

Conversational

ARABIC

in **7** Days

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*Master Language Survival Skills
in Just One Week!*

Samy Abu-Taleb

Conversational

ARABIC

in **7** Days

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in Just One Week!*

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. bmt (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 dome, e.g. yourn (day)
oo as in room, e.g. lagoon (lemon)
ei as in name, e.g. beif (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 **g** game **l** look
d day **h** home **m** man
f fun **k** king **n** noon
r room (r is always pronounced in Arabic regardless of its position in the word.)

s say **t** ten **y** yes
sh shine **w** well **z** zero

Please note that there are no **p** or **v** sounds in Arabic. Small **p** is usually replaced by **b** as in *bansyoum* for *pension*, and **v** is replaced by **f** as in *karnaafal* 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 **T** Tayyib = O.K.
D beid = eggs **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 **t**, as in *Cockney*.

Bill: 'ishshunaT ahih.
 Kamaal: Tayyib, ifaDDalu, 'ilcarabiyya fil maw'af.
 Catherine: shukran, huwwal huteil biceed?
 Nadya: la' ihuteil 'urayyib, mish biceed, laakin ishshunaT ti'eela.
 Bill: 'aywa, 'ishshunaT ti'eela giddan.
 Kamaal: Tayyib, ifaDDalu.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

SabaaH ilkheir
 'ana Bill Taylor
 wi di zmliti/zugti
 'ahlan wa sahlan
 furSa sa'ceeda
 'irriHla kaanit kwayyisa?
 'aywa
 'irriHla kaanit kwayyisa giddan
 'ishshunaT feiri?
 'ishshunaT ahih
 Tayyib
 ifaDDalu
 'ilcarabiyya fil maw'af
 shukran
 huwwal huteil biceed?
 la' ihuteil 'urayyib
 mish biceed
 laakin
 'ishshunaT ti'eela

Good morning
 I am Bill Taylor
 and this is my colleague/wife
 Hello
 pleased to meet you
 Was the flight good?
 Yes
 the flight was very good
 Where are the suitcases?
 The suitcases are here
 All right, O.K.
 Let's go
 The car is in the car park
 Thank you
 Is the hotel far away?
 No, the hotel is nearby
 not far
 but
 the suitcases are heavy

Introductions

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

'ana Bill
 wi di zmliti (zimliti)
 wi da zmlileeli (zimeeli)
 wi di zugti
 wi da zougti

I am Bill
 and this is my (female) colleague
 and this is my (male) colleague
 and this is my wife
 and this is my husband

Greetings

SabaaH ilkheir/innoor
 masaa' ilkheir/innoor
 ahlan wa sahlan
 ahlan
 marHab/marHaba
 furSa sa'ceeda

good morning
 good afternoon/evening
 Hello/How do you do?
 Hello/How do you do?
 Hello/How do you do?
 Pleased to meet you.

SabaaH innoor and masaa'innoor mean 'Good morning' and 'Good evening' respectively but they are normally used as responses rather than to initiate greetings.

Polite expressions

Tayyib
 ifaDDalu
 ahukran
 min faDiak/faDiik
 'aywa
 la'

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

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

Other useful expressions

irriHla kaanit?
 kwayyis/kwayyisa
 kwayyis 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)
zoug	zougta	spouse (noun)
kwayyis	kwayyisa	good (adj.)
sareed	sareeda	pleased/happy (adj.)

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

Examples

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

The definite article

It 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
 carabiyya car
 ihuteil hotel
 ilcarabiyya the hotel
 the car

maw'af
rihla
shunaT

car park
flight
suitcases

ilnaw'af
irihla
ishshunaT

the car park
the flight
the suitcases

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
da zmeeli
di zugri
il-carabiyya fil maw'af
ishshunaT ti'eela

I Bill
I Catherine
This is my colleague
This is my wife
The car is in the car park
The suitcases are 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
zouga
zimeela
shunaT
carabiyya

husband
wife
colleague
suitcases
car

zougi
zugti
zimeeli
zimulti
shunaTi
carabiyyiti

my husband
my wife
my colleague (m.)
my colleague (f.)
my suitcases
my car

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.

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	فندق
Boarding House/Pension	bansyoun	بنسبون
Youth Hostel	beit shabaab	بيت شباب
Reception	'istiqbaal	استقبال

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

'ana eandi HagzI have a reservation

Catherine: masaa' ilkheir.
Receptionist: masaa' innoor, ayyi khidma?
Catherine: 'ana eandi Hagz huna.
Receptionist: 'i'ism min faDlik?
Catherine: 'ana 'ismi Catherine Evans.
Receptionist: kaam feila?
Catherine: talat layaali.
Receptionist: 'aywa feeh Hagz bismik.

Catherine: **feeh Hammaam wi tilifoun fil 'ouDa?**
 Receptionist: 'aywa feeh, 'ouDa nimra khamasa, bi Hammaam wi tilifoun.
 Catherine: shukran.
 Receptionist: 'ilmuftaaH ahuh, 'ifaDDali.
 Catherine: shukran, tiSbaH eala kheir.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

'ayyi khidma
 'ana eandi Hagz hina
 'il'ism. min faDlik
 'ana 'isni
 kaam leila?
 talat layaali
 feeh Hagz bismuk
 feeh Hammaam
 wi tilifoun
 fil 'ouDa?
 bi Hammaam wi tilifoun
 'ilmuftaaH ahuh
 tiSbaH eala 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

eandak 'ouDa faDya?/Do you have a vacant room?



Bill: massa' ilkheir.
 Receptionist: masaa' innoor, 'ayyi khidma?
 Bill: eandak 'ouDa faDya min faDlak?
 Receptionist: kaam leila?
 Bill: 'arba: layaali min faDlak.
 Receptionist: 'aywa eandi.
 Bill: 'ana eayyiz 'ouDa-b Hammaam wi tilifoun. bi kaam?
 Receptionist: bikhthamseen gineih fil youm, bil fiTaar.
 Bill: Tayyib, kwayyis.
 Receptionist: 'ouDa nimra talaata. ilmufaaH ahuh, 'ifaDDal.
 Bill: shukran, 'ilfiTaar issaaca kaam?
 Receptionist: 'ilfiTaar issaaca sabaa.
 Bill: Tayyib tiSbaH eala kheir.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

'eandak 'ouDa faDya
 'arba: layaali
 'ayyi
 'ana eayyiz
 'ouDa-b Hammaam
 bi kaam?
 bikhthamseen gineih
 fil youm
 bil fiTaar
 'ilmufaaH ahuh
 'ifaDDal
 'ilfiTaar issaaca kaam?
 'ilfiTaar issaaca sabaa

do you have a vacant room?
 4 nights
 I have
 I would like (want)
 a room with ensuite bathroom
 what is the price?
 50 pounds
 per day
 including breakfast
 number 3
 what time is breakfast?
 breakfast is at 7 o'clock

Useful expressions

'ayyi khidma?
 'eandak eala kheir
 'eandak eala kheir
 'eandak eala kheir
 'ifaDDal/'ifaDDali

what can I do for you?
 good night (to a male)
 good night (to a female)
 good night (to more than one, male or female)
 here you are (m./f.)

Other useful words and phrases

'ouDa bisreer waahid
 'ouDa bisreirin (Dabil)
 'ouDa-b dushsh
 ilkaam shakhs?
 ilnaT'ram
 ilnaak
 ilhakhS waahid
 imunkin tiktib/tiktibi
 ilfisaab (ilfaatoura)?
 imunkin 'ashoof?
 ilqawaaz/ilbasbour

a single room
 a twin bedroom (double)
 a room with a shower
 for how many persons?
 the restaurant
 there
 for one person (single)
 Would you like to write (m./f.)
 the bill?
 can I see?
 the passport

the way it works

Personal pronouns

'ana = I
 'inta = you (m.)
 'inti = you (f.)
 huwwa = he
 hiyya = she

'ihna = we
 'intu = you (pl.)
 humma = they

I have, you have, he has, etc.

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

candi	'ana c andi	I have
candak	'inta c andak	you have (m. s.)
candik	'inti c andik	you have (f. s.)
candu	huwwa c andu	he (it) has
candaha	hiyya c andaha	she (it) has
candina	'ihna c andina	we have
canduku	'intu c anduku	you have (pl.)
canduhum	humna c anduhum	they have

Examples

candak Hagz? do you have a reservation?
'aywa candi Hagz yes, I have a reservation
candina Hagz We have a reservation

Possessive pronouns

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

Masculine nouns		Feminine nouns	
Arabic	English	Arabic	English
ismu	my name	zugri	my wife
ismak	your name (m. s.)	zugrak	your wife (m. s.)
ismik	your name (f. s.)	zurultik	your colleague (f. s.)
ismu	his (his) name	zugru	his wife
ismaha	her (his) name	zurulitha	her colleague

The preposition bi

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

Examples

'ouDa-b Hamnaam room with a bathroom
'ouDa-b dusthish room with a shower
bil fiTaar with (including) breakfast
'ilHagz bismi the reservation is in my name
Hagz bism Bill Taylor reservation in Bill Taylor's name
bi kaam il'ouDa? (for) how much is the room?
bi khamseen gineith fil leila (for) fifty pounds per night

Numerals 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 the day of the week (1), and the other form is used for counting objects or people (2).

(1)	Meaning	(2)
waahid/wahida	1. one m/f	waahid/wahida
ibnein	2. two	ibnein
talat	3. three	talat
arbac	4. four	arbac
khamas	5. five	khamas
sitt	6. six	sitt
sabac	7. seven	sabac
taman	8. eight	taman
tisac	9. nine	tisac
cashar	10. ten	cashar

Examples		
umra talaaata	No. 3	talat layaali
umra khamasa	No. 5	arbac layaali
umra a sitta	6 o'clock	sitt shunaT

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 shower, 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?

ORDERING FOOD AND DRINK

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, sandak 'eih?
 Waiter: sandi fool, wi beiD, wi gibna, wimrabba.
 Mrs Clark: 'ana 'aakhud gibna-w beiD, feeh eish?
 Waiter: feeh eish yamadaam.
 Mr Clark: feeh mirabbit 'eih?
 Waiter: feeh mirabbit balaH wi-mrabbitt teen.
 Mrs Clark: 'ana 'aakhud fool wi-mrabbitt balaH, wi eish Tabran.
 Waiter: HaaDir yamadaam, tishrabu 'eih? 'ahwa, shaay, eSeer?
 Mrs Clark: 'ana 'ashrab shaay bi laban.
 Mr Clark: wana 'ashrab 'ahwa-b laban.
 Waiter: 'ayyi khidma. 'ouDa nimra kaam?
 Mrs Clark: nimra khamsa-w talateen.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

taklu 'eih? What would you like to eat?
 yafandim/yamadaam Sir/Madam
 sandak 'eih? I have/There is
 sandi I'll have
 'ana 'aakhud Is there bread?
 feeh eish? There is
 Tabran of course

Heash yamadaam
 tishrabu 'eih?
 'ahwa shaay, eSeer?
 'ana 'ashrab (shaay)
 shaay bi laban
 'ahwa-b laban
 'ayyi khidma.
 'ouDa nimra kaam?

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

'ayyi khidma.
 yafandim
 winta yafandim
 wi HaDirak yafandim
 wint ya madaam
 wi HaDirak ya madaam

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, 'ustaaz, sheikh. Other forms of address for women are: sitt, haanum.

Food and drinks

fool	eggs	mirabbit farawla	strawberry jam
foolD	one egg	eish	bread
foolDa	cheese	eish baladi	local (flat) bread
gibna	white cheese	eish feenu	french bread
gibna beiDa	romano cheese	shaay bilaban	tea with milk
gibna roomi	jam	'ahwa-b laban	coffee with milk
mirabba	date/fig jam	eSeer	fruit juice
mirabbit balaH/teen	butter		
abna			

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

the way it works

The present tense

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

Iwaraaz	take	ear	drink
I (m. & f)	'aakhud	'aakul	'ashrab
You (m)	taakhud	taakul	tishrab
You (f)	takhdi	takli	tishrabi
We (m. & f)	naakhud	naakul	nishrab
You (pl)	takhdu	taklu	tishrabu

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.)
 takli '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?
 tishrab 'eih? (m.)
 tishrabi 'eih? (f.)
 The answer would be, e.g. 'ashrab 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 farawia** (strawberry jam).

Pronunciation of wi and bi

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

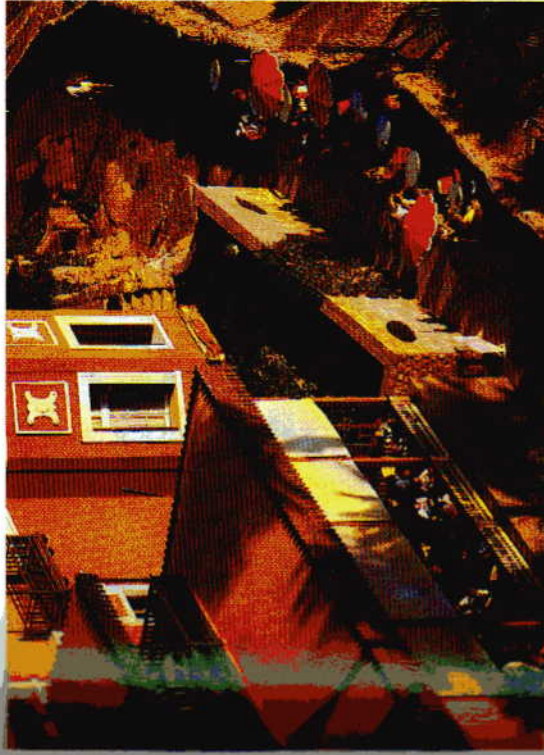
Examples

- 'aakhud gibna-w beid (wi beid)
- nurra khamisa-w talateen (wi talateen)
- 'ashrab '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
- ashrab shaay bi laban I'll have tea with milk
- ashrab ahwa-b laban I'll have coffee with milk

things to do

- 2.1 Say the following in Arabic
 - Ask the waiter
 - Ask your friend Sarah
 - Ask your friend Karim
 - Say
- 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

REFRESHMENTS



Tea, coffee, cold drinks and snacks are available in cafés, shops and food-stalls, 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.

Hill and Catherine stop at a café in **khaan ilkhallil** for refreshments.

fil 'ahwa/At the café

- fool: massa' ilkheir.
- waiter: masaa' irnoor. 'ahlan wasahlan.
- fool: sayzeen sandwiishaat, sandak 'eih?
- waiter: sandi fool wi falaafil wi gibna-w beid.
- fool: 'itnein fool witnein falaafil min faDiak.
- waiter: sandak Haaga sa'ra?
- fool: sandi bibsi-w kuka koula-w teem wi eaSeer.
- waiter: feeh beera?
- fool: la' mafeesh beera, 'aasif.
- waiter: feeh eaSeer 'eih?
- fool: feeh eaSeer munga-w eaSeer gawaafa.
- waiter: 'ana aakhud eaSeer munga min faDiak.
- fool: wana aakhud bibsi min faDiak.
- waiter: HaadDr. 'ayyi khidma.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

masaa' innoor
 cayzeen sandwtshaat
 caandak 'eih?
 falaafil
 caandak Haaga sa 'ea?
 candi bibsi-w
 kuka-koula-w
 teem
 wi caSeer
 feeh beera?
 la' mafeesh beera.
 'aasif
 feeh caSeer 'eih?
 caSeer manga-w
 caSeer gawaafa.

Good evening!
 We would like some sandwiches.
 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
 caSeer juice
 caSeer buru'aan orange juice
 caSeer lamoon lemon juice
 caSeer farawla strawberry juice
 caSeer mouz banana juice
 caSeer Tamaa'Im tomato juice
 caSeer 'asab sugar cane juice

Hot and Cold
 'il bibsi di sa 'ea
 'il bibsi di sukhma (mish sa'ca)
 'il 'aki da sukhn
 'il 'aki da baarid

Salt and sugar
 bi malH with salt
 bi malH 'aleel with little salt
 bidoon malH without salt

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

bi sukkar with sugar
 bi sukkar 'aleel with little sugar
 bidoon sukkar without sugar

the way it works

Would like

caayzaa is the plural of caayiz (m) and cayza (f) which means 'would like'.

Examples

ana i ayiz sandwich
 Magda cayza bibsi
 illaa i ayzeen caSeer

I would like a sandwich
 Magda 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

ittala (sandwich) fool two bean sandwiches
 falaafa falaafil three falaafil sandwiches
 'arbaa a gibna four cheese sandwiches
 shanana mangra five mango juice drinks
 waa'itad bibsi one Pepsi

Remember, like English, the word 'sandwiches' can also be repeated when giving an order: 'ittala fool or 'ittala sandwich fool.

things to do

Order these food and drinks:

- 1 Three falaafil sandwiches
- 2 Two cheese sandwiches
- 3 Four orange juice drinks
- 4 One bean sandwich
- 5 Six Pepsis
- 6 Five lemon juice drinks

CHANGING MONEY



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.

gineih Egyptian pound
meet 'irsh 100 piastres

جنيه
١٠٠ قرش

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

Look for the following signs:

Bank

بنك

Bureau de change

maSrif
taghyveer ilcumla

مصرف
تغيير العملة

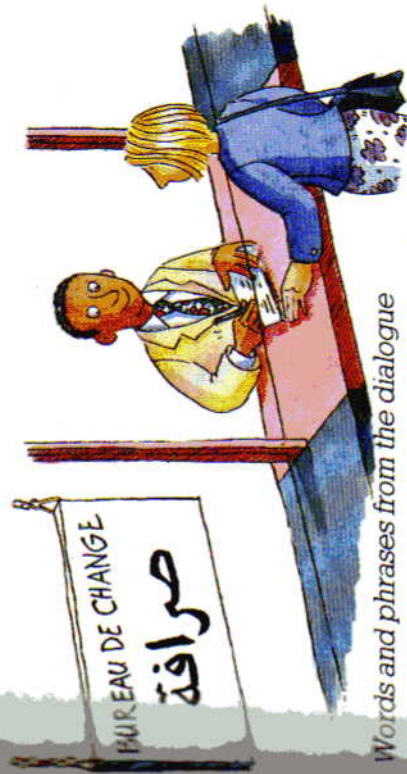
Cash desk

Siraafa
ilkhazeena

صرافة
الخزينة

Fil bank/At the bank

- 'alberme: if'istirleeni-b kaam, min faDlak?
- 'alberme: bikhamsa gneih wi talateen 'irsh.
- 'alberme: widdulaar bi Kaam?
- 'alberme: iddulaar bitnein gneih wi nuSS.
- 'alberme: Tayyib, aghayyar miyya stirleeni, wimiyya-w talateen dulaar.
- 'alberme: 'ayyi khidma, mumkin ashooof ilbasbour?
- 'alberme: 'aywa, ifaDDal.
- 'alberme: Tayyib imli listimaara di, wimDi huna, min faDlak.
- 'alberme: HaaDir, ilfuloos minein?
- 'alberme: ilfuloos min ilkhazeena, hinaak



Words and phrases from the dialogue

- if'istirleeni-b kaam? ikhamsa gneih wi talateen 'irsh
- widdulaar bi Kaam? bitnein gneih wi nuSS
- aghayyar miyya stirleeni wimiyya-w talateen dulaar
- mumkin ashooof ilbasbour? imli listimaara di
- wimDi huna
- ilfuloos minein? min ilkhazeena

How much is the pound sterling?

for five pounds and thirty-five piastres

And how much is the dollar?

two pounds and fifty piastres (or a half) I'll change one hundred pounds sterling and one hundred and thirty dollars

Can I see your passport?

Fill in this form and sign here

Where do I collect the money (cash)? from the cash desk

Useful words and phrases

- gineih/gnihaat pound/pounds
- gineih istirleeni pound sterling
- gineih maSri Egyptian pound
- 'irsh/'uroosh piastre/piastres
- dulaar/dularaat dollar/dollars
- sheek/shikaat cheque/cheques

sheek siyaahI
sheekat siyaahIyya
istimara
mumkin aghayyar?
aaayiz (aaya) aghayyar
aaayiz tighayyar kaam?

traveller's cheque
traveller's cheques
form
Can I change?
I would like to change
How much do you want to change?

the way it works

Pronunciation

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

il'istirleeni-b kaam?
miyya strleen
wi miyya-w talateen dulaar
imil listimaara di (f)
imila listimaara di (m)
bikhamsa gneih

bi kaam
miyya istirleen
wi talateen dulaar
imil listimaara di
imila listimaara di
bikhamsa gneih

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:

gineih or gineih waahid (m.)
lira or lira waHda (f.)
inein gineih/lira/dulaar*
talaata gneih/lira/dulaar
'arbaa gneih/lira/dulaar
khamsa gneih/lira/dulaar

one pound
one lira
two pounds/lira/dollars
three pounds/lira/dollars
four pounds/lira/dollars
five pounds/lira/dollars

shita gneih/lira/dulaar
sata a gneih/lira/dulaar
hameenya gneih/lira/dulaar
hee a gneih/lira/dulaar
tashara gneih/lira/dulaar

six pounds/lira/dollars
seven pounds/lira/dollars
eight pounds/lira/dollars
nine pounds/lira/dollars
ten pounds/lira/dollars

*It does that the object counted is in the singular.

In an **HidDaashar** (eleven) onwards the same form of cardinal numerals is used for the 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

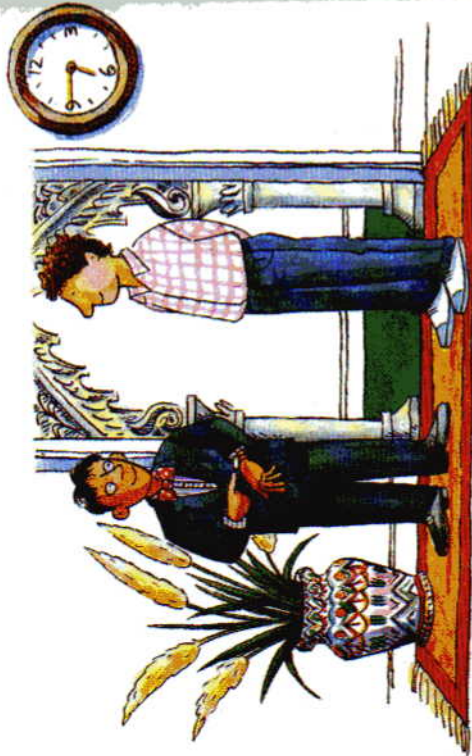
- 11 You are trying to change some foreign money for Egyptian pounds. Say the following in Arabic:
- 1 Can I change pounds sterling here?
 - 2 How much is a pound sterling?
 - 3 Can I change traveller's cheques?
 - 4 No, dollars.
 - 5 One hundred and thirty-two dollars.
- 14 You are Michael. You are 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.
Feeh khamsa-w sitteen 'ouDa.
- 2 Manager: Ask how much a single room is.
Michael: khamsa warbitteen gineih filleila.
- 3 Michael: Ask if there is a bank in the hotel.
Manager: 'aywa feeh.
- 4 Manager: Ask if you can change money here.
Michael: aaayiz tighayyar 'elh?
- 5 Michael: Say you would like to change dollars.
Manager: Tabcan mumkin.

TELLING THE TIME

issaaea kaam?/What time is it?

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



- Bill: 'ilfiTaar issaaca kaam, min faDlak?
 Receptionist: min issaaca sabaa lissaaca tisea.
 Bill: wil'asha-s saaca kaam?
 Receptionist: il'asha min issaaca sabaa-w nuSS lissaaca c'ashara
 Bill: issaaca kaam dilwa'ti?
 Receptionist: issaaca dilwa'ti sab'alla ruba.
 Bill: il'akhbaar issaaca kaam firadyu?
 Receptionist: il'akhbaar issaaca tamanya-w nuSS.
 Bill: Tayyib, 'arooH at'ashsha 'awwalan, wiba'dein asmae
 il'akhbaar. tisbaH eala kheir.
 Receptionist: tisbaH eala kheir yafandim.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

'ilfiTaar issaaca kaam?
 wil'asha-s saaca kaam?
 min issaaca sabaa-w nuSS
 lissaaca c'ashara
 'issaaca kaam dilwa'ti?

What time is breakfast?
 And what time is supper?
 from half past seven
 to ten o'clock
 What time is it now?

il'akhbaar issaaca kaam?
 firadyu
 issaaca tamanya-w nuSS
 'arooH
 min ashsha 'awwalan
 wiba'dein
 asmae il'akhbaar

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

'ilfiTaar breakfast
 'ilghada lunch
 'il'asha supper/dinner

Sequence of events

'awwalan
 'arooH at'ashsha 'awwalan
 wiba'dein
 wiba'dein asmae il'akhbaar

first
 I'll go and have supper first
 then/after
 then I'll listen to the news

Verbs with different persons

person	listen	go	have breakfast	have lunch	have supper
I	'ana	asmae	afTar	atghadda	ataashsha
You (m.)	'inta	asmae	afTar	itghadda	iteashsha
You (f.)	'inti	tismae	afTari	itghaddi	iteashshi
We	huwwa	yismae	yifTar	yitghadda	yiteashsha
She	hiyya	tismae	afTari	itghadda	iteashsha
We	'ifna	nismae	nifTar	nitghadda	niteashsha
You (pl.)	'intu	tismae	nifTaru	nitghaddu	niteashshu

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 **issaaca** (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

issaaca sitta
 issaaca dilwa'ti talaata
 issaaca-ibaa
 issaaca khamisa-w c'ashara
 issaaca-ibaa-illa ruba
 issaaca-trein wi nuSS
 issaaca 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

Waxaan itaalaaat waHda-lla rubce
 Waxaan itaalaaat waHda-lla rubce
 Waxaan itaalaaat waHda-lla rubce

It is quarter past eleven
 It is five minutes to twelve
 It is quarter to one

Note the loss of a in **arbara**, 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



- 7 What time is it now?
- 8



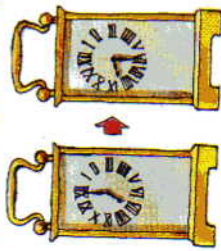
- 3 What time is the news?
- 4



- 9 Is it quarter to eight now?
- 10 No it is 8.15.



- 5 What time can I have supper?
- 6



FINDING YOUR WAY

Maayil 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 faDik?**

Assistant: **imshi cala Tool li 'aakhir ishshaaric da. wibaadein Hawwidi shmaal.**

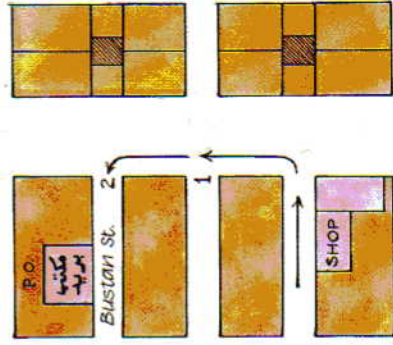
Catherine: **Tayyib. 'amshi-l 'aakhir ishshaaric waHawwid shmaal. wibaadein?**

Assistant: **imshi cala Tool. taani shaaric shmaal huwwa shaaric ilbustaan.**

Catherine: **wi maktab ilbareed fi shaaric ilbustaan?**

Assistant: **'aywa taalit mabna cala-l yimeen.**

Catherine: **shukran. il'afw yafandim. 'ayyi khidma.**



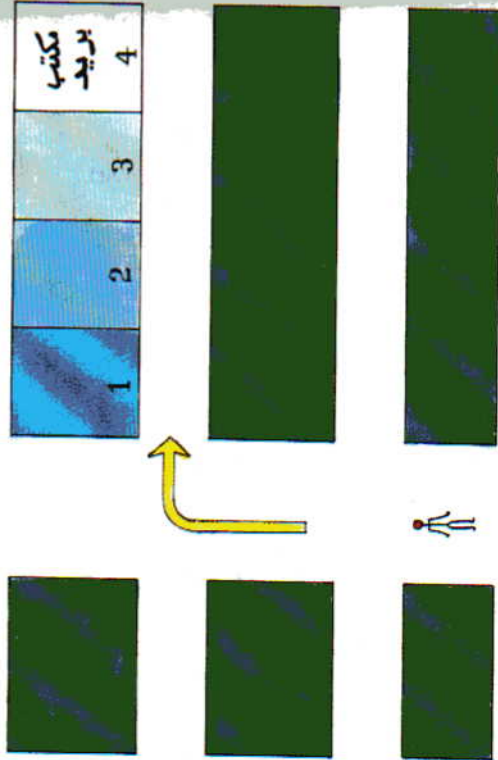
Words and phrases from the dialogue

- feeh maktab bareed is there a post office nearby?
- 'urayyib min hina? in Bustan street
- fi shaaric ilbustaan how do I get there?
- 'arooH izzaay? walk straight on
- imshu eala Tool to the end of this street
- li'aakhir ishshari: da turn left
- Hawwidi shmaal the second street left
- taani shaar: shmaal it is
- huwwa the third building
- taalit mabna on the right
- eala-l yimeen it's a pleasure/all right
- 'il'afw

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 faDiak?
- Passer-by: 'awwil shaaric yimeen. ilbi'aala raabic dukkan ealash-shumaaL.
- Bill: shukran ya sayyid.
- Passer-by: il'afw. 'ayyi khidima.



Words and phrases from the dialogue

- fein 'a'rab bi'aala? where is the nearest grocery?
- 'awwil shaaric yimeen the first street on the right
- raabic dukkan the fourth shop on the left
- il'afw
- shukran yasayyid thank you, sir
- il'afw it is a pleasure/that is all right

Useful words and phrases

- feeh 'ahwa ('agzakhana)? is there a café (pharmacy)?
- fitiqaaah towards, in the direction of
- fein ilmaHaTTa? where is the station?
- fein maHaTTit il'aTt? where is the railway station?
- fein ferm ilbulees (ishshurTa) where is the police station?
- raabic khareeTt maSr? do you have a map of Egypt?
- 'il'afw ilhuteil in front of the hotel
- waal-1 gaamic behind the mosque
- qanb il 'agzakhaana beside the pharmacy
- 'ala yimeen ilhuteil to the right of the hotel
- 'ala shumaaL ilhuteil to the left of the hotel
- il'ahul yimeen/shumaaL turn right/left
- 'ahul 'awwil shaaric yimeen take/turn at the first street on the right
- 'ahul meet mir ta'reeban go/walk about 100 metres
- 'imbi-iliHaad go up to
- 'ala-t naSyaa at the corner
- 'aak fur ishshaaric the end of the street/road
- 'awwil ishshaaric the beginning of the street
- muumkin taakhud taksi you can take a taxi
- muumkin taakhud imitru you can take the Metro
- muumkin taakhud 'urubees you can take a bus
- laazim taakhud il'aTt you have to take the train

Some useful words in Arabic

- street shaaric
- square midaan/saaHa
- post office maktab bareed
- stationers maktaba
- pharmacy 'agzakhaana
- pharmacy Saydaliyya
- police ishshurTa/ilbulees
- police station 'ism ilbulees
- station maHaTTa
- café 'ahwa
- museum matHaf

the way it works

Asking for directions

Here are 3 different ways of asking for directions:

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

Examples

- (a) feeh bi'ala 'arayyiba min hina? (f)
feeh maktab bareed 'arayyib min hina? (m.)
Is there a grocery nearby?
Is there a post office nearby?
- (b) fein ilmatHaf ilmaSri?
fein 'ism ilbuulees?
Where is the Egyptian museum?
Where is the police station?
- (c) 'arooH ilmatHaf 'izzaay?
'arooH il'azhar 'izzaay?
aaayiz (caayza) arooH ilhuteil.
How do I get to the museum?
How do I get to Azhar?
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.

person	walk	take	go (turn) into	turn	cross
(m.)	'inshi	khud	'idkhul	Hawwid	caddi
(f.)	'inshi	khudi	'idkhuli	Hawwidi	caddi
(pl.)	'inshu	khudu	'idkhulu	Hawwidu	caddu

Ordinal numbers (1-10)

These forms are used before masculine and feminine nouns.

Examples

awwil shaaric (m.)	first street	saadis youm (m.)	sixth day
taani mabna (m.)	second building	saabic 'ouDa (f.)	seventh room
taalit tella (f.)	third night	taamin mabna (m.)	eighth building
raabic dukkaan (m.)	fourth shop	taasic dour (m.)	ninth floor
khaamis maHaTTa (f.)	fifth station	caashir maHaTTa (f.)	tenth station

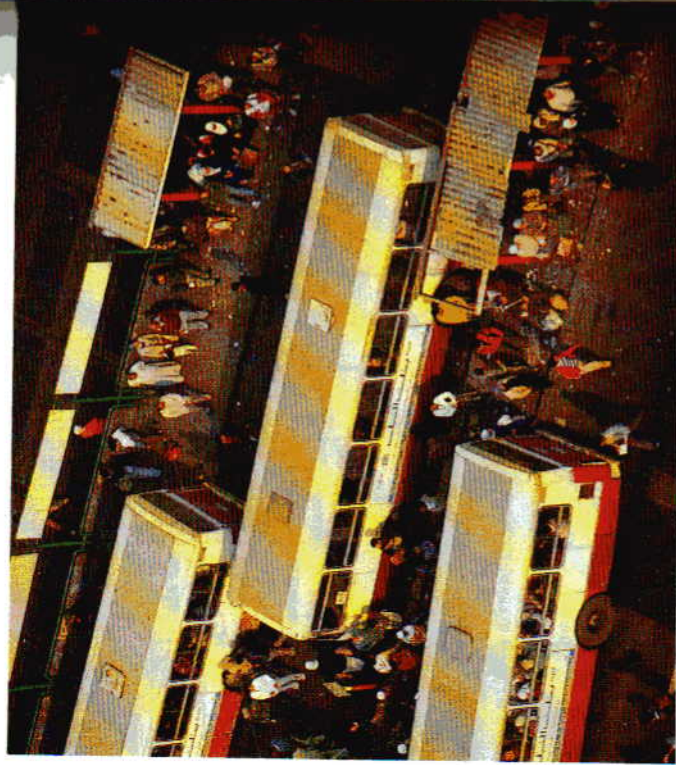
things to do

3.1 Ask for the following directions:

- Where is the nearest pharmacy?
- How can I get to the post office?

- Where is the police station?
 - Is there a grocery nearby?
 - 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.

TRAVELLING BY BUS OR TAXI



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:

Station	maHaTTa	محطة
Stop	maw'af	موقف
Bus	'utubees	اتوبيس
Taxicab	taksi	تاكسي

'utubees nimra kaam?/Which bus?

faal aadi 'uatherime are going to see the pyramids in Giza and they want to go by bus. They ask their Egyptian friend how to get there.

'iHna sayzeen nirooH ilharam, naakhud 'utubees nimra kaam?

mafeesh 'utubees min hina ilharam. laazim tighayyaru-f baab ilHadeed.

naakhud nimra kaam min hina?

takhdu nimra siTTaashar min hina-l baab ilHadeed?

wi baadein nimra kaam min baab ilHadeed.

wi baadein takhdu nimra tisea ilharam.

Tayyib, shukran.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

sayzeen nirooH ilharam

naakhud 'utubees nimra kaam?

mafeesh 'utubees min hina ilharam

naazim tighayyaru-f baab ilHadeed

wi baadein 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

tazaakir min faDlak.

'inein baab ilHadeed

tazkartein bikhamseen 'irsh. itazkara-b khamsa-w

cishreen 'irsh.

'ifaDDal. aadi gneih wi haat ilbaa'i.

'ifaDDal tazkartein, wilbaa'i khamsseen 'irsh.

shukran

'ilaftw.

conductor:

fil:

conductor:

fil:

conductor:

fil:

conductor:

Words and phrases from the dialogue

tazaakir min faDlak

'inein baab ilHadeed

tazkartein bikhamseen 'irsh

itazkara-b khamsa-w cishreen 'irsh

aadi gneih

wi haat ilbaa'i

tickets please

two (tickets) to Bab El-Hadid

two tickets for fifty piastres

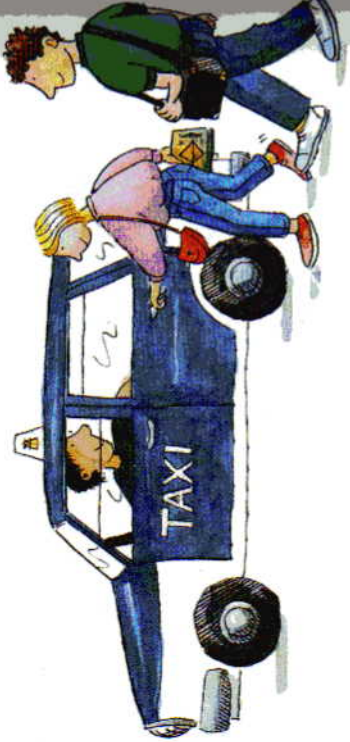
twenty-five piastres for each (ticket)

here is a pound

and give me the change

'istiemaal ittaksi/Taking a taxi

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



Bill: (shouting) taksii!
 Driver: 'aywa, rayHeen fein?
 Bill: MaSr iggideeda.
 Driver: fein fi maSr iggideeda?
 Bill: huteil sheratun.
 Driver: da beeed, aakhud cashara gneih.
 Bill: la' tashara kteer.
 Driver: Tayyib tamanaya.
 Catherine: tamanya kwayyis, shukran.
 Driver: ifaDDalu, 'irkabu.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

rayHeen fein? where are you going?
 maSr iggideeda Heliopolis
 fein fi maSr iggideeda? where in Heliopolis?
 la' tashara-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'unubees bus stop
 maHaTTit il'aTr the railway station
 'lmitru the metro (tram)
 mitru-l'anfaaq the underground train
 'il'utubees da biyrooh...? does this bus go to...?
 'issouk ('issou') the market place
 'il'kurneish (ikkurmeish) main road by the Nile or the sea
 'il'istaad the stadium

the airport
 direct bus
 the change

il'israaT
 il'israaT
 (change)

'il'israaT literally means the remainder or balance, but it is also used to mean the change from a bank of currency after paying for a purchase or a service.

MaSr This word originally means Egypt, but it is also used in colloquial Egyptian for modern Cairo, so we have MaSr iggideeda Heliopolis/New Cairo and MaSr il'israaT Old Cairo.

the way it works

Migration

feesh there is (are)
 feesh 'unubees there is a bus
 feesh shaya there is tea
 feesh bibsi there is Pepsi

mafeesh (maafi)* there is/are, no/not
 mafeesh 'unubees there is no bus
 mafeesh 'ahwa there is no coffee
 mafeesh caSeer 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.

Singular	Dual	Plural
ticketa (f)	tazkartein	tazaakir
rooma (f)	'uDrain	'waD
nighta (f)	lihtein	layaali
floor (m.)	durein	adwaar
street (m.)	sirrein	saraayir
youm (m.)	yumein	ayyaam

Pronunciation

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

il'ghayyaru-'baab il'haadeed (fi) (il'ghayyaru fi) change at Bab El-Hadid
 min luna il' haram (li) (u' haram) from here to the Pyramids
 'itazkara-b kaam (bi) ('itazkara bi) for how much is the ticket
 khamasa-w rishreen (wi) (khamasa wi rishreen) twenty-five

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.
- 10 Clare: Very good.

SIGHTSEEING

Many museums and tourist sites are closed on public holidays. It is advisable to check with the tourist information offices or your hotel for a option 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 tirooHu-l matHaf ilmaSri.
 Mr Clark: feeh 'eih fil matHaf ilmaSri?
 Mr Zaki: 'ilmaHaf ilmaSri feeh 'asaar maSriyya 'adeema-kteer.
 Mrs Clark: nirooH izzaay ilmaHaf?
 Mr Zaki: 'ilmaHaf firmdaan itaHreer, mumkin takhdu 'utubees nimra tamanya-w tamaneen
 Mr Clark: winrooH fein kamaan?
 Mrs Zaki: mumkin tizoorul 'azhar wil Hussein wi khaan ilkhaleeli
 Mrs Clark: Tayyib shukran. salaam
 Mrs Zaki: macassalaama. nishufku bukra.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

- nirooH fein inniharda? Where shall we go today?
- laazin tirooHu-1 you should go to the
- matHaf ilmaSri Egyptian museum
- feeh 'eih fil ...? What is there in the ...?
- feeh 'asaar maSriyya 'adeema-kteer There are many ancient Egyptian antiquities (in it).
- fimdaan itaHreer in the Liberation square.
- nirooH izzaay ...? How do we get to ...?
- wiurooH fein kamaan? Where else can we go?
- mumkin tizooru-1' azhar You can visit the El-Azhar and El-Hussein and Khan El-Khalili
- wil Husein wi Khaan ilkhaleeli
- salaam greeting salaamu caleikun)
- macassalaama Goodbye
- nishufku bukra See you tomorrow

Useful words and phrases

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

Date	Morning	Afternoon	Evening/Night
Today	inniharda-S SubH	baed iDDuhr	bilteil
Yesterday	imbaariH issubH	baed iDDuhr	bilteil
Tomorrow	bukra-S SubH	baed iDDuhr	bilteil

Note the loss of the first vowel in **iSSubH** with **innhards** and **bukra** because of the final vowel in these two words.

Old and new

- 'adeem (m.)/'adeema (f.) old, ancient
- gideed (m.)/'gideeda (f.) new, modern
- 'arabiyya 'adeema old car
- gaamic 'adeem old mosque
- 'aasaar 'adeema ancient antiquities
- maSr iggideeda Helipolis (the new Cairo)
- maSr il'adeema Old Cairo (the old Cairo)

Big and small

- kibeer (m.)/'kibeera (f.) big, large
- Sughayyar (m.)/'Sughayyara (f.) small
- dukkaan kibeer big shop
- 'arabiyya kbeera big car
- gaamic Sughayyar small mosque
- kineesa-Sghayyara small church

the way it works

كمان

kamaan has many meanings depending on the context. It can mean 'also', 'too', 'also', 'another', 'both', 'with', 'and me too', 'where else can we go?'
 bring another tea
 and me too
 where else can we go?

نيشوفكو/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 'good-bye'. Other pronouns can be added as shown below. The words **ashoof** and **nishoof** are used without the pronouns '**ana** (I) or '**iHna** (we).

	We	Meaning
nishoofak	nishoofak	see you (m.)
nishoofik	nishoofik	see you (f.)
nishoofku	nishoofku	see you (pl.)

things to do

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

- 1 I would like to go to El-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.

SHOPPING FOR FOOD, CLOTHES AND SOUVENIRS



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** ملاابس) and gifts (**hadaaya** هدايا). 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: **bikaam keelu-t teen?**
 bi talaata gneih.
 Bill: **wi keelu-l einab?**
 Shopkeeper: bikhamsa gneih.
 Bill: **'iddeeni keelu** teen witneim einab min faDlak.
 Shopkeeper: HaaDir yafandim.
 Bill: **'ilHisaab kaam** min faDlak?
 Shopkeeper: Hidaashar gineih.
 Bill: 'ifaDDal khamsaTaashar gineih wi haat ilbaa'i.
 Shopkeeper: ilbaa'i arbaca gneih. 'ifaDDal.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

- bikaam keelu-t teen? how much is a kilo of figs?
 wi keelu-l einab? and (how much is) a kilo of grapes?
 'iddeeni keelu give me a kilo of
 'ilHisaab kaam? how much is the bill (the lot)?

ilmalaabis wit-tuHaf/Clothes and souvenirs

- 'atherine: sayza jakitta gild min faDlak.
 Shopkeeper: ma'aas kaam?
 'atherine: ma'aas Sughayyar.
 Shopkeeper: feeh bunni-w beij.
 'atherine: 'iddeeni waHda bunni.
 Shopkeeper: 'ifaDDali. bi miyya warbieeen gineih.
 'atherine: la' di ghalya kida. wishshanTa di-b kaam?
 Shopkeeper: bitalateen gineih.
 'atherine: Tayyib 'aakhud iljakitta-l bunni wishshanTa-b miyya-w khamseen gineih.
 Shopkeeper: miyya-w sitteen kwayyis.
 'atherine: Tayyib, ifaDDal, 'aadi miyya-w sitteen.
 Shopkeeper: shukran, ma'assalama.

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: murkin ashooof ilkuroot min faDlik?
 Assistant: ifaDDali. sayza kaam karr?
 Mrs Clark: la' mish doul, 'ana sayza kart bustaal.
 Assistant: feeh kart bustaal. HaaDir.

Mrs Clark: bikaam ilkart?
 Assistant: ilkart bi khamas'aaashar 'irsh.
 Mrs Clark: Tayyib, 'iddeeni khamas kuroot.
 Assistant: khamisa-w sabreen 'irsh, min faDlik
 Mrs Clark: 'ifaDDali gineih wi haati-l baa'.
 Assistant: ilbaa'i khamisa-w eishreen 'irsh. 'ifaDDali.
 Mrs Clark: shukran.
 Assistant: ilaafw, ma'assalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

munkin ashooof ilkuroot? can I see the cards?
 'ayza kaam kart? how many cards do you want?
 la' mish doul no, not these ones
 kart bustaal post cards
 'iddeeni khamas kuroot give me five cards

Bargaining
 di ghalya (f./)da ghaali (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

(m.)	(f.)	(m.)	(f.)
abyaD	beiDa	akhDar	khaDra
iswid	souda	azra'	zar'a
ahmar	Hamra	bunni	bunni
asfar	Safra	beij	beij
			green
			blue
			brown
			beige

the way it works

Masculine and feminine words

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

Examples

Feminine

jakitta	souda	black jacket	ahmar	red camel
vaaza	KhaDra	green vase	bunni	brown trousers
gazna	beiDa	white shoes	'ameeS	white shirt
bilouza	Hamra	red blouse	Taba'	red plate

When making the objects definite, the colour words also become definite e.g. **iljakitta-l bunni** (il bunni), **il'ameeS il'abyaD**.

Plurals

Many feminine words ending in **a**, have **aat** in the plural e.g. **jakitta** → **jakittaat** and **vaaza** → **vaazaat**. 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

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
ciiba	kuroot	ciiba	ciiba
shanaT	'uroosh	shanaT	shanaT
gaamie	tazaakir	gaamie	gawaamie
kineesa	ma'faacim	kineesa	kanaayis
Taba'	gimaaI	Taba'	'a'Tbaa'
Saniyya	tamaseel	Saniyya	Sawaani
maktaba	galaleeb	maktaba	maktabaat
'ameeS	banTaluunaat	'ameeS	'umSaan
'ouDa	gizam	'ouDa	'iwaD
hidiyya	'utubisaat	hidiyya	hadaaya

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 (e.g. 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	sabat gimaaI	seven camels
arbaa ciiba	four boxes	taman Sawaani	eight trays
khamas kuroot	five cards	tisar 'iwaD	nine rooms
sitt biluzaat	six blouses	'ashar 'a'Tbaa'	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 galabiyas.
- 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?**
'ingiltura.
- Clerk: **bareed gawwi walla caadi?**
- Bill: **bareed gawwi min faDlak.**
- Clerk: **talaata gneih, iTTaabic bi**
sitteen 'irsh.
- Bill: **wi caayiz 'abrat ilgawaab**
da musaggal.
- Clerk: **ilmusaggal lingiltira miyya-**
w sitteen 'irsh. **Haaga tanya?**
- Bill: **la' shukran khalaas.**
- Clerk: **ilmagmooe' arbaca gneih wi sitteen 'irsh.**
- Bill: **ifaDDal. (handing the money)**
- Clerk: **shukran. wi da wasI ittasseel**



Words and phrases from the dialogue

- caayiz Tawaabic:**
likhamas gawabaat
ilgawabaat rayHa fein?
bareed gawwi walla caadi?
iT'Taabic bi sitteen 'irsh
wi caayiz 'abrat
ilgawaab da musaggal
Haaga tanya?
khalaas
'ilmagmooe' arbaca gneih
wi da wasI ittasseel
- 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

Useful words and phrases

- ilbareed
faalac bareed
manshin' ilbareed
bareed gawwi
iT'Tayyara
caayiz abcat
ilgawaab da biTTayyara
ilgawaab da musaggal
ilbart da 'ingiltira
caayiz asaggl ilgawaab da (or) caayiz
'abrat ilgawaab da musaggal
walla/aw

- post
postage stamp
posting box
air mail
I would like to send (post)
by air mail (by plane)
this letter by air
this letter by recorded delivery
this card to England
I would like to send this letter by
recorded delivery
or

Singular and plural

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Singular
gawaab
ilgawaab
kart
'ilkart
Tard
iT'Tard
Taabic
iT'Taabic | letter
the letter
card
the card
parcel
the parcel
stamp
the stamp | Plural
gawabaat
ilgawabaat
kuroot
ilkuuroot
Tuurood
iT'Tuurood
Tawaabic
iT'Tawaabic | letters
the letters
cards
the cards
parcels
the parcels
stamps
the stamps |
|---|--|---|--|

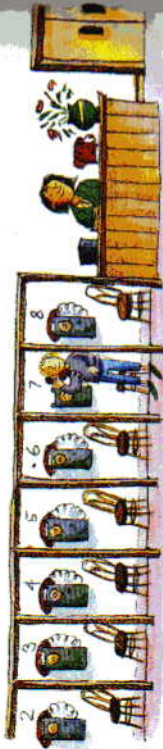
Making a phone call

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: **caayza mukalma manshistar min faDlak.**
- Clerk: **Haadir. nimra kaam fi manshistar?**
- Catherine: **innimra di. (shows him the number written)**
- Clerk: **kaam di'ee'a?**
- Catherine: **sitt da'aayi' min faDlak. bikaam?**
- Clerk: **arbaca-w eishreen gineih.**
- Catherine: **Tayyib shukran.**
- Clerk: **ifaDDali, kabeena nimra sabca.**

Words and phrases from the dialogue



εayza mukalma manshistar
nimra kaam
kaam di'ee'a?
silt da'aay!
kabeena nimra sabca

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

Useful words and phrases

εayiz/εayza (f) akallim landan
mumkin akallim London?
mumkin acmul tilifoun?
mumkin akkallim fittilifoun?
ilmukalma khamseen '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

εaadi means 'ordinary'. When talking about post, it means surface mail.
khalaaS 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.

LONG-DISTANCE TRAVEL



There are intercity air and bus services in all the Arab countries, but railway 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:

Ticket office	شباك التذاكر
Platform number	رصيف رقم...
Carriage number	عربة رقم...
Restaurant carriage	عربة الأكل
Sleeping carriage	عربة النوم

shibbaak ittazaakir	شباك التذاكر
raSeef raqam	رصيف رقم...
εaraba raqam	عربة رقم...
εarabiyit il'aki	عربة الأكل
εarabiyit innoum	عربة النوم

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 tanyaa?

Bill: daraga 'oola mukayyafa.

Clerk: raayih gayy walla raayih bass?

Bill: raayih gayy.

Clerk: daraga 'oola raayih gayy, bi eashara gneih.

Bill: ifaDDal il'aTr issaaca kaam?

Clerk: feeh 'aTr issaaca tamanya-w nuSS.

Bill: raSeef nimra kaam?

Clerk: raSeef nimra talaata.

Bill: feeh carabiyit 'aki?

Clerk: aywa feeh, wi feeh bufeih kamaan.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

tazkara skindiriyya

daraga 'oola

walla tanyaa?

daraga 'oola mukayyafa

raayih gayy

walla raayih bass?

il'aTr, issaaca kaam?

feeh 'aTr

issaaca tamanya-w nuSS.

raSeef nimra kaam?

raSeef nimra talaata

feeh carabiyit 'aki?

wi feeh bufeih kamaan.

a ticket to Alexandria

1st class

or 2nd class?

1st class air-conditioned

return

or one way only?

what time is the train?

there is a train

at 8.30.

what platform number?

platform No. 3

is there a restaurant carriage?

and there is a buffet as well.

Useful words and phrases

'aTr iskindiriyya (IukSur, etc)

raayiz aHgiiz makaan

iddeenu tazkara

daraga 'oola (tanya)

siyaHiyya

feeh makaan ('amaakin)

mafeesh 'amaakin fi

'aTr 'issaaca khamsa

Tayyaarit issaaca khamsa

the train to Alexandria (Luxor, etc)

I would like to book a seat

give me a ticket

1st (2nd) class

tourist class (on planes)

there is a seat (are seats)

there are no seats on

the 5 o'clock train

the 5 o'clock plane

feeh makaan waaHid bass.

raayih zabaaib

raayih gayy/zahaab wi cawda

raayih (musafreen) imtia?

raayih (raagreen) imtia?

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

raayih bil'aTr

there is only one seat

one way

return

when are you travelling?

when are you coming back?

travelling by plane (air)

travelling by train

in the sleeping carriage

compartment with two berths

flight number

what times does the plane take off?

what time does the plane arrive?

the plane takes off from ... at ... o'clock

the plane arrives at ... at ... o'clock

what time does the train leave?

what time does the train arrive?

Things to do

#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?

#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?

SPORT AND LEISURE



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'aleaab irriyaaDiyya/Sports activities

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

- Bill: **'iHna eayzeen niicab tinis niimil 'eih?**
- Receptionist: **tiHgizu ma:ab. t'ayzeen tik'abu 'add 'eih?**
- Bill: **saata-kfaaya. wi baardein ni'oom shiwayya.**
- Receptionist: **issaate-b khamssa-gneih. eanduku maDaarib?**
- Bill: **la' ma:andinaash maDaarib hina.**
- Receptionist: **mumkin ti'aggaru maDaarib min il huteil.**
- Bill: **Tayyib ni'aggar maDrabein.**
- Receptionist: **laaz'im tiHgizu-l malekab bisura'a**

- Bill: **ti'allo time.**
- Receptionist: **la'. Hammaam issibaaHa eayyiz Hagz?**
- Bill: **ti'allo time.**
- Receptionist: **wi rasrn iddukhooh kaam?**
- Bill: **gineih likull waaHid.**
- Receptionist: **Tayyib shukran.**
- Receptionist: **ma'assalaama.**

Words and phrases from the dialogue

- 'iHna eayzeen niicab tinis** we would like to play tennis
- niimil 'eih?** what shall we do?
- tiHgizu ma:ab** (you) book a court.
- eayzeen tik'abu 'add 'eih?** how long do you want to play?
- saata-kfaaya** an hour is enough.
- ni'oom shiwayya** (we) swim for a bit.
- anduku maDaarib** do you have rackets?
- andinaash maDaarib** we have no rackets.
- mumkin ti'aggaru maDaarib** you can hire rackets.
- biisura'a** quickly.
- Hammaam issibaaHa** the swimming pool
- eayyiz hagz?** does it need booking?
- rasrn-idk'hooh** entrance fee
- likull waaHid** each

Useful words and phrases

- Hammaam sibaaHa** swimming pool
- niicab tinis/iskwaash** tennis/squash court
- ma:abizit bing bong** table tennis table
- maDrab tinis/iskwaash** tennis/squash racket
- niimil tinis/iskwaash** tennis/squash ball
- ti'amaDaarib maggaanan** the rackets are free
- Hammaam issibaaHa maggaanan** the swimming pool is free
- niicab sawa (ma:ab ba:arD)** let's play together
- fi-ni naadi** in the club

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 i'lilaadi?**
- Manager: **feeh birmaamig iSSouT wiDDou' fi ma:bad 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 sha:bi wi 'aghaani sha:biyya.**

Mr Clark: wifeeh 'eih kamaan?
 Manager: wifeeh sahra
 Mrs Clark: 'urubbiyya fi huteil
 ramsees.
 Manager: iSSouT' wiDDou'
 issaaca kaam?
 Mrs Clark: ilbirnaamig yibda'
 issaaca sabca, wi
 yintih-s saaca cashaara.
 Manager: Tayyib nirooH iSSout
 wiDDou' inniharda,
 winiHDar issahra-l
 maSriyya bukra
 Manager: tisharrafu yafandim.



Words and phrases from the dialogue

nirooH fein illilaadi?
 birnaamig iSSout wiDDou'
 fi macbad ilkarnak
 wifeeh 'eih kamaan?
 sahra maSriyya ('urubbiyya)
 feeha 'eih?
 museeqa maSriyya
 ra S shac'bi
 'aqaanu shac'biyya
 ilbirnaamig yibda'
 wi yintih-s saac a
 nirooH ... inniharda
 winiHDar ... bukra
 tisharrafu

where shall we go this evening?
 the son of lumière programme
 in Karnak temple
 and what else is there?
 Egyptian (European) evening
 entertainment
 what is in it?
 Egyptian music
 folk dances
 folk songs
 the programme starts
 and ends at ... o'clock
 we go to ... today
 and attend ... tomorrow
 it is an honour to us

the way it works

sports

mal'ab iriyaaDiyya is a term used in Arabic when talking about all kinds of sports activities whether they are games or sports. The singular of 'al-raab is *irba*. mal'ab is used in Arabic to mean pitch, field or court. The plural is **malaacib**.

- mal'ab/malaacib tinis tennis court/s
- mal'ab/malaacib football pitch/es
- mal'ab/malaacib hockey pitch/es
- mal'ab/malaacib squash court/s
- mal'ab/malaacib volleyball court/s

'some

stuwayya means 'a bit', 'a little' or 'some'. When it is followed by a noun it becomes *stuwayyit*.

Examples

- stuwayyit mayya some water
- stuwayyit teen some figs
- il'ab stuwayya play for a bit

Verbs in the future

ha at the beginning of the verb makes it future.

Examples

- 'ana hafarrag I am going to (shall) watch
- 'ihna hafarrag we are going to (shall) watch
- huwra hayfarrag he is going to (will) watch

useful words and phrases

- al'ama cinema
- al'ata theatre
- al'film film
- al'play play
- il'masraH I am going to the theatre
- il'issnama I am going to the cinema
- il'ahwa I am going to the café
- il'disco I am going to a disco
- il'tifizioun I am going to watch television
- il-widyo I am going to watch the video
- il-koura I am going to watch the football
- il-Niil/sea a café by the Nile/sea
- il-fein? where would you like to go?

In some cases the first vowel of the verb is dropped.

'ana harooH (arooH)
iHna hanrooh (nirrooH)
huwwa hayrooH (yirrooH)

I shall go
we shall go
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.

- 1 Nabeel: Where would you like to go tonight?
- 2 Peter: What's available?
- 3 Nabeel: There is a nice programme in the club.
- 4 Peter: What else is there?
- 5 Nabeel: There is also evening entertainment in the hotel.
- 6 Peter: What does the hotel evening include?
- 7 Nabeel: The hotel evening entertainment is a programme of Egyptian music and songs?
- 8 Peter: And what does the club evening include?
- 9 Nabeel: The club programme is European music and singing.
- 10 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 for an ambulance to take you to the nearest hospital or medical centre. In cases of emergency you can go, or be taken, to the casualty department in any hospital, public or private.

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

ta'baan shiwayya/Feeling ill

Mrs 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 arbae Taashar.
Reception: SabaaH ilkheir yamadaam, ayvi khidma?
Mrs Clark: 'ana zoug ta'baan shiwayya, nie'mil 'eih?
Reception: huwwa candu 'eih yamadaam?
Mrs Clark: tufhibbi ni'Thublu duktour?
Reception: 'aywa min faDlik.
Mrs Clark: Tayyib, hani'Thub duktour Haalan.
Reception: shukran.
Mrs Clark: ilcafw.



Words and phrases in the dialogue

- ta'baan shiwayya is not very well
- nie'mil 'eih? what shall we do?
- huwwa candu 'eih? what is wrong with him?/what does he suffer from?
- 'andu Suddaa: he has a headache and a sore throat
- w-ithhaab fi zouru would you like us to call a doctor for him?
- hani'Thub duktour Haalan we shall call a doctor immediately

fil eiyaada/In the surgery

Bill goes to see a doctor because he has a stomach-ache.



Doctor: eandak eih ya mistar teilar?
 Bill: eandi maghaS 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 baed il'akl.
 Bill: waakul 'eih?
 Doctor: Kul tust wishrab Hagaat sa'ca bass.
 Bill: shukran ya duktour salaamu calleiku.
 Doctor: ileafw maacassalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

eandi maghaS wi 'is-haal	I have stomach-ache and diarrhoea
min 'imta?	Since when?
'aakhud ilHaraara	Since last night
mafeesh Haraara	Let me take the temperature
di Haaga baseeTa	'There is no temperature
khud iddawa da	Take this medicine
wistareeH raaha kamla	and have complete rest
kaam marra?	how often?
talat marraat fil youm	Three times a day
waakul 'eih?	And what shall I eat?
kul tust	eat toast
wishrab Hagaat sa'ca	and have cold drinks
bass	only

Describing your ailments

There are two different ways of talking about ailments
 eandi + symptom = I have + symptom
 fi-ift of (the body) bi yiwgaacni (m.)/bi tiwgaacni (f.)

Examples

eandi Sudaac	I have a headache
eandi insaak	I have constipation
eandi iltihaab fi zouri	I have a sore throat
fi-ift-b yiwgaacni (m.)	I have pain in my shoulder
fi-ift-b yiwgaacni (m.)	I have pain in my arm
fi-ift-b tiwgaacni (f.)	I have pain in my leg
fi-ift-b tiwgaacni (f.)	I have pain in my hand

(Note the change of bi into -b.)

Injuries

fi-ift-b laweit	twisted
fi-ift-b lawa	laweit
fi-ift-b lawit	lawa
fi-ift-b garaHit	cut
fi-ift-b garaHit	garaHit
fi-ift-b garaHit	garaHit
fi-ift-b garaHit	kasar
fi-ift-b garaHit	kasar
fi-ift-b garaHit	kasarit

Examples

fi-ift-b laweit diraac	I twisted my arm
Nabeel kasar diraac	Nabeel broke his arm
Fayza garaHit idha	Fayza cut her hand

Other injuries

fi-ift-b dabboor	I have been stung by a wasp
fi-ift-b nahla	I have been stung by a bee

Things you have to tell the doctor

fi-ift-b eandi sukkar	I am diabetic
fi-ift-b eandi rabw	I am asthmatic
fi-ift-b eandi-l' alb (eandi il' alb)	I have heart trouble
fi-ift-b eandi Hasasiya lil binsiteen	I am allergic to penicillin
fi-ift-b ana Haamli	I am pregnant

Asking for help

fi-ift-b eayiz duktour (m.)	I need a doctor
fi-ift-b eayiz duktour (f.)	I need a doctor
fi-ift-b eayiz il'iscaaf (m.)	I need the ambulance
fi-ift-b eayiz-l' iscaaf (f.)	I need the ambulance
fi-ift-b eayiz arooH ilmustashfa (m.)	I want to go to the hospital.

Key words in Arabic

Ambulance	الإسعاف	Surgery	جراحة
Hospital	مستشفى	Doctor	دكتور
	il'iscaaf		ciyaada
	imustashfa		duktour

the way it works

'istareeH means have a rest, so **istareeH raaha kama** means have a complete rest. But in the phrase **ifaDDal istareeH** it means take a seat or have a seat.

Negation

mish, mafeesh, mar:andeeesh

mish
mish ʕaarif
mish raayih

mafeesh
mafeesh Haraara
mafeesh ʕaseer

mar:andeeesh
mar:andeeesh 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:

person	eat	drink
singular (m.)	khud	ishrab
singular (f.)	khudi	ishrabi
plural (m. + f.)	khudu	ishrabu

things to do

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

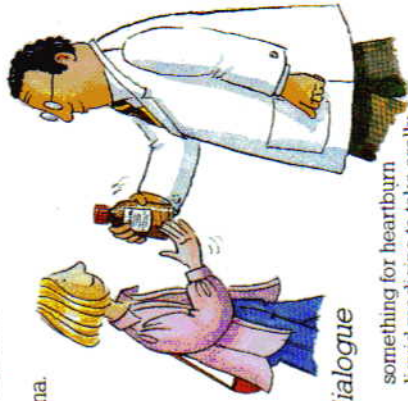
- 1 ʕandak bard?
 - 2 ʕandik Haraara?
 - 3 ʕankak Hasasiya ilbinsileen?
 - 4 min 'imta?
 - 5 feeh Sudaac?
- No, I haven't
Yes, I have
No, I haven't
Since this morning
No, there isn't

fil agzakhaana/At the pharmacy

mumkin **Haaga lil HumooDa**, min faDlak?
'aywa feeh **dawa shurb** mumlaaz.

'aakhud 'add'eih?
khudi **ma:la'a-kbeera** marrtein fil yom. **marra**-S SubH, wi **marra** billet.

baed il'aki walla 'abl il'aki?
baed il'aki.
shukran. 'ilHisaab kaam?
miyya-w khamseen 'irsh, bass.
'ifaDDal.
shukran. mar:assalaama.



Words and phrases from the dialogue

Haaga lil HumooDa
dawa shurb
'aakhud 'add'eih?
ma:la'a-kbeera
marrtein fil yom
marra... wi marra

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

Useful words and phrases

dawa 'a'raaS
dawa saayil (shurb)
dawa Hu'an
huS ('a'raaS)
mumkin Haaga (dawa) li?
ʕayiz *Haaga (dawa) li
ʕayiz aSrif iddawa da
ʕayiz aSrif irrushita di
'add' eih?
kaam marra?
ma:la'a-kbeera
ma:la'a-Sghayyara

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 **ʕayiz** if a man, **ʕayza** if a woman.

the way it works

'istareeh means have a rest, so **istareeh raaha kamil** 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 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

The doctor might tell you to do the following:

person

singular (m.)

singular (f.)

plural (m. + f.)

take

khud

khudi

khudu

eat

kul

kuli

kulu

drink

ishrab

ishrabi

ishrabu

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 **caandak bard?** No, I haven't
- 2 **caandik Haraara?** Yes, I have
- 3 **caankak Hasasiya lilbinsileen?** No, I haven't
- 4 **min irnita?** Since this morning
- 5 **feeh Sudaac?** No, there isn't

fil agzakhaana/At the pharmacy

(pharmacist)

(customer)

(pharmacist)

(customer)

(pharmacist)

(customer)

(pharmacist)

(customer)

(pharmacist)

(customer)

(pharmacist)

(customer)

mumkin Haaga lil Humooda, min faDiak?

'aywa feeh dawa shurb mumtaaz.

'aakhud 'add'eih?

khudi ma'la'a-kbeera marritein fil yom.

marra billeil.
ba'ed il'aki walla 'abi il'aki?

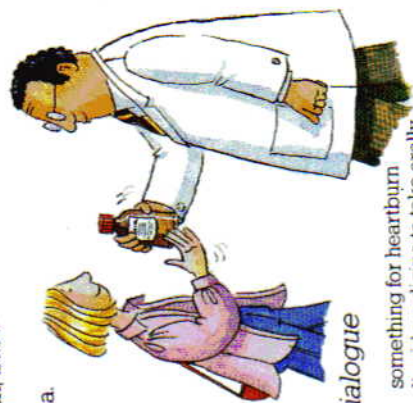
ba'ed il'aki.

shukran. 'ilHisaab kaam?

muyya-w khamseen irsh, bass.

'ifaDDal.

shukran. ma'assalaama.



Words and phrases from the dialogue

Haaga lil Humooda

dawa shurb

'aakhud 'add'eih?

ma'la'a-kbeera

marritein fil yom

marra... wi marra

something for heartburn

liquid medicine to take orally

how much shall I take?

one tablespoonful

twice a day

once... and once...

Useful words and phrases

dawa 'araas

dawa saayil (shurb)

dawa Hu'an

urS ('araas)

mumkin Haaga (dawa) li?

caayiz *Haaga (dawa) li

caayiz aSrif iddawa da

caayiz aSrif irrushitta di

'add'eih?

kaam marra?

ma'la'a-kbeera

ma'la'a-Sghayyara

* Note: Use caayiz if a man, caayza if a woman.

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

Big and small

Kibeera big **sughayyara** small

When talking about dosage in medicine **ma'la a-kbeera** means 'tablespoonful' and **ma'la a-Sghayyara** means 'teaspoonful'. **Kbeera** and **Sghayyara** lost their first vowels because of the last **a** in **ma'la 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?

how many kilos?

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)

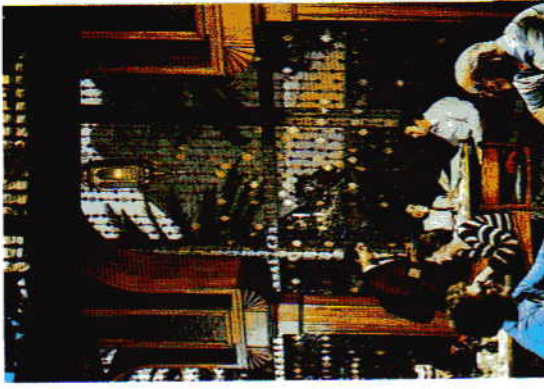
things to do

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 ('Ighada) is the main meal for most people in Egypt and all other Arab countries. A formal lunch is a half course meal, whether it is served at a restaurant, in a hotel or in a private house. Lunch ('Ighada) is served between 1.00 and 4.00 in the afternoon. The evening meal ('Iraasha) 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** soup or salad
- ruzz 'aw makarouna** rice or macaroni
- laHma-w khnuDaar wi salaTa** meat, vegetables and salad
- il Hilw** dessert
- mashroub (shaay/'ahwa)** 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 maTeam/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: massa' ilkehr. sayzeen **tarabeiza larbaca** min faDiak.

Waiter: 'ahlan yafandim. **ifaDDalu min hina.**

Kamaal: **mumkin il munyu** min faDiak?

Waiter: **Haalan** yafandim.

Later, after consulting the menu...

- Waiter: 'aywa yafandim, **Talabatku 'eih?**
 Kamaal: eayzeen itnein **shurbit cats** witnein **shurbit TamaaT'im.**
 Waiter: eeish wi **salaTaat wi-mkhalilaat?**
 Kamaal: 'aywa. wi baedein eayzeen itnein ruzz, witnein makarouna, witnein kabaab, witnein kuffa-w waaHid banya-w waaHid bisilla.
 Waiter: **tiHibbu tishrabu eih ma'a-l'aki?**
 Kamaal: naakhud arbaca eaSeer tuffaaH, **wi-'zaazit mayya ma'daniyya wil Hilw?**
 Kamaal: 'itnein mihallabiyya-w waaHid baTTeeekh wi waaHid einab
 Waiter: tiHibbu 'ahwa walla shaay **ba'd il'aki?**
 Kamaal: 'itnein **'ahwa maZbooT**, witnein shaay **binirnaac.**
 Waiter: HaaDir yafandim. 'ayyi khidma.
 Kamaal: **ilHisaab min faDiak.**
 Waiter: HaaDir, sanya **waHda. itfaDDal.**
 Kamaal: dal Hisaab, **wida eashaanak.**
 Waiter: shukran ma'assalaama.



Words and phrases from the dialogue

- tarabeiza larbara
 itfaDDalu min huna
 mumkin il minyu?
 Haalan
 Talabatku 'eih?
 shurbit cats/TamaaT'im
 salaTaat wi-mkhalilaat
 tiHibbu tishrabu 'eih
 ma'a-l'aki?
 'izaazit mayya
 mayya ma'daniyya
 wil Hilw?
 ba'd il'aki?
 'ahwa maZbooT
 shaay binirnaac
 ilHisaab min faDiak
 sanya waHda
 wida eashaanak
- 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 (m.)
 ana Haagza tarabeiza I (f.)
 itna Haagzeen tarabeiza we (m./f.)
 ba'd il'aki
 ma'a-l'aki
 ba'd il'aki

This word **Haaga** which means 'hing' is always used when asking for drinks of any kind. Hot or cold is **suktina** or **sa'ta**.

Examples

- mumkin Haaga sa'ta? can I have a cold drink?
 mumkin nishrab Haaga? can we have something to drink?
 Another way of asking for a drink is mentioning it by name.

Examples

- mumkin nishrab shaay? can we have tea?
 'ahwa min faDiak coffee please

Asking about food and drinks available

- anduku shurbit 'eih? what soup have you got?
 anduku (feeh) khuDaar 'eih? what vegetables have you got?
 anduku 'eih saa'ic? what cold drinks have you got?
 anduku eaSeer 'eih? what juices have you got?
 anduku Hilw 'eih? what dessert have you got?
 anduku luHoom 'eih? what meat dishes have you got?

Both **feeh** and **anduku** can be used separately or together.

Examples

- feeh kukakoula? Have you got a Coca-Cola?
 feeh anduku kukakoula?
 anduku 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) tiHibb 'ahwa? (m.) Would you like coffee?
 tiHibbi 'ahwa walla shaay? (f.) Would you like coffee or tea?
 tiHibbu eeish wi salaTa? (pl.) Would you like bread and salad?

- (b) *tiHibbu tishrab 'eih?* (m.)
tiHibbu taklu 'eih? (pl.)

What would you like to drink?
 What would you like to eat?

Also

- (c) *tiHibbu tishrab kukakoula?* (m.)
tiHibbi tishrabi kukakoula? (f.)
tiHibbu tishrabu kukakoula? (pl.)

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.)
Talabik'eih? (f.)
Talabku'eih? (pl.)
Talabaatak'eih? (m.)
Talabaatik'eih? (f.)
Talabaatku'eih? (pl.)

- What would you like?
 What would you like?
 What would you like?
 What would you like?
 What would you like?
 What would you like?

(singular)

(plural)

tiHibbu tishrabu'eih? or **Talabaatku'eih?** are more polite than **tishrabu'eih?** or **sayzeen'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 kuffa.
- 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-rnein?
 Bill: 'iHna min ingilitra, wi HaDritak minein?
 Man: 'ana maSri, min 'aSwaan.
 Catherine: HaDritak bitishtaghal 'eih?
 Bill: 'ana taagir.
 Man: HaDritak geit ilqaahira 'imta?
 Catherine: 'ana geit min yumein, wintu geitu 'imta?
 Man: 'iHna geina min 'usbooc.
 Bill: wib tiemlu 'eih hina?
 Man: 'iHna SaHafiyeen. biniktib can ilbilaad il carabiyya.
 Bill: wi 'acdeen 'add 'eih fi maSr?
 Catherine: 'iHna-rnsafreen imiharda.
 Man: bissalaama. 'ana kamaan rnsaafir imiharda.
 Catherine: bissalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

- 'intu-rnein? where are you from?
 min ingilitra/aSwaan from England/Aswan
 HaDritak (m.)/HaDritak (f.) respectful form of address
 'ana maSri (taagir) I am Egyptian (a merchant)
 bitishtaghal '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 tiemlu 'eih hina? and what are you doing here?
 'iHna SaHafiyeen we are journalists
 biniktib can we are writing about
 ilbilaad ilcarabiyya the Arab countries

wi 'ardeen 'add 'eih?
 'iHna-nsafreen
 'ana kamaan misaafir

and how long are you staying?
 we are travelling/leaving
 have a safe journey
 I, too, am travelling/leaving

Talking about your occupation

To ask about someone's occupation you can say

inta (HaDriak) bitishtaghal 'eih/fein? (m.)
 inti (HaDriak) bitishtaghal 'eih/fein? (f.)
 intu-b tishtaghalu 'eih/fein? (pl.)

'They all mean 'What do you do?' 'Where do you work?'

'eih 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

subject	verb (work)	occupation
I	'ana	mudarris
you	'inta	saHafi
you	'inti	duktoura
he	huwwa	fi sharika
she	hiyya	fi balad tarabi
we	'ifna	muHandiseen
you	'intu	saHafyyeen
they	humma	mudarriseen

I work	in
fiS SaHaafa	in the press (journalism)
fit tadrees	in teaching
fi 'izaaca	in broadcasting
fit tigaara	in trading (business)
fiS siyaaha	in tourism
fi bank	in a bank
fi sharika	in a company
fi sharikit bitroul	in an oil company
fi maSnaa: naseeg	in a textile factory
fi balad tarabi	in an Arab country
fi sifaarit briTanya	at the British Embassy.

Talking about your stay

inta geit (maSr) 'imta? (m.)
 intu geit (maSr) 'imta? (f.)
 intu geit (maSr) 'imta? (pl.)
 wia geit (maSr) nuin yumein
 ifhna geina (maSr) nuin yumein
 inta 'aacid 'add 'eih? (m.)
 inta 'aacid 'usbooc
 inta 'acda 'add 'eih? (f.)
 wia 'acda talat-t-yyaam
 inta 'ardeen 'add 'eih? (pl.)
 ifhna 'ardeen tashar-t-yyaam
 inta 'msaafir 'imta? (m.)
 inta 'msaafra 'imta? (f.)
 inta 'msafreen 'imta? (pl.)
 'ana-nsaafir bard 'usbooc
 'ana-nsaafra bard bukra
 ifhna-nsafreen inuharda

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
 how long are you staying?
 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

	pronoun	arrived	staying	travelling
I	'ana (m.)	geit	'aacid	msaafir
you	'ana (f.)	geit	'acda	msafra
you	'inta (m.)	geit	'aacid	msaafir
you	'inti (f.)	geiti	'acda	msafra
he	(m.)	gih	'aacid	msaafir
she	(f.)	gat	'acda	msafra
you	(pl.)	geina	'ardeen	msafreen
They	(pl.)	gun	'ardeen	msafreen

Introducing people

'ablit issayid ibraheem? (m.)
 " " " (f.)
 tieraf issayid ibraheem (m.)
 tieraf " " (f.)

have you met Mr Ibrahim?
 do you know Mr Ibrahim?

Polite expressions

bissalaama
 'ila-l liqaa'
 'agaaza sar'eeda
 'insha allaah tinbisit'i (m.)
 " " tinbisit'i (f.)
 " " tinbisit'u (pl.)

goodbye, have a safe journey
 see you again, au revoir
 have a nice holiday

I hope you will have a nice time

Asking about your country

'inta-mnein? (m.)
 'intu-mnein? (f.)
 intu-mnein? (pl.)

where are you from?

The answer may be:

- 'ana ingleezi
- 'ana min ingiltira
- 'ihna ingleez
- 'ihna min ingiltira

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

- 'ana bakkallim carabi
- 'ana bashthaghal SaHafi
- Catherine bitishtaghal SaHafiyya
- hiyya-b tilcab tnis
- wib ticmilu 'eih 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 **misafir**, **misafa** and **misafreen** all lose their **i** sound when used after a word ending with a vowel.

Examples

- 'inta } where are you from? (m.)
- 'inti } mnein? where are you from? (f.)
- 'intu } where are you from? (pl.)
- 'inta msafir } you are leaving (m.)
- 'inti msafra } you are leaving (f.)
- 'intu msafreen } you are leaving (pl.)

The loss of a verb

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

Examples

- biticmilur'eih?
- what do you do/what are you doing?

- 'ihna SaHafiyyeen/mudarriseen
- 'ihna-b nktib gawabaat
- 'ihna-bnitfarrag cala-t tilfizyoun

- we are journalists/teachers
- we are writing letters
- we are watching TV

things to do

- 1 You are invited to a party where you meet Arabic-speaking people. Say the following to them.
- 2 Ask a middle-aged man what he does for work.
- 3 Ask a young woman if she speaks English.
- 4 Say you are a teacher.
- 5 Say you came to Jeddah a week ago.
- 6 Say you are leaving tomorrow morning.
- 7 Ask a young journalist what she writes about.
- 8 Say you are writing about broadcasting in Egypt.
- 9 Say you are from England.
- 10 Ask a middle-aged woman where she is from.
- 11 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: 'aHsan kiteer. mumkin 'aakul 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 magallir il'izaaca.
- Nadya: cagabku 'eih fi maSr?
- Bill: 'ilgaww Tabcan. shams kull youm.
- Catherine: 'aywa. 'ilgaww hina gameel.
- Kamaal: 'it'Tayyaara-s saata kaam?

- Bill: iTTayyaara-s saaca sitta. laakin laazim nikoon fil maTaar
 issaaca-rbaaca.
 Nadya: lissa badri. issaaca waHda dilwa'ti.
 Kamaal: Tayyib naakul wi nimshi. 'ana raayih macaaku.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

- yaraagil mate/my friend
 izzayyak/izzayyik how are you (m/f.)
 'aHsan kiteer much better
 'abitu meen who did you meet?
 min gareedit il'ahraam from 'Al-Ahram' newspaper
 min magallit il'izaaca from 'Al-Izaaca' magazine
 cagabku 'eih? what did you like?
 igaww Tabcan the weather of course
 shams kull youm sun every day
 igaww . . . gameel the weather . . . is beautiful
 laazim nikoon we must be
 lissa badri there's plenty of time
 dilwa'ti now
 naakul wi nimshi let's go after we eat
 ana raayih macaaku 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 better
 'aHsan kiteer much better

kwayyis has different forms for singular and plural

- kwayyis (m.)
 kwayyisa (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 it is very cold/hot
 'igaww bard/Harr it is cold/hot

- 'lgaww bard/Harr giddan it is very cold/hot
 'ahshams Taaka the sun is shining
 'iddinya Dalma/noor it is dark/light
 'iddinya bitmaTTar it is raining
 'lgaww gameel/kwayyis it (the weather) is beautiful/fine
 'iddinya literally means the world and 'lgaww means the weather.

- Early and late**
 dilw'ati now
 busura quickly
 baardein later
 badri early
- Haalan**
 lissa badri immediately
 mu'takhhah there's plenty of time
 late

the way it works

Changes in pronunciation

Issaaca 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'izaaca 'Al-Izaaca' magazine
 gareedit kamaal Kamaal's newspaper
 magallit ishshahrida this month's 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.

- | | | |
|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| pronoun | 'ana | must go |
| (I) | laazim amshi | laazim akoon |
| (you) | 'inta (m.) | laazim tikoon |
| (you) | 'inti (f.) | laazim tikooni |
| (he) | huwwa | laazim yikoon |
| (she) | hiyya | laazim tikoon |
| (we) | 'ihna | laazim nikoon |
| (you) | 'intu (pl.) | laazim tikoonu |
| (they) | humma | laazim yikoonu |

things to do

- 7.2 Can you reply in Arabic to the speaker?
- 1 Speaker: 'izzayyak?
you: very well, thank you.
 - 2 Speaker: 'abilt meen inuuharda?
you: I met a writer from Lebanon.
 - 3 Speaker: hatrooh ilmaTaar 'imta?
you: I must be at the airport at 7 o'clock.
 - 4 Speaker: 'ana mumkin aroolt maraak.
you: Thank you. When can we go?
 - 5 Speaker: caayiz garaayid aw magallaat?
you: 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 ashrah 'ahwa maZboot.
- Bill: wana kamaan 'ahwa maZboot.
- Nadya: 'ismac ya Kamaal biynaadu cala-r rukkaab
- Kamaal: doul biynaadu cala rukkaab rouma.
- Nadya: 'aywa SaHeeh. laazim tiktibulna min ingiltira
- Catherine: Tabean, wintu laazim teegu ingiltira
- Kamaal: 'uraayib insha'allah
- Bill: dilwa'ti biynaadu cala'leina
- Nadya: 'aywa SaHeeh. ifaDDalu intu. bissalaama
- Catherine: salaam ya nadya, mutshakkireen giddan
- Bill: salaamu calaikum. nishufku f-ingiltira
- Kamaal: matassalaama, ma'assalaama.

Words and phrases from the dialogue

- 'ismac ya Kamaal listen Kamaal
- biynaadu cala-r rukkab they are calling the passengers
- doul biynaadu cala they are calling
- rukkaab rouma Rome passengers
- 'aywa SaHeeh yes, that's true
- laazim tiktibulna you must write to us
- wintu laazim teegu ingiltira and you must come to England,
- 'uraayib insha'allah soon, God willing
- biynaadu cala'leina they are calling us
- mutshakkireen giddan many thanks

the way it works

'uraayib means 'hear', 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.

- 1.1 1 'ahlan/ahlan wa sahan
2 furSa saeeda 3 'ana Sally 4 da-zneeli Tom 5 'ana alHmad 6 di zugti nadya 7 'irriHla kannit kwayyisa?
8 'aywa irriHla kaanii kwayyisa giddan. 9 fein ilaarabiyya?/ilcarabiyya fein? 10 ilcarabiyya fi maw'af.
1.2 1 'anna candi Haqz hina 2 ismi Bill Taylor. 3 eaayiz 'ouDa-b dushsh, min faDlak. 4 bikaam illeila?
5 'ilma'Tyam fein, min faDlak?
1.3 1 eandak 'ouDa faDya? 2 la', 'ana eayza 'ouDa-b Harumaan.
3 'arbac layaali, min faDlak
4 mumkin ilmuftaah, min faDlak?
5 il'ouDa fein, min faDlak?

- 2.1 1 eandak eih? (feeh eih?)
2 eandak (feeh) murabbit eih?
3 takhdi shaay? (tishrabi...?)
4 takhdi eaSeer? 5 taakul eih?
6 tishrab eih? 7 'aakhud fool wi gibna wi-mrabbat balah. 8 'yaakhud 'ahwa-b laban.
2.2 1 talaata (sandwitsh) falaafil.
2 itnein (sandwitsh) gibna. 3 'arbaca eaSeer burru aan. 4 waaHid (sandwitsh) fool. 5 sitta bibsi.
6 khamsa eaSeer lamoon.
2.3 1 mumkin 'aghayyar istrileeni hina? 2 ilgneith ilistrileeni-b kaam?
3 mumkin 'aghayyar shikaat siyahyia? 4 la', dularaat. 5 miyya itnein wi talateen dulaar.
2.4 1 feeh kaam 'ouDa fil huteil? 2 It has sixty-five rooms. 3 bikaam il'ouDa-l shakhs waaHid? 4 It is forty-five pounds per night. 5 feeh bank fil huteil? 6 Yes, there is. 7 mumkin 'aghayyar cumla hina? 8 What do you want to change? 9 eaayiz aghayyar dularaat. 10 You can, of course.
2.5 1 'ilfi'Taar issaaca kaam?
2 issaaca sabra-w nuSS. 3 il'akHbaar issaaca kaam? 4 issaaca khamsa 5 mumkin at'eashsha-s saaca kaam? 6 min issaaca sabaa issaaca tamanya-w nuSS. 7 issaaca kaam diliwa'ti? 8 issaaca sitta. 9 issaaca diliwa'ti tamanya-lla rubc? 10 la', issaaca diliwa'ti tamanya-w rubc.

- 3.1 1 fein 'arab agzakhaana?
2 'arrooH maktab ilbareed izzaay?
3 fein 'ism ilbulees (istishur'fa)?
4 feeh bi'aala 'arayyiba min hina?
5 'arooH maHT'it il'a Tr izzaay?
3.2 1 'imshi-f shaaric ibraheem ilHadd midaan ramsees, wi baadein Hawwid yimeen fi shaaric ramsees wimshi-l Hadd shaaric issalaam, ilbank cala-n naSya. 2 'imshi-f shaaric ramsees ilHadd shaaric shubra, wibaadein Hawwid yimeen wimshi-l Hadd shaaric luxor, maktab ilbareed 'awwil mabna cala-l yimeen. 3 imshi-f shaaric luxor ilHadd shaaric ibraheem, wibaadein Hawwid yimeen wimshi-f shaaric ibraheem ilHadd midaan ramsees. 'ism ilbulees hunaak fil midaan.
4 'idkhuil fi shaaric ibraheem fitigaah shaaric luxor, wibaadein Hawwid yimeen fi shaaric luxor. taali dukkaan cala-l yimeen huwaa-l maktaba.
5 'imshi-f shaaric luxor fitigaah shaaric ibraheem, wibaadein Hawwid shumaal fi shaaric ibraheem wimshi-l Hadd ilmidaan. ilmat'Haaf 'awwil mabna cala-l yimeen.
3.3 1 'arooH issook izzaay?
2 mumkin naakhud taksi min hina?
3 'utubees nimra kaam biyrooH maSr iggideeda? 4 nighayyar fein? 5 fein figgeeza?
3.4 eayza arooH huteil il'andalus.
2 laazim takhdi taksi. 3 Clare mumkin taakhud 'utubees 4 feeh 'utubees cala'Tool? 5 la' laazim tighayyar-i baab ilHadeed. 6 fein maw'af il'utubees? 7 'uddaam ilbank 8 itazkara-b kaam? 9 itazkara-b cishreen 'ish. 10 kwayyis giddan.
3.5 1 eaayiz arooH il'azhar.
2 'il'azhar gaarim 'adeem. 3 khaan ilkhaleeli sou kibeer. 4 mumkin 'ashoo' eih fil mat'Haaf? 5 nurooH khaan ilkhaleeli izzaay? 6 eaayiz ashoo' gaarim gideed. 7 iddukkaaan da-Sghayyar giddan.

- 4.1 1 keelu-l manga-b kaam?
(bikaam keelu-l manga?) 2 keelu-l farawla-b kaam? (bikaam keelu-l farawla?) 3 'ijjakitta alkhadra-b kaam?

- (bikaam...?) 4 ilameeS ilbeji bikaam...? (bikaam...?) 5 itimsaal da-b kaam? (bikaam...?)
4.2 1 la' di ghalya kids. 2 Tayyib iddeeni sitt kroot. 3 'aakhud ilgamal il 'ahmar. 4 'aakhud talat galaleeb.
5 'aadi khamsa gneih wi haat ilbaa'i, birmingham. 2 mumkin abeat ilgawaab da musaggal, min faDlak?
3 mumkin abeat il'Turood di barees, min faDlak? 4 eaayiz/eayza Taabie likart da min faDlak. 5 eaayiz/eayza abeat ilgawabaat di bil bareed ilgawwi. 6 eaayiz/eayza abeat ilgawabaat di bi'Tayyaara. 6 fein waSI iftasgeel?
7 bikaam il'Taabie libri'Tanya bareed gawwi? bikaam il'Taabie libri'Tanya bi'Tayyaara? 8 mumkin astaamil itilifoun? 9 mumkin akallim iskandriyya? 10 eaayiz/eayza akallim manshustar, min faDlak.

- 5.1 1 'a Tr lukSur issaaca kaam?
2 ihna-nsafreen youm iggumca-S SubH. 3 eaayiz aHgz 'arbat amaakin, min faDlak. 4 daraga 'oola mukayyafa. 5 ihna rayHeen bil'a Tr-iw ragreen bi'Tayyaara. 6 mumkin aHgz diwaan bistrine? 7 bikaam itazkara? 8 feeh eaarbiyyit 'akl? 9 il'a Tr iy'oom issaaca kaam? 10 wi yiwSal issaaca kaam?
5.2 1 'ana eayza aHgz makaan lijjidda. 2 'ana-nsafra youm iggumca raayih gayy? 4 daraga siyahyia. 5 il'Tayyaara-i'oom, issaaca kaam? 6 il'Tayyaara tiwSal jidda-s saaca kaam?
5.3 1 mumkin aHgz matabab iskwaash? 2 'add'eih? 3 saaca (waHda). 4 eaayiz maDaarib? 5 la' eandina maDaarib. 6 khamsa-gneih min faDlak. 7 mumkin nil'ab imta? 8 'issaaca arbaca-w nuSS. 9 feeh dushsh hina? 10 'aywa, feeh talaata. 11 humma fein? 12 fi 'aakthir ilmamar da, cala-sh shimaal.

- 5.4 1 feeh 'eih? 2 wi feeh 'eih kamaan? 3 sahril ilhuteil feeha 'eih? 4 wi sahril innaadi feeha 'eih?
5 Tayyib. nurooH innadi illilaadi.

- 6.1 1 Tom sinaanu-b tiwgaau.
2 Laura eandaha bard. 3 Josephine eandaha ilthaab fi zurha. 4 Helen einba-b tiwgaaha. 5 Henry eandu HumooDa.
6.2 1 Have you got a cold? la' macandeesh. 2 Have you got a temperature? aywa (eandi) 3 Are you allergic to penicillin? la' macandeesh.
4 Since when? min imiharda-S SubH.
5 Have you got a headache? (Is there a headache?) la' mafeesh.
6.3 1 feeh Haaga ilSSudaac, min faDlak? 2 mumkin aSnif irrushitta di? 3 eaayiz maqoon Hila'a-w maqoon 'asnaa. 4 eaayiz u'Th Tibbi-w detoul wi 'lastublast 5 eaayiz Haaga il is-haal wi mu'Tahhir. 6 'aakhud iddawa da kaam marra? 7 'aakhud 'add 'eih? 8 fursht asnaan min faDlak.
9 kuhunya-w budra min faDlak.
10 fursht Hila'a-w amwaas min faDlak.
* (Words can be changed to fit masculine or feminine speaker or pharmacist. e.g. eaayiz - eayza, min faDlak - min faDlik.)
6.4 1 'ana Haagiz (Haqza) tarabeiza litnein. 2 bism (give your name).
3 mumkin ilmuniy, min faDlak?
4 mumkin nishrab Haaga? 5 eaayiz (eayza) tarabeiza larbaca. 6 eandak khuDaar 'eih? 7 eandak 'eih saai'ic? 8 feeh (eandak) 'ahwa turki? 9 feeh (eandak) ruzz aw makarouna? 10 feeh (eandak) bamiya?
6.5 1 waaHid shurbit eats wi talaata shurbit Tamaa'l'im. 2 itnein bibsi witnein eaSeer lamoon. 3 talaata kabaab wiwaaHid kufta. 4 itnein ahwa maZboot. 5 'arbaca shaay bimcnaac.

- 7.1 1. HaDritak bitishtaghal éih?
 2. bitikkallimi ingleezi? 3. 'ana mudarris (mudarrisa). 4. 'ana waSalt (geit) jidda min 'usbooc. 5. 'ana-msaafir bukra-SSubH. 6. bitiktibi can 'eih?
 7. 'ana baktib can il'izaaca-i maSr.
 8. 'ana min ingiltura. 9. HaDritik min ein? 10. zougi-b yishtaghal fisisfaara-i briTaniiyya.
 7.2 1. 'ana kwayyis, shukran. 2. 'abit kaaatib min libnaan. 3. laazim akoon

- filmaTaar issaaca sabaa. 4. shukran, mumkin nimshi 'imta? 5. 'aywa, 'il 'ahram min faDiak.
 7.3 1. doul meen (meen doul)?
 2. doul rukkaab Parees. 3. 'isnaaku ya gamaaca. 4. bynaacdu caleina.
 5. issaaca kaam diliwa'ti? 6. laazim tuktibli yaRobert. 7. winta laazim tikililbi yaraagil. 8. bissalaama ya nadya.
 9. 'ashoofak fi landan. 10. 'urayyib, inshaa allah.

Numbers

Cardinal numbers 1-10

Numbers for time, money and orders

1	waahid (m.)	1	waahid (m.)
1	waHda (f.)	1	waHda (f.)
2	'itnein	2	'itnein
3	talaata	3	talat
4	'arbaca	4	'arbac
5	khamasa	5	khamas
6	sitta	6	sitt
7	sabaa	7	sabac
8	tamanya	8	taman
9	tisaa	9	tisac
10	cashara	10	cashar

Cardinal numbers 11-30 (for all purposes)

11	HiDaashar	18	tamanTaashar	25	khamasa-w eishreen
12	'inaashar	19	tisacTaashar	26	sitta-w eishreen
13	talaTTaashar	20	eishreen	27	sabaa-w eishreen
14	'arbacTaashar	21	waahid wi eishreen	28	tamanya-w eishreen
15	khamasTaashar	22	'itnein wi eishreen	29	tisaa-w eishreen
16	sittTaashar	23	talaata-w eishreen	30	talateen
17	sabacTaashar	24	'arbac-w eishreen		

Cardinal numbers 40-1000

40	'arbieen	100	niyya (meet)	700	subcumiyya
50	khamseen	200	rutein	800	tumunniyya
60	sitteen	300	tutunniyya	900	tuscumiyya
70	sabreen	400	rubcumiyya	1000	'alf
80	tamaneen	500	khumsumiyya		
90	tisceen	600	sutumniyya		

Ordinal numbers 1st-10th

Indefinite (m. & f.)

1st	'awwil	Definite (the...)	(f.)
2nd	taani	(m.)	'il'awwal
3rd	taalit		'ittaani
4th	raabit		'ittaalit
5th	khaamis		'irraabit
6th	saadis		'ilkhaamis
7th	saabit		'issaadis
8th	taamin		'issabac
9th	taasit		'ittamin
10th	caashir		'ittasac
			'ilcaashir

Time

second	sanya	'usboot	bukra/baakir
minute	d'i'ee'a	shahr	kull youm
hour	saara	sana	baad yumein
day	youn		baad 'sbucein
today	'inniharda/i'youn		il'usboot ilgaay
yesterday	'imbarih/ams		'iDDuhr
two days ago	min yumein		fil masaa'
two weeks ago	min 'usbucein		bil leil
last week	il'usboot ilmaadi		
in the morning	'iSSubH		
in the afternoon	baad iDDuhr		

Months of the year/shuhoor issana

January	yanaayir	July	yulya
February	fibraayir	August	aghusTus
March	maaris	September	sibwambir
April	'abreel	October	'ukroubar
May	maayyu	November	noufambir
June	yunya	December	deesambir

Clothes

Arab loose costume	galabiyya	kafian	'uff'aan
blouse	bilouza	overcoat	balTu
dress	fustaan	shirt	'amees
for boys	lil'awlaad	slippers	shibshib
for girls	banaati	socks	sharaab
for men	rigaali	suit (for men)	badla
for women	Hareemi	suit (for women)	taiyeir
handbag	shan'Ti yadd	shoes	gazma
jacket	jakitta	trousers	banTaloun

Sizes

small size	ma'aas Sughayyar
medium size	ma'aas mutawassit
large size	ma'aas kibeer
one size	ma'aas waaHid

Colours

beige	(m.) beij	green	(f.) khaDra
black	'iswid	red	Hamra
blue	'azra'	white	beiDa
brown	bunni	yellow	Safra

Space

near	'urayyb/'areeb	far	biceed
right	yimeen	left	shimaal
in front of	'uddaam/amaam	behind	wara/khalf

Food

Fruit			
apples	tuffaah	melons	sharunaam
apricots	mishmish	oranges	buru'aan
bananas	mouz	peaches	khokh
dates	balah/tamr	pears	kumutra
figs	teen	plums	bar'oo'
grapes	cinab	strawberries	farawla
mangoes	manga	water melons	baTTeeekh
Vegetables			
aubergine	bidingaan	green beans	faSulya
cabbage	kurunb	lettuce	khaSS
carrots	gazar	okra	bamya
courgettes	kousa	onions	baSal
cucumber	'atta	peas	bisilla
garlic	toun	potatoes	ba'TaaTis
gherkins	khuyaa	tomatoes	TamaaT'im

Drinks

coffee	'ahwa	'ahwa-b laban	mauz
coffee with milk	'ahwa saada	'ahwa maZboof	" manga
Turkish coffee (without sugar)	'ahwa zyaada (ziyaada)	shaay bilaban	" buru'aan
(with little sugar)	shaay saada	Haaga sa'a	" farawla
(with lots of sugar)	caSeer	maiya ma'daniyya	beera
tea with milk		nibeet	
black tea			
cold drink			
juice			
" banana			
" mango			
" orange			
" strawberry			
mineral water			
beer			
wine			

Miscellaneous

bread	ceish/khubz
French bread	ceish feemu
local bread	ceish baladi
cheese	gibna
cooked broad beans (Egyptian)	fool midammis

egg/eggs
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

beiDa/beiD
falaafi
samak
gatou
mirabba
kabaab
makarouna
laHm/laHma
Halawiyaat shaar'iya
fiTeera/fiTeer
filfil
ruzz
Sala Ta
malH/milH
sandawitsh
shurba
shurbit cats
sukkar
malban

Cooking methods

boiled
fried
masloo'
ma'li/miHammar

mashwi
ruSTu

Meals

breakfast
lunch
'lifTaa
'lighada

'il:asha

At the chemist's

the pharmacy
the chemist
after-shave
aspirin
brush
hair brush
shaving brush
toothbrush
condoms
cotton wool
Dettol
disinfectant/antiseptic
laxative
medicine for ...
pain killer
razor blades
sanitary towels (women's)
shaving cream
soap (for the bath)

byrigo/injection
byrigoes/injections
byrigoes/pills
byrigoes/paste

Ailments

ard
astipation
ough
arrhoea
adache
bard
imsaak
kuHha
is-haal
Sudaac

heartburn
sore ...
stomach-ache
temperature
vomiting
HumooDa
ilitihaab fi ...
maghaS
Haraara
qei'

Parts of the body

arm
chest
ear
eye
finger
fingers
foot
hand
head
diraac
sidr/Sadr
widn
ein
Subaac
Sawaabic
'adam/rigl
'eed/yad
raaS

leg
mouth
nose
shoulder
stomach
teeth
tongue
toe
tooth
rigl
bu/farm
manakheer
kiif
baTn
sinaar/'asnaa
lisaan
Subaac rigl
sirna

Leisure

antiquities
booking
café
church
cinema
dancing
evening entertainment
mosque
museum
music
'asaar
Hagz
'ahwa
kineesa
sinama
ra'S
sahra
gaarnic
matHal
museeqa

night club
play (n.)
programme
pyramid
The Pyramids
son et lumière
songs
temple
theatre
ticket
kazanu/naadi layli
masraHiya
birnaamig
haram
'il'ahraam
'iSSouT wiDDou'
'aghaani
ma'bad
masraH
tazkara

Sport

ball
... ball
bat
club
court
squash
sunbathing
swimming
table
koura
kourit ...
maDrab
naadi
malt'ab
iskwash
Harunam shams
sibaaha/coum
Harunam sibaaha
tarabeiza

entrance fee
game
hire
match
racket
table tennis
table tennis bat
tennis
tennis ball
tennis racket
rasm-iddhool
lic'ba
ta'geer
mubaraa
maDrab
bing bung
maDrab bing bung
tinis
kourit tinis
maDrab tinis

Occupations

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

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

diblumaasi
doktour/Tabeeb
muhandis
SaHafi
muHaami
mudeer
mumarniD
Daabi/T' bulees
sikriteir
mudarris
kaatib/mu'allif

(f.)
muHaasiba
mu'allifa/kaatiba

sayyida' 'acmaal
diblumaasiyya
doktoura/Tabeeba
muhandisa
SaHaifiyya
muHaamiya
mudeera
mumarniDa

sikriteira
mudarrisa
kaatiba/mu'allifa

you have to book a seat.
you don't have to change money.

In the airport

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

laazim tiHgiz makaan
mish laazim tighayyar fuloos/cumla

wuSool
safar
ta'sheerit dukhool
ta'sheerit khuroog
riHla raqam
bawwaaba
saala (saalit ... issafar)
raakib (m.) rakba (f.)
rukkaab
basbour/gawaaz
basburtaat/gawazaat

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?

would like/would like to/need
I would like to go to the club

we would like to go to the club
can and cannot
can I see the manager?
yes, you can
no, you cannot
must, have to
and do not have to
I must leave tomorrow.

SabaaH ilkheir
SabaaH innoor
masaa' ilkheir
masaa' innoor
tiSbaH calakheir
ahlan/marHaba
furSa sa'eeda
fein ... ?
itilifoun?
ilHamnam? (ittiwalitt)
ilHamnam?
maktab ilbareed?
'ism ilbulees?

'aayiz (m.) cayza (f.) 'aayeen (pl.)
'aayiz arooH innaadi (m.)
'aayza arooH innaadi (f.)
'aayzeen nirooH innadi

mumkin and mish mumkin
mumkin ashoof ilmudeer?
'aywa mumkin
la' mish mumkin

laazim
mish laazim
laazim amshi bukra

ARABIC-ENGLISH VOCABULARY

'a'rab nearest
'aadi here is (are)
aakhud I (II) take
aakul I (III) eat
'aasif I am sorry
abcat I send
'abi before
'abilt I met
'abyaD white
'adam foot
'add 'eih how much (many)?
'adeem old/ancient
'agaaza holiday
aghayyar I (II) change
'agzakhaana pharmacy
'ahlan Hello!
'ahlan wa sahan Hello!
'ahwa café, coffee
aHDar I (II) attend
'aHmar red
'aHsan better
akallim speak to
akkallim fi use (the phone)
'akbar bigger
'akhDar green
'aki food
aktib I (II) write
alrab I (II) play
'alf one thousand
'alou Hello! (on phone)
amdI I (II) sign
'amreeki/ya American (m./f.)
amshi I (II) walk
'ana I (1st person)
'araSni (m.) bit/stung me (wasp)
'araSini (f.) bit/stung me (bee)
arbac/arbaca four
arbac/Taashar fourteen
arbit-een forty
'arkhaS cheaper
arooH I (II) go
'aSanseir lift
'aStar yellow
aStrif cash
asaafir I (II) travel
'asbaani Spanish
asma: I (II) hear
astacmil I (II) use
ashoof I (II) see
ashrab I (II) drink

ashtiri I (II) buy
afarrag I (II) watch
'aTr train
'awwal/'awwil (adj.) first
'awwalan (adv.) first
'aywa yes
'ayy any
'ayyi khidma at your service
'azra' bble
e'ayiz/eayza I want (m./f.)
e'agabni I liked
e'ala on
e'ala 'ool straight on
e'annaan Annan
e'an about
e'and near (adv.)
e'andi I have
e'andina we have
e'arab Arabs
e'arabiyya car
e'aSeer juice
e'ashara ten
e'ain eye
e'ilba can/box
e'ishreen twenty
e'umaan Oman
baed after
bard iDDuhr in the afternoon
balad country/town
baladi local
bank bank
bansyoun boarding house
ban'aloun trousers
bard cold
bareed post/mail
basbour passport
basee'la not serious
bass only/enough
bastilya pastilles
baSa onions
ba'Taa'is potatoes
ba'Tn stomach
beera beer
beiDa egg (white, f.)
bejj beige
beit house
beit shabaab youth hostel

bi witi/by/at
bi'atigraan aubergine
bi'ba'ad/a far away (m./f.)
bikaam for how much?
bilalil at night
bi'pouza blouse
bi'nt girl
bi'qilla peas
bi'qisalaama goodbye
bi'qurza quickly
bi' mouth
bi'adra powder
bi'akra tomorrow
bi'ant brown
bi'art'aaan oranges
da this (m.)
daakhil inside
daaboor wasp
daraga class (transport)
dawa medicine
di this (f.)
diblumaasi/ya diplomat (m./f.)
di'ee a minute (1/60 hour)
dinaar dinar (currency)
diraa: arm (body)
dirham currency
ditoul Dettol
diwaan compartment (train)
doul these/those
dour floor
dukkaan shop
duktour doctor
dulaar dollar
dushsh shower
'eed hand (body)
'eih? what?
faaDi vacani/free
falaafil bean burgers
farawia strawberries
faSulya green beans
fatoora bill
feeh...? is/are there?
fein...? where is?
fi in
film film
fi'Taar (il-) breakfast
fool midammis cooked broad beans
fuloos money
funding hotel
furSa sa'eeda pleased to meet you

fursha brush
furshit ... brush
gaami: mosque
galabiyya loose Arab costume
gamal camel
gamb 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
hunaak there
hiyya she
humma they
huteil hotel
huwwa he
HaaDir yes/certainly
Haaga thing
Haaga tanya anything else?
Haalan in a minute!
Haamil pregnant
Hafia party
Hagz reservation
Hamman bathroom
Hamman sibaaha swimming pool
Hamra red (f.)
Haraara temperature
Hasasiya allergy
Hawwid turn (verb)
HifaDaat nisa'yya sanitary towels
Hilaa'a shaving
Hilw/hilwa sweet, beautiful
ihfiw dessert
Hisaab arithmetic
ihfisaab the bill
iddeeni give me
iddinya bard it is cold
iDDuhr at noon
iHna we

il the
il-rafw it's a pleasure
il-thaab inflammation
im-baarih yesterday
imDi sign
imshi walk/go
irnta when
inniharda today
inshaa'allah hopefully
inta you (m.)
inti you (f.)
intu you (pl.)
'irsh piastre
'israaf ambulance
'is-haal diarrhoea
'isrn name
'ism libulees police station
'ismac listen!
issaara ... it's ... o'clock
isticbaal reception
istirleeni sterling
'iswid black
iSSubH in the morning
ifadDal please/after you
itnaashar twelve
itnein two
'izzaay? how?
'izzaayyak? how are you? (m.)
'izzaayyik? how are you? (f.)
'izzaaza bottle
'izzaazit ... a bottle of ...

jakitta jacket

kaam how many?
kaatib writer
kababeet condoms
kabeena cabin/booth
kanaan 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
kitif shoulder
koura ball
kourit tenis tennis ball

kreim ... cream
kulHa cough
kul eat
kull ... every/each
kulunya eau de cologne
kurumitra pears
kuroot cards
kwayyis/a good (m.f.)

khaarig outside
khalaas it's over!
khamas five (things)
khamas Taashar fifteen
khamsa five
khamseen fifty
khareeTa map
khazeena cash desk
kheir good
khukh peaches
khubz bread
khud take
khudaar vegetables
khuroog exit

la' nol
laazim must/have to
lamoon lemon/lime
laweit I twisted
leila night
li to/for
licba game/toy
lissa not yet

ma'as size
maca with
mar-assalaama goodbye
macbad temple
mac'la a spoon
magoon ... paste
mabna building
maDrab racket/bat
mafeesh there isn't
maggaanan free (gratis)
maHaTTa station
makaan (amaakin) seat
maktaba (maktabaat) library/stationers
malH salt
mal-ab (malaacib) court (sport)
mamarr (mamarrat) corridor
manakheer nose
manzar (manaazir) view
marra (marraat) one time
masaa' evening

maajaa ilkheir good evening!
maahwi grilled
maarah theatre
maaraHiya play (n.)
maanaa factory
maah Egypt/Cairo
maah igrideeda Heliopolis
maah il'adeema Old Cairo
maahaf museum
maTaar airport
ma'af ... stop
maayya water
maZboot just right
maad ... one hundred ...
maidaan square, place
maim from

maim faDiak please! (m.)
maim faDiik please! (f.)
maiyu menu
ma'rabba jam (food)
ma'rabbit ... jam
maah ... not ...
maish mumkin you can't
maitein two hundred
ma'itru metro
maiyya one hundred
ma'os (amwaas) razor blade
maudarris/a teacher
maudeer/a manager
ma'faaH key
ma'handis/a engineer
ma'kalma phone call
ma'layyin laxative
ma'saggal recorded
ma'sakkin pain killer
ma'tashakkir/a thank you
ma'Tahhir antiseptic

maadi club
maadi layi nightclub
mahaar day
ma'ura number (No.)
ma'beet wine
ma'SS half

'oola first (f.)
'ouDa room

ra'S dancing
raabic fourth
raaqil (riggaala) man
raaHa rest

raaHa kamla complete rest
raakib (rukkaab) passenger
raas head (body)
raayih one way/going
raayih gayy return
ra'bw asthma
ragul acmaal businessman
ramaDaan fasting month
raSeef platform
righ leg/foot
rifla trip/flight
rikhees cheap
riyaada sport
rube a quarter
rushitta prescription
ruzz rice

sa'ta cold
saabit seventh
saara hour/clock
sareed/a happy/pleased
sabta, sabat seven
sabat Taashar seventeen
sabreen seventy
sahra evening entertainment
salaam peace/bye!
samak fish
sana year
sandawtish sandwich
sandoo' box
sandoo' bareed post box
sanya second (1/60 minute)
sayyid Mr
sayyida Mrs/lady
sidr chest
sifaara embassy
sinama cinema
sinna (sinaan) teeth
sireer bed
sitt woman/lady
siti/sitta six
sitteen sixty
siTTaashar sixteen
sook, soo' market
suttumiyya six hundred

SabaaH morning
SabaaH ilkheir good morning
Saboon soap
SaHaifiyya journalist (m./f.)
Saniyya tray
Sarrat cashier
Subbaa' finger

Subaac **rigl** toe
 Sudaac headache
 Sughayyar small
 shaaric street
 shaay tea
 shacbi folk/popular
 shakHS (ashkhaaS) person
 shanTa (shunaT) bag/suitcase
 sharika (sharikaat) firm/company
 sheek (shikaat) cheque
 sheek siyaaHi traveller's cheque
 shubbaak window
 shubbaak itazaakir ticket office
 shumaal left (side)
 shuwayya a little/some
 shukran thanks!
 shurb drinking
 shurba soup
 shurTa police

ta'reeban almost, about
 taalit third
 taamin eighth
 taani second (2nd)
 taasie ninth
 tacbaan not well/tired
 taghyeer changing
 taksi taxi
 talaata, talat three
 talateen thirty
 talaTTaashar thirteen
 taman, tamanya eight
 tarabeiza table
 tazkara (tazaakir) ticket
 teen figs
 tibda' start (f.)
 ti'oom departs/takes off
 tiHibb would you like . . . ?
 tilifizyoun television
 tilifoun telephone
 tilt one third

tintih ends (f.)
 timsaal figure, statue
 tisaa'Taashar nineteen
 tisaa, tissac nine
 tisreen ninety
 tiSbaH cala kheir goodnight!

Taabie postage stamp
 Tabaan of course
 Tabeeb doctor
 Talab (Talabaat) order (n.)
 Taaayara aeroplane
 Taaayib 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.)
 walad boy
 walla or
 wi and
 wibaacdein and then
 wuSool arrival

ya a word used when addressing
 somebody
 ya kamaal Kamaal!
 yalandim sir/madam!
 yamadaam madam!
 yi'oom departs (m.)
 yibda' starts (m.)
 yimeen right (side)
 yintih ends (m.)
 yourn day

zimeel/a colleague (m./f.)
 ziyaara visit (n.)
 zoyg/a spouse (m./f.)

ARAB COUNTRIES

Country	Nationality	Capital	Currency
1 Algeria	Aljazairi	Aljazair	'id-deenaar
2 Bahrain	'alBahraini	maSriya	'id-deenaar
3 Egypt	maSri	'ilqahra	'il-gineih
4 Iraq	'iliraq	baghdaad	'id-deenaar
5 Jordan	'ilurdunn	amman	'id-deenaar
6 Kuwait	'ilkuweil	kuweil	'id-deenaar
7 Lebanon	libnaan	bayroot	'il-lira
8 Libya	leebya	Tarablus	'id-deenaar
9 Mauritania	murtaniya	nuwaakshuT	'id-deenaar
10 Morocco	'ilmaghrib	rrmbaat	'id-dirham
11 Oman	cumaan	masqaT	'ir-riyaal
12 Qatar	gaTar	'iddouHa	'ir-riyaal
13 Saudi Arabia	'issacoodiya	riyyaalD	'ir-riyaal
14 Somalia	'iSSumaal	muqadeeshyu	'ish-shilin
15 Sudan	'issudaan	'ilkarToom	'il-geneih
16 Syria	surya	dimshiq	'il-lira
17 Tunisia	toonis	toonis	'id-deenaar
18 United Arab Emirates	'ilmaaraat ileraabiya	abu zaby	'id-dirham
19 Yemen	'ilyaman	Sancaa	'ir-riyaal

* 'Iyaa is the ending for the masculine adjective (nationality) and **iya** is the ending for the feminine, e.g. **jazairi** (m.) and **jazairiya** (f.) **maSri** (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.

Equivalent	Transliteration	Final	Middle	Initial	Arabic
Initial					
a, e, i, o, u	ī			ا	آ
a	aa	ا	أ	أ	أ
b	b	ب	ب	ب	ب
t	t	ت	ت	ت	ت
'th' in 'thin'	(th)	ث	ث	ث	ث
g/j	g/(j)	ج	ج	ج	ج
...	H	ح	ح	ح	ح
...	kh	خ	خ	خ	خ
d	d	د	د	د	د
'th' in 'the'	(dh)	ذ	ذ	ذ	ذ

Equivalent	Transliteration	Final	Middle	Initial	Arabic
r	r	ر	ر	ر	ر
z	z	ز	ز	ز	ز
c/s	s	س	س	س	س
sh	sh	ش	ش	ش	ش
s	S	ص	ص	ص	ص
d*	D	ض	ض	ض	ض
t*	T	ط	ط	ط	ط
...	Z	ظ	ظ	ظ	ظ
...	z	ع	ع	ع	ع
...	gh	غ	غ	غ	غ
f	f	ف	ف	ف	ف
...	(q)	ق	ق	ق	ق
c/k	k	ك	ك	ك	ك
l	l	ل	ل	ل	ل
m	m	م	م	م	م
n	n	ن	ن	ن	ن
h	h	ه	ه	ه	ه
w	w	و	و	و	و
i/y	y	ي	ي	ي	ي

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 **ا** which is a long vowel. The letters **ي** and **و** are also long vowels as well as consonants. The three long vowels are therefore represented by the letters **ا**, **و**, and **ي**.

The first letter **ا** is either carried on one of the long vowel symbols **ي**, **و** or stands alone on the line.

Examples

جزء	فؤاد	رئيس	أهلاً
guz'	fu'aad	ra'eēs	'ahlan

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	سُ	bi	بِ	ka	كَا
zu	زُ	fi	فِي	ta	تَا
ku	كُ	ti	تِي	ba	بَا

Long vowels are represented by the same vowel marks followed by one of the three consonants ا, ي or و.

Examples

dukhood	كُودُول	teen	تِيِن	baab	بَاب
khuroog	كُورُوج	sheek	شِيِك	haat	هَات

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

Examples

mishmish	مِشْمِشْ	bansyoun	بَنْسِيُونْ	bint	بِنْتْ
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Sometimes the short **a** and the long **aa** are represented by the letter ي instead of the letter ا, at the end of some words.

Examples

mustashfaa	مِشْتَفَى	mabna	مَبْنَى	cala	عَلَى
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If a consonant is doubled, one letter only is written with the mark above it. This mark is called *shadda*.

Examples

dabboot	دَبْوُودْ	Hawwid	حَوِّودْ	maHaTTa	مَحَطَّة
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The doubling of consonants also happens when **il** (meaning *the*), is used with words which start with one of the following consonants: ا ت ث ذ ر ز س ش ص ط ظ **T ط Z ط S ص D ص** ش **S ص Z ر ز د د ر ذ د ط**.

Examples

issudaan	السُّودَانْ	inneel	الْئِيْلْ	issaaca	الْسَّاعَة
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The (h/هـ) sound used at the end of some words to indicate they are feminine nouns or adjectives, is always written in its final form (هـ), with two dots above it. In colloquial Arabic this sound is pronounced like the short vowel (a).

Examples

sifaara	سَفَاارَة	waHda	وَاحِدَة	maHaTTa	مَحَطَّة
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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.

Examples	Airport	مطار	مطار
ma'Taar	Cairo	القاهرة	القاهرة
ilquaahira	Alexandria	الإسكندرية	الإسكندرية
iskindiriyya	Aswan	أسيوان	أسيوان
aSwaan	Luxor	الأقصر	الأقصر
luksur	Arrival	وصول	وصول
wuSool	Departure	مغادرة	مغادرة
mughadra	Exit, out	خروج	خروج
khuroog	Entry, way in	دخول	دخول
dukhood	Passport	الجوازات	الجوازات
algawazaat	(control)		
algunruk	Customs	الجوازات	الجوازات
bank	Bank	بنك	بنك
'issooq ilHurra	Duty Free Shops	الأسواق الحرة	الأسواق الحرة
guneih	Pound	جنية	جنية
'irsh	Piastre	قرش	قرش
dinaar	Dinar	دينار	دينار
dirham	Dirham	درهم	درهم
riyaal	Riyal	ريال	ريال
maHaTTa	Station	محطة	محطة
sikka Hadeed	Railway	سكة حديد	سكة حديد
maw'af	Stop	موقف	موقف
taksi	Taxi	تاكسي / أجرة	تاكسي / أجرة
'utubees	Bus	اتوبوس	اتوبوس
tilifoun	Telephone	تليفون	تليفون
huteil	Hotel	هوتيل	هوتيل
bansyoun	Boarding House	بانشيون	بانشيون

ARABIC WRITING

beit shabaab	Youth Hostel	بيت شباب	بيت شباب
'ism ishshurTa	Police Station	قسم الشرطة	قسم الشرطة
'issifaara . . .	The . . . Embassy	السفارة	السفارة . . .
ilbireeTaaniyya	British	البريطانية	البريطانية
maTeam	Restaurant	مطعم	مطعم
maktaba	Library/Stationers	مكتبة	مكتبة
mustashfa	Hospital	مستشفى	مستشفى
Saydaliyya	Pharmacy	صيدلية	صيدلية
maktab bareed	Post Office	مكتب بريد	مكتب بريد
'ahwa	Café	قهوة	قهوة
shaarie	Street	شارع	شارع
midaan	Square/Place	ميدان	ميدان
keelu	Kilo	كيلو	كيلو

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