

Sifat al Huroof [Characteristics of Letters]

To distinguish letters which come from same articulation point (eg. ص and س)

A. Definition

It is the more of demonstration of letter when articulated from the articulation point

B. Benefits

1. Distinguishes letter that share same Makhraj

ط vs د:

Istilah - Raise the tongue high and Itbaaq- sticking the tongue to the roof is for ط

Lowering of the tongue is for د

2. To distinguish strong characteristics from the weak

C. Two Types

Asliyah - Intrinsic. The characteristics will not change

Ardhiyah - Incidental characteristics. Comes in some situation and other times, it may not (Conditional)

D. Types of Asliyah

1. Characteristics that have opposites

- a. Set1: Hams and Jahr
- b. Set2: Shidhah ar raghawa
- c. Set3: Alistilah and Istifalah
- d. Set 4 Itbaaq and Infitah
- e. Set 5: Idhlaaq and Ismaat

2. Characteristics that do not have opposites

- a. Safeer
- b. Qalqalah
- c. Leen
- d. Inhiraaf
- e. Takreer
- f. Tafashshe

- g. Istitaala
- h. Ghunna
- i. Alkhaffa

Set1: Hams and Jahr

Alhams is running of the breath because of the weak Makhraj

Aljahr is opposite. It means imprisonment of breath. Reliance on Makhraj.

Characteristics that have Opposites الصفات التي لها أصداد

<u>الهمس The Whisper</u>	<u>الجهر The Apparent</u>
<p>في اللغة: الخفاء</p> <p>Linguistic Definition: Concealment</p>	<p>في اللغة: الإعلان</p> <p>Linguistic Definition: Apparent</p>
<p>في الاصطلاح: جريان النفس عند التطق بالحرف لضعفه الناشئ عن ضعف الاعتماد عليه في مخرجه.</p> <p>Applied tajweed definition: Running on of breath when pronouncing the letter due to its weakness in its origin, which originated from weakness of relying on the letter at its articulation point of origin.</p>	<p>في الاصطلاح: الجباس جريان النفس عند التطق بالحرف لقوته الناشئة عن قوته الاعتماد عليه في مخرجه.</p> <p>Applied tajweed definition: Imprisonment of the flowing of breath when pronouncing a letter due to its strength which originated from relying on the letter at its articulation point.</p>
<p>حروفها: "فحته شخص سكت"</p> <p>Its Letters</p>	<p>Its letters: The rest of the Arabic alphabet</p>

Set2 : Shiddah and Rakhaawah

Three Characteristics
 Shiddah (Strong Letters)
 Tawassut (In-between)
 Ar rakhaawah (Soft Letters)

Condition: When they have sukun or stop on it

<u>الشدة</u> The Strength	<u>التوسط (البينية)</u> The In-between	<u>الرخاوة</u> The Softness
في اللغة: <u>القوة</u> <u>Linguistic definition:</u> Strength	في اللغة: <u>الاعتدال</u> <u>Linguistic definition:</u> Moderation	في اللغة: <u>اللين</u> <u>Linguistic definition:</u> Softness
<u>الشدة في الاصطلاح:</u> الْحَبَاسُ جَرِيَانُ الصَّوْتِ عِنْدَ التُّطْقِ بِالْحَرْفِ لِكَمَالِ الْإِعْتِمَادِ عَلَى الْمَخْرَجِ. <u>Applied tajweed definition:</u> Imprisonment of the running of the sound when pronouncing a letter due to complete reliance on the articulation point.	<u>التوسط في الاصطلاح:</u> كَوْنُ الْحَرْفِ بَيْنَ الصَّفَتَيْنِ أَيُّ نَيْنِ صِفَةِ الشَّدَّةِ وَ صِفَةِ الرَّخَاوَةِ بِحَيْثُ يَنْحَسِبُ بَعْضُ الصَّوْتِ وَيَجْرِي بَعْضُهُ عِنْدَ التُّطْقِ بِهِ. <u>Applied tajweed definition:</u> The letter is in between the two characteristics; between strength and softness so that the sound is partially imprisoned and partially running when pronouncing the letter.	<u>الرخاوة في الاصطلاح:</u> جَرِيَانُ الصَّوْتِ مَعَ الْحَرْفِ لِضَعْفِ الْإِعْتِمَادِ عَلَى الْمَخْرَجِ. <u>Applied tajweed definition:</u> Running on of the sound with the letter due to weakness in reliance on the articulation point.
حروف الشدة: "أَجْدُ قَطِ بَكَتْ"	حروف التوسط: "النُّ عُمَرُ"	Its letters: the rest of the Arabic alphabet

1. **Ash Shiddah**

It means Strength

Imprisonment of the Sound when articulating the letter due to its strong reliance of the Letter

Letters:

حروف الشدة: "أَجْدُ قَطِ بَكَتْ"

These letters are pronounced fastly
When letters have sukun, timing given is very little

2. **Ar Rakhaawah**

Running of the Sound when articulating the letter due to its Weak reliance of the Letter

15 letters not found in Shidah and Tawassut
If the letters have sukun, it will have longer time

3. **At Tawassut:**

To be balanced and in-between two things
Part of its sound gets trapped and part of it is running
LinUmar

Exercise:

Write all the letter of Surah Fatiha. Rate for each letter depending upon the category as below

Shiddah - 1

Rakhaawah - 3

Tawassut -2

Set 3: Isti'laa' and Istifalah

A. **Isti'laa'**

1. **Linguistic:** Raising or Elevation

2. **Technical:**

Raising the backing of the tongue toward of the mouth when pronouncing heavier letter making it heavier

When reciting the letters of isti'laa' the reciter should make the back of his tongue high

3. **Letters:**

خص ضغط قظ

B. **Istifalah**

1. **Linguistic:** Lowness

2. **Technical:**

Lowering the back of the tongue to the lower mouth when pronouncing lighter letter making it sound lighter

3. Letters
Rest of Alisti'laa'

4. Rules of Laam

When do ل becomes heavy?

The Lam of the Name of Allah has Tafkheem in the Following Three States:

- إذا كان ما قبلها مفتوحًا (فَتْحَةً), If what precedes the Name of Allah has a fathah

such as in: ﴿ قَالَ اللَّهُ ﴾ ﴿ إِنَّ اللَّهَ سَمِيعٌ عَلِيمٌ ﴾

- إذا كان ما قبلها مضمومًا, If what precedes the Name of Allah has a dhammah, such

as in: ﴿ وَكَلِمَةً اللَّهُ ﴾ ﴿ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ ﴾

- إذا كان ما قبلها ساكنًا مسبقًا بفتح أو بضم (فَتْحَةً) or a dhammah. An example of
saakin and what is before that has a fathah (فَتْحَةً) or a dhammah. An example of

this is in: ﴿ وَعَلَى اللَّهِ ﴾

When do ل becomes lighter?

The Lam of the Name of Allah Has Targeeq in the Following States:

- إذا كَانَ مَا قَبْلَهَا مَكْسُورًا كَسْرًا أَصْلِيًّا أَوْ كَسْرًا عَارِضًا، سِوَاءَ كَانَ مُتَّصِلًا بِهَا أَمْ مُنْفَصِلًا
If it was preceded by a fixed kasrah or a conditional (incidental) kasrah even if it is
connected to it (the Name of Allah) or separated from it. For example: ﴿لِلَّهِ﴾

﴿بَلِ اللَّهِ﴾ (incidental or conditional vowel), and ﴿قُلِ اللَّهُمَّ﴾ (fixed), and ﴿لَأْمُرِ اللَّهُ﴾ (conditional vowel).

- إذا كَانَ مَا قَبْلَهَا سَاكِنًا وَقَبْلَهُ كَسْرٌ If it was preceded by a saakin and the letter
before that has a kasrah, such as in: ﴿فَسَوْفَ يَأْتِي اللَّهُ﴾

﴿غَيْرُ مُعْجِزِي اللَّهِ﴾.

5. Rules of Raa

When do ر becomes heavy?

When it is preceded by letters of Fathha, Dammah
Raa is heavy if it has Fataha or Dammah

When do ر becomes lighter?

When it is preceded by letters of kasrah
Raa is lighter for kasrah (Rijaal)

The Four Cases in which the راء has Tarqeeq

1. إذا كانت مكسورة. If it has a kasrah, as in ﴿كَرِيمٍ﴾ ﴿الرَّيْحُ﴾.

2. إذا كانت ساكنة وقبلها مكسور وليس بعدها حرف استعلاء. If it is saakinah, and a kasrah precedes it and the letter following it is NOT a letter of استعلاء. This is exemplified in the word: ﴿فَرَعَوْنَ﴾.

3. إذا كانت ساكنة وقبلها ساكن وقبله مكسور. If it is saakinah, and the letter before it is saakin, and the letter before that has a kasrah. An example of this is: ﴿حَجْرٍ﴾ (when stopping on this word).

4. إذا كانت ساكنة وقبلها ياء ساكنة. If it is saakinah, and a ياء saakinah precedes it. The راء in this case has ترقيق no matter what kind of vowel precedes the ياء saakinah. This is exemplified in the words: ﴿الْخَيْرُ﴾ ﴿ضَيْرٌ﴾ ﴿خَيْرٌ﴾ (when stopping on these words).

Summary

الاستعلاء The Elevated	الاستيفال The Lowered
في اللغة: الارتفاع Linguistic definition: Elevation	في اللغة: الانخفاض Linguistic definition: Dropping or Lowering
في الاصطلاح: اتجاه ضغط الحرف إلى الحنك الأعلى نتيجة ارتفاع أقصى اللسان عند التلويح بالحرف المستعلي. Applied tajweed definition: Directing pressure of the letter to the roof of the mouth due to an elevation of the deepest part of the tongue when pronouncing an "elevated" letter [letter from this group].	في الاصطلاح: عدم الضغط الحرف إلى الحنك الأعلى لعدم ارتفاع أقصى اللسان عند التلويح بالحرف المستفل. Applied tajweed definition: The absence of pressuring the letter to the roof of the mouth due to the lack of raising the deepest part of the tongue when pronouncing a "lowered" letter [letter from this group].
حروفها: "خصّ ضغط قط"	The rest of the letters in the Arabic alphabet

Set 4: Itbaaq and Infitaah

A. Al Itbaaq

1. **Linguistic:** The Adhesion

2. **Technical:**

Sticking part of the tongue to the roof of the mouth
More specific than isti'laa'

3. **Letters:**

ص ض ط ظ

ط - heaviest

ظ - weakest

ص ض - Medium

4. **Every letter of Itbaaq is part of Isti'laa'**

5. **Difference:**

Isti'laa' - rising of the tongue

Itbaaq - part of the tongue stuck to the top of the mouth

B. Infitaah

Separation/gap

Letters: Rest of Itbaaq

<u>الإطباق</u> The Adhesion	<u>الافتتاح</u> The Open
<p>في اللغة: الألتصاق</p> <p><u>Linguistic definition:</u> <i>Adhering</i></p>	<p>في اللغة: الأفتراق</p> <p><u>Linguistic definition:</u> <i>Separation</i></p>
<p>في الاصطلاح: انحصار الصوت بالحرف المطبق بين اللسان والحنك الأعلى.</p> <p><u>Applied tajweed definition:</u> The compression of the sound of the letter of "أطباق" between the tongue and roof of the mouth.</p>	<p>في الاصطلاح: عدم انحصار الصوت بالحرف المنفتح بين اللسان والحنك الأعلى.</p> <p><u>Applied tajweed definition:</u> The absence of compression of the sound of the letter of "انفتاح" between the tongue and the roof of the mouth.</p>
<p>حروفها: "صاڈ ضاڈ طاء طاء"</p>	<p>The rest of the Arabic alphabet</p>

Set 5: Idhlaaq and Ismaat

- No application in the rules of Tajweed
- Explains Arabic phonology

A. Idhlaaq

These letters constitutes for any 4 letter original Arabic word

Letters:

Firaminlub

Faa raa meem nun laam baa

B. Ismaat

Prevention

Letters:

Rest of Idhlaaq

Characteristics which do not have opposites

A. Safeer

1. **Linguistic:** Whistling
2. **Technical:** Sharpness in the sound of the letter produced from it transverse through a tight passage
3. **Letters:**

حروفها ثلاثة هي: الصاد - الزاي - السين

Saad za seen

Stronger - Saad

Middle - za

Lighter - seen

B. Al qalqalah

1. **Linguistic:** Movement/vibration
2. **Technical:** Vibration of the tongue when articulating the letter of qalqalah when it has sukun on it

When you stop on it or it has sukun on it

3. **Letters**
Kuthubjad

قطبجد

All these letters have shiddah and jahr

4. **Levels**

- i. Lowest → one that is moving
- ii. Second → middle of the word or at the end of the word but you continue on it (eg.: yaqbalu)
- iii. Third → stopping at the end of the letter which have no shaddah (al meehaddu)
- iv. Highest → Shaddah at the end of the word (eg. Alhaqqu)

When letters of qalqalah has fathha, damma, kasrah, qalqalah exists but not obvious

P.S.: Tha with shaddah almost do not exist

5. **Categories**

a. Saheer

One that is moving

Letter at middle of the word or at the end of the word but you continue on it (eg.: yaqbalu)

b. Kabeera

Stopping at the end of the letter which have no shaddah (al meehaddu)

c. Alakbar

Shaddah at the end of the word (eg. Alhaqqu)

Qalqalah always leads towards to Fathha (eg. Yaqtha | Qibalah | Muqthadhir)

C. Leen (Softness)

اللّين The Softness

في اللغة : السهولة Its linguistic definition: *Easiness*

في الاصطلاح : خُرُوجُ الْحَرْفِ مِنْ مَخْرَجِهِ بِسُهُولَةٍ مِنْ غَيْرِ كَلْفَةٍ عَلَى اللِّسَانِ.

Its Applied Definition: Emitting the letter from its articulation point with ease without effort from the tongue.

حروفها: الواو و الياء اللينيتان، أي: الواو و الياء الساكنتان المفتوحة ما قبلهما

D. Inhiraaf (Drifting)

1. **Linguistic** : To stay away from something
2. **Technical:** As soon as it is articulated it leans towards another makhraj
3. **Letters:**

Laam and Raa ل ر

E. Takreer (Repetition)

1. **Linguistic:** Repetition of something once or more

2. **Technical:** vibration of the tongue when reciting the letters

The light trilling of the tongue when pronouncing ر due to its tight articulation point. The Reciter should be careful not to exaggerate the repetition leading to the occurrence of more than one of the letter

3. **Letter:**

Rolling of Raa ر

Repetition should be one time
If shaddah- two times

F. Tafashshe (Spreading around)

1. **Linguistic:** Spreading around
2. **Technical:** Spreading of the air inside the mouth when articulating the letter
3. **Letter:** Sheen ش

G. Istitaala (Prolonging)

1. **Linguistic:** Lengthening
2. **Technical:**
It is the pushing of the tongue forward after it collides at its articulation point, and this is due to the influence the compression of sound on it (the tongue), until the tip of the tongue lightly touches the gum line of the two top front incisors.

The forward pushing is mechanical: the sound should not travel forward with this involuntary movement. If the sound went forward with it, the sound of would then end up sounding like a daal, which is incorrect. The lengthened sound of ض is that or its characteristic of Rahawa

3. **Letter:** Daad ض

H. Alghunna (Nasalization sound)

1. **Linguistic:** A nasal sound that is emitted from the nose
2. **Technical meaning:** Nasalization sound that tongue has nothing to do with
3. **Letters:** Nun and meem ن م

I. Alkhaffa (Hiding)

- 1. Linguistic:** To hide
- 2. Technical meaning:**
Hiding the sound of the letter
Do not have specific articulation point

Letters:

Alif, woow, yaa, haa

Nooheehaa
