَ	21
he gave, donated	وَهَبَ	22

he knew	عَلِمَ	1
he went	ذَهَبَ	2
he sat	قَعَدَ	3
he gathered	جَمَعَ	4
he found	وَجَدَ	5
he crossed, traversed	عَبَرَ	6
he was ill	مَرِضَ	7
he found, discovered	عَثَرَ	8
he spread	فَرَشَ	9
he drew	رَسَمَ	10
it landed, descended	هَبَطَ	11

he attended	حَضَرَ	35
he tied	رَبَطَ	36
it became easy, smooth	سَهُلَ	37
it became hot	سَخْنَ	38
he revealed	كَشَفَ	39
it was ugly	قَبُحَ	40
he broke	كَسَرَ	41
it was dirty	وَسِخَ	42
he was pleased	رَضِيَ	43
it passed away, came to an end	فَنِيَ	44
he danced	رَقَصَ	45
he intended	قَصَدَ	46

he profited	رَبِحَ	23
he fell	سَقَطَ	24
it was difficult, hard	صَعْبَ	25
it was cold	بَرْدَ	26
he covered, concealed	سَتَرَ	27
he gathered, amassed	حَشَدَ	28
it was understood	فُهْمَ	29
it was cleaned	نَظُفَ	30
he became angry	غَضِبَ	31
it happened	حَدَثَ	32
he hated, despised	كَرِهَ	33
he bowed	رَكَعَ	34

Practice with joining letters

Join the groups of letters to make words on the lines provided. Read each word aloud.

he was lazy	لَسِلَ	12
it was rough	خَشْنَ	13
he raised	رَفَعَ	14
he completed, he concluded	كَمَلَ	15
it was near	قَرُبَ	16
he was silent, he kept quiet	سَكَتَ	17
he failed	رَسَبَ	18
he uprooted, pulled out	قَلَعَ	19
he studied	دَرَسَ	20
he promised	وَعَدَ	21
he transported	نَقَلَ	22

he was active	نَشِطٌ	1
he filled up	مَلَأَ	2
he was just, fair	عَدْلَ	3
he understood; he hobbled (e.g. a camel)	عَقَلَ	4
it was distant	بَعْدَ	5
he pronounced	لَفَظَ	6
he passed, succeeded	نَجَحَ	7
he planted	غَرَسَ	8
he shouted	صَرَخَ	9
he fell	وَقَعَ	10
he aimed, intended	هَدَفَ	11

it became bad, rotten; it decayed	فَسَدَ	35
it was opened	فُتِحَ	36
it was permitted, allowed	سُمِحَ	37
he was thin, slender	نَحْفَ	38
he knocked	طَرَقَ	39
he was blind, he became blind	عَمِيَ	40
he was unhappy, miserable	شَقِيَ	41
he thanked	شَكَرَ	42
he mentioned	ذَكَرَ	43
he printed	طَبَعَ	44
he stopped; he stood	وَقَفَ	45
he cut	قَطَعَ	46

he was good, righteous	صَلُحَ	23
he was stupid, foolish	سَفِهَ	24
he was joyful	فَرِحَ	25
he became fat	سَمِنَ	26
he was buried	دُفِنَ	27
it was written	كُتِبَ	28
he was happy	سَعِدَ	29
he grew; it became big	كَبُرَ	30
he shaved	حَلَقَ	31
he was greedy	جَشِعَ	32
he began	بَدَأَ	33
he was anxious	قَلِقَ	34

Tanween (nunation)

Sometimes, at the end of a word, the short vowels may be doubled. This is known as *tanween*, and it changes the sound of the vowels. One of the common uses of *tanween* is to show that a word is indefinite (e.g. 'a car', as opposed to 'the car').

- If *fat-ha* is doubled, the sound changes from 'a' to 'an' as in the English word 'man'. It is usually – though not always – supported by a silent alif. When written on a *taa'* *marboota*, it does not require a supporting alif. This doubling of the vowel is known as *tanween fat-ha*.
- If *kasra* is doubled, the sound changes from 'i' to 'in' as in the English word 'tin'. This doubling of the vowel is known as *tanween kasra*.
- If *damma* is doubled, the sound changes from 'u' to 'un' as in the English word 'sun'. This doubling of the vowel is known as *tanween damma*. The two *dammas* are usually represented by the symbol shown on the right, though they may also be written separately.

One other point to note is that when adding an *alif* to a *laam*, for example to support *tanween fat-ha*, the shape of the *laam* changes slightly. This shape is known as *laam alif*. Study the following examples:

رَجُلًا ← رَجُلًا بَدَلًا ← بَدَلًا

Note the difference in the shape of the *laam alif* depending on whether there is a joining letter before it.

Read each letter in the following table out loud together with its *tanween* vowel sound.

تٌهٌ	تٌهٌ تٌهٌ	تٌهٌ تٌهٌ	بٌ	بٌ	بٌ	أٌ	أٌ	أٌ
حٌ	حٌ حٌ	حٌ حٌ	جٌ	جٌ	جٌ	ثٌ	ثٌ	ثٌ
ذٌ	ذٌ ذٌ	ذٌ ذٌ	دٌ	دٌ	دٌ	خٌ	خٌ	خٌ
سٌ	سٌ سٌ	سٌ سٌ	زٌ	زٌ	زٌ	رٌ	رٌ	رٌ
ضٌ	ضٌ ضٌ	ضٌ ضٌ	صٌ	صٌ	صٌ	شٌ	شٌ	شٌ

ع	عَا	ظ	ظَا	ط	طَا
ق	قَا	ف	فَا	غ	غَا
م	مَا	ل	لَا	ك	كَا
و	وَا	ه	هَا	ن	نَا

Join the groups of letters to make words on the lines provided. Read each word aloud.

مَعِدَةً
سَمَكَةً
قَدَمًا
شَجَرٍ
عُنْقًا
ذَقْنُ

أَحَدًا	أَحَدًا	أَحَدًا
كُتُبٍ		
أَخًا		
أَذْنٌ		
جَدَلًا		
سُبُلًا		

الْحَرَكَاتُ الطَّوِيلَةُ (حُرُوفُ الْمَدٌ)

The long vowels

Three letters of the Arabic alphabet are used to lengthen the sound of the short vowels, as follows:

و Waaw is used to lengthen the 'u' sound of damma, so that it sounds like 'oo' as in 'moon'.

ي Yaa is used to lengthen the 'i' sound of kasra, so that it sounds like 'ee' as in 'knee'.

أ Alif is used to lengthen the 'a' sound of fat-ha, so that it sounds like 'aa' as in 'aardvark'.

Study the following examples:

بُو جُو رُو

Roo Joo Boo

بِي جِي رِي

Ree Jee Bee

بَا جَا رَا

Raa Jaa Baa

When alif itself is lengthened by an alif, it becomes an extra long 'aa' sound known as *alif al-madd* (extended or prolonged alif). It is written with a horizontal line over the top of the alif like this:

An example of its usage can be seen in the Arabic word for 'Amen', which is pronounced 'aaameen': آمِين

Read each letter in the following table out loud together with its long vowel sound.

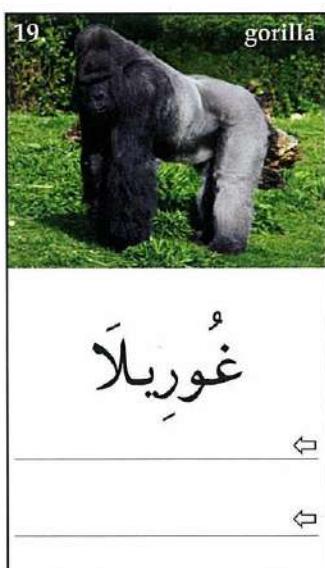
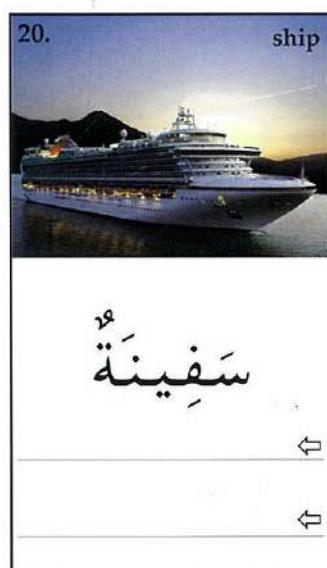
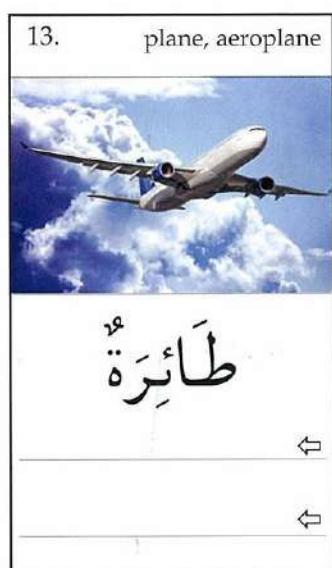
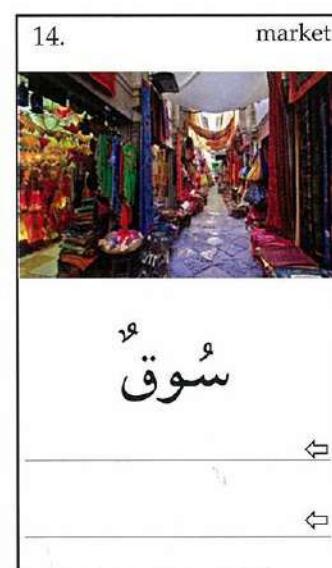
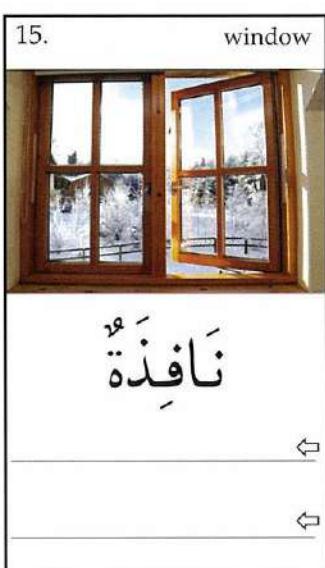
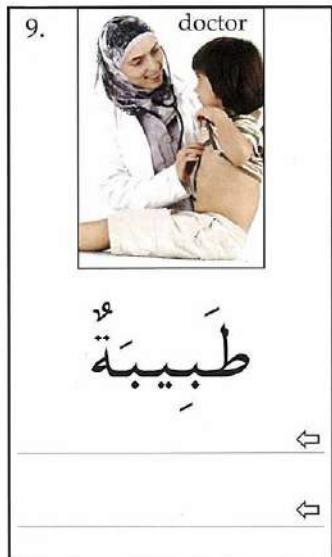
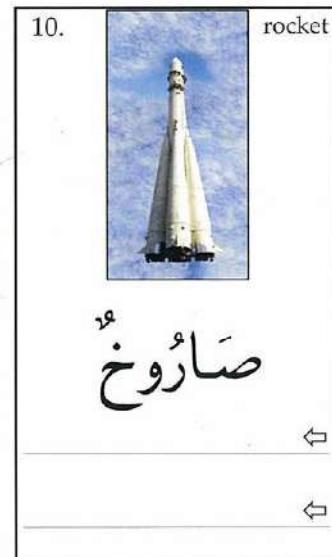
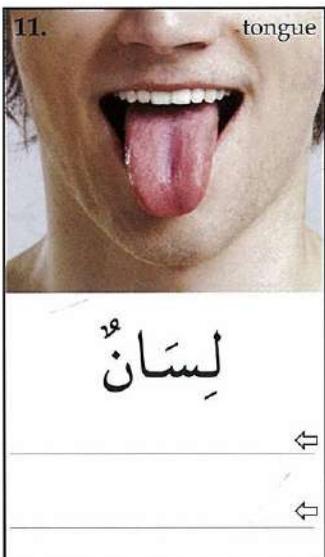
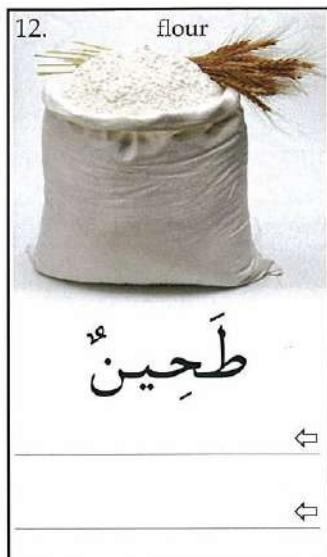
تُو تِي تَا	بُو بِي بَا	أُو إِي إِي
حُو حِي حَا	جُو جِي جَا	ثَا ثِي ثُو
خُو خِي خَا	دُو دِي دَا	دُو دِي دَا
سُو سِي سَا	زُو زِي زَا	رَا رِي رُو
ضُو ضِي ضَا	صُو صِي صَا	شَا شِي شُو
طُو طِي طَا	ظُو ظِي ظَا	طَا طِي طُو
غُو غِي غَا	فُو فِي فَا	غَا غِي غُو

مُو مِي مَا	لُو لِي لَا	كُو كِي كَا
وُو وِي وَا	هُو هِي هَا	نُو نِي نَا
		يُو يِي يَا

Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.

4. courgettes, zucchini  كُوسَا	3. garlic  ثُوم	2. milk  حَلِيلٌ	1. clock  سَاعَةٌ سَاعَةٌ سَاعَةٌ
8. fruit  فَواكِهٌ	7. raisins  زَبِيبٌ	6. dates  تُمُورٌ	5. water  مَاءٌ

Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.



Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.

24. bracelet



سِوارٌ

23.



long-necked
bottle

قَارُورَةٌ

22.



newspaper

جَرِيدَةٌ

21.



bed

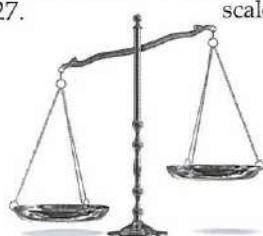
سَرِيرٌ

28. belt



حِزَامٌ

27. scales



مِيزَانٌ

26. computer



حَاسُوبٌ

25. picture



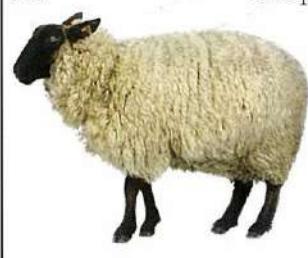
صُورَةٌ

32. elephant



فِيلٌ

31. sheep



خَرُوفٌ

30. crow



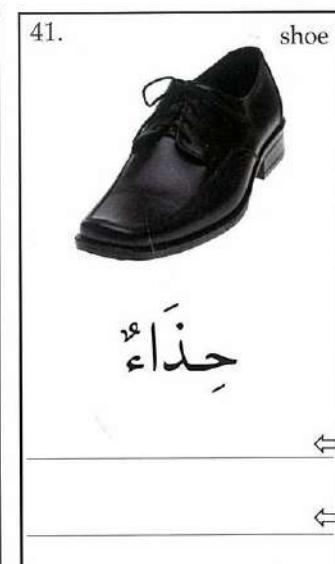
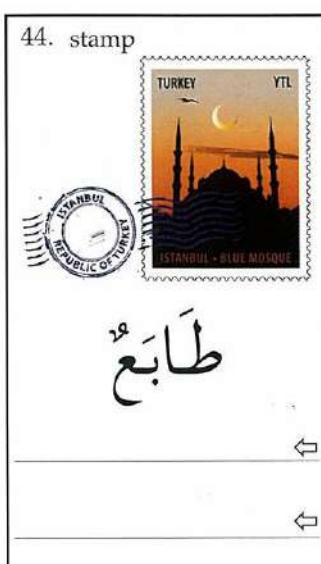
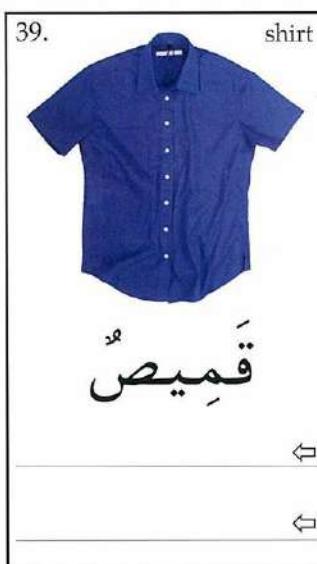
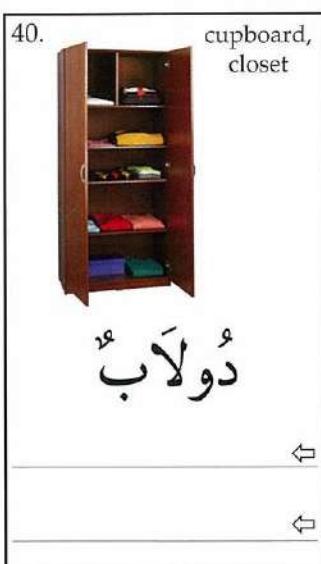
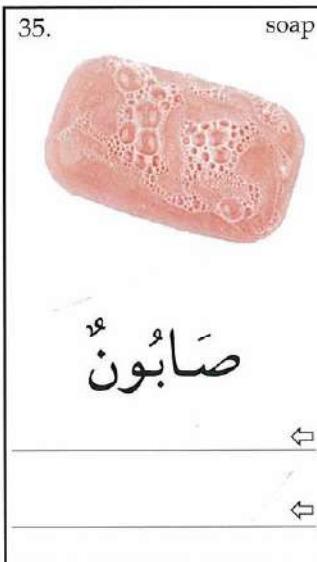
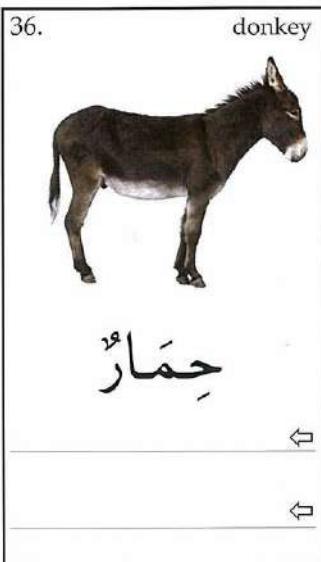
غُرَابٌ

29. owl



بُومَةٌ

Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.



السُّكُون

Sukoon

A sukoon is a small circle placed above an Arabic letter to show that the letter does not have a vowel. One simply hears the sound of the letter. So sheen with sukoon would sound like 'sh' and noon with sukoon would sound like 'n'. Study the following examples:

مُؤْ mu'

بِئْ bi'

كَمْ kam

كُنْ kun

قِفْ qif

بَلْ bal

Hamza written together with a sukoon has no sound of its own but the airflow is cut off in the throat, like when someone speaking slang says the word 'bottle' but misses out the 't' sound: bo'-le. In the first three boxes of the main table below, note how the base for hamza with sukoon changes shape when preceded by a kasra or a ḥamma.

Yaa with sukoon can only have a fat-ha before it, never a ḥamma or kasra. It makes the sound 'ay' as in the English word 'day'.

مَيْ may

لَيْ lay

بَيْ bay

Waaw with sukoon can only have a fat-ha before it, never a ḥamma or kasra. It makes the sound 'ow' as in the English word 'owl' (never 'oh' as in 'low').

هَوْ how

لَوْ low

كَوْ kow

Read the sounds in each row of the following table aloud, working from right to left across the page.

يُتْ	وتْ	مَتْ	جُبْ	جِبْ	أَبْ	بُؤْ	بِئْ	كَا
خُذْ	بَذْ	مَحْ	جَحْ	حَجْ	رَجْ	وَجْ	عَثْ	إِثْ
شُفْ	بَسْ	قِسْ	غُسْ	فُزْ	جِزْ	يَزْ	مُرْ	دَرْ
فُضْ	مِصْ	عُصْ	فَضْ	مِصْ	أَصْ	رُشْ	قِشْ	نَشْ
عَظْ	إِظْ	أَظْ	لَطْ	فِطْ	سَطْ			
حُفْ	تِقْ	فَقْ	سُفْ	حِفْ	دَفْ	بُغْ	ضِغْ	مَغْ
قُمْ	مَمْ	نَمْ	فُلْ	بِلْ	بَلْ	رُكْ	فِكْ	رَكْ
* بَيْ	* أَوْ	مُهْ	صِهْ	سَهْ	جُنْ	قِنْ	لَنْ	

* Waaw with sukoon and yaa with sukoon can only be preceded by a fat-ha. They are never preceded by a ḥamma or a kasra, which is why they have been omitted from this table.

Reading and writing practice with sukoon

Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.

4. pencil case 	3. eraser, rubber 	2. lock 	1. key 
مِقْلَمَةٌ ↔ ↔	مِمْحَّا ↔ ↔	قُفلٌ ↔ ↔	مِفْتَاحٌ مِفْتَاحٌ ↔ ↔
8. star 	7. orange 	6. cabbage 	5. mushrooms 
نَجْمَةٌ ↔ ↔	بُرْتُقالٌ ↔ ↔	مَلْفُوفٌ ↔ ↔	فُطْرٌ ↔ ↔
12. heart 	11. rectangle 	10. prism 	9. cone 
قَلْبٌ ↔ ↔	مُسْتَطِيلٌ ↔ ↔	مَوْشُورٌ ↔ ↔	مَخْرُوطٌ ↔ ↔

Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.

16. banana



مَوْزَةٌ

15. apricot



مِشْمِشٌ

14. cheese



جُبَنَةٌ

13. trophy, cup



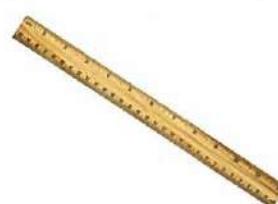
كَأسٌ

20. bat



مِضَرَبٌ

19. ruler



مِسْطَرَةٌ

18. radio



مِذِيَاعٌ

17. jacket



سُتْرَةٌ

24. iron



مِكَوَاةٌ

23. egg



بَيْضٌ

22. coffee



قَهْوَةٌ

21. spoon



مِلْعَقَةٌ

Practice with the -ay and -ow sounds

In the purple boxes, join the groups of letters to make words on the lines provided. In the green boxes, break up the joined words into their separate vowelised letters. Read each word aloud.

bird	طَيْرٌ	13
eye	عَيْنٌ	14
anger, rage	غَيْظٌ	15
flood, torrent	سَيْلٌ	16
shackle, bond	قَيْدٌ	17
measure of capacity	كَيْلٌ	18
night	لَيْلٌ	19
incline, tilt; inclination	مَيْلٌ	20
attainment	نَيْلٌ	21
reverence, awe, respect	هَيْبَةٌ	22
woe, distress	وَيْلٌ	23
he loses hope	يَيْأَسٌ	24

hands	أَيْدٍ	1
house	بَيْتٌ	2
army	جَيْشٌ	3
horses	خَيْلٌ	4
debt	دَيْنٌ	5
tail	ذَيْلٌ	6
doubt	رَيْبٌ	7
cooking oil	زَيْتٌ	8
sword	سَيْفٌ	9
sheikh, eminent man	شَيْخٌ	10
summer	صَيْفٌ	11
guest	ضَيْفٌ	12

light	ضَفْءٌ	ضَنْوَءٌ	38
necklace; collar, neckband	طَوقٌ	طَوقٌ	39
help, assistance	عَونٌ	عَونٌ	40
diving	غَوصٌ	غَوصٌ	41
immediately	فَورًا	فَورًا	42
a tribe, group of people	قَوْمٌ	قَوْمٌ	43
planet	كَوْكَبٌ	كَوْكَبٌ	44
spiral	لَوْلَبٌ	لَوْلَبٌ	45
almonds	لَوْزٌ	لَوْزٌ	46
bananas	مَوْرٌ	مَوْرٌ	47
sleep	نَوْمٌ	نَوْمٌ	48
terror, fright	هَوْلٌ	هَوْلٌ	49
day	يَوْمٌ	يَوْمٌ	50

children	أَوْلَادٌ	أَوْلَادٌ	25
difference	بَوْنُ	بَوْنُ	26
twin (male)	تَوْأَمٌ	تَوْأَمٌ	27
bull	ثَوْرٌ	ثَوْرٌ	28
sock	جَوَبٌ	جَوَبٌ	29
basin, sink	حَوْضٌ	حَوْضٌ	30
peaches	خَوْخَةٌ	خَوْخَةٌ	31
always	دَوْمًا	دَوْمًا	32
splendour, magnificence	رَوْعَةٌ	رَوْعَةٌ	33
boat, skiff, rowing boat	زَوْرَقٌ	زَوْرَقٌ	34
voice; sound	سَوْطٌ	سَوْطٌ	35
fork; thorn	شَوْكَةٌ	شَوْكَةٌ	36
fasting	صَوْمٌ	صَوْمٌ	37

الشَّدَّةُ

Shadda

A shadda is a symbol written above a letter to show that the letter has been doubled and therefore sounds stronger. Letters with shadda should always be stressed. When a letter has both a shadda and a kasra on it, the kasra is normally tucked underneath the shadda, rather than taking its usual place below the letter. Study the following examples:

شَكٌ = شَكَ رَبٌ = ربَّ قَطٌ = قَطْ

حُرَّاً = حُرَّاً خَسْ = خَسٌ أَمْ = أَمْ

جَسِّلٌ = جَسِّلَ مُدَرِّسٌ = مُدَرِّسَ

Copy out each of the following words twice onto the lines provided and practise reading them aloud.

4. eraser, rubber



مَحَائِيَةٌ

3. carpenter



نَجَارٌ

2. hat, cap



قُبَّةٌ

1. bear



دُبٌ
دُبٌ

8. butcher



جَزَّارٌ

7. nurse



مُمْرِضَةٌ

6. bike, bicycle

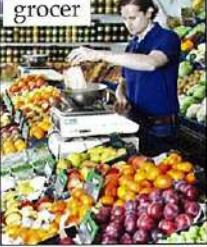


دَرَاجَةٌ

5. pillow



مِخَدَّةٌ

<p>12. watermelon</p>  <p>بَطْيَخٌ</p>	<p>11. scissors</p>  <p>مِقْصٌ</p>	<p>10. shower</p>  <p>مِرَشٌ</p>	<p>9. lettuce</p>  <p>خَسٌّ</p>
<p>16. knife</p>  <p>سِكِّينٌ</p>	<p>15. grocer</p>  <p>بَقَالٌ</p>	<p>14. apple</p>  <p>تَفَاحَةٌ</p>	<p>13. glasses, spectacles</p>  <p>نَظَارَاتٌ</p>
<p>20. car</p>  <p>سَيَّارَةٌ</p>	<p>19. cauliflower</p>  <p>قُنْبِيطٌ</p>	<p>18. pomegranate</p>  <p>رُمَانٌ</p>	<p>17. pickles</p>  <p>مُخلِّلٌ</p>

الْأَلِفُ الْمَقْصُورَةُ

Al-alif al-maqṣura

There is a special form of alif that appears at the end of some Arabic words, known as an alif al-maqṣura. It takes the shape of the letter yaa but without any dots beneath it. It is always preceded by a fat-ha and is usually pronounced like the long vowel sound 'aa'. When written with tanween fat-ha before it, it is pronounced 'an'. Practise reading the words below which all end in an alif al-maqṣura.

Mustafa (male name)	مُصْطَفَى	27	when	مَتَى	14	he came, he arrived	أَتَى	1
Musa (Moses)	مُوسَى	28	first (feminine)	أُولَى	15	he cried	بَكَى	2
Isa (Jesus)	عِيسَى	29	wealth, affluence	غِنَى	16	he built	بَنَى	3
Huda (female name)	هُدَى	30	a youth	فَتَى	17	he ran	جَرَى	4
Salma (female name)	سَلْمَى	31	pebbles	حَصَّى	18	he walked	مَشَى	5
Salwa (female name)	سَلْوَى	32	blindness	عَمَّى	19	he strove	سَعَى	6
Layla (female name)	لَيْلَى	33	moist earth, soil	ثَرَى	20	he saw	رَأَى	7
Yusra (female name)	يُسْرَى	34	villages	قُرَى	21	he narrated	رَوَى	8
a café	مَقْهَى	35	desire, passion	هَوَى	22	he threw	رَمَى	9
a building	مَبْنَى	36	beards	لِحَىٰ	23	he refused (out of pride)	أَبَى	10
a hospital	مُسْتَشْفَى	37	in vain, futile, useless	سُدَّىٰ	24	to, towards	إِلَىٰ	11
aim, purpose, goal	مَرْمَىٰ	38	godliness, piety	تُقَىٰ	25	on, upon	عَلَىٰ	12
harm, damage	أَذَىٰ	39	dolls	دُمَّىٰ	26	until; even	حَتَّىٰ	13

الْهَمْزَةُ

Hamza

From the introduction to the sukoon page (p. 55), you have already seen that the hamza, or 'glottal stop' as it is called in English, is not always written on a stick alif. This page explores the other shapes on which a hamza can be written. Remember, hamza has no sound of its own but takes the sound of whatever vowel accompanies it. When it is accompanied by a sukoon, it is expressed as a cutting off of the air flow within the throat.

At the beginning of a word, hamza can only be written on a stick alif shape. In the middle or at the end of a word, it may be written on a stick alif, a waaw, or a yaa shape without the dots underneath it. These supporting shapes have no sound of their own: they are merely acting as 'chairs' to support the hamza. Hamza may also be written by itself on the line, without a supporting letter shape. The rules governing which shape the hamza is written on will be explained later in the series. For now, study and read the following examples.

mirrors	مَرَاءٌ	25	a person, human being	أُمْرُؤٌ	13	a lion	أَسَدٌ	1
he contemplated; he was of the opinion	إِرْتَائِيٌّ	26	water	مَاءٌ	14	a needle	إِبْرَةٌ	2
showing off	رِئَاءٌ	27	a believer	مُؤْمِنٌ	15	a pipe	أَنْبُوبٌ	3
visions, dreams	رُؤَىٰ	28	a hundred	مِئَةٌ	16	he asked	سَأَلَ	4
pearl	لُؤْلُؤَةٌ	29	a minaret	مِئَذَنَةٌ	17	he was asked	سُئِلَ	5
he entrusted	إِتَّمَنَ	30	referendum; consultation	إِسْتِفَتَاءٌ	18	authority, person responsible	مَسْؤُولٌ	6
on that day	يَوْمَئِذٍ	31	a head	رَأْسٌ	19	questioning	تَسَاؤلٌ	7
upbringing	نَشَأَةٌ	32	leadership, presidency	رِئَاسَةٌ	20	question	سُؤَالٌ	8
slow	بَطِيءٌ	33	president, head, leader	رَئِيسٌ	21	he read	قَرَا	9
evil, ill	سُوءٌ	34	presidents, leaders	رُؤَسَاءٌ	22	reading, recitation	قِرَاءَةٌ	10
(afternoon) shadow	فَيْءٌ	35	vision, view, opinion	رُؤْيَاٰ	23	reciter, reader	قَارِئٌ	11
light	ضَوْءٌ	36	(plain) sight, (full) view	مَرَأَىٰ	24	what is being read	مَقْرُوءٌ	12

الْحُرُوفُ الْقَمَرِيَّةُ

The moon letters

الأنانسُ	أَنَانَسٌ	أ	1
البَامِيَّةُ	بَامِيَّةٌ	ب	2
الجَزْرُ	جَرْزٌ	ج	3
الْحُوتُ	حُوتٌ	ح	4
الْخُبْزُ	خُبْزٌ	خ	5
الْعِنْبُ	عِنْبٌ	ع	6
الْغَرَابُ	غَرَابٌ	غ	7
الْفَرَاوَلَةُ	فَرَاوَلَةٌ	ف	8
الْقَمَرُ	قَمَرٌ	ق	9
الْكَأسُ	كَأسٌ	ك	10
الْمَوْزُ	مَوْزٌ	م	11
الْهِلَالُ	هِلَالٌ	ه	12
الْوَرْدَةُ	وَرْدَةٌ	و	13
الْيَدُ	يَدٌ	ي	14

The Arabic alphabet is divided into two groups of letters: the moon letters and the sun letters. The moon letters are shown to the left. It is important to know to which of the two groups a letter belongs since it affects the way a word is pronounced when it is defined by the Arabic word for 'the':

الْ

Unlike in English, the Arabic word for 'the' (al) joins onto the noun it defines rather than being written separately. When the noun begins with a moon letter, the laam of the 'al' is written with a sukoon and is pronounced. Defined nouns must lose their final tanween and take a single vowel instead. Study the following examples:

الْقَلْبُ	قلْبٌ	a heart
الْعَيْنُ	عَيْنٌ	the eye
الْمَوْزَةُ	مَوْزَةٌ	the banana
الْبُومَةُ	بُومَةٌ	the owl

Turn the following indefinite nouns into definite nouns by adding 'al' and replacing the tanween with a single damma. Don't forget to write a sukoon on top of the laam of 'al'. Write each defined word twice on the lines provided and practise reading the words aloud. Continue on the next page.

2. okra, gumbo



بَامِيَّةٌ

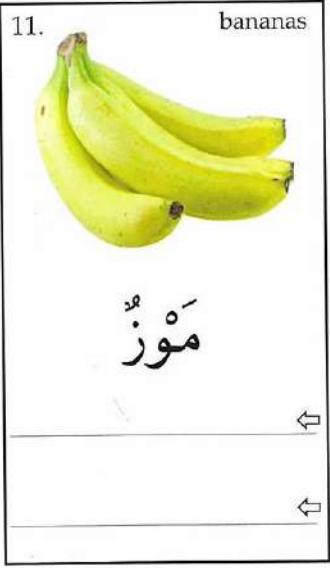
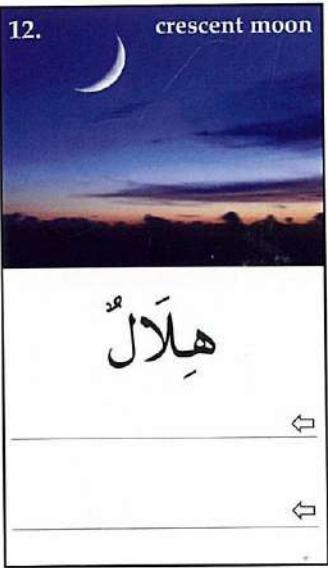
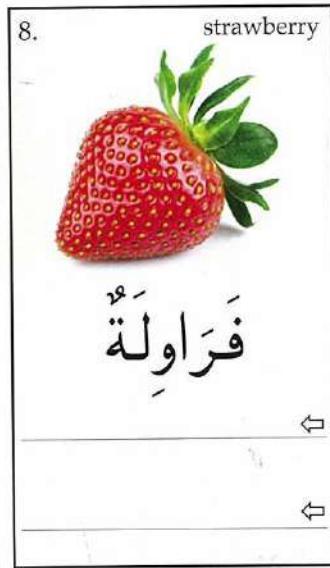
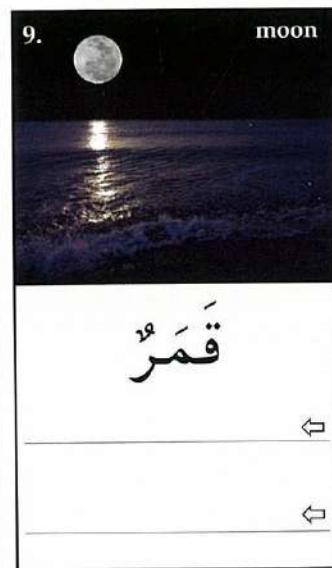
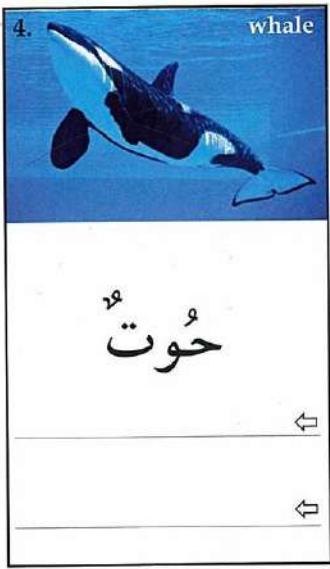
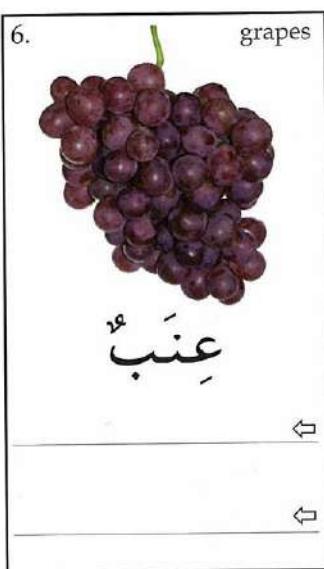
1. pineapple



أَنَانَسٌ

الْأَنَانَسُ

الْأَنَانَسُ



الْحُرُوفُ الشَّمْسِيَّةُ

The sun letters

الْتَّيْنُ	تِينُ	ت	1
الثُّومُ	ثُومُ	ث	2
الدُّبُّ	دُبُّ	د	3
الذَّرَّةُ	ذَرَّةُ	ذ	4
الرُّمَانُ	رُمَانُ	ر	5
الزَّيْتُونُ	زَيْتُونُ	ز	6
السَّمَكَةُ	سَمَكَةُ	س	7
الشَّمْسُ	شَمْسُ	ش	8
الصَّحْنُ	صَحْنُ	ص	9
الضِّفْدَعُ	ضِفْدَعُ	ض	10
الطاوُوسُ	طَاوُوسُ	ط	11
الظَّبْيُ	ظَبْيُ	ظ	12
اللَّقْلَقُ	لَقْلَقُ	ل	13
النَّعَامَةُ	نَعَامَةُ	ن	14

When joining the Arabic word for 'the' (al) to a noun beginning with a sun letter, the laam of 'al' does not take a sukoon and it is not pronounced. Instead, the first letter of the noun takes a shadda and is therefore stressed.

So the word for 'a car': سَيَّارَةٌ (sayyaaratun)

becomes 'as-sayyaaratu' when it is defined:

السَّيَّارَةُ

As with the moon letter nouns, the defined nouns must lose their final tanween and take a single vowel instead. Study the following examples:

تَفَاحَةٌ an apple

الْتَفَاحَةُ the apple
(at-tuffaahatu)

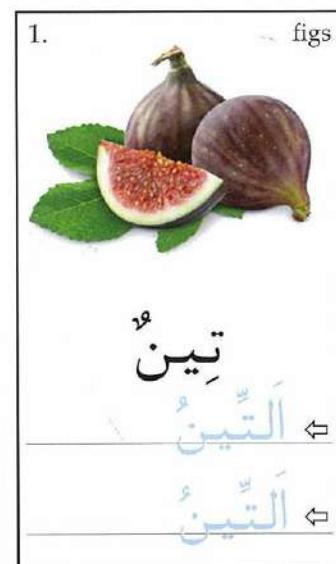
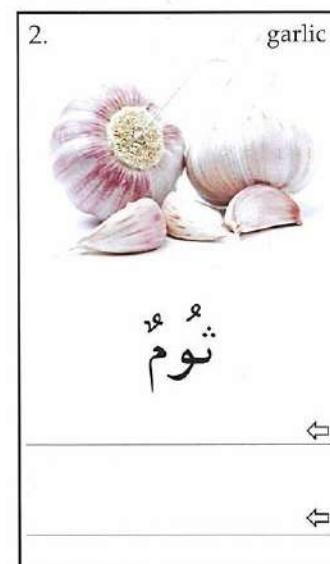
نَافِذَةٌ a window

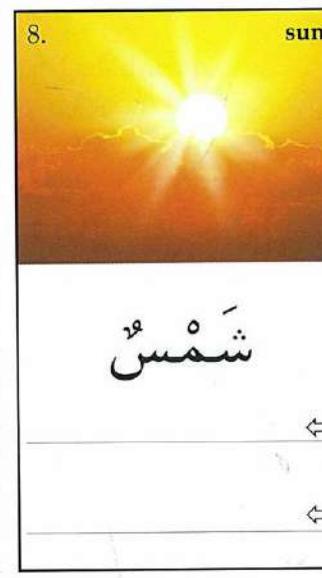
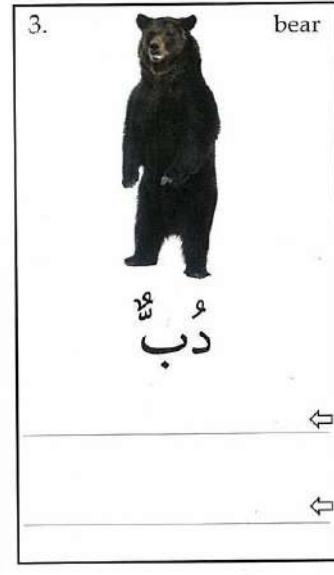
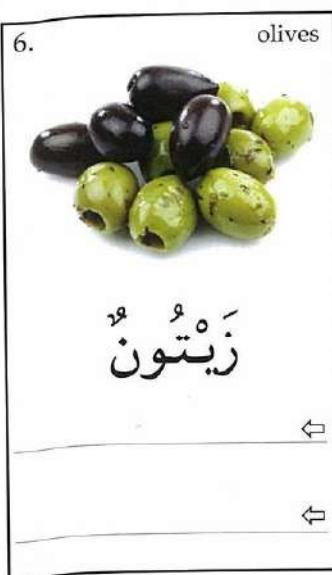
النَّافِذَةُ the window
(an-naafidhatu)

لِسَانٌ a tongue

اللِّسَانُ the tongue
(al-lisaanu)

Turn the following indefinite nouns into definite nouns by adding 'al' and replacing the tanween with a single damma. **Do not** write a sukoon on top of the laam of 'al'. Instead, write a shadda above the first letter of the noun, together with its vowel. Write each defined word twice on the lines provided and practise reading the words aloud. Continue on the next page.





Reading and writing practice with the sun and moon letters

Define the following words using 'al' and write them on the lines provided. Read them aloud.

15.

falcon



صَقْرٌ

16.

boy



وَلَدٌ

17.

ball



كُرَةٌ

18.

refrigerator



ثَلاَجَةٌ

19.

rope



حَبْلٌ

20.

butter



زُنْدَةٌ

21.

tail



ذِيْلٌ

22.

heart



قَلْبٌ

23.

door



بَابٌ

24.

fox



شَعْلَبٌ

25.

cockerel



دِيكٌ

26.

peaches



خُوخٌ

27.

hyena



ضَبْعٌ

28.

meat



لَحْمٌ

1.

eye



عَيْنُ الْعَيْنِ

2.

butterfly



فَرَاشَةٌ

3.

drum



طَبْلَةٌ

4.

camel



جَمَلٌ

5.

feather



رِيشَةٌ

6.

envelope



ظَرْفٌ

7.

dove



يَمَامَةٌ

8.

ant



نَمَلَةٌ

9.

kettle



غَلَّاجَةٌ

10.

lion



أَسَدٌ

11.

ladder



سُلْمٌ

12.

tree



شَجَرَةٌ

13.

phone



هَاتِفٌ

14.

comb



مِشْطٌ

شرح «ال» التعريف

More on the pronunciation of 'al'

The alif of the defining word 'al' is a weak letter with no sound of its own. When a defined word stands alone or appears at the beginning of a sentence, the alif of 'al' is given a fat-ha in order that it may be pronounced:

ولدُ waladun (a boy) الْوَلَدُ al-waladu (the boy)

ريشةُ reeshatun (a feather) الرِّيشَةُ ar-reeshatu (the feather)

However, when the defined word comes within a sentence, the alif of 'al' is not vowelled or pronounced. Instead, the last short vowel before the alif is pronounced. That vowel is then elided or 'slid together' with the defined word. Study the following examples:

صَبَاحُ الْخَيْرِ. Sabaahul-khayri (NOT šabaahu al-khayri). (Good morning).

صَبَاحُ النُّورِ. Sabaahun-noori (NOT šabaahu an-noori). (Reply to 'good morning').

عَادَ أَبِي مِنَ السُّوقِ. Aadaabee minas-sooqi. (My father returned from the market).

رَجَعَ الطَّالِبُ مِنَ الْمَدْرَسَةِ. Rajaat-taalibu minal-madrasati.
(The student returned from [the] school).

Sometimes, several words are 'slid together' in succession:

أَبْحَثُ عَنِ الْكِتَابِ الْمَفْقُودِ. Abhathu canil-kitaabil-mafqoodi.
(I'm looking for the lost book).

يَبْحَثُ الشُّرْطِيُّ عَنِ اللُّصُّ الشَّارِدِ. Yabhatush-shurtiyu canil-lissish-shaaridi.
(The police officer is looking for the fleeing thief).

If the word before the defined word ends in a long vowel, the vowel sound is shortened and elided:

تَدْرُسُ أُخْتِي الطِّبْ فِي الجَامِعَةِ. Tadrusu ukhtit-tibba fil-jaami'ati.
(My sister is studying [the] medicine at [the] university).

إِجْلِسْ عَلَى الْكُرْسِيِّ الْأَخْضَرِ.

Ijlis calal-kursiyyil-akhḍari. (Sit on the green chair).
(Note that the final yaa of kursiyy is a consonant, not a lengthening vowel).

أَذْهَبْ إِلَى الْمَدْرَسَةِ الثَّانِيَةِ الْمَحَلِّيَّةِ.

Adhabu ilal-madrasatih-thaanawiyyatil-mahalliyati.
(I go to the local secondary school).

ذُو الْحِجَّةِ.

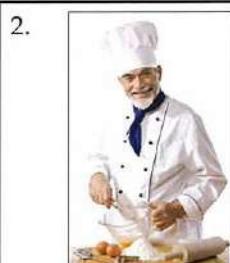
Dhul-hijjati. (Name of the last month of the year in the Islamic calendar).

Do not be put off if the 'al' is prefixed by one of the following: bi, wa, fa, ka. ب و ف ك
You will learn more about the meaning and use of these and other prefixes later. The important thing to note for now is that the pronunciation of 'al' will still follow the same rules:

أَذْهَبْ إِلَى الْمَدْرَسَةِ بِالْقِطَارِ وَالْحَافِلَةِ.

Adhabu ilal-madrasati bil-qitaari wal-haafilati.
(I go to [the] school by [the] train and [the] bus).

Read the following sentences aloud, applying the rules you have learned about 'al'. For extra writing practice, copy the sentences out into your exercise book.



يُخْلِطُ الطَّبَّاخُ الْبَيْضَنَ.

The cook is whisking the egg.



يَلْعَبُ كُرَةَ التَّنَسُ.

He is playing tennis.



يُقْطَعُ الْخَضْرَاءُونَ.

He is cutting up vegetables.



يَغْسِلُ السَّيَارَةَ.

He is washing the car.



يُسَاعِدُ السَّائِقُ الْعَجُوزَ.

The driver is helping the elderly man.



يَعْصِرُ الْلَّيْمُونَ فِي الْكُوبِ.

He is squeezing the lemon into the cup.



يُصَلِّحُ الْمُهَنْدِسُ الْكَهْرَبَائِيُّ الْغَسَالَةَ.

The electrician is repairing the washing machine.



يَتَزَلَّجُ الْوَلَدُ عَلَى الثَّلَجِ.

The boy is skating on the ice.



تَمِيلُ الشَّجَرَةُ فِي الرِّيَاحِ الشَّدِيدَةِ.

The tree is bending in the strong wind.



يَزِنُ الْبَقَالُ الْفَوَاكِهَةَ.

The grocer is weighing the fruit.



تُقْلِعُ الطَّائِرَةُ مِنَ الْمَطَارِ.

The plane is taking off from the airport.



يَتَصَيَّدُ الضَّفْدِيعُ الذَّبَابَةَ.

The frog is catching the fly.

Read the following sentences aloud, applying the rules you have learned about 'al'.
For extra writing practice, copy the sentences out into your exercise book.

14.



يَقْرَأُ الْكِتَابَ.

He is reading the book.

13.



يَقْرَأُ الْجَرِيدَةَ.

He is reading the newspaper.

16.



يَرْكَعُ فِي الصَّلَاةِ.

He is bowing in prayer.

15.



يَتْلُو الْقُرْآنَ الْكَرِيمَ.

He is reciting the
Noble Qur'an.

18.



يَكْنُسُ الْأَرْضَ بِالْمِكْنَسَةِ.

He is sweeping the floor
with a broom.

17.



يَلْعَبُ الطَّفَلُ بِاللَّعْبِ.

The child is playing with
the toy.

20.



يَحْمِلُ بَاقَةً مِنَ الْوَرُودِ.

He is carrying a
bunch of roses.

19.



يَرْتَعِشُ الرَّجُلُ مِنَ الْبَرْدِ.

The man is shivering
from the cold.

22.



يَكْتُبُ مَوَاعِيدهُ فِي
الْمُفَكِّرَةِ.

He is writing his
appointments in the diary.

21.



يُنَظِّفُ الْأَرْضَ
بِالْمِمسَحةِ.

He is cleaning the floor
with a mop.

24.



يَمْشِي الرَّجُلُ عَلَى
الْعُكَازَتَيْنِ.

The man is walking with
the pair of crutches.

23.



يَسْجُدُ فِي صَلَاةِ الظَّهَرِ.

He is prostrating during
the noon prayer.

Read the following sentences aloud, applying the rules you have learned about 'al'. For extra writing practice, copy the sentences out into your exercise book.



يَسَاقِطُ الثَّلْجُ
بِكَثَافَةٍ.

The snow is falling heavily.



يَتَكَلَّمُ مَعَ صَدِيقِهِ
عَلَى الْهَاتِفِ.

He is talking to his friend on the telephone.



يَغْسِلُ الصَّحْنَ فِي
الْحَوْضِ.

He is washing the dish in the sink.



يَصْعُدُ عَلَى الدَّرَجِ.

He is climbing the stairs.



أَطْلَقَ الْيَمَامُ فِي
السَّمَاءِ الزَّرَقاءِ.

The dove is being released into the blue sky.



يَقْبِضُ الشُّرُطِي
عَلَى الْمُجْرِمِ.

The police officer is arresting the criminal.



الْبَنْتُ نَائِمَةٌ عَلَى
السَّرِيرِ.

The girl is sleeping in the bed.



يُصَلِّحُ السَّبَّاكُ
الْأَنَابِيبَ.

The plumber is fixing the pipes.



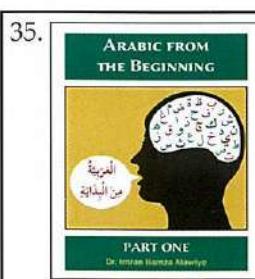
تَعْتَنِي الْمُمَرِّضَةُ
بِالْطَّفْلَةِ الْمَرِيضَةِ.

The nurse is caring for the sick child.



تَسْتَيِقِظُ الْبَنْتُ مِنْ
النَّوْمِ.

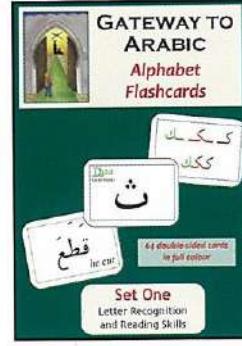
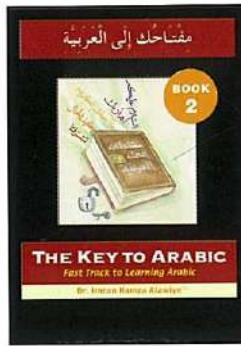
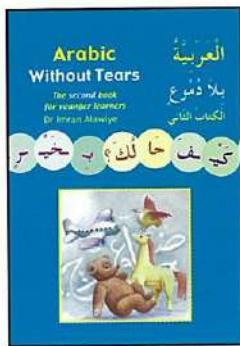
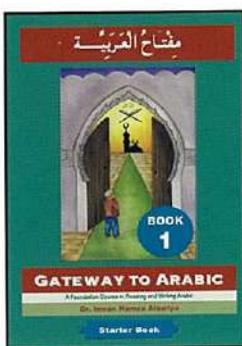
The girl is waking up.



أَلْفُ مُبَارَكٍ! بِهَذَا قَدْ أَنْهَيْتُمُ الْجُزْءَ الْأَوَّلَ فِي سِلْسِيلَةِ «الْعَرَبِيَّةُ
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Congratulations! With this, you have completed the first part of the 'Arabic from the Beginning' series. See you again in part two, God willing!

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ARABIC FROM THE BEGINNING:

PART ONE

The purpose of this book is to set students on the road to learning Modern Standard Arabic by equipping them with all the skills they need to read and write vowelised Arabic texts. By the end of the book students should be able to:

- identify all the letters of the Arabic alphabet in their isolate and joined forms
- know the difference between the long and short vowel sounds and how to read them, including the diphthongs ‘-ay’ and ‘-ow’
- read the tanween word endings
- understand the roles of sukoon and shadda
- read words containing a hamza, no matter its position within a word
- recognise the alif al-maqṣura
- identify the sun and moon letters and understand their effect on the pronunciation of words defined by ‘al’
- read fully vowelised Arabic text

Although this work is primarily intended for classroom use, it is also well-suited to self-taught learners. To this end, an audio CD recording of all the materials in the book will be made available to help foster good pronunciation.

This workbook assumes no prior knowledge of Arabic whatsoever. Clear, simple explanations introduce each new topic, supported by a wealth of exercises and activities, thereby helping to reinforce the learning process and to ensure rapid progression. The use of colour coding to highlight each point under discussion, as well as the inclusion of quality colour illustrations, serve to enhance the learning experience. The materials included offer extensive reading and writing practice as well as the opportunity for dictation exercises as a means of monitoring the learners’ progress.

By the end of the book, students should be sufficiently competent in reading and writing the Arabic script to be able to progress to part two of the series in which they will start to learn Arabic grammar and vocabulary; read and construct sentences with understanding; and begin speaking this important international language.

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