PHONOLOGICAL ASPECTS IN ENGLISH AND ARABIC

ABSTRACT

The present study deals with four phonological aspects which are part of communication through language. These aspects are found in English and Arabic, which are: assimilation, intonation, stress and elision. The aim of this study is to explain each aspect in both languages and make a comparison. This study presents definitions, explanation and examples to clarify the phenomenon. The two languages share some points, but there is no absolute similarity. These aspects are common in the recitation of the Glorious Quran. There are similarities and differences between the two languages. In English, there are three types of assimilation: regressive, progressive and coalescent. In the recitation of the Glorious Quran, there is assimilation with ghunna (nasal twang) and without ghunnah (nasal twang). In the recitation of the Glorious Quran, the assimilation is like the regressive English assimilation, the final consonant changes and be like the initial neighbouring sound. In the two languages, the definition of intonation means the rise and fall of a tone. It expresses a meaning and changes according to the type of a sentence. Stress means the amount of power through pronunciation the sound. English language includes special rules for stress. In Arabic, stress means the amount of power on the syllable of each utterance. The type of stress is affected by the number and kind of syllables in the word. Elision means the omission of a sound. The two languages may omit a consonant or vowel in a word to make the pronunciation easier.

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DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.25130/jtuh.26.3.2019.23
نواحي صوتية في اللغة الإنكليزية واللغة العربية

تعد مقارنة لكل جانب في اللغة العربية والإنجليزية من خلال استيعاب البحث الحالي يمكن ملاحظة اشتراء اللغة العربية والإنجليزية بعض النقط المعينة، لكن ليس هناك شابه تعام بين اللغتين، إن النواحي الصوتية المقدمة في هذا البحث شائع تطبيقها ولا سيما في تلاوة القرآن الكريم،

وفي اللغة الإنجليزية هناك ثلاثة أنواع من الإدغام وهو الإدغام التراجعي والتقدمي والمدمج، بينما في تلاوة القرآن الكريم

هناك إدغام بنطة وصغير غنة، فزمة تطبيق الإدغام في تلاوة القرآن الكريم مشابهة للإدغام التراجعي في اللغة الإنجليزية، حيث أن الصوت الصحيح أخر الكلمة يتغير ويصبح مثل الصوت الصحيح الذي تبدأ به الكلمة الثانية المجاورة للكلمة الأولى.

اما لقاعدة الصوتية الثانية فهي التغييم ، والتنغيم هو ارتفاع انخفاض في نغمة الصوت، وانه في مقهمة الدقيق عبر عن معنى، ويتغير وفقا لنوع الجملة، فيما إذا كانت خبرية أو سؤالية، ثانيا النبر (التشدود)، ويعني بروز وإظهار الصوت الذي تم التشديد عليه والنطق به، وتعريف النبر في اللغة العربية والإنجليزية هو يممثل نفس المعنى، لكن في اللغة العربية يتأثر التشديد بعد نوع المقطع الموجود في الكلمة.

القاعدة fonological الرابعة هي الحذف، والحرف يعني الغاء أو حذف النطق بصوت العلة أو بالصوت الصحيح من الكلمة لجعل الكلام أكثر سهولة.

1- (English Phonological Rules) :

Crystal (1997: 164-165) points out that phonological rules differ from one language to another, some features may be added or deleted by application of these rules. These rules can change the position of whole phonemes and change the value of individual features.

Phonological rules are part of communication. Their existence enables us understanding the spoken or written language. They play an important role in teaching English and solve the problems of People. Phonological rules are spoken or written, they can control the change of sounds during vocal communication. (Ibid: 287)

Phonological rules Study the relation of sounds to other in different contexts, and to the grammar and lexicon of a language.

(Robins, 2000: 161).

2-Assimilation:

Assimilation is a process whereby one sound causes an adjacent to be more similar sound to itself.

Assimilation in English

AL- Hamash (1983:61–68) states that assimilation is the effect of a sound that occurs next
to another different sound. In order to make the pronunciation easier, the two sounds are changed and become more similar and even one sound. There are three types of assimilation: progressive, regressive and merging. Progressive assimilation means the effect of final phoneme that changes the phoneme that comes after it. For example, in the / in ð in /nɑ/ while in regressive assimilation, the initial phoneme changes the phoneme and becomes as one similar sound. For example,

- Horse shoe / ho: s/ + /ʃ:/ is pronounced /hoːʃ:/ (1)

The fusion of two sounds (usually consonants) into sound is called merging or coalescence assimilation. For example, the expression ‘aren't you’ is pronounced /aːntʃəu:/ (2)

McMahon (2002:4) says that assimilation is a familiar phenomenon which occurs in every day human language. It is the undergoing of a phoneme to various phonological processes, and it is common for nasal sounds.

Forel & Puskaś (2005: 50) state that one of the types of assimilation is the progressive. It is called so because the features of a phoneme are changed by the immediately preceded phoneme.

Crystal (2008: 50) defines assimilation as the influence of one sound segment upon the sound that becomes phonetically like or identical to an adjacent sound.

Roach (2009: 110–112) states that the pronunciation of a phoneme may be changed under the influence of neighbouring sounds. Assimilation may vary in extent according to style and speaking rate. This phenomenon can be noticed and found in casual rapid and less in slow, careful speech.

The realization of a phoneme can be considered as a result of belonging to a neighbouring word. There are three types of assimilation: regressive assimilation, which can be described as the change of final phoneme that is affected by the initial phoneme. The final consonant (Cf) becomes like the initial consonant (Ci). For example, 3– meat pie → /miːp/.

The second type is progressive assimilation, it is the change of pronunciation of initial consonant. So, the (Ci) becomes like the (Cf).

Coalescent assimilation: means two adjacent sounds combine to form a new sound, a final (t, d) plus an initial (j) is pronounced (ʤ orʧ). For example, 4– not yet → /noʊˈet/.

5– could you → /kuʤu/.

3– Assimilation in Arabic

AL–Hammad (2009 : 310) claims that there are two types of assimilation: the first is
assimilation with (ghunnah) {nasal twang} which has four sounds (. The sounds are the yaa, noon, meem and waw. If any of these four sounds occurs after the consonant noon or nunnation (Tanween). It occurs in two words. For example, (6)

قَالَ ﷲ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي ﺴْعُرِ ﺑِنْ ﺑِنْ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي ﻣَأَمَأَنَا ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ 

And if you (Arab pagans, Jews, and Christians) are in doubt concerning that which We have sent down (i.e. the Qur'an) to Our slave (Muhammadصلى الله عليه وسلم), then bring a Surah (chapter) of the like thereof and call your witness (supporters and helpers) besides Allah, if you are truthful. (Al–Hilali & Khan, 1983: 6).

The second is assimilation without ghunna {nasal twang} which has two sounds. The sounds are /r/ and /l/. If any of them occurs after a consonant noon or nunnation on condition that this occurs in two words too. For example, (7)

قَالَ ﷲ ﻓَأَلَّوَ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ ﻓِي صِلَائِ 

Surely! Allah wrongs not even of the weight of an atom (or a small ant), but if there is any good (done), He doubles it, and gives from Him a great reward. (Al–Hilali & Khan, 1983: 113–114).

من لدنه←

AL–Baghdadi (1987: 416–417) defines assimilation as inserting a consonant sound into a vowel sound to become one doubled (mushaddad) sound. Assimilation must involve two words. As in example, (7)

Shukri et al (2013:95) says that assimilation is placing one thing into another or it is the inserting of consonant sound into a vowel sound, with the rise of the tongue.

The laam of al (ال) is the laam of definite article, prefixed to nouns; they are added to the structure of the word whether the word can stand without the alif laam e.g., (الأم). Or it cannot as in e.g., (الذين). Then the addition of al– (ال) the word cannot stand without the alif laam. The moon(qamariyyah)(manifest) laam is related to fourteen sounds grouped in the phrase of (10).

The sun laam (laam shamsiyyah) especially occurs with fourteen sounds. They are grouped in the initial letters of the words of this line of verse:

طب ثم صل رحما تفر شريفا للكرم صف ذا نعم دع سوء ظن زر (11)
In Arabic, the sounds are categorized into two classifications: solar and lunar. In Arabic, sun sounds are coronal consonants so that they totally assimilated with / l/ of the definite article. For example, the word starts with solar (sun) sound and it is preceded by definite article AL-/al/. The sound / l/ is totally assimilated and the letter after it is geminated. For example, (12)

(التين : 1)

(When the sun shall be wound round and its light is lost and is overthrow). (Al– Hilali & Khan, 1983:821).

While, lunar (moon) letters are non-coronal and the letter /l/ is not assimilated but pronounced properly. (Dawood and Atawnech, 2015:13)

For example, (13)

(Actual : 3)

4– Stress

It is a relatively emphasis or prominence given to a certain syllable in a word, or to a certain word in a phrase or sentence.

Stress in English

Al–Hamash (1983:87) says that stress is the loudness of a syllable in a word that is different from other syllables, or the loudness of a word in a sentence as contrasted with the other words in the same sentence. There is word stress in which stress is on syllables of a word. While stress on the words of a sentence is called sentence stress. English word stress is highly irregular unlike Arabic stress. For this reason, it is necessary for the foreign learners to study the placement of English stress in a word.

Crystal (2008: 454) claims that stress is the degree of energy of uttering a phoneme or a syllable. The stressed syllable is more prominent than unstressed syllable; and this feature is due to an increase of loudness. The increase of length and pitch are due to overall impression of prominence. Stress provides means of recognition degree of contrast or emphasis in sentences (sentence stress). For example, (14). The 'big' man looks angry.
Roach (2009: 73–74) states that stress is an extra force used for the pronunciation of a definite word or syllable. The stressed syllable uses more muscular energy than the unstressed syllable. It is louder and longer than unstressed syllable. These features are the components of prominence. In a following word, if one of the following sounds is changed /ba: bi: ba:ba:/ the odd syllable is (bi:) will be stress syllable. It is noticeable that, if a syllable is uttered with a different pitch from the others, so this syllable will have tendency to produce the effect of prominence. For example, if the syllable is uttered with the same pitch, such as low and one syllable is uttered with high pitch. So, the high pitch will be stressed and other syllables are unstressed.

Roach (2009: 75–77) states that there are three types of stress: primary stress is the strongest type of stress. It is given to one syllable in a spoken word. Secondary stress is given a degree of force weaker than the primary stress. Unstressed syllable refers to disappearance of force or prominence.

If a word includes a single syllable, it is pronounced in isolation with primary stress. While, if it includes two syllables and the second syllable includes a long vowel, diphthong or it ends with more than one consonant, the second syllable is stressed, e.g., (15)

\[ \text{arrive} /əˈrælv/ \text{ (attract) } /əˈtrækt/ \]. The type of the sound indicates the place of stress. For example, if a word contains three syllables, the stress is on the long vowel, diphthong or more than one consonant sound. For example, (16)

potato → /pəˈteItə/ , entertain →/ˌentəˈteln/.

While unstressed syllable is the short vowel or one consonant. The stress should be placed on the middle syllable or penultimate, e.g., (17)

encounter /ˈkəuntə/ .

Ladefoged (2011: 249) defines stress as a supra segmental feature of utterance and it is a property of English words. Stress is applied to whole syllables not to individual vowels and consonants. The distinctive features of stress are:

It is more prominent than unstressed syllable.–
It is more prominent in the flow of speech.–
Stress is only a factor in causing rhythmic differences.

5– Stress in Arabic

AL–AAni (1983: 134) states that in Arabic, stress is the amount of power that is distributed over the syllables of each utterance. The production of the syllables of an utterance is different. These syllables are not produced with the same degree of loudness.
Arabic stress is predictable on the lexical level, therefore it is not phonemic.

There are three levels of stress: primary marked by [\], secondary stress marked by [ ] and weak stress unmarked. Every word has an inherently stressable syllable, potentially. This syllable has primary stress. The placement and distribution of this stress is affected by the number and kinds of syllables in the word's syllable sequence. The primary stress may happen when the word is monosyllable and in isolation.

There are rules for the stress of Arabic words as follows:
- when a word consists of a string of syllables, the first syllable receives the primary stress, while the remaining syllables receive weak stress. For example, (18) (he studied). C:\V CV CV.

- When a word contains only one long syllable, this long syllable will receive the primary stress. The other syllables receive weak stress. For example, (19) (k’aatib) (writer) CVV CVC.

- when a word contains two long syllables or more, the long syllable nearest to the end of the word (not the last syllable) will have the primary stress. The one which is closest to the beginning has secondary stress. For example, (20) (ra\'iisahunna) (their chief, female plural) CV C, VV CV C:VC CV. (21) (must\'awda\'aatuhum) (the deposits, male plural).

The word stress in both Modern standard Arabic (MSA) and the dialects is non-phonemic. Whereas in English, the category of the word is distinguished by stress. In Arabic, stress cannot be used to distinguish the meanings.

Two consecutive vowels as in CVV or CVVC represent either a long vowel, (22) (the letter nuun) / nuun / or a diphthong (day) /yawm/. Two consonants as in (CVCC) represent either a double consonant, indicated by a shadda (Hajj), or distinct consonants (barq).

Disyllabic: refers to words with two syllables, while polysyllabic refers to words with three or more syllables.

Proclitics in Arabic refer to one letter functions words such as the definite article and some prepositions attached to the beginning of a word. These including (al) (al), are ignored in determining stress. (a') (ka) (bi) (la) (fa) (wa).

The structural types of the Arabic syllables are six which are classified into three
categories: light, heavy and super heavy.

1. A light syllable consists of a consonant followed by a short vowel (CV).
   CV /ka/ consonant followed by a short vowel.

2. A heavy syllable consists of either a consonant followed by two vowels (CVV), or of a consonant followed by a short vowel and a consonant (CVC).
   CVV (بَا) a consonant followed by a long vowel.
   CVCC (كَاب) consonant followed by one or two vowels followed by one or two consonants:

   3. Super heavy syllable consists of a consonant followed by one or two vowels followed by one or two consonants:
      CVVCC (نُئن) consonant + long vowel + consonant.
      CVVC (وَيْم) consonant+ diphthong+ consonant.
      CVCC (كَب) consonant + short vowel + double consonant.
      CVCC (بَرْقَ) consonant + short vowel + consonant + consonant.
      CVVCC (شَااب) consonant + long vowel + double consonant.

Only super heavy syllable can appear in a word, which almost occurs at the end of the word. But occasionally super heavy syllables can occur in the other positions as in 

In mono syllabic words, the single syllable can only be stressed, it is important to keep in mind that in counting syllables proclitics are ignored, so that disyllabic words, as are considered mono syllabic for stress purposes. (Halpern, ---:1–3).

6. Intonation

A term intonation is used to carry a variety of different kinds of information. It signals grammatical structure and indicates discourse function.

Intonation in English

AL-Hamash (1983: 96) states that intonation means the voice is produced with a rise or and fall tone. There are three levels of tones: high, normal and low.

- The meaning of high pitch or tone indicates less or more increase in the vibration of the vocal cords, that produces more loudness.
- Low or normal pitches require less vibration and loudness.

Crystal (2008: 252) states that intonation functions as a signal of grammatical structure. Its role is similar to punctuation in writing, but involves far more contrasts. Intonation is used to distinguish between questions and statement. For example, the change in meaning
illustrated by ‘Are you asking me or telling me’ is signalled by a contrast between rising and falling pitch. For example, (23). He’s going , isn’t he? (-I’m asking you) , opposed to He’s going. isn’t he ! (-I’m telling you ).

Another role of intonation is in the communication of personal attitude:

For example, anger, puzzlement , sarcasm. These can be signalled by contrasts in pitch, along with other prosodic and paralinguistic features.

—Intonation can be used as one of the ways of signalling social background.

Roach (2009: 36) states that the rise and fall intonation differ according to the type of the sentence, e.g., if the word ‘right’ is pronounced with rising pitch, it is heard as a question or an invitation to continue. The same word ‘right’ is uttered with a fall pitch, when it is a confirmation or agreement.

Roach (2009: 154) confirms that the ambiguity of grammatical functions of sentences can be removed by using differences of intonation. For example, (24)

‘Those who ‘sold ’quickly ’made a ’profit

‘Those who ‘sold ’quickly , made a ’profit

7— Intonation in Arabic

Abd—AL— Kareem (1998:6–7) states that intonation means a rise and fall of tone and it is the music of speech. It adds to language its sense and expresses its purpose. The language without intonation is incomplete.

Intonation is a physiological activity which does not occur randomly. The speech organs relatively produce a sound or a syllable with more energy. The meaning of the words is clarified either by stress, rising tone or duration. (Ibid: 14–17)

AL—Bayati (2007: 16) says that there is a special intonation to the styles of the Ayahs. For example, the reader uses a fall intonation to a statement sentence and for a complete meaning. For example , (25)

(النمل : 73)

(النمل (: "Verily , your Lord is full of Grace for mankind, yet most of them do not give thanks"

( Al—Hilali and Khan, 1983: 514).

While the rise intonation is to the Ayahs that end with an interrogative sentence. For example, (26)

(النمل : 64) ( Is not He ( better than your so—called gods) Who originates creation and shall
thereafter repeat it, and who provides for you from heaven and earth? Is there any ilah (god) with Allah? Say: ‘Bring forth your proofs, if you are truthful. (Al–Hilali and Khan, 1983: 513).

In the recitation of the Glorious Qur’an, a reader uses a fall intonation when the disbelievers speak against Allah, for example, (27)

قَالُواُ قَالَ أَنْبَحَدَ الْلَّهُ وَلَدَ مِنْ هُوَ الْعَلِيمُ الْخَبِيرُ "بَعْدَ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَمَا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الْأُخْرَىِّ" (يونس : 68)

(They (Jews, Christians and pagans) say: ‘‘Allah has begotten a son (children).’’ Glory is to Him! He is Rich (free of all needs). His is all that is in the heavens and all that is in the earth. No warrant you have for this. Do you say against Allah what you know not). (Al–Hilali and Khan, 1983: 280).

while the reader uses a rise intonation for the Ayahs that reply them. http://www.quraniat.blogspot.com.

For example. (28)

قَالُواُ قَالَ أَنْبَحَدَ الْلَّهُ وَلَدَ مِنْ هُوَ الْعَلِيمُ الْخَبِيرُ "بَعْدَ وَمَا فِي الْأَرْضِ وَمَا فِي الْحَيَاةِ الْأُخْرَىِّ" (يونس : 68)

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8– Elision

It is the disappearance of a sound. It is used to make the pronunciation of sounds easy in connected speech.

Elision in English

Gimson (1976: 297–298) states that in certain circumstances, a particular phoneme may be deleted. This phenomenon occurs in rapid casual speech, particularly in neighbouring word boundaries. For example, the vowel /ə/ at the beginning of a word is deleted, when followed by a continuant and preceded by a final consonant. The compensation of elision of /ə/ is being made by the syllabicity of continuant. For example, (29) (get another)→ /ʼget .n ˈnəðə /.
In disyllable, the /t/ of the negative /-nt/ is often deleted particularly before a following consonant. For example, (30) you mustn't lose it → /juːmʌsn Iuːz It /
And sometimes before a vowel, e.g., (31), wouldn't he come? / 'wuːdn I kʌm' /

AL–Hamash (1983:72–73) states that in English, a glottal stop /ʔ/ is similar the Arabic (هزة). In English the glottal stop occurs before a vowel sound, that occurs at the beginning of words. The following words include glottal stops at the beginning of them and they are pronounced:
(Is, in, any, away) the glottal stops disappear when the words are used in the middle of a sentence or a phrase.

In a sentence, (32)
Sam is in his room → is pronounced /Sam Iz in Iz rum/, it should not be pronounced / Sam ʔ I iz in hiz rum /. 

AL–Hamash (1983:74–75) confirms that elision of centre sounds makes the pronunciation easier. Double consonants are pronounced as one consonant, e.g., last time is pronounced as /laːstaim/.

In certain long words, a number of syllables may be omitted to lessen the syllables, e.g.,
(33)
especially, /isˈ peʃə li/; /is peʃli/ .

Underhill (1998:61) claims that elision is a feature of rapid connected speech. It is used in order to make the pronunciation easier in connected speech. Elision means the omission of a single phoneme as in, (34) handsome, /handsɔm/ → /hansɔm/ /d/ is deleted. Or a whole syllable as in the following example.

A whole syllable is deleted as in, library / laibr əri → /laibri / a whole syllable /rə/ is deleted.

Yule (1996, 59–60) states that elision is in consonant cluster, especially in coda position after the centre of the syllable, as in the following examples. (35)
Aspects / əspekts/ → /əspeks/
Friendship / frendʃIp/ → /frenʃIp/ (36)

9–Elision in Arabic

AL–Batlioosi (1980: 338) claims that the glottal stop [ʔ] is deleted in the word (ابن) [bn], when this word is between:
–A proper noun and a surname, e.g., (37) (أبو عبد الله بن زيد) [ abu abdullah bin Zayd ] .
–Two proper nouns, as in (38) ( هدا زيد بن علي) .
Ibn Usfoor (1986, 559) says that the glottal stop is deleted in the imperative verb, e.g., (39) / kl / n. [ kul ] ( كل ) v.

Muhammad (2011, 440) states that a vocative article may be deleted before its noun, if it is proper noun. For example, (40)

قال تعالى: "ۖ محمد ﷺ: أَوْفِيْهِمْ اللَّهُ، أَنْ يَنْطَقُواْ بِهِ بِعَبْدٍ": أَوْفِيْهِمْ. (Al-Hilali and Khan, 1983: 309).

Shukri et al (2013-160-190) states that in Arabic, the conjunctive hamzah (hamzah wasl) is dropped in pronunciation in connected speech because the consonant sound will depend on the preceding sound rather than on conjunctive hamzah. In the case of connected speech the conjunctive hamzah is not pronounced when it occurs at the beginning of the word. It is pronounced with fatha / a/ or kasra /i/ or dhamma /u/. When it occurs within the word as in (wabil-haq, wallahi), it is never pronounced for it should not be pronounced independently under any condition.

When the conjunctive hamzah with kasrah converges with an interrogative hamza (hamza istifham), the conjunctive hamza is dropped and the interrogative hamza remains with fatha /a/. For example, (41)

قال تعالى: "ۖ محمد ﷺ: أَوْفِيْهِمْ اللَّهُ، أَنْ يَنْطَقُواْ بِهِ بِعَبْدٍ": أَوْفِيْهِمْ. (النعل: 59)

Say (O Muhammad ﷺ: "All Praise and thanks are Allah’s, and peace be on His slaves whom He has chosen (for His Message)! Is Allah better, or (all) that they ascribe as partners (to Him)?" (Of course, Allah is Better). (Al-Hilali and Khan, 1983: 511-512).

Example (42)

قال تعالى: "ۖ محمد ﷺ: أَوْفِيْهِمْ اللَّهُ، أَنْ يَنْطَقُواْ بِهِ بِعَبْدٍ": أَوْفِيْهِمْ. (النعل: 80)

(And they (Jews) say, "‘The Fire (i.e. Hell –fire on the Day of Resurrection) shall not touch..."
us but for a few numbered days’. Say (O Muhammad) to them: ‘‘Have you taken a covenant from Allah, so that Allah will not break His Covenant? Or is it that you say of Allah what you know not? ‘’ (Al–Hilali and Khan, 1983: 16).

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusions of this study are: In both languages, (English and Arabic) there are no identical phonological rules, but they may share some points. This study concludes that there is a relatively similarity between the two languages. For example, in English, there are three types of assimilation: (Regressive, progressive and Coalescent assimilation). Progressive assimilation includes the effect of final phoneme that changes the phoneme that occurs after it. Regressive assimilation includes the initial phoneme changes the final phoneme and becomes as one similar sound. Coalescent assimilation includes two adjacent sounds combine to form a new sound.

In Arabic, there is assimilation with ghunnah (nasal twang) and without ghunnah and there is assimilation of definite article, if it is followed by one of the solar (sun) letters, the letter/l/ is assimilated. Another type of assimilation, which is common in the recitation of the Glorious Quran is when the consonant/n/ or (nunation) is followed by one of the letter of the word(y,r,m,l,o,n) . The word ends with/n/ or (nunation) and followed by one of the sounds of the word(n or atanween) is assimilated. This type is similar to the English regressive assimilation.

In English, regressive assimilation means the change of final consonant that becomes like the initial sound. It occurs between two words in Arabic and English.

In English and Arabic, intonation is the rise and fall of a tone. In English, there are three levels of intonation: high, normal and low. High tone indicates less or more increase in the vibration of the vocal cords. Low or normal tone requires less vibration and loudness. Intonation differs according to the type of a sentence. Intonation is a physiological and grammatical means that creates an effect on the human’s mind and feeling. In Arabic, a fall intonation is for a statement sentence, while a rise intonation is for an interrogative sentence. In both languages, intonation expresses a specific sense and differs according to the type of the sentence.

In Arabic and English, stress means the amount of power on the pronunciation the sound. In English, there are different features for the stress, for example, loudness of a syllable, that is different in quality of other syllables. Stress of a word depends on its category, number of syllables and the type of a syllable. So, the word may receive a primary or secondary stress or may be unstressed.
In Arabic, stress is the amount of power on the syllable of each utterance. There are three levels of stress: primary, secondary and unstressed. When the word contains a string of consonants and some syllables, the first syllable will receive a primary stress and the remaining syllables will have weak stress.

The primary stress is on the long syllable when the word includes only one long syllable and the remaining syllables have weak stress. When the word contains two long syllables or more the long syllable that is nearest to the end of the word will have the primary stress and the secondary stress will be on the syllable that is closest to the beginning. In Arabic, stress is predictable on the lexical level, therefore it is not phonemic. Whereas in English, the category of a word is distinguished by stress. In Arabic, stress cannot be used to distinguish meanings. English stress is highly irregular unlike Arabic stress.

In English and Arabic, elision is the disappearance of a phoneme. In English, for example, the glottal stop is pronounced at the beginning, but omitted at the medium of speech. There is elision of a vowel, consonant and a whole syllable. The benefit of elision is to make the pronunciation easier, especially, in connected speech.

In Arabic, there is elision of letter especially the conjunctive hamzah (hamzah wasl) is dropped in pronunciation in connected speech because the consonant sound will depend on the preceding sound rather on conjunctive hamzah. In connected speech, it is not pronounced when it occurs at the beginning of the word. When the conjunctive hamza with kasra converges with an interrogative hamzah, the conjunctive hamzah is dropped and the interrogative hamzah remains with fatha.

The vocative article may be deleted before the proper noun. The glottal stop may be deleted in the imperative verb.

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ا.م.د سعاد عبد الرحمن الطييف/ وزارة التربية/المديرية العامة للتربية في صلاح الدين/قسم التربية تكريت