ر The Letter Raa

Qaida Lesson 1 — the letters · Letter 10 of 29 · Never joins to the letter after it

1 ITS SHAPES — the same letter, in each position

ر	ـر
On its own	After a letter

2 TRACE IT — start from the right

ر ر ر ر ر ر

3 READ IT WITH THE THREE SHORT VOWELS

رَ	رِ	رُ
ra	**ri**	**ru**
fatha · zabar	kasra · zer	damma · pesh

4 CIRCLE EVERY RAA — there are 12

ر	ص	ذ	ظ	ك	ر	ل	ف	ش
ق	ه	ز	د	س	ب	ر	ض	ز
ر	م	ر	غ	ر	ر	و	ض	ص
ز	ر	ر	ر	ن	ح	ا	خ	ر
ز	ء	ر	ع	ط	ت	ج	ث	ي

5 WRITE IT YOURSELF

FOR THE GROWN-UP SITTING WITH THEM

WHERE IT COMES FROM
The tip of the tongue against the gum just above the front teeth, tapped once.

HEAVY OR LIGHT
Both. Raa is heavy with a fatha or damma above it and light with a kasra below it.

DOTS
No dots.

CONFUSED WITH
Zaa, which is the same shape with a dot, and the English r, which is a different sound entirely.

Listen for this mistake. Rolling Raa too long, or using the English r where the tongue never touches. Arabic Raa is one tap, not a roll and not a glide.

☐ Shapes known ☐ Sound correct ☐ Reads with all three vowels ☐ Ready for the next letter