

SOME PHONETIC DIFFERENCES BETWEEN ARABIC AND ENGLISH VOWELS

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Arabic vowels have not been satisfactorily described yet. The reasons are, in the main, due to "pedagogic" presentation, relegation of important phonetic facts to "irregular" or "stylistic" status and lack of interest in contrastive relationships obtaining between vocalic elements.

It is hoped that this article will give a more orderly presentation of Arabic vowels and take more fully into account important features which, in previous analyses, have been regarded as "redundant".

Differences between the Arabic vocalic system and the English vocalic system are mentioned.