

BBA Chapter 2 — Aramaic Vowel Identification

Long · Short · Reduced Vowels · Matres Lectionis

For each vowel form: (1) Vowel Name, (2) Class (Long/Short/Reduced), (3) Transliteration, (4) Mater Lectionis? (Yes/No), (5) Notes.

Part A — Long Vowels (1–5)

#	Form	Vowel Name	Class	Translit.	Mater?	Notes
1	ܐ					
2	ܐ					
3	ܝ					
4	ܘ					
5	ܘ					

Part A — Long Vowels (1–5) — Answer Key

#	Form	Vowel Name	Class	Translit.	Mater?	Notes
1	ܐ					
✓	ܐ	Qamets	Long	ā	No	Most common long vowel
2	ܐ					
✓	ܐ	Tsere	Long	ē	No	Often has Yod mater
3	ܝ					
✓	ܝ	Hireq Gadol	Long	ī	Yes —	Yod is the mater
4	ܘ					
✓	ܘ	Holem	Long	ō	Yes —	Waw above-right of consonant
5	ܘ					
✓	ܘ	Shuruq	Long	ū	Yes —	Dot in middle of Waw

Part B — Short Vowels (6–10)

#	Form	Vowel Name	Class	Translit.	Mater?	Notes
6	ܐ					
7	ܐ					
8	ܐ					
9						
10	ܐ					

Part B — Short Vowels (6–10) — Answer Key

#	Form	Vowel Name	Class	Translit.	Mater?	Notes
6	ܐ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ܐ	Patach	Short	a	No	Most common short vowel
7	ܝ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ܝ	Seghol	Short	e	No	Triangle of three dots
8	ܝ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ܝ	Hireq Qatan	Short	i	No	No Yod mater
9		<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ܝ	Qamets Hatuph	Short	o	No	Same sign as Qamets; context determines
10	ܘ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ܘ	Qibbutz	Short	u	No	Three diagonal dots

Part C — Reduced Vowels (11–15)

#	Form	Vowel Name	Class	Translit.	Notes
11	ܐ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
12	ܐ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
13	ܝ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
14	ܝ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
15	ܝ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Part C — Reduced Vowels (11–15) — Answer Key

#	Form	Vowel Name	Class	Translit.	Notes
11	ְ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ְ	Vocal Sheva	Reduced	ə	Brief neutral vowel; opens syllable
12	ֿ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ֿ	Silent Sheva	—	—	Closes syllable; not pronounced
13	ֲ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ֲ	Hateph Patach	Reduced	ă	Under gutturals; very brief "ah"
14	ֳ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ֳ	Hateph Seghol	Reduced	ĕ	Under gutturals; very brief "eh"
15	ִ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	ִ	Hateph Qamets	Reduced	ō	Under gutturals; rare; very brief "oh"

Part D — Matres Lectionis (16–20)

#	Form	Mater Letter	Vowel	Notes
16	מְלָכָא	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
17	כְּתִיב	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
18	שְׁלוּ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
19	בּוּ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
20	אַלְהָא	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Part D — Matres Lectionis (16–20) — Answer Key

#	Form	Mater Letter	Vowel	Notes
16	מְלָכָא	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	מְלָכָא	■ (Aleph)	ā (final)	Determined state suffix; Aleph is mater
17	כְּתִיב	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	כְּתִיב	■ (Yod)	ī	Yod after Hireq = long ■
18	שְׁלוּ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	שְׁלוּ	■ (Waw)	ō	Waw after Holem dot = long ■
19	בּוּ	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	בּוּ	■ (Waw)	ū	Shuruq — dot in middle of Waw
20	אַלְהָא	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
✓	אַלְהָא	■ (Aleph)	ā (final)	Determined state suffix again