Conversational ARABIC in 7 Days

- Develop your confidence with interactive exercises
- More than 750 key phrases for all travel situations
- Organized for quick and easy reference on the go

Master Language Survival Skills in Just One Week!

Samy Abu-Taleb
Conversational ARABIC in 7 Days

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Samy Abu-Taleb

McGraw-Hill
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Arabic in a Week is a short course which will equip you to deal with everyday situations when you visit any of the Arab countries: introducing yourself, asking for directions, booking accommodation, changing money, shopping, eating out, using the phone, using public transport and so on.

The course is divided into 7 units, each corresponding to a day of the week. Different topics are introduced in each unit to illustrate basic Arabic which can be used by tourists or business people during a short stay in an Arabic speaking country. Each unit includes short introductions to the topics covered, dialogues in everyday situations, lists of key words and phrases with their English equivalent, essential grammatical explanations, and exercises for practising spoken Arabic.

A key to exercises is given at the back of this book. English–Arabic vocabulary is listed under topic headings pp. 79–85 followed by an Arabic–English Vocabulary starting on p. 86.

What kind of Arabic?

There are two main varieties of Arabic: literary and colloquial. Literary Arabic is more formal. In its written form, it is used in official documents, newspapers, books, and formal letters. In its spoken form, it is used in public speeches, religious sermons, radio and television news bulletins and documentary programmes. Literary Arabic is standard and is used and understood by educated people in all the Arab countries. A table of the Arab countries is given on p. 91.

Colloquial Arabic is the spoken variety used for everyday purposes: at home, in the shops, offices, hotels, restaurants and places of entertainment. Due to the vast area of the Arab world, colloquial Arabic varies from country to country. Nevertheless, the dialect used in Cairo (the capital of Egypt) is recognised and understood almost everywhere in the Arab world. It is known as Cairene or Egyptian Arabic. Almost everyone in the Arab world is exposed to Egyptian Arabic as a result of listening to Egyptian radio programmes, importing Egyptian television programmes, videos and films and buying cassettes and records of Egyptian popular songs. In addition, millions of Egyptians travel to other Arab countries and millions of Arabs from other countries travel to Egypt for business, education and holidays.

The Arabic taught in this book is Egyptian Arabic. Some words and phrases which are used in non-Egyptian Arabic are also included wherever appropriate.

Pronunciation

Most of the sounds of Arabic are similar to the sounds of English. Only six or seven might be unfamiliar to English speakers. Arabic has its own alphabet of 29 letters, and is usually written from right to left in its own script (see p. 92).
In this book, however, Arabic sounds are represented by English letters, and written from left to right. Some English capital letters are used to represent certain Arabic sounds different from those represented by the corresponding small letters.

Some key words which visitors to Arab countries might need to recognise on signs or notice-boards are also written in Arabic and are introduced in the relevant chapters of the book.

The sounds of Arabic are divided into vowels and consonants. Vowels are either short or long.

Short vowels
- a as in about, postman, e.g. samak (fish)
- i as in bit, his, e.g. bint (girl)
- u as in put, foot, e.g. ruzz (rice)

Long vowels
- aa as in hand, e.g. salaam (peace)
- ee as in feed, e.g. sheek (cheque)
- ou as in done, e.g. youm (day)
- oo as in room, e.g. lamoon (lemon)
- ei as in name, e.g. beit (house)

Note: a and aa are both influenced by certain consonants near them. The word baTT, for example, is pronounced like the English but, because of the T sound. The aa in the word DaabiT is pronounced like the a in calm, because of the D sound.

Consonants
The following Arabic consonants are similar to English ones.

- b book
- d day
- f fun
- r room (r is always pronounced in Arabic regardless of its position in the word.)
- s say
- sh shine

- g game
- h home
- k king
- t ten
- w well

- l look
- m man
- n noon
- y yes
- z zero

Please note that there are no p or v sounds in Arabic. Small p is usually replaced by b as in bansyoun for pension, and v is replaced by f as in karnaafaal for carnival.

The Arabic consonants represented by the capital letters S, D, T, Z are vocal versions of s, d, t, z. You need to open your mouth as if you are saying aah and make the sound at the back of your mouth.

- S Sabaah = morning
- D beiD = eggs
- T Tayyib = O.K.
- Z Zareef = charming

This sound is usually called a glottal stop. It is similar to the sound produced if you try to say butter or bottle without the tt, as in Cockney.
Bill:  'ishshunaT ahhıh.
Kamaal:  Tayyib, itfáDalu, 'ilcarabiyya fil maw'áf.
Catherine:  shukran, huwwal huteel biceed?
Nadya:  la' ilhuteel 'urayyib, mish biceed, laakin ishshunaT ti'eela.
Bill:  'aywa, 'ishshunaT ti'eela giddan.
Kamaal:  Tayyib, itfáDalu.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

SabaHa ilkheir  Good morning
'ana Bill Taylor  I am Bill Taylor
wi di zmulti/zugti  and this is my colleague/wife
'ahlan wa sahlan  Hello
furSa saceeda  pleased to meet you
'irriHla kaanit kwayyisa?  Was the flight good?
'aywa  Yes
'irriHla kaanit kwayyisa giddan  the flight was very good
ishshunaT fein?  Where are the suitcases?
ishshunaT ahhıh  The suitcases are here
Tayyib  All right, O.K.
itfáDalu  Let's go
'ilcarabiyya fil maw'áf  The car is in the car park
shukran  Thank you
huwwal huteel biceed?  Is the hotel far away?
la' ilhuteel 'urayyib  No, the hotel is nearby
mish biceed  not far
laakin  but
ishshunaT ti'eela  the suitcases are heavy

Introductions

In Arab countries people usually shake hands when they meet and when they say goodbye.

'ana Bill  I am Bill
wi di zmulti (zmulti)  and this is my (female) colleague
wi da zmileeli (zmeeeli)  and this is my (male) colleague
wi di zugti  and this is my wife
wi da zougi  and this is my husband

Greetings

SabaHa ilkheir/innoor  good morning.
masaá ilkheir/innoor  good afternoon/evening
'ahlan wa sahlan  Hello/How do you do?
'ahlan  Hello/How do you do?
marHab/marHaba  Pleased to meet you.
furSa saceeda

SabaHa innoor and massa'innoor mean 'Good morning' and 'Good evening' respectively but they are normally used as responses rather than to initiate greetings.
Polite expressions

Tayyib
itaDDalu
shukran
min faDiak/faDlik
'aywa
la'

Well! All right
let's go/after you (pl.)
thanks/thank you
please (m./f.)
yes
no

itaDDalu is used in many situations and can also mean 'please go ahead' or 'here you are'.

Other useful expressions

iriHla kaanit?
kwayyis/kwayysisa
kwayysis giddan
fein...?
The flight was.../Was the flight...?
good, fine (m./f.)
very good
Where is/are...?

the way it works

Masculine and feminine

Words in Arabic are classified as nouns, verbs or prepositions. Nouns and verbs have masculine and feminine forms. In colloquial Arabic some nouns can be made feminine by adding the sound /a to the end of the masculine form.

Examples
Masculine | Feminine | Meaning
---|---|---
zimeel | zimeela | colleague (noun)
zouga | zouga | spouse (noun)
kwayysis | kwayysisa | good (adj.)
saceeda | saceeda | pleased/happy (adj.)

Verbs have masculine and feminine forms for the singular, but only one form for the plural.

Examples
kaan | kaanu | he was (m. sing.) | they were (m. and f. pl.)
kaanit | she was (f. pl.)

The definite article

il is the definite article in Arabic, like 'the' in English. The /l sound in il disappears in some cases, and the first letter in the word is doubled instead.

Examples
huteil | hotel | ilhuteil | the hotel
carabiyya | car | ilcarabiyya | the car
I am... and This is...

The Arabic for 'I am Bill' is 'ana Bill (I/me Bill). The equivalent of the verb to be (am, is, are) in Arabic is not used in such structures as I am, he is, they are, this is, that is, etc. More examples are given below with their English translation.

'ana Bill
'ana Catherine
da zmeeli
di zugti
ilcarabiyya fil maw'af
ishshunaT ti'eela
I Bill
I Catherine
This my colleague
This my wife
The car in the car park
The suitcases heavy
I am Bill
I am Catherine
This is my colleague (he)
This is my wife (she)
The car is in the car park (it)
The suitcases are heavy (they)

My

To say 'my' in Arabic you add i sound at the end of the noun, whether it is masculine or feminine, singular or plural. But when the noun has a feminine ending with an a sound, the pronunciation of the word changes and ti replaces the a.

Examples
zoug husband zougi my husband
zouga wife zugti my wife
zimeel colleague zimeeli my colleague (m.)
zimeela colleague zimulti my colleague (f.)
shunaT suitcases shunaTi my suitcases
carabiyya car carabiyyiti my car

ing things to do

1.1 Say the following in Arabic.

1 Hello!
2 Pleased to meet you.
3 I am Sally.
4 This is my colleague Tom.
5 I am Ahmad.
6 This is my wife Nadya.
7 Was the flight all right?
8 Yes, it was a very good flight.
9 Where is the car?
10 The car is in the car park.

10
BOOKING HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation  There are two main types of accommodation for people on holidays or business for a short period: hotels with star rating, and boarding houses called bansyoun. Guests in both types are always asked to fill in registration forms on arrival, giving passport details. There are also Youth Hostels in the big cities like Cairo, Alexandria, Luxor and Aswan.

Look for the following signs

Hotel  funduq
Boarding House/Pension  bansyoun
Youth Hostel  beit shabaab
Reception  'istiqbaar

Prices are fixed in hotels and Youth Hostels, but subject to negotiation in boarding houses.

'ana 'andi Hagz/I have a reservation

Catherine:  masaa' ilkheir.
Receptionist:  masaa' innoor, ayyi khidma?
Catherine:  'ana 'andi Hagz hina.
Receptionist:  'it'sm min faDlik?
Catherine:  'ana 'ismi Catherine Evans.
Receptionist:  kaam leila?
Catherine:  talat layaali.
Receptionist:  'aywa feeh Hagz bismik.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

'ayyi khidma
'ana candi Haghz hina
'il'ism. min faDaalik
'ana 'ismi
kaam leila?
talat layaali
feeh Haghz bismik
feeh Hammaam
wi tilifoun
fil 'ouDa?
'ouDa nimra khamsa
bi Hammaam wi tilifoun
'ilmuftaaH ahuh
'tisBaHa rala kheir

What can I do for you?
I have a reservation here
What is the name, please?
My name is
How many nights?
3 nights
There is a reservation in your name
Is there a bathroom
and a telephone
in the room?
Room No. 5
with bathroom and telephone
Here is the key
Good night

Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:
Receptionist:
Bill:

massa' ilkheir.
masaa' innoor, 'ayyi khidma?
candak 'ouDa faDya min faDaalik?
kaam leila?
'arba'a layaali min faDaalik.
'aywa candi.
'ana caayiz 'ouDa-b Hammaam wi tilifoun. bi kaam?
bikharseen gineih fil youm, bil fiTaar.
Tayyib, kwayyis.
'ouDa nimra talaaata, ilmuftaaH ahuh, 'itfaDDal.
shukran, 'ilfiTaar issaaca kaam?
'ilfiTaar issaaca saba'a.
Tayyib tisBaHa rala kheir.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

\textit{fale} 'ouDa faDya} 
\textit{ataan layaali} 
\textit{ataan} 
\textit{ana saayiz} 
\textit{ouDa b Hammam} 
\textit{fakam?} 
\textit{likhamseen gineih} 
\textit{fakam} 
\textit{fakTaar} 
\textit{numa talaata} 
\textit{fakTaar issaaca kaam?} 
\textit{fakTaar issaaca sabea}

\textit{polite expressions}

\textit{aayy khidma?} 
\textit{aahal fala kale kheir} 
\textit{aahal kal kale kheir} 
\textit{aahal kal kale kheir} 
\textit{falkhDDel/falkhDDali}

\textit{other useful words and phrases}

\textit{ouDa bisiree waaHid} 
\textit{ouDa bisiree (Dabib)} 
\textit{ouDa b dushsh} 
\textit{likam shakhS?} 
\textit{likTaam} 
\textit{hinak} 
\textit{lishakhS waaHid} 
\textit{mumkin tiklit/tiklti} 
\textit{llHisaab (ilfsaaraa)?} 
\textit{mumkin 'ashoof?} 
\textit{llgawaaz/llbasbour}

\textit{the way it works}

\textit{personal pronouns}

\textit{'ana} = I 
\textit{'inta} = you (m.) 
\textit{'inti} = you (f.) 
\textit{huwwaa} = he 
\textit{hiyya} = she 
\textit{'ilhaa} = we 
\textit{'intu} = you (pl.) 
\textit{humma} = they
I have, you have, he has, etc.

To say 'I have' in Arabic you add the relevant end pronoun to the word cāndī which means 'possess', as in column 1 below. Personal pronouns can also be used, as in column 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>cāndī</th>
<th>'aṇa cāndī</th>
<th>I have</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cāndak</td>
<td>'inta cāndak</td>
<td>you have (m. s.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cāndik</td>
<td>'inta cāndik</td>
<td>you have (f. s.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cāndu</td>
<td>huwwa cāndu</td>
<td>he (it) has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cāndaha</td>
<td>hiyya cāndaha</td>
<td>she (it) has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cāndina</td>
<td>ḫina cāndina</td>
<td>we have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cānduku</td>
<td>ḫuṣkan cānduku</td>
<td>you have (pl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cānduhum</td>
<td>humma cānduhum</td>
<td>they have</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples

cāndak Hagz? do you have a reservation?
'aṇyā cāndi Hagz yes, I have a reservation
cāndina Hagz We have a reservation

Possessive pronouns

To say 'my/your/his', etc. in Arabic, you add the relevant ending to the noun:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ismi</td>
<td>my name</td>
<td>zugti</td>
<td>my wife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ismak</td>
<td>your name (m. s.)</td>
<td>zugtak</td>
<td>your wife (m. s.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ismik</td>
<td>your name (f. s.)</td>
<td>zimiliṭik</td>
<td>your colleague (f. s.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ismu</td>
<td>his (its) name</td>
<td>zughtu</td>
<td>his wife</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ismaha</td>
<td>her (its) name</td>
<td>zimiliṭa</td>
<td>her colleague</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The preposition bi

The Arabic preposition bi is mostly used to mean 'with' as in bi ḥammaam (with bathroom). It also means 'in' as in bīṣmi (in my name), or 'for' as in bi kāam (for how much). Bi loses the i sound when it is followed or preceded by a vowel.

Examples

'ouDa-b ḥammaam room with a bathroom
'ouDa-b dushsh room with a shower
bi fiTaar with (including) breakfast
'ilHagz bīṣmi the reservation is in my name
Hagz bīṣmi Bill Taylor reservation in Bill Taylor's name
bi kāam il'ouDa? (for) how much is the room?
bi khamseen gineih fil leila (for) fifty pounds per night
Numeral: 1–10

There are two forms of cardinal numbers from 1–10 in colloquial Arabic. One form is used for numbering, telling the time, ordering food or drinks, and talking about money (1), and the other form is used for counting objects or people (2).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1)</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>(2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>waaHid/waHda</td>
<td>1. one m/f</td>
<td>waaHid/waHda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>itnein</td>
<td>2. two</td>
<td>itnein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talat</td>
<td>3. three</td>
<td>talat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arbac</td>
<td>4. four</td>
<td>arbac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khamas</td>
<td>5. five</td>
<td>khamas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sitt</td>
<td>6. six</td>
<td>sitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sabar</td>
<td>7. seven</td>
<td>sabar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>taman</td>
<td>8. eight</td>
<td>taman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tisar</td>
<td>9. nine</td>
<td>tisar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cashar</td>
<td>10. ten</td>
<td>cashar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples:
- sillah talaata: No. 3
talat layaali: 3 nights
- sillah khamasa: No. 5
arbac layaali: 4 nights
- sillah sitta: 6 o'clock
sitt shunaT: 6 suitcases

From 11 onwards, one form of cardinal numbers is used for all purposes.

More will be said about numerals later.

A list of cardinal and ordinal numbers is given in the vocabulary at the end of this book, p. 79.

**things to do**

1.2 You are Bill Taylor. You are checking in at a hotel in Cairo. Practise saying the following in Arabic, to a female receptionist.

1. I have a reservation here.
2. My name is Bill Taylor.
3. I would like a room with a bathroom, please.
4. How much is it per night?
5. Where is the restaurant, please?

1.3 You are Fay Wilson. You are booking a room in a hotel. Practise saying the following in Arabic, to a male receptionist.

1. Do you have a vacant room?
2. No, I would like a room with a bathroom.
3. Four nights, please.
4. Can I have the key, please?
5. Where is the room, please?
ilfiTaar fil huteil /
Breakfast at the hotel

Mr and Mrs Clark are a middle-aged couple on holiday in Egypt. They are sitting in the hotel restaurant waiting to order their breakfast.

Waiter: SabaH ilkheir. taklu 'eih yafandim?
Mr Clark: SabaH ilkheir. candak 'eih?
Waiter: candi fool, wi beiD, wi qibna, wimrabba.
Mrs Clark: 'ana 'aakhud gibna-w beiD. feeh ceish?
Waiter: feeh ceish yamadaam.
Mr Clark: feeh mirabbit 'eih?
Waiter: feeh mirabbit balah wi-mrabbit teen.
Mr Clark: 'ana 'aakhud fool wi-mrabbit balah, wi ceish Tabcan Haadir yamadaam. tishrabu 'eih? 'ahwa, shaay, caSeer?
Waiter: 'ana 'ashrab shaay bi laban.
Mrs Clark: wana 'ashrab 'ahwa-b laban.
Mr Clark: 'ayyi khidma. 'ouDa nimra kaam?
Waiter: nimra khamsa-w talateen.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic Word/Phrase</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>taklu 'eih?</td>
<td>What would you like to eat?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yafandim/yamadaam</td>
<td>Sir/Madam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>candak 'eih?</td>
<td>What have you got?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>candi</td>
<td>I have/There is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ana 'aakhud</td>
<td>I'll have</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feeh ceish?</td>
<td>Is there bread?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feeh</td>
<td>There is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabcan</td>
<td>of course</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
yuum ittalaat/Tuesday

Yes, Madam.
What would you like to drink?
Coffee, tea, fruit juice?
I'll have (tea)
tea with milk
coffee with milk
certainly/at your service
(What) room number?

Polite expressions
'may i help you'.
yafandim

Certainly, at your service.
Sir/Madam is a polite form of address for men and women.
And you, Sir.
And you, Sir. (more polite)
And you, Madam.
And you, Madam. (more polite)

ya is used before a name or form of address when talking to or calling someone. Other forms of address for men are: sayyid, beih, 'ustaaaz, sheikh. Other forms of address for women are: sitt, haanim.

Food and drinks

Fool

Broad beans cooked in water until soft and brown and served with oil (or butter) and salt. Also known as fool midammis

beid
beid'a
utina
utina beida
utina roomi
mirabba
mirabbit balah/teen
taun

eggs
one egg
cheese
white cheese
romano cheese
jam
date/fig jam
butter

mirabbit farawla
ceish
ceish baladi
ceish teenu
shaay bilaban
'aahwa-b laban
caseer

strawberry jam
bread
local (flat) bread
french bread
tea with milk
coffee with milk
fruit juice

The way it works

The present tense

Verbs in the present tense with I and you are formed like this:

Person  | take  | eat  | drink  
I (m. & f.)  | 'aakhud | 'aakul | 'ashrab  
You (m.)  | taakhud | taakul | tishrabb  
You (f.)  | takhdi | takli | tishrabi  
We (m. & f.)  | naakhud | naakul | nishrab  
You (pl.)  | takhdu | taklu | tishrabbu  


What would you like to have?

There are three ways of asking this question in Arabic. Like English you can ask:

1. What would you like to have?  
   taakhud 'eih? (m.)  
   takhdi 'eih (f.)
   The answer would be, e.g. 'aakhud shaay (I would like tea) or 'aakhud gibna-w beiD (I would like cheese and eggs).

2. What would you like to eat?  
   taakul 'eih? (m.)  
   takki 'eih? (f.)
   The answer would be, e.g. 'aakul gibna-w beiD (I would like to eat cheese and eggs).

3. What would you like to drink?  
   tishrar 'eih? (m.)  
   tishrabi 'eih? (f.)
   The answer would be, e.g. 'ashrhab shaay (I would like to drink tea).

Mirabba and mirabbit

The word mirabba means 'jam'. To say a particular kind of jam, such as date jam, you have to use the form mirabbit so you have mirabbit balah (date jam), mirabbit teen (fig jam), or mirabbit farawla (strawberry jam).

Pronunciation of wi and bi

These prepositions lose the sound i when they are used before or after a vowel.

Examples
'aakhud gibna-w beiD  (wi beiD)
nimra khamisa-w talateen  (wi talateen)
'ashrhab 'ahwa-b laban  (bi laban)
'aakhud fool wi beiD  I'll take beans and eggs
'aakhud gibna-w beiD  I'll have cheese and eggs
ashrhab shaay bi laban  I'll have tea with milk
ashrhab ahwa-b laban  I'll have coffee with milk

things to do

2.1 Say the following in Arabic

Ask the waiter  
1 What have you got?
2 What jam have you got?
3 Would you like to have tea?
4 Would you like to have juice?
5 What would you like to eat?
6 What would you like to drink?
7 I would like to have beans, cheese and date jam.
8 I would like to have coffee with milk

Ask your friend Sarah

Ask your friend Karim

Say
'The coffee, cold drinks and snacks are available in cafés, shops and restaurants, particularly in tourist areas. Cold drinks are available everywhere. There is always a stall round the corner selling fizzy drinks and bottled water, even if there is no café or grocer’s nearby.

Bill and Catherine stop at a café in khaan ilkhalili for refreshments.

fil 'ahwa/At the café

waiter: massa' ilkeir.
bill: massa' innoor. 'ahlan wasahlan.
waiter: saryeen sandwirshaat, candak 'eih?
bill: candi fool wi falaafil wi gibna-w beiD.
waiter: 'itnein fool witnein falaafil min faDlak.
bill: candak Haaga sa'ca?
catherine: candi bibsi-w kuka koula-w teem wi caSeer.
waiter: feeh beera?
catherine: la' mafeesh beera, 'aasif.
waiter: feeh caSeer 'eih?
catherine: feeh caSeer manga-w caSeer gawaafa.
bill: 'ana aakhud caSeer manga min faDlak.
catherine: wana aakhud bibsi min faDlak.
waiter: Haadir. 'ayyi khidma.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

masa't innur
caizeen sandwitshaat
sandak 'eih?
falaafil
sandak Haaga sa'ca?
candi bibsi-w
kuka-koula-w
teen
wi caSeer
feeh beera?
l'a mafeesh beera.
'aasif
feeh caSeer 'eih?
cacaSeer manga-w
cacaSeer gawaafa.

Good evening!
We would like some sandwiches.
What have you got?
Bean burgers.
Have you got any cold drinks?
I have Pepsi and
Coca-Cola and
Team (fizzy lemon drink)
and juice (fruit juices)
Is there beer? Do you sell beer?
No, there's no beer.
Sorry
What juices have you got?
Mango juice and
Guava juice.

Useful words and phrases

Fruit juices
cacaSeer
cacaSeer burtu'aan
cacaSeer lamoon
cacaSeer farawla
cacaSeer mouz
cacaSeer TamaaTim
cacaSeer 'aSab

juice
orange juice
lemon juice
strawberry juice
banana juice
tomato juice
sugar cane juice

Hot and Cold
'il bibsi di sa'ca
'il bibsi di sukhna (mish sa'ca)
'il 'akl da sukhn
'il 'akl da baarid

This Pepsi is cold
This Pepsi is hot (not cold)
This food is hot
This food is cold

Salt and sugar
bi malH
bi malH 'aleel
bidoon malH

with salt
with little salt
without salt

bi sukkar
bi sukkar 'aleel
bidoon sukkar

with sugar
with little sugar
without sugar
the way it works

Would like

cayza, is the plural of caayiz (m) and cayza (f) which means ‘would like’.

Examples
- I would like a sandwich
- Maqda would like Pepsi
- We would like juice

Using numbers when ordering

When ordering food or drinks use the same form of cardinal numbers as used for counting. (See p. 79 at the end of the book.)

Examples
- two bean sandwiches
- three falafel sandwiches
- four cheese sandwiches
- five mango juice drinks
- one Pepsi

Note that, like English, the word ‘sandwiches’ can also be repeated when giving an order. It’s ‘itein fools’ or ‘itein sandwitsh fools’.

things to do

1. Order these food and drinks:
   1. Three falafel sandwiches
   2. Two cheese sandwiches
   3. Four orange juice drinks
   4. One bean sandwich
   5. Six Pepsis
   6. Five lemon juice drinks
You can easily change money at banks. There are branches of the major national and foreign banks in airports and the larger cities. Banks usually give a better rate than exchange booths, hotels, or shops.

ATMs are also a convenient way to withdraw money while traveling in Egypt, as well as some other Arab countries.

The Egyptian currency is called gineih, usually known in English as 'Egyptian pound'. A gineih is 100 piastres. A piastre is known as 'irsh, and the plural is 'uroosh.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gineih</th>
<th>Egyptian pound</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>meet 'irsh</td>
<td>100 piastres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arab currencies are shown in a table at the end of this book (p. 91).

Look for the following signs:

Bank

Bureau de change

Cash desk
Fil bank/At the bank

Catherine: il'istirleeni-b kaam, min faDlik?
 Clerk: bikhamsa gneih wi talateen 'irsh.
Catherine: widdulaar bi Kaam?
Clerk: iddulaar bitnein gineih wi nuSS.
Catherine: Tayyib. aghayyar miyya stirleeni, wimiyya-w talateen dulaar. 'ayyi khidma, mumkin ashoof ilbasbour?
Catherine: 'aywa, itfaDDal.
Clerk: Tayyib imli listimaara di, wimDi hina, min faDlik.
Catherine: HaaDir. ilfuloos minein?
Clerk: ilfuloos min ilkhaeeena, hinaak.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

il'istirleeni-b kaam? How much is the pound sterling?
bikhamsa gneih for five pounds
wi talateen 'irsh and thirty-five piastres
widdulaar bi Kaam? And how much is the dollar?
bitnein gineih wi nuSS two pounds and fifty piastres (or a half)
aghayyar miyya stirleeni I'll change one hundred pounds sterling
wimiyya-w talateen dulaar and one hundred and thirty dollars
mumkin ashoof ilbasbour? Can I see your passport?
imli listimaara di Fill in this form
wimDi hina and sign here
ilfuloos minein? Where do I collect the money (cash)?
min ilkhaeeena from the cash desk

Useful words and phrases

gineih/ginihaat pound/pounds
gineih istorleeni pound sterling
gineih maSri Egyptian pound
'tirsh/'uroosh piastre/piastres
dulaar/dulaaarat dollar/dollars
sheek/shikaat cheque/cheques
the way it works

Pronunciation

The following are further examples of the loss of i in il, bi, wi, gineih, and istirleeni, when these sounds are followed or preceded by other vowels:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>sheek siyaaHi</th>
<th>traveller's cheque</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sheekat siyaaHiyya</td>
<td>traveller's cheques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>istimara</td>
<td>form</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mumkin aghayyar?</td>
<td>Can I change?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caayiz (caazy) aghayyar</td>
<td>I would like to change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caayiz tighayyar kaam?</td>
<td>How much do you want to change?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>li'stirleeni-b kaam?</th>
<th>bi kaam</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>miyya sturleen</td>
<td>miyya istirleeni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wi miyya-w talateen dulaar</td>
<td>wi talateen dulaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imli li'stimaara di (f.)</td>
<td>imli li'stimaara di</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>imla li'stimaara di (m.)</td>
<td>imla li'stimaara di</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bikhamsa gneih</td>
<td>bikhamsa gneih</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

More about numerals

The form of numerals used for numbering, ordering food and drinks and telling the time is also used for talking about sums of money (see p. 79, column 1). Please note that there are two forms for the number 'one' waaHid (masculine) and waHda (feminine) although neither of these forms are used when talking about money, except for emphasis. When talking about money you say the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gineih or gineih waaHid (m.)</th>
<th>one pound</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lira or lira waHda (f.)</td>
<td>one lira</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>itnein gineih/lira/dulaar*</td>
<td>two pounds/lira/dollars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>talaata gneih/lira/dulaar</td>
<td>three pounds/lira/dollars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'arbara gneih/lira/dulaar</td>
<td>four pounds/lira/dollars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khamsa gneih/lira/dulaar</td>
<td>five pounds/lira/dollars</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Eight is pronounced as eight pounds/lira/dollars.

Notice that the object counted is in the singular.

From eleven onwards the same form of cardinal numerals is used for hours, money and all other objects counted. The number is followed by the noun in the singular in all cases. When telling the time, the number comes after the word for hour. See p. 79 at the end of this book for a list of these numerals.

things to do

II.3 You are trying to change some foreign money for Egyptian pounds. Say the following in Arabic:

1 Can I change pounds sterling here?
2 How much is a pound sterling?
3 Can I change traveller’s cheques?
4 No, dollars.
5 One hundred and thirty-two dollars.

II.4 You are Michael. You are having a conversation with your hotel manager in the Sudan. What do you say?

1 Michael: Ask about the number of the rooms in the hotel.
2 Manager: Feeh khamsa-w sitteen 'ouDa.
3 Michael: Ask how much a single room is.
4 Manager: Khamsa warbi neen ginei hillela.
5 Michael: Ask if there is a bank in the hotel.
6 Manager: 'aywa feeh.
7 Michael: Ask if you can change money here.
8 Manager: Saayiz tighayar 'eh?
9 Michael: Say you would like to change dollars.
10 Manager: Tabeen mumkin.
TELLING THE TIME

issaaça kaam? / What time is it?

Bill is asking about the times of meals at the hotel.

Bill: 'ilftaar issaaça kaam, min faDlak?
Receptionist: min issaaça sabea lissaaça tisca.
Bill: wilcashë-s saaca kaam?
Receptionist: ilcashë min issaaça sabëa-w nuSS lissaaça cashara
Bill: issaaça kaam dilwati?
Receptionist: issaaça dilwati sabëalla rube.
Bill: il'akhbaar issaaça kaam firradyu?
Receptionist: il'akhbaar issaaça tamanya-w nuSS.
Bill: Tayyib. ’arocH atcashësa ’awwalan, wibrdein asmac il'akhbaar. tisbah eala kheir.
Receptionist: tisbah eala kheir yafandim.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

'ilftaar issaaça kaam? What time is breakfast?
wilcashë-s saaca kaam? And what time is supper?
min issaaça sabëa-w nuSS from half past seven
lissaaça cashara to ten o'clock
'ilssaça kaam dilwati? What time is it now?
What time is the news?
on the radio
at half past eight
I'll go
and have supper first
and then (and after that)
I'll listen to the news

Useful words and phrases
'tiiTaar breakfast
'tiigada lunch
'tiirasha supper/dinner

Sequence of events
awwalan first
'arooh atcashsha awwalan
wibadein I'll go and have supper first
wibadein asmar il'akhbaar then/later
then I'll listen to the news

Verbs with different persons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>person</th>
<th>listen</th>
<th>go</th>
<th>have breakfast</th>
<th>have lunch</th>
<th>have supper</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>'ana</td>
<td>asmar arooH</td>
<td>atTar  atghadda</td>
<td>atcashsha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You (m.)</td>
<td>'inta</td>
<td>tismar tirooH</td>
<td>tiftar titghadda</td>
<td>titcashsha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You (f.)</td>
<td>'inta</td>
<td>tismar tirooH</td>
<td>tiftar titghaddi</td>
<td>titcashshi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>He</td>
<td>huwwa</td>
<td>yismar yirooH</td>
<td>yiftar yitghadda</td>
<td>yitcashshi</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She</td>
<td>hiyra</td>
<td>tismar tirooH</td>
<td>tiftar titghadda</td>
<td>titcashsha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We</td>
<td>'iHna</td>
<td>nismar nirooH</td>
<td>niftar titghaddu</td>
<td>nitcashsha</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You (pl.)</td>
<td>'intu</td>
<td>tismaru tirooHu</td>
<td>tiftaru titghaddu</td>
<td>titcashshu</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Telling the time
The numerals used for telling the time are the same as those used for sums of money and ordering food and drinks. But note that the word issaara (o'clock) is said before the number (see p. 26 above, and p. 79 for a list of cardinal numbers).

To tell the time, say the hour first, then illa if it is something to the hour, or wi if it is something past the hour.

Examples
issaara sitta
issaara dawati talaata
issaara-rbaa
issaara khamsa-w cashara
issaara-rbaa-lla ruba
issaara-tnein wi nuSS
issaara talaata-w nuSS

It is six o'clock
It (the time) is now 3 o'clock
It is 4 o'clock
It is ten past five
It is quarter to four
It is half past two
It is half past three
It is quarter past eleven
It is five minutes to twelve
It is quarter to one

Note the loss of a in arbaca, the loss of i in wi and the loss of i in illa because of the sound that precedes them.

things to do

2.5 Ask the following questions and reply using the clock and watch faces shown:

1. What time is breakfast?
2. What time is it now?
3. What time is the news?
4. Is it quarter to eight now?
5. What time can I have supper?
6. No it is 8.15.
7. What time is it now?
8. What time is it now?
FINDING YOUR WAY

feeh maktab bareed 'urayyib?/Is there a post office nearby?

Catherine is asking a shop assistant if there is a post office nearby.

Catherine: feeh maktab bareed 'urayyib min hina?
Assistant: 'aywa feeh fi shaaric ilbustaan.
Catherine: 'arooh izzaay min faDlik?
Assistant: irshi sela Tool li 'aakhir ishshaaric da. wibae deen Hawwidi shmaal.
Catherine: Tayyib. 'amshi-l 'aakhir ishshaaric waHawwid shmaal. wibae deen?
Assistant: irshi sela Tool. taani shaaric shmaal huwwa shaaric ilbustaan.
Catherine: wi maktab ilbareed fi shaaric ilbustan?
Assistant: 'aywa taalit mabna rala-l yimeen.
Catherine: shukran.
Assistant: ileafw yafandim 'ayyi khidma.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

feeh maktab bareed  
'urayyib min hina?  
fi shaaric ilbustaan  
'tarooH izzaay?  
imshi caa Tool  
l'aakhir ishsharic da  
Hawwidi shmaal  
taani shaare shimaal  
huwwa  
taalit mabna  
caal-l yimeen  
'ilcafw

is there a post office  
nearby?  
in Bustan street  
how do I get there?  
walk straight on  
to the end of this street  
turn left  
the second street left  
it is  
the third building  
on the right  
it's a pleasure/all right

fein 'a'rab bi'aala?/Where is the nearest grocery?

Bill is asking one of the passers-by about the nearest grocery.

Bill: fein 'a'rab bi'aala min faDlak?  
Passer-by: 'awwil shaaric yimeen. ilbi'aala  
raabic dukkan caalash-shimaal.

Bill: shukran ya sayyid.  
Passer-by: ilcafw. 'ayyi khidma.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

jinn urab b’ala?
awwil shaaric yimeen
jinn dukkan
salash shimaal

where is the nearest grocery?
the first street on the right
the fourth shop
on the left

 latina expressions
shukran yasayyid
il-atw
thank you, sir
it is a pleasure/that is all right

Useful words and phrases

feesh’ahwa (agzakhana)?
ittigaah
feen ilMaHaTTa?
feen ilMaHaTTTit i’aTr?
feen ishshurTa ilbulees (ishshurTa)
candak khareetTit maSr?
yuqdaam ilhuteil
wan-1-jaamic
gumb il-agzakhana
al yimeen ilhuteil
al shimaal ilhuteil
il-hul yimeen/shimaal
il-wad tawwil shaaric yimeen
miחל meet mitr ta’reeban
ruqiil-Haad
ala-n naSyaa
makhtur ishsharic
awwil ishsharic
munkin taakhud taksi
munkin taakhud ilmitru
munkin taakhud utubees
laamim taakhud i’aTr

is there a café (pharmacy)?
towards, in the direction of
where is the station?
where is the railway station?
where is the police station?
do you have a map of Egypt?
in front of the hotel
behind the mosque
beside the pharmacy
to the right of the hotel
to the left of the hotel
turn right/left
take/turn at the first street on the right
go/walk about 100 metres

go up to
at the corner
the end of the street/road
the beginning of the street
you can take a taxi
you can take the Metro
you can take a bus
you have to take the train

Some useful words in Arabic

street
square
post office
stationers
pharmacy
pharmacy
shaaric
midaan/saaHa
maktab bareed
maktaba
’agzakhana
Saydaliyya

police
police station
station
café
museum

ishshurTa’ilbulees
’ism ilbulees
MaHaTTa
’tahwa
matHaaf
the way it works

Asking for directions

Here are 3 different ways of asking for directions:

- **feeh ...?**
  - Is there a ...?
- **fein ...?**
  - Where is ...?
- **'arooh ... izzaay?**
  - How do I get to ...?

Examples

(a) feeh bi'ala u'rayyi̇ba min hina? (f)
    feeh maktab bareed u'rayyi̇b min hina? (m)
    Is there a grocery nearby?
    Is there a post office nearby?
(b) fein ilmatHaf ilmaSri?
    fein 'ism ilbulees?
    Where is the Egyptian museum?
    Where is the police station?
(c) 'arooh ilmatHaf izzaay?
    'arooh il'azhar izzaay?
    How do I get to the museum?
    How do I get to Azhar?
    saayi̇s (cayza) arooh ilhuteel.
    I would like to get to the hotel.

Giving directions

Special forms of verbs are used to give directions, as shown in the table below: one for talking to a singular masculine, one for talking to a singular feminine, and one for talking to plural masculine and feminine.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>person</th>
<th>walk</th>
<th>take</th>
<th>go (turn into)</th>
<th>turn</th>
<th>cross</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(m.)</td>
<td>'imsh</td>
<td>khud</td>
<td>'idkholu</td>
<td>Hawwidi</td>
<td>caddi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(f.)</td>
<td>'imshi</td>
<td>khudh</td>
<td>'idkholi</td>
<td>Hawwidi</td>
<td>caddi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(pl.)</td>
<td>'imshu</td>
<td>khudu</td>
<td>'idkholuli</td>
<td>Hawwidi</td>
<td>caddu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ordinal numbers (1–10)

These forms are used before masculine and feminine nouns.

Examples

- awwil shaari̇c (m.) first street
- taari̇n mabna (m.) second building
- taalit lela (f.) third night
- raabic dukkaan (m.) fourth shop
- khaarnis maHaTTa (f.) fifth station
- saadis youm (m.) sixth day
- saabic ouDa (f.) seventh room
- taamin mabna (m.) eighth building
- taasic dour (m.) ninth floor
- caashtir maHatta (f.) tenth station

things to do

3.1 Ask for the following directions:

1. Where is the nearest pharmacy?
2. How can I get to the post office?
1. Where is the police station?
2. Is there a grocery nearby?
3. How do I get to the railway station?

Give directions to taxi drivers taking you to each of the places marked on the map below. Starting from your hotel (H) go to destinations 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.
All the cities in the Arab countries have bus services and taxis. There are also coach services that link cities, towns and villages, in addition to the railway networks, in some countries such as Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Taxis normally wait outside railway stations, airports, big hotels, and tourist sites. You can also hail a taxi in the street. It is not unusual to share a taxi with others already in it, or for the taxi to stop and take others on the way to your destination. However, you can have a taxi on your own if you want to, especially if it is a long distance, or if you have a lot of luggage. Taxis you can have on your own are called limousine, and in some countries you can also order them by phone. The other type of taxi is known as sirfees (service), or just taksi (taxi).

Signs to look for are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Stop</th>
<th>Bus</th>
<th>Taxicab</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>maHaTTa</td>
<td>maw'af</td>
<td>tutubees</td>
<td>taksi</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| محطة | موقف | اتوبيس | تاكسى |
Utubees nimra kaam?/Which bus?

Katherine and Catherine are going to see the pyramids in Giza and they want to go by bus. They ask their Egyptian friend how to get there.

Katherine: Hna rayzeen nirooh ilharam, naakhud utubees nimra kaam?

Catherine: Mafeesh utubees min hina ilharam. laazim tighayyaru-fi baab ilHadeed.

Katherine: Naakhud nimra kaam min hina?

Catherine: Takhdu nimra si TItaashar min hina-l baab ilHadeed?

Katherine: Wi bardein nimra kaam min baab ilHadeed.

Catherine: Wi bardein takhdu nimra tisca ilharam.

Tayyib, shukran.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

Rayzeen nirooh ilharam
Naakhud utubees nimra kaam?
Mafeesh utubees min hina ilharam
Laazim tighayyaru-fi baab ilHadeed
Wi bardein nimra kaam

we want to go to the Pyramids
which bus shall we take?
bus number what shall we take?
there is no bus from here to the Pyramids
you have to change (buses) at baab El-Hadid
then number what (bus)?

Fil 'Utubees/On the bus

Conductor: Tazaakir min faDlak.

Katherine: Itnein baab ilHadeed

Conductor: Tazkartein bikhamseen irsh. Ittazkara-b khamsa-w cishreen irsh.

Katherine: ItfaDDal. Aadi gneih wi haat ilbaa'i.

Conductor: ItfaDDal tazkartein, wilbaa'i khamseen irsh.

Katherine: Shukran

Conductor: 'ileafw.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

Tazaakir min faDlak
Itnein baab ilHadeed
Tazkartein bikhamseen irsh
Ittazkara-b khamsa-w cishreen irsh
Aadi gneih
Wi haat ilbaa'i

Tickets please
two (tickets) to Bab El-Hadid
two tickets for fifty piastres
twenty-five piastres for each (ticket)
here is a pound
and give me the change
'istiemal ittaksi/Taking a taxi

Bill and Catherine decide after their outing to take a taxi back to the hotel.

**Bill:** (shouting) *taksi!*
**Driver:** 'aywa, *rayHeen fein?*
**Bill:** *MaSr iggideeda.*
**Driver:** fein fi *maSr iggideeda?*
**Bill:** huteil sheratun.
**Driver:** da bceed, aakhud eashara gneih.
**Bill:** *la' cashara kteer.*
**Driver:** Tayyib tamanaya.
**Catherine:** tamanya kwayyis. shukran.
**Driver:** itfaDDalu. 'irkabu.

**Words and phrases from the dialogue**

- *rayHeen fein?* where are you going?
- *maSr iggideeda* Heliopolis
- *fein fi maSr iggideeda?* where in Heliopolis?
- *la' cashara-kteer* no, ten (pounds) is too much
- *tamanya kwayyis* eight (pounds) is all right
- *irkabu* get in (car)

**Useful words and phrases**

- *maHaTTit (maw'af) il'utubes* bus stop
- *maHaTTit il'aTr* the railway station
- *ilmtru* the metro (tram)
- *mitru-l'anfaaq* the underground train
- *il'utubes da biyrocH...?* does this bus go to...?
- *'issouk ('issou')* the market place
- *ilkurneish (ikkurneish)* main road by the Nile or the sea
- *il'istaad* the stadium
the way it works

Negation

leek there is (are) mafeesh (maafi)* there is/are no/not leek 'utubees there is a bus mafeesh 'utubees there is no bus leek shaa'y there is tea mafeesh 'ahwa there is no coffee leek 'ibnsi there is Pepsi mafeesh ra'seer there is no juice

* maafi is non Egyptian

Number

In Arabic, there is singular, dual and plural. The dual is formed by adding -ein to masculine words and -tein to feminine words ending with a. Examples are given in the table below. Note the different pronunciation too.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Dual</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tazkara (f.)</td>
<td>tazkartein</td>
<td>tazaakir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>quDa (f.)</td>
<td>'uDtein</td>
<td>'iwaD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leila (f.)</td>
<td>liitein</td>
<td>layaali</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dour (m.)</td>
<td>durein</td>
<td>adwaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>airer (m.)</td>
<td>sirirein</td>
<td>saraayir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>youm (m.)</td>
<td>yumein</td>
<td>ayyaam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pronunciation

The prepositions bi, li, fi and wi sometimes lose their i sound in connected speech when followed or preceeded by the sounds a, i or u.

| tighayyaru- fi baab illHadeed (fi) | (tighayyaru fi) | change at Bab El-Hadid from here to the Pyramids |
| tighayyaru- li baab illHadeed (li) | (li illHareem)  | for how much is the ticket twenty-five |
| tighayyaru- bi baab illHadeed (bi) | (bii illHareem) | |
| tighayyaru- wi baab illHadeed (wi) | (kiwi illHareem) | |
things to do

3.3 Ask the following questions in Arabic:

1. How can I go to the market place?
2. Can we take a taxi from here?
3. Which bus goes to Heliopolis?
4. Where do we change?
5. Where in Giza?

3.4 Clare wants to go to the Andalus Hotel. Translate her conversation into Arabic.

1. Clare: I would like to go to Andalus Hotel.
2. Nadya: You should take a taxi.
3. Laila: Clare can take a bus.
4. Clare: Is there a direct bus?
5. Laila: No, you have to change at Bab ElHadid.
6. Clare: Where is the bus stop?
7. Laila: In front of the bank.
8. Clare: How much is the ticket?
9. Laila: The ticket is twenty piastres.
SIGHTSEEING

Many museums and tourist sites are closed on public holidays. It is advisable to check with the tourist information offices or your hotel reception before you decide where to go.

nirooH fein inniharda?/Where shall we go today?

Mr and Mrs Clark have met an Egyptian couple, Mr and Mrs Zaki, at their hotel, and now they ask them about tourist sites in Cairo.

Mrs Clark: nirooH fein inniharda?
Mrs Zaki: laazim tirollo Hu-l matHaf ilmaSri.
Mr Clark: feeh 'eih fil matHaf ilmaSri?
Mr Zaki: ilmatHaf ilmaSri feeh 'asaaar maSriyya 'adeema-kteer.
Mrs Clark: nirooH izzaay ilmatHaf?
Mr Zaki: ilmatHaf fimdaan ittaHtreer, mumkin takhdu 'utubees nimra tamanya-w tamaneen
Mr Clark: winrooH fein kamaan?
Mrs Zaki: mumkin tizoorel 'azhar wil Hussein wi khaan ilkhaaleeli
Mrs Clark: Tayyib shukran, salaam
Mrs Zaki: macassalaama. nishufku bukra.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

nirrouH fein inniharda?
laazim troohu-l
matfha ilmaSti
feeh 'eih fil . . . ?
feeh 'asaar maSriyya 'adeema-kteer

findaan ittaHreer
nirrouH izzaay . . . ?
winrooth fein kamaa?n?
mumkin tizcoru-l 'azhar
wil Husein wi
khaan ilkhaleeli
salaam

macassalaama
nishufku bukra

Useful words and phrases

Times of the day
The following table shows phrases used to express different times of the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Morning</th>
<th>Afternoon</th>
<th>Evening/Night</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Today</td>
<td>inniharda-S SubH</td>
<td>bad iDDuHr</td>
<td>billeil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yesterday</td>
<td>imbaariH issubH</td>
<td>bad iDDuHr</td>
<td>billeil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
<td>bukra-S SubH</td>
<td>bad iDDuHr</td>
<td>billeil</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note the loss of the first vowel in issubH with innhardt and bukra because of the final vowel in these two words.

Old and new

'aadime (m.)/'adeema (f.)
gideed (m.)/gideeda (f.)
arabiyya 'adeema
gamile 'adeem
'asaar 'adeema
maSr iggideeda
maSr il'aadema

Big and small

kibbeer (m.)/kibeera (f.)
Sughayyar (m.)/Sughayyara (f.)
dukkaan kibbeer
carabiyya kbeera
gaamie Sughayyar
kineesa Sghayyra
the way it works

kamaan

Kamaan has many meanings depending on the context. It can mean 'also', 'too',
else another.

Has waHalid shayy kamaan
Wana kamaan
Ninna fiin kamaan?

bring another tea
and me too
where else can we go?

nishufku/Goodbye

Nishufku means 'we see'. When a personal pronoun is added to it as in nishufku,
meaning 'we see you', it is used like its English equivalent 'see you' meaning
goodbye. Other pronouns can be added as shown below. The words ashoof and
nishufku are used without the pronouns 'ana (l) or 'ihna (we).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ashoof</td>
<td>nishufku</td>
<td>see you (m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ashoof</td>
<td>nishufku</td>
<td>see you (f.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ashoof</td>
<td>nishufku</td>
<td>see you (pl.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

things to do

3.5 You are out sight-seeing in Cairo, say the following in Arabic:

1. I would like to go to Al-Azhar.
2. El-Azhar is an old mosque.
3. Khan El-khalili is a big market.
4. What can I see in the museum?
5. How can we go to Khan El-khalili?
6. I would like to see a new mosque.
7. This shop is very small.
You will find that shops in the Arab countries are usually open from 9.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m., with a two- or three-hour break in the afternoon. Shops are not closed on both weekend days (Thursday and Friday) but most are closed for part of the weekend. There are specialised small shops, but there are also department stores in big towns which sell a wide variety of goods including clothes (malaabis) and gifts (hadaaya). Many of these stores accept the major credit cards. Be prepared for a different system of paying, however. In bigger shops and supermarkets, after you choose your goods, you are given a bill which you pay at the cash desk (ilkhazeena) then you collect your goods from an adjacent counter (il'istilam).

**shira-l fawaakih/Buying fruit**

**Bill:**

**Shopkeeper:**

*bikaam keelu-t teen?*

**Bill:**

*bi talaat gneih.*

**Shopkeeper:**

*wi keelu-l cinab?*

**Bill:**

*bikhamsa gneih.*

**Shopkeeper:**

'iddeeni keelu teen witein cinab min faDlak.*

**Bill:**

*Haad Dir yafandim.*

**Shopkeeper:**

'ilHisaab kaam min faDlak?*

**Bill:**

*Hidaashar gneih.*

**Shopkeeper:**

*iffaDDal khamasTaashar gneih wi haat ilbaa'i.*

**Bill:**

*ilbaa'i 'arbara gneih. 'iffaDDal.*
youm ilkhavees/Thursday

Words and phrases from the dialogue

ilkaam keelu-teen?
how much is a kilo of figs?
wt keelu-l cinab?
and (how much is) a kilo of grapes?
abooli keelu
give me a kilo of
illittaab kaam?
how much is the bill (the lot)?

ilmalaabis wit-tuHaf/Clothes and souvenirs

Catherine: eayza jakitta gild min faDlik.
Shopkeeper: ma'aas kaam?
Catherine: ma'aas Sughayyar.
Shopkeeper: feeh bunni-w beij.
Catherine: 'iddieni waelHda bunni.
Shopkeeper: 'itfaDDali. bi miyya warbi-teen gineih.
Catherine: la' di ghalya kida. wishshanTa di-b kaam?
Shopkeeper: bitalateen gineih.
Catherine: Tayyib 'aakhud iljakitta-l bunni wishshanTa-b miyya-w khamseen gineih.
Shopkeeper: miyya-w sitteen kwayyis.
Catherine: Tayyib, itfaDDali, 'aadi miyya-w sitteen.
Shopkeeper: shukran, macassalamta.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

jakitta gild
leather jacket
ma'aas kaam?
what size?
ma'aas Sughayyar
small size
feeh bunni-w beij.
there is brown and beige.
di ghalya kida
this is expensive at this price.
wishshanTa di-b kaam?
and how much is this handbag?

shira-l kuroot/Buying cards

Mrs Clark: mumkin ashoof ilkuroot min faDlik?
Assistant: itfaDDali. eayza kaam kart?
Mrs Clark: la' mish doul, 'ana eayza kart bustaal.
Assistant: feeh kart bustaal. HaaDir.
Mrs Clark:  bikaam ilkart?
Assistant:  ilkart bi khamasTaashar 'irsh.
Mrs Clark:  Tayyib, 'iddeeni khamas kuroot
Assistant:  khamasa-w sabceen 'irsh, min faDlik.
Mrs Clark:  'itfaDDalii gineih wi haati-I baaii.
Assistant:  ilbaa'i khamasa-w eishreen 'irsh, 'itfaDDalii.
Mrs Clark:  shukran.
Assistant:  ilcafw, maacassalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

mumkin ashoof ilkuroot?  can I see the cards?
cayza kaam kart?  how many cards do you want?
l'mish doul  no, not these ones
kart bustaal  post cards
iddeeni khamas kuroot  give me five cards

Bargaining

di ghalya (f)/da ghali (m.)  this is expensive
di-rkheesa (f)/da-rkhees (m.)  this is cheap
feeh 'arkhaS min kida?  is there anything cheaper than that?
kwayyiS kida.  that is all right.

Colours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(m.)</th>
<th>(f.)</th>
<th>(m.)</th>
<th>(f.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>abyaD</td>
<td>beiDa</td>
<td>akhDar</td>
<td>khaDra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iswid</td>
<td>souda</td>
<td>azra'</td>
<td>zar'a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aHmar</td>
<td>Hamra</td>
<td>bunnii</td>
<td>bunni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aSfar</td>
<td>Safra</td>
<td>beij</td>
<td>beij</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

green  blue  brown  beige

the way it works

Masculine and feminine words

Feminine words usually end with the sound a as in jakitta, gazma, vaaza, ariba
When using colour words the feminine form should be used to describe feminine objects.

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feminine</th>
<th>Masculine</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>jakitta</td>
<td>gamal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vaaza</td>
<td>bantaloun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gazma</td>
<td>'amees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bilouza</td>
<td>Taba'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When making the objects definite, the colour words also become definite e.g.
'iljakitta-I bunni (il bunni), il'amees il'abyaD.
Plurals

Many feminine words ending in a, have aat in the plural e.g. jakitta → jakittaat and wasaa → wazaat. However, as many other different patterns are used to make plurals in Arabic, you will have to learn most plurals as you go along.

Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>muruq</td>
<td>kuroot</td>
<td>elba</td>
<td>elab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uthoosh</td>
<td>tazaakir</td>
<td>shanTa</td>
<td>shunaT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kahara</td>
<td>maTaacim</td>
<td>gaamic</td>
<td>gawaamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tsamam</td>
<td>gimaal</td>
<td>kaneesa</td>
<td>kanaayis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baniya</td>
<td>tamaseel</td>
<td>Taba'</td>
<td>'aTbaa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanoun</td>
<td>galaleeb</td>
<td>Saniiya</td>
<td>Sawaani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fuma</td>
<td>banTalunaat</td>
<td>maktaba</td>
<td>maktabaat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ittebees</td>
<td>gizam</td>
<td>'ameeS</td>
<td>'umSaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>utitaat</td>
<td>'utubisaat</td>
<td>'ouDa</td>
<td>'iwaD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>hidiiya</td>
<td>hadaaya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cardinal numbers revisited

There are two forms of cardinal numbers from 3 to 10. One form is used for telling the time, ordering food or drinks and talking about money. The counted objects (see p. 15) are usually expressed in the singular with this form.

The other form is used for counting everything else, and it is usually followed by the plural form of the object counted as shown below.

- talat tazaakir: three tickets
- sabar gimaal: seven camels
- arbaa elab: four boxes
- taman Sawaani: eight trays
- khamas kuroot: five cards
- tisar 'iwaD: nine rooms
- mit bidzaat: six blouses
- cashar 'aTbaa': ten plates

things to do

4.1 Ask about the prices of the following:
1. A kilo of mangoes.
2. A kilo of strawberries.
3. The green jacket.
4. The beige shirt.
5. This statue.

4.2 Say the following to shopkeepers:
1. No, this is expensive (blouse).
2. O.K., give me six cards.
3. I'll take the red camel.
4. I'll take three galabiyyas.
5. Here's five pounds and give me the change.
POSTING LETTERS AND MAKING TELEPHONE CALLS

Post offices in Arab countries are open every day except for Fridays and holidays. Opening hours differ from one country to another. In Egypt, they are generally open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Some branches in larger cities may stay open as late as 8 p.m. Delivery times for international mail can be improved if you write the name of the destination country in Arabic.

fi maktab ilbareed/At the post office

Bill: caayiz Tawaabic likhamas gawabaat min faDlak.
Clerk: ilgawabaat rayHa fein?
Bill: 'ingiltira.
Clerk: bareed gawwi walla caadi?
Bill: bareed gawwi min faDlak.
Clerk: talaata gneh. iTTaabib bi sitteen 'irsh.
Bill: wi caayiz 'abcat ilgawaab da musaqgal.
Clerk: ilmusaggal lingiltira miyyaw sitteen 'irsh. Haaga tanya?
Bill: la' shukran khalaaS.
Clerk: ilmaaumoc 'arba'a gneh wi sitteen 'irsh.
Bill: ifaDDal. (handing the money)
Clerk: shukran. wi da waSi ittasgeel.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

tawaabic: caayiz likhamas gawabaat ilgawabaat rayHa fein? bareed gawwi walla caadi? iTTaabib bi sitteen 'irsh wi caayiz 'abcat ilgawaab da musaqgal Haaga tanya? khalaaS ilmaaumoc 'arba'a gneh wi da waSi ittasgeel

can I have stamps for five letters where are the letters going? by air mail or surface mail? sixty piastres each (stamp) and I would like to send this letter by recorded delivery anything else? that's it the total is four pounds and this is the receipt for the recorded delivery
**Youm ilkhamees/Thursday**

**Words and phrases**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bareed</td>
<td>post</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ta'albar</td>
<td>postage stamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baadvert</td>
<td>posting box</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>haaadvert</td>
<td>air mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bittayara</td>
<td>by air mail (by plane)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raayig abcat</td>
<td>I would like to send (post)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ilgawaab da biTTayyara</td>
<td>this letter by air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tawlaab da musaggal</td>
<td>this letter by recorded delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tawlaab da ingilira</td>
<td>this card to England</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raayig asaggil ilgawaab da (or) raayig abcat ilgawaab da musaggal</td>
<td>I would like to send this letter by recorded delivery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walla/aw</td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Singular and plural**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>gawaab</td>
<td>gawabaat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ilgawaab</td>
<td>ilgawabaat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kart</td>
<td>kuroot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ilkarit</td>
<td>ilkuroot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tard</td>
<td>Turood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iTTard</td>
<td>iTTurood</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Taawaabic</td>
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<td></td>
<td>letters</td>
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<td></td>
<td>the letters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>cards</td>
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<td>the cards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>parcels</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the parcels</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>stamps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the stamps</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Making a phone call**

You can make local and international telephone calls at your hotel or at public telephone offices. Local calls can also be made from public telephones in the streets, in some countries, or from most shops, which charge a reasonable fee. It is more convenient to use the hotel telephones, but it is cheaper to use the telephone office, particularly for international calls. In hotels you ask the operator to connect you to local or international numbers. In the public telephone office you book the call with an assistant, wait until your number is obtained then the assistant calls you to take the call from booth number such and such. After you finish your call, you pay the fees and get a receipt.

**Fi-s sintiraal/At the telephone office**

Catherine:  cayza mukalma manshistan min faDlak.
Clerk:  HaaDir. nimra kaam fi manshistan?
Catherine:  innimra di. (shows him the number written)
Clerk:  kaam di'ee'a?
Catherine:  sitt da'aayi' min faDlak. bikaam?
Clerk:  arbaca-w rishreen gineih.
Catherine:  Tayyib shukran.
Clerk:  itfaDDali, kabeena nimra sabea.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

rayza mukalma manshistar
nimra kaam
kaam d'ee'a?
sitt da'aayi'
kabeena nimra sabra

I would like to call Manchester
what is the number?
how many minutes?
six minutes
cabin (booth) No. 7

Useful words and phrases

xaayiz/xayza (I) akallim landan
mumkin akallim London?
mumkin aamil tililoun?
mumkin akallim fittililoun?
ilmukalma khameen 'irsh
'aloo/'alu
'aywa, meen?

I would like to make a call to London
can (may) I make a call to London?
can I make a call?
can I use the phone?
50 piastres a call
hello (on the phone)
yes, who is it? (calling)

the way it works

caddi means 'ordinary'. When talking about post, it means surface mail.
khalas means 'finished'. It is used in conversation to mean 'that's it', 'that's all', 'no more', 'it's finished', or 'already'.

things to do

4.3 Say the following in Arabic.

1 I would like to send these cards to Birmingham.
2 Can I send this letter, recorded delivery, please?
3 Can I send these parcels to Paris, please?
4 I would like a stamp for this card, please.
5 I would like to send these letters by air mail.
6 Where is the recording receipt?
7 How much is a stamp for Britain by air mail?
8 Can I use the telephone?
9 Can I call Alexandria?
10 I would like to call Manchester, please.
There are intercity air and bus services in all the Arab countries, but rail services are only available in some. Trains have three classes, with a 'superluxe' class on certain routes, which provides air conditioned carriages and sleeping compartments, and buffet or restaurant services. It is advisable to travel at least first class on trains, especially as the fares are reasonable. Third class is very basic (wooden seats); and the locals would also be surprised to see you among them in second class. Air conditioned buses also run on certain bus routes.

You should enquire about the facilities available on the route you are using before booking train or bus tickets and be sure to reserve seats in advance, particularly for longer journeys.

Look for the following signs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ticket office</td>
<td>نشباك التذاكر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platform number</td>
<td>رقم ستاف</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carriage number</td>
<td>رقم عربة</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant carriage</td>
<td>عربة الاكل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleeping carriage</td>
<td>عربة النوم</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
issafar bil'aTr/Travelling by train

It would be useful to refer to pp. 26–28 for talking about time in this unit.

Bill: tazkara skindiriyya min fadlak.
Clerk: daraga 'oola walla tanya?
Bill: daraga 'oola mukayyafa.
Clerk: raayiH gayy walla raayiH bass?
Bill: raayiH gayy.
Clerk: daraga 'oola raayiH gayy, bi cashara gneih.
Bill: itfaDDal. il'aTr issaaaca kaam?
Clerk: feeh 'aTr issaaaca tamanya-w nuSS.
Bill: raSeef nimra kaam?
Clerk: raSeef nimra talaata.
Bill: feeh carabiyyit 'aki?
Clerk: 'aywa feeh. wi feeh bufeih kamaan.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic phrase</th>
<th>English translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>tazkara skindiriyya</td>
<td>a ticket to Alexandria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>daraga 'oola</td>
<td>1st class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walla tanya?</td>
<td>or 2nd class?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>daraga 'oola mukayyafa</td>
<td>1st class air-conditioned</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raayiH gayy</td>
<td>return</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>walla raayiH bass?</td>
<td>or one way only?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>il'aTr issaaaca kaam?</td>
<td>what time is the train?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feeh 'aTr</td>
<td>there is a train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>issaaaca tamanya-w nuSS.</td>
<td>at 8.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raSeef nimra kaam?</td>
<td>what platform number?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>raSeef nimra talaata</td>
<td>platform No. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feeh carabiyyit 'aki?</td>
<td>is there a restaurant carriage?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wi feeh bufeih kamaan</td>
<td>and there is a buffet as well.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Useful words and phrases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic phrase</th>
<th>English translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'aTr iskindiriyya (lukSur, etc)</td>
<td>the train to Alexandria (Luxor, etc)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>naayiz aHgiz makan</td>
<td>I would like to book a seat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iddeen tazkara</td>
<td>give me a ticket</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>daraga 'oola (tanya)</td>
<td>1st (2nd) class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>siyalHiyya</td>
<td>tourist class (on planes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feeh makaan (amaakin)</td>
<td>there is a seat (are seats)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mafeesh 'amaakin fi</td>
<td>there are no seats on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'aTr issaaaca khamsa</td>
<td>the 5 o'clock train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tayyaarit issaaaca khamsa</td>
<td>the 5 o'clock plane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
things to do

8.1 You are booking seats for yourself and friends on a train from Cairo to Luxor. Say the following to the ticket officer, in Arabic. You and the ticket officer are both male. (Refer to pp. 26-28 and p. 80 when talking about time.)

1. What time is the train to Luxor?
2. We are travelling on Friday morning.
3. I would like to book four seats, please.
4. First class air-conditioned.
5. We are going by train and coming back by plane.
6. Can I book a compartment with two berths?
7. How much is the ticket?
8. Is there a restaurant carriage?
9. What time does the train leave?
10. And what time does it arrive?

8.2 You are booking a plane seat for yourself from Amman to Jeddah. Say the following in Arabic. You and the ticket officer are both female.

1. I would like to book a seat to Jeddah.
2. I am travelling Friday afternoon.
3. How much is a return ticket?
4. Tourist class.
5. What time does the plane take off?
6. What time does the plane arrive in Jeddah?
Most big hotels have sports facilities, particularly for swimming, tennis, squash and table tennis. There are also sporting clubs which are similar to sports centres in Britain, except that, in some countries, you cannot be admitted unless you are accompanied by a club member. In the evening various kinds of shows are presented in the hotels, theatres, cinemas, music halls and night clubs.

il 'al-shaab irriyya Diyya/Sports activities

Bill and Catherine make enquiries at the hotel reception about the sports facilities available.

Bill: 'Hiha sayzeen ni'lab tinis nicmil 'eih?
Receptionist: tiHgizu mal'ab. sayzeen tilzabu 'add 'eih?
Bill: saa'a-kfaaya. wi bardein nicoom shiwayya.
Receptionist: issaac-b khamse-gneih. canduku maDaarib?
Bill: la' maqandinaash maDaarib hina
Receptionist: mumkin ti'aggaru maDaarib min il huteil.
Bill: Tayyib ni'aggar maDrabein.
Receptionist: laaz'im tiHgizu-l mal'ab bisura.
nirooH fein? / Where to go?

Mr and Mrs Clark ask their hotel manager for advice on spending the evening out in Luxor.

Mr Clark:  nirooH fein 'lilaaadi?
Manager:  feeh birnaamig iSSouT wiDDou' fi macbad ilkarnaK.
Mrs Clark:  wifeeh 'eih kamaan?
Manager:  feeh sahra maSriyya hina fil huteil.
Mr Clark:  issahra-l maSriyya feeha 'eih?
Manager:  feeha museeqa maSriyya wi ra'S sharbi wi 'aghaani sharbiyya.
Mr Clark: wifih 'eih kamaa?
Manager: wifih sahra
 'urubbiyya fi huteil ramsees.
Mrs Clark: iSSouT wiDDou'
issaaca kaam?
Manager: ilbinaamig yibda'
issaaca sabca, wi
yintihi-s saaca cashara.
Mrs Clark: Tayyib nirooH iSSout
wiDDou' inniharda,
winiHDar issahra-
maSriyya buakra.
Manager: tisharrafu yafandim.
words and phrases

cinema
theatre
film
play
I am going to the theatre
I am going to the cinema
I am going to the café
I am going to a disco
I am going to watch television
I am going to watch the video
I am going to watch the football
a café by the Nile/sea
where would you like to go?

the way it works

'alaaab irriyaaDirya is a term used in Arabic when talking about all kinds of sports activities whether they are games or sports. The singular of 'alaaab is lieba.

'malaab is used in Arabic to mean pitch, field or court. The plural is malaarib.

'malaab/malaarib tinis
tennis court/s
'malaab/malaarib koura
football pitch/es
'malaab/malaarib huki
hockey pitch/es
'malaab/malaarib iskwash
squash court/s
'malaab/malaarib vuli
volleyball court/s

'shiwayya means 'a bit', 'a little' or 'some'. When it is followed by a noun it becomes shiwayyit.

Examples

'shiwayyit mayya
some water
'shiwayyit teen
some figs
'ilbaab shiwayya
play for a bit

Verbs in the future

'tha at the beginning of the verb makes it future.

Examples

'thaa hatfarrag
I am going to (shall) watch
'tHina hanififarrag
we are going to (shall) watch
huwwa hayifarrag
he is going to (will) watch
In some cases the first vowel of the verb is dropped.

'ana harooh (arooh) 1 shall go
iHna hanooh (nurooh) we shall go
huwwa hayrooh (yurooh) he will go

things to do

5.3 Tom wants to play squash. Translate the conversation he has into Arabic.

1 Tom:  Can I book a squash court?
2 Attendant:  For how long?
3 Tom:  One hour.
4 Attendant:  Do you want rackets?
5 Tom:  No, we have rackets.
6 Attendant:  Five pounds please.
7 Tom:  When can we play?
8 Attendant:  Half past four.
9 Tom:  Is there a shower here?
10 Attendant:  Yes, there are three.
11 Tom:  Where are they?
12 Attendant:  At the end of this corridor, on the left.

5.4 Nabeel asks Peter where he would like to spend the evening. Translate Peter's part into Arabic.

Nabeel:  Where would you like to go tonight?
Peter:  What's available?
Nabeel:  There is a nice programme in the club.
Peter:  What else is there?
Nabeel:  There is also evening entertainment in the hotel.
Peter:  What does the hotel evening include?
Nabeel:  The hotel evening entertainment is a programme of Egyptian music and songs.
Peter:  And what does the club evening include?
Nabeel:  The club programme is European music and singing.
Peter:  All right. We'll go to the club tonight.
HEALTH PROBLEMS

There are both public and private health services in the Arab countries. Public services are available in government hospitals and medical centres. Private services are available in private hospitals and surgeries.

If you are too ill to move, you can ask for a doctor to come and see you, or an ambulance to take you to the nearest hospital or medical centre. In case of emergency you can go, or be taken, to the casualty department in any hospital, public or private.

However, speak English, but your knowledge of Arabic would be useful for talking to hotel staff, ambulance men, paramedics or members of the family in case of emergency. It is advisable to take medical insurance before you travel so that you can claim any expenses.

taæbaan shiwayya/Feeling ill

Mr Clark does not feel well when he gets up in the morning. Mrs Clark asks the hotel reception to ask their advice.

Mrs Clark: SabaaH ilkheir, 'ana misiz klaark, 'ouDa nimra arbaaTaashar.
Reception: SabaaH ilkheir yamadaam, 'ayyi khidma?
Mrs Clark: 'ana zougi taæbaan shiwayya, niçmil 'eih?
Reception: huuwa candu 'eih yamadaam?
Mrs Clark: candu Suddaaq w-ilîhaab fi zouru.
Reception: tiHibbi niTlublu duktour?
Mrs Clark: 'ayya wa min faDlik.
         Tayyib. haniThub
        duktour Haalan.
Mrs Clark: shukran.
Reception: ileafw.

Words and phrases in the dialogue

taæbaan shiwayya
niçmil 'eih?
huuwa candu 'eih?
candu Suddaaq
   w-ilîhaab fi zouru
tiHibbi niTlublu duktour?
haniThub duktour Haalan

is not very well
what shall we do?
what is wrong with him?/what does he suffer from?
he has a headache
and a sore throat
would you like us to call a doctor for him?
we shall call a doctor immediately
Bill goes to see a doctor because he has a stomach-ache.

Doctor: candak éih ya mistar teilar?
Bill: candi maghs wi 'is-haal.
Doctor: min 'imta?
Bill: min imbaariH billeil.
Doctor: Tayyib 'aakhud ilHaraara.

After taking Bill's temperature and examining him, the doctor gives him a prescription.

Doctor: mafeesh Haraara. di Haaga baseeTa. khud iddawa da wistareeH raaHa kamla.
Bill: 'aakhud iddawa kaam marra?
Doctor: talat marraat fil youm bared il'akl.
Bill: waakul 'eih?
Doctor: Kul tust wishrab Hagaat sa'ca bass.
Bill: shukran ya duktour salaamu caleiku.
Doctor: illeaf maeassalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

candi maghs wi 'is-haal
min 'imta?
min imbaariH billeil
'aakhud ilHaraara
mafeesh Haraara
di Haaga baseeTa
khud iddawa da wistareeH raaHa kamla
kaam marra?
talat marraat fil youm
waakul 'eih?
kul tust
wishrab Hagaat sa'ca bass

I have stomach-ache and diarrhoea
Since when?
Since last night
Let me take the temperature
There is no temperature
This is not serious
Take this medicine and have complete rest
how often?
Three times a day
And what shall I eat?
eat toast
and have cold drinks
only
New thing your ailments

There are two different ways of talking about ailments
-andi: symptom = I have + symptom
- (part of the body) bi yiwgarni (m.)/bi tiwgarni (f.)

Examples
- andi Sudaaç
- andi insaak
- andi illhaab fi zouri

- bi yiwgarni (m.)
- diwaaci b yiwgarni (m.)
- thiqi b tiwgarni (f.)
- teedii b tiwgarni (f.)
(Note the change of bi into -b.)

I have a headache
I have constipation
I have a sore throat
I have pain in my shoulder
I have pain in my arm
I have pain in my leg
I have pain in my hand

Injuries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>wound</th>
<th>cut</th>
<th>broke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>laweit</td>
<td>garaHt</td>
<td>kasart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lawa</td>
<td>garaH</td>
<td>kasar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lawit</td>
<td>garaHit</td>
<td>kasarit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples
- ana laweit diraaci
- Nabeel kasar diraacz
- Fayza garaHit 'idha

I twisted my arm
Nabeel broke his arm
Fayza cut her hand

Other injuries
- ana Siti dabboor
- ana Siti naHla

I have been stung by a wasp
I have been stung by a bee

Things you have to tell the doctor
- ana andi sukkar
- ana andi rabw
- ana andi l'alb (andi il'alb)
- ana andi Hasasiya lil binsileen
- ana Haamil

I am diabetic
I am asthmatic
I have heart trouble
I am allergic to penicillin
I am pregnant

Asking for help
- caayiz duktour (m.)
- caayza duktour (f.)
- caayiz il'iscaaf (m.)
- caayza-l'iscaaf (f.)
- caayiz arooh ilmustashfa (m.)

I need a doctor
I need a doctor
I need the ambulance
I need the ambulance
I want to go to the hospital.

Key words in Arabic

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance</td>
<td>il'iscaaf</td>
<td>Surgery</td>
<td>siyaada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>mustashfa</td>
<td>Doctor</td>
<td>duktour</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the way it works

IstareeH means have a rest, so istareeH raaHa kamla means have a complete rest. But in the phrase ifaDDal istareeH it means take a seat or have a seat.

Negation

mish, mafeesh, marandeesh
mish
mish caarif
mish raayif
mafeesh
mafeesh Haraara
mafeesh caSeer
macandeesh
macandeesh Haraara

not
I don't know
I am not going
there is no (not)
there is no temperature
there is no juice
I have no (not)
I have not got a temperature

Orders and requests

The doctor might tell you to do the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>person</th>
<th>take</th>
<th>eat</th>
<th>drink</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>singular (m.)</td>
<td>khud</td>
<td>kul</td>
<td>ishrab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>singular (f.)</td>
<td>khudi</td>
<td>kuli</td>
<td>ishrabi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plural (m. + f.)</td>
<td>khudu</td>
<td>kulu</td>
<td>ishrabu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

things to do

6.1 Tell the doctor what each member of the group is suffering from.
1. Tom suffers from toothache.
2. Laura has a cold.
3. Josephine has a sore throat.
4. Helen has a sore eye.
5. Henry has heartburn.

6.2 Translate the following questions into English and give the answers in Arabic.
1. candak bard? No, I haven't
2. candik Haraara? Yes, I have
3. rankak Hasasiya hilbinsileen? No, I haven't
4. min 'imta?
5. feehe Sudaar? Since this morning
   No, there isn't
yoom issabt/Saturday

fil agzakhaana/At the pharmacy

Catherine: mumkin Haaga lil HumooDa, min faDlak?
Chemist: 'aywa feeh dawa shurb mumtaaz.
Catherine: 'aakhud 'add'eih?
Chemist: khudi macla'a-kbeera marrittein fil youm. marra-S SubH, wi marra billeil.
Catherine: baerd il'akl walla 'abl il'akl?
Chemist: baerd il'akl.
Catherine: shukran. ilHisaab kaam?
Chemist: miyya-w khamseen 'irsh, bass. 'itfaDDal.
Catherine: shukran. macassalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

Haaga lil HumooDa
dawa shurb
'aakhud 'add'eih?
macla'a-kbeera
marrittein fil youm
marra... wi marra

Useful words and phrases

dawa 'a'raaS
dawa saayil (shurb)
dawa Hu'an
"urS ('a'raaS)
mumkin Haaga (dawa) li?
raayiz ' Haaga (dawa) li
raayiz aSrif iddawa da
raayiz aSrif irrushitta di 'add'eih?
kaam marra?
macla'a-kbeera
macla'a-Sghayyara

* Note: Use raayiz if a man, rayza if a woman.

something for heartburn
liquid medicine to take orally
how much shall I take?
one tablespoonful
twice a day
once... and once...

medicine in tablet form (tablets)
medicine in liquid form (liquid)
medicine to be taken by injection
tablet (tablets)
can I have something/medicine for?
I want something/medicine for
I want this medicine made up
I want this prescription made up
how much?
how many times?
tablespoonful
teaspoonful
The way it works

istareeH means have a rest, so istareeH raaHa kamla means have a complete rest. But in the phrase ifaDDal istareeH it means take a seat or have a seat.

Negation

mish, mafeesh, marandeesh

mish
mish raarif
mish raayiH

mafeesh
mafeesh Haraara
mafeesh caSeer

marandeesh
marandeesh Haraara

not
I don't know
I am not going
there is no (not)
there is no temperature
there is no juice
I have no (not)
I have not got a temperature

Orders and requests

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<td>kuli</td>
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<td>kulu</td>
<td>ishrabu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Things to do

6.1 Tell the doctor what each member of the group is suffering from.

1. Tom suffers from toothache.
2. Laura has a cold.
3. Josephine has a sore throat.
4. Helen has a sore eye.
5. Henry has heartburn.

6.2 Translate the following questions into English and give the answers in Arabic.

1. candak bard? No, I haven't
2. candik Haraara? Yes, I have
3. cankak Hasasiya lilbinsileen? No, I haven't
4. min 'imta? Since this morning
5. feeh Sudaac? No, there isn't
fil agzakhaana/At the pharmacy

Catherine: mumkin Haaga lil HumooDa, min faDlak?
Chemist: 'aywa feeh dawa shurb mumtaaz.
Catherine: 'aakhud 'add'eih?
Chemist: khudi maqla'a-kbeera marritein fil youm. marra-S SubH, wi marrar billeil.
Catherine: baq'd il'akl wala' abl il'akl?
Chemist: baq'd il'akl.
Catherine: shukran. ilHisaab kaam?
Chemist: miyya-w khamseen 'irsh, bass.
Catherine: 'itfaDDal.
Chemist: shukran. macassalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

Haaga lil HumooDa
Dawa shurb
'aakhud 'add'eih?
Maqla'a-kbeera
Marritein fil youm
Marra... wi marrar

Useful words and phrases

dawa 'a'raaS
Dawa saayil (shurb)
Dawa Hu'an
'turS ('a'raaS)
mumkin Haaga (dawa) li?
Caayiz Haaga (dawa) li
Caayiz aSrif iddawa da
Caayiz aSrif irrushitta di
'add 'eih?
Kaam marra?
Maqla'a-kbeera
Maqla'a-Sghayyara

something for heartburn
liquid medicine to take orally
how much shall I take?
one tablespoonful
twice a day
once... and once...

medicine in tablet form (tablets)
medicine in liquid form (liquid)
medicine to be taken by injection
tablet (tablets)
can I have something/medicine for?
I want something/medicine for
I want this medicine made up
I want this prescription made up
how much?
how many times?
tablespoonful
teaspoonful

' Note: Use caayiz if a man, caayza if a woman.
the way it works

Big and small

Kibeera big sughayyara small
When talking about dosage in medicine macla'a-kbeera means 'tablespoonful' and macla'a-Sghayyara means 'teaspoonful'. Kbeera and Sghayyara lost their first vowels because of the last a in macla'a.

How many?

kaam? How many?
kaam is always followed by the singular when asking about the number of anything.

Examples

kaam marra? how many times?
kaam keelu? how many kilos?
kaam gineih? how many pounds?

The answer to kaam marra? can be as follows

marra waHda once
marritein twice
talat marraat times (up to 10)
Hidaashar marra eleven times (from 11 upwards)

things to do

6.3 Ask in Arabic for the following things at the pharmacy:

1 something for a headache
2 to have a prescription made up
3 shaving cream and toothpaste
4 cotton wool, Dettol and elastoplast
5 something for diarrhoea and a disinfectant
6 how many times you should take the medicine
7 how much of the medicine you should take
8 a toothbrush
9 eau de Cologne and talcum powder
10 shaving brush and razor blades
EATING OUT

Lunch ('ilghada) is the main meal for townspeople in Egypt and all other Arab countries. A formal lunch is a four-course meal, whether it is served at a restaurant, in a hotel or in a private house. Lunch ('ilghada) is served between 1.00 and 4.00 in the afternoon. The evening meal ('ilnasha) is either a big meal, like lunch, or a light meal. Light meals, if not taken at home, are served in restaurants and cafés.

A formal meal includes the following:

- shurba 'aw salaTa
- ruzz 'aw makarouna
- laHma-w khuDaar wi salaTa
- il Hilw
- mashroub (shaay'ahwa)
- soup or salad
- rice or macaroni
- meat, vegetables and salad
- dessert
- drink (tea or coffee)

Although alcoholic drinks are only available in some Arab countries, non-alcoholic beer (beera) and wine (nibeet) are available in them all. The majority of the Arab people have water (mayya) or fizzy drinks with their big meals.

Waiters expect a tip (ba'sheesh) even if a service charge is included in the bill. A 10% tip is just right in all kinds of restaurants.

fil ma'Tcam/At the restaurant

Kamaal Salem and his wife arranged to meet Bill and Catherine and give them a meal at a restaurant in Cairo.

Kamaal: massaa' ilkheir, sayzeen tarabeiza larba'a min faDlak.
Waiter: 'ahlan yafandim. itfaDDalu min hina.
Kamaal: mumkin il minyu min faDlak?
Waiter: Haalan yafandim.
Later, after consulting the menu...

Waiter: 'aywa yafandim, Talabatku 'eih?
Kamaal: 'ayzeen itnein shurbit cyaT witnein shurbit TamaaTim.
Waiter: eeish wi salaTaat wi-mkhallilaat?
Kamaal: 'aywa, wi ba'dein 'ayzeen itnein ruzz, witnein makarouna,
  witnein kabaab, witnein kufta-w waaHid bamyà-w waaHid
  bisilla.
Waiter: tiHibbu tishrabi eih maca-l 'akl?
Kamaal: naakhud arbaSa aSeer tuffaH, wi-'zaazit mayya macdaniyya
  wil Hilw?
Waiter: itnein mihallabiyya-w waaHid ba'TTeekh wi waaHid sinab.
Waiter: tiHibbu 'ahwa walla shaay bard il'akl?
Kamaal: itnein 'ahwa maZbooT, witnein shaay binieNaac.
Waiter: HaaDir yafandim. 'ayyi khidma.

Kamaal: ilHisaab min faDlak.
Waiter: HaaDir, sanya waHda, itfaDDal.
Kamaal: dal Hisaab, wida cashaanak.
Waiter: shukran macassalaama.

---

Words and phrases from the dialogue

tarabeiza larakca
itfaDDalu min hina
mumkin il minyu?
Haalan

Talabatku 'eih?
shurbit cyaT/TamaaTim
salaTaat wi-mkhallilaat
tiHibbu tishrabi 'eih
maca-l 'akl?
'izaazit mayya
mayya macdaniyya
wil Hilw?
bard il'akl?
'ahwa maZbooT
shaay binieNaac
ilHisaab min faDlak
sanya waHda
wida cashaanak

---

a table for four
This way please
Can we have the menu?
In a minute (literally it means immediately)
what would you like to order?
lentil/tomato soup
salads and pickles
what would you like to drink
with the meal?
a bottle of water
mineral water
and what for dessert?
after the meal?
Turkish coffee with little sugar
mint tea (with mint)
the bill, please
one second
and this is for you
useful words and phrases

Ana Haagiz tarabeiza
I have booked a table
I (m.)
Ana Hagza tarabeiza
I have booked a table
I (f.)
Ana Haagzeen tarabeiza
we have booked a table
we (m./f.)
Labta l-thakl
before the meal/food
Laha l-thakl
with the meal/food
Dhar l-thakl
after the meal/food

The word Haaga which means 'thing' is always used when asking for drinks of any kind. Hot or cold is sukhna or sa'ca.

Examples

Mumkin haagaa sa'aa?
can I have a cold drink?
Can we have something to drink?
Mumkin nishrabb Haaga?

Another way of asking for a drink is mentioning it by name.

Examples

Mumkin nishrabb shaay?
can we have tea?
Ahwa min faDlak
coffee please

Asking about food and drinks available

Candukku shurbit 'eih?
what soup have you got?
Candukku (feeh) khuDaar 'eih?
what vegetables have you got?
Candukku 'eih ssa'ic?
what cold drinks have you got?
Candukku caSeer 'eih?
what juice have you got?
Candukku Hilw 'eih?
what dessert have you got?
Candukku luHoom 'eih?
what meat dishes have you got?

Both feeh and candukku can be used separately or together.

Examples

Feeh kukakoula?
Have you got a Coca-Cola?
Feeh candukku kukakoula?

the way it works

Would you like?

When asking an individual or a group what they would like (1) or would like to do (2) use the following:

(1) tihhib 'ahwa? (m.)
Would you like coffee?
tihhibbi 'ahwa walla shaay? (f.)
Would you like coffee or tea?
tihhibbu reish wi salaTa? (pl.)
Would you like bread and salad?
What would you like to drink?
What would you like to eat?
Would you like to drink Coca Cola?

When the enquiry is about food or drink the word Talab (s.) or Talabaat (pl.) is used with the appropriate pronoun ending.

Examples

Talabak'eih? (m.) What would you like?
Talabik'eih? (f.) What would you like?
Talabku'eih? (pl.) What would you like?
Talabaatat'keih? (m.) What would you like?
Talabaatkat'keih? (f.) What would you like?
Talabaatku'eih? (pl.) What would you like?

tihbbu tishrabu'eih? or Talabaatku'eih? are more polite than tishrabu'eih? or rayzeen'eih?

things to do

6.4 Say the following to the waiter:
1 I have booked a table for two.
2 In the name of (give your name)
3 Can we have the menu please?
4 Can we have something to drink?
5 I would like a table for four.
6 What vegetables have you got?
7 What cold drinks have you got?
8 Have you got Turkish coffee?
9 Have you got rice or macaroni?
10 Have you got okra?

6.5 Order the following dishes and drinks:
1 One lentil soup and three tomato soups.
2 Two Pepsis and two lemon juices.
3 Three kebabs and one kufta.
4 Two coffees with a little sugar.
5 Four mint teas.
TALKING WITH FRIENDS

muHadsa/Making conversation

Bill and Catherine are sitting in the hotel lounge waiting for a friend to come and collect them. A middle-aged man sitting close by strikes up a conversation.

Man: SabaaH ilkheir, 'intu-mnein?
Bill: 'iHna min ingiltira, wi HaDritak minein?
Man: 'ana maSrI, min 'aSwaan.
Catherine: HaDritak bitishtaghal 'eih?
Man: 'ana taagir.
Bill: HaDritak geit ilqaahira 'imta?
Man: 'ana geit min yumein, wintu geitu 'imta?
Catherine: 'iHna geina min 'usbooc.
Man: wib ticmilu 'eih hina?
Bill: 'iHna SaHafiyyeen. binktib ran ilbilaaad il farabiyya.
Man: wi 'ardeen 'add 'eih fi maSrI?
Bill: 'iHna-msaafreem inniharda.
Man: bissalaama. 'ana kamaan misaafir inniharda.
Catherine: bissalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

'intu-mnein?  where are you from?
min ingiltira/Aswan from England/Aswan
HaDritak (m.)/HaDritik (f.) respectful form of address
'ana maSrI (taagir) I am Egyptian (a merchant)
bishtaghal 'eih? what do you do for a living?
geit ilqaahira 'imta? when did you come to Cairo?
min yumein ('usbooc) two days (a week) ago
wib ticmilu 'eih hina? and what are you doing here?
'iHna SaHafiyyeen we are journalists
binktib ran we are writing about
ilbilaaad il farabiyya the Arab countries
Talking about your occupation

To ask about someone’s occupation you can say

inta (HaDritak) bitishtaghal’eiḥ/fein? (m.)
inti (HaDritik) bitishtaghal’eiḥ/fein? (f.)
intu-b tishtaghalu’eiḥ/fein? (pl.)

They all mean ‘What do you do?’ ‘Where do you work?’

‘eiḥ what fein where

You can answer this question in one or two ways

‘ana + occupation
I am + occupation
or
‘ana bashtaghal + occupation
I work as a + occupation

Examples

‘ana mudarris
I am a teacher
or
‘ana bashtaghal mudarris
I work as a teacher
‘ana baghtaghal fi sharika
I work in a firm

The following table shows more examples with different pronouns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>subject</th>
<th>verb (work)</th>
<th>occupation</th>
<th>occupation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>‘ana</td>
<td>bashtaghal</td>
<td>mudarris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you</td>
<td>inta</td>
<td>bitishtaghal</td>
<td>saHafi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you</td>
<td>inti</td>
<td>bitishtaghal</td>
<td>duktoura</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>he</td>
<td>huwwa</td>
<td>byishtaghal</td>
<td>fi sharika</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>she</td>
<td>hiyya</td>
<td>bitishtaghal</td>
<td>fi balad carabi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>we</td>
<td>iHna</td>
<td>bnishtaghal</td>
<td>muHandiseen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>you</td>
<td>intu</td>
<td>bitishtaghalu</td>
<td>saHafiyeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>they</td>
<td>humma</td>
<td>byishtaghalu</td>
<td>mudarriseen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

‘ana bashtaghal

I work

fiS SaHaafa
fit tadrees
fi ‘izaaca
fit tigaara
fi siyaaHa
fi bank
fi sharika
fi sharikit bitroul
fi maShaa naseeg
fi balad carabi
fi sifaarit britanya

in
in the press (journalism)
in teaching
in broadcasting
in trading (business)
in tourism
in a bank
in a company
in an oil company
in a textile factory
in an Arab country
at the British Embassy.
Talking about your stay

When did you come to (Egypt)?
I came to (Egypt) two days ago.

We came to (Egypt) two days ago.

How long are you staying?
I am staying for a week.

How long are you staying?
I am staying for three days.

We are staying for ten days.

When are you leaving (travelling)?
I am leaving after (in) a week.

I am leaving the day after tomorrow.

We are leaving today.

Summary of the structures used above

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pronoun</th>
<th>Arrived</th>
<th>Staying</th>
<th>Travelling</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>He (m.)</td>
<td>'ana</td>
<td>geit</td>
<td>'aacid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She (f.)</td>
<td>'ana</td>
<td>geit</td>
<td>'aada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You (m.)</td>
<td>'inta</td>
<td>geit</td>
<td>'aacid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>She (f.)</td>
<td>'inti</td>
<td>geiti</td>
<td>'aada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They (pl.)</td>
<td>'hna</td>
<td>geina</td>
<td>'ardeen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They (pl.)</td>
<td>humma</td>
<td>gum</td>
<td>'ardeen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Introducing people

Have you met Mr Ibrahim?
I do know Mr Ibrahim.

Polite expressions

Goodbye, have a safe journey.
See you again, au revoir.

I hope you will have a nice time.

Asking about your country

Where are you from?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pronoun</th>
<th>Where are you from?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inta-mnein</td>
<td>(m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inti-mnein</td>
<td>(f.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intu-mnein</td>
<td>(pl.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The answer may be:
't ana ingleezi
't ana min ingiltira
'Ihna ingleez
'Ihna min ingiltira

I am English
I am from England
we are English
we are from England

Talking about languages
bitikkallim ingleezi? (m.)
bitikkallimi ingleezi? (f.)
'aywa bakkallim ingleezi
la' bakkallim carabi bass

do you speak English?
do you speak English?
yes, I speak English
no, I speak Arabic only

The way it works

The continuous present

bi and ba are used with the verb in colloquial Arabic when talking about an action going on at the time of speaking or when reporting facts. Both the sounds i and a in bi and ba are lost when they are followed or preceded by a, i or u sounds.

Examples
't ana bakkallim carabi
'ana bashtaghal SaHafi
Catherine bitishtaghal SaHafiyya
hiyya-b tilcab tinis
wib ticmilu 'ehi hina?

I speak Arabic
I work as a journalist
Catherine works as a journalist
she plays tennis
and what are you doing here?

The loss of i sound

The word min in min ein and the word misaafir, misafra and misafreen all lose their i sound when used after a word ending with a vowel.

Examples
'inta mnein? where are you from? (m.)
'inti mnein? where are you from? (f.)
'intu mnein? where are you from? (pl.)
'inta msaafir you are leaving (m.)
'inti msafra you are leaving (f.)
'intu msaafreen you are leaving (pl.)

The loss of a verb

Questions with the verb biticmilu in all its forms are normally answered like English without this verb.

Examples
biticmilu'eth?
what do you do/what are you doing?
things to do

1. You are invited to a party where you meet Arabic-speaking people. Say the following to them.
   1. Ask a middle-aged man what he does for work.
   2. Ask a young woman if she speaks English.
   3. Say you are a teacher.
   4. Say you came to Jeddah a week ago.
   5. Say you are leaving tomorrow morning.
   6. Ask a young journalist what she writes about.
   7. Say you are writing about broadcasting in Egypt.
   8. Say you are from England.
   9. Ask a middle-aged woman where she is from.
  10. Say your husband works at the British Embassy.

ziyaarit il'aSHAab/visiting friends

Bill and Catherine are invited by Kamaal and his wife to their home before their departure from Cairo. They are talking over the meal.

Kamaal: 'ahlan yaraagil, izzayyak inniharda?
Bill: 'alisan kiteer. mumkin 'aakil kull Haaga.
Kamaal: 'ahlan yakatrin 'izzayyik?
Catherine: 'anna kwayyisa.
Kamaal: 'abiltu meen inniharda?
Bill: 'abilna SaHafiyyeen min gareedit il'ahraam.
Catherine: wana 'abilt SaHafiyya min magallit il'izaaca.
Nadya: cagabku 'eih fi maSr?
Bill: 'ilgaww Tabcan. shams kull youm.
Catherine: 'aywa. 'ilgaww hina gameel.
Kamaal: 'IT Tayaara-s saara kaam?
Bill: 'ITayyara-s saaca sitta. laakin laazim nikoon fil maTaar issaaca-rbaca.

Nadya: liassa badri, issaaca waHda diilha'.

Kamaal: Tayyib naakul wi nimshri, 'ana raayiH macaaku.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

yaraagil
izzayyak/izzayyik
‘aHsan kiteer
‘abittu meen
min gareedit il'ahraam
min magallit il'izaaca
cagabku ‘eih?
ilgaww Tabcan
shams kull youm
ilgaww ... ganeel
laazim nikoon
liassa badri
diilha'
naakul wi nimshri
ana raayiH macaaku

mate/my friend
how are you (m./f.)
much better
who did you meet?
from 'Al-Ahram' newspaper
from 'Al-Izzaaca magazine
what did you like?
the weather of course
sun every day
the weather ... is beautiful
we must be
there's plenty of time
now
let's go after we eat
I'll go with you

Useful words and phrases

Greetings: Here are some ways of saying 'How are you?'

izzayyak or keif Haalak when asking one male
izzayyik or keif Haalik when asking one female
izzayyuku or keif Halku when asking more than one

You could answer:
kwayyis/bikheir/ilHamdu lillaah fine, very well
‘aHsan
‘aHsan kiteer

kwayyis has different forms for singular and plural
kwayyis (m.)
kwayysisa (f.)
kwayiseen (pl.)

The other expressions bikheir and ilHamdu lillaah are used for singular and plural, male and female, without change.

Publications

gareeda/garaayid newspaper/newspapers
magalla/magallaat magazine/magazines
kitaab/kutub book/books

Talking about the weather

When talking about the weather you can use the following expressions:

‘iddinya bard/Harr it is cold/hot
‘iddinya bard/Harr giddan it is very cold/hot
ilgaww bard/Harr it is cold/hot
ilgaww bard/Harr giddan
'labhams Talca
'ilddinya Dalma/noor
'ilddinya bitma'Tar
'ilgaww gameel/kwayyis

'ilddinya literally means the world and 'ilgaww means the weather.

Early and late

dilw'ati now
bisurqa quickly
bardein later
badri early

Haalan immediately
lissa badri there's plenty of time
mut'akkhhar late

The way it works

Changes in pronunciation

issaaaca loses its (i) sound when you say iTTayyaara-s saaca kaam because of the final a in iTTayyaara.

gareedit and magallit
Like feminine words ending with a'gareeda and magalla become gareedit and magallit when followed by their names, or any other noun.

gareedit il'ahraam 'Al-Ahram' newspaper
magallit il'zaaa'a 'Al-Izaca' magazine

The same applies to ziyaara which becomes ziyaarit when followed by il'aSHaab.

laazim amshi/akoon = must go/be

These verbs change form according to the subject.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>pronoun</th>
<th>must go</th>
<th>must be</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(l)</td>
<td>'ana laazim amshi</td>
<td>laazim akoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(you)</td>
<td>'inta (m.) laazim timshi</td>
<td>laazim tikoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(you)</td>
<td>'inti (f.) laazim timshi</td>
<td>laazim tikooni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(he)</td>
<td>huwwa laazim yimshi</td>
<td>laazim yikoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(she)</td>
<td>hiyya laazim timshi</td>
<td>laazim yikooni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(we)</td>
<td>'ifna laazim nimshi</td>
<td>laazim tikoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(you)</td>
<td>'intu (pl.) laazim timshu</td>
<td>laazim nikoon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(they)</td>
<td>humma laazim yimshu</td>
<td>laazim tikoonu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
things to do

7.2 Can you reply in Arabic to the speaker?

1 you: 'izzayyak?
   Speaker: very well, thank you.

2 you: 'abilt meen inniharda?
   Speaker: I met a writer from Lebanon.

3 you: hatrooH ilmaTaar 'imta?
   Speaker: I must be at the airport at 7 o'clock.

4 you: 'ana mumkin arolloot maraak.
   Speaker: Thank you. When can we go?

5 you: saayiz garaayid aw magallaat?
   Speaker: yes, 'AL-Ahram' please.

bissalaama/Have a safe journey

Kamaal and Nadya are saying goodbye to Bill and Catherine at the airport.

Kamaal: tishrabu 'ahwa walla shaay?
Catherine: 'ana ashrub 'ahwa maZbooT.
Bill: wana kamaan 'ahwa maZbooT.
Nadya: ismaac ya Kamaal biynaadu cala-r rukkaab
doul biynaadu cala rukkaab rouma.
Nadya: 'aywa SaHeeH. laazim tiktibuina min ingiltira
Catherine: Tabean, wintu laazim teegu ingiltira
Kamaal: 'uraayib insha'allah
Bill: diilwa'ti biynaadu caleina
Nadya: 'aywa SaHeeH. itfaDDalu intu. bissalaama
Catherine: salaam ya nadya, mutshakkireen giddan
Bill: salaamu caleikuum. nishuufu f-ingiltira
Kamaal: macassalaama, macassalaama.
Words and phrases from the dialogue

Yaamac ya Kamaal
biynaadu cala-r rukkaab
doul biynaadu cala
rukaab rouma
'luywa Salieeh
laazim tikribulna
wintu laazim teegu ingiltira
'urayyib insha'allah
biynaadu salieina
mutshakkireen giddan

listen Kamaal
they are calling the passengers
they are calling
Rome passengers
yes, that's true
you must write to us
and you must come to England,
soon, God willing
they are calling us
many thanks

the way it works

'urayyib means 'near', in time and place.

'insha'allah means 'God willing'. This expression is used by most Arabs when talking about anything happening in the future.

doul originally means these, but it is also used in some cases to mean they, as in the sentence in the dialogue, doul biynaadu cala rukkaab rouma.

mutshakkireen is the plural of mutshakkir (m.) and mutshakkira (f.) which mean 'thank you'.

things to do

7.3 You are saying goodbye to your friends at the airport. Say in Arabic:

1. Who are these people?
2. They are passengers for Paris.
3. Listen (m. + f. pl.).
4. They are calling us.
5. What's the time now?
6. Robert, you must write to me.
7. And you must write to me, my friend.
8. Have a safe journey, Nadya.
9. See you (Salem) in London.
10. Soon, God willing.
KEY TO EXERCISES

1.1 1 'ahlan/ahtlan wa sahlan
2 furSa saeecd 3 'ana Sally 4 da-
_zneeli Tom 5 'ana 'Ahmad 6 di zagti
nadya 7 'irri'Illa kanni kwayyisa?
8 'aywa irri'Ila kaanti kwayyisa
giddan. 9 fein iilcarabiiya/iilcarabiiya
fein? 10 ilcarabiiya fil mawaf.
1.2 1 'anna cendi Haqz hina 2 ismi
Bill Taylor. 3 eaayiz 'ouDa-d dushsh,
min faDlik. 4 bikam illela?
5 'ilmaTeam fein, min faDlik?
1.3 1 candak 'ouDa daDya? 2 la',
'ana rayza 'ouDa-d Hammaam.
3 'arbaa layaali, min faDlik.
4 munkin ilmumtaaH, min faDlik?
5 il'ouDa fein, min faDlik?

2.1 1 candak 'ee? (feeh 'ee?)
2 candak (feeh) mirabbit 'ee?
3 takhdhi shaaay? (tshubri ...?)
4 takhdhi eaSeer? 5 taakul 'ee?
6 tshrab 'ee? 7 'aaklhd fool wi
gina wi-xrabbit balaH. 8 y'aakhd
'ahwa-b laban.
2.2 1 talaaata (sandwiseh) halaaal.
2 itneen (sandwiseh) gibna. 3 'arbaa
eaSeer burtu'aan. 4 waal-Hid
(sandwiseh) fool. 5 sitta bibsi.
6 khamsa eaSeer lamoon.
2.3 1 munkin 'aghayyar istreleen
hina? 2 ilginhe ilistreleen-b kaam.
3 munkin 'aghayyar shkaat
siyaH-Iiya? 4 la', dularaat. 5 miyya
itneen wi talateen dulara.
2.4 1 feeh kaam 'ouDa fil huteil? 2 It
has sixty-five rooms. 3 bikam il'ouDa-I
shakhS waal-Hid? 4 It is forty-five
pounds per night. 5 feeh bank fil
huteil? 6 Yes, there is. 7 munkin
'aghayyar umla hina? 8 What do you
want to change? 9 caayiz aghayyar
dularaat. 10 You can, of course.
2.5 1 IlfiTaar issaaca kaam?
2 issaaca saba-a w nuSS. 3 ilakHbaar
issaaca kaam? 4 issaaca khamsa
5 munkin atracshah-s saaca kaam?
6 min issaaca saba-a lissaaaca tamanya-
w nuSS. 7 issaaca kaam dilwa'ti
8 issaaca sitta. 9 issaaca dilwa'ti
tamanya-lIa rube? 10 la', issaaca
dilwa'ti tamanya-w rube.

3.1 1 fein 'a'rab agzakhaana?
2 'arroH maktab ilbareed izzaay?
3 fein 'ism ilbaree (ishshurTa)?
4 feeh bi'aala 'urayyiba min hina?
5 'arooH maHTHTh il'aTr izzaay?
3.2 1 'imshi-f shaaric ibraheem
Hadd midaan ramsees, wi baardea
dHawwad yimeen fi shaaric ramsees
wisimi-Hadd shaaric issalaam, ilbank
ca-la naSya. 2 'imshi-f shaaric
ramsees liHadd shaaric shubra,
wisebaa dan Hadd yimeen wisimi-
Hadd shaaric luxor, maktab ilbareed
'awwil mabna ca-la yimeen. 3 'imshi-
fi shaaric luxor liHadd shaaric ibraheem,
wisebaa dan Haud yimeen wisimi-
shaaric ibraheem liHadd midaan
ramsees. 'ism ilbaree hinaak fil midaan.
4 'idkhul fi shaaric ibraheem fittigaah
shaaric luxor, wisebaa dan Haud yimeen
fi shaaric luxor. taalit dukkaan
cala-l yimeen huwwa-l maktaba.
5 'imshi-f shaaric luxor fittigaah
shaaric ibraheem, wisebaa dan Haud
shimaal fi shaaric ibraheem wisimi-
Hadd ilmidaan. ilmatHaf waawil mabna
cala-l yimeen.
3.3 1 'arooH issook izzaay?
2 munkin naakhud taksi min hina?
3 utubees nimra kaam biyooH maSa-
rigideeda? 4 nighayyar fein? 5 fein
figeezaa?
3.4 eaayza arooH huteil il'andalus.
2 laazim takhdhi taksi. 3 Clare
munkin taakhud utubees. 4 feeh
'utubees ca-la Tool? 5 la' laazim
tighayyari-f baab ilHadeed. 6 fein
mawaf il'utubees? 7 uudaaam ilbank.
8 ittazkara-b kaam? 9 ittazkara-b
cishreem irsh. 10 kwayyis giddan.
3.5 1 eaayiz arooH il'azhar.
2 'il'azhar gaamic 'adeem. 3 khaan
likhaleeci sou' kibeer. 4 munkin
'ashoof 'ee fil matHaf? 5 nirooH khaan
likhaleeci izzaay? 6 caayiz ashoo-
gaamic gideed. 7 iddukaan da-
Sghayyar giddan.

4.1 1 keelu-l manga-b kaam?
(bikaam keelu-l manga?) 2 keelu-
larnwa-b kaam? (bikaam keelu-
larnwa?) 3 'ijakitta alkaHaDra-b kaam?
KEY TO EXERCISES

6.1 1 Tom sinaamu-b tiwgacu.
2 Laura canda-a bard. 3 Josephine canda-a iltihaab fi zurba. 4 Helen einha-b tiwgacu. 5 Henry candu HumooDa.

6.2 1 Have you got a cold? la' macandeesh. 2 Have you got a temperature? 'aywa (candi) 3 Are you allergic to penicillin? la' marandeesh. 4 Since when? min inniharda-S SubH.
5 Have you got a headache? Is there a headache? la' mafeesh.

6.3 1 feeh Haaga liSSudaar, min faDiak? 2 munkin aSri irrushita di?
3 caayiz maagueen Hila-a-w maagueen 'asnaa. 4 caayiz uTn Tibbi-w defoul wi'ilastublast. 5 caayiz Haaga lil is-haal wi muTahir. 6 'aakhir iddawa da kaam marra? 7 'aakhir 'add 'eih?
8 furshit 'asnaa min faDiak.
9 kulunya-w budra min faDiak.
10 furshit Hila-a-w amwaas min faDiak.

* (Words can be changed to fit masculine or feminine speaker or pharmacist. e.g. caayyz - caayya, min faDiak - min faDiak.)

6.4 1 'ana Haagiz (Haaga) tarabeiza litnein. 2 bism (give your name).
3 munkin imlinyu, min faDiak?
4 munkin nshrab Haaga? 5 caayyz (caayya) tarabeiza larbaa. 6 candak khuDaar 'eih? 7 candak 'eih saa'a? 8 feeh (candak) ahwa turki? 9 feeh (candak) ruzz aw makearoua? 10 feeh (candak) banna?

6.5 1 waaHid shurbit eets wi talata shurbit TamaaTum. 2 itneen bissi witneen raSeer lamoon. 3 talata kabaab wiwaafHid kufta. 4 itneen 'ahwa maZboo'T. 5 'arbaa shaay binmaar.
7.1 1 HaDritak bitishtaghal éih?
2 bitikallimi ingleezi? 3 'ana mudarris (mudarrisa). 4 'ana waSalt (geit) jidda min 'usboo. 5 'ana-msaafir bukra-S-SubH. 6 bitiktibi ean 'eth?
7 'ana baktib ean il'izaaca-f maSr.
8 'ana min ingiltara. 9 HaDritik min ein? 10 zougi-b yishtaghal fissafaara-1 briTaniyya.

7.2 1 'ana kwayyis, shukran. 2 'abilt kaatib min libnaan. 3 laazim akoon filmaTaar issaaca sabca. 4 shukran mumkin nimshi 'imta? 5 'aywa, 'il 'ahram min faDlak.
7.3 1 doul meen (meen doul)?
2 doul rukkaab Parees. 3 'ismaru ya gamaaca. 4 bynaadu caleina.
5 issaaca kaam dilwa'ti? 6 laazim tiktibi yaRobert. 7 winta laazim tiktibi yaraagil. 8 bissalaama ya nadya.
9 'ashoofak fi landan. 10 'urayyib, inshaa'allah.
# English–Arabic Vocabulary

## Numbers

### Cardinal numbers 1–10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Numbers for time, money and orders</th>
<th>Numbers for other items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 waaHid (m.)</td>
<td>1 waaHid (m.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 waHda (f.)</td>
<td>2 'itnein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 'itnein</td>
<td>3 talat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 talaata</td>
<td>4 'arbaac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 khamsa</td>
<td>5 khamasa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 sitta</td>
<td>6 sitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 sabca</td>
<td>7 sabca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 tamanya</td>
<td>8 tamana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 tisca</td>
<td>9 tisca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 cashara</td>
<td>10 cashar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Cardinal numbers 11–30 (for all purposes)

| 11 HiDaashar                        | 18 tamanTaashar          |
| 12 'itmaashar                       | 19 tisacTaashar          |
| 13 talaattTaashar                   | 20 cishreen              |
| 14 'arbaacTaashar                   | 21 waaHid wii cishreen   |
| 15 khamasTaashar                    | 22 'itnein wi cishreen   |
| 16 sitTaashar                       | 23 talata-w cishreen     |
| 17 sabacTaashar                     | 24 'arbaac-w cishreen    |
| 25 khamsa-w cishreen                |                         |
| 26 sitta-w cishreen                 |                         |
| 27 sabca-w cishreen                 |                         |
| 28 tamanwa-w cishreen               |                         |
| 29 tisca-w cishreen                 |                         |
| 30 talateen                         |                         |

### Cardinal numbers 40–1000

| 40 'arbiereen                       | 100 miyaa (meet)         |
| 50 khamaseen                        | 200 mitein               |
| 60 sitteen                          | 300 tultumiyya           |
| 70 sabceen                          | 400 rubumiyya            |
| 80 tamaneen                         | 500 khumumiyya           |
| 90 tisseen                          | 600 buttumiyya           |
| 700 subcumiyya                      |                         |
| 800 tuminmiyya                      |                         |
| 900 tuscumiyya                      |                         |
| 1000 'alif                          |                         |

### Ordinal numbers 1st–10th

**Indefinite (m. & f.):**

| 1st      | 'awwil   |
| 2nd      | taani    |
| 3rd      | taliit   |
| 4th      | raabic   |
| 5th      | khaamis  |
| 6th      | saadis   |
| 7th      | saabec   |
| 8th      | taamin   |
| 9th      | taasic   |
| 10th     | caashir  |

**Definite (the ...):**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(m.)</th>
<th>(f.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>'illawwal</td>
<td>'ill'oola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ittaani</td>
<td>'ittanyaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ittaalt</td>
<td>'ittalta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'irraabic</td>
<td>'irrabaa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ilkhaamis</td>
<td>'ilkhamas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'issaadis</td>
<td>'issadsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'issaabic</td>
<td>'issabic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ittaamin</td>
<td>'ittatna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ittaassic</td>
<td>'ittasca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'ilkhaashir</td>
<td>'ilcashra</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Time
- second
- minute
- hour
- day
- today
- yesterday
- two days ago
- two weeks ago
- last week
- in the morning
- in the afternoon
- sanya
- d'ee'a
- saaca
- youm
- 'inniharda/ilyoum
- 'imbaraH/ams
- min yumein
- maa min 'usbucein
- il'usbooec ilmaaDi
- 'iSSubH
- baec d IDDuhr
- next week
- in two days time
- in two days time
- every day
- tomorrow
- at noon
- in the evening
- at night
- 'usbooec
- shahr
- sana
- bukra/baakir
- kull youm
- baec yumein
- baec 'subu@e
- il'usbooec ilaay
- 'iDDuhr
- fil masaa'
- bil leil

### Months of the year/shuhoor issana
- January
- February
- March
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December
- yanaayir
- fibraayir
- maaris
- 'abreel
- maayu
- yunya
- yulya
- aghusTus
- sibtambir
- 'uktoubar
- noufambir
- deesambir

### Clothes
- Arab loose costume
- blouse
- dress
- for boys
- for girls
- for men
- for women
- handbag
- jacket
- galabiyya
- bilouza
- fustaan
- lil'awlaad
- banaati
- rigaali
- hareemi
- shanTis yadd
- jakitta
- kaftan
- overcoat
- shirt
- slippers
- socks
- suit (for men)
- suit (for women)
- shoes
- trousers
- 'uTaan
- balTu
- 'amees
- shibshib
- sharaab
- badla
- taiyeir
- gazma
- banTaloun

### Sizes
- small size
- medium size
- large size
- one size
- ma'aas Sughayyar
- ma'aas mutawassiT
- ma'aas kibeer
- ma'aas waaHid

### Colours
- (m.) beige
- (f.) beij
- (m.) black
- (f.) 'iswid
- (m.) blue
- (f.) 'azra'
- (m.) brown
- (f.) bunni
- (m.) green
- (f.) souda
- (m.) red
- (f.) zar'a
- (m.) white
- (f.) bunni
- (m.) yellow
- (f.) 'akhDar
- (m.) 'aHmar
- (m.) 'abyaD
- (f.) 'asfar
- (f.) khaDra
- Hamra
- beIDa
- Safra
### VOCABULARY

#### Space
- near: 'urayyib/areeb
- right: yimeen
- in front of: 'udddaam/amaam
- far left: behind
- bigreed: shimaal
- wara/khalf: wara/khalf

#### Food

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fruit</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>apples</td>
<td>melons</td>
<td>shammamaam</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apricots</td>
<td>oranges</td>
<td>burtu'aan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bananas</td>
<td>peaches</td>
<td>khoukh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dates</td>
<td>pears</td>
<td>kumnmitra</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>figs</td>
<td>plums</td>
<td>bar'oo'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grapes</td>
<td>strawberries</td>
<td>farawla</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mangoes</td>
<td>water melons</td>
<td>baTTeekeh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vegetables</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aubergine</td>
<td>bidingaan</td>
<td>green beans</td>
<td>faSulya</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cabbage</td>
<td>kurunb</td>
<td>lettuce</td>
<td>khaSS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>carrots</td>
<td>gazar</td>
<td>okra</td>
<td>barnya</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>courgettes</td>
<td>kousa</td>
<td>onions</td>
<td>baSal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cucumber</td>
<td>'atta</td>
<td>peas</td>
<td>bisilla</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>garlic</td>
<td>toum</td>
<td>potatoes</td>
<td>baTaaTis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gherkins</td>
<td>khiyaar</td>
<td>tomatoes</td>
<td>TamaaTIm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Drinks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>coffee</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>coffee with milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkish coffee (without sugar)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with little sugar)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(with lots of sugar)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tea with milk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>black tea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cold drink</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>juice</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>banana</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mango</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>orange</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>strawberry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mineral water</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beer</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Miscellaneous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>bread</th>
<th>reish/khubz</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>French bread</td>
<td>reish feemu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>local bread</td>
<td>reish baladi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheese</td>
<td>gibna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cooked broad beans (Egyptian)</td>
<td>fool midammi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
eggs/egg
bean burgers
fish
gateau
jam
fig jam
kebab
macaroni
meat
oriental cakes
pancake/s
pepper
rice
salad
salt
sandwich
soup
lentil soup
sugar
Turkish delight

Cooking methods
boiled masloo'
fried ma'li/miHammar
grilled mashwi
roasted ruSTu

Meals
breakfast 'ilfiTaar
lunch 'ilghada
supper 'ilcasha

At the chemist's
the pharmacy 'is-Saidaliya/'l'agzakhaana
the chemist 'is-Saidali (m.)/'is-Saidaliya (f.)
after-shave kuluma-l baci il Hilaa'a
aspirin 'aspireen
brush fursha
hair brush furshit shacc
shaving brush furshit Hilaa'a
toothbrush furshit sinaan (asnaan)
condoms kababeet
cotton wool 'uTn Tibbi
dressing muTahhir
Dettol mulayyin (dawa mulayyin)
dawn li ...
sanitary towels (women's) musakkin (dawa musakkin)
sanitary towel (women's) 'amwaas Hilaa'a
shaving cream fiwaT (HifaDaat) nisa'iya
soap (for the bath) marsoon (kreim) Hilaa'a

Saaboon Hammaam
### Ailments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ill</th>
<th>Cure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>indigestion</td>
<td>bard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>constipation</td>
<td>imsaak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cough</td>
<td>kuHHa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>diarrhoea</td>
<td>is-haal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>headache</td>
<td>Sudaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>heartburn</td>
<td>heartburn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sore...</td>
<td>sore...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>stomach-ache</td>
<td>stomach-ache</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temperature</td>
<td>temperature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vomiting</td>
<td>vomiting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HumooDa</td>
<td>HumooDa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iltkaab fi...</td>
<td>iltkaab fi...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>maghaS</td>
<td>maghaS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haraara</td>
<td>Haraara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>qei'</td>
<td>qei'</td>
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### Parts of the body

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Body part</th>
<th>Part</th>
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<td>arm</td>
<td>diraac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chest</td>
<td>sidr/Sadr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ear</td>
<td>widn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eye</td>
<td>cein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finger</td>
<td>Subaac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fingers</td>
<td>Sawaabie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foot</td>
<td>'adam/rigl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hand</td>
<td>'eed/yad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>head</td>
<td>raas</td>
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<tr>
<td>leg</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>tooth</td>
<td>tooth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rigl</td>
<td>rigl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bu/famm</td>
<td>bu/famm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>manakheer</td>
<td>manakheer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kif</td>
<td>kif</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>baTn</td>
<td>baTn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sinaan/asnaan</td>
<td>sinaan/asnaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lisaan</td>
<td>lisaan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subaac rigl</td>
<td>Subaac rigl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sina</td>
<td>sina</td>
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### Leisure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>antiquities</td>
<td>'asaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>booking</td>
<td>Hagz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>café</td>
<td>'ahwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>church</td>
<td>kineesa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cinema</td>
<td>sinama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dancing</td>
<td>ra'S</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>evening entertainment</td>
<td>sahra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mosque</td>
<td>gaamic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>museum</td>
<td>mathHar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>music</td>
<td>mueeqa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>night club</td>
<td>night club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>play (n.)</td>
<td>play (n.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>programme</td>
<td>programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pyramid</td>
<td>pyramid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>son et lumiere</td>
<td>son et lumiere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>songs</td>
<td>songs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>temple</td>
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### Sport

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<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>
VOCABULARY

Occupations

accountant
author
businessman
businesswoman
diplomat
doctor
engineer
journalist
lawyer
manager
nurse
police officer
secretary
teacher
writer

(m.)
muHaasib
mu'allif/kaatib
ragul 'armaal

(t.)
muHaasiba
mu'allifa/kaatiba

sayyidat 'armaal
dibhumasiyya
doktours/Tabeeba
muhandsis
SaHafi
muHaami
mudeer
mumarriDa
DaabirT bulees
sikirteir
mudarris
kaatib/mu'allif

Useful words and phrases

Essential expressions

Greetings

Good morning

Good afternoon/evening

Goodnight
Hello
Pleased to meet you

Where is . . . ?
the telephone?
the toilet?
the bathroom?
the post office?
the police station?

SabaH ilkheir
SabaH innoor
masaa' ilkheir
masaa' innoor
tiSbaH talakheir
ahlan/marHaba
furSa saheeda

fein . . . ?
itilifoun?
ilHamman? (ittiwalitt)
ilHamman?
maktab ilbareed?
'ism ilbulees?

(cayz) (cayza (f.) cayeen (pl.)
cayz arooH innaadi (m.)
cayza arooH innaadi (f.)
cayzeen nirooH innaadi

mumkin and mish mumkin
mumkin ashoof ilmuqeer
'aywa mumkin
la' mish mumkin

laazim
mish laazim
laazim amshi bukra
you have to book a seat.
you don't have to change money.

**In the airport**

arrival
departure
entry visa
exit visa
ticket no.
tate
lounge/hall (departure lounge)
passenger
passengers
passport
passports

laazim tiHgiz makaan
mish laazim tighayyar fuloos/numla

wuSool
safar
ta'sheerit dukhool
ta'sheerit khuroog
riHla raqam
bawwaaba
saala (saalit ... issafar)
raakib (m.) rakba (f.)
rukkab
basbour/gawaaz
basburtaat/gawaazaat
'a'rab nearest
'aadi here is (are)
aakhud I (I'll) take
'aakul I (I'll) eat
'aasif I am sorry
'abeat I send
'abli before
'abli met
'abyaD white
'adam foot
'addi 'eih how much (many)?
'adeем old/ancient
'agaaza holiday
'aghayyar I (I'll) change
'agzakahana pharmacy
'ahlan Hello!
'ahlan wa sahlan Hello!
'ahwa café, coffee
'ahHDar I (I'll) attend
'ahmar red
'ahsan better
'akallim speak to
'akallim fi use (the phone)
'akbar bigger
'akhDar green
'akli food
'aktib I (I'll) write
'alcub I (I'll) play
'alif one thousand
'alou Hello! (on phone)
amDi I (I'll) sign
'amreeki/ya American (m./f.)
'amshi I (I'll) walk
'ana I (1st person)
'araSnI (m.) bit/stung me (wasp)
'araSmi (f.) bit/stung me (bee)
'arba/aarbaca four
'arba/Taashar fourteen
'arbeeen forty
'arkhaS cheaper
'arooH I (I'll) go
'aSanseir lift
'aSfar yellow
'aSrif cash
'asafaI I (I'll) travel
'asbaani Spanish
'asmac I (I'll) hear
'astacmil I (I'll) use
'ashoof I (I'll) see
'ashrab I (I'll) drink

ashtiri I (I'll) buy
attarrag I (I'll) watch
'aTr train
'awah/me awwil (adj.) first
'awahlan (adv.) first
'aywa yes
'ayy any
'ayyi khidma at your service
'aZra blue

caayiz/cayza I want (m./f.)
cababni I liked
cala on
cala Tool straight on
cammaan Amman
can about
cand near (adv.)
candi I have
candina we have
carab Arabs
carabiyya car
cSeeer juice
cashara ten
cen eye
cilba can/box
cishreen twenty
cumaan Oman

baad after
baad iDDuhr in the afternoon
balad country/town
baladi local
bank bank
bansyoun boarding house
banTaloun trousers
bard cold
bareed post/mail
basbour passport
baseeTa not serious
bass only/ enough
bastiya pastilles
baSal onions
baTaaTis potatoes
baTn stomach
beera beer
beida egg (white, f.)
beij beige
beit house
beit shabaab youth hostel
fursha brush
furshat ... brush

gaamic mosque
galabiyya loose Arab costume
gamal camel
ganb beside
gatou gateau
gawaab letter
gawaafa guava
gaww weather
gazar carrots
gazma shoes (pair)
geit I arrived
gibna cheese
giddan very

ghaali/ghalya expensive (m./f.)
ghada (iL-) lunch

haat give me
haram pyramid
hina here
hinaak there
hiyya she
humma they
huteil hotel
huwwa he

HaaDir yes/certainly
Haaga thing
Haaga tanya anything else?
Haalan in a minutel
Haamil pregnant
Hafla party
Hagz reservation
Hammanm bathroom
Hammanm sibaaha swimming pool
Hamra red (f.)
Harara temperature
Hasasiya allergy
Hawwwid turn (verb)
HifaDaat nisa'iyya sanitary towels
Hila'a shaving
Hilw/Hilwa sweet, beautiful
ilHilw dessert
Hisaab arithmetic
ilHisaab the bill

iddeeni give me
iddinya bard it is cold
iDDuhr at noon
iIfna we
il the
ilcafw it's a pleasure
ilthaab inflammation
imbaariH yesterday
imDi sign
imshu walk/go
inta when
inniharda today
inshaa'allah hopefully
inta you (m.)
inti you (f.)
intu you (pl.)
'irsh piastrate
'isc'aaf ambulance
'is-haal diarrhoea
'ism name
'ism ilbules police station
'ismar witnessed
issaa a... it's... o'clock
istiqbaal reception
istirleeni sterling
'iswid black
issubH in the morning
itfaDDal please/after you
itnaashar twelve
itnein two
'issaay? how?
'issaayyak? how are you? (m.)
'izzayyik? how are you? (f.)
'izzaaza bottle
'izzaazit... a bottle of...

jakitta jacket

kaam how many?
kaatib writer
kababeet condoms
kabeena cabin/booth
kamaan also/too
kart card
kart bustaal post card
kasart I broke
kibeer large/big
kida like that
kifaaya enough
keelu kilo
kineesa church
kitaab book
kiteer much/a lot
kitf shoulder
koura ball
kourit tinis tennis ball

kreim... cream
kufHa cough
kul eat
kull every each
kulunya eau de cologne
kummitra pears
kuroot cards
kwayys/a good (m.f.)

khaarig outside
khalaas it's over!
khamas five (things)
khamasTaashar fifteen
khamasa five
khamseen fifty
khareefTa map
khazeena cash desk
kheir good
khouch peaches
khubz bread
khud take
khudDal vegetables
khuroog exit

la'no!
laazim must/have to
lamoon lemon/lime
laweiT I twisted
leila night
li to/for
lieba game/toy
lissa not yet

ma'aas size
ma'a with
marassalaama goodbye
marbad temple
marla'a spoon
macgoon... paste
mabna building
maDrab racket/bat
mafeesh there isn't
maggaanan free (gratis)
maHaTTa station
makaan (maaakin) seat
maktaba (maktabaat) library/stationers
malH salt
malrab (malaacib) court (sport)
mamarr (mamarrat) corridor
manakheel nose
manzar (manaazir) view
marra (marraat) one time
masaa' evening
good evening!
"Grilled"
theatre
play (n.)
factory
Egypt/Cairo
Heliopolis
Old Cairo
museum
airport
... stop
water
just right
... one hundred ...
place
from
please (m.)
please (f.)
menu
jam (food)
jam
not ...
you can't
two hundred
metro
one hundred
razor blade
teacher
manager
key
engineer
call
laxative
recorded
pain killer
music
thank you
antiseptic
club
nightclub
day
number (No.)
wine
half
first (f.)
room
dancing
fourth
man
rest
complete rest
passenger
head (body)
one way/going
return
asthma
businessman
fasting month
platform
leg/foot
trip/flight
cheap
sport
quarter
prescription
rice
cold
seventh
hour (clock)
happy/pleased
seven
seventeen
seventy
evening entertainment
peace!/bye!
fish
year
sandwich
box
post box
second (1/60 minute)
Mr
Mrs/lady
chest
embassy
cinema
(teeth)
bed
woman/lady
six
sixty
sixteen
market
six hundred
morning
good morning
soap
journalist (m/f)
tray
cashier
finger
Subaab rigl toe
Sudaac headache
Sughayyar small

shaaric street
shaay tea
sharbi folk/popular
shakhS (ashkhaaS) person
shanTa (shunaT) bag/suitcase
sharika (sharikaat) firm/company
sheek (shikaat) cheque
sheek siyaaHi traveller’s cheque
shibbaak window
shubbaak ittazaakir ticket office
shumaal left (side)
shiwayya a little/some
shukran thanks!
shurb drinking
shurba soup
shurTa police

ta’reeban almost, about
taalit third
taamin eighth
taan second (2nd)
tasic ninth
tarbaan not well/tired
taghyeer changing
taksi taxi
talaata, talat three
talateen thirty
talaTTaashar thirteen
taman, tamanya eight
tarabiza table
tazkara (tazaakir) ticket
teen figs
tibda’ start (f.)
ti’oom departs/takes off
tiHiibb would you like . . . ?
tiliHiibbyoun television
tiliHiouf telephone
tilt one third

tintihi ends (f.)
timsaal figure, statue
tisaa-Taashar nineteen
tisca, tissac nine
tisreen ninety
tiSbaH cala kheir goodnight

Taabic postage stamp
Tabran of course
Tabeeb doctor
Talab (Talabaat) order (n.)
Tayyaara aeroplane
Tayyib yes! O.K.

’uddaam in front of
’urayyib/a near
’urs (a’raaS) pill
’usbooc week
’uTn Tibbi cotton wool

waaHid one (m.)
wahDa one (f.)
walaad boy
walla or
wi and
wibacdein and then
wuSool arrival

ya a word used when addressing somebody
ya kamaal Kamaal
yafandim sir/madam!
yamadaam madam!
yi’oom departs (m.)
yiibda’ starts (m.)
yimeen right (side)
yintihi ends (m.)
youm day

Zimeel/a colleague (m./f.)
ziyaaraa visit (n.)
zoug/a spouse (m./f.)
<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Currency</th>
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<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>ilbaHrein</td>
<td>'ilmanaama</td>
<td>'id-deenaaar</td>
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<td>Egypt</td>
<td>maSr</td>
<td>'ilqaahura</td>
<td>'il-gineiGh</td>
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<td>Iraq</td>
<td>'ikciraaq</td>
<td>baghdaad</td>
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<td>'il'urdunn</td>
<td>'ammaan</td>
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<td>'il'maraat il'karabiya</td>
<td>'abu zaby</td>
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<td>Yemen</td>
<td>'ilyaman</td>
<td>yamani/yaa</td>
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* iya, i is the ending for the masculine adjective (nationality) and iya is the ending for the feminine. e.g. jaza'iri (m.) and jaza'iriya (f.) maSr (m.) maSriya (f.)
There are different types of written Arabic. The type introduced in this section is the most commonly used for printing books, newspapers and magazines, and for writing signposts.

Only the basic features of written Arabic are given here, since this book uses a colloquial variety of Arabic and is meant to teach spoken Arabic. Some of the examples given in this section are inevitably taken from literary (written) Arabic.

Arabic is written from left to right. It has its own alphabet of 29 letters. Whether written in long hand, typed or printed, the letters are joined up to make words. There are no capital letters in Arabic, but there are different forms of each letter according to its position in the word: initial, middle or final.

The Arabic alphabet

A list of the letters of the Arabic alphabet is given below showing the three forms of each letter, the English transliteration, and the English equivalent where there is one.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Equivalent</th>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Final</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Initial</th>
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<td>a</td>
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<td>'th' in 'thin'</td>
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### Arabic Writing

<table>
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<th>Final</th>
<th>Middle</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

An asterisk after an English letter on the list means it is equivalent when it is in some positions only.

A letter between brackets means the sound it represents is mainly used in formal speech and only rarely in colloquial Arabic.

All the letters of the Arabic alphabet represent consonants except the second letter ی which is a long vowel. The letters ی and ی are also long vowels as well as consonants. The three long vowels are therefore represented by the letters ی, ی, and ی.

The first letter ل is either carried on one of the long vowel symbols ی, ی, or stands alone on the line.

**Examples**

غزّ  جزء  فؤاد  رؤس  رييس  اهل  اهلا  علی  علا  عالی  عالٍ  عالیّ
Vowels are either short or long. Short vowels are represented by three vowel marks which are written above or below the consonant concerned.

**Examples**

su  
zu  
ku

Long vowels are represented by the same vowel marks followed by one of the three consonants ی، و or ی.

**Examples**

dukhool  
khuuroog

If a consonant is not followed by a vowel, it has the sign ی above it.

**Examples**

mishmish  
bansyoun  
bint

Sometimes the short a and the long aa are represented by the letter ی instead of the letter ی، at the end of some words.

**Examples**

mustashfaa  
mabna  
ala

If a consonant is doubled, one letter only is written with the mark above it. This mark is called *shadda*.

**Examples**

dabboor  
Hawwid  
maHaTTa

The doubling of consonants also happens when *il* (meaning *the*), is used with words which start with one of the following consonants: ی، ی، ی، ی، ی، ی، ی.

**Examples**

issudaan  
inneel  
isaaaca

The (ھ) sound used at the end of some words to indicate they are feminine nouns or adjectives, is always written in its final form (ھ)، with two dots above it. In colloquial Arabic this sound is pronounced like the short vowel (ا).

**Examples**

sifaara  
wahda  
maHaTTa
Vowel marks are not usually used in newspapers, magazines or books. Only school books for native or foreign learners of Arabic use vowel marks. By the time learners pass the beginners stage they do not need these marks except in very rare cases.

Some useful words

The following are some of the words you will see on boards and signposts, in the airports, streets and shops. They are written in the normal joined form, and the letters they are made up of are given, as well as the English transliteration.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Examples</th>
<th>English</th>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>maTaar</td>
<td>Airport</td>
<td>مطار</td>
<td>القاهرة</td>
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<td>ilquahira</td>
<td>Cairo</td>
<td>’il قاهرة</td>
<td>الإسكندرية</td>
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<td>Alexandria</td>
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<td>’خروج</td>
<td>مغادرة</td>
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<td>Departure</td>
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<td>khuroog</td>
<td>Exit, out</td>
<td>’الجوازات</td>
<td>مغادرة</td>
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<tr>
<td>dukhool</td>
<td>Entry, way in</td>
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<td>keelu</td>
<td>Kilo</td>
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