

صفات الحروف

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The characteristics of letters: (صفات الحروف)

It is the manner of the letter when it occurs at its makhraj.

Its purpose is to

- differentiate between common letters in the makhraj.
- beautify pronunciation and recitation.
- recognize strong and weak letters.

There are two divisions of sifat:

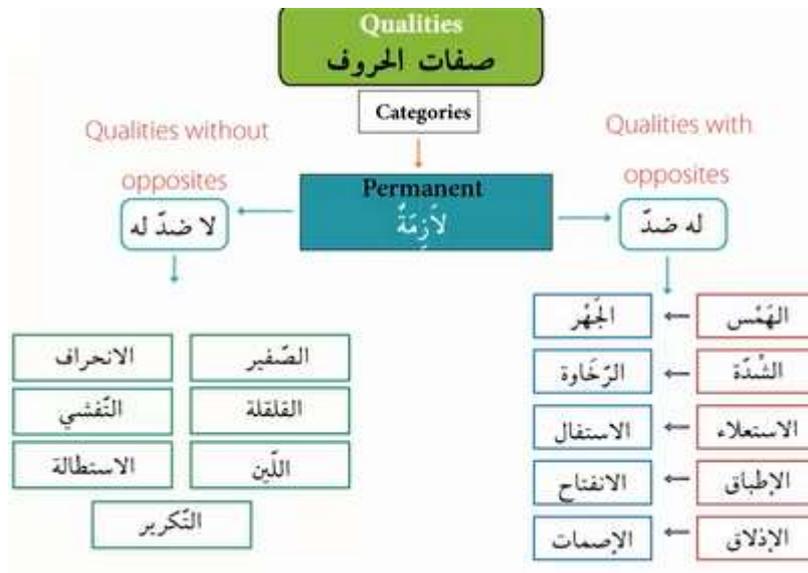
Conditional characteristics: (الصفات العرضية)

These are characteristics that are present in a letter in some cases and not present in other cases. Examples are اقلاب, ادغام, اخفاء

Intrinsic characteristics: (الصفات الاصلية)

These are permanent characteristics of the letters and never leave them.

There are 10 characteristics in pairs; each characteristic of the pair is opposite to the other characteristic in the pair. There are also seven singular characteristics that have no opposites.



Qualities with opposites:

	The whisper: (الهَمْس)	The apparent: (الجهر)
Flow of air	<p>It is the flow of air when pronouncing the letter due to weakness in its articulation point.</p> <p>eg. فَحْتُهُ شَخْصٌ سَكَتٌ</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hence ك and ت are hard letters; their sound stops but air flows. • there is more emphasis when there is sokun on top of them but less evident with vowels. 	<p>There is no flow of air due to strength of the letter of its articulation point.</p> <p>eg. rest of the letters.</p>

Trapping of sound	The strength: (الشِدَّة)	Between: (التَّوَسُّطُ البَيْنِيَّة)	The softness: (الرَّخَاوَة)
	It is the trapping of sound when pronouncing the letter due to complete reliance on the articulation point. Eg. أَجِدُ قَطِي بَكَتْ	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 Eg. لِيْنُ عُمَرُ	It is the running of sound of the letter due to weakness in reliance on the articulation point. Eg. Rest of the letters

elevation	The elevated: (الاستِعْلَاء)	The lowered (الاستِفْهَال)
	It is raising back of tongue towards roof of the mouth when pronouncing the letter. e.g. there are 7 letters : خُصَّ ضَنْعُ قِظْ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The outcome of الاستِعْلَاء is called tafkheem (تَفْخِيم). There are 9 letters including ر & ل which have tafkheem. There are 5 level of tafkheem: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 1st level: when letter of الاستِعْلَاء has a fatha on top it and followed by an alif. eg. خَالِدٌ ➤ 2nd level: when letter of الاستِعْلَاء has a fatha on top it but not followed by fatha. eg. ظَلَمَ ➤ 3rd level: when letter of الاستِعْلَاء has a damma on top it. eg. قَتَلَ ➤ 4th level: when letter of الاستِعْلَاء has a sokun on top it. eg. فَقَطَلَ ➤ 5th level: when letter of الاستِعْلَاء has a kasra on top it. eg. قَلَّ 	It is lowering back of the tongue towards bottom of the mouth when pronouncing the letter. e.g. rest of letters. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The outcome of this attribute is called tarqiq (التَرْفِيق). Sometimes ا & ل , ر have tafkheem

Compression of sound	The adhesion (الإطباق)	The open: (الانفتاح)
	It is the compression of sound of the letter between tongue and roof of the mouth. e.g. ص, ض, ط, ظ	Hence sound is not compressed between tongue and roof of the mouth. e.g. Rest of the letters.

Dependence on lips/tongue	Fluency (الإدلاق)	Restraint (الإصمات)
	<p>It is the dependence of the letter on the tip of the tongue or tip of the lips. E.g. فر من لب</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any 4 letters root words which does not have any letter of الإدلاق is not Arabic word in its origin. 	<p>Hence there is no dependence of the tip of tongue or lips. e.g. rest of the letters.</p>

Qualities without opposites:

The whistle: (الصَّفِير)

Sharpness in the sound of the letter produced from it traversing through a tight passage.

e.g. 3 letters: ص, ز, س

The echo: (قَلْقَلَة)

When there sokun on this letter, it is pronounced with vibration due to strength of the letter.

e.g. 5 letters: قطب جد

There are two type of قَلْقَلَة:

قَلْقَلَة صغرى (in the middle of the word)

قَلْقَلَة كبرى (at the end of the word)

The softness: (اللِّين)

Emitting the letter from its articulation point without effort but with ease from tongue.

When و & ي preceded by fatha.

There is madd of 2,4 or 6 counts when stopping. If continuing, there is no madd.

The drifting: (الانحراف)

Drifting of the sound of the letter due to the incomplete running caused by tongue not intercepting the sound of the letter.

Its letters are: ر & ل

The deviation of the sound of the ل is to the sides of the tip due to the tip blocking the route of the ل. The tip of the tongue closes off the articulation point and sound then deviates off towards the sides of the tongue.

The deviation of the sound of the ر is from the sides of the tongue in the middle of the tongue. It sticks at the front of the tip to the articulation point and the sound needs to escape so that there will not be تكرار. A small space at the very tip of the tongue is made so the sound can escape out of the mouth, excess trilling is avoided.

The repetition: (التكرار)

The light trilling of the tongue when pronouncing ر due to its tight articulation point.

The repetition can be maximum 2.

The spreading of sound: (التَّفْسِي)

Spreading the sound of the letter ش starting from its articulation point until it collides with the inner plates of the top teeth.

The lengthening: (الاستطالة)

It is the pushing of the tongue forward after it collides at articulation point and this is due to the influence the compression of sound on the tongue.

Its letter is: ض

The nasalization: (الغنة)

It is a nasal sound that is emitted from the nose. This is an intrinsic characteristic of ن, م and cannot be separated from these letters.

ر with تَرْقِيق

1. When ر has kasra on it. e.g. كَرِيم
2. When ر has sokun on it and preceded by original kasra but not followed by letter of الاستعلاء.
3. e.g. فِرْعَوْنَ شِرْعَةَ
4. When ر has sokun on it at the end of the word and followed by ي. e.g. بَصِيرَ خَيْرَ
5. When ر has sokun at the end of the word and there is a letter before it which is a letter with another sokun before which there is another letter with kasra. e.g. الذِّكْرَ
6. when ر has sokun (due to stopping) at the end of the word and preceded by a letter with kasra. e.g. لَقْدِرَ نَاصِرَ
7. when ر has sokun at the end of the word and preceded by a letter with original kasra but followed by a letter of الاستعلاء. e.g. فَصْبِرَ صَبْرًا

ر with تَفْخِيم :

1. When ر has damma on it. e.g. كَفَرُوا
2. When ر has fatha on it. e.g. رَمَضَانَ
3. When ر has sokun on it but the letter before it has a dammah. e.g. الْقُرْءَانَ
4. When ر has sokun on it but the letter before it has a fathah. e.g. مَرِيْمَ
5. When ر has sokun on it and preceded by original kasra and followed by letter of الاستعلاء (no kasra – if kasra then its optional). e.g. مِرْصَادًا قِرْطَاسَ
6. When ر has sokun on it and preceded by a non original kasra. e.g. لِمَنْ ارْتَضَى
7. When ر has sokun on it (due to stopping), preceded by sokun letter other than ي and that letter is preceded by letter of fathah or dammah. e.g. الْفَجْرَ

ترقيق or تفخيم with ر :

1. When ر has sokun on it and preceded by original kasra but followed by a letter of الاستعلاء with kasra in the same word.
e.g. فرق
2. When ر has sokun at the end of the word (due to stopping) and preceded by another sakin letter of الاستعلاء which is also preceded by another letter with kasra. e.g. القطر , مصر
3. When ر has sokun due to stopping and after it there is an omitted ي . eg. (ي) يسر , (ي) نذر in Sura al Fajr and al Qamr