Makharij: the points of articulation of Arabic letters

Every letter comes out of a precise place in the mouth, throat or nose: its makhraj. Knowing it well is the base of all tajweed.

Content being reviewed by a teacher: please confirm with your own teacher.

1 Understand

There are 5 main zones: the mouth and throat cavity (al-jawf), the throat (al-halq), the tongue (al-lisan), the lips (ash-shafatan) and the nose (al-khayshum).

2 Spot it

These zones split into 17 points. The jawf gives the madd letters (ا و ي). The throat gives 6 letters, the tongue 18, the lips 4 (ف ب م و). The nose gives the ghunnah.

3 Read it

To find a letter's makhraj, give it a sukun and put a hamza before it: “ab”, “at”… Listen to where the sound stops.

Throat

خ غ ح ع ه ء

Lips

ف ب م و

Tongue

ق ك ج ش ي ض ل ن ر ط د ت ص ز س ظ ذ ث

throat (al-halq)

tongue (al-lisan)

lips (ash-shafatan)

mouth cavity (al-jawf)

Each letter is coloured by its zone (the long alif in orange).

قُلْ هُوَ ٱللَّهُ أَحَدٌ

Surah 112, verse 1

🔊 Listen (Mishary Al-Afasy)

قُلْ أَعُوذُ بِرَبِّ ٱلنَّاسِ

Surah 114, verse 1

🔊 Listen (Mishary Al-Afasy)



Surah 1, verse 2

🔊 Listen (Mishary Al-Afasy)



Surah 108, verse 1

🔊 Listen (Mishary Al-Afasy)

All rules

Next rule

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Al-Afasy. Sources

