EASTERN
ARABIC III

READING BOOKLET
Travelers should always check with their nation's State Department for current advisories on local conditions before traveling abroad.
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

EASTERN ARABIC III

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Arabic Dialects

There are many varieties of Arabic spoken throughout the Arab world, including North Africa. Of the hundreds of known dialects, the spoken varieties with the largest number of speakers are grouped, on the basis of similarity in vocabulary and syntax, into the following:

- Syrian Arabic - (or Eastern Arabic, *as taught in this course*) spoken in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Jordan;
- Egyptian Arabic - spoken in urban Egypt;
- Gulf Arabic - spoken in Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, the Emirates (Qatar), Oman, Bahrain, and Eastern Saudi Arabia;
- Iraqi Arabic - spoken in Iraq;
- North African Arabic - spoken in Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco;
- Saudi Arabic - spoken in Central and Western Saudi Arabia;
- Yemeni Arabic - spoken in Yemen and southern Saudi Arabia.
The written form of the Arabic language, which dates back to pre-Islamic periods, is called “Standard” or “Literary” Arabic and is used and understood throughout the Arab world. It is the form of the language taught in schools and is the default for educated Arabs of any nationality. The written system has also been adopted by neighboring countries whose language is not Arabic, such as Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Colloquial or “spoken” Arabic, including Syrian Arabic, varies widely by region, sometimes differing enough to be mutually unintelligible. It is considered to be a “dialect,” and is almost never written down. Most educated Arabic speakers are able to easily jump back and forth between Standard and dialect, even within the same sentence, with no loss of understanding.

The Arabic writing system is easy to learn and master because the Arabic alphabet has a high correspondence between sound and symbol. This means that a letter is pronounced almost the same in every word position.
The Arabic Alphabet

If you have done the Reading Lessons in Levels I & II, you will be familiar with the Arabic script. If the Arabic alphabet is new to you or you need to re-familiarize yourself with the sounds of the alphabet, you may want to do the Levels I & II Readings before proceeding with Level III.

The Arabic alphabet contains 29 letters including the hamza (glottal stop). There are also two variants of existing letters, alif and taa. A number of diacritical marks complement the alphabet. These are signs written above or below the letters; they are listed on page 16, after the alphabet chart.

There are two categories of Arabic letters. The first category contains six letters only, which are called “one-way connectors” because they connect only to the “preceding letters” or letters to the right. They do not connect to “following letters” or letters to the left. These are:

و ذ ر ز د ا

The other 23 letters of the alphabet constitute the letters of the second category. They connect to both
preceding letters (to the right) and following letters (to the left), hence the term “two-way connectors.”

The alphabet contains three long vowels: alif (aa), waw (uu), and ya (ii). The latter two function also as consonants, as in “wet” and “yes.” There are three short counterparts of these vowels represented by diacritical marks: the fatHa (a), the damma (u), and the kasra (i). They are about half as long. A tiny circle written above a consonant is called a sukuun and represents the absence of a vowel.

The mark that resembles a tiny “w” is called shadda. It signifies a doubled consonant. For example, this mark over the letter “t” makes the word pronounced /sit-tah/ rather than /sitah/.

A complete listing of the Arabic alphabet has been included for your reference, beginning on page 12. It is shown in two 2-page spreads, reading right to left. Each letter has four different representations, depending on its position within a word. The listing includes the forms that the letters assume in different word positions. There is an independent form, as well as a beginning, a middle, and an end form. The term “initial” means the first letter of the word starting from the right, “medial” means all the
letters in the middle, and “final” refers to the last letter of the word, on the left. The chart is to be used only as a guide since all of the necessary information for beginning to read in Arabic will be given in the audio portion of the Reading Lessons.

The Letter \textit{taa’ marbuuta} (ة)

The letter \textit{taa’ marbuuta} (ة) serves only as a suffix and is a variant of the letter \textit{taa’} (ت). The \textit{taa’ marbuuta} (ة) functions most often as the feminine noun marker — meaning that when this letter is attached to most masculine nouns and adjectives, it makes them feminine.

The \textit{taa’ marbuuta} is not always pronounced. Whether or not it is pronounced depends on the grammatical function and structure of the word to which it is added.

The \textit{taa’ marbuuta} is not pronounced when:

- the word is said by itself, for example the word “car,” \textit{sayyaara} (سيارة)
- the word is followed by an adjective, as in “big car,” \textit{sayyaara kbiire} (سيارة كبيرة)
The *taa’ marbuuta* (ة) is pronounced just like a regular *taa’* (ت) when:

- a personal pronoun is attached to the word, as in, “my car,” *sayyaartii* (سيارتي). In this case, the *taa’ marbuuta* (ة) is replaced with the letter *taa’* (ت).

- another suffix is attached to the word, e.g., “two cars,” *sayyaartiin* (سيارتين). Again, in this case, the *taa’ marbuuta* (ة) is replaced with the letter *taa’* (ت).

- the word belongs with the following noun, resulting in a grammatical function similar to that of the preposition “of,” as in the “city of New York” *madiina(e)t nyuuyoorke* (مدينة نيويورك).

**The Definite Article (الـ):**

**Assimilating and Non-Assimilating Sounds**

The definite article in Arabic *al* (ال), is made up of the letters *alif* (ا) and *laam* (ـ) and is prefixed to nouns and adjectives. Its pronunciation changes depending on the word that follows it.

- It is pronounced *al* when prefixed to words
beginning with a sound/letter that belongs to a certain group of letters referred to as “moon” or “lunar” letters. Long ago, Arab grammarians used the word “moon,” qamar (قَمَر), to exemplify this group of sounds. If the article is prefixed to a word beginning with a moon letter, the laam is pronounced as an l-sound and is said to be non-assimilating.

For example, if the article is prefixed to the word “moon,” qamar (قَمَر), the result, “the moon,” is al-qamar (القَمَر).

- In contrast, there are words which start with sounds/letters called “sun” or “solar” letters. Arab grammarians used the word “sun,” shams (شَمَس), to exemplify this class of sounds. If the article is prefixed to a word beginning with a sun letter, the laam changes to the sound of the sun letter and it is said to be assimilating.

For example, if the article is prefixed to the word “sun,” shams (شَمَس), the result, “the sun,” is ashshams (الشَّمَس). The sh in ash blends into the sh in shams.

Note that only the pronunciation of the article is affected, not its spelling.
## Phonological Variation: Local Dialects vs. Modern Standard Arabic

Differences between spoken Syrian and Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) exist at the phonological level. Some examples of the differences in pronunciation are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spelling</th>
<th>MSA Pronunciation</th>
<th>Eastern Arabic Pronunciation</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>قَلَم</td>
<td>qalam</td>
<td>هلام</td>
<td>pen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ظريف</td>
<td>Dhariif</td>
<td>زرييف</td>
<td>nice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>نظارة</td>
<td>naDh-Dhaara</td>
<td>دأر ظارة</td>
<td>eyeglasses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ذهب</td>
<td>dhahab</td>
<td>داب</td>
<td>gold</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>لذيذ</td>
<td>ladhiidh</td>
<td>داز</td>
<td>delicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ثوم</td>
<td>thuum</td>
<td>دأر ث</td>
<td>garlic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ثانوي</td>
<td>thanawiy</td>
<td>دأر ث</td>
<td>secondary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These variants are not interchangeable; you may not use $s$ for $th$ and still claim that your speech is in Modern Standard Arabic.
The Reading Lessons

The Reading Lessons in *Eastern Arabic III* are designed to familiarize the learner with words that appear on signs, menus, and the like, as well as phrases that the learner is likely to see or hear in Arabic-speaking countries. Also there is a lesson on the pronunciation of the names of some famous Syrians, as well as some typical expressions and regional idioms. There are twenty Reading Lessons in all. Vowel markers have been included to aid you in reading unfamiliar words. Normally, everyday written Arabic will not include these markers or diacritics. You will be reading both Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and Eastern Arabic. Instruction will be given as needed. Normally, writing is done only in MSA, and experienced readers look at the words and translate them “on the fly” into their dialect.

The recorded portion of the reading materials for Eastern Arabic III will be found at the end of the program. You can do the Readings when it is most convenient for you, either with the units, or entirely after completing the full 30 units. Full instructions on how to proceed are in the recording.
## Arabic Alphabet Chart (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Final Position</th>
<th>Medial Position</th>
<th>Initial Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>aa</td>
<td>ل</td>
<td>ل</td>
<td>ا</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>ج</td>
<td>ج</td>
<td>ج</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>ت</td>
<td>ت</td>
<td>ت</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>th</td>
<td>ئ</td>
<td>ئ</td>
<td>ئ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>ج</td>
<td>ج</td>
<td>ج</td>
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<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>ح</td>
<td>ح</td>
<td>ح</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kh</td>
<td>خ</td>
<td>خ</td>
<td>خ</td>
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<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>د</td>
<td>د</td>
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<tr>
<td>dh</td>
<td>ذ</td>
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<td>ر</td>
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<td>ر</td>
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<tr>
<td>z</td>
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<td>ز</td>
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<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>س</td>
<td>س</td>
<td>س</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sh</td>
<td>ش</td>
<td>ش</td>
<td>ش</td>
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<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>ض</td>
<td>ض</td>
<td>ض</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>ض</td>
<td>ض</td>
<td>ض</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Read from right to left.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name in Transliteration</th>
<th>Letter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>أَلْف</td>
<td>alif</td>
<td>اَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بَاء</td>
<td>baa</td>
<td>بَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تَاء</td>
<td>taa</td>
<td>تَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ثَاء</td>
<td>thaa</td>
<td>ثَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>جَيم</td>
<td>jiim</td>
<td>جِ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>حَاء</td>
<td>Haa</td>
<td>حَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>خَاء</td>
<td>khaa</td>
<td>خَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>دَال</td>
<td>daal</td>
<td>دَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ذَال</td>
<td>dhaal</td>
<td>ذَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>رَاء</td>
<td>raa</td>
<td>رَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>زَاي</td>
<td>zay</td>
<td>زَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>سَين</td>
<td>siin</td>
<td>سَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>شَين</td>
<td>shiin</td>
<td>شَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>صَاد</td>
<td>Saad</td>
<td>صَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ضَاد</td>
<td>Daad</td>
<td>ضَ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symbol in Transliteration</td>
<td>Final Position</td>
<td>Medial Position</td>
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<td>ﻡ</td>
<td>ﻡ</td>
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<tr>
<td>gh</td>
<td>ﻔ</td>
<td>ﻔ</td>
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<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>ﻒ</td>
<td>ﻒ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>q</td>
<td>ﻕ</td>
<td>ﻕ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>ﻞ</td>
<td>ﻞ</td>
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<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>ﻝ</td>
<td>ﻝ</td>
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<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>ﺖ</td>
<td>ﺖ</td>
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<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>ﻝ</td>
<td>ﻝ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>ﻝ</td>
<td>ﻝ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>uu/w</td>
<td>ﻞ</td>
<td>ﻞ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ee/y</td>
<td>ﺔ</td>
<td>ﺔ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aa</td>
<td>ﻔ</td>
<td>ﻔ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>ﻔ</td>
<td>ﻔ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Name in Transliteration</td>
<td>Letter</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>طاء</td>
<td>Taa</td>
<td>ط</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ظاء</td>
<td>Dhaa</td>
<td>ظ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>عَين</td>
<td>çayn</td>
<td>ع</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>غَين</td>
<td>ghayn</td>
<td>غ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>فاء</td>
<td>faa</td>
<td>ف</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>قاف</td>
<td>qaaf</td>
<td>ق</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>كاف</td>
<td>kaaf</td>
<td>ك</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>لام</td>
<td>laam</td>
<td>ل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ميم</td>
<td>miim</td>
<td>م</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>نون</td>
<td>nuun</td>
<td>ن</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>هاء</td>
<td>haa</td>
<td>ه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>وَاء</td>
<td>waaw</td>
<td>و</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ياء</td>
<td>yaa</td>
<td>ي</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>أَلِف مَقصورة</td>
<td>alif maqSuura</td>
<td>ى</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تاء مَربوطة</td>
<td>taa marbuuTa</td>
<td>ء</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>هَمزة</td>
<td>hamza</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name in Transliteration</td>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sukuun</td>
<td>سُكون</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>no vowel follows, above the letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fatHa</td>
<td>فَتْحة</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>short vowel, above the letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damma</td>
<td>ضَمّة</td>
<td>u</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>short vowel, above the letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kasra</td>
<td>كَسْرة</td>
<td>i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>short vowel, below the letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shadda</td>
<td>شَدّة</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>indicates a double consonant, above the letter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson One: Travel Signs

1. مَطَار
2. جَماَرِك
3. أَمْتَعَة
4. مَحَطَّة
5. مَوْقِف باص
6. بَوَابَة
7. مُعَادَرَة
8. وُصُول
9. سِيْرِيا تِل
10. هَاتِف
11. مَكْتَب سِيَاحِي
12. صَرْف عَمْلاَت
13. قَطَار سَريع
14. مَوْقِف تَكْسي
15. جَوازات
16. إِسْتَعِلامات
17. تَذْكِرَة ذَهَاب
18. تَأشِيرَة سِيَاحِيَة
19. تَجِدِيد جَوازات
20. رُسْم خُروج
Lesson One: Travel Signs (translations)

1. airport
2. customs
3. baggage
4. station
5. bus stop
6. airport gate
7. departures
8. arrivals
9. Syria Telephone
10. telephones
11. tourist office
12. currency exchange
13. rapid-service / express train
14. taxi stand
15. passport checkpoint
16. information
17. one-way ticket
18. tourist visa
19. passport renewal
20. exit fee
Lesson Two: More Travel Signs

1. موقف سيارات
2. تذاكر
3. مكتب استعلامات
4. رحلات دولية
5. مطحنة الركاب
6. مكتب بريد
7. رقم الرحلة
8. مضيفه
9. تذكيرة ذهاب وإياب
10. بطاقه صعود
11. حزانة أمتعة
12. رحلة مباشرة
13. ركاب
14. حمال
15. رحلات داخلية
16. إذن إقامة
17. إذن عمل
18. عربة
19. جوال
20. ترانزيت
Lesson Two: More Travel Signs (translations)

| 1. parking                       | 11. baggage locker              |
| 2. ticket office                 | 12. direct flight               |
| 3. information office            | 13. passengers                 |
| 4. international flights         | 14. baggage/luggage handler     |
| 5. domestic flights              | 15. the airport terminal        |
| 6. post office                   | 16. resident permit             |
| 7. the flight number             | 17. working permit              |
| 8. flight attendant              | 18. trolley                     |
| 9. round trip ticket             | 19. cell phone                  |
| 10. boarding pass                | 20. plane connection            |
Lesson Three: Driving in Syria

1. ساحة 11. تحويلة

2. اتجاه واحد 12. مخرج

3. طريق عام 13. مدرسة

4. طريق غير معبدة 14. تقاطع

5. غير نافذ 15. صخور

6. رصيف ممنوع الدخول

7. حفريات ممنوع الالتفاف

8. قف ممنوع الوقف

9. مشاة الأولوية للآخرين

10. شرطة مطبات
# EASTERN ARABIC III

**Lesson Three: Driving in Syria (translations)**

| 1. square | 11. detour |
| 2. one way | 12. exit |
| 3. highway | 13. school |
| 4. unpaved road | 14. intersection |
| 5. dead end street | 15. falling rocks |
| 6. sidewalk | 16. sidewalk |
| 7. work in progress | 17. no u-turn |
| 8. stop | 18. no parking |
| 9. pedestrians | 19. yield |
| 10. police | 20. bumpy road |
Lesson Four: Signs on Syrian Roads and Highways

المُتَحَلِّجِش الجَنوبي

بَغْداد

طريق مَحَلي

جَنوب

حُدود السُرعة

حَفْف السرعة

عُبور قطارات

مَحَطّة بَنْزَين

حَلَب

خِدْمَة سيّارات

حلب
11. اِزْدِحام مُرور

12. طَوَارِئ الطرُق

13. بيروت

14. ممنوع التَجاوْز

15. استراحة

16. مَوْقِف طَوَارِئ

17. صيانة سيارات

18. دَرْعا-عَمّان

19. ممنوع التَكَلُّم مَع السائق

20. ممنوع مَدّ الرأس من النافذة.
Lesson Four: Signs (translations)

1. South Ring Road
2. Bagdad
3. local road
4. south
5. speed limit
6. slow down
7. train crossing
8. gas station
9. Aleppo
10. automobile assistance
11. heavy traffic
12. emergency road service
13. Beirut
14. double line road - no passing
15. roadside refreshments / rest area
16. emergency stop
17. car service
18. A highway connecting the cities Daara and Ammaan
19. Please don’t speak to the driver.
20. Don’t lean out the windows.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Arabic Word</th>
<th>English Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>حشاشين</td>
<td>hashashin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>صفر</td>
<td>sa'far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>الأكسبير</td>
<td>al-aksir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>تعرفة</td>
<td>tarafia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>خمسة</td>
<td>khamsa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>أمير البحر</td>
<td>Amir al-bahr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>الجهاد</td>
<td>jihad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>مخزنة</td>
<td>makhzana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>مطرح</td>
<td>matreh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>الجبر</td>
<td>jabir</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>زعفران</td>
<td>zufran</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>صفة</td>
<td>safah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>طحينة</td>
<td>tahiniya</td>
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<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>جبن</td>
<td>jann</td>
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<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>حمص</td>
<td>hamusch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>ليمون</td>
<td>limoun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>الخوارزمي</td>
<td>al-khwarazmi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>شراب</td>
<td>sharab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>الكحل</td>
<td>khal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>سكر</td>
<td>sakr</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson Five: Arabic Loan Words (translations)

1. assassin
2. zero
3. elixir
4. genie
5. jar
6. lemon
7. jihad
8. magazine / storehouse or military supply
9. mattress
10. algebra
11. saffron
12. sofa
13. tahini
14. tarrif
15. hummus
16. admiral
17. algorism
18. syrup
19. kohl
20. sugar
Lesson Six: Expressions and Pastimes

1. برجيس
2. طاولة زهْر
3. شطرنج
4. ضاما
5. كراكوز
6. حكواتي
7. كُرة القَدَم
8. كرة السلَّة
9. كرة المَضْرِب
10. الكُرة الطائرة
سِباحَة
11.
سَهْرة
12.
حَفْلة
13.
سيران
14.
مَبْروك!
15.
لا تَواخْزني!
16.
دايمَة
17.
صَحتين.
18.
شَو هَالحَكي؟
19.
عَلى راسي! / عَلى عيني!
20.
Lesson Six: Expressions and Pastimes (trans.)

1. Two player board game
2. backgammon
3. chess
4. checkers-like game
5. puppets
6. storyteller
7. soccer
8. basketball
9. tennis
10. volleyball
11. swimming
12. late evening get-together
13. party
14. picnic
15. “Congratulations!”
16. “I beg your pardon; Excuse me!”
17. “May it last for ever.”
18. “Two healths.”
19. “What are you talking about?”
20. “With pleasure! or “Willingly!” (Literally, “on my head / on my eye,”)
1. غداء
2. عشاء
3. عصرونيّة الحساب
4. قائمة الأكل الإكراميّة
5. مشروبات الإكراميّة محسوبة
6. صحن اليوم مغاسل
7. سلطة فوطة، من فضلك!
8. مقبلات قنينة زيت زيتون
9. أركيلة نصف طلبه
10. شوربة خلي الباقى
11. وجبة رئيسيّة غداء
12. حلويات عشاء
13. عصير وجبة
14. قائمة الأكل إكراميّة
15. الإكراميّة محسوبة
16. صحن اليوم مغاسل
17. سلطة فوطة، من فضلك!
18. مقبلات قنينة زيت زيتون
19. أركيلة نصف طلبه
20. شوربة خلي الباقى

Lesson Seven: At the Restaurant
Lesson Seven: At the Restaurant (translations)

1. lunch
2. dinner
3. a snack
4. the menu
5. wine list
6. the daily special
7. salad
8. appetizers
9. water pipe used for smoking tobacco
10. soup
11. main dish
12. sweets
13. the check / bill
14. tip included in the check
15. tip
16. washroom
17. A napkin, please!
18. olive oil cruet
19. a half portion
20. Keep the change.
1. غرفة إسعاف
2. تأمين
3. سيارة إسعاف
4. مشفى
5. ممرضة
6. طبيب مُناوِب
7. دواء
8. مُعالجة طبيّة
9. العناية المُشَدَّدة
10. تَحَليِّل دمّ
11. مَرْضان.

12. عَندي صُداع.

13. سَحْنان شْوَي.

14. عَندي وَجِع بَطْن.

15. رِجْلي عَم تَجَعْني.

16. كتافي عم تجعني.

17. سِنّي عَم يِجَعْني.

18. وَين فيه صَيْدَلِيَّة فاتحة؟

19. عَندي حَساسِيَّة للمُضادّات.

20. ميزان حَرارة
Lesson Eight: Medical Terminology (trans.)

1. emergency room
2. insurance
3. ambulance
4. hospital
5. nurse
6. doctor on call
7. medicine
8. medical assistance
9. intensive care unit
10. blood test
11. I don’t feel good.
12. I have a headache.
13. I have a little fever.
14. I have a stomachache.
15. My leg hurts.
17. I have a toothache.
18. Where is an open pharmacy?
19. I’m allergic to antibiotics.
20. thermometer
Lesson Nine: Traveling by Train

1. سكة
2. قطار
3. قطار سريع
4. قطار شحن
5. مقعد قطار
6. درجة أولى
7. بسافر درجة أولى بس.
8. حجز
9. محجوز
10. مقصورة نوم
11. عَرَبَة نَوْم

12. عربة أَكْل

13. أمْر المَجْتَمَع

14. تَكْييف

15. جَدْوَل مَواعيد

16. نَفَق

17. الرَّجاء عَدَم الوُقوف

18. مَقْصورة

19. نَصْف تَذْكِرة

20. جابي
Lesson Nine: Traveling by Train (translations)

1. track
2. train
3. express train
4. freight train
5. seat in a train.
6. first class
7. I only travel in first class.
8. reservation
9. reserved
10. sleeping compartment
11. sleeping car
12. dining car
13. head of the station
14. air conditioning
15. train schedule
16. tunnel
17. “No standing.”
18. compartment
19. child’s fare
20. conductor
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lesson Ten: Supermarket Items</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. خضَر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. فِواكِه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. جَبَن</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. مَعَكَرونة</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. دَجاج</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. لَحْم</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. كِيلو واحِد</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. مُنْتَجات أَلْبَان</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. لَبْن</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. الصُّنْدوق</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Lesson Ten: Supermarket Items (translations)

1. vegetables
2. fruit
3. cheese
4. pasta
5. chicken
6. meat
7. one kilo
8. dairy products
9. yogurt
10. cashier
11. ice cream
12. bread
13. butter
14. pies
15. oil
16. vinegar
17. salt
18. garlic
19. peppers
20. cucumber
1. الاستقبال
2. مفتاح
3. مدير
4. مصعد
5. غرفة بسريرين
6. غرفة مفردة
7. غرفة مع منظر
8. غرفة مع فطور
9. غرفة رياضية
10. إيقاظ
11. بركة سباحة

12. بالمَوْسِم

13. سُوْنا

14. تَدْليك / مَسّاَج

15. صالون حلاقة

16. كَوْنِسْتِيرج

17. عَدَم الإِزْعَاج

18. خدمة الغرَف

19. تحضير الغرفة

20. فُنْدُق خَمْس نُجوم
Lesson Eleven: At the Hotel (translations)

1. reception area
2. key
3. director / manager
4. elevator
5. a double room
6. a single room
7. room with a view
8. bed and breakfast
9. gym
10. wake up call
11. pool
12. in season
13. sauna
14. massage
15. hairdresser
16. concierge
17. Do not disturb.
18. room service
19. to make up the room
20. five-star hotel
Lesson Twelve: Items in the Bathroom

1. مَعْجون أسْنان

2. صابون

3. صابون سائل

4. دوش

5. شامبو

6. وَرَق تُوااليت

7. آلة حلاقة كهْرَبائيّة

8. حَوْض / بانْيو

9. مَنشَفَة

10. مُجَفّف شَعْرَ
11. مَغْسَلَة
12. عْطُر
13. بودرة أطفَال
14. بَرْنُس
15. اِسْفِنْجة
16. مَرَآة
17. مُطَهِّر فَم
18. رَغْوَة حَلاَقة
19. مُزِيل رائحة
20. طَاقِيَّة حَمَّام
Lesson Twelve: Items in the Bathroom (trans.)

1. toothpaste
2. soap
3. shower soap
4. shower
5. shampoo
6. toilet paper
7. an electric razor
8. bathtub
9. towel
10. hair dryer
11. sink
12. perfume
13. baby powder
14. bathrobe
15. sponge
16. mirror
17. mouthwash
18. shaving foam
19. deodorant
20. shower cap
Lesson Thirteen: At the Post Office

1. بِرِقَيْة
2. خَتْم
3. طَابَع
4. بِطاقة بَريديّة
5. فُواتير للدَفع
6. صُنْدوق بَريد
7. بِريد مُسْجَل
8. بِريد جَوْيٍ
9. تَوْفِير البريد
10. طَرْد
11. تَأخِير بِالبريد
12. ساعي بريد
13. إيصال
14. وَصْل استِلام
15. طَلَب
16. يُرسِل
17. يرسل بِالبريد
18. يَقِف بِالصَّف
19. مُوظِّف بريد
20. يُوقِع
Lesson Thirteen: At the Post Office (trans.)

1. wire (electronic transfer)
2. hand stamp / rubber stamp
3. postage stamp
4. postcard for use in Syria only
5. bills paid at the post office
6. mail box
7. registered mail
8. air mail
9. post office savings account
10. parcel
11. mail delay
12. postman
13. receipt
14. return receipt
15. form
16. to send
17. to mail
18. to stand in line
19. post office clerk
20. to sign
1. حساب جاري
2. دفعة أولى
3. فتح حساب
4. إغلاق حساب
5. حوالة مصرفية
6. وديعة
7. كشف حساب
8. فائدة
9. قرض
10. بطاقة صرافة / آلة صرفة
11. استثمار مصرفی

12. سعر الفائدة

13. قرض رهنی

14. قرض مصرفی

15. كُوْة الصراف

16. دفتر شيکات

17. نسْبَة مَنْوِيَة

18. انخفاض القيمة

19. تضخم

20. عمْلِیَة مَصْرِفیَة
Lesson Fourteen: At the Bank (translations)

1. checking account
2. down payment
3. open an account
4. close an account
5. bank transfer (female)
6. deposit
7. account statement
8. interest
9. loan
10. ATM card /ATM machine
11. bank investments (male)
12. interest rate
13. home equity loan
14. bank loan (male)
15. bank window / teller
16. checkbook
17. percentage rate
18. depreciation
19. inflation
20. bank transaction (female)
Lesson Fifteen: At a Newsstand or Bookstore

1. جريدة
2. جريدة يوميّة
3. مجلّة
4. رسوم كاريكاتوريّة
5. دليل سياحي
6. خريطة مدينة
7. خريطة طريق
8. قاموس
9. رواية
10. كتاب أطفال
11. قصة بوليسية
12. تاريخ محللي
13. كتاب شعر
14. وصلة إنترنت
15. عرض لكتاب
16. كتاب بغلاف سميكة
17. طلب خاص
18. قصة قصيرة
19. قصة خرافية
20. رزنامة
Lesson Fifteen: At a Newsstand or Bookstore (trans.)

1. newspaper
2. daily newspaper
3. magazine
4. comic book
5. tourist guide
6. city map
7. road map
8. dictionary
9. novel
10. children’s book
11. mystery story
12. local history
13. poetry book
14. internet connection
15. book review
16. hardcover book
17. special order
18. short story
19. fairy tale
20. calendar
Lesson Sixteen: Regional Expressions and Holidays

1. حاجة بَأه! 
2. طَيِّب! 
3. كُل سنة وَإِنْتو سَالمين! 
4. رَمَضان 
5. عِيد الفِطْر/ العيد الصَغير 
6. الحَج 
7. عِيد الأضْحى 
8. العيد الكَبیر 
9. عید المیلاد 
10. عید الفصْح
11. كنيسة حنانيا
12. معلولا
13. دير مار سركيس
14. صيدنيا
15. الجامع الأموي
16. قصر العظم
17. مسرح بصرى
18. إيبلا
19. رأس شمرا
20. قلعة حلب
Lesson Sixteen: Expressions and Holidays (trans.)

1. Come on! or Stop it!
2. OK!
3. May you be safe every year!
4. **Ramadan** - month when Muslims fast from dawn to sunset
5. **Smaller Eid** - three days of celebrations after Ramadan
6. **The Haj** - the annual pilgrimage to Mecca
7. **Eid of Sacrifice** - four days of festivities after the annual Haj
8. **Greater Eid** - four days of festivities after the annual Haj
9. **Christmas** - an official holiday in Syria and Lebanon
10. **Easter** - an official holiday in Syria and Lebanon
11. St. Ananias Church in Damascus
12. **Maaloula** - only place in the world where Aramaic is still used today as a living language
13. Monastery of Saint Sergius
Lesson Sixteen: Expressions and Holidays (trans.)

14. **Sednaya** - ancient convent
15. Omayyad Mosque in Damascus
16. Azem Palace in Damascus
17. Bosra amphitheater (2 BC)
18. **Ebla** - ancient city (circa 2400 BC)
19. **Ras Shamra (Ugarit)** - ancient city where first alphabet was developed (7 BC)
20. Citadel of Aleppo
ساعة إلك وساعة لزبك.

إذا بدك تحميرو خيرو.

حامل السلم بالعرض.

ما بحىك جلدك مثل ضفرك.

القرد بعين صاحبو غزال.

من تحت الدلف لتحت المزاراب.

أول الرقص حنجلة.

لا تدل شخاد على باب دارك.

كل ممنوع مرغوب.

الغايب حجتو معو.
الاسكافي حافي والحايك غريان.

كتر الأيدي بتترق الطعام.

دود الخلل منو وفيه.

متل خازوق البحرة.

إيد وحدة ما بتصقق.

بدو سلتو بلا عنب.

متل الخنفسة بالطاسة.

كما تزرع تخصد.

أجود من حاتم.

الولد سر أبيه.
Lesson Seventeen: Syrian Proverbs (translations)

1. Time for fun, time for prayer.

2. If you want to confuse someone, give them a choice.

3. Said to someone who makes things more complicated than they have to be. (Literally, carrying a ladder sideways.)

4. Nothing can scratch your skin like your own nail.

5. All her geese are swans. (Literally, “A monkey in the eyes of its owner is like a gazelle.”)

6. Out of the frying pan and into the fire. (Literally, going from under a leaky ceiling to under a downpour.)

7. Things don’t start at full blast. (Literally, “Dancing begins in a slow movement.”)

8. Beware of greedy people. (Literally, “Don’t show a beggar where you live.”)

9. You want what you can’t have. (Literally, “Everything prohibited is desired.”)

10. An absent person has his excuse. (Said when someone has not arrived when expected. Literally, “A person on the road has an excuse.”)
Lesson Seventeen: Syrian Proverbs (translations)

11. The cobbler’s children have no shoes. (Literally, “The cobbler is barefoot and the weaver is naked.”)

12. Too many cooks spoil the broth. (Literally, “Too many hands burn the food.”)

13. Family disagreements are from the family itself. (Literally, “Worms in vinegar are produced by it [vinegar].”)

14. Like a fish out of water. (Literally, “resembles the stake-like stopper of a fountain.”)

15. A single hand cannot clap.

16. To be content with a safe escape. (Literally, “He wants his basket empty without grapes.”)

17. Like a beetle in a cup. (Used when too much effort is exerted to no avail.)


19. “More generous than Hatim,” a legendary generous man who lived before the rise of Islam.

20. Like father, like son. (Literally, “A son is the secret of his father.”)
Lesson Eighteen: Well-Known Syrians

1. عمر أبو ريشة

2. يوسف العظمة

3. عبد الرحمن الكواكبى

4. شفيق جبرى

5. ناظم القدسي

6. هاشم الأتاسي

7. شكري القوتلی

8. سلطان باشا الأطرش

9. زكي الأرسوزي

10. إبراهيم هنانو
11. نزار قباني
12. حافظ الأسد
13. فارس الخوري
14. أبو خليل القباني
15. فيروز
16. الأخوين رحاباني
17. صباح فخري
18. أدونيس
19. حنانا مينا
20. ساطع الحضرى
Lesson Eighteen: Well-Known Syrians (trans.)

1. **Omar Abu Risheh** - one of Syria’s and the Arab world’s renowned poets

2. **Yousef al-Azmeh** - an officer in the Ottoman Army (Following the fall of the Ottoman Empire and the independence of Syria, he became the first Minister of Defense. He was killed fighting the French invasion and became a national hero.)

3. **Abdelrahman Al-Kawakby** - a thinker, social reformer, and journalist

4. **Shakik Jabry** - a civil servant, poet, and literary critic

5. **Nazem al-Qudsy** - a prominent Syrian political leader (He was president in 1931, 1939, 1954, and 1960.)

6. **Hashim al-Atasy** - a prominent Syrian political leader (He was president in 1931, 1939, 1954, and 1960.)

7. **Shukrii al-quwatli** - was president in 1943 and 1955

8. **Sultan Pasha al-Atrash** - a noted leader of the Druze minority, led the Syrian rebellion against the French

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9. Zaki al-Arsuzi - a thinker and philosopher
10. Ibrahim Hanano - a leader of the resistance against the French occupation 1920-1945
11. Nizar Qabbani - the foremost Arab poet of modern times
12. Hafez al-Asad - the late president of Syria (Created stability in Syria for thirty years.)
13. Faris al-Khoury - a lawyer and statesman; the first prime minister of the Syrian Republic
14. Abu-Khalil al-Qabbani - founder of the Arab theater in modern history
15. Fairuz - a Lebanese singer who enjoyed great popularity in the Arab world, particularly in Syria and Lebanon
16. The Rahbany Brothers (Mansour and Assi) - revolutionized Arab music and revived traditional, classical music and poetry
17. Sabah Fakhry - one of the two best tenors in the Arab world
Lesson Eighteen: Well-Known Syrians (trans.)

18. **Adonis (Ali Ahmad Saeed)** - a modern Avant Garde Syrian poet with an international reputation

19. **Hanna Mina** - a renowned contemporary Syrian novelist

20. **Sati al-Husri** - a writer and stateman; considered the father of Arab nationalism
Lesson Nineteen: Expressions for Special Occasions

1. تَهَانِينَا!

2. اللَّه مَعَكَ!

3. تَمْنِيَّاَتُنَا بِالشِّفَاءِ العَاجِلِ!

4. نَعِيمَاً!

5. الحَمْدُ اللَّه عَلَى السَّلَامَة.

6. مُسْتَحِيل!

7. كُل عَام وَأَنَتْنَ بِخَيْرٍ!

8. اللَّه يَعْطِيكَ العَافِيَةَ!

9. بَصَحَّتَنَّكُنِ!

10. طَابَ يَومُكَ!
11. رَوْقٌ!

12. يا حَرام الشوم!

13. بَحْكِي مَعَك بَعْد شْوَيٍّ!

14. يااللَّه!

15. عَلَى الطَّائِر المِّيمُون!

16. مُوَفَّق نُشَااللَّه!

17. دِير بَالَّك عَلَى حَالَك!

18. عِقبَال مِيت سَنَةٌ!

19. انتَبِهٍ!

20. يا ريت!
Lesson Nineteen: Expressions (translations)

1. Congratulations! (for a special event)
2. Goodbye! Literally, “May God be with you.”
3. Get well soon!
4. Bless you! -- Cheers! Said when one has finished taking a bath or returned from the barber or hair dresser.
5. Welcome back! Glad you’re all right! Said after one returns from a trip or has recovered from an illness. (Literally, “Thank God for your safety.”)
6. No Way!
7. May you be well every year, said on any festive occasion, for example New Year or Christmas
8. Good job! (Literally, “May God give you strength.”)
9. To your health! Cheers!
10. Have a good day!
11. Cheer up!
12. What a pity!
13. I’ll talk to you soon!
Lesson Nineteen: Expressions (translations)

14. Come on!
15. Have a good trip! Bon voyage!
16. Break a leg! (Literally, “May God make you succeed!”)
17. Take good care of yourself!
18. Happy Birthday! (Literally, “A hundred more years like this one!”)
19. Watch out!
20. I wish!
Lesson Twenty: Some Famous Syrian Dishes

1. كِبَّة
2. كُنافة
3. بقْلاوة
4. مَعْمول
5. شَيخ المِْشي
6. كَواج
7. مْلَوْخِيّة
8. مْحشي
9. مُجَدَّرة
10. فول مْقَلّى
Lesson Twenty: Famous Syrian Dishes (cont.)

11. بامِيّة

12. رِز بْفول

13. بازِلا وُرُزْرُ

14. فاصوليا بالرَّيْت

15. سَبانِخ

16. فَطائِر سبانِخ / فَطائِر جُبِن

17. سَمْك مَشْوِي

18. بابا غَنْوِج

19. لَحم مَشْوِي

20. مُنْتَبِل
Lesson Twenty: Famous Syrian Dishes (trans.)

1. **kibbeh** - comes in many varieties (It is basically a dome-like pocket stuffed with lamb fat, red peppers, onion, walnuts, and spices.)

2. **kunafeh** - a baked dessert made from shredded wheat and sometimes stuffed with pistachios or white cheese

3. **baklava** - it’s origin is claimed by the Greeks, Turks, and Syrians

4. **mamoul** - a soft dough stuffed with pistachios, walnuts, or dates and dusted with confectioners’ sugar

5. **sheikh el-mehshirt** - a Syrian dish made from small cored zucchinis stuffed with minced meat, onion, and pine nuts and cooked in yogurt

6. **kawaj** - a stew that contains tomatoes, diced zucchini, onions, tomato sauce

7. **mluukhiye** - an herb

8. **mahshi** - zucchini, eggplant, and bell peppers stuffed with rice and meat

9. **mjaddara** - cracked wheat cooked with lentils and served with a layer of carmelized onions on top
10. **foul m’alla** - green broad beans stir fried with cilantro and garlic in olive oil

11. **bamya** - okra cooked in a tomato-based stew with lamb and served with rice

12. **riz b-foul** - rice with green broad beans and lamb

13. **bazilla w-riz** - rice with peas and lamb

14. **fasuulia b-zzeit** - green beans stir fried in olive oil with cilantro and garlic (Another version is cooked in tomato sauce with garlic.)

15. **sabanekh** - spinach

16. **fatayer sabanekh/jiben** - pastries with spinach / cheese on top

17. **samak mashwi** - grilled fish

18. **baba ghannuuj** - an eggplant dip

19. **lahm meshwi** - grilled lamb

20. **mtabbal** - a dip prepared from mashed carrots or zucchini mixed with tahini, lemon juice, and olive oil