

# Re: Vowel variations in Arabic

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech--archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2006-01/msg02858.html>

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- *From:* "Brian M. Scott" <b.scott@xxxxxxxxxxxx>
  - *Date:* Tue, 31 Jan 2006 11:29:44 -0500
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On Tue, 31 Jan 2006 09:55:31 -0500, Harlan Messinger <hmessinger.removethis@xxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in <news:449c34F11r9uU1@xxxxxxxxxxxx> in sci.lang:

[...]

> I can tell now that even within one person's speech /a/  
> comes out two different ways depending on what precedes it--that after  
> /q/, for instances, it's [a], while after /k/ it's closer to [A]? (Is  
> [A] the symbol used for French "quatre" [kAtr]?)

No; [A] is low, back, unrounded, the vowel that dictionaries assign to <pas>. Dictionaries will tell you that <quatre> has [a], though it seems to me that I've often heard a vowel that's displaced a bit towards [æ] (low ASCII [&]), the 'cat' vowel.

[...]

Brian  
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