# Arabic: Low Beginner

**Vowels (n = 91)**

| Phonemic Contrast | Example | % Correct | Functional Load | # of Items |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| /i/ - /ɪ/ | beet / bit | 85% | 95% | 4 |
| /ɪ/ - /ɛ/ | bit / bet | 48% | 54% | 4 |
| /ɛ/ - /e/ | bet / bait | 73% | 53% | 4 |
| /ɛ/ - /æ/ | bet / bat | 59% | 51% | 4 |
| /æ/ - /ɑ/ | cat / cot | 82% | 76% | 4 |
| /ɑ/ - /ɑr/ | cot / cart | 75% | 31.5% | 4 |
| /ɑ/ - /ə/ | cot / cut | 59% | 65% | 4 |
| /ɑ/ - /ow/ | cot / coat | 62% | --- | 4 |
| /ə/ - /ɚ/ | cut / curt | 89% | 40% | 2 |
| /ə/ - /ʊ/ | putt / put | 78% | 9% | 2 |
| /ʊ/ - /uw/ | pull / pool | 65% | 7% | 2 |

Functional Load Source: Catford, 1987, pp. 89-90. The "cot / coat" contrast was included because of its existence in Pronunciation Matters (Henrichsen, Green, Nishitani & Bagley, 1999) even though no functional load information was available.

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