

Lughat aD-DaaD



Source: Hassan Moussa

What We Will Learn

- 28 letters (consonants and long vowels)
- 14 symbols (short vowels and pronunciation markers)

Listening exercise 1
(first 4 letters)

ا	ب	ت	ث	ج	ح	خ	د	ذ	ر	ز
baa'	'alif	taa'	thaa'	jiim	Haa'	khaa'	daal	dhaal	raa'	zaay
س	ش	ص	ض	ط	ظ	ع	غ			
siin	shiin	Saad	Daad	Taa'	Zaa'	3ayn	ghayn			
ف	ق	ك	ل	م	ن	ه	و	ي		
faa'	qaaf	kaaf	laam	miim	nuun	haa'	waaw	yaa'		

Four Important Characteristics

1. Arabic is written from right to left.



Use deduction to answer this question:

How do you open an Arabic book or magazine?

Four Important Characteristics

1. Arabic is written from right to left.
2. Arabic letters are *always* connected*



Source: www.fadigeorge.wordpress.com

This line of text
does not make
sense in Arabic.

*Except non-connectors :) The first
letter we learn will be one of these.

Real life applications...



Four Important Characteristics

1. Arabic is written from right to left.
2. Arabic letters are *always* connected*
3. Arabic letters each have four shapes, determined by their position in a word.

Positions:

- Initial: the beginning of the word.
- Medial: in the middle of the word.
- Final: at the end of the word.
- Isolated: by itself (generally following a non-connector)

Ready to learn your first letters?

FINAL	MEDIAL	INITIAL	INDEPENDENT	NAME	TRANSLITERATION
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Four Important Characteristics

1. Arabic is written from right to left.
2. Arabic letters are *always* connected*
3. Arabic letters each have four shapes, determined by their position in a word.
4. Arabic has two layers of writing:
 1. Consonants and long vowels
 2. Pronunciation and grammatical markers



Long Vowel

Consonant

Which color represents the second layer of writing?

Pronunciation Notes

- One-to-one correspondence between sound and letter
 - English non-example: *s* can make a variety of sounds
- Arabic is phonetic: words are generally written how they are pronounced (and vice versa)
 - Can you think of an English non-example?
 - Arabic example: *tilivizyoon* تلفزيون uses the Arabic 'z' sound, not 's'
- New mouth and throat sounds
 - You *absolutely can* make these sounds, but it will take work.

ق

q

غ

gh

ع

3

خ

kh

ح

H

Modern Standard Arabic vs. Dialects

Let's start with English.
Time for a blind vote...

QUESTION 5 OF 25

How do you pronounce the first syllable of *lawyer*?

- ☐ rhymes with *boy*
- ☐ rhymes with *flaw*
- ☐ I use both pronunciations interchangeably
- ☐ other

QUESTION 1 OF 25

What do you call the long sandwich that contains cold cuts, lettuce and so on?

- ☐ sub
- ☐ grinder
- ☐ hoagie
- ☐ hero
- ☐ poor boy
- ☐ bomber
- ☐ Italian sandwich
- ☐ baguette
- ☐ sarney
- ☐ I have no word for this
- ☐ other

Next ▶

Modern Standard Arabic vs. Dialects

Arabic dialects differ in the same ways (accent, common vocabulary, some grammar), yet because of the geographic size of the Arab world, the differences can be very pronounced.

Let's listen to some Arabic dialects: Tunisian, Egyptian, Lebanese, Omani.

A speaker of each will say the following phrases:

“good morning,” “how are you?” “good,” and “good-bye.”