#### Introducing...



#### Yalla let's recap...

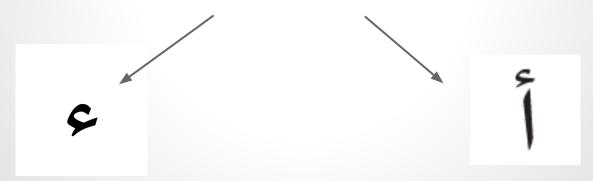
- Waw and yaa represent consonants when they occur at the beginning of a word.
- This is true of the alif as well--the consonant it stands for is called hamza.
- Hamza sometimes appears atop the alif, but sometimes the alif is written without the hamza.
- Initial alif is always a seat for the hamza.

### How do I pronounce it?

- Say the word uh-oh aloud.
- Hamza (glottal stop) is the sound that occurs between the two syllables.
- In English, we consider words like *if*, *on*, and *up* to begin with vowels, but in Arabic, we consider the initial sounds in these words to be a consonant.
- Remember: in Arabic, no word can begin with a vowel.

## Where is hamza in the alphabet?

- It actually doesn't have a place of its own, due to Quranic spelling (long story).
- For this reason, hamza has several different "spellings"
  --we will learn two today.



#### Initial hamza

 Like other consonants, hamza can be followed by all three short vowels:



# Writing hamza
