

***Some Arabic Phonemes as the Problematic
Ones for English - Speaking Learners of Arabic:
The Reasons and the Possible Solutions***

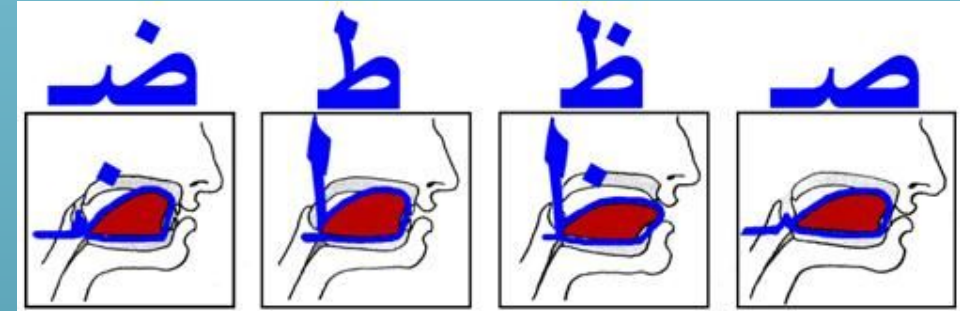
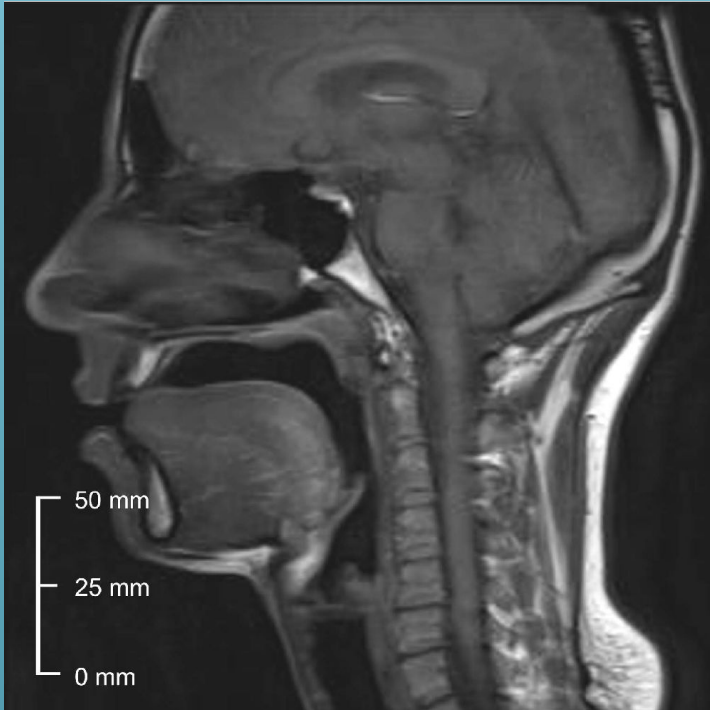


***Maria L. Swanson
Assistant Professor***



USNA Languages and Cultures Department

Emphatic Sounds



Minimal pairs:

/ti:n/ "gs" - /ṭi:n/ "mud", /sabb/ "he swore" - /ṣabb/ "he poured", /dæll/ "he showed" - /ḍall/ "you stay/he stayed", /ḡæll/ "he humiliated" - /zæll/ "he stayed".

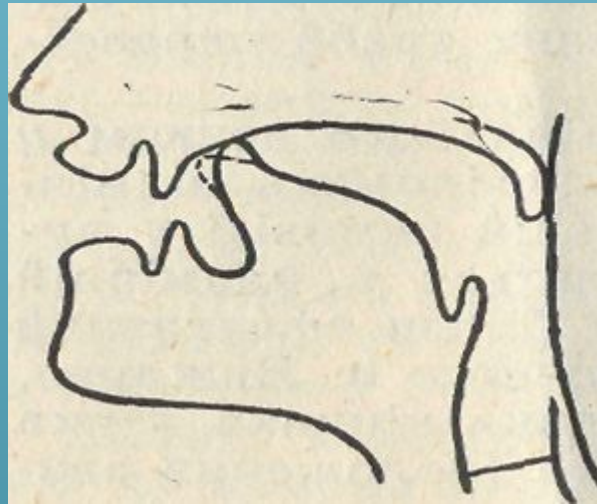
Pictures 1 and 2:

Plain (left) and emphatic (right) alveolar fricatives /s ṣ/ produced by a male speaker of Jordanian Arabic [46, p.57].

This link is to the clip, which demonstrates the place and the mechanism of articulation of all the Arabic alphabet sounds:

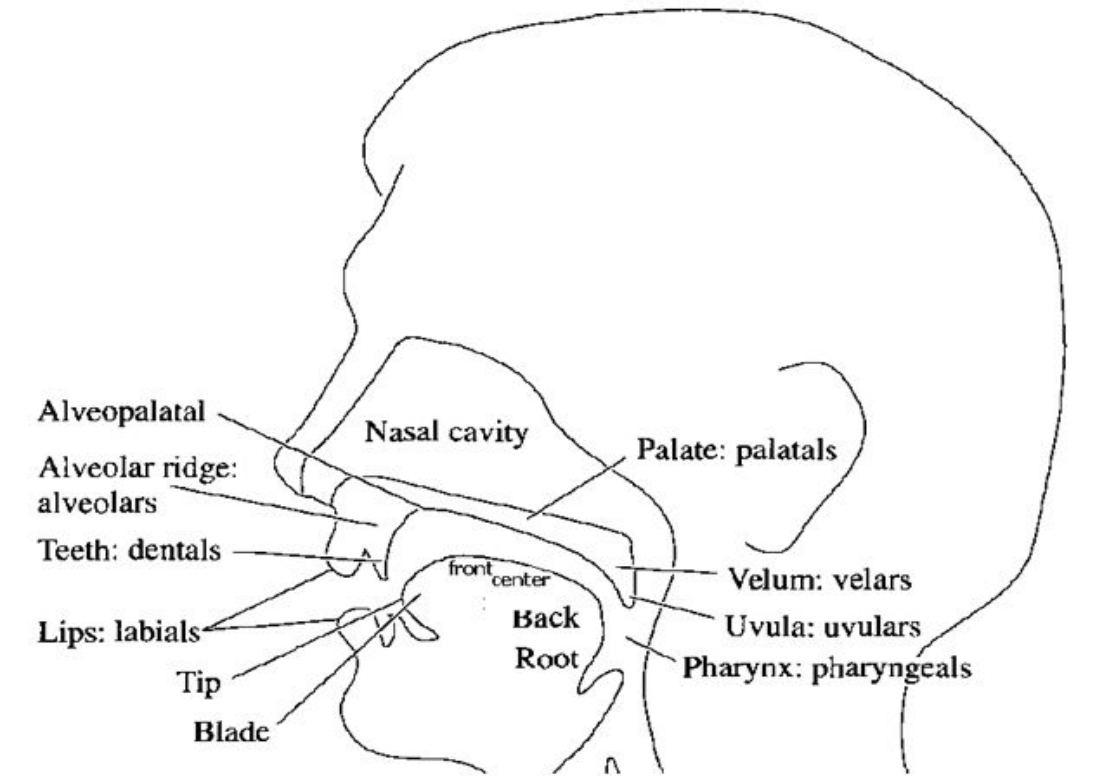
https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search;_ylt=AwrDQ3LvN9tcfH0Axqk0nllQ;_ylu=X3oDMTBncGdyMzQ0BHNIYwNzZWfYy2gEdnRpZAM-;_ylc=X1MDMTM1MTE5NTcwMARfcgMyBGFjdG4DY2xrBGNzcmNwdmlkAy4uWnkyakV3TGpHMxMyc29YTVp1YIFYNE5qZ3VNUUFBUFBQ1BOWUEEZnlDeWhzLWRjb2xhLTAwMQRmcjIDc2EtZ3AEZ3ByaWQDdDNtc0Z1VEIUejJ6UnRLU3ZSVWdOQQRuX3JzbHQDNjAEbl9zdWdnAzEwBG9yaWdpbgN2aWRlby5zZWfYy2gueWFob28uY29tBHBvcwMwBHBxc3RyAwRwcXN0cmwDBHFzdHJsAzlyBHF1ZXJ5A2FyYWJpYyUyMHByb251bmNpYXRpb24EdF9zdG1wAzE1NTc4NzA1ODI-?p=arabic+pronunciation&ei=UTF-8&fr2=p%3As%2Cv%3Av%2Cm%3Asa&fr=yhs-dcola-001&hsimp=yhs-001&hspart=dcola&type=xle_rnew_19_18_ssg22¶m1=1¶m2=cat%3Dweb%26sesid%3Dbdd3b9f19077ce67ba299103b6816519%26ip%3D68.134.201.40%26b%3DChrome%26bv%3D63.0.3239.132%26os%3DWindows-10%26os_ver%3D10.0%26pa%3Dgencoll%26sid%3D8a4b65d5d81184da34a697917d7a4c02%26abid%3D%26abg%3D%26a%3Dxle_rnew_19_18_ssg22%26sdk_ver%3D1.4%26cd%3D2Y1L1Qzu0EyCyC0AyC0A0A0E0ByE0E0BtCzy0D0FtN1B1Q2ZzutBtDtCzytDyEtBzbtBtAtBtDtDtCyEyByD%26cr%3D1659201731%26f%3D%26uref%3D#id=70&vid=426f65cad83f3b81f639d7b8442af955&action=view

The Trilled /r/



The scheme of the correct (continuous line) and incorrect (dotted line) articulations of /r/, when learners raise the tongue back to the palate and move it forward producing the lateral alveolar /l/ or the apico-postalveolar English /r/ when the tongue tip is more curled back. (<http://kyrsak.ucoz.ru/publ/5-1-0-40>)

Pharyngeal (Guttural), Uvulars, and Velars Sounds



The picture demonstrating the place of pronunciation. Sounds are marked with different colors, according to the place of formation.

Minimal pairs

Uvulars-Pharyngeals -Glottals:

Ḫabbaṯ - ḥabbaṯ - habbaṯ

Ḫurūb- ḥurūb - hurūb

ʕajal - ʔajal

muʕallim - muʔallim

marbaʕ - marbaḪ

A. Tongue -Twisters

1. /šurṭiy ʔakala ʔuršī /

‘Policeman ate pickles.’

2. /jadaʕun qāma wa-jadaʕun qaʕada/

‘A guy stood up and a guy sat down.’

3. /Xaiṭu harīr ʕalya haʔiṭi Xalīl/

‘A silk thread on Khalil’s wall.’

4. /ʕaraq-u Xaradali Xarraqa halaqī/

‘Mustard’s juice burned my throat.’

B. Proverbs

1. /la yahtāju š-šabāh ʔilāa mišbāh/

‘Morning does not need a bulb.’

2. /ʔal-ʕayn-u bašīra-h wa-l-yād-u qašīra-h/

‘An eye sees, but an arm is short ‘(equal to English “there's many a slip, 'twixt cup and lip”)