

**COURSE  
GUIDE**

**ARA 114  
ARABIC GRAMMAR I**

النحو العربي 1

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## **INTRODUCTION**

**ARA114 Arabic Grammar 1** is a two-Credit Unit Course for the second semester of the first year of students in the B.A. Degree (Arabic Language and Literature) programme. It consists of fourteen units which include basic Components of Arabic grammar, with emphasis on the parts of speech i.e. nouns, verbs, and particles, past, present and command.

This Course Guide provides information on what the course is all about, what you are expected to know in each unit, what course materials you will be using and how you can work your way through these materials. It also tells you about assessments, and periodic tutorial classes that are available for the course.

## **WHAT YOU WILL LEARN IN THIS COURSE**

The overall aim of ARA114 Arabic Grammar 1 is to introduce you to basic components of Arabic Grammar with emphasis on the parts of speech i.e. the noun and its kinds, verbs (past, present and other derivatives from it) and particles. You will at the end of this course be free from Arabic grammatical errors when you speak or write in the language.

## **COURSE AIMS**

The aims of this Course can be summarized as follows:

- Introducing you to the basic components of Arabic grammar.
- Preparing you for expressing yourself in grammatically perfect spoken and written Arabic.
- Enabling you to identify various types of nouns, verbs and particles in Arabic Language.

## **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

To achieve the aims set out above, each unit of ARA114 has specific objectives which are stated for you at its beginning. I advise that you read them before you start working through the unit. You may want to refer to them during your study to check your progress.

Here are the wider objectives of ARA114 course as a whole. By meeting the objectives, you can count yourself as having met the aims of the course. On successful completion of the course, you should be able to:

- Highlight the noun in Arabic language; identify and utilize its masculine and feminine; singular, dual and plural forms in written and spoken Arabic.
- Recognize the various types and tenses of Arabic language verbs in written forms and utilize them in spoken Arabic.
- State the Arabic language particles, their meaning, uses and effects in Arabic grammar.
- Use Arabic pronouns and identify correct use of them in oral and written expressions.
- Construct and recognize grammatically perfect nominal and verbal sentences.

## **WORKING THROUGH THIS COURSE**

To complete the course, you are required to read the study units and other related materials. You will also need to undertake practical exercises for which you will need a pen, a note-book, and other materials that will be listed in this guide. The exercises are to aid you in understanding the concepts being presented. At the end of each unit, you will be required to submit written assignments for assessment purposes. At the end of the course, you will write a final examination.

## **COURSE MATERIALS**

The major materials you will need for this course are:

- i) Course guide
- ii) Study units
- iii) Text books
- iv) Presentation Schedule

## **STUDY UNITS**

There are fourteen Units in this course broken into three modules. They are listed below.

### **Module 1 Nouns**

- |        |   |
|--------|---|
| Unit 1 | Types of Nouns, the Article and the Gender. |
| Unit 2 | Singular and Dual.                          |
| Unit 3 | Plural in Arabic.                           |
| Unit 4 | Pronouns.                                   |

Unit 5 Subject and Predicate.

### **Module 2 Verbs**

Unit 1 Importance of Verb.

Unit 2 Divisions of Verb.

Unit 3 The Perfect Measure of Trilateral Verb.

Unit 4 The Imperfect Measure of Trilateral Verb.

Unit 5 The Imperative.

### **Module 3 Particles**

Unit 1 The Preposition and the Conjunction.

Unit 2 The Subjunctive Particles.

Unit 3 The Jussive and Interrogative Particles.

Unit 4 The Vocative, Gerund and a Complete Sentence.

## **TEXTBOOKS AND REFERENCES**

Each unit contains a list of references and further reading. Try to get as many as possible of those textbooks and materials. They are meant to deepen your knowledge of the course. In addition, you must obtain text materials which are provided by the NOUN. You may contact your tutor if you have problems in obtaining the text materials. Below is a list of most of the books suggested as references and further readings.

Cowan, D. (1958). *An Introduction in Modern Literary Arabic*. London: Cambridge University Press.

Cowan J.M. (1960). *A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic*. India: Modern Language Services.

Wright, W. (1962). *A Grammar of the Arabic*. London: Cambridge University Press.

Sini I.; Yusuf I. & Ruf ' , M. (1990). *Al-qaw 'idu al-Arabiyyat al- Muyasarat* vol. 1, Riyadh, 'Im dat shu' n al-Maktabah.

Jibril, M. J. (2006). *The Basic Fundamental Concepts of Arabic Grammar and Morphology*. Lagos, Nigeria: Dhaharu Hubla Ventures.

Fawz ni A. ; Abdu 'l-Khaliq, M. (2007). *al-arabiyyat liljami'i (Arabic for all)* vol 1, wizaratul al-'a'lam. Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

## **ASSIGNMENT FILES**

An assessment file and a marking scheme will be made available to you. In the assessment file, you will find details of the works you must submit to your tutor for marking. There are two aspects of the assessment of this course; the tutor marked and the written examination. The marks you obtain in these two areas will make up your final marks.

The assignment must be submitted to your tutor for formal assessment in accordance with the deadline stated in the presentation schedule and the Assignment file. The work you submit to your tutor for assessment will count for 30% of your total score.

## **SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISES (SAES)**

Each unit contains a number of self-tests. These self-test questions on the sections you have just covered are meant to help to evaluate your progress and to reinforce your understanding of the materials. Alongside with your tutor-marked assignments, these exercises will assist you in achieving the stated learning objectives of the individuals units and of the course.

## **TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT (TMAS)**

You will have to submit a specified number of Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs). Every unit in this course has a tutor marked assignment. You will be assessed on four of them but the best three performances from the (TMAs) will be used for 30% grading. When you have completed each assignment, send it together with a Tutor Marked Assignment form, to your tutor. Make sure each assignment reaches your tutor on or before the deadline for submissions. If for any reason, you cannot complete your work on time, contact your tutor for a discussion on the possibility of an extension. Extension will not be granted after the due date unless under exceptional circumstances.

## **FINAL EXAMINATION AND GRADING**

The final examination will be a text of three hours. All areas of the course will be examined. Find time to read the unit all over before your examination. The final examination will attract 70% of the total course grade. The examination will consist of questions, which reflects the kinds of self assessment exercises and tutor marked assignment you have previously encountered. And all aspects of the course will be assessed. You should use the time between completing the last unit, and taking the examination to revise the entire course.

## COURSE MARKING SCHEME

The following table lays out how the actual course mark allocation is broken down.

ASSESSMENT	MARK
Assignment (Best Three Assignments out of Four Marked)	= 30%
Final Examination	= 70%
Total	100%

## PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

The dates for submission of all assignments will be communicated to you. You will also be told the date of completing the stuffy units and dates for examinations.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

Unit	Title work	Weeks Activity	Assessment (End of Unit)
	Course Guide	Week 1	
<b>Module 1 Noun</b>			
1.	Types of Noun, the Article and the Gender	Week 1	Assignment 1



2.	Singular and Dual	Week 2	Assignment 2
3.	Plurals	Week 3	Assignment 3
4.	Pronouns	Week 4	Assignment 4
5.	Subject and Predicate	Week 5	Assignment 5
<b>Module 2 Verbs</b>			
1.	Importance of Verb	Week 6	Assignment 1
2.	Divisions of Verb	Week 7	Assignment 2
3.	The Perfect Measure of Trilateral Verb	Week 8	Assignment 3
4.	The Imperfect Measure of Trilateral Verb	Week 9	Assignment 4
5.	The Imperative	Week 10	Assignment 5
<b>Module 3 Particles</b>			
1.	The Prepositions and Conjunctions	Week 11	Assignment 1
2.	Subjunctive Particles	Week 12	Assignment 2
3.	The Jussive and Interrogative Particles	Week 13	Assignment 3
4.	The Vocative, Gerund and a Complete Sentence	Week 14	Assignment 4
	<b>Revision</b>	<b>Week 15</b>	

## HOW TO GET THE MOST FROM THIS COURSE

In distance learning, the study units replace the university lecture. This is one of the great advantages of distance learning; you can read and work through specially designed study materials at your own pace, and at a time and place that suits you best. Think of it as reading the lecture instead of listening to the lecturer. In the same way a lecturer might give you some reading to do, the study units tell you where to read, and which are your text materials or set books. You are provided exercises to do at appropriate points, just as a lecturer might give you an in-class exercise.

Each of the study units follows a common format. The first item is an introduction to the subject matter of the unit, and how a particular unit is integrated with the other units and the course as a whole. Next to this is a set of learning objectives. These objectives let you know what you should be able to do by the time you have completed the unit. These learning objectives are meant to guide your study. The moment a unit is finished, you must go back and check whether you have achieved the objectives. If this is made a habit, then you will significantly improve your chances of passing the course. This will usually be either from your set books or from a Reading section.

The following is a practical strategy for working through the course. If you run into any trouble, telephone your tutor. Remember that tutor's job is to help you. When you need assistance, do not hesitate to call and ask your tutor to provide it.

1. Read this Course Guide thoroughly, it is your first assignment.
2. Organize a Study Schedule. Design a 'Course Overview' to guide you through the Course. Note the time you are expected to spend on each unit and how the Assignment relate to the units. Whatever method you choose to use, you should decide on and write in your own dates and schedule of work for each unit.
3. Once you have created your own study schedule, do everything to stay faithful to it. The major reason why students fail is that they get behind with their course work if you get into difficulties with your schedule, please, let your tutor know before it is too late to help.
4. Turn to Unit I, and read the introduction and the objectives for the unit.
5. Assemble the study materials. You will need your set books and the unit you are studying at any point in time. As you work through the unit, you will know what sources to consult for further information.
6. Keep in touch with your centre. Up-to-date course information will be continuously available there.

7. Well before the relevant due dates (about 4 weeks before due dates), keep in mind that you will learn a lot by doing the assignment carefully. They have been designed to help you meet the objectives of the course and, therefore, will help you pass the examination. Submit all assignments not later than due date.
8. Review the objectives for each study unit to confirm that you have achieved them. If you feel unsure about any of the objectives, review the study materials or consult your tutor.
9. When you are confident that you have achieved a unit's objectives, you can start on the next unit. Proceed unit by unit through the course and try to pace your stuffy so that you keep yourself on schedule.
10. When you have submitted an assignment to your tutor for marking, do not wait for its return before starting on the next unit. Keep to your schedule. When the assignment is returned, pay particular attention to your tutor's comments, both on the tutor-marked assignment form and also the written comments on the ordinary assignments.
11. After completing the last unit, review the course and prepare yourself for the final examination. Check that you have achieved the unit objective (listed at the beginning of each unit) and the course objectives (listed in the Course Guide).

## **FACILITATORS/TUTORS AND TUTORIALS**

Information relating to the tutorials will be provided at the appropriate time. Your tutor will mark and comment on your assignments, keep a close watch on your progress and on any difficulties you might encounter and provide assistance to you during the course. You must take your tutor-marked assignments to the study centre well before the due date (at least two working days are required). They will be marked by your tutor and returned to you as soon as possible.

Do not hesitate to contact your tutor if you need help. Contact your tutor if:

- You do not understand any part of the study units or the assigned reading.
- You have difficult with the exercise.
- You have a question or problems with an assignment or with your tutor's comments on an assignment or with the grading of an assignment.

You should try your best to attend the tutorials. This is the only chance to have face-to-face contact with your tutor and ask questions which are answered instantly. You can raise any problem encountered in the course of

your study. To gain the maximum benefit from course tutorials, prepare a question list before attending them. You will learn a lot from participating in discussion actively.

## **CONCLUSION**

ARA114 provides you a basic component of Arabic Grammar upon which you develop mastery in the use of the Arabic language structure. It is aimed at equipping you with analytical skills to examine the nature of Arabic language by introducing you to Arabic Grammar upon which you will be able to identify types of noun, different kind of verb and particles.

## **SUMMARY**

All features of this course guide have been designed to facilitate your learning in order that you achieve the aims and objectives of the course. They include the aims and objectives; Course Summary, Course Overview, Self Assessment Exercises and study questions. You should ensure that you make maximum use of them in your study to achieve maximum results.

We hope that you will find the Course interesting and useful; and wish you success.

**MAIN  
COURSE**

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## MODULE 1      THE NOUNS الأَسْمَاءُ

Unit 1	Nouns, Articles and Gender
Unit 2	Singular and Dual
Unit 3	Plurals
Unit 4	Subjects and Predicate
Unit 5	Pronouns

### UNI 1      الأَسْمَاءُ وَالْأَدْوَاتُ وَالْجِنْسُ NOUNS, ARTICLES AND GENDER

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#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

My dear student, Arabic Language is one of the leading languages in the world. It is spoken by almost 200 million Arabs of the Middle East and many Muslims of the world. It is a language spoken at interactive sessions at international forums like the African Unity, United nation, OPEC and others.

Like many other languages, the parts of Speech of Arabic are classified into noun, verb and particle called **إِسْمٌ** and **فِعْلٌ** and **حَرْفٌ** respectively.

This Unit introduces you to some of these features of the language which you require in order to attain proficiency in it. They are put across to you and treated in simple and clear style. So come along with on board.

## 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this Unit, you should be able to:

- identify the different types of noun in Arabic language.
- differentiate between the Masculine and feminine genders in given Arabic names.
- identify the definite and indefinite articles in Arabic language.
- discuss the significance of the sun and the moon letters.

## 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

### 3.1 الأسماء (Noun)

A noun in Arabic grammar is the name of people, animals, places or things. For example:

Person: Adam	آدَمُ
Animal: lion	أَسَدًا
Place: Ibadan	إِبَادَنُ
Thing: pen	قَلَمٌ

#### 3.1.1 Types of Nouns

In Arabic grammar, names are classified as proper, common and abstract nouns.

##### Proper Nouns عَلَمٌ

If a noun, 'ismu اسمٌ names a particular person, place or thing, then in Arabic you should know that we call such a noun a proper noun. For example:

Adam	آدَمُ
Ibrahim	إِبْرَاهِيمُ
Muhammad	مُحَمَّدٌ
Friday	الْجُمُعَةُ
Sunday	الْأَحَدُ
Kano	كَانُو
Ibadan	إِبَادَنُ
Lagos	لَاغُوسُ
Night	اللَّيْلُ

### 3.1.2 Common Nouns نَكْرَةٌ

Common nouns on the other hands are names of things in general. This means that common nouns in Arabic Language are names of things as the following examples illustrate:

Table	مِنْضَدَةٌ
Chair	كُرْسِيٌّ
Boy	وَلَدٌ
Girl	بِنْتٌ
Man	رَجُلٌ
Woman	امْرَأَةٌ
Dog	كَلْبٌ
Bread	خُبْزٌ
Knife	سِكِّينٌ

#### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

Write five Arabic proper nouns and five Arabic common nouns?

### 3.1.3 (Abstract Nouns) أَسْمَاءُ الْمَعَانِي

If a noun names anything which we can only imagine and think about, but we cannot see or touch, whether it is countable or uncountable, such a noun is called abstract noun. For examples:

Joy	فَرَحٌ
Happiness	سُرُورٌ
Difficulty	صُعُوبَةٌ
Love	حُبٌّ
Justice	عَدْلٌ
Advice	نَصِيحَةٌ

#### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

Define Arabic abstract noun and mention five of them?

### 3.2 Definite and Indefinite Articles (أَدَوَاتُ التَّعْرِيفِ وَالتَّنْكِيرِ)

Like many other languages, a noun can be in definite and indefinite form in the Arabic language. Al 'ال' 'the' is the definite article. It is used for some



cases, genders, and numbers and written as prefix for the noun to be defined.

تثوين (Nunation) is the indefinite article denoting 'a' or 'an'. The noun that has any of them is in the indefinite case in Arabic.

Nunation consists of three kinds; these are:

فُتْحَاتَان	Fat- <i>hatān</i>	◌ُ
ضَمَّاتَان	Dammatān	◌ِ
كَسْرَاتَان	Kasratān	◌ِ

The table below illustrates both articles clearly:

DEFINITE	المعرفة	INDEFINITE	التكثرة
The exercise Book	لِكِتَابٍ	كِتَابٌ	an exercise book
The President	لِرَّئِيسٍ	رَّئِيسٌ	a President
The Pen	الْقَلَمُ	قَلَمٌ	a pen
The Country	لِدَوْلَةٍ	دَوْلَةٌ	a country
The House	لِبَيْتٍ	بَيْتٌ	a house
The Lion	الْأَسَدُ	أَسَدٌ	a lion
The University	لِجَامِعَةٍ	جَامِعَةٌ	a University
The Boy	لِوَلَدٍ	وَلَدٌ	a boy
The Girl	لِبِنْتٍ	بِنْتٌ	a girl
The Gardener	لِبُسْتَانِيٍّ	بُسْتَانِيٌّ	a gardener

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 3

- What are the Arabic definite and indefinite articles?
- Expatiate on them with examples?

#### 3.2.1 الخُرُوفُ الشَّمْسِيَّةُ وَالْقَمَرِيَّةُ (Sun and Moon Letters)

Meanwhile, while discussing definite article *أل*, it is pertinent to discuss the related *همزة الوصل hamzatu l-waṣl* and *همزة القطع hamzatu l-qat'i*. Al-hamzat of definite article is hamzat-al-waṣl, so that the 'a' must be elided if preceded by any letter or word e.g. (جَاءَ الرَّجُلُ) (الْوَلَدُ وَالْبِنْتُ). You will notice that *و* and *ل* of *bintu* and *ء* and *ل* of *rrojulu* are joined together because the hamzat has been elided from pronunciation.

The pronunciation of sun and moon letters when it is definite is very important. That is why we need to introduce these letters to you students.

There are twenty Arabic letters (consonants). These letters are divided into two. Fourteen of them are sun letters while the remaining fourteen are moon letters.

الحُرُوفُ الشَّمْسِيَّةُ (The Sun Letters).

These are the Sun Letters:

The crown	ت- النَّاجُ
The cloth	ث- الثَّوْبُ
The cock	د- الدِّيكُ
The wolf	ذ- الذَّنْبُ
The man	ر- الرَّجُلُ
The visitor	ز- الزَّائِرُ
The chalk board	س- السَّبْرَةُ
The sun	ش- الشَّمْسِيَّةُ
The box	ص- الصَّنْدُوقُ
The weak	ض- الضَّعِيفُ
The chalk	ط- الطِّبَّاشِيرُ
The shade	ظ- الظِّلُّ
The night	ل- اللَّيْلُ
The light	ن- النُّورُ

When the noun that 'ال' (the) is prefixed with one of the above sun letters, the 'L' 'ل' of the definite article will be assimilated to the sun letter which is written with shadda 'L'. The 'ل' of the article losing its sukūn vowel b e.g.

ar-rajul الرَّجُلُ Instead of al-rajul  
at-tayru الطَّيْرُ Instead of al-tayru.

The remaining fourteen letters are Moon letters and they are pronounced with 'ل'. For example:

al-walad	و- الوَلَدُ
al-bint	ب- البِنْتُ
The lion	أ- الأَسَدُ
The door	ب- البَابُ
The university	ج- الجَامِعَةُ
The father in law	ح- الحَمُو
The cheat	خ- الخَدَاغُ
The eye	ع- العَيْنُ
The cave	غ- العَارُ
The elephant	ف- الفِيلُ
The pen	ق- القَلَمُ

The dog	ك-الْكَلْبُ
The table	م-الْمِنْضَدَةُ
The boy	و-الْوَلَدُ
The guidance	ه-الْهَدَايَةُ
The day	ي-الْيَوْمُ

ج

This rule only occurs in definite article so far indefinite article does not take ال al, and then the rule is not applicable to it.

#### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 4

Write out the sun letters from the Arabic consonants?

#### 3.3 الجِنْسُ (Gender)

In Arabic, most nouns have a property by which sex is distinguished. This property is called gender. There are two genders in Arabic grammar. These are: Masculine المذكر and Feminine المؤنث

There is no neuter in Arabic language as it is found in other languages. The feminine al-Mu'annath المؤنث is formed from the masculine by suffixing taau marbuutat “ة”

Let us illustrate these two genders with a table that will make it clear to you.

FEMININE	لْمُؤَنَّثُ	MASCULINE	لِلْمَذْكَرِ
The poor woman	الْفَقِيرَةُ	The poor man	الْفَقِيرُ
The female teacher	لِمَدْرَسَةٍ	The male teacher	مُدْرَسٌ
a female writer	كَاتِبَةٌ	a male writer	كَاتِبٌ
a female cook	طَبَاخَةٌ	a male cook	طَبَاخٌ
a female student	طَالِبَةٌ	a male student	طَالِبٌ

Look at the above examples, you will see that the feminine is derived from masculine with the suffix “ة” and there is a change in the penultimate letters vowels from ‘u’ to ‘a’ e.g.

فَقِيرَةٌ

فَقِيرٌ

**Observation:** You are aware that in any rule there is an exception, there are some feminine words which have no masculine form e.g.

A city مَدِينَةٌ

A law Court مَحْكَمَةٌ

And also there are some words without “Ö” but they are feminine in nature e.g.

Name of female person مَرْيَمٌ

Name of female person زَيْنَبٌ

Mother أُمٌّ

An old woman عَجُوزٌ

Finally, dear students, occasionally, it is very rare to find “ö” in words which are masculine e.g.

A successor خَلِيفَةٌ

Masculine personal name طَلْحَةَ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 5

Name 5 nouns that are Masculine when written but feminine in nature?

### 4.0 CONCLUSION (الاستنتاج)

Nouns in Arabic grammar consist of names of persons, places or things. They are either, proper, common or abstract. Some nouns become definite by having the definite article ال as suffixes or indefinite by having sign of being indefinite called tanwin. The definite article ال is either شمسية or قمرية. Some Arabic nouns are also either in proper masculine or feminine in gender or in words.

### 5.0 SUMMARY (خلاصة)

In this unit, we have treated the types of noun in Arabic, the articles and the related rules of sun and moon letters with definite article.

Genders that are masculine and feminine have also been dealt with. You are also introduced to the feminine sign as it is derived from masculine nouns. Other feminine nouns that are exempted are also mentioned.

### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Give five Arabic proper, common and abstract nouns?
2. Write ten Arabic definite nouns of which five of them are sun letters and another five of moon letters?
3. Write ten Arabic nouns of which five in them are masculine and another five feminine?

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## UNIT 2      المَفْرَدُ وَالْمُنْتَى (SINGULAR AND DUAL NOUNS)

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objective
- 3.0 Main Content
  - 3.1 The Singular form of the Arabic nouns
    - 3.1.1 المَرْفُوعُ Nominative Singular Noun
    - 3.1.2 المَنْصُوبُ Accusative Singular Noun
    - 3.1.3 المَجْرُورُ Genitive Singular Noun
  - 3.2 Dual
    - 3.2.1 Dual Nominative Case
    - 3.2.2 Dual Accusative and Genitive Cases
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Number is another feature of nouns. By number we mean that nouns can occur singular, or in several units, dual and plural. In this unit we shall treat singular and dual forms of Arabic nouns. The plural forms will be treated in the next unit. We want you to bear in mind that there are three declensions in Arabic. The vast majority of nouns in singular forms belong to the three cases, nominative, accusative and genitive. These three cases shall be discussed extensively in the main content of this unit.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this Unit, you should be able to:

- identify Arabic nouns in the singular and dual forms.
- recognize the Arabic nouns in the singular nominative, accusative and genitive cases.
- recognize the Arabic nouns in the dual nominative, accusative and genitive cases
- state the similarity between dual accusative and genitive.
- construct nouns at these three cases in Arabic.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 The Singular Form of the Arabic Nouns

Singular, al-Mufrad **المُفْرَدُ** in Arabic is any word that indicates a single person, animal, place or thing. This singular can be of any gender, whether masculine, **مُدَكَّرٌ** or feminine **مُؤَنَّنَةٌ**. The singular of any noun does not change its definite status, **مَعْرُفَةٌ** or indefinite, **نَكْرَةٌ** articles.

Before we proceed, we want you to know that when the three vowel marks are written double at the end of a noun, they represent the three case endings, nominative, accusative and genitive. These are the three doubled vowels:

ضَمَّتَانِ                      كَسْرَتَانِ                      فَتْحَتَانِ

##### 3.1.1 Nominative Singular Nouns

The singular nouns of Arabic are usually mentioned in the nominative case taking **ضَمَّتَانِ** as suffixes. The table below illustrates this clearly.

<b>The singular</b>	<b>المُفْرَدُ</b>
A book	كِتَابٌ
A pen	قَلَمٌ
An exercise book	دَفْتَرٌ
A chair	كُرْسِيٌّ
A bag	حَفِيْبَةٌ
A boy	وَلَدٌ
A man	رَجُلٌ
A table	مِنْضَدَةٌ
A mosque	مَسْجِدٌ
A school	مَدْرَسَةٌ

The double dammah in all the aforementioned examples are indefinite articles. If al, ال that is, the definite articles' sign prefixes any of these nouns then the vowel will change from double to single. Let us use the same words as examples.

<b>The Singular</b>	<b>المُفْرَدُ</b>
The book	الْكِتَابُ
The pen	الْقَلَمُ
The exercise book	الدَّفْتَرُ
The chair	الْكُرْسِيُّ
The bag	الحَفِيْبَةُ
The boy	الْوَلَدُ

The man  
The table  
The mosque  
The school

الرَّجُلُ  
الْمَنْضَدَةُ  
الْمَسْجِدُ  
الْمَدْرَسَةُ

In complete sentence:

A boy entered  
The man stood up

دَخَلَ وَدُ  
قَامَ الرَّجُلُ

### 3.1.2 Accusative Singular Nouns

Sometimes Singular nouns are said to be in the accusative case. فَحَدَّان will then be on it when it is indefinite but only one فَحَدَّة vowel when it is definite. Take the following as examples.

#### The Singular

The house  
A refrigerator  
The airport  
A bird  
The poor man  
The elephant  
A paper  
A moon  
The padlock  
A star

المُفْرَدُ  
الْبَيْتُ  
الثَّلَاجَةُ  
المَطَارُ  
طَائِرًا  
الفَقِيرَ  
الفِيلِ  
ورْقَةً  
قَمْرًا  
القفلِ  
كَوْكَبًا

In complete sentence:

دَخَلْتُ الْبَيْتَ : I entered the house  
قَتَلَ الصَّيَّادُ طَائِرًا The hunter killed a bird

### 3.1.3 Genitive of Singular nouns

The last of doubled vowels which is known as كَسْرَتَان is used for nouns at the genitive case. But, the single كَسْرَة vowel is used when it is definite like we have said earlier. See the table below:

#### The Singular

A box  
The mountain  
A coffee  
The tea

المُفْرَدُ  
صُنْدُوقِ  
جَبَلِ  
قَهْوَةٍ  
الشَّايِ



A cloth	ثَوْبٍ
The heart	الْقَلْبِ
The earth/ground	الأَرْضِ
The minister	الْوَزِيرِ
A bride	عَرُوسٍ
A groom	عَرِيْسٍ
A road	طَرِيقٍ

In complete sentence:

I sat on the ground	جَلَسْتُ عَلَى الأَرْضِ
I walked through a road to the school	مَشَيْتُ عَبْرَ طَرِيقٍ إِلَى المَدْرَسَةِ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

Mention the three single and double vowels that can be used for Arabic?  
singular nominative, accusative and genitive nouns?

### 3.2 Dual Form Nouns المثنى

Arabic is unlike some other languages that the plural forms begin from two units upwards, but Arabic has dual form which is called al- Muthana, المثنى. This is any noun that indicates two persons, places or things. The rule of identification will be explained in each cases.

#### 3.2.1 Dual Nominative Case

In this case, the singular noun will be suffixed by alif and n̄n . The alif will elongate the last letter that had changed from ضَمَّة or ضَمَّان . For example the Singular of a book at the nominative case is كتاب , Adding ان to it will change it and it will become كِتَابَان . You will notice that alif elongates the 'bau' while nun ن is given Kasrah, let us see other examples.

<b>The Dual</b>	المثنى
Two schools	مَدْرَسَتَانِ
The two men	الرَّجُلَانِ
The two pens	القَلَمَانِ
Two girls	بِنَاتَانِ
Two pillows	وَسَادَتَانِ
The two countries	الدَوْلَتَانِ
Two teachers	مَدْرَسَاتَانِ

Two students  
The two professors

طَالِبَانِ  
الْأَسْتَاذَانِ

In complete sentence:

The two pens dropped from the

سَقَطَ الْقَلَمَانِ مِنْ الْمُنْضَدَّةِ  
table

Two teachers travelled to London

سَافَرَ مُدْرَسَانِ إِلَى لَنْدُنْ

There is no difference of vowels whether it is definite or indefinite as you can see in the ان suffixes of those nouns mentioned above.

### 3.2.2 Dual Accusative and Genitive Cases

The accusative and genitive cases of dual nouns in the Arabic language take the same form. The structure of a sentence will give you the understanding of which case a particular noun belongs to. There is no problem about that; you will be acquainted with all these very soon.

As you have been told earlier, alif and *nān* suffix the singular noun at the nominative case; but here it is *yāu* and nun *ين* *Yāu* here is diphthong and not elongation, the *nān* ن will also take kasrah like that of the nominative. The below examples give clarity of this statement.

#### The Dual

Two schools (Acc & Gen)

الْمُنْتَى  
مَدْرَسَتَيْنِ

The two men (Acc & Gen)

الرَّجُلَيْنِ

The two pen (Acc & Gen)

الْقَلَمَيْنِ

Two girls (Acc & Gen)

بَنَاتَيْنِ

The two boys (Acc & Gen)

الْوَلَدَيْنِ

Two pillows (Acc & Gen)

وَسَادَتَيْنِ

The two countries (Acc & Gen)

الدَّوْلَتَيْنِ

Two teachers (Acc & Gen)

مُدْرَسَتَيْنِ

Two students (Acc & Gen)

طَالِبَيْنِ

The two professors (Acc & Gen)

الْأَسْتَاذَيْنِ

The accusative and genitive in dual nouns are the same in pattern but different in meaning in any Arabic given sentence.

Dual accusative case in complete sentence:

I bought two pillows

اشْتَرَيْتُ وِسَادَتَيْنِ  
كَافَاتِ الْحُكُومَةِ الرَّجُلَيْنِ أَمِينَيْنِ

The government compensated the two honest men

Dual genitive case in complete sentence:

I bought two pillows

I greeted two girls

سَافَرْتُ إِلَى الدَّوْلَتَيْنِ  
سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى بَنَاتَيْنِ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

How will you vocalize nun, ن of dual pattern?

Give one example for dual nouns in all cases?

### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

In Arabic, Nouns vary from one case to the other, both at the singular and dual forms. The last letter of Nouns sometimes has single or double dammah and described as being in the nominative case; or single or double fathah in which case they are said to be in the accusative cases.

They may also take single or double kasrah in which case they are said to be in the genitive case. Single vowels are used for the definite articles, while the double vowels are used for indefinite articles. Dual nouns are introduced by ان suffixes while the accusative and genitive case of dual changes it to يْن. In English the alif of the former will be regarded as elongation while the yāu of the latter is diphthong.

### 5.0 SUMMARY

(خلاصة)

This Unit discusses various features of both the singular and the dual forms of nouns in the Arabic language. It explains characteristics of the singular and dual nouns when they are in the nominative, accusative and genitive cases. The functions of single vowels as tool for definite article and those of double vowels as tools for indefinite article are highlighted. The roles of the suffixes aaani ان or ayn يْن are explained. Copious examples are provided to explain the rules; while self assessment exercises are given learners for self examination.

### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Explain the process of changing the suffix of Arabic nouns from singular to dual?
2. The following nouns are in the singular forms, change them to dual nominative, accusative and genitive patterns:

السُّبُورَة، الطُّبُّشُورُ، مِلْعَقَةٌ، كُوبٌ، رَفِيقٌ.

3. Write down the singular forms of these dual nouns:

كَلْبَانٌ، مَكْتَبَيْنِ، دَوْلَتَانِ، مَلْعَبَانِ، حَفِيْبَتَيْنِ.

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## UNIT 3 الجَمْعُ (THE PLURAL)

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
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    - 3.1.1 The Nominative Case of the Sound Masculine Plural
    - 3.1.2 The Accusative and Effective Cases of the sound Masculine Plural
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    - 3.2.1 The Nominative Case of the Sound Feminine Plural
    - 3.2.2 The Accusative and Genitive Cases of the Sound Feminine Plural
  - 3.3 The Broken Plurals
    - 3.3.1 Nominative
    - 3.3.2 Accusative
    - 3.3.3 Genitive
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Reading

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the study of the Arabic plurals of nouns. In this Unit you will be introduced to the various plurals in Arabic and their uses in oral and written expression. It is important to know the plurals in Arabic which is called الجَمْعُ and which point to people, things, animals or places that are more than two. Further more, this is unlike other languages where the plural begins from two nouns. It may also be interesting to let you know from the onset that the plural in Arabic are classified into Sound Plurals and Broken Plurals. The sound plurals could also be either the sound masculine plural or the sound feminine plural. These are the various divisions of Arabic plurals you will come across in this Unit; thus come on board and let us discuss them one by one.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- give account of kinds of plurals in Arabic language

- identify the sound masculine plurals, the sound feminine plurals and the broken plurals
- explain the rules that govern the Arabic plurals.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 جَمْعُ الْمَذْكَرِ السَّلَامِ (The Sound Masculine Plural)

As you have been told during our discussion in the introduction to this Unit, there are different kinds of plurals in the Arabic tongue. The first one is the sound Masculine plural, جَمْعُ الْمَذْكَرِ السَّلَامِ This is a plural whose pattern of singular never changes or be replaced. Rather. It is suffixed with وَاوٌ and نُونٌ or يَاءٌ and نُونٌ. The end of the noun must be given fat-hah, فَحَةً e.g. Muslimāna مُسْلِمُونَ or Muslimāna مُسْلِمِينَ the same meaning. This is plural form of Muslim مُسْلِمٌ a male Muslim. We shall treat this very well as we are going to another content where examples will be given to make the rules clear.

##### 3.1.1 The Nominative Case of the Sound Masculine Plural

The nominative case of the above plural will be suffixed by وَاوٌ and نُونٌ i.e. ون. The وَاوٌ will elongate the preceding consonant which is the last letter of the singular noun. The ن is expected to take fat-hat فَحَةً vowel. We hereby present a table to you to illustrate this clearer.

##### Plurals of the Sound Masculine Singular in the nominative cases

##### جَمْعُ الْمَذْكَرِ السَّلَامِ فِي حَالَةِ الرَّفْعِ الْفَاعِلِ

Teachers	دَرَّسُونَ	A Teacher	دَرَّسٌ
The peasants	لِفَلَّاحُونَ	The peasant	الْفَلَّاحُ
Sound men	سَالِمُونَ	A sound Man	سَالِمٌ
The believers	لِمُؤْمِنُونَ	The believer	مُؤْمِنٌ
The citizens	مُؤَاطِنُونَ	The citizen	مُؤَاطِنٌ
Workers	نُوظَّفُونَ	A worker	نُوظَّفٌ
The Engineers	مُهَنْدِسُونَ	The engineer	مُهَنْدِسٌ
The Travellers	لِمُسَافِرُونَ	The traveller	لِمُسَافِرٌ
Listeners	سَتَمِعُونَ	A listener	سَتَمِعٌ
Unbelievers	نَافِرُونَ	An unbeliever	كَافِرٌ

In complete sentence you say for instance:

A teacher entered our

دَخَلَ مُدْرَسٌ فَصَلْنَا  
classroom

Teachers entered our classroom

دَخَلُوا مُدْرَسُونَ فَصَلْنَا

The peasant cultivated the land

حَرَبَ الْفَلَّاحُ الْأَرْضَ

The peasant cultivated the land

حَرَبَ الْفَلَّاحُونَ الْأَرْضَ

Have you seen how we convert the singular to plural? The above examples are sound plurals and are for masculine gender in nominative case.

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

- Discuss the rules of converting singular of sound masculine gender of Arabic nouns to plurals in the nominative case?
- Give five examples of Arabic singular and plural in meaningful sentences?

### 3.1.2 The Accusative and Genitive Cases of the Sound Masculine Plurals

The accusative and genitive cases of the sound masculine plurals share the same suffix. It is the context in which the words are used in the sentence that will determine whether the plural noun is in accusative or genitive case. The plurals are suffixed with يَاءُ and نُونٌ Yau and nun, that is, يِن the *yāu* is elongating the last letter of the singular noun which must be given kasrah, while نُونٌ *nūn* still remains unchanged with fathah. For instance, the accusative and genitive singular noun of Muslim is مُسْلِمًا and مُسْلِمٍ musliman and muslimin respectively.

Following are some examples of the plural nouns in the accusative and genitive cases:

**Accusative case مَفْعُولٌ بِهِ**

Teachers مُدْرَسِينَ

I saw teachers

رَأَيْتُ مُدْرَسِينَ

A Teacher مُدْرَسًا

I greeted a teacher

حَبَّيْتُ مُدْرَسًا

The peasants الْفَلَاحِينَ

I saw the peasants

رَأَيْتُ الْفَلَاحِينَ

The peasant الْفَلَّاحَ

I faced the peasant

قَابَلْتُ الْفَلَّاحَ

Some Examples of the plural nouns in the genitive case:

### Genitive Case جَرْمٌ مَجْرُورٌ

A believer مُؤْمِنٌ

I greeted a believer

سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى مُؤْمِنٍ

The believers الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

I greeted the believers

سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

The engineer الْمُهَنْدِسَ

I travelled with the Engineer

سَافَرْتُ مَعَ الْمُهَنْدِسِ

The engineers الْمُهَنْدِسِينَ

I travelled with The Engineers

سَافَرْتُ مَعَ الْمُهَنْدِسِينَ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 3

- Discuss the Accusative and Genitive Cases of the Arabic Sound Masculine Plural?
- Illustrate your answer with two examples in Arabic?

### 3.2 The Sound Feminine Plural

The sound feminine plural form is quite different from the masculine. You have known in the previous Unit that if a masculine gender noun is مُسْلِمٌ a male Muslim, then the feminine gender will be مُسْلِمَةٌ Muslimatun, a female Muslim, a letter ة, known as tau al-marbutah (closed tau), is expected to be a suffix to the last letter of masculine singular noun e.g. feminine مُسْلِمَةٌ masculine مُسْلِمٌ. The plural form of the sound feminine noun is suffixed with alif and tau. The tau marbutah ة will be changed to open tau "ات" e.g. Singular طالِبَةٌ Plural طَالِبَاتٌ

#### 3.2.1 The Nominative Case of the Sound Feminine Plural

جَمْعُ الْمُؤَنَّثِ السَّالِمِ فِي حَالَةِ الرَّفْعِ الْفَاعِلِ

As we have said earlier the alif and tau 'ات' will be at the suffix of any feminine singular noun to form a sound feminine plural. At the nominative case, feminine plural shares the same feature with singular nouns by possessing both single and double vowels as the case may be e.g. Female Muslims مُسْلِمَاتٌ The Female Muslims الْمُسْلِمَاتُ



The examples below will illustrate this clearer:

**Plural**  
**Singular**

حَضَرَتِ الطَّبِيبَاتُ  
صَلَّتْ مُسْلِمَاتٌ  
تَجَدَّتِ التَّلْمِيزَاتُ

حَضَرَتِ الطَّبِيبَةُ  
صَلَّتْ مُسْلِمَةٌ  
تَجَدَّتِ التَّلْمِيزَةُ

### 3.2.2 Accusative and Genitive of the Sound Feminine Plural

جَمْعُ الْمُؤَنَّثِ السَّلِيمِ فِي حَالَةِ النَّصْبِ الْمَفْعُولِ بِهِ وَالْجَرِّ وَالْمَجْرُورِ

Accusative and genitive of the sound feminine plural share the same vowels both at definite and indefinite levels. The ‘u’ or ‘un’ of nominative changes to ‘i’ or in as in:

مُسْلِمَاتٍ      الْمُسْلِمَاتِ

The following examples show the futures of the sound feminine in accusative and genitive in both singular and plural forms:

**Accusative**      الْمَفْعُولِ بِهِ

**Plural**  
**Singular**

لَقِيتُ فَاطِمَاتٍ  
رَأَيْتُ الْمُهَنْدِسَاتِ  
دَخَلْتُ الْكَلْبَاتِ

لَقِيتُ فَاطِمَةً  
رَأَيْتُ مَهْنَدِسَةً  
دَخَلْتُ الْكَلْبَةَ

**Genitive**      الْجَرِّ وَالْمَجْرُورِ

**Plural**

**Singular**

جَلَسْتُ مَعَ كَاتِبَاتِ  
أَكَلْتُ مَعَ الطَّالِبَاتِ  
سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبَاتِ

جَلَسْتُ مَعَ كَاتِبَةٍ  
أَكَلْتُ مَعَ الطَّالِبَةِ  
سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى الْحَبِيبَةِ

In the above cited examples you will notice that single vowel kasrah and double vowel kasratan are both used for accusative and genitive cases of the plural.

**SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 4**

- Discuss the rules of converting singular of Arabic sound feminine nouns to plurals in the nominative case?
- Illustrate your answer with examples?

**جَمْعُ التَّكْسِيرِ (The Broken Plurals)**

The broken plural is one whose pattern of singular changes with an alternation, addition or removal of part of alphabets. This plural must be learnt and memorized by consulting the Arabic dictionary. Some common measures of jam 'u al-taksir are:

أَفْعَالٌ، أَفْعُلٌ، فِعَالٌ، فِعُلٌ، فُعُونٌ

Plural		Singular	
Pens	أَقْلَامٌ	Pen	قَلَمٌ
Eyes	أَعْيُنٌ	an eye	عَيْنٌ
Men	رِجَالٌ	a man	رَجُلٌ
Books	كُتَابٌ	a book	كِتَابٌ
Houses	بُيُوتٌ	A house	بَيْتٌ

There are a lot of forms of measures for this plural produced by Arabic grammarians. I advice you to read the References/Further Reading suggested to you especially the dictionary. These plurals share the same things in common with singular nouns in the three cases i. e. the nominative, accusative and genitive.

Let us have more examples of this plural form.

**3.1.1 Nominative مَرْفُوعٌ فَاعِلٌ**

	Plural	Singular
Stars	كَوَاكِبٌ	كَوْكَبٌ
Sciences	عُلُومٌ	عِلْمٌ
Skins	جُلُودٌ	جِلْدٌ
Professors	أَسَاتِدَةٌ	أَسَاتَدٌ
The students	الطُّلَابُ	الطَّالِبُ
The writers	الْكُتَّابُ	الْكَاتِبُ
The souls	الْقُلُوبُ	الْقَلْبُ
Flags	أَعْلَامٌ	عَلَمٌ
Loaves	أَرْغِفَةٌ	رَغِيفٌ
Occupations	أَعْمَالٌ	عَمَلٌ

The above examples are nominative case for broken plurals.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 5

- i. Define Arabic broken plurals?
- ii. Mention five of its measures with examples?

#### 3.3.2 Accusative مَنصُوبٌ مَّفْعُولٌ بِهِ

As we have said earlier, the plurals share the same things in common with singular nouns in the three cases i. e. the nominative, accusative and genitive. Let us illustrate the accusative case with the following examples.

Men	رَجُلًا، رَجَالًا
Rivers	بَحْرًا، بَحَارًا
Winds	رِيحًا، رِيَاحًا
Mountains	جَبَلًا، جَبَالًا
Eyes	عَيْنًا، أَعْيُنًا
Hearts	قَلْبًا، قُلُوبًا
Swords	سَيْفًا، سِيفًا
Roads	طَرِيقًا، طُرُقًا
Cities	مَدِينَةً، مَدُنًا
House	بَيْتًا، بُيُوتًا

#### 3.3.3 Genitive مَجْرُورٌ

The genitive of broken plurals also follows the genitive singular in vocalization. See the table below.

#### Broken Plural Singular

Successors	خَلِيفَةً، خُلَفَاءِ
Poor men	فَقِيرًا، فُقَرَاءِ
Friends	صَدِيقًا، أَصْدِقَاءِ
Countries	دَوْلَةً، دَوْلِ
Youths	شَبَابًا، شُبَّانِ
Braves	شَجَاعًا، شَجَعَانِ
Months	شَهْرًا، أَشْهُرِ
Commanders	قَائِدًا، قَوَادِ
Schools	مَدْرَسَةً، مَدَارِسِ
Offices	مَكْتَبًا، مَكَاتِبِ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 6

The broken plurals follow the singular nouns in all cases: Examine this statement?

### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

The plurals in Arabic is called al-Jam' u الْجَمْعُ It points to people, things, animals or places that are more than two. The plurals in Arabic are classified into Sound Plurals and Broken Plurals. The sound plurals could also be either the sound masculine plural which takes waw and nun in the nominative cases or yau and nun in the accusative and genitive cases or the sound feminine plural which takes alif and open tau as suffixes; and dammah in the nominative case; and kasrah in the accusative and genitive cases. The plural forms of Arabic broken plurals follow the singular nouns in all cases.

### 5.0 SUMMARY

(الخلاصة)

This unit explores the basic techniques of how to identify the various plurals that are available in Arabic Language. In discusses the sound masculine and sound feminine plurals and their nominative, accusative and genitive cases. The broken plurals is appropriately explained; its measures as produced by the grammarians briefly mentioned and what it shares in common with its singular forms highlighted.

### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

- 1) Identify the plurals among the following words and state the class of plurals they belong:  
حَدَائِقُ، وَلَدٌ، بِنْتُ، أَعْمَالٌ مُكْرَمَاتٌ، مَلَابِسٌ، قَلَمٌ، بَحَارٌ، مَكَاتِبٌ بِجَامِعَاتٍ.
- 2) Explain the rules guiding the sound masculine and feminine plurals?
- 3) Write the broken plural forms of the following singular nouns and mention which case they belong to?  
وَلَدًا، رَجُلًا، الْجَبَلُ، طَرِيقٌ، شَهْرًا.

### 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

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## UNIT 4 PRONOUNS (*Aḏ-Ḍamā'ir*) الضَّمَائِرُ

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
  - 3.1 Personal Pronouns
  - 3.2 Demonstrative Pronouns
  - 3.3 Interrogative Pronouns
  - 3.4 Relative Pronouns
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

You are welcome to this unit; you will be introduced to pronouns in Arabic language. These pronouns are of different kinds like any other nouns in the different languages. The mastery of your mother tongue pronouns will come to your aid in this unit. Relax and start reading the contents one after the other. You will also learn the usage of these pronouns in the Arabic language, how, when and why are they used.

The personal, the demonstrative, the relative and the interrogative pronouns are your focus in this unit. Once again take it easy and let us advance.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- state the different kinds of pronouns in Arabic language
- explain the grammatical rules governing pronouns in the Arabic language
- illustrate how Arabic pronouns are used in oral and written expressions.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Personal Pronouns

When pronouns stand for persons, they are called personal pronouns. Personal pronouns in Arabic can be either in singular, dual or plural. When they are in second and third person singular and plural, personal pronouns in Arabic may also indicate gender. In other words, they may indicate masculine or feminine. Persons are another feature of the personal pronoun. This is another grammatical category of pronouns. Here, let us imagine that you and another person or persons are involved in a discussion about another person or persons who may not necessarily be present. You are the 1st person when you talk; your listener or listeners, are the 2nd person and the one spoken about is 3rd person. The following are the personal pronouns in Arabic language in nominative case.

##### Singular Personal Pronouns

First Person (Masculine & Feminine)	I	أَنَا
Second Person (Masculine)	You	أَنْتَ
Second Person (Feminine)	You	أَنْتِ
Third Person (Masculine)	He	هُوَ
Third Person (Feminine)	She	هِيَ

##### Dual Personal Pronouns

First person (Masc & Fem)	we	نَحْنُ
Second person (Masc & Fem)	you	أَنْتُمَا
Third person (Masc & Fem)	they	هُمَا

**Note-** There is no difference of gender in dual personal pronouns

##### Plural Personal Pronouns

First person (Masculine & Feminine)	we	نَحْنُ
Second person (Masculine)	you	أَنْتُمْ
Second person (Feminine)	you	أَنْتُنَّ
Third person (Masculine)	they	هُمْ
Third person (feminine)	they	هُنَّ

The following are the personal pronouns in Arabic language in the accusative case These personal pronouns are called contiguous pronouns, ضَمَائِرٌ مُتَّصِلَةٌ

**Singular**

First person (Masc & Fem)	my book	كِتَابِي
Second person (Masculine)	your book	كِتَابُكَ
Second person (Fem)	your book	كِتَابُكِ
Third person (Masculine)	his book	كِتَابُهُ
Third person (Fem)	her book	كِتَابُهَا

**Dual**

First person (Masc & Fem)	our book	كِتَابِنَا
Second person (Masc & Fem)	your book	كِتَابُكُمَا
Third person (Masc & Fem)	their book	كِتَابُهُمَا

**Plural**

First person (Masc & Fem)	our book	كِتَابِنَا
Second person (Masc)	your book	كِتَابُكُمْ
Second person (Fem)	your book	كِتَابُكُنَّ
Third person (Masc)	their book	كِتَابُهُمْ
Third person (Fem)	their book	كِتَابُهُنَّ

**SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1**

The personal pronouns are very important in our every time expression?  
Discuss them in detail with illustrations?

**3.2 Demonstrative Pronouns** ضَمَائِرُ الْإِشَارَةِ

A pronoun is demonstrative when it points to a person or thing. Usually demonstrative pronoun can be either singular, dual or plural depending on whether the person or things they point out are singular, dual or plural.

**The Demonstrative Pronouns are:**

This (Masculine) Singular	هَذَا
This (Feminine) Singular	هَذِهِ
These (Masculine) Dual	هَذَانِ
These (Feminine) Dual	هَاتَانِ
These (Masc & Fem) Plural	هَؤُلَاءِ

Let us use them in complete sentences  
This is a boy هَذَا وَلَدٌ



This is a girl	هَذِهِ بِنْتٌ
These are two boys	هَذَانِ وَلَدَانِ
These are two girls	هَاتَانِ بِنْتَانِ
These are boys (more than two)	هَؤُلَاءِ أَوْ لَأُولَئِكَ
These are girls (more than two)	هَؤُلَاءِ بَنَاتٌ
That (Masculine singular)	ذَلِكَ
That (Feminine Singular)	تِلْكَ
Those (dual & plural, masc & fem)	أُولَئِكَ

See examples in sentences below:

That book	ذَلِكَ الْكِتَابُ
That bag	تِلْكَ الْحَقِيْبَةُ
Those men	أُولَئِكَ الرِّجَالُ
Those girls	أُولَئِكَ الْبَنَاتُ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

Define a demonstrative pronoun. Give an example of each of them in complete sentences?

### 3.3 Interrogative Pronouns (asmaul-istifham) أسْمَاءُ لَا سْتِفْهَام

Pronouns used for the purpose of asking questions are called interrogative, al-istifham الاستِفْهَامُ

The most Common Interrogative Pronouns are:

Who?	مَنْ؟
What?	مَاذَا؟
Where?	أَيْنَ؟
How?	كَيْفَ؟
When?	مَتَى؟
How many?	كَمْ؟
How much?	بِكَمْ؟
Which?	أَيُّ؟

See how we make use of these in a given sentence

Who came yesterday?	مَنْ جَاءَ أَمْسَ؟
What is this?	مَا هَذَا؟
Where are you going?	إِلَى أَيْنَ تَذْهَبُ؟
How are you?	كَيْفَ أَنْتَ؟
When are you returning?	مَتَى تَرْجِعُ؟

How many books did you read? كَمْ كِتَابًا قَرَأْتَ؟  
 How much is this pen? بِكَمْ هَذَا الْقَلَمُ؟  
 Which house you entered? أَيُّ بَيْتٍ دَخَلْتَ؟

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 3

Enumerate the interrogative pronouns and use them in sentences of your own?

#### 3.4 Relative Pronouns الأَسْمَاءُ الْمَوْصُولَةُ

Relative pronouns are similar to interrogative pronouns, except that relative pronouns introduce subordinate clauses, and at the same time connect them with the main phrases; e. g. الرَّجُلُ الَّذِي جَاءَ أَمْسَ (The man who came yesterday).

The relative pronouns in Arabic are:

Which, that, who (Masc. Sing) الَّذِي

Which, that, who (Fem) الَّتِي

The following are the dual personal relative pronouns in Arabic language in nominative case.

Which, that, who (Masc. dual) اللذَانِ

Which, that, who (Fem. dual) اللتانِ

Which, that, who (Masc. Plural) الَّذِينَ

Which, that, who (Fem. Plural) اللاتي

After you have been introduced to the above relative pronouns let us make use of them in sentences.

The boy who went to the school

الْوَلَدُ الَّذِي ذَهَبَ إِلَى الْمَدْرَسَةِ

The woman who returned from the market

الْمَرْأَةُ الَّتِي جَعَتَ مِنَ السُّوقِ

The two books that I read

الْكِتَابَانِ اللَّذَانِ قَرَأْتُ

The people who traveled to their home land

النَّاسُ الَّذِينَ سَافَرُوا إِلَى بِلَدِهِمْ

female teachers who arrived yesterday

الْمُدْرَسَاتُ اللَّاتِي قَدِمْنَ فِي الْأَمْسِ

The two girls whom I saw on the way

الْبِنْتَانِ اللَّتَانِ رَأَيْتُهُمَا فِي الطَّرِيقِ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 4

Use five of the relative pronouns in three different sentences in which they will be in the nominative, accusative and genitive cases.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

Pronouns are used in place of nouns to avoid monotony. As we have first, second and third person pronouns in the nominative, accusative and genitive cases, we also have them in the singular, dual and plural forms. Other different kinds of pronouns range from the personal, demonstrative, interrogative to the relative pronouns.

#### 5.0 SUMMARY

(خلاصة)

This unit introduces you to different kinds of pronouns. It also teaches you how to make use of some of these pronouns in a sentence. The difference between singular, dual and plural personal pronouns surfaced while the grammatical cases in which we can find the pronouns are not left out. The Pronouns have been used in sentences as illustrations and examples.

#### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Write down all the personal pronouns from singular to plural?
2. Write all the interrogative pronouns that you know?
3. Mention two relative pronouns and two demonstrative pronouns and use them in a complete sentence?

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## UNIT 5 SUBJECT AND PREDICATE **المُبْتَدَأُ وَالْخَبَرُ**

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objective
- 3.0 Main Content
  - 3.1 Subjects and Predicates
  - 3.2 Adjectives
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the last unit of this module. Here you will be introduced to subjects and predicates in Arabic Language. You will also learn the adjectives and its various forms. The subjects, predicates and adjectives are very important in Arabic grammar. We hope you will take your time dealing with them diligently. Thank you.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- discuss the Subject and predicate in Arabic language.
- construct sentences consisting of subject and predicate in Arabic.
- explain the adjective and its various forms in spoken and written Arabic.
- state the difference between subject, predicate and adjective.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Subject and Predicate **المُبْتَدَأُ وَالْخَبَرُ**

Subject and predicate are nominative nouns. The subject (al-mubtada) begins a nominal sentence while the predicate (al-khabar) complete its full meaning. We want you to know that the subject (al-mubtada') is always definite noun while the predicate is (al-khabar) always indefinite. The examples below will assist you in comprehending the above explanations.

Knowledge is light	الْعِلْمُ نُورٌ
The male teacher is standing	الْمُدْرَسُ قَائِمٌ
The boy is present	الْوَلَدُ حَاضِرٌ
The girl is small	الْبِنْتُ صَغِيرَةٌ
The house is spacious	الْبَيْتُ وَاسِعٌ
The man is tall	الرَّجُلُ طَوِيلٌ
The female teacher is sitting	الْمُدْرَسَةُ جَالِسَةٌ
The woman is beautiful	الْمَرْأَةُ جَمِيلَةٌ
The blessing is a wish	الْبَرَكَاتُ مَطْلُوبَةٌ
The female student is clever	الطَّالِبَةُ مَاهِرَةٌ

You will observe that the nouns that begin the sentences have definite articles that is what we called the subject al-mubtada' and the nouns that complete the sentences are indefinite articles. This is called (al-khabar).

Also, you will notice that if the subject is masculine the predicate will also be masculine and vice-versa. You can also change the singular to dual or plural. Once you have done that, the subject and predicate will also be either dual or plural. Now let us change some of those examples above to dual and plural. You will notice that if subject changes, the predicate will also change.

The two boys are present	الْوَلَدَانِ حَاضِرَانِ
The two women are beautiful	الْمَرْأَتَانِ جَمِيلَتَانِ

These are dual examples. Now let us see the plural form:

The men are tall	الرِّجَالُ طَوِيلُونَ
The female students are clever	الطَّالِبَاتُ مَاهِرَاتُ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

1. Explain the subject and predicate in Arabic grammar?
2. Illustrate your answer with two samples each?

### 3.2 The Adjective (aṣ-Ṣifah) الصِّفَةُ

In Arabic, we say adjective and the qualified (as-sifatu wal-mawsuuf). الصِّفَةُ  
وَالْمَوْصُوفُ In the Arabic tongue, adjective may be used as a noun. Both  
noun and adjective share the same pattern of grammatical rules. They must  
agree in singular, dual or plural pattern; so also in the definite or indefinite,  
masculine or feminine patterns. Constant practice in reading and  
consultation of dictionary of Arabic will determine how much you can  
acquire as far as nouns and adjectives are concerned.

Never mind, we will give you the guideline that if you see the adjective and the qualified, you will quickly recognize them. As you are following me in this discussion, the knowledge of subjects and predicates will assist you a lot. Hope you have gone through and master the rules.

The adjective and the qualified (noun) are twin sisters; they do not leave each other. They look alike; they share the same thing in common. The examples below will showcase these latter characteristics. Let us have them.

The small boy	الْوَلَدُ الصَّغِيرُ
The tall man	الرَّجُلُ الطَّوِيلُ
The beautiful woman	الْمَرْأَةُ الْجَمِيلَةُ
The small girl	الْبِنْتُ الصَّغِيرَةُ
The glorious Qur'an	الْقُرْآنُ الْكَرِيمُ
The short story	الْقِصَّةُ الْقَصِيرَةُ

Now looking at the above examples, all are combination of masculine and feminine, definite and indefinite.

We must point out that there is a difference between subject and predicate and adjective because the adjective follows the qualified in all while the predicate does not follow the subject in all. What do we mean by all is that if noun is singular form, an adjective will also be singular.

Further, if it is either dual, plural, masculine, feminine, nominative, accusative, or genitive, it should be reiterated by way of emphasis that the adjective follows the noun in all. Let us take example one by one by using one example for masculine in all and feminine in all.

A small boy came (Nominative)	جَاءَ الْوَلَدُ الصَّغِيرُ
I sent a small boy (Accusative)	أَرْسَلْتُ الْوَلَدَ الصَّغِيرَ
I sat with a small boy (Genitive)	جَلَسْتُ مَعَ الْوَلَدِ الصَّغِيرِ
The small boy came (nom) (Masc.)	جَاءَ الْوَلَدُ الصَّغِيرُ
I sent the small boy (Acc.) (Masc.)	أَرْسَلْتُ الْوَلَدَ الصَّغِيرَ
I sat with the small boy (Gen.) (Masc.)	جَلَسْتُ مَعَ الْوَلَدِ الصَّغِيرِ
A small girl stood up (nom) (fem)	قَامَتِ الْبِنْتُ الصَّغِيرَةُ
I met a small girl (Acc.) (fem)	لَقِيتُ بِنْتَ الصَّغِيرَةِ
I greeted a small girl (Gen.) (fem)	سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى بِنْتِ الصَّغِيرَةِ
The small girl stood up (nom) (fem)	قَامَتِ الْبِنْتُ الصَّغِيرَةُ
I met the small girl (Acc) (fem)	لَقِيتُ الْبِنْتَ الصَّغِيرَةَ
I greeted the small girl (Gen) (fem)	سَلَّمْتُ عَلَى الْبِنْتِ الصَّغِيرَةِ

You will notice that they follow each other in all ramifications. The same thing occurs in dual form. The only slight change is in plural where if noun is a sound plural the adjective can be either sound or broken. At times noun can also be broken while adjective takes different form of plural. All is well, when noun is plural adjective is also plural.

Examples:

The small boys has come                      قَدْ حَضَرَ الْأَوْلَادُ الصَّغِيرُونَ  
The small girls has come                      قَدْ حَضَرَتِ الْبَنَاتُ الصَّغِيرَاتُ

Hence, you could see that nouns are broken plural while adjectives are sound plural. It may also be other way round. e. g.

The Ignorant travelers fought with one another.                      تَخَاصَمَ الْمُسَافِرُونَ الْجُهَالُ

The rich Muslims gave alms                      تَصَدَّقَ الْمُسْلِمُونَ الْأَغْنِيَاءُ

Hence, the nouns are sound plural, while the adjectives take the broken plural form.

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

- i. The adjective must agree with the noun it qualifies in all case; Discuss this submission?
- ii. Give examples in Arabic?

## 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

In the Arabic language a sentence may consist of subject and predicate. The subject and predicate as a grammatical rule differ from each other in certain characteristics. While the subject is definite the predicate is indefinite. On the other hand, the two are nominative nouns. Secondly, adjectives that qualify nouns share the same features such as numbers, gender, definiteness or indefiniteness. So also they must agree in the nominative, accusative and genitive cases. Finally the difference between subjects and predicates and adjectives is that adjective follow the qualified in all, while the subject differs from predicate in the article. The only area where there is a slight change is in plural form where either of the two (noun and adjective) (subject and predicate) can take the sound plural while the other take the broken plural.

## 5.0 SUMMARY

(خُلَاصَةٌ)

In this unit you have been introduced to subjects and predicates. You have also learnt the adjective and the qualified. You have been told that the qualified is a noun described by an adjective. In this unit also, you are acquainted with the fact that the subject, the predicate and the adjective share many things in common except in some places where they differ from one another.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Explain fully what you know on the subject, the predicate and the adjective in the Arabic language?
2. Write ten sentences in Arabic subject and predicate five for the masculine gender and five others for the feminine?
3. Use the following nouns and adjectives in all forms that you know?

المُعَلِّمُ الْمُجْتَهِدُ  
المُسَلِّمَةُ الْمُجْتَهِدَةُ

## 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

- Cowan, D. (1958). An Introduction in Modern Literary Arabic. London. Cambridge University Press.
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## **MODULE 2      THE VERBS الأفعال**

Unit 1	Importance of Verb
Unit 2	Divisions of Verb
Unit 3	The Perfect Measure of Trilateral Verbs
Unit 4	The Imperfect Measure of Trilateral Verb
Unit 5	The Imperative

### **UNIT 1      IMPORTANCE OF VERB**

#### **CONTENTS**

1.0	Introduction
2.0	Objectives
3.0	Main Content
3.1	Importance of Verb
3.2	Types of Verb
3.2.1	Trilateral
3.2.2	Quadrilateral
4.0	Conclusion
5.0	Summary
6.0	Tutor-Marked Assignment
7.0	References/Further Reading.

#### **1.0      INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to the first unit of module two. In this unit you will be introduced to the importance of verbs in Arabic language. Type of verbs such as Trilateral and quadrilateral verbs in Arabic shall also be introduced to you.

#### **2.0      OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- state the importance of verbs in Arabic language grammar.
- highlight the trilateral verbs in Arabic language grammar
- identify the quadrilateral verbs in Arabic grammar.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Importance of Verbs in Arabic Grammar

Verbs in Arabic language, just like in any other languages of the world, are a most important linguistic element. We want you to know that there is no other part of speech that could exist alone as a sentence and have meaning without a verb in it, where as sentence can be formed by a verb alone. If we say اجلس 'ijlis' 'sit', It is a complete sentence that could portray a full meaning that a sentence with a subject, verb and object could have.

A verb could be defined as a grammatical word that states the action(s) performed or relationship that exists between a subject and an object of a given sentence. As the link and the presenter of the actions performed or the relationship that exist between the 'performer' and the 'action performed', the verb is then very important aspect of the grammatical parts of speech in Arabic language.

#### 3.2 Types of Verbs

In Arabic language there are mainly two types of verbs namely **الفعل الثلاثي** trilateral verbs and **الفعل الرباعي** quadrilateral verbs. The two types have their way of measures. We shall discuss these verbs extensively.

##### 3.2.1 The Trilateral Verb **الفعل الثلاثي**

Generally, composition of Arabic verbs is three radicals which are the root letters. The reason why it is called trilateral verbs is that it consists of three radical letters. For example: 'Kataba' كَتَبَ he wrote. The three radicals here are ب ت ك k, t, b. The measure of the trilateral verbs is fa'ala **فَعَلَ**, fa'ila **فَعِلَ** or fa'ula **فَعُلَ**

The first letter of trilateral verb is called **fāu al-fi li**, **فَاءُ الْفِعْلِ** the middle or second letter is known as **aynu al-fi'il**, **عَيْنُ الْفِعْلِ** while the last letter is Lam **al-fi'il** **لَامُ الْفِعْلِ** These are explained in the following examples:

كَتَبَ = فَعَلَ

سَمِعَ = فَعِلَ

قَرُبَ = فَعُلَ

The meaning of **فَعَلَ فَعِلَ فَعُلَ** is 'to do' because it is a doing word (action), **كَتَبَ** 'Kataba' means 'to write', **سَمِعَ** sami'a means, to hear and **قَرُبَ** qaruba is to move near.

This table will illustrate our saying clearer

Fa'ula فَعُلَ	Fa'ila فَعِلَ	Fa'ala فَعَلَ
To be honored كُرِّمَ	To play عَبَّ	To write كَتَبَ
To be difficult صَعِبَ	To know عَلِمَ	To thank شَكَرَ
To be dignified تَرَفَّأَ	To pity رَحِمَ	To open فَتَحَ
To be huge ضَخُمَ	To witness شَهِدَ	To help أَسْرَعَ
To move near زُبَّ	To feel thirsty عَطِشَ	To sit جَلَسَ

There are some other verbs that consist of additional letters(s) with trilateral verbs. We do not regard them as quadrilateral. These shall be taught in higher level. It should be noted that the above table is practically based on simple trilateral verbs.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

Highlight the significance of verb as a part of speech?

Discuss the trilateral patterns of the Arabic language verbs?

### 3.2.2 الفِعْلُ الرَّبَاعِيُّ Quadrilateral Verb

The quadrilateral verb in Arabic language is those verbs that consist of four radical letters. For example بِسْمَلِ 'basmala. He began 'with the name of Allah'. The measure of quadrilateral verb in Arabic language is فَعْلَالِ fa'lala, to do, The examples of quadrilateral verbs are the following:

To roll	دَحْرَجَ
To shake	زَلْزَلَ
To giggle	فَهَّقَهُ
To say the name of God	بَسَمَلَ
To philosophize	فَلْسَفَ
To pray for Prophet Muhammad	صَلَّصَلَ
To eternize	سَرَّمَدَ
To glorify God	سَبَّحَلَ

As we have told you earlier, the quadrilateral verbs in Arabic language are very few in number. We are introducing these verbs to you so that you will identify them in any Arabic sentence.

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

How many radical letters do the quadrilateral verbs contain?  
Illustrate your answer with examples in Arabic?.

### 3.2.3 **الفِعْلُ الْخَمَّاسِيُّ وَالسُّدَّاسِيُّ** Quintuple and Sextuple Verbs

Another types of Verbs are Quintuple and Sextuple, the earlier consists of five letters while the later consists of six letters some examples of the both are given bellow:

#### Quintuple verbs:

To follow a sect                      تَمَذُّهُبَ  
To fight one another                تَنَاقَلَ

#### Sextuple Verbs:

To assimilate                         اسْتَوَّعَبَ  
To seek for forgiveness            اسْتَغْفَرَ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

Explain the Quintuple and Sextuple Verbs and give five examples of each in Arabic?

## 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

Verbs are very important parts of speech in any language including Arabic. The trilateral and the quadrilateral are two important patterns of Arabic language verbs. The trilateral are verbs that consist of three radical letters while the quadrilaterals are those consisting of four radical letters. The Arabic trilateral verbs are many while the quadrilateral verbs are in only four patterns.

## 5.0 SUMMARY

(خلاصة)

This unit introduces you to the importance of verbs as a part of speech and its various kinds in the Arabic language. It discusses in brief the Arabic trilateral verbs and quadrilateral verbs and an eye-birds view of their radical letters. It provides examples and gives exercises that will help your mastery of those aspects of the Arabic language verbs.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Explain the importance of verbs in Arabic language?
2. Write two trilateral verbs for each of its three patterns, that is, fa‘ala فَعَلَ, fa‘ila فَعِيل or fa‘ula فَعُول?
3. [
4. Explain quadrilateral verbs with examples?
5. Illustrate Quintuple and Sextuple Verbs with examples in Arabic?

## 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

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## **UNIT 2     DIVISION OF VERBS**

### **CONTENTS**

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
  - 3.1 Division of Verbs
    - 3.1.1 Sound Verbs
    - 3.1.2 Weak Verbs
    - 3.1.3 Transitive Verbs
    - 3.1.4 Intransitive Verbs
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Reading

### **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Like in the English language with which you are familiar, there are various divisions of verbs, regular and irregular, auxiliary, transitive and intransitive. Also in tenses, we have past, present, future and command. So also is the case with Arabic language. In this unit, you will be introduced to these divisions and different kinds of verbs as taught in Arabic language grammar. Copious examples shall be given to you to facilitate your understanding of the issues involved. Exercises shall also be provided to test your competence. You are welcome.

### **2.0 OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- identify sound and weak verbs in spoken and written Arabic language
- explain transitive and intransitive verbs in Arabic grammar.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Division of Verbs

##### 3.1.1 Sound Verb **فِعْلٌ صَدِيقٌ**

Sound verb is a verb whose three radical letters do not contain any of the weak letters. The weak letters are, (أَلِفٌ، وَاوٌ، وَيَاءٌ) alif, wawu and yau. Examples of sound verbs are **كَتَبَ** kataba, to write. **قَرَأَ** qara'a, to read.

**سَمِعَ** sami'a, to hear. The above examples showed that none of the letters is weak letter. Sound verb is also divided into three main categories.

1) Salim, (free) **سَالِمٌ** This is a kind of verb that is pure of any weak letters and does not contain hamzat 'أ' or compound letters.

Examples of *Sālim* are as follows:

To write	<b>كَتَبَ</b>
To sit	<b>جَلَسَ</b>
To go	<b>ذَهَبَ</b>
To help	<b>سَاعَدَ</b>
To hear	<b>سَمِعَ</b>
To learn	<b>عَلِمَ</b>

2) Mahmūz (Possessor of hamzat) **مَهْمُوزٌ** This is a sound verb that contains hamzat in one of its three radical letters. This kind of verb is very few in Arabic language.

Examples of Mahmuz are these:

To take	<b>أَخَذَ</b>
To ask	<b>سَأَلَ</b>
To read	<b>قَرَأَ</b>

The hamzat could be at the begin like **أَخَذَ** or middle such as **سَأَلَ** and last letter like **قَرَأَ**.

3) Muḍa'afu – (Compound) **مُضَعَّفٌ** This is a kind of verb that the second and the third letters are the same but rather made as one letter.

Examples are the following:

To run away	<b>فَرَّ</b>
-------------	--------------

To spread	مَدَّ
To do harm	ضَرَّ
To be stingy	شَحَّ
To point	دَلَّ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

Examine your self on Arabic language sound verbs and its various kinds?

#### 3.1.2 Weak Verb فِعْلٌ مُعْتَلٌ

This is a verb that contains one of the three weak letters, that is, (وي ا) It also has sub-divisions.

- 1) al-Mithāl المِثَالُ : This is a verb whose first letter is one of the weak letters.

Examples are:

To find	وَجَدَ
To stand	وَقَفَ
To inherit	وَرِثَ
To dry	يَبَسَ
To give charity	وَهَبَ

The above verbs begin with 'و' and ي. These two letters are weak letters in Arabic.

- 2) al-ajwaf الأَجْوَفُ: al-ajwaf is a kind of verb whose middle letter is a weak letter. See the example below:

To say	قَالَ
To get	نَالَ
To sleep	نَامَ
To come	جَاءَ
To sell	بَاعَ

You can see that the middle letter is alif ( ا ) and this is one of the weak letters.

- 3) an-Naaqiṣ النّاقِصُ an-nāqiṣ is a verb whose last letter is a weak letter. Let us see the examples of this kind of verb:



To walk/move	سَعَى
To judge	قَضَى
To forbid	نَهَى
To throw	رَمَى
To become high	عَلَى

You will see that the last letter of the above examples is pronounced (alif) but written with *Yāu* ( ي ). Both alif and *yāu* are weak letters.

4) al-lafīfu **اللَّفِيفُ**: This is a kind of verb that possesses two weak letters in a particular verb. Those two letters may be separated or followed each other.

a) al-lafīfu al-Mafruq (The Separated lafif) **اللَّفِيفُ الْمَفْرُوقُ**: This is a verb that its two weak letters are separated from each other. For example:

To safe	وَعَى
To be secured	وَقَى

b) al-lafifu, al-Maqrān (The Joint lafif). **اللَّفِيفُ الْمَقْرُنُ** This is a verb whose two weak letters follow each other, e. g. To iron/press (a cloth) **كَوَى**

To fold **طَوَى** You will notice that in a separated lafif example. It is ق that separated و and ي Then, if you look well at the joint lafif, you will see that the و and ي follow each other in **طَوَى** and **كَوَى**.

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

- Explain Arabic language weak verbs and its various kinds?
- Give examples for what you say?

### 3.1.3 Transitive Verb **فِعْلٌ مُتَعَدٍّ**

[

This is a verb in which the subject of a verb requires an object in a given sentence. Examples are: termed

To beat	ضَرَبَ
To help	نَصَرَ
To open	فَتَحَ
To praise	حَمَدَ

The above examples require an object in a given sentence.

### 3.1.4 Intransitive Verb **فِعْلٌ لَّا زِمٌّ**

It is a verb in which the subject of any sentence does not require object.

Examples are:

To come	جَاءَ
To go	ذَهَبَ
To rejoice	فَرِحَ
To sit	جَلَسَ
To go out	خَرَجَ

These are Arabic language verbs that need no object. Let us see the example of both transitive and intransitive verb in two sentences.

#### Transitive Verb:

Ahmad killed the dog **قَتَلَ أَحْمَدُ الْكَلْبَ**

You see that Ahmad is subject, **قَتَلَ** is the verb and **الْكَلْبَ** is the object of the sentence.

#### Intransitive Verb:

Adam came **جَاءَ آدَمٌ**

You see that the sentence does not require an object.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 3

- Expatriate upon transitive and intransitive verbs in the Arabic language?
- Provide examples for your submissions?

### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

Arabic language verbs are divided into sound and weak verbs. The sound verbs are those whose letters are completely sound, those that have hamzah **هَمْزَةٌ** as one of its trilateral called **مَهْمُوزٌ mahmūz** and those with doubled letter called **مُضَعَّفٌ muda‘aff**. The weak verbs are those that contain weak letter in one of its trilaterals. The grammatical terminology for verb whose **fāu`l-fi‘l** is a weak letter is **مِثَالٌ mithāl**; the verb whose **‘aynu l-fi‘l** is weak is called **أَجْوَفٌ ajwaf** while that whose **lāmu l-fi‘l** is weak is called **مَنْقُوصٌ al-manqūsu l-binā**. If a verb has more than one weak verb its terminology is **لَفِيفٌ lafiḥ** which could be **مَفْرُوقٌ mafruq** if separated is **مَقْرُونٌ maqrūn** if unseparated. Arabic verbs can also be transitive requiring an object or intransitive not requiring an object.

## 5.0 SUMMARY

(خلاصة)

This unit introduces you to the divisions of verb in the Arabic language. It discusses the division of sound verbs into سَالِمٌ Sālim (free), مَهْمُوزٌ Mahmūz (Possessor of Hamzat) and مُضَعَّفٌ muda‘af (compound); and the division of weak verbs into مِثَالٌ mithāl, أَجْوَفٌ ajwaf, مَنْقُوصٌ manqus and لَفِيفٌ lafif. The transitive and intransitive verbs are also treated in the Unit. Copies examples in words and sentences are provided for illustration. The unit also contains tests meant for your self assessment.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Define Arabic language sound verbs and illustrate them with examples?
2. (2) Give a list of Arabic weak verbs and their various divisions with illustrations?
3. Explain the transitive and intransitive verbs in Arabic language Mention five verbs for each of them and use them in meaningful sentences?

## 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

- Cowan, D. (1958). An Introduction in Modern Literary Arabic. London: Cambridge University Press.
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## UNIT 3 THE PAST TENSE /PERFECT VERBS **الفعلُ المَاضِي**

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main content
  - 3.1 Conjugation of the Past Tense/Perfect Trilateral Sound Verbs
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Reading.

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be learning the conjugation of verbs in Arabic language. The measure of the tense will cover first, second and third persons singular, dual, and plural. You will be introduced to the easier techniques with which an Arabic grammar learner like you could apply in conjugating perfect Arabic verbs.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- construct oral and written sentences using Arabic perfect verbs.
- identify the first person singular, dual and plural measure of Arabic perfect verbs.
- identify the second person singular, dual and plural measure of Arabic perfect verbs.
- identify the third person singular, dual and plural measure of the Arabic perfect verbs.
- identify the morphemes (suffixation) with which could be added with a verb to facilitate grammatically correct conjugation.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Conjugation of the Past Tense/Perfect Trilateral Sound Verbs

The past tense/simple perfect trilateral sound verb is a verb used when we want to indicate activities or state in the past without indicating any

connection with the present. The simple perfect / past tense of trilateral sound verb is conjugated according to the following paradigm.

1st person singular (Masculine & Feminine):	I did	فَعَلْتُ
2nd person singular Masculine:	You did	فَعَلْتَ
2nd person singular feminine:	You did	فَعَلْتِ
3rd person singular masculine:	He did	فَعَلَ
3rd person singular feminine:	She did	فَعَلَتْ
2nd person dual (masculine & feminine):	You did	فَعَلْتُمَا
3rd person dual masculine:	They did	فَعَلَا
3rd person dual feminine:	They did	فَعَلْتَا
1st person dual and plural (masc. & fem.):	We did	فَعَلْنَا
2nd person plural masculine:	You did	فَعَلْتُمْ
2nd person plural feminine:	You did	فَعَلْتُنَّ
3rd person plural masculine:	They did	فَعَلُوا
3rd person plural feminine:	They did	فَعَلْنَ

There is a change of vowel in the third letter of the radicals. i.e. ‘□□’ other letters do not change. For example fa’ala فَعَلَ, ‘he did’ changes to fa’altu فَعَلْتُ ‘I did’.

There is no difference in conjugation whether a verb is fa’ala فَعَلَ or fa’ila فَعِلَ or fa’ula فَعُلَ. it is only lam ‘ل’ that will change during the conjugation. We will give you examples of various patterns.

### Example (A)

To write كَتَبَ to do فَعَلَ

This is where the second letter is given fat-hah ‘a’

1st person singular (masc. and fem.):	I wrote	كَتَبْتُ
2nd person singular masculine:	You wrote	كَتَبْتَ
2nd person singular feminine:	You wrote	كَتَبْتِ
3rd person singular masculine:	He wrote	كَتَبَ
3rd person singular feminine:	She wrote	كَتَبَتْ
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.):	You wrote	كَتَبْتُمَا
3rd person dual masculine:	They wrote	كَتَبَا
3rd person dual feminine:	They wrote	كَتَبْتَا
1st person dual & plural (Masc. & fem.):	We wrote	كَتَبْنَا
2nd person plural Masculine:	You wrote	كَتَبْتُمْ
2nd person plural feminine:	You wrote	كَتَبْتُنَّ
3rd person plural masculine:	They wrote	كَتَبُوا
3rd person plural feminine:	They wrote	كَتَبْنَ

**Example (B)**

We now conjugate لَعِبَ which equates فَعَلَ pattern:

1st person singular (masculine & feminine):	I played	لَعِبْتُ
2nd person singular masculine:	You played	لَعِبْتَ
2nd person singular feminine:	You played	لَعِبْتِ
3rd person singular masculine:	He played	لَعِبَ
3rd person singular feminine:	She played	لَعِبَتْ
2nd person dual (masculine and feminine):	You played	لَعِبْتُمَا
3rd person dual masculine:	They played	لَعِبَا
3rd person dual feminine:	They played	لَعِبْتَا
1st person dual and plural (masc. & fem.):	We played	لَعِبْنَا
2nd person plural masculine:	You played	لَعِبْتُمْ
2nd person plural feminine:	You played	لَعِبْتُنَّ
3rd person plural masculine:	They played	لَعِبُوا
3rd person plural feminine:	They played	لَعِبْنَ

**Example (C) :**

The third and last pattern is شَرَّفَ such as شَرَّفَ

1st person singular (masc. & fem.):	I am dignified	شَرَّفْتُ
2nd person singular masculine:	You are dignified	شَرَّفْتَ
2nd person singular feminine:	You are dignified	شَرَّفْتِ
3rd person singular masculine:	He is dignified	شَرَّفَ
3rd person singular feminine:	She is dignified	شَرَّفَتْ
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.):	You are dignified	شَرَّفْتُمَا
3rd person dual masculine:	They are dignified	شَرَّفَا
3rd person dual feminine:	They are dignified	شَرَّفْتَا
1st person dual & plural (masc & fem.):	We are dignified	شَرَّفْنَا
2nd person plural masculine:	You are dignified	شَرَّفْتُمْ
2nd person plural feminine:	You are dignified	شَرَّفْتُنَّ
3rd person plural masculine:	They are dignified	شَرَّفُوا
3rd person plural feminine:	They are dignified	شَرَّفْنَ

Dear students you will see that the third letter changes from vowel 'a' to sukun ْ or 'u' at other time there are morphemes at the suffix of the verb. There is no distinction in conjugation whether the verb is fa'ala فَعَلَ or fa'ula فَعُلَ

**SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE**

[

Conjugate these following verbs in Arabic past tense/perfect measure.

- رَغِبَ to desire  
 □□ ذَهَبَ to go  
 □□ صَعُبَ to be difficult.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

We hereby remind you of the basic rules by way of euphrasy: The past tense/perfect trilateral sound verb is a verb used when we want to indicate activities or state in the past without indicating any connection with the present.

There is a change of vowel in the third letter of the radicals. i.e. '□□' other letters do not change.

There is no difference in conjugation whether a verb is fa'ala فَعَلَ or fa'ila فَعِلَ or fa'ula فَعُلَ

#### 5.0 SUMMARY

(الخلاصة)

This unit treats the rules governing the conjugation of past tense/ perfect sound trilateral verbs which constitute the largest number Arabic language verbs. The unit adequately informs you of that there are no changes regarding the second letter vowels; and that the letter's vowel changes from - َ a to sukun - ْ or - ُ u. The unit enriches your verbal vocabulary and technique of conjugation of trilateral sound verbs through adequate explanation and examples.

#### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Conjugate the following verbs in perfect form:

- a - دَرَسَ to study  
 b - جَلَسَ to sit  
 c - قَتَلَ to kill  
 d - حَسِبَ to think  
 e - حَسَنَ to be good  
 f - كَرُمَ to be honoured  
 g - قَرُبَ to move near  
 h - فَرَحَ to rejoice  
 i - سَلِمَ to be free  
 j - فَتَحَ to open

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## UNIT 4 THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS TENSE/IMPERFECT VERBS الأفعال المضارعة

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
  - 3.1 The Imperfect Measure of Trilateral Sound Verbs (Indicative)
  - 3.2 Future tense
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Reading

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

You are welcome to another unit. In this unit you will be introduced to the Present Continuous/Imperfect verbs in Arabic language. The conjugation of the present active indicative form of the trilateral sound verbs will also be presented for you to study, digest and comprehend. You will also learn the future tense of the trilateral sound verbs in the unit.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- identify present continuous/imperfect tense of Arabic sound trilateral verbs.
- write present continuous/imperfect tense of Arabic sound trilateral verbs in all the active indicative forms.
- mention the prefixes and suffixes (morphemes) of the present continuous/imperfect tense in the Arabic language.
- construct sentences using Arabic present continuous/imperfect tense trilateral sound Arabic verbs.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 The Imperfect Measure of Arabic Trilateral Sound Verbs

As in the English language, the imperfect verb in Arabic is any verb that indicates the occurrence or state of an action in the present. We need to

introduce you to six patterns which imperfect tense form can take before we go further. Like we have said earlier in the previous unit the perfect tense takes only three patterns which are **فَعَلَ** and **فَعِلَ** and **فَعُلَ**. Now let us see the patterns or forms of the imperfect verbs.

Imperfect		Perfect	
يَفْتَحُ .e.g	يَفْعَلُ	فَتَحَ .e.g	فَعَلَ
يَجْلِسُ .e.g	يَفْعِلُ	جَلَسَ .e.g	فَعَلَ
يَكْتُبُ .e.g	يَفْعُلُ	كَتَبَ .e.g	فَعَلَ
يَلْعَبُ .e.g	يَفْعَلُ	لَعِبَ .e.g	فَعِلَ
يَحْسِبُ .e.g	يَفْعِلُ	حَسِبَ .e.g	فَعَلَ
يَحْسُنُ .e.g	يَفْعُلُ	حَسَنَ .e.g	فَعَلَ

Now, take note that 'فَعَلَ' consists of three different patterns of imperfect. The second letter of perfect verb could be vowel U 'a' g 'i' or 'u', fathah, kasrah or dammah. You will also see that 'فَعَلَ' has two imperfect forms that is, the letter could be either U 'a' or g 'i' (fat-hah or kasrah) in imperfect form. While the last pattern 'فَعُلَ' remains unchanged and retains its 'u' (dammah) vowel. See the examples above as we will also illustrate it further below.

-	He opens / He is opening	يَفْتَحُ	to open	فَتَحَ
-	He sits / He is sitting	يَجْلِسُ	to sit	جَلَسَ
-	He writes / he is writing	يَكْتُبُ	to write	كَتَبَ
-	He plays / he is playing	يَلْعَبُ	to play	لَعِبَ
-	He thinks / he is thinking	يَحْسِبُ	to think	حَسِبَ
-	He moves near/ he is moving near	يَقْرُبُ	to move near	قَرَّبَ

Now let us conjugate the present/imperfect tense verb of Arabic language. We want you to know that there are four letters of imperfect verb. These are hamzat 'أ' nun 'ن', yau 'ي' and tau 'ت'. These four letters are prefixed with the imperfect verbs.

1st person singular (masc. and fem.) I do	(af '(a) (i) (u) lu)	أَفْعَلُ
2nd person singular masculine You do	(taf '(a) (i) (u) lu)	تَفْعَلُ
2nd person singular feminine You do	taf '(a) (i) (u) lāna)	تَفْعَلِينَ
3rd person singular masculine He does	(yaf '(a) (i) (u) lu)	يَفْعَلُ
3rd person singular She does	(taf '(a) (i) (u) lu)	تَفْعَلُ
2nd person dual (masculine and feminine) You do	(taf '(a) (i) (u) lani)	تَفْعَلَانِ
3rd person dual masculine They do	(yaf '(a) (i) (u) lani)	يَفْعَلَانِ
3rd person dual feminine They do	(taf '(a) (i) (u) lani)	تَفْعَلَانِ
1st person dual and plural (masc. & fem.) We do	(naf '(a) (i) (u) lu)	نَفْعَلُ
2nd person plural masculine You do	(taf '(a) (i) (u) luna)	تَفْعَلُونَ

2nd person plural feminine You do	(taf ‘(a) (i) (u) lna)	تَفْعَلْنَ
3rd person plural masculine They do	(yaf ‘(a) (i) (u) luna)	يَفْعَلُونَ
3rd person plural feminine They do	(yaf‘(a) (i) (u) lna)	يَفْعَلْنَ

In the above paradigm, you will see that we have treated the three possible ways in which the second radical of perfect ‘□’ can be either a, i or u (fathah, kasrah and dammah).

Now let use Yaftau “يَفْتَحُ” he opens/ is opening as example.

1st person singular masc. & fem. I open / am opening	أَفْتَحُ
2nd person singular masculine You open/ are opening	تَفْتَحُ
2nd person singular feminine You open/are opening	تَفْتَحِينَ
3rd person singular masculine He opens/is opening	يَفْتَحُ
3rd person singular She opens / is opening	تَفْتَحُ
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.) You (two) open are opening	تَفْتَحَانِ
3rd person dual masculine They (two) open/are opening	يَفْتَحَانِ
3rd person dual feminine They (two) are opening	تَفْتَحَانِ
1st person dual & plural (masc.& fem.) We open / are opening	نَفْتَحُ
2nd person plural masculine You open / are opening	تَفْتَحُونَ
2nd person plural feminine You open /are opening	تَفْتَحْنَ
3rd person plural masculine They open / are opening	يَفْتَحُونَ
3rd person plural feminine They open / are opening	يَفْتَحْنَ

The above example is based on fat-hah ‘a’ vowel in the penultimate letter.

Now let us see the kasrah ‘i’ vowel in the penultimate letter also.

1st person singular (masc. and fem.):	I sit / am sitting	أَجْلِسُ
2nd person singular masculine:	You sit / are sitting	تَجْلِسُ
2nd person singular feminine:	You sit / are sitting	تَجْلِسِينَ
3rd person singular masculine:	He sits / is sitting	يَجْلِسُ
3rd person singular:	She sits / is sitting	تَجْلِسُ
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.):	You sit / are sitting	تَجْلِسَانِ
3rd person dual masculine:	They (two) sit / are sitting	يَجْلِسَانِ
3rd person dual feminine:	They (two) sit / are sitting	تَجْلِسَانِ
1st person dual & plural (masc. & fem):	We sit / are sitting	نَجْلِسُ
2nd person plural masculine:	You sit / are sitting	تَجْلِسُونَ
2nd person plural feminine:	You sit / are sitting	تَجْلِسْنَ
3rd person plural masculine:	They sit / are sitting	يَجْلِسُونَ
3rd person plural feminine:	They sit / are sitting	يَجْلِسْنَ

The last pattern is dammah ‘u’ vowel as in ‘يُدْرُسُ’ he studies’.

1st person singular (masc. & fam.):	I study / am studying	أُدْرُسُ
-------------------------------------	-----------------------	----------

2nd person singular masculine: You study / are studying	تَدْرُسُ
2nd person singular feminine: You study / are studying	تَدْرُسِينَ
3rd person singular masculine: He studies / is studying	يَدْرُسُ
3rd person singular: She studies/is studying	تَدْرُسُ
2nd person dual (masc. & fem.) You (two) study / are studying	تَدْرُسَانِ
3rd person dual masculine They (two) are studying	يَدْرُسَانِ
3rd person dual feminine They (two) study / are Studying	تَدْرُسَانِ
1st person dual & plural (masc. & fem.) We study / are studying	نَدْرُسُ
2nd person plural masculine You study / are studying	تَدْرُسُونَ
2nd person plural feminine You study / are studying	تَدْرُسْنَ
3rd person plural masculine They study / are studying	يَدْرُسُونَ
3rd person plural feminine They study / are studying	يَدْرُسْنَ

This is how you will be conjugating the imperfect, simple present and present continuous tenses indicative Arabic verbs irrespective of vowel on the second letter of perfect verb.

### 3.2 Future Tense

The imperfect indicative in Arabic language is also used to express future action, but in this case it is generally strengthened by prefixing the future particle sa... سَ or saofa... سَوْفَ (will or shall). These are examples for illustration:

The conjugation of future tense is as follows:

1st person singular (masc. & fem.): I will/shall write	سَأَكْتُبُ / سَوْفَ أَكْتُبُ
2nd person singular masculine: You will/shall write	سَتَكْتُبُ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبُ
2nd person singular feminine: You will/shall write	سَتَكْتُبِينَ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبِينَ
3rd person singular masculine: (masculine) he will / shall write	سَيَكْتُبُ / سَوْفَ يَكْتُبُ
3rd person singular: She will/shall write	سَتَكْتُبُ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبُ
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.): You will/shall write	سَتَكْتُبَانِ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبَانِ
3rd person dual masculine: They will/shall write	سَيَكْتُبَانِ / سَوْفَ يَكْتُبَانِ
3rd person dual feminine: They will/ shall write	سَتَكْتُبَانِ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبَانِ
1st person dual and plural (masculine and feminine): We will/shall write	سَنَكْتُبُ / سَوْفَ نَكْتُبُ
2nd person plural masculine: You will/shall write	سَتَكْتُبُونَ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبُونَ
2nd person plural feminine: You will/shall write	سَتَكْتُبْنَ / سَوْفَ تَكْتُبْنَ
3rd person plural masculine: They will/shall write	سَيَكْتُبُونَ / سَوْفَ يَكْتُبُونَ
3rd person plural feminine: They will/shall write	سَيَكْتُبْنَ / سَوْفَ يَكْتُبْنَ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Give an example of the six patterns of imperfect indicative verbs in Arabic? Write them in the first, second, third, singular dual and plural forms?

## 4.0 CONCLUSION

By way of euphrasy the following rules governing the conjugation of verbs into imperfect tense can be derived from this lesson:

The imperfect/present Continuous verb in Arabic is any verb that indicates the occurrence or state of an action in the present. The imperfect/ present continuous tense form can take six patterns:

‘فَعَلَ’ consists of three different patterns whereby the second letter could be vowel U ‘a’ g ‘i’ or Q ‘u’, fat-hah, kasrah or dammah.

Also ‘فُعِلَ’ has two imperfect forms that is, the second letter could be either U ‘a’ or g ‘i’ (fat-hah or kasrah) form.

The last pattern ‘فُعِّلَ’ remains unchanged and retains its ‘u’ (dammah) vowel.

All the verbs in this category are sounds, trilateral and indicative imperfect. The imperfect indicative in Arabic language is also used to express future action generally strengthened by prefixing the future particle sa...س or saofa...سَوْفَ (will or shall).

## 5.0 SUMMARY

This unit treats some basic techniques of conjugation of imperfect verbs. Specifically, it analyzes the six features that affects the vowels of the penultimate letter of the perfect tense which is the middle letter and could be vowel a, i, or u. (fat-hah, kasrah or dammah). It shows that these vowels do not change the paradigm. The examples also include the four letters ا, ن, ي, and ت that are prefixed with the imperfect tense.

Examples also include the technique of conjugating the singular, dual and plural forms of the imperfect tense.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Conjugate these verbs in imperfect forms

- |     |          |             |
|-----|----------|-------------|
| 1.  | يَقْتُلُ | He kills    |
| 2.  | يَلْعَبُ | He plays    |
| 3.  | يَفْرَحُ | He rejoices |
| 4.  | يَسْلَمُ | He is free  |
| 5.  | يَحْسُنُ | He is good  |
| 6.  | يَضْرِبُ | He beats    |
| 7.  | يَنْظُرُ | He looks    |
| 8.  | يَسْمَعُ | He hears    |
| 9.  | يَفْكُرُ | He thinks   |
| 10. | يَعْلَمُ | He knows    |

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## UNIT 5 THE IMPERATIVE فِعْلُ الْأَمْرِ

### CONTENTS

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Objectives
- 3.0 Main Content
  - 3.1 The Imperative
  - 3.2 Rule Guiding Hamzatu l-wasl
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Reading

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will learn the command tense of Arabic grammar which is also referred to as the imperative. You will also be introduced to the techniques of conjugating Arabic verbs into the imperative measure. Knowledge acquired from this unit will initiate you properly to the method of conjugating Arabic verbs in the imperative form. We implore you to revise the techniques and methods of conjugating all verbs as they were taught earlier so as to understand this unit better.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- identify the imperative verbs in Arabic grammar
- describe how various verbs could be conjugated into the imperative
- demonstrate the use of the imperative in oral and written Arabic.

You are now invited into the world of conjugation of verbs into the imperative.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 The Imperative and How to Formulate It

The Arabic imperative proper is any verb that is used to make a request or demand an action. The action may be immediate or later. The imperative is derived from the second persons irrespective of the number (singular, dual

and plural). So far these are the persons to be commanded or from whom actions are demanded. The prefixed tau "ت" and its vowel fat-hah, 'a' are cut off, this 'ta' 'ت' and the vowel will be replaced by hamzat al-wasl 'أ'. There will be a change at the vowel of the last letter of the verbs. It is only in the second person plural feminine that the vowel of the last letter will not change. Thus, it will remain as it is. Remember that, we have said this tense is derived from second persons of imperfect verbs. e.g. taktubu, 'you write' تَكْتُبُ.

The imperative tense will be 'uktub' 'write' اُكْتُبْ. From the above example you will see that the prefixed tau and vowel 'a' have been cut off, while they are replaced by hamzatu al-waṣl and vowel 'u'. There is a change of vowel at the last letter's vowel from 'u' to 'sukun'.

Now let us see the operation of these following verbs.

Second person singular masculine:	Write	اُكْتُبْ
Second person singular feminine:	Write	اُكْتُبِي
Second person dual masculine & feminine:	Write	اُكْتُبَا
Second person plural masculine:	Write	اُكْتُبُوا
Second person plural feminine:	Write	اُكْتُبْنَ

You will observe that, it is only second person singular that the vowel changes from 'u' to 'sukun'. Others are omission of letters. Now see the imperatives as they are derived from imperfects.

تَكْتُبُ	<input type="checkbox"/>	اُكْتُبْ
تَكْتُبِينَ	<input type="checkbox"/>	اُكْتُبِي
تَكْتُبَانِ	<input type="checkbox"/>	اُكْتُبَا
تَكْتُبُونَ	<input type="checkbox"/>	اُكْتُبُوا
تَكْتُبْنَ	<input type="checkbox"/>	اُكْتُبْنَ

### 3.2 Rules Guiding هَمْزُ الْوَصْلِ Hamzat I-waṣl

The vowel on hamzat al-waṣl will follow the penultimate letter of imperfect form to indicate which of the vowels 'u' or 'i' (dammah or kasrah) is going to be used. If the imperative is vowel 'a' or 'i' the hamzat al-waṣl will be given vowel 'i' but if vowel 'u' (dammah) is on the penultimate letter, then hamzatu al-waṣl will also possess 'u'.

Like the example above you will see that 'tau' is the penultimate letter of the verb 'taktubu' 'تَكْتُبُ', you write. The 'tau' is given dammah 'u'; this results in giving hamzatu al-waṣl of 'uktub' 'write' اُكْتُبْ, dammah.



Let us illustrate the above explanations with the following examples.

### Example One

(tadrusu, 'you learn' تُدْرُسُ with penultimate letter given dammah 'u')		
2nd person singular masculine:	Learn	أُدْرُسُ
2nd person singular feminine:	Learn	أُدْرُسِي
2nd person dual (masculine and feminine):	Learn	أُدْرُسَا
2nd person plural masculine:	Learn	أُدْرُسُوا
2nd person plural feminine:	Learn	أُدْرُسْنَ

### Example Two

'tajilsu', 'you sit' تَجْلِسُ with kasrah 'i' at the penultimate letter.		
2nd person singular masculine:	Sit down	اجْلِسْ
2nd person singular feminine:	Sit down	اجْلِسِي
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.):	Sit down	اجْلِسَا
2nd person plural masculine:	Sit down	اجْلِسُوا
2nd person plural feminine:	Sit down	اجْلِسْنَ

### Example Three

taftahu 'you open' تَفْتَحُ with penultimate letter possessing fat-hah 'a'		
2nd person singular masculine:	Open	افتحْ
2nd person singular feminine:	Open	افتحي
2nd person dual (masc. and fem.):	Open	افتحَا
2nd person plural masculine:	Open	افتحُوا
2nd person plural feminine:	Open	افتحنَّ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Explain in detail the imperative verb in Arabic language and the technique of conjugating it?

## 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

Command or the Imperative formula can only be conjugated and applied to the second persons irrespective of the number or gender. It is to be derived from the imperfect verbs only. The prefixed tau 'ت' and its vowel fat-hah, 'ا' are cut off and be replaced by hamzat al-wasl 'أ' Then there will be a change at the vowel of the last letter of the verbs. It is only in the second person plural feminine that the vowel of the last letter will not change.

## 5.0 SUMMARY

(الخلاصة)

This unit explains the imperative in the Arabic language. It explains the rule and discusses the basic techniques of conjugating verbs into imperative. The highlight of such rules and technique is that, it is only from the second persons irrespective of number or gender that the imperative formula can be derived. The rules guiding hamzatu-l-wasl, the end of the verbs to form imperative are also included in the Unit.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

Conjugate the following second person's imperfect verbs onto their appropriate imperatives.

- (i) تَذْهَبُ (ii) تَقْتُلْنَ (iii) تَخْرُجَانِ (iv) تُعَبَّانِ (v) تَفْرَحَانِ

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### **MODULE 3      PARTICLES    الحُرُوفُ**

Unit 1	The Prepositions and the Conjunctions
Unit 2	Subjunctive Particles
Unit 3	The Jussive and Interrogative
Unit 4	The Vocative, Gerund and Complete Sentence

### **UNIT 1      THE PREPOSITIONS AND CONJUNCTIONS**

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#### **1.0      INTRODUCTION**

The last Module ended with a study of imperative verbs. The whole of Module Two dealt with verbs. In this Module, you will begin another element of the sentence which is also very important in that it functions as that which joins parts of the sentence together. You will be introduced to Arabic prepositions. Because of the certain number of the preposition that you are about to study, you will not be given any vocabulary study for this Unit. The prepositions and their meaning would be the words to be memorized for this unit. You will learn conjunction in this Unit as well.

#### **2.0      OBJECTIVES**

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- i. list all the Arabic Prepositions and their meaning
- ii. identify Conjunction words in the Arabic language and give their meaning

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Notes on the Prepositions

A preposition in Arabic is a word used with a noun or pronoun to show their relationship with other words in a sentence. Prepositions are words that are used to help substantives to express their case functions. They are called prepositions because their position is immediately before the substantives they are associated with. Prepositions are to aid in expressing the case functions which are in use by the Arabic language speaker. The meaning of the prepositions depends however on some other factors. In order to translate the prepositions accurately, the following should be observed.

- The basic meaning of the preposition as indicated in the Arabic usage.
- The case construction with which preposition is used, and
- The use as indicated by the content of the passage. i.e. the context.

#### 3.2 ARABIC PREPOSITIONS

Arabic prepositions only have impact on the nouns. The particles are the following:

From	مِنْ
On	عَلَى
To	إِلَى
Out of, Away from	عَنْ
In	فِي
With, in	بِ
With	مِنْ
Like	كَ
For, to	لِ
Since	مُنْذُ
Since	مُذْ
Except	خَلَا
Except	عَادَ
Until	حَتَّى
Except	حَاشَا
	تَ وَ بَ

The last three 'ب', 'و', 'ت', (ta, wa, bi) are used for oath. e.g. By Allah Wallahi وَاللَّهِ

By Allah Tallahi تَاللَّهِ

By Allah Billahi بِاللَّهِ

A noun must be in genitive case (*majrūr*), if it is preceded by any of the above particles. An illustration is given below.

From a school	مِنْ مَدْرَسَةٍ
Away from the place	عَنْ الْمَنْزِلِ
With the knowledge	بِالْعِلْمِ
On the table	عَلَى الْمَكْتَبِ
To mosques	إِلَى الْمَدْرَسَةِ
Like the light	كَالنُّورِ
For benefit	لِخَيْرٍ

There are other types of preposition such as

With	عِنْدَ
Under	تَحْتَ
Above	فَوْقَ
After	بَعْدَ
Before	قَبْلَ
With the king	عِنْدَ الْمَلِكِ
Under the chair	تَحْتَ الْكُرْسِيِّ
Above the three	فَوْقَ الشَّجَرَةِ
After the party	بَعْدَ الْحَفْلَةِ
Before the noon	قَبْلَ الظُّهْرِ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

Put the following **Nominative** nouns in the genitive cases:

مَدْرَسَةٌ	A school
الْمَنْزِلُ	The place
الْعِلْمُ	The knowledge
الْمَكْتَبُ	The table
مَسْجِدٌ	A mosque
النُّورُ	The light
خَيْرٌ	Benefit

### 3.3 Conjunction العطف

Arabic conjunction is a word whose only function is to link words, phrases, sentences etc etc. The link can be done with the assistance of *hurūf al-‘aṭf* “the conjunctions”. These are *al-wāwu* "و" (الواو) *al-fāu* 'ء' (الفاء) and *thuma* "ثم" .

The rule of the conjunction is that the two nouns concerned follow each other in all cases. (nominative, accusative and genitive). The examples below will shed more lights on this explanation – the

#### Nominative

The teacher & the students	المُعَلِّمُ وَالطُّلَّابُ
The girl & the mother	الْبِنْتُ وَالْأُمُّ
The pen & the book	الْقَلَمُ وَالْكِتَابُ
The motor then bicycle	السِّيَّارَةُ فَالذَّرَّاجَةُ
The knowledge then Ignorance	الْعِلْمُ ثُمَّ الْجَهْلُ

#### Accusative

The teacher & the students	المُعَلِّمَ وَالطُّلَّابَ
The girl & the mother	الْبِنْتَ وَالْأُمَّ
The pen & the book	الْقَلَمَ وَالْكِتَابَ
The motor then bicycle	السِّيَّارَةَ فَالذَّرَّاجَةَ
The knowledge then Ignorance	الْعِلْمَ ثُمَّ الْجَهْلَ

#### Genitive

The teacher & the students	المُعَلِّمِ وَالطُّلَّابِ
The girl & the mother	الْبِنْتِ وَالْأُمِّ
The pen & the book	الْقَلَمِ وَالْكِتَابِ
The motor then bicycle	السِّيَّارَةِ فَالذَّرَّاجَةِ
The knowledge then Ignorance	الْعِلْمِ ثُمَّ الْجَهْلِ

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

Explain the prepositions and conjunctions in Arabic language?

Mention one example each for both the preposition and conjunction?

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

1. Prepositions are words that express relationships between two words. When prepositions occur before nouns, those nouns will be in genitive cases, that is, they will be given kasrah, vowel 'i'.
2. Conjunctions in Arabic language are words that are used to link other words in a sentence. Such other words that are joined together agree with each other in grammatical rules such as nominative, accusative and genitive cases.

#### 5.0 SUMMARY

(الخلاصة)

This Unit treats grammatical issues relating to Preposition and Conjunction particles in the Arabic language. It enumerates the particles and gives their meaning and functions. The Conclusion highlights the grammatical rules and other relevant salient points derivable from the discussions. Copious examples and necessary illustrations are provided as well as self assessment exercises that will help learners.

#### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENTS

(الواجبات)

1. Explain the rule that guides the conjunction in Arabic grammar?
2. List Ten Prepositions in Arabic and make use of the, in a simple sentences?
3. Give two example of conjunction in a two different sentences?

#### 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

Cowan, D. (1958). An Introduction in Modern Literary Arabic. London. Cambridge University Press.

Cowan, J.M. (1960). A Dictionary of Modern Written Arabic. India: Modern Language Services.

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## UNIT 2      **SUBJUNCTIVE PARTICLES** (*Ḥurūf n-naṣb*) حُرُوفُ النَّصْبِ

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- 3.0 Main Content
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  - 3.2 Impact of Subjunctive Particles on Imperfect Verbs
  - 3.3 Application of rule of Subjunctive Particles on Imperfect Verb
- 4.0 Conclusion
- 5.0 Summary
- 6.0 Tutor-Marked Assignment
- 7.0 References/Further Reading.

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be taught grammatical rules governing verbs in the imperfect tenses in the subjunctive cases. This will involve your recollection of some verb patterns and structures you have learnt earlier in some of the previous Units, e. g. sound verbs, the trilateral etc.

Subjecting imperfect verbs to the subjective moods is another important Arabic grammatical phenomenon. The rules must be observed for the expressions to be adjudged grammatically perfect. For this reason, this lesson is important - you will agree with me. You are therefore welcomed to the study of imperfect verbs in the subjunctive mood and the rules underlying its application.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- list the subjunctive particles
- identify the imperfect verbs having subjunctive ending
- recognize imperfect verbs that should be put in the subjunctive mood
- demonstrate the techniques of putting imperfect verbs in the subjunctive moods.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 The Subjunctive Particles

The following are the subjunctive particles in Arabic:

To	أَنْ
Will never	لَنْ
For instance, so that, in order	كَيْ
Then	إِذَنْ
Until	حَتَّى
So that not,	كَيْلَا، لِكَيْلَا، لَيْلَا
So that,	لِأَنَّ، لِي، لِكَيْ

#### 3.2 Impact of Subjunctive Particles on Imperfect Verbs

Like we have told you in our introduction to this unit, the imperfect subjunctive could be compared with the present form of subjunctive tense in English. The perfect indicative singular will change in the last letter's vowel except the second person singular feminine that will change by omission of the letter. Others which end with the preceded 'ن' by a long vowel after the last radical lose their 'ن' and if the preceding long vowel is dammah 'u' an extra alif is added. e.g. lan yaktubu (they will never write), لَنْ يَكْتُبُوا. The second person and the third person feminine plural will not change in their forms. They remain as they are in indicative form.

'lan' لَنْ is a particle of negation. It negates the future of imperfect e.g. لَنْ أَكْتُبَ (lan aktuba) I will never write.

#### 3.3 Application of Rule of Subjunctive Particles on Imperfect Verb

This is the pattern to be followed in applying the rule of impact of Arabic subjunctive particles on imperfect verb forms. Let us see how lan 'لَنْ' with the verb yaktubu يَكْتُبُ 'he writes' as in the indicative will change in meaning and form in the subjunctive:

I will/shall never write	لَنْ أَكْتُبَ
You will never write (masc.) sing.	لَنْ تَكْتُبَ
You will never write (fem) (sing.)	لَنْ تَكْتُبِي
He will never write	لَنْ يَكْتُبَ
She will never write	لَنْ تَكْتُبَ
You will never write (masc. fem) dual	لَنْ تَكْتُبَا
We will/shall never write	لَنْ نَكْتُبَ

You will never write (masc.) plural	لَنْ تَكْتُبُوا
You will never write (fem.) plural	لَنْ تَكْتُبْنَ
They will never write (masc) plural	لَنْ يَكْتُبُوا
They will never write (fem.) plural	لَنْ يَكْتُبْنَ

Let us take the subjunctive particle kay اي ك meaning ‘so that’ as another example and see how the rule is applied on another imperfect indicative to give us subjunctive mood. The impact of this subjunctive particle on the imperfect indicative يُدْرُسُ (yadrusu) he studies, will be as follows:

So that I study	كَيْ أُدْرُسَ
So that you study (Masc) (Sing)	كَيْ تُدْرُسَ
So that you study (fem.) (sing)	كَيْ تُدْرُسِينَ
So that he studies (Masc)	كَيْ يُدْرُسَ
So that she studies (fem.)	كَيْ تُدْرُسَ
So that you study (masc. and fem.) dual	كَيْ تُدْرُسَا
So that they study (masc.) dual	كَيْ يُدْرُسَا
So that they study (fem.) dual	كَيْ تُدْرُسَا
So that we study	كَيْ نُدْرُسَ
So that you study (masc.) plural	كَيْ تُدْرُسُوا
So that you study (fem.)	كَيْ تُدْرُسْنَ
So that they study (masc.) plural	كَيْ يُدْرُسُوا
So that they study (fem.) plural	كَيْ يُدْرُسْنَ

We give another example of impact of subjunctive particle on imperfect indicative verb as follows by using hatta, until حَتَّى with the indicative verb yadh-habu he goes يَذْهَبُ

Until I go	حَتَّى يَذْهَبَ
Until you go (masc.) (sing)	حَتَّى تَذْهَبَ
Until you go (fem) (sing)	حَتَّى تَذْهَبِينَ
Until he goes (masc.) sing	حَتَّى يَذْهَبَ
Until she goes (fem.) (sing)	حَتَّى تَذْهَبَ
Until you go (masc. and fem.) dual	حَتَّى تَذْهَبَا
Until they go (masc.) dual	حَتَّى يَذْهَبَا
Until they go (fem.) dual	حَتَّى تَذْهَبَا
Until we go	حَتَّى نَذْهَبَ
Until you go masc. plural	حَتَّى تَذْهَبُوا
Until you go fem. plural	حَتَّى تَذْهَبْنَ
Until they go masc.	حَتَّى يَذْهَبُوا
Until they go fem. plural	حَتَّى يَذْهَبْنَ

From the above examples, you will see that those with radical endings change with vowels, that is, from 'u' to 'a'; and those which end with "ن" lose their "ن" whenever any of the particles precedes the imperfect verbs.

The only verb that retains the same form is second person plural feminine and the third person plural feminine.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

Explain the rules that govern the subjunctive particles with imperfect verb? Give one example each for your explanation?

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

The subjunctive particles in Arabic language impacts the imperfect verbs. الأفعال المضارعة (al-'af'alu, al-mudari'at) by turning them into subjunctive mood.

The perfect indicative singular will change in the last letter's vowel except the second person singular feminine that will change by omission of the letter. Others which end with the preceded 'ن' by a long vowel after the last radical lose their ن and if the preceding long vowel is dammah 'u' an extra alif is added. e.g. lan yaktubuu (they will never write), لَنْ يَكْتُبُوا The second person and the third person feminine plural will not change in their forms. They remain as they are in indicative form.

#### 5.0 SUMMARY (الخلاصة)

In this unit, we have taught you the subjunctive particles. We listed as many as possible of the particles for you. How the particles govern the imperfect indicative verbs were also expatiated upon. Copious examples were provided to make your understanding of the topic easy.

#### 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. List all subjunctive particles in Arabic grammar?
2. Apply subjunctive particles on the following imperfect indicative verbs showing its grammatical impact:

- |   |                |          |
|---|----------------|----------|
| a | he rejoices    | يَفْرَحُ |
| b | he understands | يَفْهَمُ |
| c | he kills       | يَقْتُلُ |
| d | he decides     | يَزَعُمُ |

e	he sits	يَجْلِسُ
f	he cuts	يَقْطَعُ
g	he judges	يَقْضِي
h	he reads	يَقْرَأُ
I	he denies	يَمْنَعُ
J	he dances	يَرْفُصُ

## 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

Cowan, D. (1958). *An Introduction in Modern Literary Arabic*. London: Cambridge University Press.

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## UNIT 3      JUSSIVE                      AND                      INTERROGATIVE PARTICLES (جُرُوفُ الْجَزْمِ وَالْإِسْتِفْهَامِ)

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

In this unit, you will be learning the rules relating to Arabic verbs in the jussive mood. You will learn how the indicative perfect verb changes when in the jussive mood; i.e. when preceded by jussive particles. Various interrogative particles, their use and rules will also be taught in this unit. These are needed to be properly digested and committed to memory to enable you to form your own sentences and conduct interrogation in Arabic as you like. You will recall that in the last unit you have learnt the subjunctive mood. The knowledge you have acquired there will be useful here.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this Unit, you should be able to:

- demonstrate how to utilize jussive imperfect particles in grammatically correct Arabic sentences
- identify the Arabic imperfect verbs in the jussive mood
- identify the Arabic interrogative particles.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 Jussive Particles (جُرُوفُ الْجَزْمِ)

The jussive particles in Arabic grammar - like the subjunctive which you studied in the last Unit - precedes and impacts the last letter of the Arabic imperfect verbs. i.e. (الأفعال المضارعة) by making it to take the sukūn vowel. and sometimes change its meaning to the past. The following are the jussive particles in Arabic:

(i) لم Did not (ii) لا do not (iii) إن if (iv) لمَّا not yet (v) ل Let or make sure

#### 3.2 The Impact of the Jussive particles on Imperfect Verbs

The jussive particles enumerated above share some features with the subjunctive particles. They both cause changes in the imperfect indicative verbs which have no adjunct letters following their radical letters. While the subjunctive particle makes the last radical loose its original vowel and take fat-hah, the Jussive particle makes it lose its final vowel 'u' altogether and take Sukūn 'o'. The others which has "ن" ending will loose the "ن" while the second and third person plural feminine remain unchanged. The only difference between subjunctive and jussive is that the last radicals at subjunctive take 'a' while that of the jussive is given Sukun 'o'. The others remain the same.

For example: I did not write (lam aktub) لم أكتب

#### 3.3 Application of the Rule of the Jussive Particle on the Imperfect Verb

This paradigm must be followed as you apply the jussive particle rule on the imperfect verbs:

I did not sit	لم أجلس
You did not sit (masc) (sing)	لم تجلس
You did not sit (fem.) (sing)	لم تجلسي
He did not sit (masc.) (sing)	لم يجلس
She did not sit (fem.) (sing)	لم تجلس
You did not sit (masc. and fem.) (dual)	لم تجلسا
They did not sit (masc.) (dual)	لم يجلسا
They did not sit (fem.) dual	لم تجلسا
We did not sit	لم نجلس

You did not sit (masc.) plural	لَمْ تَجْلِسُوا
You did not sit (fem.) plural	لَمْ تَجْلِسْنَ
They did not sit (masc.) plural	لَمْ تَجْلِسُوا
They did not sit (fem.) plural	لَمْ يَجْلِسْنَ

Let us look at another example of the jussive imperfect. This illustration will be with the verb يَعْلَمُ (he knows).

I do not know yet	لَمَّا أَعْلَمُ
You do not know yet (masc.) (sing)	لَمَّا تَعْلَمُ
You did not know yet (fem.) (sing)	لَمَّا تَعْلَمِي
He does not know yet	لَمَّا يَعْلَمُ
She does not know yet	لَمَّا تَعْلَمُ
You do not know yet (masc. and fem.) dual	لَمَّا تَعْلَمَا
You do not know yet (masc.) plural	لَمَّا تَعْلَمُوا
You do not know yet (fem.) plural	لَمَّا تَعْلَمْنَ
We do not know yet	لَمَّا نَعْلَمُ
They do not know yet (masc.) dual	لَمَّا يَعْلَمَا
They do not know yet (fem.) dual	لَمَّا تَعْلَمَا
They do not know it (masc.) plural	لَمَّا يَعْلَمُوا
They do not know it (fem.) plural	لَمَّا يَعْلَمْنَ

With these two examples properly digested by you can apply the rest. This is the way to conjugate the imperfect jussive verb in Arabic.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

List all jussive particles that you know in Arabic language and use them in sentences?

#### 5.4 Interrogative Particles

In Arabic language, the interrogative of simple sentences is made by prefixing the two particles 'hal' هَلْ or 'a' ، أ

These two particles are used for interrogation in Arabic language. For example:

Is he rich?

هَلْ هُوَ غَنِيٌّ ؟  
أ هُوَ غَنِيٌّ ؟

Does Muhammad stand?

هَلْ مُحَمَّدٌ قَائِمٌ ؟  
أ مُحَمَّدٌ قَائِمٌ ؟



Is Zaydu a student?	هَلْ زَيْدٌ طَالِبٌ؟ أَزَيْدٌ قَائِمٌ؟
Are they Nigerians?	هَلْ هُم نِيْجِيرِيُونَ؟ أَهُم نِيْجِيرِيُونَ؟
Is she a nurse?	هَلْ هِيَ مُمَرِّضَةٌ؟ أَهِيَ مُمَرِّضَةٌ؟
Is she a traveler?	هَلْ هِيَ مُسَافِرَةٌ؟ أَهِيَ مُسَافِرَةٌ؟

hal will become hali before hamzatu al-waṣl, for example:

Is the teacher present? هَلْ الْمُعَلِّمُ حَاضِرٌ؟  
'hal' هَلْ is more often used than 'a' أ

## SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

Mention the two interrogative particles in Arabic grammar and construct ten sentences with each of them?

### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

The jussive particles are five. They precede the Arabic imperfect verbs. i.e. الأفعال المضارع and impact their last letter by making them take sukūn vowel and by affecting their meaning too. Imperfect Verbs which have 'ن' ending will lose the 'ن' while the second and third person plural feminine remain unchanged.

'Hal' هَلْ or 'a' أ are two particles used for interrogation in Arabic language. They do not impact the word they precede in any way.

### 5.0 SUMMARY

(الخلاصة)

In this unit the five particles that render imperfect verbs in jussive moods and two interrogative particles are discussed. The rules of the jussive particles whenever they precede any imperfect verb are deeply explained. Examples were given to aid your comprehension. The interrogative particles were also treated in this unit. You can now put the Arabic sound imperfect verbs in the jussive mood. Similarly, you can make interrogative sentences with its two particles.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT (الواجبات)

1. Explain the rule of imperfect verb(s) that preceded by jussive particle(s)?
2. Conjugate the following verbs in jussive imperfect:

He goes	يَذْهَبُ
He kills	يَقْتُلُ
He hears	يَسْمَعُ
He is ill	يَمْرَضُ
He plays	يَلْعَبُ

3. Use the two interrogative particles in two sentences?

## 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

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## UNIT 4 THE VOCATIVE, GERUND AND A COMPLETE SENTENCE النِّدَاءُ الْمَصْدَرُ وَالْجُمْلَةُ الْكَامِلَةُ

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

You are welcome to the last unit of the last module. In the unit, you will be taught the vocative in Arabic language. You will also be introduced to Gerund in Arabic grammar. In this unit, you will learn construction of nominal, verbal and interrogative sentences. After the completion of this unit, you will be better positioned in Arabic grammar provided you read your course material very well and you are satisfied with your self assessment exercises. You will not have the problem with writing good sentences in Arabic language.

### 2.0 OBJECTIVES

At the end of this unit, you should be able to:

- identify the vocative in Arabic grammar
- describe gerund and mention some of its patterns
- express yourself in complete nominal and verbal sentences
- convert nominal and verbal sentences to interrogative sentences.

### 3.0 MAIN CONTENT

#### 3.1 The Vocative (المُنَادَى)

In the Arabic language, calls or invocations are made by the use of interjection tool 'يا' 'O! This is termed in Arabic grammar while 'the vocative case' is its English equivalent. Vocative is nominative in mood i.e. the invoked noun takes the dammah vowel. Also nunation i.e. double vowel is dropped as a rule in the invoked name. Also, when you call, the definite article 'al' 'ال' will be dropped as a rule in the usage of vocative e.g. يَا وَلَدُ oh boy!

Look at the following examples, you will notice that one of the last vowels is lost and there is no definite article in the sentence.

Oh man	يَا رَجُلٌ
Oh student	يَا طَالِبُ
Oh girl	يَا بِنْتُ
Oh Adam	يَا آدَمُ
Oh Ahmad	يَا أَحْمَدُ

This is how vocative goes about in Arabic. Mind you, if the name you are putting in the vocative case or calling, in other words, is governed by a genitive rule or is in the possessive mood, it will be put in the accusative; this means that the word rabun, nās lord of people يَا رَبُّ النَّاسِ or instance will become yah rabbān –nas. 'Oh Lord of people. يَا رَبَّ النَّاسِ . See more examples of this.

Oh the servant of Allah,	يَا عَبْدَ اللَّهِ
Oh the command of the faithful,	يَا أَمِيرَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ

The vocative interjection can also be ayuhā, "أَيْهَا" 'oh'. it is the same meaning with yah' but rather it is a rhetorical and pompous way of introducing the vocative. If it is a female we use "أَيْهَا" 'أَيْهَا'. For example:

Oh man:	أَيْهَا الرَّجُلُ
Oh lady:	أَيْهَا الْمَرْأَةُ

#### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 1

Discuss the vocative in Arabic language?  
Give its various tools and examples?

### 3.2 The Gerund or Verbal Noun

(المَصَادِرُ)

There are divergent opinions as to which one is the source between verb and gerund among the Arabic grammarians. While some say the Gerund is source of verb, others say the verb is source of gerund. Whatever be the case the gerund in Arabic grammar takes different patterns and consists of a lot of paradigms. Therefore, we would just give you here the basic paradigms you need for now. As you are furthering your reading in Arabic you will continue to know more.

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The list below shows the gerund of some verbs and their pattern:

Doing	فَعْلٌ	Doing	فُعُولٌ
Opening	فَتْحٌ	Falling	سُكُوتٌ
Hearing	سَمْعٌ	Sitting	جُلُوسٌ
Praising	حَمْدٌ	Exist	خُرُوجٌ
Breaking	كَسْرٌ	Entrance	دُخُولٌ
Beating	ضَرْبٌ	Returning	رُجُوعٌ
Assistance	نَصْرٌ	Standing	وُقُوفٌ
Understanding	فَهْمٌ	Pleasure	سُرُورٌ
		Doing	فَعْلٌ
		Gladnes	فَرَحٌ
		Delight	طَرَبٌ
		Arrogance	بَطْرٌ
		Travelin	سَفَرٌ
		Frustration	فَشَلٌ

There are some other gerunds which take the form of fu‘ulatun فَعُولَةٌ e.g *صُعُوبَةٌ* difficulty. Some are *فَعَالَةٌ* e.g honour, *كِرَامَةٌ* Knowledge of the gerund depends on extensive reading of Arabic books and dictionaries. You should follow the advice we gave to you earlier.

#### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2

- What is the English equivalent of the word Gerund in Arabic?
- Which one is the source between gerund and verb?
- How many patterns has gerund?
- Mention ten gerunds with example?

### 3.3 A Complete Sentence

نَجْمَةٌ الْمُفِيدَةُ

A complete sentence in Arabic grammar is a word or group of words which express a complete idea as in English with which you are assumed to be familiar or any other language for that matter. There are different types of complete sentences. We shall introduce the nominal and verbal sentences to you here.

### 3.3.1 Nominal Sentence

#### الجُمْلَةُ الاسْمِيَّةُ

Nominal sentence in Arabic language is a sentence that begins with a noun. e.g. al-waladu qāimun, the boy is standing الولد قائمٌ . You should remember this easily as we have been taught the subject and predicate in Module One. If you revise unit five of module one very well, that means that you have gotten the concept of nominal sentences in Arabic. That notwithstanding the examples below can still flourish and refresh your knowledge.

The teacher is sitting in the classroom  
The woman is going to the market  
The two male Muslims are fasting  
The hardworking men are successful  
The lesson is clear  
Adam is present

المُعَلِّمُ جَالِسٌ فِي الْفَصْلِ  
الْمَرْأَةُ ذَاهِبَةٌ إِلَى السُّوقِ  
الْمُسْلِمَانِ صَائِمَانِ  
الْمُجْتَهِدُونَ نَاجِحُونَ  
الدَّرْسُ وَاضِحٌ  
آدَمُ حَاضِرٌ

### 3.3.2 Verbal Sentence (al-jumlatu al-fi'liyat)

#### الجُمْلَةُ الْفِعْلِيَّةُ

This is a sentence that begins with verb. Examples are the following below.

I am going to the school  
Zaydu stood up  
The female teacher went to the class  
Fatimah understood the lesson  
The male teacher is writing on the board

أَذْهَبُ إِلَى السُّوقِ  
قَامَ زَيْدٌ  
ذَهَبَتِ الْمُدْرِسَةُ إِلَى الْفَصْلِ  
فَهَمَّتْ فَاطِمَةُ الدَّرْسَ  
يَكْتُبُ الْمُعَلِّمُ عَلَى السَّبُورَةِ

Thus as you could have seen from the above examples, a nominal sentence in Arabic is a sentence which begins with noun while a verbal sentence is the sentence started with a verb.

### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 3

Define الجُمْلَةُ الاسْمِيَّةُ Give five examples to illustrate what you say?

Define الجُمْلَةُ الْفِعْلِيَّةُ Give five examples to illustrate what you say?

### 3.3.3 Changing Nominal and Verbal Sentences to Interrogative Sentences

الجملة الاستفهامية

An interrogative sentence is a sentence which asks a question as you have learnt earlier on in the last unit. Also, the same interrogative particles and method of their application which you learnt there and how to apply them are required here again. Changing a nominal or verbal sentence to an interrogative one is however to be focused here. Hence we submit that in an interrogative sentence, the two particles of interrogation can prefix either a nominal or verbal sentence. Examples with sentences referring to:

The masculine gender:

(Nominal Sentences)	مُحَمَّدٌ حَاضِرٌ	Muhammad is present
(Interrogative)	هَلْ مُحَمَّدٌ حَاضِرٌ	Is Muhammad present?
(Verbal Statement)	قَامَ زَيْدٌ	Zayd stood up
(Interrogative)	هَلْ قَامَ زَيْدٌ	Did Zayd stand up?

The feminine gender:

(Nominal Sentence)	فَاطِمَةٌ قَائِمَةٌ	Fatimah is present
(Interrogative)	هَلْ فَاطِمَةٌ قَائِمَةٌ	Is Fatimah present?
(Verbal Statement)	قَامَتْ زَيْنَبٌ	Zaynab stood up
(Interrogative)	هَلْ زَيْنَبٌ قَامَتْ	Did Zaynab stand up?

#### SELF ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 4

Write five nominal and five verbal sentences each; then convert them to Interrogative sentences?

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

(الاستنتاج)

Al-munādā or a`n-Nidā in Arabic grammar is the equivalent of the ‘the vocative case’ in English. It is nominative in mood and could be accusative if the noun is genitive. Nunation is dropped, so also is the definite article as a rule. The most commonly used tools of the vocative are yah , ayahā , أَيُّهَا , or both. If it is a female we use ‘ayatuha أَيُّهَا.

On al-Maṣdar (the Gerund or Verbal Noun) , there are divergent opinions among the Arabic grammarians as to which one is the source between verb and gerund. The gerund in Arabic grammar takes different patterns and consists of a lot of paradigms.

In Arabic Grammar, a complete sentence *الجملة المفيدة* could either be a Nominal Sentence *الجملة الاسمية* beginning with a noun or a Verbal Sentence

الجُمْلَةُ الْفِعْلِيَّةُ beginning with a verb. Both can be converted to interrogative statement with the prefixing of the interrogative particles.

## 5.0 SUMMARY

(مُخَلِّصَةٌ)

This Unit introduces the vocative in Arabic grammar and its rules. It also discusses the gerund and the divergent opinions of Arabic grammarians related to it. It describes a complete sentence and divides it into nominal sentence and verbal and interrogative. These we believe will further assist you in recognizing and constructing grammatically flawless Arabic expressions.

## 6.0 TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT

1. Use the interjection of vocative in Arabic in a complete sentence?
2. Construct five nominal sentences in Arabic?
3. Construct five verbal sentences in Arabic?

## 7.0 REFERENCES/FURTHER READING

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