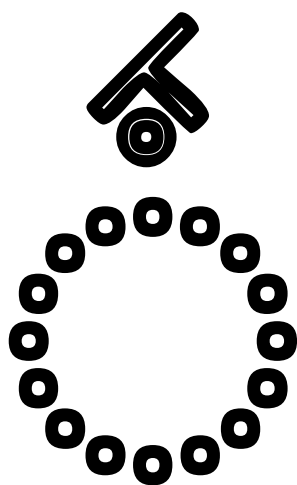


oo as in moon



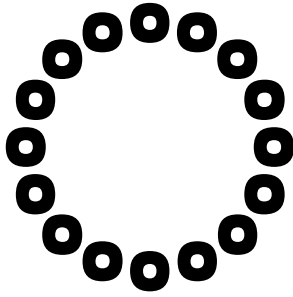
two dots above a word
indicate plural



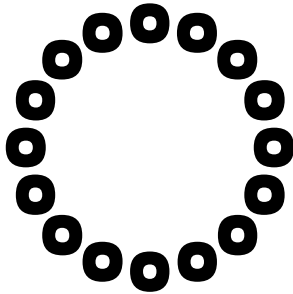
oo as in moon



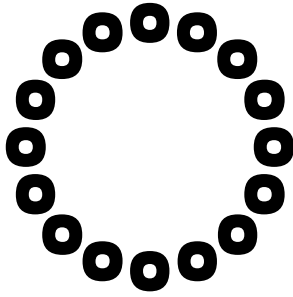
two dots above a word
indicate plural



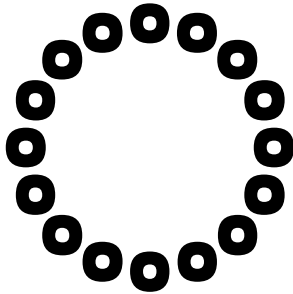
e (short) as in debt
ay (long) as in day



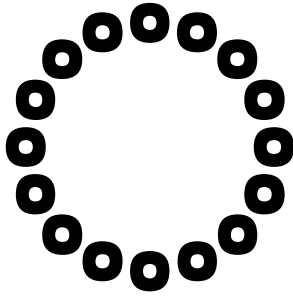
ee as in see



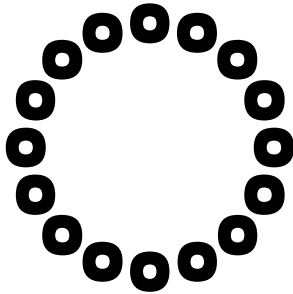
e (short) as in debt
ay (long) as in day



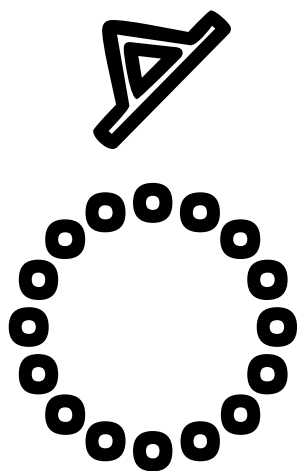
ee as in see



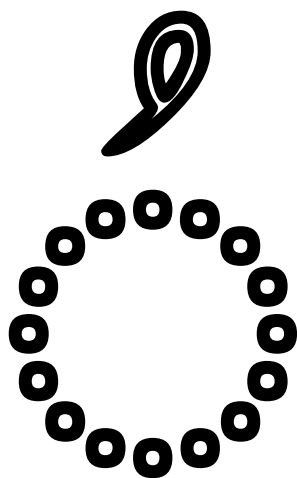
e (short) as in debt
ay (long) as in day



ee as in see

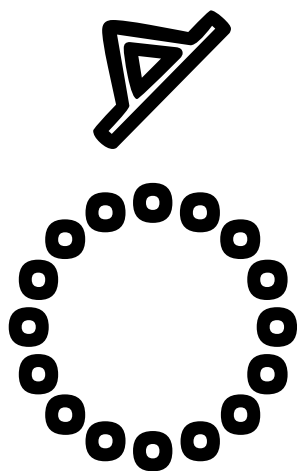


a as in pat

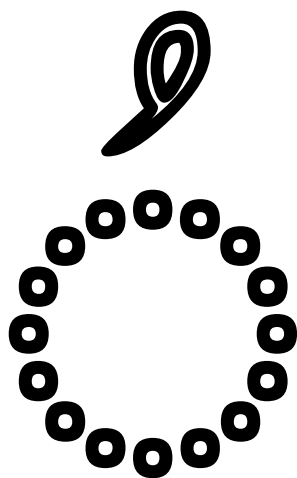


o as in bone

Note. Vowels are optional in writing. When written, they appear above (or below) letters. For example, a vowel *a* above (or below) the letter *b* gives the sound *ba*.

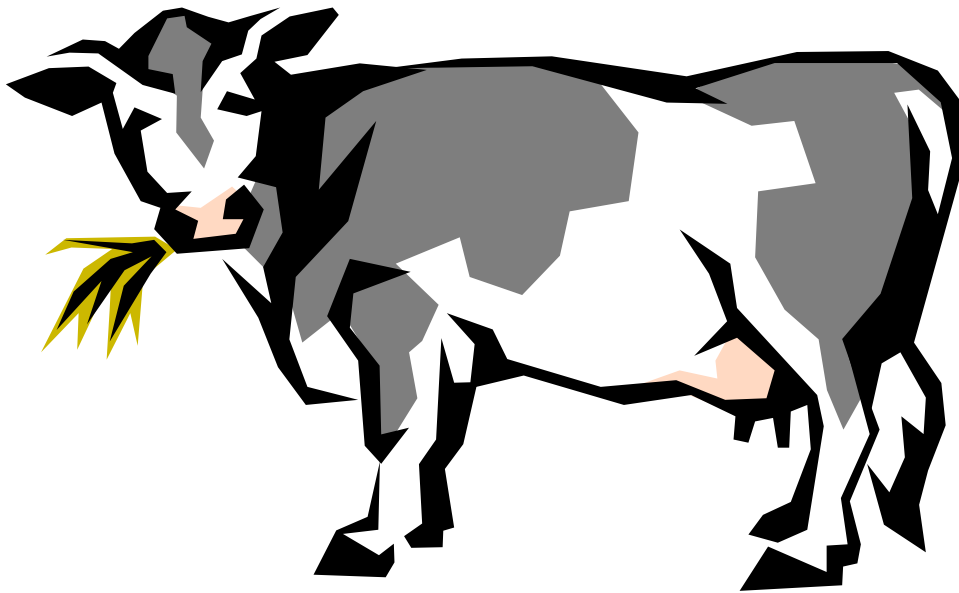


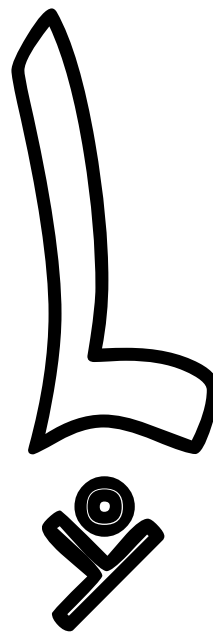
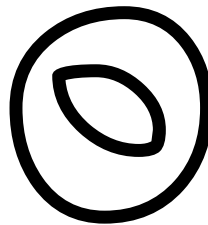
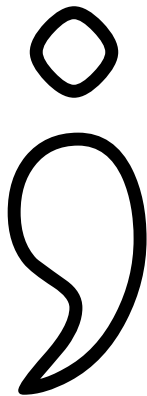
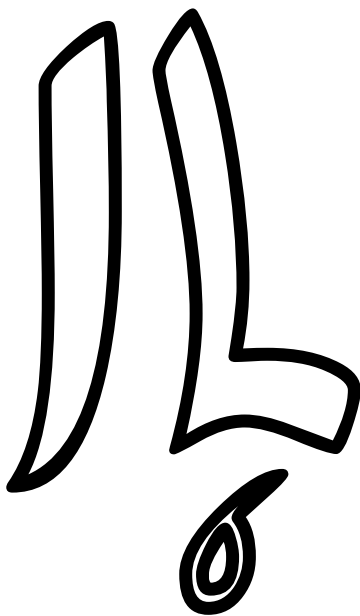
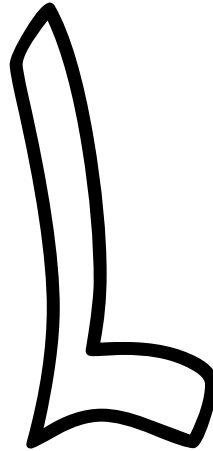
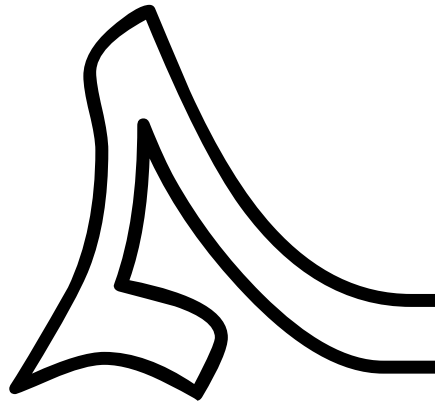
a as in pat



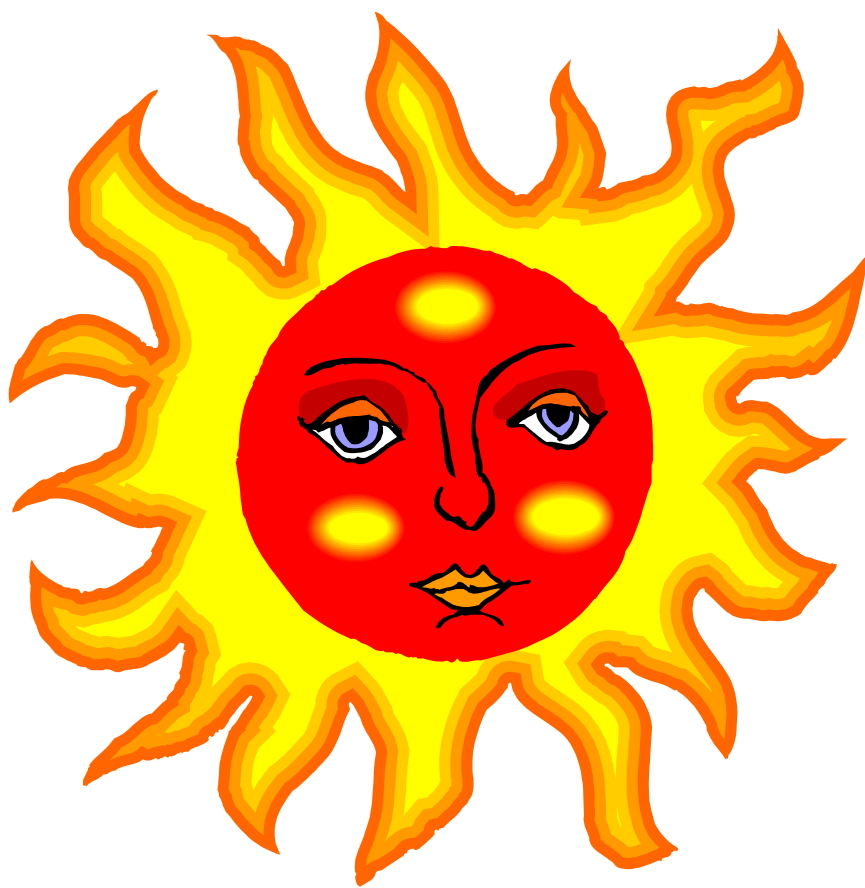
o as in bone

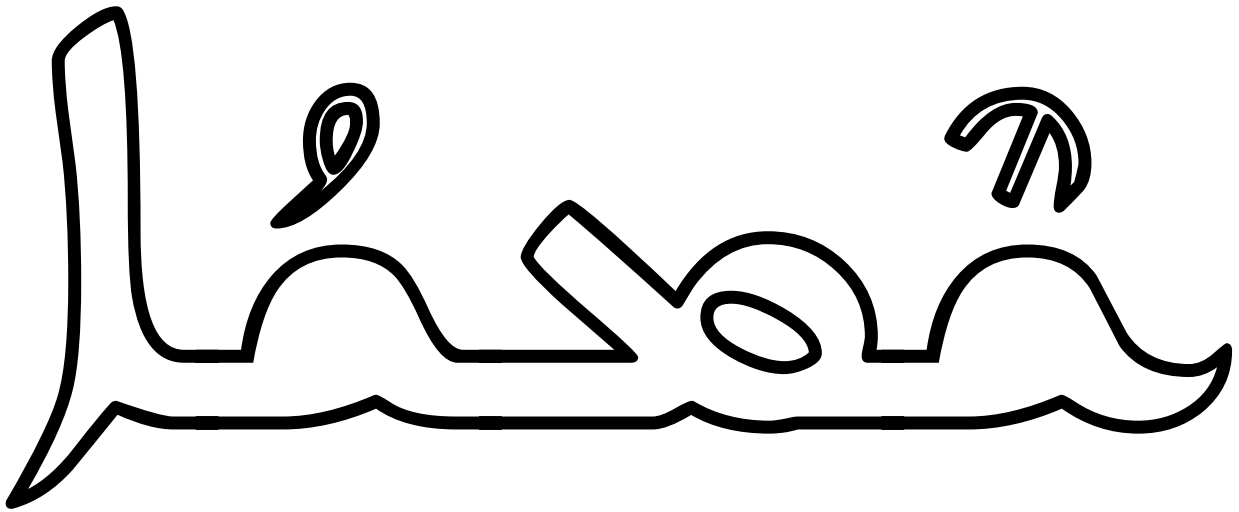
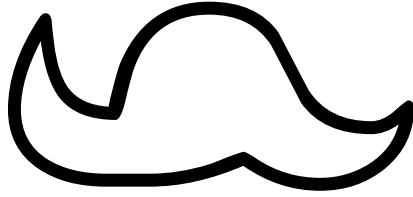
Note. Vowels are optional in writing. When written, they appear above (or below) letters. For example, a vowel *a* above (or below) the letter *b* gives the sound *ba*.





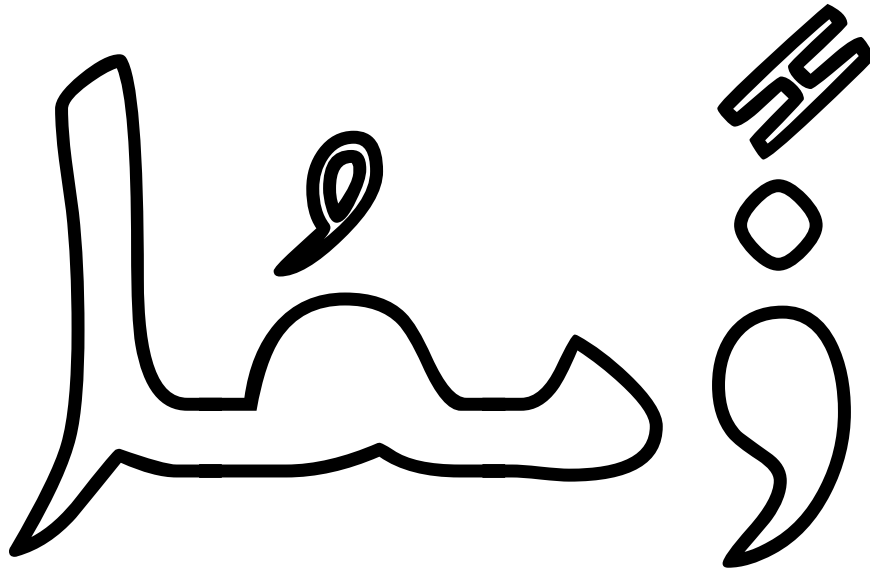
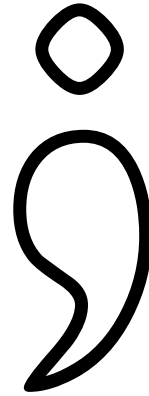
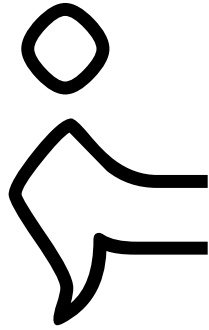
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Taw	t	tur-to	cow





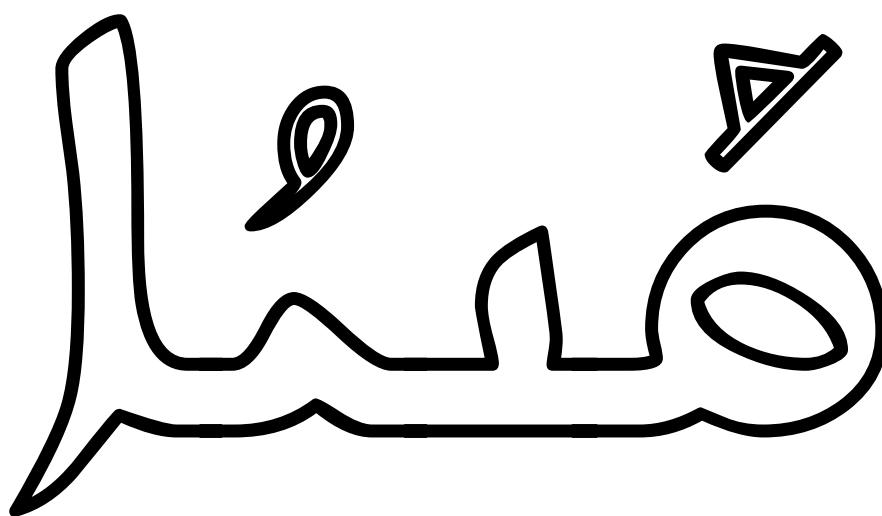
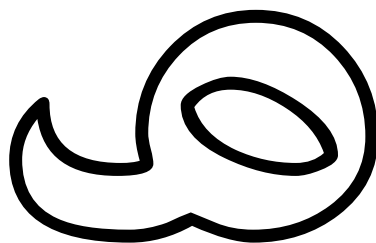
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Shin	sh (as in shoe)	shem-sho	sun



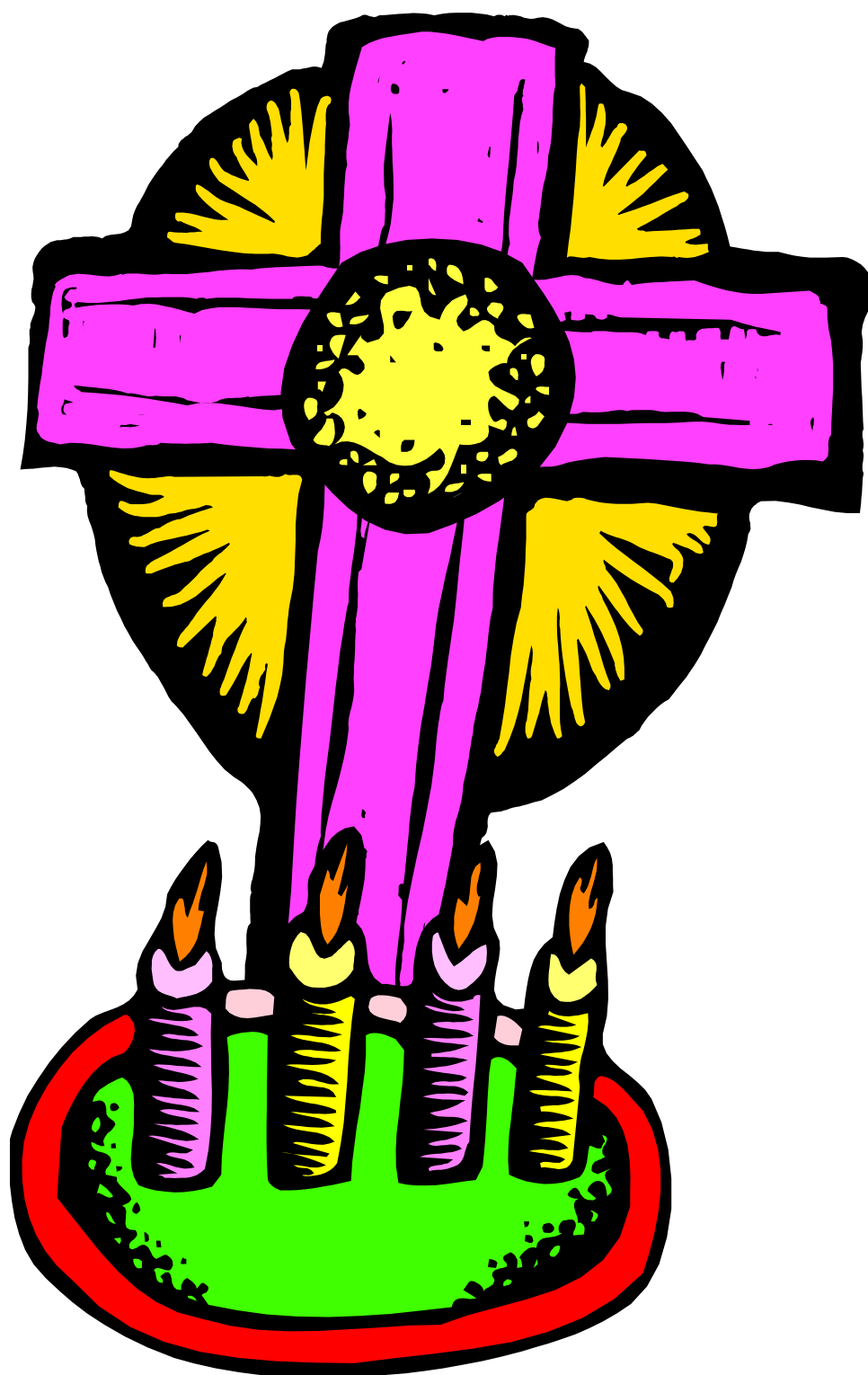


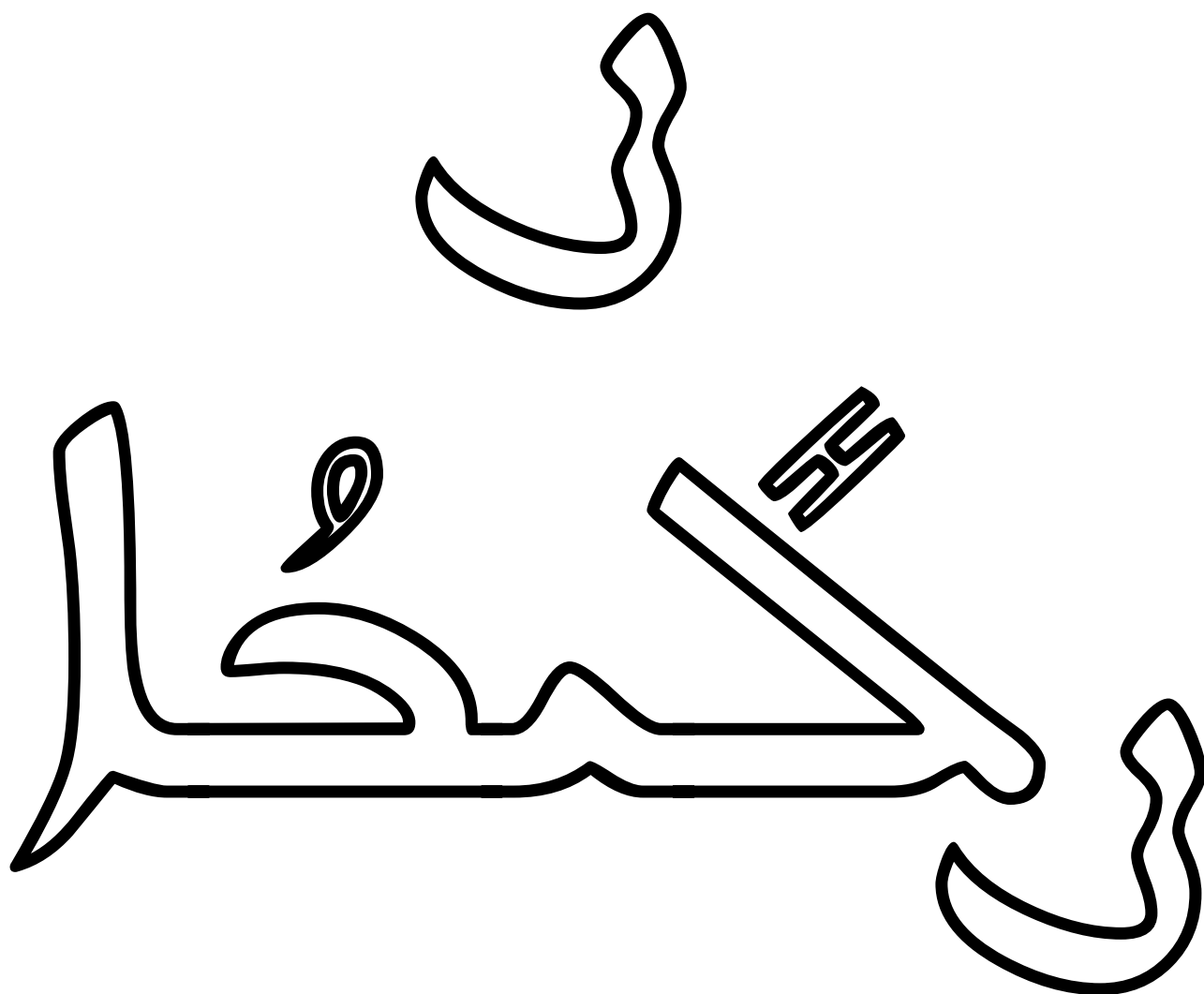
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Rish	r (rolling r)	ree-sho	head



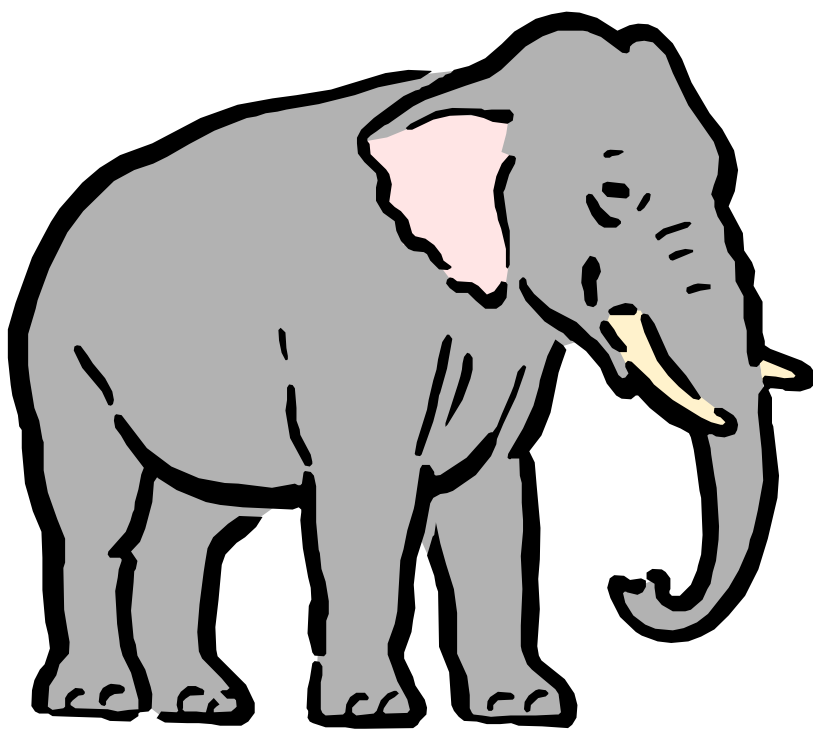


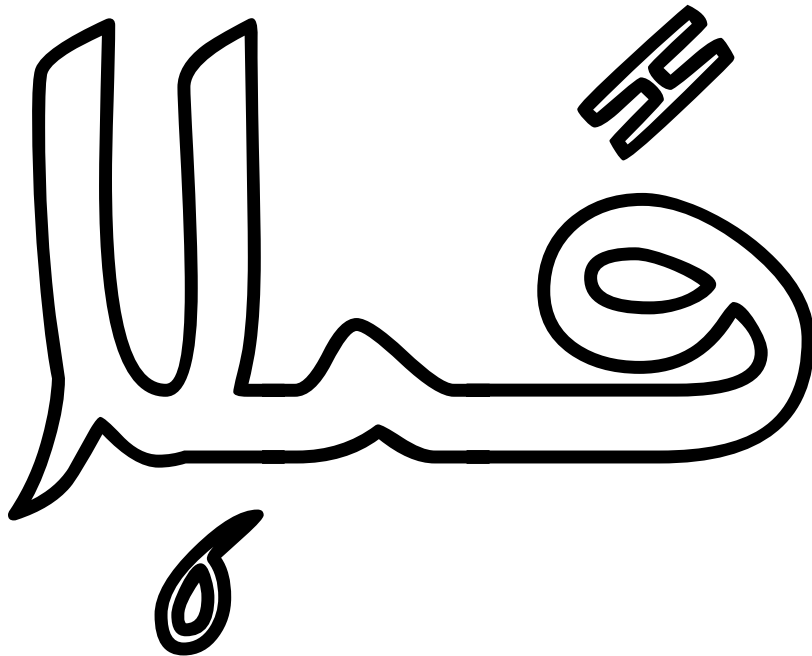
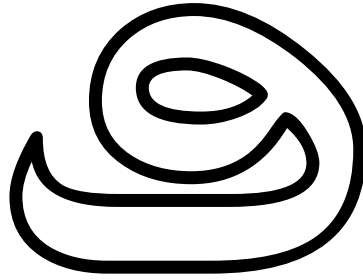
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Qoph	q (guttural)	qan-yo	pen



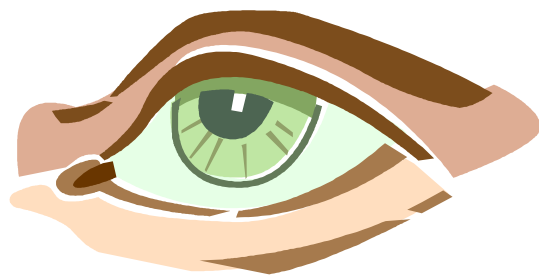
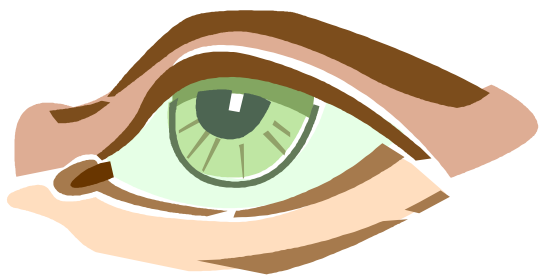


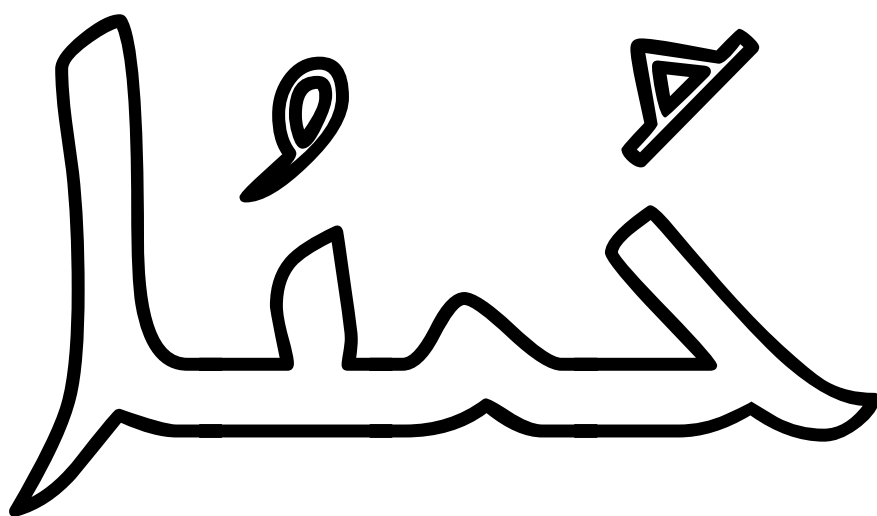
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Şodhe	ş (emphatic s)	ş-lee-bo	Cross





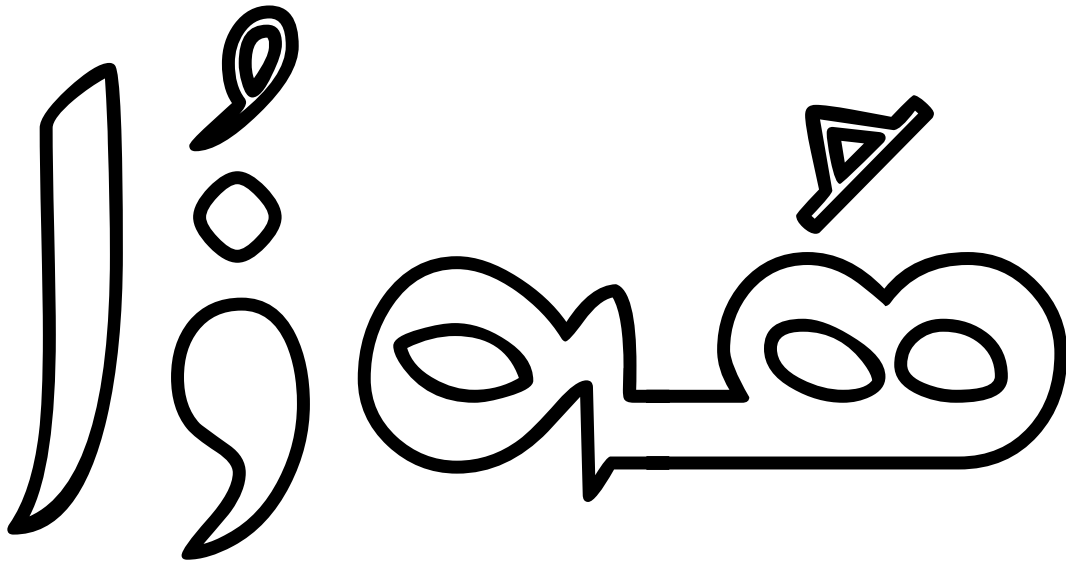
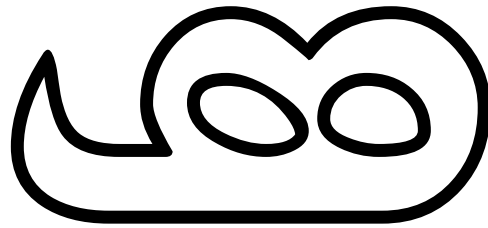
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Phe	ph (f)	phec-lo	elephant



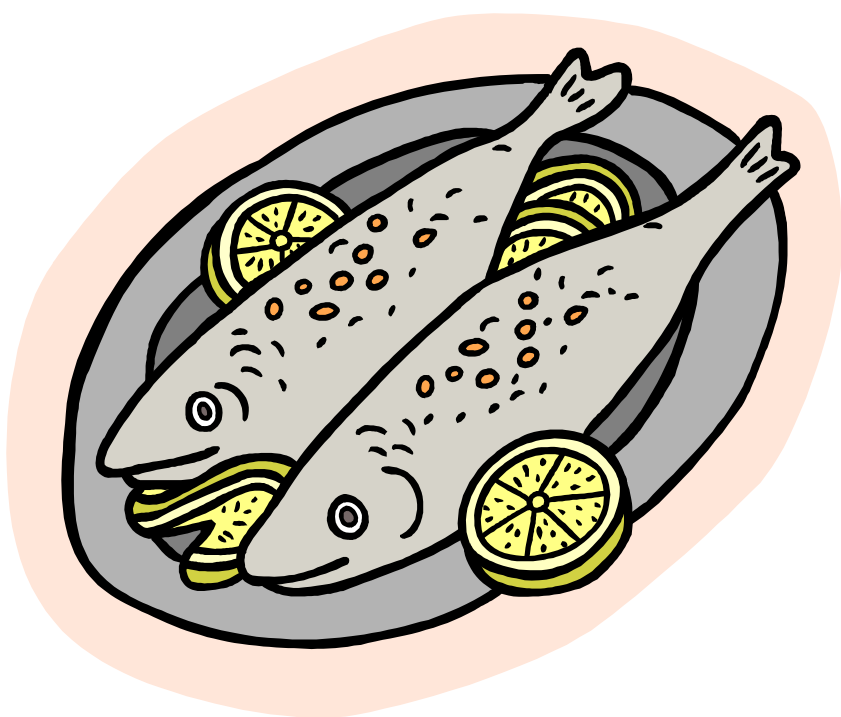


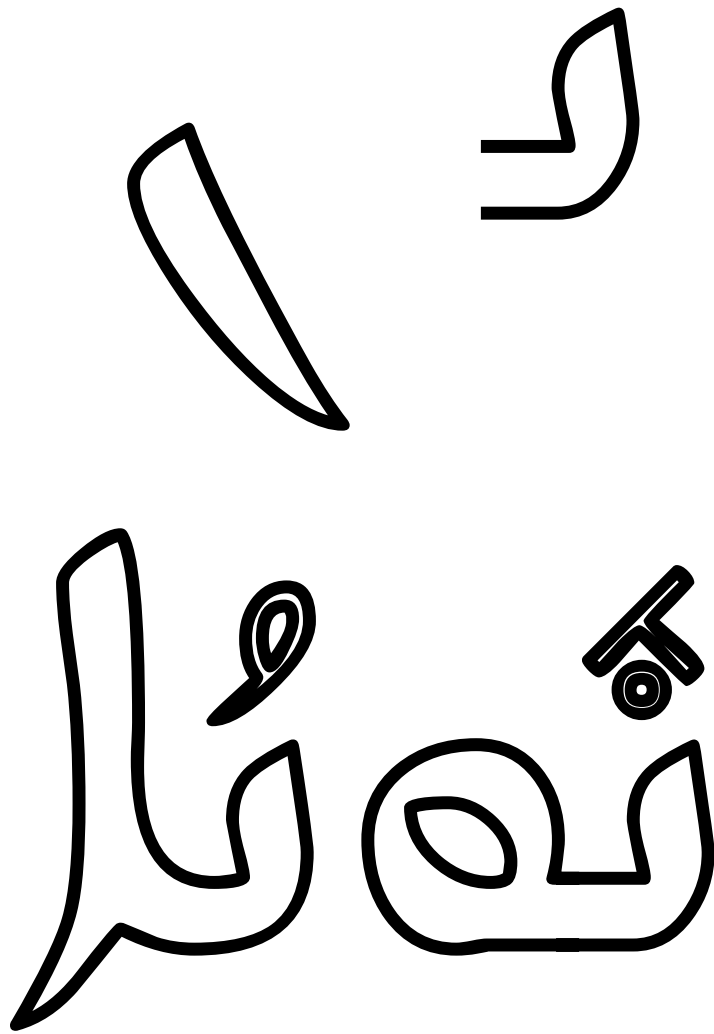
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
‘E	‘ (guttural)	‘ay-no	eye





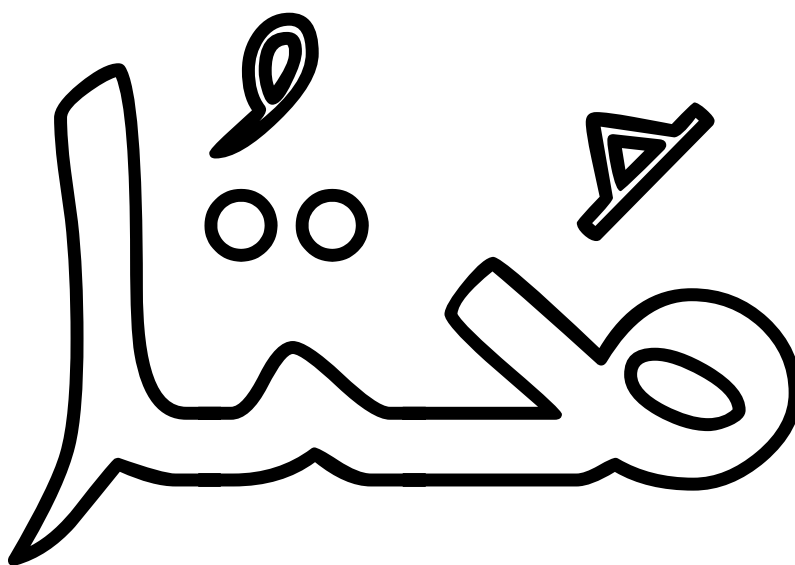
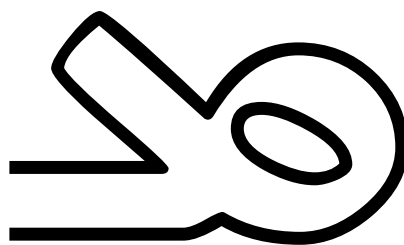
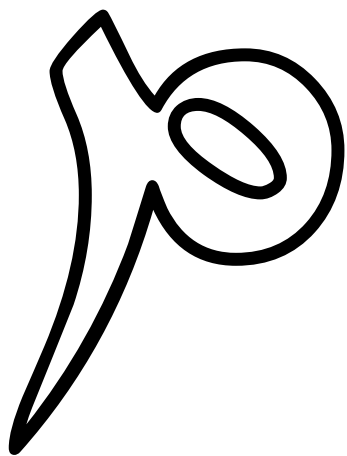
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Simkath	s	sah-ro	moon



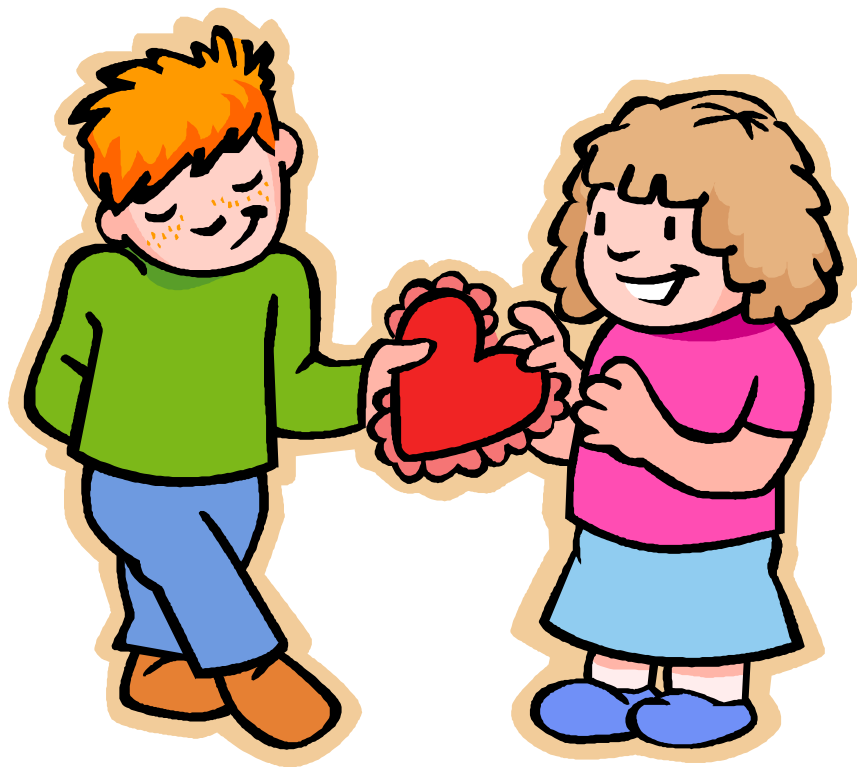


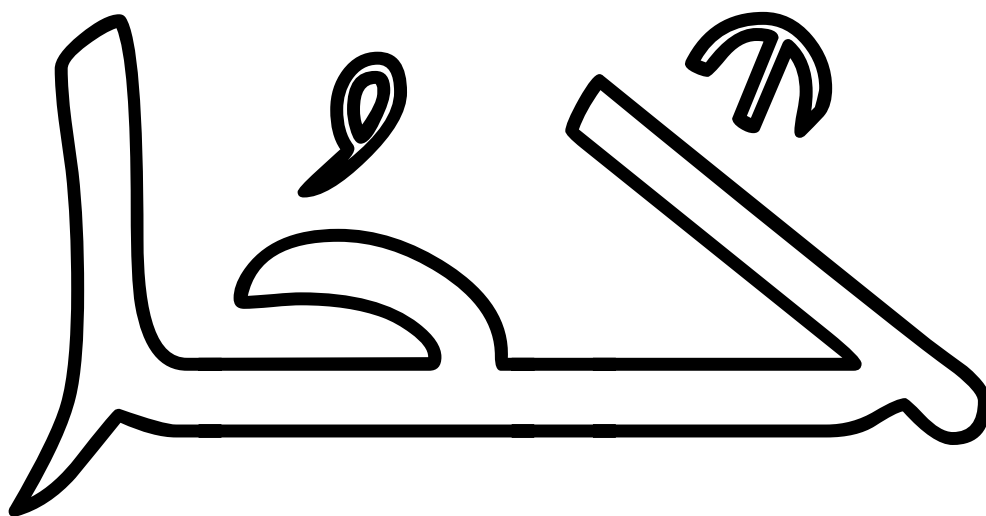
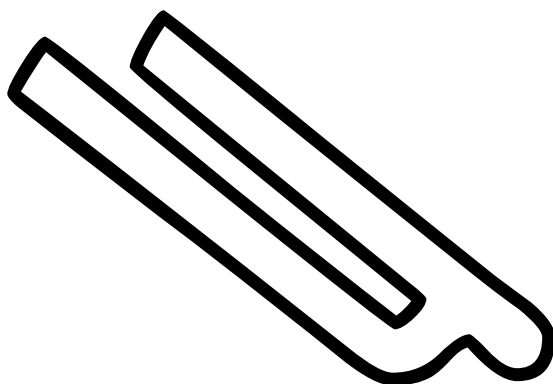
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Nun	n	noo-no	fish





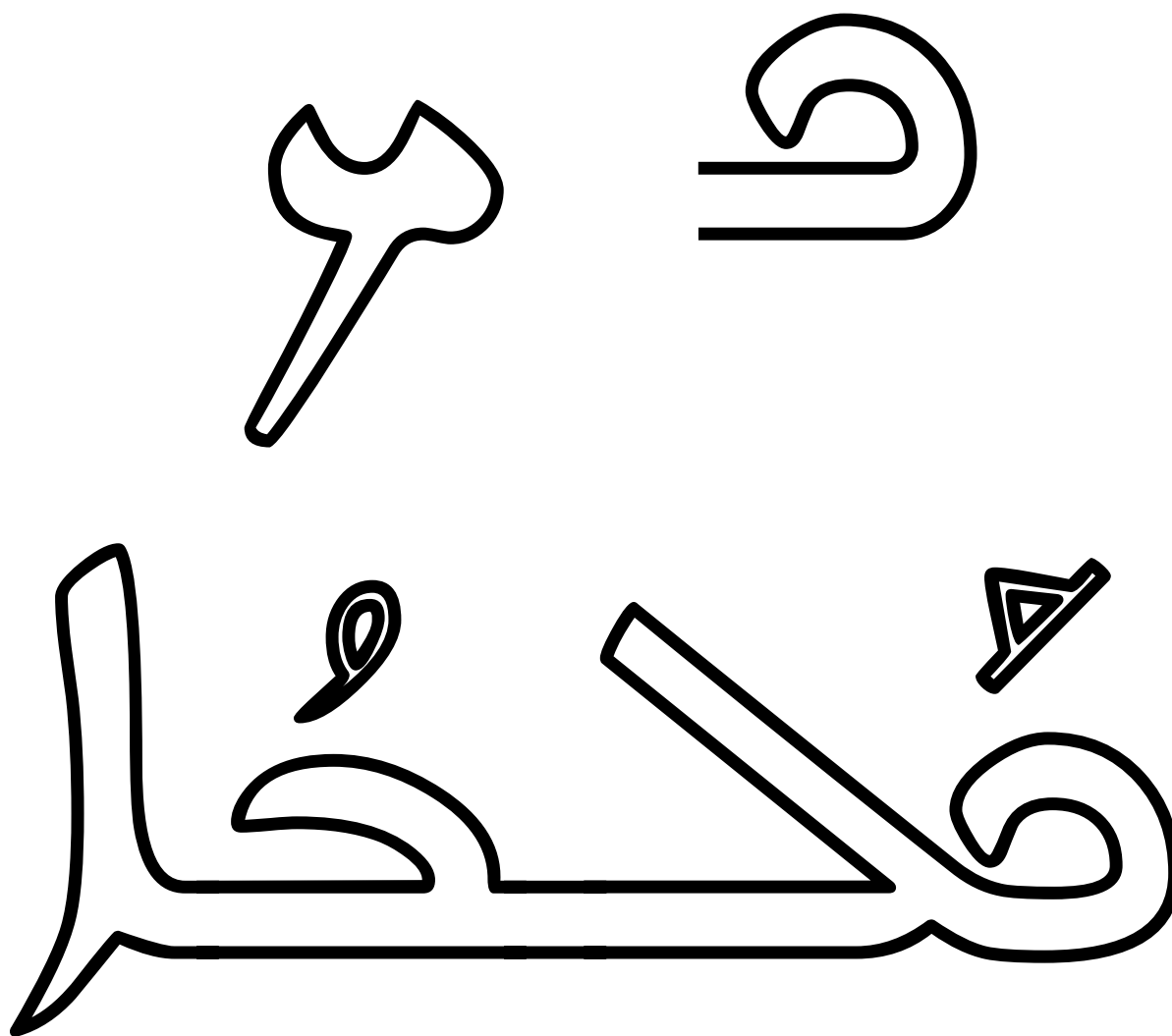
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Mim	m	ma-yo	water





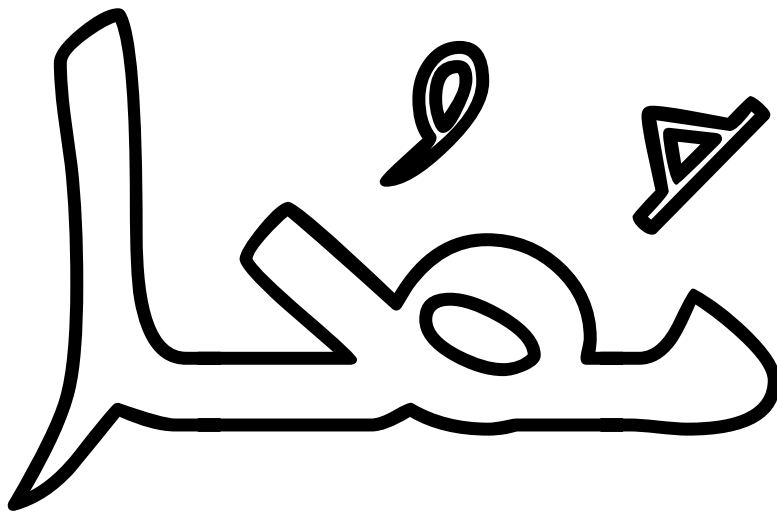
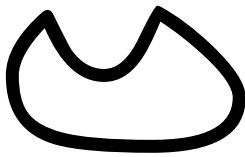
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Lomadh	l	lé-bo	heart



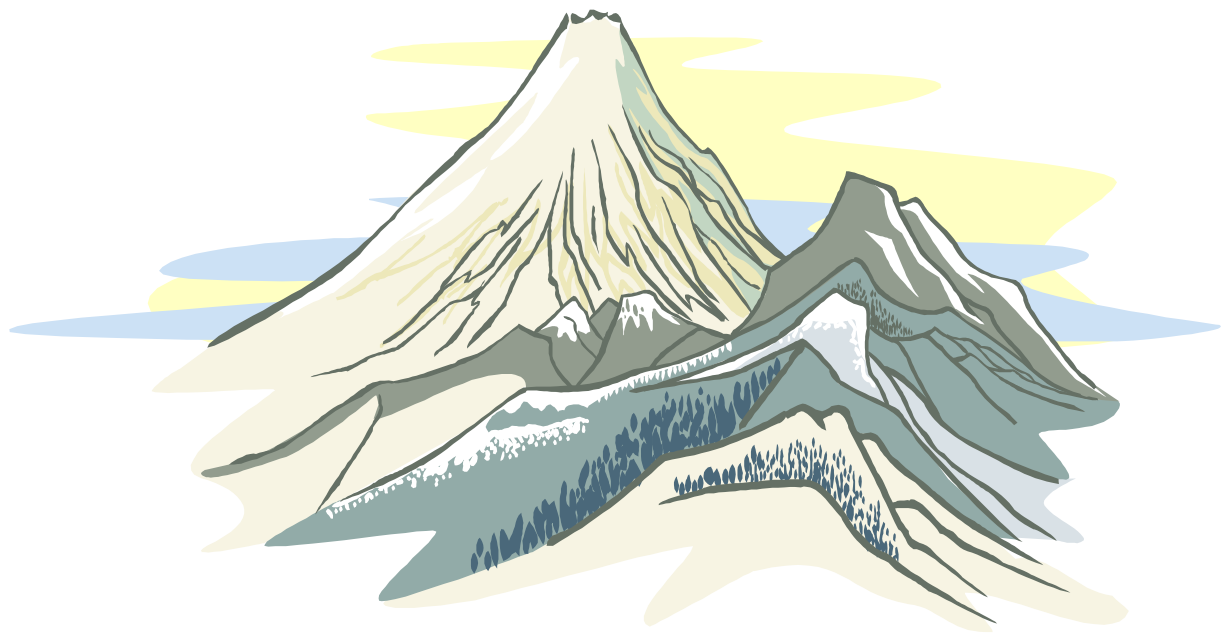


LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Koph	k	kal-bo	dog





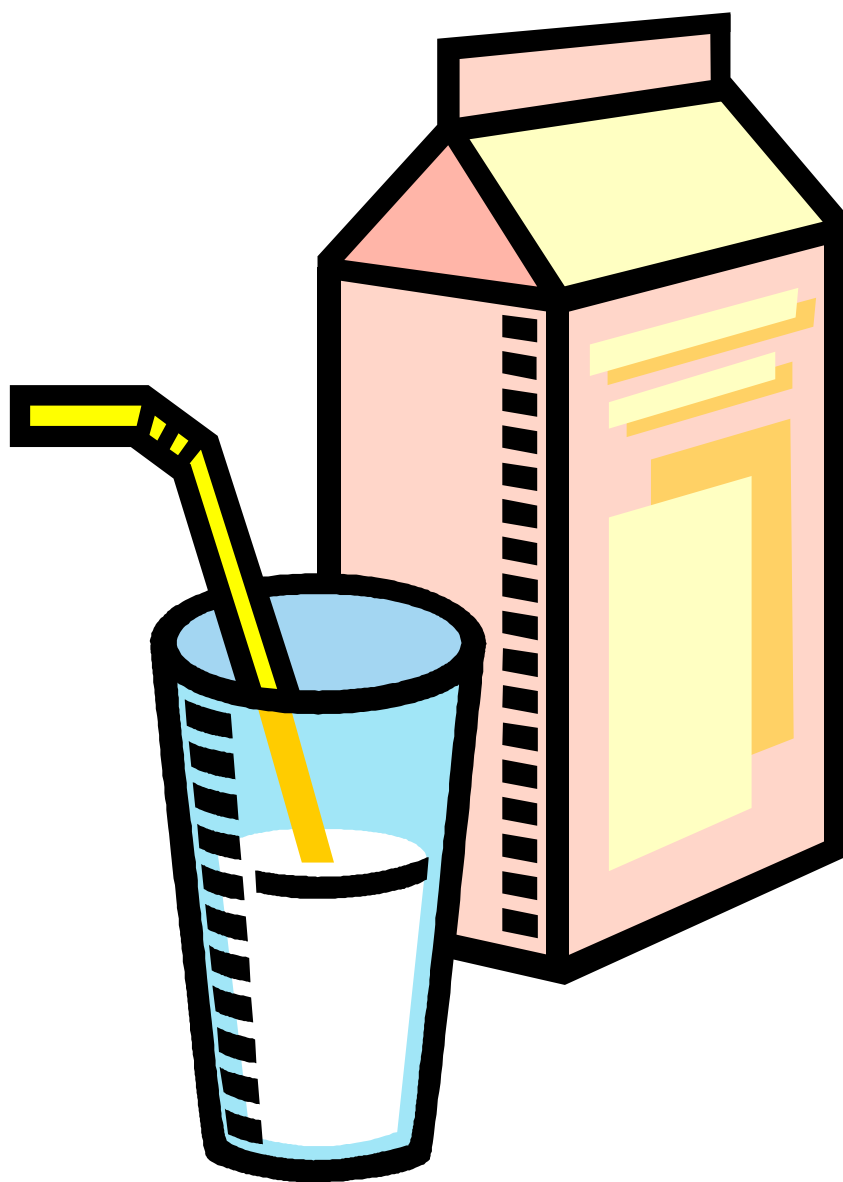
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Yudh	y	ya-mo	sea

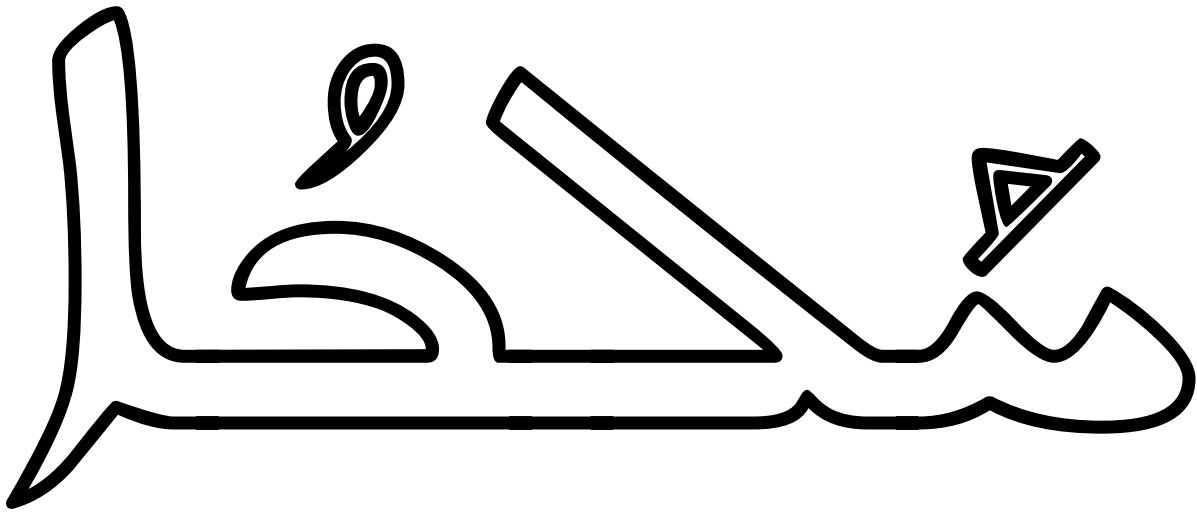
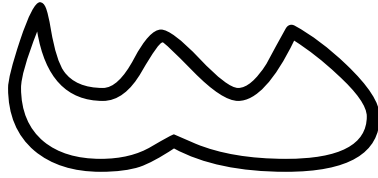


ت

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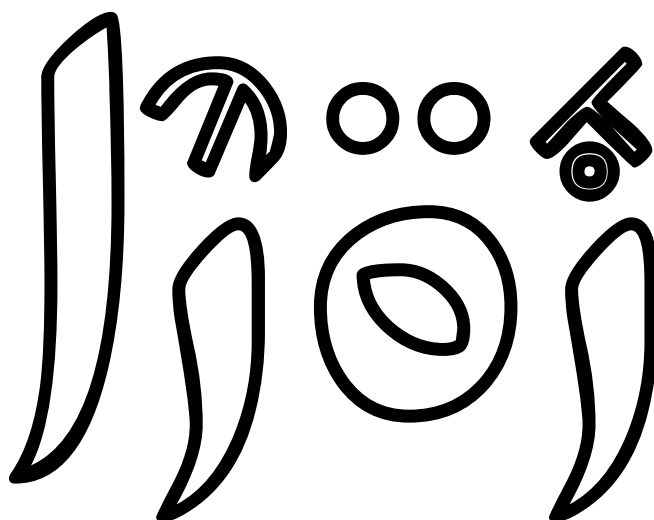
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
T	t (emphatic t)	too-ro	mountain



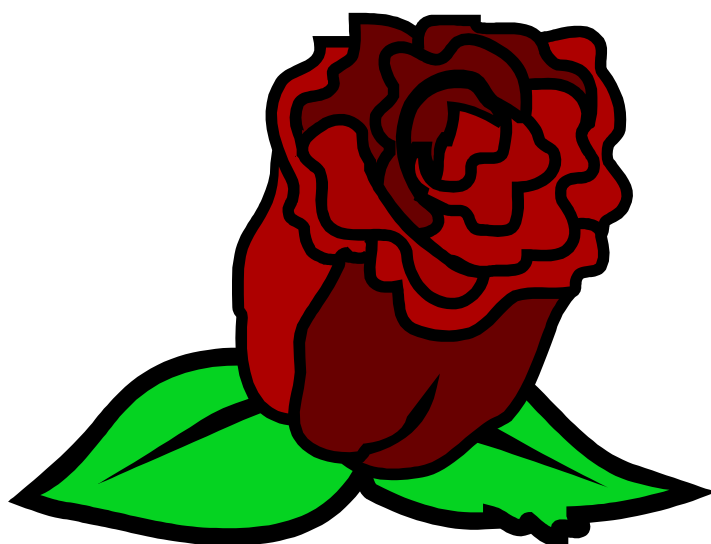


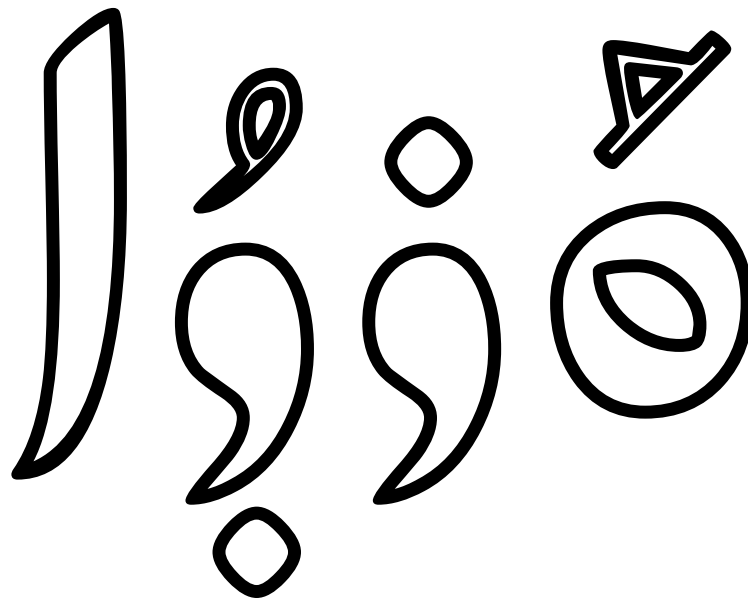
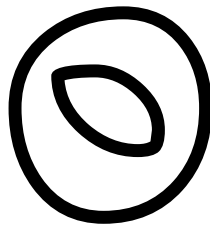
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Ḥeth	ḥ (emphatic h)	ḥal-bo	milk



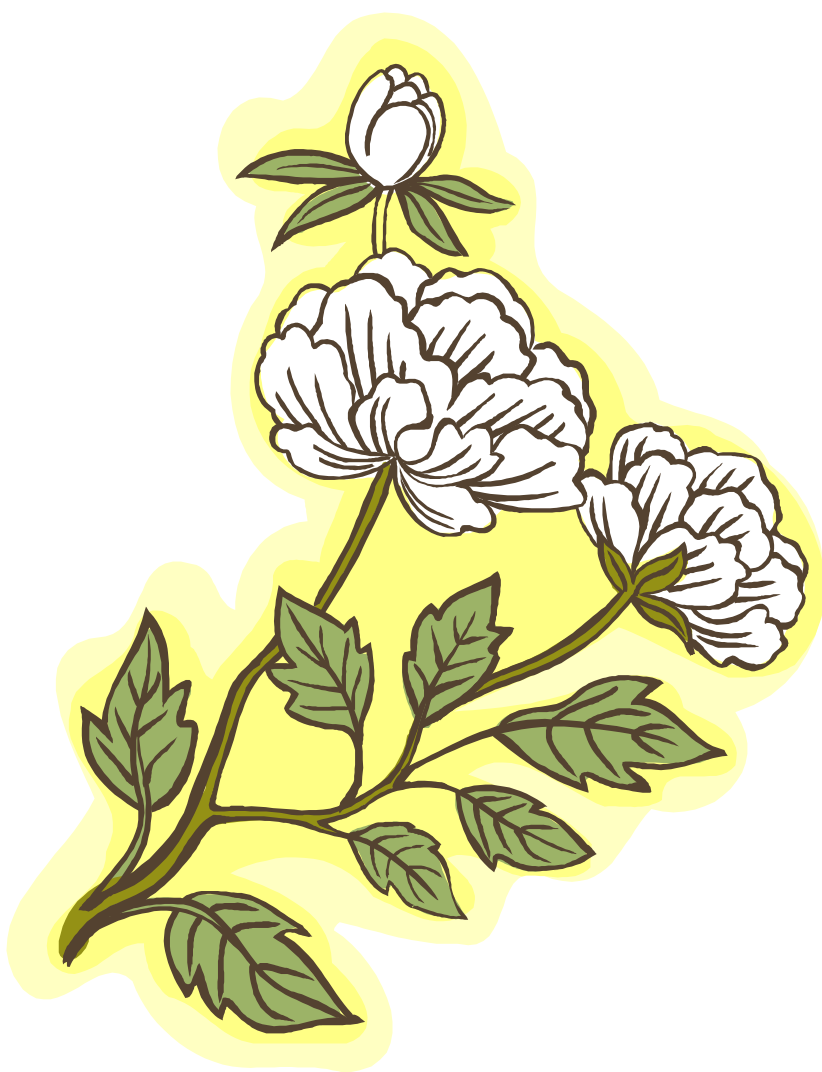


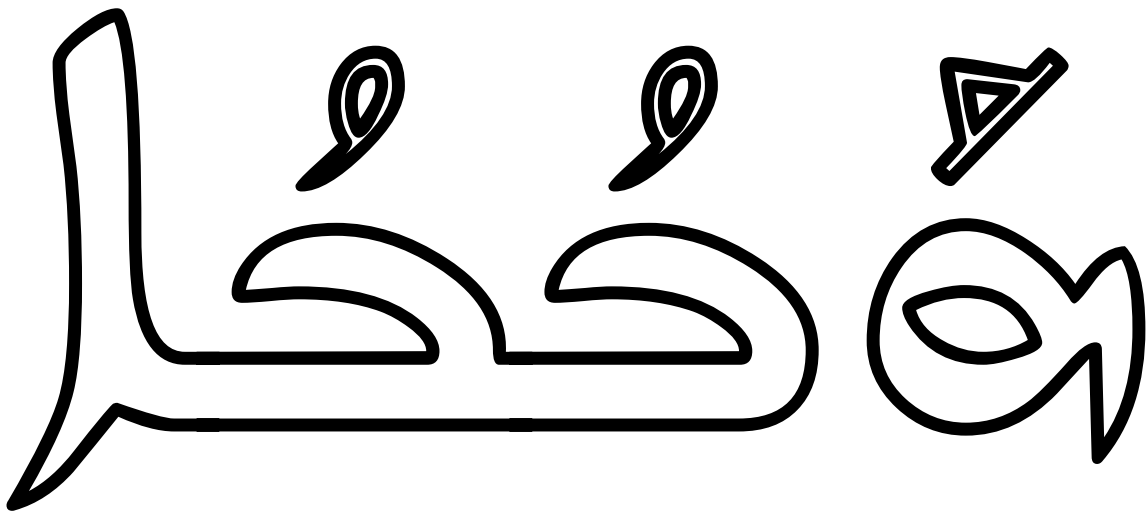
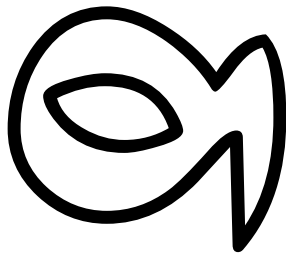
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Zayn	z	zoo-zé	money
Note. Two dots above the word indicate plural.			





LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Waw	w	war-do	rose





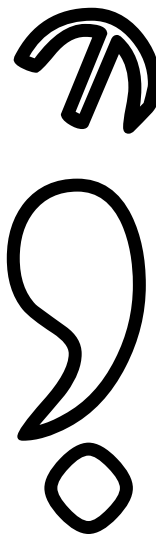
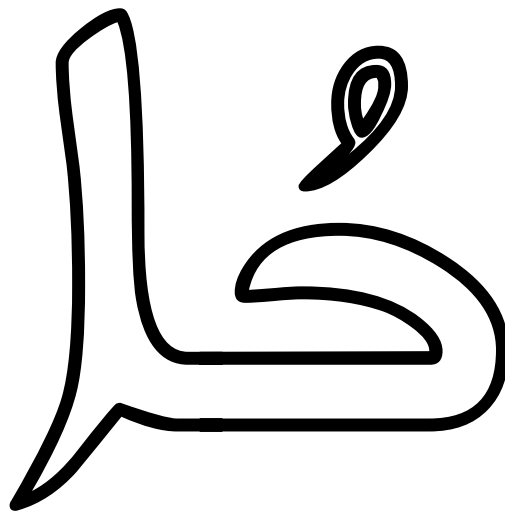
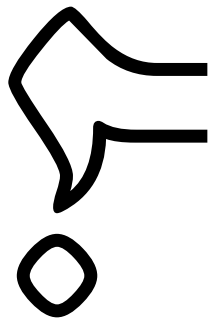
LETTER NAME
Hé

SOUND
h

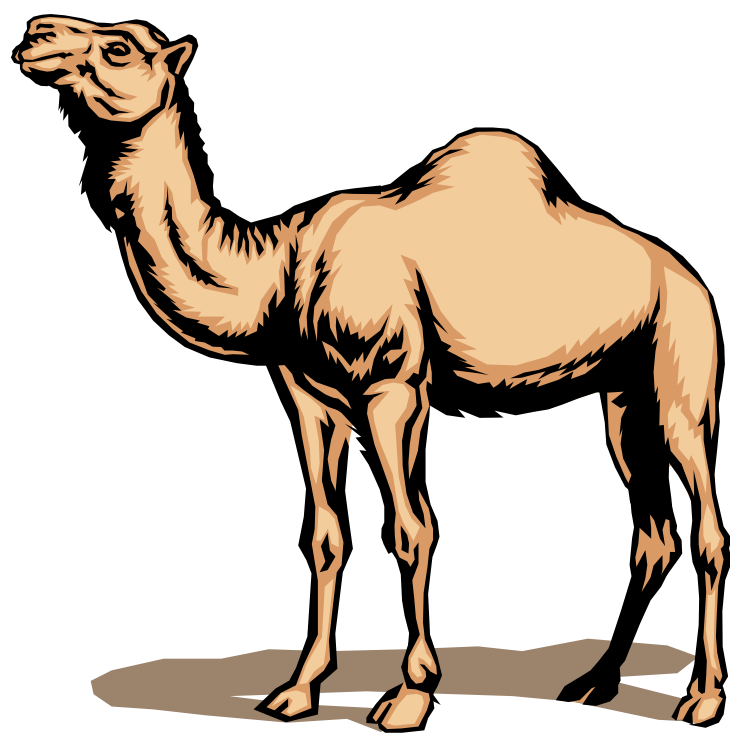
WORD
ha-bo-bo

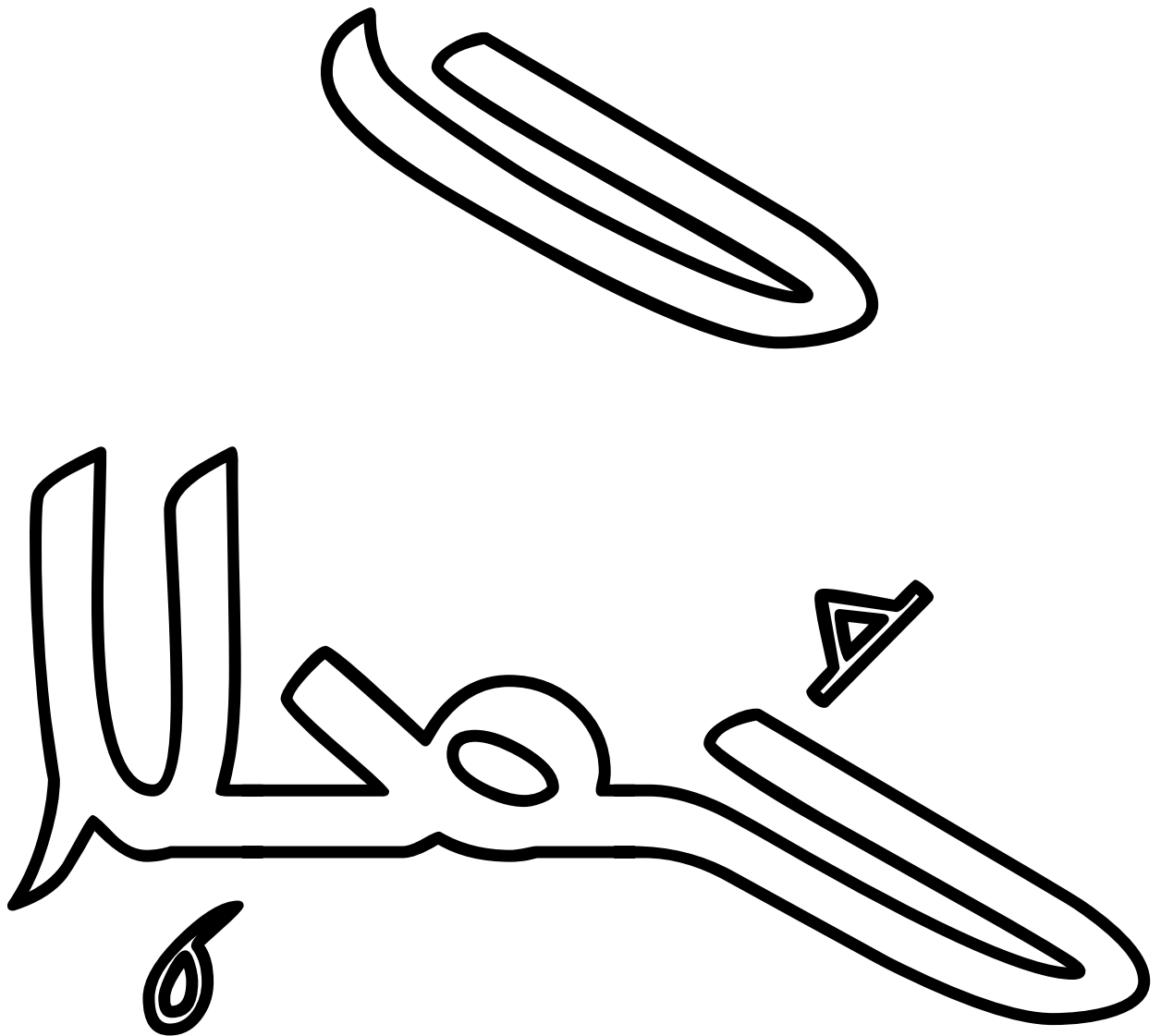
MEANING
flower





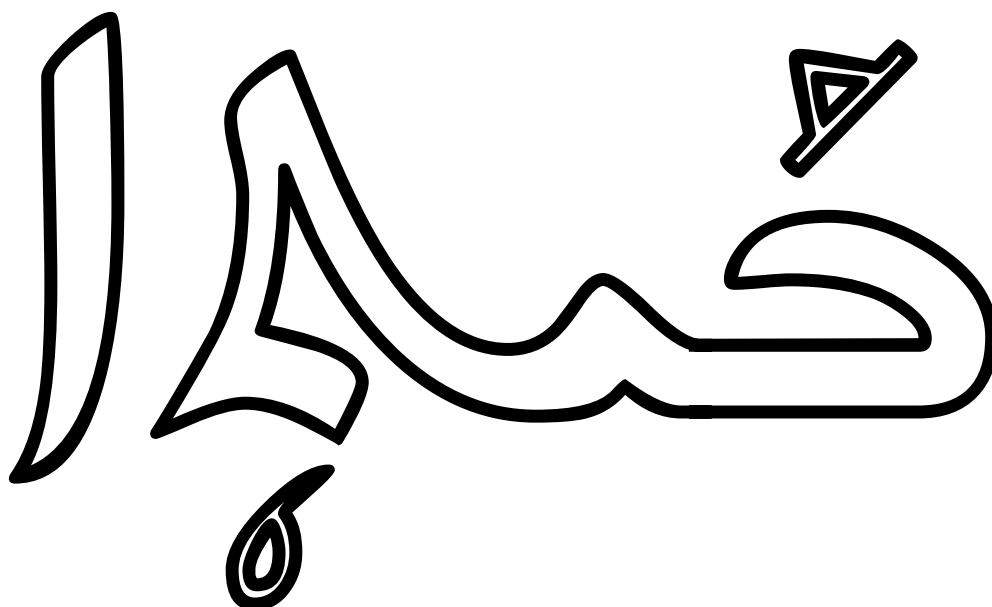
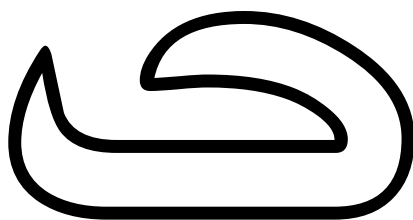
LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Dolath	d	dé-bo	bear





LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Gomal	g (as in goal)	gam-lo	camel



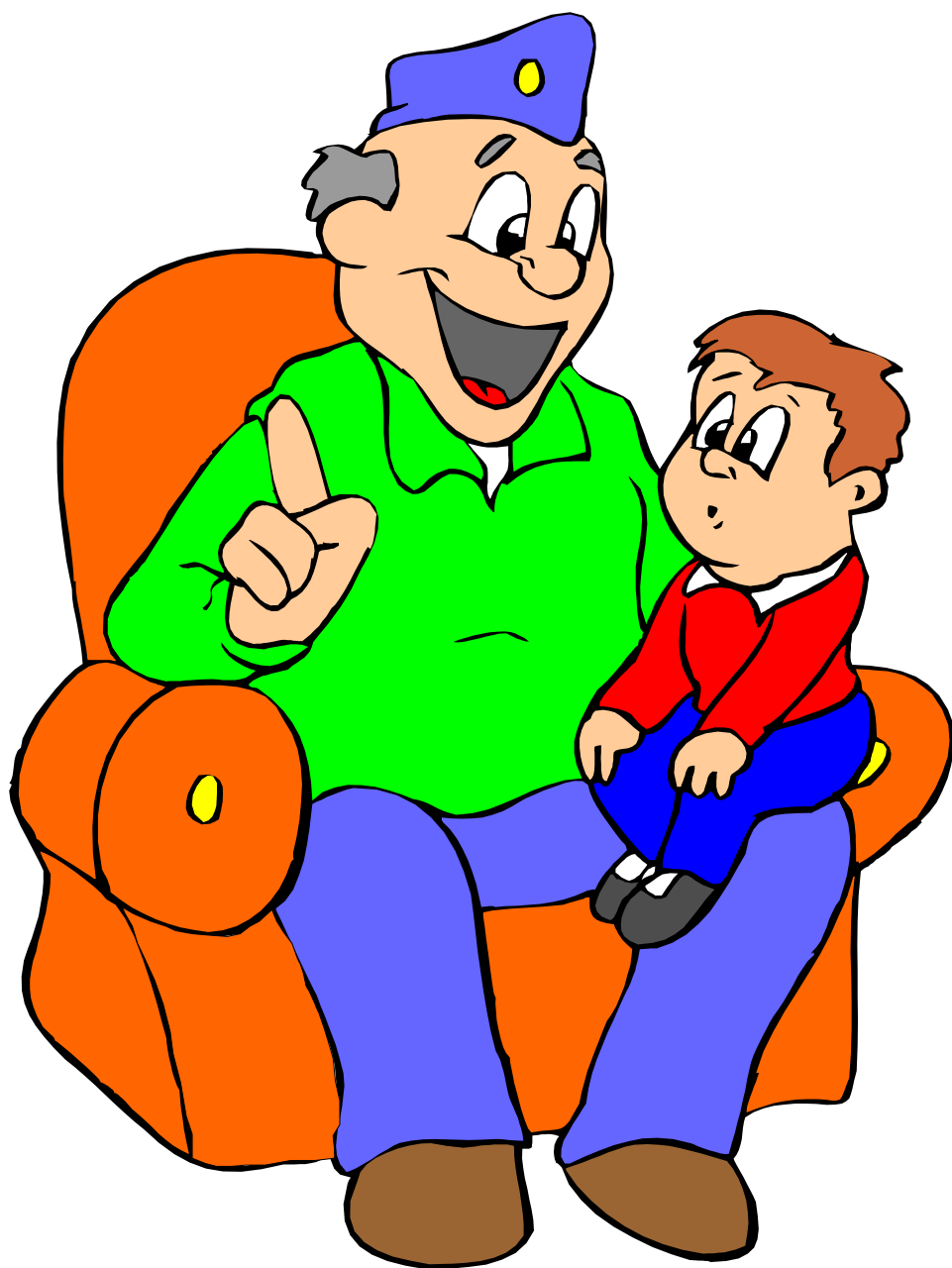


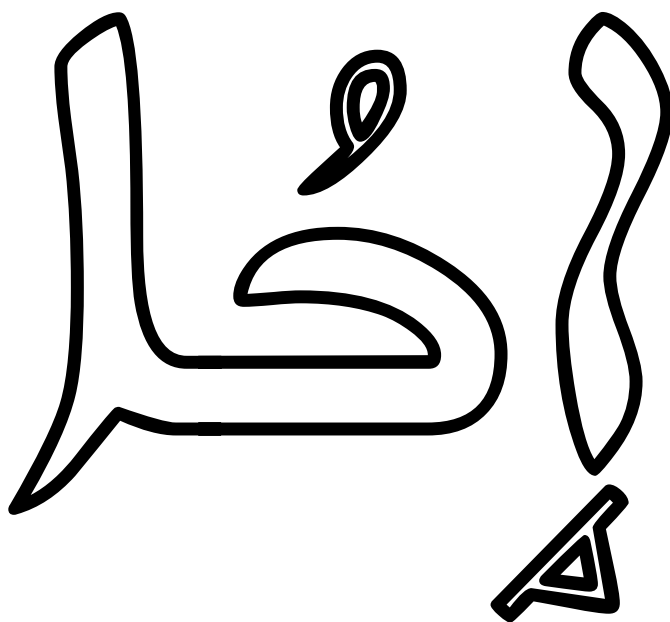
LETTER NAME
Beth

SOUND
b

WORD
bay-to

MEANING
house





LETTER NAME	SOUND	WORD	MEANING
Olaph	(glottal stop)	a-bo	father

Preface

This booklet presents the Syriac alphabet according to the West Syriac script, known also as Serto. It can be used with children between the ages of two and six. Each pair of facing pages introduces a single letter of the alphabet with a word that begins with the letter in question on one side, and an illustration of that word on the other side. When a letter is shown in two forms, the first one (to the right) is used in the beginning and middle of a word, and the second one at the end of a word. The letters are hollow and can be filled and colored by children.

The boxed notes at the bottom of pages give the name of the letter on that page, how the letter sounds, a phonological transcription of the sample word, and the meaning of the word. Parents with no knowledge of Syriac can use this information to guide their children, and learn too!

Note that Syriac is written from right to left. While vowels are optional in the Syriac writing system, they are added here for the benefit of the parent, not the child. Children have an innate ability to learning and can be taught to read Syriac without vocalization from the start. Vowels are placed above (or below) letters. For example, if the vowel *a* appears above the letter *b* (e.g., ܐܒ), then one reads *ba*. The last three pages give a guide to vowel placement and pronunciation.

Piscataway, NJ

George A. Kiraz

DEDICATION

To

Tabetha Gabriella
&
Sebastian Kenoro

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ܗ ܘ ܙ ܠ ܡ ܢ

The Syriac Alphabet for Children

Serto Edition

By
George A. Kiraz

