

Getting Started to Learn Arabic Language

The Arabic alphabet – Summary

Arabic is written and read from right to left. It consists of 28 letters, all of which are used as consonants except for three letters which could take up a secondary task as vowels. There are also three vowel signs that are placed above and under a letter to create a sound; however, these signs are often omitted in writings (books, newspaper,.....), but these signs are written in the Holy Quran in order to not be read mistakenly.

Vowels letters are: آ - و - ي

آ - ء : (Alef & hamze) is a vowel that is used for the sound “a” (“aa”) as sounds in “art”. In Arabic as: آدم pronounced – Aadam – means: (Adam)

و : (waw) is a vowel that is used for the sound “ou” as sounds in “tour”. In Arabic: نور pronounced (nour) and means: (light).

ي:(yeh) is a vowel that is used for the sound “ee” as sounds in “breeze”. In Arabic ميناء pronounced (Meenaa) and means: (Port)

Small Vowels signs are:

- Fat’ha which is written above the letter and given the (a)sound as in “bad”:
- Kasre which is written under the letter and given the (e) sound as in “bed”:
- Dhamma or Zamma which is written above the letter and given the (o) sound as in “bone”:

The following signs are not vowels but have special sounds:

- Sokun which is written above the letter and indicate a pause in the sound or gives a silence to the indicated letter as in “sand”:
- Shadda: which is written above a letter to give a double sound or a stress on it as in “Sakka” or “Allama”:
- The double of “fat’ha” has a sound like (Ann) and written as:
- The double of “kasra” has a sound like (Enn) and written as:
- The double of “Dhamma” has a sound like (Onn) and written as:

Consonant and Vowel Letters are:

<u>Arabic</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Pronunciation</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
ا	A	ناصر	Naaser	who help (Male's name)
ب	B	بقرة	Baghar	Cow
ت	T	ترك	Tarake	left /past of leave
ث	Th	ثريا	Thorayaa	Sky- Space
ج	J	جواب	Jawaab	Answer
ح	H	حساب	Hesaab	Mathematics
خ	KH	خادم	Khaadem	Servant
د	D	دواء	Dawaa	Medicine
ذ	Th	ذرة	Tharra	Atom
ر	R	رادار	Radaar	Radar
ز	Z	زار	Zaare	visited
س	S	سال	Sa'ala	asked
ش	SH	شبكة	Shabaka	Net
ص	S	صورة	Soura	Picture
ض	Dh/Z	ضرر	Dharar	Loss
ط	T	طار	Taara	flew/ past of fly
ظ	Dh	نظر	Nadhara	looked
ع	A	عين	Ayn	Eye
غ	GH	غذاء	Ghethaa	Food
ف	F	فكر	Fakkara	thought/think
ق	GH	فقر	Faghr	Poverty
ك	K	كريم	Karim	Generous
ل	L	لبس	Labesa	put on his cloths
م	M	ماء	Ma'a	Water
ن	N	نهر	Nahr	River
ه	H	هواء	Hawa'a	Air
و	V	واحد	Wahed	One

ي

Y

يابس

Yabes

Dry/dried

NOTE:

Some of the letters can be changed a little in their shape when they are joined to other letters as we have seen in ح in حساب or ي in يابس .

How many joined letters can you find in the following text, please sign it and write it in a separate shape under that:

هذه صورة بيت جميل و بجانب البيت ترى شجرتان وعلى يمين
البيت شجرة وعلى اليسار شجرة اخرى وامام البيت هناك سيارة



Please write the Arabic words above in separate letters and try to pronounce them as below:

ه ن ه - ص و رة - ب ي ت - ج م ي ل -

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