Hifz — notes for the teacher

Mahmood · generated 14 Nov 2026 · this page is for you, not for him

WHAT THIS IS

Mahmood is memorising **Juz 30 of the Qur'an, backwards** — starting at An-Nas and working back through the short surahs to An-Naba. The plan is **3 lines a day, 6 days a week, 25 minutes**, in the gaps around his shift work. The target for the whole juz is **end of May 2027**; the month-six decision is **June 2027**, and it is a real decision, not a formality.

He can already recite 22 surahs from memory. They are held, not fluent, and nobody has scored them yet — which is what the current phase is for.

THE ORDER YOU SET — CLASS OF 13 NOV 2026

Mulk, then Waqi'ah, then Ya-Sin, then Alif Lam Mim Sajdah, then the rest of Juz 30 backwards from Al-Layl. Reckoned at 3 lines a day, 6 days a week, 25 minutes, Saturday off, no slack banked.

Nothing below has started yet. The 22 surahs he already holds are the first job: one recording each, scored on the audit card. This plan begins when you have signed them off — and every date below counts from the day you sign, not from today.

#	Surah	Ayahs	≈ lines	Sealed by
1	Al-Mulk (67)	30	45	16 Dec 2026
2	Al-Waqi'ah (56)	96	60	8 Jan 2027
3	Ya-Sin (36)	83	90	12 Feb 2027
4	As-Sajdah (32)	30	45	2 Mar 2027
5	Juz 30 remainder (92→78)	407	225	28 May 2027

All four have a standing slot in his week — Mulk before sleep, Waqi'ah after Maghrib, Ya-Sin and Sajdah on Friday — so their revision is paid for by prayers he already prays. That is the argument for putting them ahead of Juz 30, and it is the reason this order is better than the one he started with.

WHERE HE IS NOW

Phase 0 — the audit. No new material for these two weeks. He recites each surah he already holds, from memory, and scores it 0–3. The point is not to improve anything, it is to find out which surahs are actually load-bearing and which are decoration. Anything that scores 0 or 1 gets rebuilt before Juz 30 continues.

Scores: 0 = cannot start · 1 = only with prompts · 2 = one or two stumbles · 3 = fluent, no prompts. A 2 is a good week. A 3 is rare and should be treated as rare.

Surah	Score	Note from the audit
93 Ad-Duhaa	—	Recited from memory in class 13 Nov 2026 and corrected. He wants to hear the fix. The correction was about joining, not about the words: the hamzat al-wasl on the alif of the definite article must be connected to the word before it, and the long vowel after the laam held so it is clear. He was breaking the words apart and starting the alif again.
94 Ash-Sharh	—	
95 At-Tin	—	
96 Al-'Alaq	—	
97 Al-Qadr	—	

98 Al-Bayyinah	—	
99 Az-Zalzalah	—	
100 Al-'Adiyat	—	
101 Al-Qari'ah	—	The audit take for this surah was interrupted by his phone near the end, so a couple of ayahs were skipped and the file is incomplete — it does not measure his memory of al-Qari'ah. Under the interrupted-take policy (README), one cold replacement may follow as 101-fix.m4a, recorded without listening back and without reviewing the surah first. The replacement arrived the same night (101-fix.m4a, 14 Nov 06:37Z, 29.2 s) and sits at the top of the page labelled "his fix" — score that one; read 101.m4a itself as an interrupted take.
102 At-Takathur	—	
103 Al-'Asr	—	
104 Al-Humazah	—	
105 Al-Fil	—	
106 Quraysh	—	
107 Al-Ma'un	—	
108 Al-Kawthar	—	
109 Al-Kafirun	—	
110 An-Nasr	—	
111 Al-Masad	—	
112 Al-Ikhlas	—	
113 Al-Falaq	—	
114 An-Nas	—	

THE DAILY TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES

1. **Listen** to today's portion three times, following with the eye only — no reciting.
2. **Look** at the line, read it aloud slowly five times, still looking.
3. **Cover and recite** from memory; record one take, straight through, no retakes.
4. **Listen back** to your own recording once, with the mushaf open, and mark the stumbles.
5. **Sabqi** — the previous seven days' material, from memory, no mushaf.
6. **Manzil** — the older surahs, reciting freely, no pressure.
7. **Repair** — only the specific ayahs that broke, written out by hand three times and checked.
8. **Log** — one line in the record: what was done, what broke, how it felt.

WHAT WOULD ACTUALLY HELP FROM YOU

- **One thing per session.** He will bring you a list; pick the single most damaged ayah and leave the rest. He can carry one correction home. Ten corrections becomes noise and he re-records until it feels perfect, which is the failure mode we are trying to avoid.
- **Listen to his recording, not to him live.** Live recitation is a performance; the recording is the honest version, made before he knew what would break.
- **Tell him where he is fluent, not only where he is wrong.** Retention depends on knowing what is already solid. "That whole page is yours" is data.
- **Note the *mutashabihat*** — the ayahs that look like their neighbours. Those are what will erase everything else in a year, and they are worth more than new material.
- **When he is at a 3, say 3 and move on.** Perfectionism here costs weeks.

WHAT IS IN THIS FOLDER

Folder	What
`Sheets/`	One PDF per day's portion. This is what he works from — the steps, the ayah numbers, the boxes to score.
`Audio/`	Husary's recitation, split by ayah. This is the model he is copying. It is not his voice.
`Recordings/`	His own from-memory takes, when he starts uploading them. **These are the ones to critique.**

> **Listen on the web, not in this folder.** Everything here is also served from **https://hifz.bookhafiz.com** — one page, tap a portion and it plays, nothing to install. The folder you are looking at is the *file store*: there, an MP3 downloads instead of playing. Use the website for sound, and this folder for the PDFs.

HOW TO ANSWER

Reply to the email this arrived with, or send a voice note — whichever is quicker for you. A one-line verdict per session is worth more than a written assessment at the end of the month. If something in this plan is wrong for how you actually teach, say so plainly; the plan changes, the mushaf does not.

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