



STARTING OUT IN

ARABIC

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STARTING OUT IN

ARABIC

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ad-dars al-awwal: t'abirāt asasiya

Lesson 1: Essential expressions

marHaba! *Welcome!* In this first lesson of your Arabic audio course, you'll learn how to greet people and how to introduce yourself to someone. You'll also learn some basics of Arabic pronunciation. First, let's get started with some vocabulary. You'll hear the words and phrases in English first and then in the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase in the pauses provided every time you hear it. Ready?

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

Yes.	na'am.
No. [Not at all./By no means.]	kalla.
Hello.	ahlan.
Good morning.	SabāH al-khayr.
Good evening.	masā' al-khayr.
Please. (to a man)	min faDlak.
Of course.	Taba'an.
Good-bye.	ma'as-salāma.

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop there for a moment. You learned how to say some important basic words, such as *yes* (**na'am**), *no* (**kalla**), *hello* (**ahlan**), *good morning* (**SabāH al-khayr**), *good evening* (**masā' al-khayr**), *please* (**min faDlak**), *of course* (**Taba'an**), and *good-bye* (**ma'as-salāma**). Did you notice that there are many sounds in Arabic that don't have equivalents in English? Many Arabic sounds are pronounced in the back of the throat—**na'am** (*yes*), **ahlan** (*hello*), **SabāH al-khayr** (*good morning*), **masā' al-khayr** (*good evening*), **min faDlak** (*please*), **Taba'an** (*of course*), and **ma'as-salāma** (*good-bye*)—and are therefore best learned through careful listening and repetition. For example: **na'am**, **Taba'an** and **ma'as-salāma** all have the sound **a'a** in them; **SabāH al-khayr** and **masā' al-khayr** have the sound **kh** in **khayr**, and **SabāH** in **SabāH al-khayr** has the sound **H**. You will hear these sounds in many words as you learn more Arabic vocabulary.

Did you notice the word **al** in **SabāH al-khayr** (*good morning*)? This word is the equivalent of the English definite article *the*, but the Arabic **al** is pronounced as part of the word that follows it. For example, in the greetings above, the word **khayr** (*good*) is pronounced together with the definite article **al**—**al-khayr**. Often, the **l** in **al** blends into the word that follows it and “doubles” the first consonant of the following word, making it sound stronger, as in **ma'as-salāma** (*good-bye*), where the article is pronounced as **s**, doubling the initial consonant of the word it precedes. Now, let's continue with some more words and expressions.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

How are you?	kayf al-Hāl?
Fine.	bi-khayr.
Thank you.	shukran.
What is your name? (to a man)	mā ismuk?



<i>What is your name? (to a woman)</i>	mā ismuki?
<i>My name is . . .</i>	ismī . . .
<i>I am from . . .</i>	ana min . . .
<i>Nice to meet you.</i>	tasharrafnā.
<i>Excuse me.</i>	‘afwan.
<i>I would like . . .</i>	uridu . . .
<i>With pleasure.</i>	bikull-i surur.

TAKE A BREAK 2

Let's pause here for a moment. You have just learned how to say **mā ismuk?** or **mā ismuki?** (*What is your name?*). Note the word **mā** (*what*) is used to ask questions and usually followed by a noun, such as **ism** (*name*). Note also that the **-uk** on **ismuk** is the equivalent of the English *your* but works as an ending on a word in Arabic. So, instead of possessive pronouns, Arabic uses possessive endings or suffixes that attach to the end of a noun. Possessive suffixes show the gender (masculine or feminine) and the number (singular, dual, or plural) of the nouns they attach to: **-uk** is singular masculine, so the question **mā ismuk?** can only be addressed to a man. When addressing a woman, say **mā ismuki?** The possessive suffix for *my* is **-ī**, as in **ismī** (*my name*). But more on that later.

ONE MORE TIME

Okay, let's put to use what you've learned so far. You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>Hello. How are you?</i>	ahlan. kayf al-Hāl?
<i>Fine, thank you.</i>	bi-khayr, shukran.
<i>What is your name?</i>	mā ismuk?
<i>My name is Jason. I am from New York.</i>	ismī jason. ana min new york.
<i>Nice to meet you.</i>	tasharrafnā.

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together in a conversation and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure.

<i>Hello!</i>	ahlan!
<i>Good morning!</i>	SabāH al-khayr!



How are you?

kayf al-Hāl?

Fine, thank you.

bi-khayr, shukran.

What is your name?

mā ismuk?

My name is Jason.

ismi jason.

Are you from America?

anta min amrika?

Yes, I am from New York.

na'am, ana min new york.

Are you a tourist?

anta sā'iH?

No, I am a student.

kalla, ana Tālib.

Nice to meet you, Jason.

tasharrafnā, ya jason.

Okay, you already knew a lot of the vocabulary used in this conversation, but there were a few new words and expressions, too. You probably noticed the question **anta min amrika?** (*Are you from America?*) and the question **anta sā'iH?** (*Are you a tourist?*), as well as the answer **kalla, ana Tālib** (*No, I am a student*). You already know the word **ana**, meaning *I*, and now you have also learned the word **anta**, meaning *you*. Note that the pronoun **anta** can only be used to refer to a man; if you are addressing a woman, use **anti**. You'll learn the rest of the personal pronouns later.

And did you notice the little word **ya** before **jason** in **tasharrafnā, ya jason**? **ya** is a vocative particle often used in Arabic in front of the name of the person you are addressing directly; it's a bit similar to the way *hey* can be used in English, as in *Hey, Jason!* You'll be hearing it a lot.

WORK OUT

Now let's practice some of what you've learned. First, you'll hear a phrase in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

ahlan.

Hello.

kayf al-Hāl?

How are you?

mā ismuk?

What is your name?

tasharrafnā.

Nice to meet you.

ma'as-salāma.

Good-bye.

Great. Now do the opposite, translating the phrase from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.



Good morning.

SabāH al-khayr.

Excuse me.

'afwan.

I would like . . .

uridu . . .

Thank you.

shukran.

With pleasure.

bikull-i surur.

Now translate the following words and phrases into Arabic, then put together short sentences by using the suggested pronouns—**ana** (*I*), **anta** (*you, male*), or **anti** (*you, female*). For example, if you hear *student*, **ana**, you'd respond by saying **ana Tālib**. Repeat the correct answers for practice.

student, **ana**

ana Tālib.

tourist, **anta**

anta sā'iH.

from America, **anti**

anti min amrika.

from New York, **ana**

ana min new york.

PARTING WORDS

mabrūk! *Congratulations!* You've finished your first lesson of Arabic. Good job! Did you know that there are around twenty different dialects of Arabic spoken throughout the Arab world? The vocabulary you are learning here is the modern version of literary classical Arabic, often referred to as Modern Standard Arabic, which is understood throughout the Arab world. However, there are many local dialects of Arabic, so be ready for variations! Today you've learned the basic vocabulary you need to greet people and introduce yourself. You may, of course, want to learn a few other everyday phrases, like **Hasanan** (*all right*), **shukran jazīlan** (*many thanks*), **kafa'** (*enough*), and **ila-liqa'** (*so long*). See you in Lesson 2!



ad-dars ath-thāni: al-ashkhas wal-'ā'ila

Lesson 2: People and the family

ahlan! *Hello!* In this lesson, you'll learn how to talk about people and your family. You'll also learn some important points of Arabic grammar: masculine and feminine genders of nouns and the singular, dual, and plural forms of nouns. But let's learn some new vocabulary first. As before, you'll hear the English first, followed by the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. **haya'a nabda'a!** *Let's begin!*



VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

<i>boy</i>	walad
<i>girl</i>	bint
<i>man</i>	rajul
<i>woman</i>	imra'a
<i>father</i>	abb
<i>mother</i>	umm
<i>brother</i>	akh
<i>sister</i>	ukht
<i>husband</i>	zawj
<i>wife</i>	zawja
<i>son</i>	ibn
<i>daughter</i>	bint
<i>family</i>	'ā'ila

TAKE A BREAK 1

Have you noticed the strong sounding **m** in **umm** (*mother*) and **b** in **abb** (*father*)? These are examples of “doubled” consonants that are pronounced with more emphasis and force than their single counterparts. And did you notice that the word **bint** means both *girl* and *daughter* in Arabic? Great!

Okay, now let's talk about the gender of nouns. Arabic nouns can be classified as either masculine or feminine, usually depending on their endings. For example, feminine nouns often end in **-a**, such as the feminine noun **'ā'ila** (*family*). This system is not perfect, however, and other words of feminine gender do not end in **-a**, like **yadd** (*hand*). On the other hand, feminine nouns referring to people are usually created by adding **-a** to the end of the masculine form. One example is the word **zawja** (*wife*), which is formed by adding **-a** to the masculine form, **zawj** (*husband*). **zawja** becomes **zawjat**, with a **-t** at the end, if a possessive ending is added to the noun. For example, when we attach the possessive ending **-i** (*my*) to **zawja**, we get **zawjati** (*my wife*).

When an adjective modifies a noun, it must match the noun in gender—for example, **'ā'ilati kabīra** (*my family is big*), where **kabīra** is the feminine version of the masculine form of the adjective **kabīr** (*big*).

When you want to talk about more than one of something in Arabic, you use either the plural form or the dual form of the noun. The dual is used to refer to two of something; the plural is used for three or more. Let's look at how this works on examples, while learning some additional vocabulary.



VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

<i>boy (m. sg.)</i>	walad
<i>two boys (m. du.)</i>	waladān
<i>boys (m. pl.)</i>	awlād
<i>teacher (m. sg.)</i>	mudarris
<i>two teachers (m. du.)</i>	mudarrisān
<i>teachers (m. pl.)</i>	mudarrisūn
<i>girl (f. sg.)</i>	bint
<i>two girls (f. du.)</i>	bintān
<i>girls (f. pl.)</i>	banāt
<i>teacher (f. sg.)</i>	mudarrisa
<i>two teachers (f. du.)</i>	mudarrisatān
<i>teachers (f. pl.)</i>	mudarrisāt
<i>family (f. sg.)</i>	‘ā’ila
<i>two families (f. du.)</i>	‘ā’ilatān
<i>families (f. pl.)</i>	‘ā’ilāt
<i>two big families (f. du.)</i>	‘ā’ilatān kabīratān
<i>big families (f. pl.)</i>	‘ā’ilāt kabīra

TAKE A BREAK 2

So let’s break down what you’ve just learned. You probably noticed that the dual is formed by adding **-ān** to the singular form of a noun, as in **waladān** (*two boys*), **bintān** (*two girls*), and **‘ā’ilatān** (*two families*). As for the plural, Arabic has both the regular and the irregular plural. The regular plural is formed by adding **-ūn** to masculine nouns—**mudarrisūn** (*[male] teachers*)—and **-āt** to feminine nouns—**mudarrisāt** (*[female] teachers*). Unfortunately, most Arabic nouns have irregular plurals, and the vowels of the root are either changed or taken out and the word thereby transformed in unpredictable ways. The best way to learn these irregular plural forms is simply to memorize them. Today you have learned irregular plurals **awlād** (*boys*), **banāt** (*girls*), and **‘ā’ilāt** (*families*).

As for the adjectives, we mentioned earlier that they must match the noun in number and gender. For example, **‘ā’ila kabīra** (*big family*) is feminine singular; **‘ā’ilatān kabīratān** (*two big families*) is feminine dual; and **‘ā’ilāt kabīra** (*big families*) is feminine plural. Did you notice that the same singular form, **kabīra**, was used with both the singular—**‘ā’ila**—and the plural noun—**‘ā’ilāt**? That’s because the singular



form of the adjective is used with plural nouns that denote inanimate objects. When an adjective is used with a noun that refers to people, like **mudarrisāt** ([female] teachers), it has to be in the plural form, e.g., **mudarrisāt jayyidat** (good teachers).

ONE MORE TIME

Now, let's use some of what you've learned in a short comprehension exercise. You'll notice the definite article, **al**, in front of some of the words. Listen to the English first, then to the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice. Use the word **wa** to say *and*.

father of two boys

abb al-waladān

mother of two girls

umm al-bintān

The father and brother are teachers.

al-abb wa al-akh mudarrisān.

The mother and sister are good teachers.

al-umm wa al-ukht mudarrisatān jayyidatan.

My sister's and my brother's families are big.

'ā'ilāt ukhti wa akhi kabīra.

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure. Listen to Ahmed talking about himself. Repeat the Arabic in the pauses provided.

My name is Ahmed.

ismi aHmed.

I am a doctor.

ana duktōr.

My family is big.

'ā'ilati kabīra.

This is my wife.

hādhihi zawjati.

My wife is a teacher.

zawjati mudarrisa.

We have a girl and two boys.

ladaina bint wa waladan.

This is my mother.

hādhihi ummi.

My mother is a teacher too.

ummi aiDan mudarrisa.

My wife and my mother are both teachers.

zawjati wa ummi mudarissatān.

My father is an engineer.

abi muhandis.

This is my sister, Mariam, my brother Mustafa, and my little brother, Farouk.

hādhihi ukhti, mariam, akhi mustafa, wa akhi aS-Saghir farouk.

Mariam, Mustafa, and Faruk are students.

mariam, mustafa, wa faruk Tullāb.



You probably understood most of the words and phrases in this segment, but there were also some new ones. You probably guessed that **duktōr** means *doctor* and that **muhandis** means *engineer*. Can you guess what the feminine form of **muhandis** is? Yes, that's right—**muhandisa**. And have you spotted **ladaina**, the useful word you can use to say *we have*? You must have guessed that **hadhihi** means *this* in **hādhihi zawjati** (*this is my wife*). You'll learn more demonstratives in the coming lessons. Finally, **aS-Saghir** means *little or small*, **aiDan** means *also*, and **Tullāb** (*students*) is the irregular plural of **Tālib** (*student*). And note an interesting thing about Arabic grammar: There is no equivalent of the verb *to be* and its forms, such as *am* or *is*, in Arabic sentences like **ana duktōr** (*I'm a doctor*), **abi muhandis** (*My father is an engineer*), or **'ā'ilati kabīra** (*My family is big*). The subject pronoun or noun is combined directly with the predicate noun or adjective that is used to describe it.

WORK OUT

Now let's practice some of what you've learned. You'll hear a word in Arabic. You should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

rajul	<i>man</i>
imra'a	<i>woman</i>
'ā'ila	<i>family</i>
zawjati	<i>my wife</i>
bint	<i>girl, daughter</i>

Great! Now do the opposite; translate the phrase from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>sister</i>	ukht
<i>brother</i>	akh
<i>father</i>	abb
<i>mother</i>	umm
<i>son</i>	ibn

Now give the opposite gender form of the following Arabic nouns or adjectives. You'll hear the correct answers after a pause. Repeat them for practice.

Tāliba	Tālib
mudarris	mudarrisa
muhandisa	muhandis



duktōr

duktōra

kabīra

kabīr

PARTING WORDS

shukran! *Thank you!* You've been very attentive and learned a lot of new vocabulary and grammar. Now you can talk about people and your family in Arabic. Of course, there will be times when you may need to mention other members of your family, like your *grandmother* (**jedda**), *grandfather* (**jedd**), *granddaughter* (**hafida**), or *grandson* (**hafid**). In Arabic, aunts and uncles on the mother's side and those on the father's side are clearly distinguished. So, the *maternal uncle* is **khāl**, and the *paternal uncle* is **'amm**. The *maternal aunt* is **khāla** and the *paternal aunt* is **'amma**. That's it for today! **yauman s'aīdan!** *Have a wonderful day!*



ad-dars ath-thālith: al-arqam

Lesson 3: Numbers

kayf al-Hāl? *How are you?* Are you ready for more Arabic words? In this lesson, you'll learn how to count in Arabic. So, let's get started right away. By now you know that you'll hear the English first, and then you'll hear the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. **haya'a nabda'a.** *Let's begin.*

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

zero

Sifr

one

wāhid

two

ithnān

three

thalātha

four

arba'a

five

khamisa

six

sitta

seven

sab'a

eight

thamānia



nine

tis'a

ten

'ashara

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop for a minute. So you've learned how to say *zero* (**Sifr**) and how to count from **wāhid** (*one*) to **'ashara** (*ten*). Notice that, when counting, the numbers **Sifr**, **wāhid** and **ithnān**, *zero*, *one* and *two*, are used in their masculine forms, and others are used in their feminine forms. When modifying a noun, most numbers, like adjectives, have to agree with it in gender. Curiously, however, the numbers *three* (**thalāth**) through *ten* (**'ashara**) must disagree in gender with the noun that follows them. For example, in **thalāth Tālibāt** (*three students*), **thalāth**, which is masculine, modifies **Tālibāt**, which is feminine. So far, so good. Now, let's keep counting with from eleven to nineteen.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

eleven

aHad 'ashara

twelve

ithnat 'ashara

thirteen

thalāthat 'ashara

fourteen

arba'at 'ashara

fifteen

khamsat 'ashara

sixteen

sittat 'ashara

seventeen

sab'at 'ashara

eighteen

thamāniat 'ashara

nineteen

tis'at 'ashara

TAKE A BREAK 2

Let's take a break here. You've just learned to count to **tis'at 'ashara** (*nineteen*). The number agreement between teens and nouns that follow them is also tricky: The noun that follows a number in the teens is usually in the singular, not the plural form. For example, in **khamsat 'ashara sā'ih** (*fifteen male tourists*), the noun **sā'ih** (*male tourist*) is singular masculine and in **khamsat 'ashara sā'iha** (*fifteen female tourists*), the noun **sā'iha** (*female tourist*) is singular feminine.



ONE MORE TIME

Okay, let's put these numbers together with some of the nouns you learned earlier and see how the numbers work. Ready? You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>three men</i>	thalāthat rijāl
<i>three women</i>	thalāth imra'āt
<i>four men</i>	arba'at rijal
<i>four women</i>	arba'a imra'āt
<i>five men</i>	khamsat rijāl
<i>five women</i>	khams imra'āt
<i>six men</i>	sittat rijāl
<i>six women</i>	sitt imra'āt
<i>seven men</i>	sab'at rijāl
<i>seven women</i>	sab'a imra'āt
<i>eight men</i>	thamāniat rijāl
<i>eight women</i>	thamān imra'āt
<i>nine men</i>	tis'a't rijāl
<i>nine women</i>	tis'a imra'āt
<i>ten men</i>	'asharat rijāl
<i>ten women</i>	'ashar imra'āt

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

And here are some more numbers. Let's count from 20 to 90.

<i>twenty</i>	'ishrūn
<i>thirty</i>	thalāthūn
<i>forty</i>	arba'ūn
<i>fifty</i>	khamsūn
<i>sixty</i>	sittūn
<i>seventy</i>	sab'ūn



eighty

thamānūn

ninety

tis'ūn

Luckily, the tens do not have separate forms for masculine and feminine; the same form is used with either gender. The ones are joined with the tens by the conjunction **wa** (*and*). Also, unlike in English, the ones precede the tens in all two-digit numbers above twenty. For example, **wāhid wa thalathūn** (*thirty-one*) is literally *one and thirty*, and **sitta wa thamānūn** (*eighty-six*) is literally *six and eighty*.

WORK OUT

Now let's practice some of what you've learned. First, you'll hear a number in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

wāhid	<i>one</i>
thalātha	<i>three</i>
khamsa	<i>five</i>
sab'a	<i>seven</i>
thamānia	<i>eight</i>
'ashara	<i>ten</i>
khamsat 'ashara	<i>fifteen</i>
tis'at 'ashara	<i>nineteen</i>
'ishrūn	<i>twenty</i>
arba'aūn	<i>forty</i>
sittūn	<i>sixty</i>
thamānūn	<i>eighty</i>

Great! Now do the opposite; translate the numbers from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>zero</i>	Sifr
<i>two</i>	ithnān
<i>four</i>	arba'a
<i>six</i>	sitta



nine

eleven

twelve

thirteen

thirty

fifty

seventy-one

ninety-five

tis'a

aHad 'ashar

ithnat 'ashar

thalāthat 'ashar

thalāthūn

khamsūn

wāhid wa sab'ūn

khamsa wa tis'ūn

PARTING WORDS

Of course, the numbers keep on going, all the way to **mi'a** (*one hundred*), **mi'atān** (*two hundred*), **thalāthumi'a** (*three hundred*), **alf** (*one thousand*), **milyōn** (*one million*), and beyond. And did you know that Arabic numbers are written differently from English numbers? The written form of Arabic numerals is actually of Indian origin. And the numerals used in English are of Arabic origin! **'alam Saghīr!** *It's a small world!*



ad-dars ar-rabe'a: Hawl al-bayt

Lesson 4: Around the house

marHaba! *Welcome!* Hopefully, you have been practicing your Arabic vocabulary and have even managed to interact a bit with people in Arabic. In this lesson, you'll learn more about Arabic verbs and nouns, constructing simple sentences and using descriptive words to talk about your home. As you already know, you'll hear the English first, and then you'll hear the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. Ready?

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

house

lives

Ahmed lives in the house.

bayt

yaskun

yaskunu aHmed fi-l bayt.



room

*There are five rooms in Ahmed's house,
two bedrooms,
a living room,
a dining room,
and a study.
And, of course, there is a kitchen,
a bathroom,
and a pretty garden, too.*

ghurfa

**fi bayt aHmed khams ghuraf,
ghurfatān na'um,
ghurfat aj-julus,
ghurfat aT-Ta'ām,
wa ghurfat al-maktab.
wa Taba'an hunaka maTbakh,
Hammām,
wa aiDan Hadiqatun jamīla.**

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop here. You learned how to say *a house* (**bayt**), *a room* (**ghurfa**), *a bedroom* (**ghurfat an-na'um**), *a living room* (**ghurfat aj-julus**), *a dining room* (**ghurfat aT-Ta'ām**), *a kitchen* (**maTbakh**), *a bathroom* (**Hammām**), and *a garden* (**Hadiqa**). Did you notice the sound **gh** in the word **ghurfa**? This sound is pronounced from deep in the throat. You also learned the verb **yaskun** (*to live*). Notice that both verbs and nouns can have different endings, such as **-u** on **yaskunu** and **-tun** on **Hadiqatun**, depending on their position in the sentence. Now let's talk about sentence construction. There are two types of sentences in Arabic: verbal sentences, which begin with a verb—for example, **yaskunu aHmed fi-l bayt** (*Ahmed lives in the house*)—and nominal sentences, which begin with a noun, such as **Hadiqatun jamīla** (*a garden is pretty*). Great! Now let's continue with more words and phrases.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

sleeps

Ahmed sleeps.

Mona sleeps.

eats

Ahmed eats.

Mona eats.

sits

Ahmed sits.

Mona sits.

yanam

yanamu aHmed.

tanamu mona.

y'akul

y'akulu aHmed.

t'akulu mona.

yajlis

yajlisu aHmed.

tajlisu mona.



<i>bed</i>	sarīr
<i>table</i>	ma'ida
<i>chair</i>	maqa'ad

TAKE A BREAK 2

You've just learned a few new verbs, all used in the so-called imperfect tense. The imperfect tense in Arabic is used to talk about actions taking place in the present. Have you noticed how the verbs change their form to agree with the subject? *Ahmed sleeps* is **yanamu aHmed**, where the verb carries a masculine prefix, **ya-**, and *Mona sleeps* is **tanamu mona**, with the verb carrying a feminine prefix, **ta-**. Remember the verbs in the rest of the phrases you've just heard: **y'akulu aHmed** (*Ahmed eats*), **t'akulu mona** (*Mona eats*), **yajlisu aHmed** (*Ahmed sits*), **tajlisu mona** (*Mona sits*). The verbs change their form to match the gender of the subject but also according to the person talked about: verbs used with **ana** (*I*) carry the prefix **a-**, as in **ana ajlis** (*I sit*), and verbs used with **anta/anti** (*you*) carry the prefix **ta-**, as in **anta tajlis** (*you are sitting*) for the masculine and **anti tajlisi** (*you are sitting*) for the feminine. Notice that in the latter example, the verb also carries the feminine ending, **-i**. The ending **-an** marks the dual *they—Mona and Ahmed are sitting* is **mona wa aHmed yajlisan**—and **-un** is used for the plural *they—mona, aHmed, wa mustafa yajlisun* (*Mona, Ahmed, and Mustafa are sitting*).

ONE MORE TIME

Let's practice verbs some more. You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice. Notice that the prefix **ta-** marks the verbs used with *you*, either singular or plural, and **ya-** marks those used with *he* and the masculine *they*. Remember that the plural ending **-un** is used with the plural *you* and *they*, while the ending **-an** marks the verbs used with the dual *they*.

<i>I sleep in the bedroom.</i>	ana anamu fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>You sleep in the bedroom. (to a man)</i>	anta tanamu fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>You sleep in the bedroom. (to a woman)</i>	anti tanami fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>Ahmed sleeps in the bedroom.</i>	aHmed yanamu fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>Mona sleeps in the bedroom.</i>	mona tanamu fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>We sleep in the bedroom.</i>	naHnu nanamu fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>All of you sleep in the bedroom.</i>	antum tanamun fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>Mona and Ahmed sleep in the bedroom.</i>	mona wa aHmed yanaman fi ghurfat an-na'um.
<i>The children sleep in the bedroom.</i>	al-awlad yanamun fi ghurfat an-na'um.



BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together in a dialogue and add a little bit more vocabulary.

I live in a house with my wife, Mona.

askunu fi-l bayti ma'a zawjati, mona.

Our house is new.

baytuna jadīd.

It has five rooms.

fihī khams ghuraf.

The bedroom has a large window.

ghurfat an-na'um fiha shurfa kabīra.

The window looks out onto a garden.

ash-shurfa taTullu ala-l Hadīqa.

Our furniture is new.

athathūna jadīd.

The dining table is new.

ma'idat aT-Ta'am jadīda.

The kitchen utensils are new, too.

adawat al-maTbakh aiDan jadīda.

But the living room furniture is old.

lakin athath ghurfat aj-julus qadīm.

Our children love the new house.

awladūna yahibbun al-bayt aj-jadīd.

It's big, sunny, and near their school.

**innahu kabīr, mushmis, wa qarīb min
madrasiatuhum.**

Okay, you already knew a lot of the vocabulary in this conversation, but let's go over the new words that you've just heard. You probably already knew that **jadīd** (*new*) in the feminine form is **jadīda**. And you probably guessed that **shurfa** means *window*, that **athath** means *furniture*, that **adawat al-maTbakh** are *kitchen utensils*, and that **madrasa** is *school*. And, of course, **qadīm** means *old*, and **qarīb** means *near*.

WORK OUT

And now let's practice some of what you've learned. First, you'll hear a word in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

bayt	<i>a house</i>
ghurfa	<i>a room</i>
yanamu	<i>he sleeps</i>
yajlisu	<i>he sits</i>

Great! Now do the opposite, translating the phrase from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.



bed

sarīr

table

ma'ida

chair

maqa'ad

window

shurfa

Now translate the following phrases into Arabic, and add some of the adjectives that you learned today to make short sentences. For example, if you hear *a dining room, big*, you might respond by saying **ghurfat aT-Ta'ām kabira** (*The dining room is big*). Repeat the correct answers for practice.

a dining room, big

ghurfat aT-Ta'ām kabira.

a living room, sunny

ghurfat aj-julus mushmisa.

a study, beautiful

ghurfat al-maktab jamīla.

a kitchen, new

al-maTbakh jadid.

PARTING WORDS

rai'a! *Wonderful!* Now you know enough Arabic words to describe the rooms in your house. You may of course want to talk about the other parts of your house, like the *entrance*, **madhhal**; the *floor* you live on, **aT-Tabiq**; a *guest room*, **ghurfat aD-Duyūf**; or the *elevator*, **al-miSa'ad**. Did you know that in many parts of the Arab world, the local dialects employ many English and French words? So, for example, the word *villa* in Arabic is . . . **villa!** **ilal-iqā!** *So long!*



ad-dars al-khāmis: waSf al-ashy'a

Lesson 5: Describing things

ahlan wa sahlān! *Welcome!* In this lesson, you'll learn how to talk about your surroundings using descriptive words, like those used for colors. You will also learn to use different personal and demonstrative pronouns. **haya'a nabda'a Halan!** *Let's begin right away!* You'll hear the English first, and then you'll hear the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. Ready?



VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

<i>I</i>	ana
<i>you (to a man)</i>	anta
<i>you (to a woman)</i>	anti
<i>he</i>	huwa
<i>she</i>	hiya
<i>we</i>	naHnu
<i>you (to men)</i>	antum
<i>you (to women)</i>	antunna
<i>they (for men or mixed groups)</i>	hum
<i>they (for women)</i>	hunna
<i>tall</i>	Tawīl
<i>happy</i>	sa'īd

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop for a moment. So now you know all the personal pronouns in Arabic. Let's try to form sentences using some of these pronouns with adjectives. Remember that the verb *to be* does not exist in Arabic, so, in a sentence like *you are tall*, the adjective follows the pronoun directly and agrees with it in gender and number. For example: *I am tall* is **ana Tawīl**; *you are tall* is **anta Tawīl**, when talking to a man, and **anti Tawīla**, when talking to a woman; *he is happy* is **huwa sa'īd**; and *she is happy* is **hiya sa'īda**. The opposite of *happy* is *unhappy*, or in Arabic, **laysa sa'īd**, or simply **t'āis** (*sad*). We will learn more about negating words and sentences in the coming lessons. And now let's try the plurals: *they are happy* is **hum su'ada'a**, for men or mixed groups, and **hunna sa'īdat**, for women; *we are happy* is **naHnu su'ada'a**; and *you are tall* is **antum Tuwāl**, if talking about more than two men, and **antunna Tawīlat**, if talking about more than two women. Okay, and now let's learn some more new nouns and adjectives.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

<i>pen</i>	qalam
<i>paper</i>	waraqa
<i>book</i>	kitāb
<i>dress</i>	fustan



<i>shirt</i>	qamīs
<i>shoes</i>	Hidha'a
<i>color</i>	laun
<i>white</i>	abyaD
<i>black</i>	aswad
<i>green</i>	akhDar
<i>blue</i>	azraq
<i>red</i>	aHmar
<i>brown</i>	bunnī

TAKE A BREAK 2

So now you've learned that *white* is **abyaD**, *black* is **aswad**, *green* is **akhDar**, *blue* is **azraq**, *red* is **aHmar**, and *brown* is **bunnī**. And you have also learned some new words for objects, like **qalam** (*pen*), **waraqa** (*paper*), **kitāb** (*book*), **fustan** (*dress*), **qamīs** (*shirt*), and **Hidha'a** (*shoes*). Color words match the nouns they modify in gender and number, just like other adjectives.

Now let's try to put this new vocabulary to use by combining it with Arabic demonstrative adjectives, such as **hādha** (*this*). Just like other adjectives, the demonstratives change according to gender and number of the noun they modify, so the feminine **hādhihi** (*this*), instead of the masculine **hādha**, has to be used next to a feminine noun. In the plural, **hāula'i** is the only demonstrative used when referring to people. When referring to inanimate objects, the singular feminine form **hādhihi** is used. Let's give this a try.

ONE MORE TIME

You will notice how the color adjectives change their form depending on the gender of the noun they modify. Try to memorize these forms as you hear them. You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>This is a blue pen.</i>	hādha qalam azraq.
<i>This is white paper.</i>	hādhihi waraqa baydā'.
<i>This is a red dress.</i>	hādha fustan aHmar.
<i>This is a black shirt.</i>	hādha qamīs aswad.
<i>This is (a pair) of brown shoes.</i>	hādha Hidha'a bunnī.
<i>These men are tall.</i>	hā'ula'i ar-rijal Tuwāl.



These women are beautiful.

hā'ula'i as-sayidāt jamīlāt.

This book is big.

hādha al-kitāb kabīr.

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure. When you hear nouns you are familiar with in unexpected forms, remember that nouns get different endings depending on their placement and function in sentences.

I am very happy!

ana sa'īdun jiddan!

My family is here in my house.

'ā'ilati huna fi bayti.

This is my brother's son Samir.

hādha ibn akhi sāmīr.

Samir is a child.

sāmīr Tifl.

Samir wants to draw.

sāmīr yuridu an yarsum.

His father gives him a pen and a paper.

abuhu ya'aTihi qalamun wa waraqa.

Samir draws a girl.

sāmīr yarsimu bintan.

The girl is wearing a red dress.

al-bint tartadi fustan aHmar.

The girl's hair is brown.

sha'ar al-bint bunnī.

It's his little sister Samia.

hādhihi ukhtuh aS-Saghīra samia.

Okay, let's go over some of the new words that you just heard. **jiddan** means *very*, and **huna** means *here*. You also learned a few new verbs, like **yuridu** (*wants*), **yarsum** (*draws*), **ya'aTi** (*gives*), and **tartadi** (*wears*). And you have also learned the words **Tifl** for *child* and **Saghīra** for *small*. Can you guess what the feminine form of **Tifl** is? That's right; it's **Tifla**. And can you guess the masculine form of the adjective **Saghīra**? You're right again; it's **Saghīr**. Now, let's move on.

WORK OUT

It's time to practice some of what you've learned. First, you'll hear a phrase in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

rajul Tawīl

a tall man

Tifl sa'īd

a happy child

bayt kabīr

a big house

fustan aHmar

a red dress



qalam azraq

a blue pen

waraqa baydā'

a white paper

Great! Now do the opposite; translate the phrase from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

color

laun

book

kitāb

green

akhDar

black

aswad

shoes

Hidha'a

shirt

qamīs

Now translate the following personal pronouns and nouns into Arabic, and then make sentences using some of the descriptive and color adjectives you've just learned. For example, if you hear *you, tall*, you should say **anta Taweel** or **anti Taweela**. Repeat the correct answers for practice.

I, happy

ana sa'īd./ana sa'īda.

you, tall

anta Tawīl./anti Tawīla.

he, small

huwa Saghīr.

she, beautiful

hiya jamīla.

a pen, blue

qalam azraq.

a paper, white

waraqa baydā'.

PARTING WORDS

ana sa'īdun jiddan! *I am very happy!* You have learned a lot about descriptive and color adjectives in this lesson. But there are, of course, many more colors and adjectives out there that you can learn on your own to expand your vocabulary. And you might find doing that *very interesting*, **jadīr bi-l ihtimam**, and maybe even *amusing*, **musalli!** *Have fun!* **mughamarat sa'īda!**





ad-dars as-sādis: fil-madīna

Lesson 6: Around town

kayf al-Hāl? *How are you?* Ready for Lesson 6? Let's go then. In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask for directions, and you will add new words to your vocabulary that you will find useful when talking about everyday errands. Let's get started. You'll hear the English first, and then you'll hear the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

post office

maktab al-barīd

pharmacy

Saydali'ya

hospital

mustashfa

supermarket

baqāla

university

jāmi'a

airport

maTār

hotel

funduq

taxi

sayārat al-ujra

address

'anwān

street

shār'a

square

maydān

intersection

taqāTu'a

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's take a minute to go over what you've just heard. You learned some important words, such as **maktab al-barīd** (*post office*), **Saydali'ya** (*pharmacy*), **mustashfa** (*hospital*), **baqāla** (*supermarket*), **jāmi'a** (*university*), **maTār** (*airport*), **funduq** (*hotel*), **sayārat al-ujra** (*taxi*), **'anwān** (*address*), **shār'a** (*street*), **maydān** (*square*), and **taqāTu'a** (*intersection*). Now let's talk a bit about some new important points of Arabic grammar.

There are two interrogative particles in Arabic used to form questions. One is the particle **mā** (*what*), which you came across earlier, and the other is the particle **hal**, used to form yes-no questions. For



example, you may ask **mā hādha?** (*What is this?*) and hear **hādha maktab al-barīd** (*This is the post office*) in response. Or you may ask a yes-no question such as **hal hādhihi Saydali'ya?** (*Is this a pharmacy?*), and hear **kalla, hādhihi baqāla** (*No, this is a supermarket*) in response. Okay, now let's learn a bit more vocabulary and some useful prepositions that will make asking for directions and getting around much easier. Ready?

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

<i>here</i>	huna
<i>there</i>	hunak
<i>near</i>	qarīb
<i>far</i>	ba'īd
<i>right</i>	yamīn
<i>left</i>	yasar
<i>before</i>	qabl
<i>after</i>	ba'd
<i>in front of</i>	amām
<i>behind</i>	khalf
<i>next to</i>	bijānib
<i>straight ahead</i>	ilal-amām

TAKE A BREAK 2

Let's go over these new words one more time. You've heard several prepositions and words that will help you describe the placement of things around you: **huna** (*here*), **hunak** (*there*), **qarīb** (*near*), **ba'īd** (*far*), **yamīn** (*right*), **yasar** (*left*), **qabl** (*before*), **ba'd** (*after*), **amām** (*in front of*), **khalf** (*behind*), **bijānib** (*next to*), and **ilal-amām** (*straight ahead*). To ask for directions, you will also need to know the question word **aina?** (*where?*). A lot of Arabic location expressions are held together by various prepositions; for example, the preposition **min** (*from*) is used together with the adjective **qarīb** (*near*) to say **qarīb min** (*near to*). Another word for *from* is **'ann** used in conjunction with the adjective **ba'īd** (*far*) in the phrase **ba'īd 'ann** (*far from*). You might also have spotted the preposition **ila** (*to or towards*), which you heard used in the word **ilal-amām**, meaning *towards the front or straight ahead*.



ONE MORE TIME

Okay, now let's put everything you've learned so far together into several questions and answers. Ready? As always, you'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

Where is this street?

aina hādha ash-shār'a?

The supermarket is near the hotel.

al-baqāla qariba min al-funduq.

The pharmacy is behind the post office.

as-Saydali'ya khalf maktab al-barīd.

Is the taxi here?

hal sayārat al-ujra huna?

There is an intersection before the square.

hunaka taqāTua qabl al-maydān.

Is this address far?

hal hādha al-'anwān ba'īd?

The hospital is behind the university.

al-mustashfa khalf aj-jāmi'a.

I am in front of the post office.

ana amām maktab al-barīd.

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together, and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure.

Excuse me, I am looking for this address.

'afwan, abHathu 'ann hādha al-'anwān.

This hotel is on Al-Nuzha Street.

hādha al-funduq fi shār'a al-nuzha.

Is Al-Nuzha Street near here?

hal shār'a al-nuzha qarīb min huna?

Yes, Al-Nuzha street is behind Al-Thawra Square.

na'am, shār'a al-nuzha khalf maydān ath-thawra.

And where is this square?

wa ayna hādha al-maydān?

This square is after the intersection and before the American University.

hādha al-maydān ba'd at-taqāTua wa qabl aj-jāmi'a al-amrikiyya.

The hotel is to the left of the SaHHa pharmacy and next to the post office.

al-funduq ila yasar Saydali'yat aS-SaHHa wa bijānib maktab al-barīd.

Will I need a taxi?

hal aHtaju sayārat al-ujra?

No, it's close to here,

kalla, innahu qarīb min huna,

and it's a nice walk.

wa innaha nuzhatun jamīla.

Thank you for your help.

shukran li-musā'adatak.

Okay, I am sure you spotted a few new words and maybe even figured out what they mean. You know the important words **'afwan** (*excuse me*) and **shukran** (*thank you*) from previous lessons. The verb **abHathu**



means *I am looking for*. You can practice the various imperfect tense forms of this verb by referring back to the verbs taught in Lesson 4. And surely you noticed the preposition **li** (*for*) next to **musā'adatak** in **li-musā'adatak** (*for your help*).

Notice that many names of streets, squares, and stores in Arab countries have an actual meaning. So, **shār'a al-nuzha** means a street where you can take a nice walk, or *the Promenade Street*. The other new words that you've just heard are **SaHHa** (*health*), used in the name of the pharmacy, **Saydali'yat aS-SaHHa** or *the Health Pharmacy*, and **ath-thawra** (*revolution*), used in the name of the square, **maydān ath-thawra** or *the Revolution Square*.

WORK OUT

Now let's practice some of what you've learned. First, you'll hear a word in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

mustashfa	<i>hospital</i>
baqāla	<i>supermarket</i>
'anwān	<i>address</i>
taqāTu'a	<i>intersection</i>
sayārat al-ujra	<i>taxi</i>

Great! Now do the opposite; translate the phrase from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>here</i>	huna
<i>there</i>	hunak
<i>near</i>	qarīb
<i>far</i>	ba'id
<i>Where?</i>	aina?

And now, put these words together into short sentences. For example, if you hear *hospital, here*, you should say **al-mustashfa huna** (*The hospital is here*). Repeat the correct answers for practice.

<i>hospital, here</i>	al-mustashfa huna.
<i>supermarket, there</i>	al-baqāla hunak.
<i>address, near</i>	al-'anwān qarīb.



intersection, far

al-taqāTu'a ba'id.

taxi, where

aina sayārat al-ujra?

PARTING WORDS

Remember that a lot of English and French words have been borrowed into colloquial dialects of Arabic, so in some Arab countries, you will find that a *supermarket* is referred to simply as a **supermarket** and a *taxi* is simply a **taxi**. You might also need to go to a *bank* (**maSraf**), which can also be referred to as **bank**. And in the evening, you may consider going to the **cinema** (*movies*). If you do, *have a good time!* **waqtan mumti'an!**



ad-dars as-sabi'a: fil-maT'am

Lesson 7: At a restaurant

marHaba! *Hello!* In this lesson, you'll learn how to describe food, how to order at a restaurant, and how to express your likes or dislikes in Arabic. First, here's some vocabulary to get you started. You'll hear the English first, followed by the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. **haya'a nabda'a!** *Let's begin!*

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

please

min faDlak

breakfast

iftar

lunch

ghadā'a

dinner

'asha'a

restaurant

maT'am

café

maqhā

tea

sha'i

coffee

qahwa

milk

Halīb

sugar

sukkar



water

mā'

menu

qā'imat aT-Ta'ām

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop for a moment. You've just learned how to say *please* (**min faDlak**), *breakfast* (**iftar**), *lunch* (**ghadā'a**), *dinner* (**'asha'a**), *restaurant* (**maT'am**), *café* (**maqhā**), *tea* (**sha'i**), *coffee* (**qahwa**), *milk* (**Halīb**), *sugar* (**sukkar**), *water* (**mā'**), and *menu* (**qā'imat aT-Ta'ām**).

Of course, you will need to know some more verbs to be able to construct complete sentences. Remember from Lesson 4 that Arabic verbs use prefixes and suffixes to reflect the gender and number of the person talking, talked to or about—for example, **aHmed yatanawal al-iftar** (*Ahmed is eating breakfast*), **mona tashrab ash-sha'i** (*Mona is drinking tea*), and **mustafa y'akul fil-maT'am** (*Mustafa is eating at the restaurant*). You can practice the other forms of each of these three verbs on your own, using the verbs in Lesson 4 for reference. And now, are you ready for some more vocabulary? As usual, listen and repeat in the pauses provided.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

May I have . . . ?

mumkin . . . ?

I will have . . .

s'atanawal . . .

I would like . . .

urid . . .

delicious

shah'i

meat

laHm

chicken

dajāj

rice

ruz

vegetables

khuDrawāt

soup

shurba

bread

khubz

salad

salaTa

dessert

Halwa

glass

kūb

cup

finjān



TAKE A BREAK 2

You've just learned some important expressions, such as **mumkin . . . ?** (*May I have . . . ?*), **s'atanawal . . .** (*I will have . . .*), and **urid . . .** (*I would like . . .*), as well as such vocabulary as **shah'i** (*delicious*), **laHm** (*meat*), **dajāj** (*chicken*), **ruz** (*rice*), **khudrawat** (*vegetables*), **shurba** (*soup*), **khubz** (*bread*), **salaTa** (*salad*), **Halwa** (*dessert*), **kūb** (*a glass*), and **finjān** (*a cup*). Do you remember the preposition **fi** (*in*) from previous lessons? You can use it here to say things like **al-mā' fil-kūb** (*The water is in the glass*). And you already know that prepositions sometimes blend into the definite article **al**, as in **fil-finjān** (*in the cup*) or **bil-maT'am** (*at the restaurant*). And by the way, just to refresh your memory about the Arabic gender, the feminine form of the adjective **shah'i** (*delicious*) is **shah'iya**. So, for example, we say **laHm shah'i** (*delicious meat*), because the word for *meat* in Arabic, **laHm**, is of masculine gender, but for *soup*, **shurba**, which is of feminine gender, we say **shurba shah'iya** (*delicious soup*).

ONE MORE TIME

Okay, let's put everything you've learned so far together in short sentences. You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

This is a good restaurant for dinner.

hādha maT'am jayīd lil-'asha'a.

I will have the coffee at the café.

s'atanawal al-qahwa fil-maqhā.

I would like tea with milk.

uridu sha'i bil-Halīb.

The water is in the glass.

al-mā' fil-kūb.

The coffee is in the cup.

al-qahwa fil-finjān.

The sugar is in the coffee.

as-sukkar fil-qahwa.

The chicken is delicious.

ad-dajāj shah'i.

This dessert is for dinner.

hādhihi al-Halwa lil-'asha'a.

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together in a dialogue and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure.

May I have the menu, please?

mumkin qa'emat aT-Ta'am min faDlak?

Of course. Here is the dinner menu.

Taba'an. hādhihi qā'imat aT-Ta'am al-'asha'a.

Thank you. I will have the vegetable soup.

shukran. s'atanawal shurbat al-khudrawāt.

I suggest the lentil soup. It's better in the winter.

anSaHuki bi shurbat al-'ads. innaha afDal fish-shitā'.



All right. I would also like to order the grilled chicken.

A very good choice! The grilled chicken is delicious. Would you like rice or salad with the chicken?

A salad, please. And if possible, a glass of water and some bread.

Certainly. Would you like to order dessert now?

No. I will only have a cup of coffee with milk after dinner.

Hasanan. wa urid aiDan ann aTlub ad-dajāj al-mashwi.

ikhtiyar jayid jiddan! ad-dajāj al-mashwi shah'ī. hal turīdin ruz aw salaTa ma'ad-dajāj?

salaTa min faDlak. wa idha samaHt, kūb mā' wa ba'D al-khubz.

bil-ta'akīd. hal turīden ann taTlubi al-Halwa al'an?

kalla. s'atanawal finjān qahwa bil-Halīb faqaT ba'd al-'asha'a.

Okay, you already have enough knowledge of Arabic and have probably figured out the meanings of all the new words that you just heard. Let's go over them just in case: **anSaHuki bi** (*I recommend*), **afDal** (*better*), **fish-shitā'** (*in the winter*), **Hasanan** (*all right*), **mashui** (*grilled*), **ikhtiyar** (*choice*), **idha samaht** (*if you please*), **bil-ta'akīd** (*of course*), and **faqaT** (*only*). And you probably noticed the new preposition **ma'a** (*with*) in **ma'ad-dajāj** (*with the chicken*).

WORK OUT

Now let's practice some of what you've learned. First, you'll hear a phrase in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

qā'imat aT-T'ām	menu
shurbāt al-khuDrawāt	vegetable soup
ad-dajāj al-mashwi	grilled chicken
kūb mā'	glass of water
finjān qahwa	cup of coffee

Great! Now do the opposite; translate the following words from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

breakfast	iftar
lunch	ghadā'a
dinner	'asha'a



restaurant

maT'am

café

maqhā

And now translate the following phrases from English into Arabic. Repeat the correct answers for practice.

glass of water

kūb mā'

cup of tea

finjān sha'i

milk and sugar

Halīb wa sukkar

bread and vegetables

khubz wa khuDrawāt

I would like some soup.

urid shurba.

PARTING WORDS

'aDHim! *Great!* You've finished the lesson and learned the basic vocabulary that you need to be able to enjoy some of the wonderful foods the Arab countries have to offer. Of course, you might also need to ask for a *plate* (**Tabaq**), a *spoon* (**mil'aqa**), a *fork* (**shuka**), or a *knife* (**sakkīn**). Did you know that during the holy Muslim month of Ramadan, many Arabs observe a complete fast and do not eat or drink anything from sunrise to sunset? Also during Ramadan, you will hear that dinner—**'ash'aa**—is referred to as breakfast—**iftar**—because it's the first meal of the day after the fast is broken at sunset. The month of Ramadan is followed by a holiday called **eid al-fiTr**, a three day celebration during which it is customary to visit your friends and relatives and enjoy many grand meals. **wajba haniya!** *Have a nice meal!*



ad-dars ath-thāmin: al-Haya al-yaumiya

Lesson 8: Everyday life

ahlan wa sahlān! *Welcome!* In this lesson, you'll learn more vocabulary and structure that will help you communicate with others about everyday life and topics such as weather. You'll also learn how to make requests and issue commands, and how to negate nouns, adjectives and verbs. As always, you'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. **haya'a nabda'a!** *Let's begin!*



VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

<i>today</i>	al-yaum
<i>week</i>	usbū‘
<i>month</i>	shahr
<i>summer</i>	Sayf
<i>spring</i>	rabi‘
<i>fall</i>	kharīf
<i>weather</i>	jaww
<i>newspaper</i>	jarīda
<i>news</i>	akhbār
<i>museum</i>	matHaf
<i>theater</i>	masraH

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's take a break here. You learned how to say **al-yaum** (*today*), **usbū‘** (*week*), **shahr** (*month*), **Sayf** (*summer*), **rabi‘** (*spring*), and **kharīf** (*fall*). You learned the Arabic word for *winter* in the previous lesson. Can you remember what it was? That's right; it's **shitā‘**. Today you also learned how to say **jaww** (*weather*), **jarīda** (*newspaper*), **akhbār** (*news*), **matHaf** (*museum*), and **masraH** (*theater*).

Now let's talk a bit about the imperative form of Arabic verbs used to issue commands and make requests. Imperatives are formed by adding a vowel to the beginning of the verbs, in place of the prefixes that you already know. There are three forms of the imperative: masculine, when addressing a man; feminine, when addressing a woman; and plural, when addressing more than one person. In addition to the vowel at the beginning, the feminine form also takes the ending **-i** and the plural form takes the ending **-u**. Let's take the imperfect masculine form of the verb *to go*, **yadhhab** (*he goes*), as an example. The imperative masculine singular form of this verb is **idhhab!** (*Go!*) and the imperative feminine singular is **idhhabi!** (*Go!*). The plural form is **idhhabu!** (*Go!*). We'll practice the imperatives in sentences later on in this lesson. Now, let's continue with some more useful vocabulary.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

<i>warm</i>	dafi‘i
<i>hot</i>	Hārr
<i>cold</i>	bārid



<i>pleasant</i>	laTif
<i>sun</i>	shams
<i>moon</i>	qamar
<i>rain</i>	maTar
<i>wind</i>	riyaH
<i>strong</i>	shadid
<i>moderate</i>	mu'atadil
<i>dry</i>	jāf

TAKE A BREAK 2

Let's pause here. You've learned a lot of useful adjectives, like **dafi'i** (*warm*), **Hārr** (*hot*), **bārid** (*cold*), **laTif** (*pleasant*), **shadid** (*strong*), **mu'atadil** (*moderate*), and **jāf** (*dry*). But what if you want to say *not warm*? An adjective in Arabic is negated by placing the particle **laysa** directly before it. With adjectives of feminine gender, **laysat**, with a **-t** at the end, is used instead. For example: **laysa dafi'i** (*not warm*) and **laysa Hārr** (*not hot*) for the masculine, and **laysat dafi'a** (*not warm*) and **laysat Hārra** (*not hot*) for the feminine. To negate verbs use **ma** for verbs in the imperfect tense and **lan** for verbs in the future tense—for example: **ma adhhab** (*I am not going*), **lan adhhab** (*I will not go*). You'll hear more examples of negative adjectives and verbs later on in the lesson.

ONE MORE TIME

Okay, let's put together everything you've learned so far. As usual, you'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>Spring is warm.</i>	ar-rabi'dafi'i.
<i>Summer is hot.</i>	aS-Sayf Hārr.
<i>Fall is not warm.</i>	al-kharif laysa dafi'i.
<i>Winter is not hot.</i>	ash-shitā' laysa Hārr.
<i>The wind is strong.</i>	ar-riyaH shadīda.
<i>The weather is pleasant.</i>	al-jaww laTif.
<i>today's newspaper</i>	jarīdat al-yaum
<i>This is not a theater.</i>	hādha laysa masraH.
<i>This is a museum.</i>	hādha matHaf.



BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure.

Hello, Mona! The weather is pleasant today.

Yes, Tareq, the sun is very warm.

And the wind is not strong.

No, it's refreshing!

According to the weather forecast in the newspaper, the weather will be mild this week.

Spring in Beirut is always moderate.

And not rainy at all!

But the winter is sometimes rainy and cold.

In the winter, I like to go to the museum or the theater.

But today let's go to a place of nature!

Great idea!

ahlan mona! al-jaww laTif al-yaum.

na'am, ya Tareq, inn ash-shams dafi'a jiddan.

wa al-riyaH laysat shadida.

kalla, innaha mon'aisha!

Hasab an-nashra al-jawwiya fil-jarida, hadha al-usbū'a mu'atadil al-jaww.

ar-rabi' bi beirut da'iman mu'atadil.

wa laysa mūmTir alal-iTlaq!

lakin ash-shitā' aHyanan mūmTir wa bārid.

fil-shitā' uHebbu an adhhab ilal-matHaf aw ilal-masraH.

wa lakin al-yaum haya nadhab ilal-Tabi'a!

fikra ha'ila!

Okay, let's go over the new words in this dialogue: **mon'aisha** (*refreshing*), **Hasab** (*according to*), **an-nashra al-jawwiya** (*weather forecast*), **da'eman** (*always*), **aHyanan** (*sometimes*), **mūmTir** (*rainy*), **alal-iTlaq** (*at all*), **uHebbu** (*I like or I love*), and **Tabi'a** (*nature*). Now let's practice some of what you've learned. Isn't this a **fikra ha'ila**, a *great idea*?

WORK OUT

First, you'll hear a phrase in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

al-jaww Hārr.

The weather is hot.

ash-shams dafi'a.

The sun is warm.

ar-riyaH laysat bārida.

The wind is not cold.

idhhab ilal-masraH.

Go to the theater. (to a man)

idhhabi ilal-matHaf.

Go to the museum. (to a woman)



Great! Now do the opposite, translating the phrase from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>Go! (to a man)</i>	idhhab!
<i>Go! (to a woman)</i>	idhhabi!
<i>Go! (to a group of people)</i>	idhhabu!
<i>The summer is not cold.</i>	aS-Sayf laysa bārid.
<i>The winter is not dry.</i>	ash-shitā' laysa jāf.

Now translate the following words into Arabic, and then negate them using the particle **laysa**. Repeat the correct answers for practice.

<i>hot</i>	Harr, laysa Hārr
<i>pleasant</i>	laTif, laysa laTif
<i>strong</i>	shadīd, laysa shadīd
<i>moderate</i>	mu'atadil, laysa mu'atadil
<i>dry</i>	jāf, laysa jāf

PARTING WORDS

rā'ca! *Wonderful!* You'll be happy to know that the weather is quite pleasant in most Arab countries throughout the year, except for the summers, which can be quite hot, so make sure you go prepared. Did you know that many Arab countries, for religious and sometimes also civil purposes, follow a calendar different from the Gregorian calendar used in the United States? The Islamic Hijri calendar, or **al-taquīm al-hijri**, is calculated from the year AD 622, when the prophet Mohamed emigrated to Mecca. And while the names of the Gregorian calendar months in Arabic are very similar to their European counterparts—for example, **yanayir** for *January*, **fibrayir** for *February*, and **mars** for *March*—the months of the Islamic calendar have very different names, like **muHarram** for the first month of the year, **Safar** for the second month, and **rabi' al-awwal** for the third month. **ilal-liq'a!** *Till next time!*





ad-dars at-tāsi'a: fil-maktab

Lesson 9: At work

kayf al-Hal? *How are you?* In this lesson, you'll learn how to ask the time and tell time in Arabic, in addition to learning some work-related vocabulary. Let's get started right away! First you'll hear the English, and then you'll hear the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

<i>Monday</i>	al-ithnayn
<i>Tuesday</i>	ath-thulāthā'
<i>Wednesday</i>	al-arbi'ā'
<i>Thursday</i>	al-khamīs
<i>Friday</i>	al-jum'a
<i>Saturday</i>	as-sabt
<i>Sunday</i>	al-aHad
<i>tomorrow</i>	ghadan
<i>yesterday</i>	al-bāriHa
<i>noon</i>	aDH-DHuhr
<i>afternoon</i>	ba'd aDH-DHuhr
<i>night</i>	al-layl

TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop here and sum up what you've just heard. You learned how to say days of the week in Arabic: **al-ithnayn** (*Monday*), **ath-thulāthā'** (*Tuesday*), **al-arbi'ā'** (*Wednesday*), **al-khamīs** (*Thursday*), **al-jum'a** (*Friday*), **as-sabt** (*Saturday*), and **al-aHad** (*Sunday*). The day of the week is always preceded by the word **yaum** (*day*); for example, *Monday* is referred to as **yaum al-ithnayn**. You also learned how to say **ghadan** (*tomorrow*), **al-bāriHa** (*yesterday*), **aDH-DHuhr** (*noon*), **ba'd aDH-DHuhr** (*afternoon*), and **al-layl** (*night*). And I'm sure you remember the words **SabāH** (*morning*) and **masā'** (*evening*) from Lesson 1 and the word **usbū'** (*week*) from Lesson 8. Now, let's add a couple of more useful words. **māDi** means *last*, and **qādim** means *next*. So, if you'd like to refer to something that happened last Monday, you would



say **al-ithnayn al-māDi**, and to refer to something that will happen next Monday, you would say **al-ithnayn al-qādim**. Okay, let's listen now to some more vocabulary.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

<i>What time is it?</i>	kam al-waqt?
<i>It's . . . o'clock.</i>	as-sā'a . . .
<i>when</i>	mata
<i>hour</i>	sā'a
<i>minute</i>	daqīqa
<i>year</i>	sana
<i>half</i>	niSf
<i>quarter</i>	rub'a
<i>soon</i>	qarīban
<i>never</i>	abadan
<i>every day</i>	kulla-yaum

TAKE A BREAK 2

Let's pause there for a moment. Now you know how to ask the time by using **kam al-waqt?** (*What time is it?*) and answer the question by saying **as-sā'a . . .** (*It's . . . o'clock*, literally, *The time is . . .*). You know how to form questions using **mata** (*when*), and you learned how to say **sā'a** (*hour*), **daqīqa** (*minute*), **sana** (*year*), **niSf** (*half*), **rub'a** (*quarter*), **qarīban** (*soon*), **abadan** (*never*), and **kulla-yaum** (*every day* or *daily*). And do you remember the word **aHyanan?** Yes, you learned it in Lesson 8, and it means *sometimes*.

ONE MORE TIME

Okay, let's put together everything you've learned so far with some prepositions and numbers and learn how to answer the question **kam al-waqt?** (*What time is it?*) in several different ways. You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>What time is it?</i>	kam al-waqt?
<i>It's exactly ten o'clock.</i>	as-sā'a al-'ashara tamamen.
<i>It's ten past two.</i>	as-sā'a ath-thaniya wa 'ashar daqā'iq.



It's ten to two.

It's half past three.

It's a quarter past four.

It's a quarter to four.

It's twelve o'clock noon.

It's between two and four o'clock.

It's approximately four o'clock in the morning.

It's eight in the evening.

It's midnight.

as-sā'a ath-thaniya illa 'ashar daqā'iq.

as-sā'a ath-thaletha wa n-niSf.

as-sā'a ar-rabi'a wa r-rub'.

as-sā'a ar-rābi'a illa rub'.

as-sā'a ath-thāniyat 'ashar Dhuhran.

as-sā'a bayna ath-thāniya war-rābi'a.

as-sā'a Hawali ar-rābi'a SabaHan.

as-sā'a ath-thāmina masā'an.

al-waqt muntaSaf al-layl.

Have you guessed that **tamaman** means *exactly* and that **daqā'iq** (*minutes*) is the plural of **daqīqa**, *midnight* is **muntaSaf al-layla**, **bayna** means *between*, **Hawali** means *approximately*, **SabaHan** means *in the morning*, and **masā'an** means *in the evening*? And notice that the expression **al-waqt muntaSaf al-layl** (*it's midnight*) is an exception, with **al-waqt** being used instead of **as-sā'a** to indicate time.

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together, and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure.

Welcome to our company!

Thank you! Am I late?

No problem. Let me take you to your desk.

Everybody looks so busy!

It's a big office! This is your computer and you can use this telephone.

Thank you! I look forward to meeting my colleagues!

I will introduce you to everyone at the meeting this afternoon.

marHaban bik fi sharikatuna!

shukran! hal ta'akhart?

la ba'as. d'aini urafiquka ila maktabuk.

yabdu ann al-jāmi'a mashghūlūn jiddan!

annahu maktab kabīr! haDHa huwa Hasūbak wa b-imkanak an tust'amal haDHa al-hatif.

shukran! innani atTal'a ila muqabālat zumala'!

sa-uqadimuka lil-jāmi'a al-yaum ba'd aDH-DHuhr fil-ijtimā'.

Okay, let's sum up the new words you just heard. **sharikatuna** as you must have guessed means *our company*. The word for company is **sharika**, which can also mean *partnership*. Note the expressions **hal ta'akhart?** (*Am I late?*), **la ba'as** (*No problem*), and **d'aini urafiquka . . .** (*Let me take you to . . .*). In case you forget the Arabic words **Hasūb** (*computer*) and **hātif** (*telephone*), you can refer to them simply as **kumbutir** and **tilifūn**. **yabdu** means *seems* and **mashghūlūn** is the plural form of *busy*. You must



remember **maktab** from previous lessons as *desk* or *study*; here it also means *office*—makes sense!
atTal'a ila means *to look forward to*, **muqablat** means *meeting*, **zumala'i** means *my colleagues*. And finally, **sa-uqadimuka** means *I will introduce you* and **ijtimā'** means *meeting*.

WORK OUT

And now let's practice some of what you've just learned. First, you'll hear the days of the week in Arabic, and you should translate them into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

al-ithnayn	<i>Monday</i>
ath-thulāthā'	<i>Tuesday</i>
al-arbi'ā'	<i>Wednesday</i>
al-khamīs	<i>Thursday</i>
al-jum'a	<i>Friday</i>
as-sabt	<i>Saturday</i>
al-aHad	<i>Sunday</i>

Great! Now do the opposite, translating the following words from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>tomorrow</i>	ghadan
<i>yesterday</i>	al-bāriHa
<i>noon</i>	aDH-DHuhr
<i>afternoon</i>	ba'd aDH-DHuhr
<i>tonight</i>	al-layl

Now translate the following phrases into Arabic. Later, you can practice different variations of time expressions on your own.

<i>What time is it?</i>	kam al-waqt?
<i>It's ten o'clock.</i>	as-sā'a al-'ashara.
<i>when</i>	mata
<i>soon</i>	qariban
<i>never</i>	abadan



PARTING WORDS

mabrūk! *Congratulations!* Now you will always know what time it is in Arabic, and if you don't, you'll be able to ask! Of course, you might also need to ask other questions using the question word **kam** (*how much*), such as **kam as-sa'ar?** (*What's the price?*), **kam al-wazn?** (*What's the weight?*), or **kam darajat al-Harāra?** (*What is the temperature?*). By the way, remember that the metric system is used in most Arab countries, so you also need to know such words as **kilo** (*kilogram*), **gram** (*gram*), **santimitr** (*centimeter*), and **mitr** (*meter*), as well as the degrees in Celsius rather than Fahrenheit.



ad-dars al-'ashir: al-Haya al-ijtimaiya

Lesson 10: Socializing and entertainment

marHaba! *Welcome!* We are almost at the end of our course, and for this last bit, we should have some fun. Let's go to the beach! And while we're there, we will learn a lot of fun vocabulary that you can use to talk about socializing and entertainment. You'll also learn some irregular plurals and get an idea of the comparative and superlative forms of adjectives in Arabic. Ready? You'll hear the English first, and then you'll hear the Arabic. Repeat each new word or phrase every time you hear it. **haya nabd'a!** *Let's begin!*

VOCABULARY BUILDING 1

<i>I love</i>	uHebb
<i>sea</i>	baHr
<i>boat</i>	bākhira
<i>shore or beach</i>	shāTi'
<i>sand</i>	raml
<i>swimming</i>	sibāHa
<i>running</i>	raqD
<i>mountains</i>	jibāl
<i>lake</i>	buHayra
<i>river</i>	nahr
<i>forest</i>	ghāba
<i>desert</i>	SaHrā'a



TAKE A BREAK 1

Okay, let's stop here for a moment. You already know the word **nuzha** (*walk*) from previous lessons, and now you also learned how to say **uHeb** (*I love or I like*), **baHr** (*sea*), **bākhira** (*boat*), **shāTi'** (*shore or beach*), **raml** (*sand*), **sibāHa** (*swimming*), **raqD** (*running*), **jibāl** (*mountains*), **buHayra** (*lake*), **nahr** (*river*), **ghāba** (*forest*), and **SaHrā'a** (*desert*). Imagine all the fun things you can say using these words! And if you are ready for more, in the evening, you can go *dancing* (**r'āqS**).

Some of the nouns that you just heard have irregular plural forms. Let's take a look at some examples; remember you'll need to memorize these plurals as they do not follow the regular patterns we discussed earlier. First you'll hear the singular, and then the plural: **baHr** (*sea*), **biHār** (*seas*); **bākhira** (*boat*), **bawākhir** (*boats*); **shāTi'** (*shore*), **shawāTi'i** (*shores*); **raml** (*sand*), **rimāl** (*sands*); **nahr** (*river*), **anhār** (*ivers*). And to refresh your memory about the regular plurals you learned in Lesson 2, let's look at these examples: **buHayra** (*lake*), **buHayrāt** (*lakes*); **ghāba** (*forest*), **ghabāt** (*forests*). And what would be the singular form of the regular plural **jibāl** (*mountains*)? That's right; it's **jabal** (*mountain*). Okay, let's learn some more fun vocabulary.

VOCABULARY BUILDING 2

<i>player</i>	lā'aīb
<i>sports</i>	riyāDa
<i>team</i>	fariq
<i>skillful</i>	shāTir
<i>game</i>	mubārā
<i>basketball</i>	kurat as-salla
<i>ball</i>	kura
<i>to win</i>	yafūz
<i>winner</i>	fā'iz
<i>better</i>	afDal
<i>best</i>	al-afDal
<i>worse</i>	aswa'a
<i>worst</i>	al-aswa'a



TAKE A BREAK 2

Let's take a minute to talk about how the comparative and superlative forms of adjectives are formed. These two forms are used to express degrees of a certain property when comparing two or more items. The Arabic comparative is formed by adding the prefix **a-** to the beginning of an adjective—for example, **afDal** (*better*), **aswa'a** (*worse*), **ashTar** (*more skillful*). The comparative form can be used as an adverb, as in **uhibbu hāDha afDal** (*I like this better*), or as an adjective, followed by the preposition **min** (*from*), as in **ar-riyāDa afDal min an-nuzha** (*Sports are better than walking*). The Arabic superlative form is constructed by adding the definite article **al** to the comparative form, for example: **al-afDal** (*the best*), **al-aswa'a** (*the worst*), **al-ashTar** (*the most skillful*).

ONE MORE TIME

Okay, let's put everything you've learned so far together into complete sentences. You'll hear the English first, and then the Arabic, which you should repeat for practice.

I love the sea.

uHibbu al-baHr.

I love swimming in the sea.

uHibbu as-sibāHa fil-baHr.

I also love swimming in the lake.

uHibbu ayDan as-sibāHa fil-buHayra.

But swimming in the river is better.

wa lakin as-sibāHa fil-nahr afDal.

I also love the desert and the forest.

uHibbu ayDan as-SaHrā'a wal-ghaba.

But the sea is the best!

wa lakin al-baHr huwa al-afDal!

BRING IT ALL TOGETHER

Now let's bring it all together and add a little bit more vocabulary and structure.

I am spending the day at the beach with my friends.

aqDi al-yaum ala shāT'i al-baHr ma'a aSdiqā'.

We love swimming in the sea.

naHnu nuHebb as-sibāHa fil-baHr.

And walking on the seashore.

wan-nuzha ala shāTi' al-baHr.

In the afternoon we will play a sports game.

ba'd aDH-DHuhr sanala'ab mubara riyāDiya.

Maybe a game of basketball.

rubbama mubarat kurat as-salla.

Ahmed's team is very skillful.

fariq aHmed shāTir jiddan.

But my team is better.

lakin fariqi afDal.



We won!

laqad fuzna!

What a great day!

annahu yaumun aDHim!

And now let's go over some of the new vocabulary you've just heard. **aqDi** means *to spend time doing something*. Refer to Lesson 4 if you'd like to figure out the various imperfect tense forms of this verb. **sanala'ab** is the future tense of the verb **yala'ab** (*to play*), meaning *we'll play*; **fuzna** is the past tense of the verb **yafuz** (*to win*), meaning *we won*. And **aSdiqā'** is the irregular plural of the masculine word **Sadiq** (*friend*). Can you guess what the feminine form of the word is? Yes, it's **Sadiqa**. Okay, now let's do some exercises for practice.

WORK OUT

First, you'll hear a word in Arabic, and you should translate it into English. You'll hear the correct answer after a pause.

raml	<i>sand</i>
jibāl	<i>mountains</i>
nahr	<i>river</i>
SaHrā'a	<i>desert</i>
ghaba	<i>forest</i>

Great! Now do the opposite, translating the word from English into Arabic. After a pause, you'll hear the right answer, which you should repeat for practice.

<i>player</i>	la'aib
<i>he plays</i>	yala'ab
<i>skillful</i>	shāTir
<i>ball</i>	kura
<i>basketball</i>	kurat as-salla
<i>winner</i>	fā'iz
<i>he wins</i>	yafuz

Now translate the following words into Arabic, and then add a verb to make a sentence with them. For example, if you hear *a match, he wins*, you'd respond by saying **mubāra, yafuz bil-mubāra** (*he wins the match*). Repeat the correct answers for practice.



a match, he wins

mubāra, yafuz bil-mubāra

the sea, I love

baHr, uHibb al-baHr

sports, he plays

riyāDa, yala'ab riyāDa

a lake, he swims

buHayra, yasbaHu fil-buHayra

a day, I spend

yaum, aqDi al-yaum

PARTING WORDS

There are a lot of religious feasts and holidays in Arab countries, where a variety of different faiths are practiced. Did you know that Friday is a holy day and a day off from work for Muslims? The Friday prayer, which starts at noon, takes up a big part of the afternoon. Many Muslim holidays last more than one day. A popular Muslim holiday is **al-mawlid an-nabāwi**, which is the celebration of the prophet Mohammed's birthday. During that holiday, it is customary to distribute candy to children, and many different celebrations, such as horse dances, take place in the streets. Other popular holidays are **ra'as as-sana** (*New Year's*) and **eid al-fiSH** (*Easter*), for Arabs of the Christian faith.

mabrūk! *Congratulations!* You've done a great job in this course and have just completed its tenth and final lesson. You've learned a lot of practical vocabulary and useful basic grammar, which now you are all ready to put to use. For more practice with conversations, listen to the dialogues. **HaDHan sa'idan!** *Best of luck!*



Dialogue

marHaba! *Welcome!* Here's your chance to practice all the vocabulary and grammar you've mastered in ten lessons of Starting Out in Arabic with these five everyday dialogues.

You'll hear the dialogue first in Arabic at a conversational pace. Listen carefully for meaning. Can you get the gist of the conversation? Next, you'll hear each sentence individually, first in Arabic and then in English. This should help fill in any gaps in understanding you had the first time. Then, you'll have a chance to listen to each sentence of the dialogue again and repeat it for practice. Finally, you'll do some role-play by taking part in the same conversation. You'll first hear the native speaker say a line from the dialogue, then you'll respond appropriately in the pause provided. Have fun!



DIALOGUE 1

bayt aHmed aj-jadid

Ahmed's new house

- Ahmed: **ahlan, ya nabila!**
Hello, Nabila!
- Nabila: **ahlan, ya aHmed! kayf al-Häl?**
Hello, Ahmed! How are you?
- A: **bi-khayr, shukran. ahlan biki fi bayti aj-jadid!**
I am well, thank you. Welcome to my new house!
- N: **annahu baytun kabir! wa mushmis aiDan!**
This is a big house! And sunny too!
- A: **na'am, naHnu sua'ad'a jiddan huna. ladaina ghurfat julus kabira, thalath ghuraf naum wa Hadiqatun jamila.**
Yes, we are very happy here. We have a big living room, three bedrooms, and a beautiful garden.
- N: **wa hal fa'alta kull hadhihi at-tajdidat?**
And did you make all these renovations?
- A: **kalla, al-maTbakh wal-Hammam kanu judad.**
No, the kitchen and the bathroom were new.
- N: **unDHur 'ala hadhihi ash-shuraf al-kabira fi ghurfat aT-Ta'am! bit-ta'akid hadhihi al-ghurfa dafi'a da'iman fiS-Sabah.**
Look at these big windows in the dining room! This room must be always very warm in the morning.
- A: **na'am. zawjati wal-awlad yaHibbun tanawal al-ifTar huna fil-Sabah.**
Yes, my wife and children love to have breakfast here.
- N: **wa hal hahda al-athath jadid?**
And is this furniture new?
- A: **kalla, annahu min baytina al-qadim. wa lakin athath ghurfat al-maktab jadid.**
No, it's from our old house. But the furniture in the study is new.
- N: **hal al-bayt qarib min maktabak?**
Is the house near your office?
- A: **na'am. wa aiDan qarib min maktab zawjati wa madrasat al-awlad.**
Yes, and also near my wife's office and children's school.
- N: **aDHim! wa aiDan qarib min bayt akhik, a laysa kadhalik?**
Wonderful! And also near your brother's house, right?



- A: **na'am, akhi wa a'ilatihū yaskunun bijanib maidan ath-thawra; innaha nuzha qarība min huna.**
Yes, my brother and his family live near the Al-Thawra square; it's a short walk from here.
- N: **mabrūk, ya aHmed! annahu baytun jamīl.**
Congratulations, Ahmed! It's a beautiful house.
- A: **shukran. innana maHDHūDHun.**
Thank you. We are very lucky.

New words: **fa'alta** (*did*), **at-tajdidāt** (*renovations*), **bit-t'akīd** (*for sure*), **a laysa kadhalik?** (*Right?/Isn't that so?*), **maHDHūDHun** (*lucky*).

DIALOGUE 2

aHmed wa mona yatanawalan al-'asha'a

Ahmed and Mona have dinner

- Mona: **hādha maT'am laTif, ya aHmed.**
This is a nice restaurant, Ahmed.
- Ahmed: **na'am, ya mona, annhu jayīd jiddan lil-'asha'a.**
Yes, Mona. It's very good for dinner.
- M: **hunaka ashya'a shahiya kathīra fi qā'imat aT-T'ām.**
There are many delicious things on the menu.
- A: **ana urid shurbat al-khuDrawāt.**
I would like a vegetable soup.
- M: **aw rubbama shurbat al-'ads?**
Or maybe the lentil soup?
- A: **mumkin ann naTlub shurbatān mukhtalifatān.**
We can order two different soups.
- M: **wa ba'd ash-shurba urid salaTa shah'iya.**
And after the soup, I would like a delicious salad.
- A: **fikra ha'ila! as-salaTa jayīda jiddan fiS-Saif.**
Great idea! Salad is very good in the summer.
- M: **wa anta, madha turid?**
And you, what would you like?
- A: **satanawal ad-dajāj al-mashwi ma'ar-ruz.**
I will have the grilled chicken with rice.



- M: **ikhtiyar jayīd jiddan!**
A very good choice!
- A: **wa hay'a naTlub kubān mā'.**
And let's order two glasses of water.
- M: **bit-ta'akīd. wa ba'D akh-khubz.**
Of course. And some bread.
- A: **akh-khubz huna da'iman Tāzīj.**
The bread here is always fresh.
- M: **wa ba'd al-asha'a mumkin ann naTlub al-Halwa.**
And after dinner we can order dessert.
- A: **ana urid ba'D al-baqlawa wa finjān qahwa.**
I would like some baklava and a cup of coffee.
- M: **ana urid finjān qahwa aiDan. sanaTlub finjanān qahwa.**
I would like coffee, too. We will order two cups of coffee.
- A: **bit-ta'akīd.**
Certainly.
- M: **wa fi-ma ba'd mumkin an nadhhab ilal-sinema. annaha qarība min huna.**
And later we can go to the cinema. It's very nearby.
- A: **aDHim! hay'a naTlub!**
Wonderful! Let's order!

New words: **ashya'a** (*things*), **mukhtalifatān** (*different*), **Tāzīj** (*fresh*).

DIALOGUE 3

fil-baqāla

At the supermarket

- Ahmed: **hal naHtaj Halīb, ya mona?**
Mona, do we need milk?
- Mona: **na'am, ya aHmed. naHtaju Halīb wa sukkar.**
Yes, Ahmed. We need milk and sugar.
- A: **Hasanan. wa mādha min al-khudrawāt turidīn?**
All right. And what vegetables do you want to get?
- M: **ba'D as-salaTa aT-Tāzija, TamaTim wa khiyār.**
Some fresh salad, tomatoes, and cucumbers.



- A: **rubbama mumkin aiDan an nashtari ba'D al-baTaTes wal-faSulia al-khadra'a.**
Maybe we can also get some potatoes and green beans?
- M: **fikra ha'ila! naHtaju aiDan ba'D ar-ruz.**
Good idea! And we need some rice.
- A: **wash-shai.**
And tea.
- M: **wa ba'D al-Halwa lil-awlad.**
And some dessert for the children.
- A: **wa ba'D al-fākiha.**
And some fruit.
- M: **hādha al-baTikh shah'iy!**
This watermelon looks delicious!
- A: **aDHim! sanashtari al-baTikh wa hādha at-tufāH al-aHmar.**
Wonderful! We'll get the watermelon and these red apples.
- M: **hal taHtaj ba'D al-aqlam li-maktabak?**
Do you need some pens for your office?
- A: **na'am, rubbama thalāth aqlam. qalam azraq, qalam aHmar wa qalam aswad.**
Yes, maybe three pens. A blue pen, a red pen, and a black pen.
- M: **wa ba'D al-aqlām lil-awlād aiDan. huna khams aqlam zurq.**
And some pens for the children, too. Here are five blue pens.
- A: **yajib aidan ann nashtari hadiya li-ukhti. eid miladuha al-asbua'a al-qadim.**
We must also get a present for my sister. It's her birthday next week.
- M: **mumkin ann nu'atiha kitāb.**
We can get her a book.
- A: **na'am, innha satakun sa'ida bi-hādha.**
Yes, she would be happy with that.
- M: **matjar al-kutub bi-janīb al-baqāla.**
The bookstore is next to the supermarket.
- A: **hay'a nashtari al-khuDrawāt thumma nadhhab ila matjar al-kutub.**
Let's buy the vegetables here and then go to the bookstore.
- M: **aDHim! hay'a bina.**
Great! Let's go.



New words: **naHtaju** (we need), **TamaTim** (tomatoes), **khiyār** (cucumbers), **nashtari** (to buy), **baTaTis** (potatoes), **faSulia** (beans), **fākiha** (fruit), **baTikh** (watermelon), **tufāH** (apples), **yajib** (must), **thumma** (then).

DIALOGUE 4

fil-fundūq

At the hotel

- Receptionist: **ahlan, ya sayid gordon. marHaban bik fi funduq sfinx.**
Hello, Mr. Gordon. Welcome to Sphinx Hotel.
- Mr. Gordon: **shukran! ana sa'idun jiddan bi-wujudi huna.**
Thank you! I am happy to be here.
- R: **hal hādhihi awal ziara lak huna?**
Is this your first trip here?
- G: **na'am. hādhihi awal ziara li-miSr.**
Yes, this is my first trip to Egypt.
- R: **innaka tatakallam al-'arabiya jayyidan!**
You speak Arabic well!
- G: **ana Tālib. adrisu al-lugha al-'arabiya.**
I am a student. I study the Arabic language.
- R: **aDHim! hal turidu ghurfa taTul alal-maydān aw alal-Hadiqa?**
Wonderful! Would you like a room overlooking the square or the garden?
- G: **ghurfa taTul alal-Hadiqa, min faDlik.**
A room overlooking the garden, please.
- R: **ikhtiyar jayyid! innaha hādia'a wa mushmisa fiS-SabāH.**
Good choice! It is quiet and sunny in the morning.
- G: **wa hal al-ghurfa fiha Hammām?**
And does the room have a bathroom?
- R: **na'am.**
Yes.
- G: **hal hunaka taki'if?**
Is there air-conditioning?
- R: **na'am. hunaka taki'if fi kull al-ghurāf.**
Yes, there is air-conditioning in all rooms.



G: **Hasab an-nashra al-jawiya al-asbu'a al-qadim Hārr jiddan.**
The weather forecast says it will be very hot weather next week.

R: **aS-Saif fil-qāhira da'iman Hārr.**
Summers in Cairo are always hot.

G: **na'am, Hārr wa jaf.**
Yes, hot and dry.

R: **hādha SaHiH. hādha muftaHak.**
This is true. Here is your key.

G: **shukran li-musa'adatik.**
Thank you for your help.

New words: **wujudi** (my presence), **ziara** (trip), **tatakallam** (you speak), **logha** (language), **adresu** (study), **taki'if** (air-conditioning), **muftaHak** (your key), **SaHiH** (true).

DIALOGUE 5

adh-dhihab ilal-suq

Going to the souk

Tourist: **'afwan, mumkin ann turshidini ilas-suq?**
Excuse me, can you show me the way to the souk?

Passerby: **istamerr fi hādha ash-shār'a hatta taSel ilal-maydān.**
Continue on this street till you reach the square.

T: **maydān ath-thawra?**
Al-Thawra square?

P: **na'am. wa fi maydān ath-thawra ittajeh ilal-yamīn wa istamerr Hatta taSel ilal-mustashfa.**
Yes. And at al-Thawra square you turn right and go straight ahead till you reach the hospital.

T: **hal al-mustashfa qarīb min al-jāmi'a?**
Is the hospital near the university?

P: **na'am, al-mustashfa bijanib aj-jāmi'a.**
Yes, the hospital is next to the university.

T: **was-suq aiDan bijanib aj-jāmi'a?**
And is the souk next to the university, too?

P: **as-suq khalf aj-jāmi'a, ba'd at-taqāTu'a.**
The souk is behind the university, after the intersection.



- T: **hal hādha ba'id?**
Is it far?
- P: **kalla, innaha nuzhatun qasīra min huna.**
No, it's a short walk from here.
- T: **lakin al-yaum Hārr jiddan. Sa'aHtaju sayārat ujra.**
But it's a very hot day. I will need a taxi.
- P: **hunāka sayarāt ujra amam funduq an-nīl.**
There are taxis in front of the Nile Hotel.
- T: **wa ayna funduq an-nīl?**
And where is the Nile Hotel?
- P: **bijanib aS-Saydali'ya, 'abr ash-shār'a.**
It's next to the pharmacy, across the street.
- T: **wa mata taftaH al-matājir fis-suq?**
At what time do the shops at the souk open?
- P: **taftaH fis-sā'a al-'ashara.**
They open at 10 o'clock.
- T: **rubbama atanawal finjān qahwa fi funduq an-nīl qabl ann athhab ilas-suq.**
Maybe I will have a cup of coffee at the Nile Hotel before going to the souk.
- P: **na'am, ladaika sā'a wāhida qabl iftitaH al-matājer.**
Yes, you have one hour before the shops open.
- T: **shukran li-musa'adatik!**
Thank you for your help!
- P: **bikulli-surur! waqtan mumti'an!**
My pleasure! Have a good time!

New words: **turshidini** (*show me the way to or lead me to*), **istamirr** (*continue*), **hatta** (*till*), **taSil** (*reach*), **ittajih ilal-yamīn** (*turn right*), **'abr** (*across*), **taftaH** (*open*), **athhab** (*go*), **ladaika** (*you have*).



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