

بَيِّنَات BAYYINAH

Unit 3B: IRREGULARITIES

This unit is dedicated to the study of a number of issues in صرف that weren't already covered in Unit 2.

3A OBJECTIVES:

1. A systematic breakdown of irregularities in conjugation depending on where the vowel occurs.

WHAT IS AN IRREGULARITY IN CONJUGATION?

Whenever an ا, و, or ي is involved in the root letters, the conjugation is considered irregular. Another scenario for irregular conjugations occurs when two of the root letters are the same. Irregularities are categorized based on the position of the irregular letter. The following basic breakdown will give you an overview of the different irregularity scenarios:

- a. أَجْوَف: When the ع letter is a vowel.
- b. مُضَاعَف: When the ع and ل letters are the same.
- c. مِثَال: When the ف letter is a vowel
- d. نَائِص: When the ل letter is a vowel

There are in fact two other scenarios that are discussed by grammarians. They will be the subject of a supplemental study which in my opinion should not be given too much emphasis because of the instances being relatively less common.

نَصَرَ is clearly three syllables. نَاب is actually based on the letters ت و ب but instead of the past tense being pronounced تَوَّب, it is pronounced نَاب. Three letters in Arabic are considered vowels: ا, و, and ي. If any of these three are part of the base letter, there are complications in the conjugation. To make this complex system simple to understand, bear in mind two main concepts:

- a. The ا, و, and ي are interchangeable depending on what will sound the smoothest. Just because you see an ا in the past tense, it is no guarantee that there is an ا in the original root letters. It may be substituting for a و or a ي.

- b. The **ا** is associated with a فتحة , the **و** is associated with a ضمة and the **ي** is associated with the كسرة . We will understand what this means in practical terms when we conjugate irregular cases.

VOWEL IN THE MIDDLE; أَجُوف :

The examples of أَجُوف are found in vocab2.pdf on page 2 under the sub heading (22) beginning with قَالَ

ACTIVE PAST الماضي			PAST PASSIVE الماضي للمجهول		
قَالُوا	قالا	قَالَ	قِيلُوا	قِيلا	قِيلَ
قُلْنَ	قالتا	قَالَتْ	قُلْنَ	قِيلَتَا	قِيلَتْ
قُلْتُمْ	قُلْتُمَا	قُلْتِ	قُلْتُمْ	قُلْتُمَا	قُلْتِ
قُلْتُنَّ	قُلْتُمَا	قُلْتِ	قُلْتُنَّ	قُلْتُمَا	قُلْتِ
	قُلْنَا	قُلْتِ		قُلْنَا	قُلْتِ

The gray cells represent conjugations that actually don't make sense for قَالَ but might make sense for other أَجُوف conjugations. The passive doesn't make sense in certain numbers and persons even if it does in one of them. For instance, the first word قِيلَ means *it was said* the قُلْتِ in the passive means *I was said* which, of course, doesn't make any sense.

The 'u' in قُلْنَ came from the **و** in the root. In other words, the reason we don't say قُلْنَ or قُلْنَ but say قُلْنَ instead because the root letters are **ق** , **و** , **ل** and the **و** is associated with the ضمة . (see comment 'b' above).

Once you figure out how to conjugate the هُرْنَ (those women) version which is قُلْنَ, the rest retains the قُلْ and adds a ت , تُنَّ , تُنَّ , تُنَّ , تُنَّ and نا at the ends.

ACTIVE PRESENT المَصَارِع			PRESENT PASSIVE المَصَارِع للمجهول		
يَقُولُونَ	يَقُولَانِ	يَقُولُ	يُقَالُونَ	يُقَالَانِ	يُقَالُ
يَقُلْنَ	تَقُولَانِ	تَقُولُ	يُقَلْنَ	تُقَالَانِ	تُقَالُ
تَقُولُونَ	تَقُولَانِ	تَقُولُ	تُقَالُونَ	تُقَالَانِ	تُقَالُ
تَقُلْنَ	تَقُولَانِ	تَقُولِينَ	تَقُلْنَ	تُقَالَانِ	قُلْتِ
	نَقُولُ	أَقُولُ		نُقَالُ	أُقَالُ

The passive present is 'u' followed by 'a'. يَقُولُ has a long 'oo' so it's only fair that it be replaced in passive form with a long 'aa'. The feminine plural would have been يُقَالَنَّ but that isn't allowed because a long sound and سُكُون can't coexist in the middle of an Arabic word. Therefore, the l is sacrificed leaving behind يَقُلْنَ in active and يُقَلْنَ in passive.

SUBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم الفاعل			OBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم المفعول		
قَائِلُونَ	قَائِلَانِ	قَائِلٌ	مَقُولُونَ	مَقُولَانِ	مَقُولٌ
قَائِلِينَ	قَائِلِينَ	قَائِلًا	مَقُولِينَ	مَقُولِينَ	مَقُولًا
قَائِلِينَ	قَائِلِينَ	قَائِلٍ	مَقُولِينَ	مَقُولِينَ	مَقُولٍ
قَائِلَاتُ	قَائِلَتَانِ	قَائِلَةٌ	مَقُولَاتُ	مَقُولَتَانِ	مَقُولَةٌ
قَائِلَاتٍ	قَائِلَتَيْنِ	قَائِلَةً	مَقُولَاتٍ	مَقُولَتَيْنِ	مَقُولَةً
قَائِلَاتٍ	قَائِلَتَيْنِ	قَائِلَةً	مَقُولَاتٍ	مَقُولَتَيْنِ	مَقُولَةً

Instead of the middle letter و being used in قَائِلٌ, it is always replaced with a همزة as قَائِلٌ. The و in مَقُولٌ is there because the middle root letter is a و. Had it been a ي, the اسم مفعول would have been with a باع for example yields the اسم فاعل , بائع and the اسم مفعول , مبيع. The gray indicates the usage

that doesn't make any sense under any circumstance. The rest might exist as they are all possibly used for non-humans.

الأمْر COMMANDING			النَّهْي FORBIDDING		
قُولُوا	قُولَا	قُلْ	لَا تَقُولُوا	لَا تَقُولَا	لَا تَقُلْ
قُلْنَ	قُولَا	قُولِي	لَا تَقُلْنَ	لَا تَقُولَا	لَا تَقُولِي

مُضَاعَف; ع AND ل POSITIONS:

The examples of مُضَاعَف are found in vocab2.pdf on page 2 under the sub heading (20) beginning with حَيَّ .

الماضي ACTIVE PAST			الماضي للمجهول PAST PASSIVE		
عَدُّوا	عَدَّا	عَدَّ	عُدُّوا	عُدَّا	عُدَّ
عَدَدْنَ	عَدَّتَا	عَدَّتْ	عُدِدْنَ	عُدَّتَا	عُدَّتْ
عَدَدْتُمْ	عَدَدْتُمَا	عَدَدْتُمْ	عُدِدْتُمْ	عُدِدْتُمَا	عُدِدْتُمْ
عَدَدْتُنَّ	عَدَدْتُمَا	عَدَدْتِ	عُدِدْتُنَّ	عُدِدْتُمَا	عُدِدْتِ
	عَدَدْنَا	عَدَدْتُمْ		عُدِدْنَا	عُدِدْتُمْ

The original was meant to be عَدَدَّ but was fused in most cases to form عَدَّ. When we reach هُنَّ, the سُكُون is necessary before the addition of نَ. It would be impossible to have شَدَّ and سُكُون on the same letter, so at that point in the conjugation and from then on, the two letters were separated. Keep in mind that an irregular conjugation of three letters still belongs to one of the six families identified in 3A. The word عَدَّ happens to be from the نَصَرَ family, which is why the present tense is يَعُدُّ, not يَعْدُ or يَعِدُّ. On the other hand, the word ضَلَّ is from the ضَرَبَ family, which is why the present tense is يَضِلُّ, not يَصَلُّ or يَضَلُّ.

ACTIVE PRESENT المَصَارِع			PRESENT PASSIVE المَصَارِع للمجهول		
يَعُدُّونَ	يُعَدِّانِ	يُعَدُّ	يُعَدُّونَ	يُعَدِّانِ	يُعَدُّ
يَعُدُّونَ	تُعَدِّانِ	تُعَدُّ	يُعَدَّدُونَ	تُعَدِّانِ	تُعَدُّ
تُعَدُّونَ	تُعَدِّانِ	تُعَدُّ	تُعَدُّونَ	تُعَدِّانِ	تُعَدُّ
تُعَدَّدُونَ	تُعَدِّانِ	تُعَدِّينَ	تُعَدَّدُونَ	تُعَدِّانِ	تُعَدِّينَ
	نُعَدُّ	أُعَدُّ		نُعَدُّ	أُعَدُّ

The only instance in the above conjugations that shows the irregularity come to life is the feminine plurals.

SUBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم الفاعل			OBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم المفعول		
عَادُونَ	عَادَانِ	عَادٌ	مَعْدُودُونَ	مَعْدُودَانِ	مَعْدُودٌ
عَادِيْنَ	عَادِيْنَ	عَادًا	مَعْدُودِيْنَ	مَعْدُودِيْنَ	مَعْدُودًا
عَادِيْنَ	عَادِيْنَ	عَادٍ	مَعْدُودِيْنَ	مَعْدُودِيْنَ	مَعْدُودٍ
عَادَاتُ	عَادَاتَانِ	عَادَةٌ	مَعْدُودَاتُ	مَعْدُودَاتَانِ	مَعْدُودَةٌ
عَادَاتِ	عَادَاتِيْنَ	عَادَةٌ	مَعْدُودَاتِ	مَعْدُودَاتِيْنَ	مَعْدُودَةٌ
عَادَاتِ	عَادَاتِيْنَ	عَادَةٌ	مَعْدُودَاتِ	مَعْدُودَاتِيْنَ	مَعْدُودَةٌ

COMMANDING الأَمْر			FORBIDDING النَّهْي		
عُدُّوا	عُدَّا	عُدَّ	لَا تَعُدُّوا	لَا تَعُدَّا	لَا تَعُدَّ
أَعُدُّنَ	عُدَّا	عُدِّي	لَا تَعُدُّنَ	لَا تَعُدَّا	لَا تَعُدِّي

THE ڤ LETTER IS A VOWEL: مثال

The examples of مثال are found in vocab2.pdf on page 2 under the sub heading (21) beginning with وَذَرَّ

ACTIVE PAST الماضي			PAST PASSIVE الماضي للمجهول		
وَعَدُوا	وَعَدَا	وَعَدَ	وُعِدُوا	وُعِدَا	وُعِدَ
وَعَدْنَ	وَعَدَتَا	وَعَدَتِ	وُعِدْنَ	وُعِدَتَا	وُعِدَتِ
وَعَدْتُمْ	وَعَدْتُمَا	وَعَدْتِ	وُعِدْتُمْ	وُعِدْتُمَا	وُعِدْتِ
وَعَدْتُنَّ	وَعَدْتُمَا	وَعَدْتِ	وُعِدْتُنَّ	وُعِدْتُمَا	وُعِدْتِ
	وَعَدْنَا	وَعَدْتُ		وُعِدْنَا	وُعِدْتُ

In the present tense active, the vowel و will be omitted. Not so in the passive.

ACTIVE PRESENT المضارع			PRESENT PASSIVE المضارع للمجهول		
يَعِدُونَ	يَعِدَانِ	يَعِدُ	يُوعَدُونَ	يُوعَدَانِ	يُوعَدُ
يَعِدْنَ	تَعِدَانِ	تَعِدُ	يُوعَدْنَ	تُوعَدَانِ	تُوعَدُ
تَعِدُونَ	تَعِدَانِ	تَعِدُ	تُوعَدُونَ	تُوعَدَانِ	تُوعَدُ
تَعِدْنَ	تَعِدَانِ	تَعِدِينَ	تُوعَدْنَ	تُوعَدَانِ	تُوعَدِينَ
	نَعِدُ	أَعِدُ		نُوعَدُ	أُوعَدُ

The only instance in the above conjugations that shows the irregularity come to life is the feminine plurals.

SUBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم الفاعل			OBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم المفعول		
وَاعِدُونَ	وَاعِدَانِ	وَاعِدُ	مَوْعُودُونَ	مَوْعُودَانِ	مَوْعُودُ

مَوْعُودًا	مَوْعُودَيْنِ	مَوْعُودَيْنِ	وَأَعِدَّا	وَأَعِدَيْنِ	وَأَعِدَيْنِ
مَوْعُودٍ	مَوْعُودَيْنِ	مَوْعُودَيْنِ	وَأَعِدْ	وَأَعِدَيْنِ	وَأَعِدَيْنِ
مَوْعُودَةٌ	مَوْعُودَتَانِ	مَوْعُودَاتُ	وَأَعِدَّةٌ	وَأَعِدَّتَانِ	وَأَعِدَاتُ
مَوْعُودَةٌ	مَوْعُودَتَيْنِ	مَوْعُودَاتِ	وَأَعِدَّةٌ	وَأَعِدَّتَيْنِ	وَأَعِدَاتِ
مَوْعُودَةٍ	مَوْعُودَتَيْنِ	مَوْعُودَاتِ	وَأَعِدَّةٌ	وَأَعِدَّتَيْنِ	وَأَعِدَاتِ

الأمْرُ COMMANDING			التَّهْيِى FORBIDDING		
عَدُوا	عِدَا	عِدْ	لَا تَعِدُوا	لَا تَعِدَا	لَا تَعِدْ
عِدْنَ	عِدَا	عِدِيْ	لَا تَعِدْنَ	لَا تَعِدَا	لَا تَعِدِيْ

WHEN THE ل LETTER IS A VOWEL; ناقص: :

The examples of ناقص are found in vocab2.pdf on page 3 under the sub heading (23) beginning with لا

الماضِي ACTIVE PAST			الماضِي للمجهول PAST PASSIVE		
هَدُوا	هَدِيَا	هَدَى	هُدُوا	هُدِيَا	هُدِيْ
هَدَيْنَ	هَدَتَا	هَدَتْ	هُدَيْنَ	هُدَيْتَا	هُدِيَتْ
هَدَيْتُمْ	هَدَيْتُمَا	هَدَيْتَ	هُدَيْتُمْ	هُدَيْتُمَا	هُدِيْتِ
هَدَيْتُنَّ	هَدَيْتُمَا	هَدَيْتُمَا	هُدَيْتُمَا	هُدِيْتِ	هُدِيْتِ
	هَدَيْنَا	هَدَيْتُمْ		هُدَيْنَا	هُدِيْتِ

The real ل letter is ي, but instead of reading هَدِيْ , the Arabs read هَدَى (refer to point a). The ي comes back in the pair but becomes a fixture from هُنَّ and onwards (هَدَيْنَ).

ACTIVE PRESENT المَصَارِع			PRESENT PASSIVE المَصَارِع للمجهول		
يَهْدُونَ	يَهْدِيَانِ	يَهْدِي	يُهْدَوْنَ	يُهْدَيَانِ	يُهْدَى
يَهْدِينِ	تَهْدِيَانِ	تَهْدِي	يُهْدَيْنِ	تُهْدَيَانِ	تُهْدَى
تَهْدُونَ	تَهْدِيَانِ	تَهْدِي	تُهْدَوْنَ	تُهْدَيَانِ	تُهْدَى
تَهْدِينِ	تَهْدِيَانِ	تَهْدَيْنِ	تُهْدَيْنِ	تُهْدَيَانِ	تُهْدَيْنِ
	نَهْدِي	أَهْدِي		نُهْدَى	أُهْدَى

The only instance in the above conjugations that shows the irregularity come to life is the feminine plurals.

SUBJECTIVE NOUN الاسم الفاعل			OBJECTIE NOUN الاسم المفعول		
هَادُونَ	هَادِيَانِ	هَادٍ	مَهْدِيُونَ	مَهْدِيَانِ	مَهْدِيٌّ
هَادِينِ	هَادِيَيْنِ	هَادٍ	مَهْدِيَيْنِ	مَهْدِيَيْنِ	مَهْدِيًّا
هَادِينَ	هَادِيَيْنِ	هَادٍ	مَهْدِيَيْنِ	مَهْدِيَيْنِ	مَهْدِيٍّ
هَادِيَاتُ	هَادِيَتَانِ	هَادِيَةٌ	مَهْدِيَاتُ	مَهْدِيَتَانِ	مَهْدِيَّةٌ
هَادِيَاتٍ	هَادِيَتَيْنِ	هَادِيَةٌ	مَهْدِيَاتٍ	مَهْدِيَتَيْنِ	مَهْدِيَّةً
هَادِيَاتٍ	هَادِيَتَيْنِ	هَادِيَةٌ	مَهْدِيَاتٍ	مَهْدِيَتَيْنِ	مَهْدِيَّةً

COMMANDING الأمر			FORBIDDING النهي		
اهْدُوا	اهْدِيَا	اهْدِ	لا تَهْدُوا	لا تَهْدِيَا	لا تَهْدِ
اهْدِينِ	اهْدِيَا	اهْدِي	لا تَهْدِينِ	لا تَهْدِيَا	لا تَهْدِ