



The Arabic Program for Speakers of Other Languages

Language Levels and Content Topics

Prepared according to US (ACTFL) and EU (CEFR) standards.

The Language Center - Yarmouk University

2023-2024

Major Textbook	- <i>Meftah Al-Arabia</i> (The Key to Arabic) by Ahmed Al-Ruhban, Rawiya Al-Muhanni, and Moatasem Hamad. 5th edition, Akdem Publishing: Istanbul, Sep. 2021.
Supporting Book	- <i>Al Ain Series for Teaching Arabic to Speakers of Other Languages</i> (for adults) by Fatima Al Omari, Khaled Hussein Abu Amsha, Iman Al-Lahham, Fadi Shatnawi, Abdullah Al Khabbas. 1st edition, Itqan Publishers and Distributors: Amman -Jordan, 2021.

Level One: Novice Low	
Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Acquaintances. (2) Inside the class. (3) The house and its sections. (4) Foods and drinks. (5) Business and professions. (6) Body parts and physical characteristics. (7) Clothes and colors. (8) Seasons of the year.
Level Description	<p>The Novice Low level in this program is designed for students with no previous linguistic background in Arabic language. The major focus in teaching the language for this level will be letters, sounds, and basic characteristics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The level focuses on teaching the Arabic alphabet in terms of spelling and sounds. It is designed to develop the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing accordingly. -With a focus on these four linguistic skills, the student studies a number of practical communication topics, such as: greetings, getting to know each other, things available in class, house parts and furniture, meals, fruits and vegetables, professions and public work, body parts, organs and attributes, clothes and colours, seasons of the year and weather conditions. - At this level, students can pronounce the sounds of the Arabic language with the highest possible degree of proficiency. They become familiar with the phonetic system of the Arabic language at its simple, elementary levels. - The student can successfully handle various uncomplicated communication tasks in Arabic in direct everyday social situations in addition to speaking

	<p>short, simple sentences about everyday issues including daily routine and personal life. The student is also capable of comprehending short sentences in varied personal contexts and basic social situations, understand short, uncomplicated texts that convey basic information and deal with simple, basic personal and social topics.</p> <p>- Students are trained in automatic writing, which includes letters, words, and short sentences. They can practice functional writing at its simple, initial levels, in addition to writing short, simple sentences in which they introduce themselves and provide personal information within a range of (20) words.</p>
Level Two: Novice Mid	
Topics	<p>The first three units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (A1):</p> <p>(1) Greetings and acquaintances. (2) Study. (3) Family.</p> <p>- The first three units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (A1):</p> <p>(1) Personal information. (2) Student life. (3) Social life.</p>
Level Description	<p>The Novice Mid-level is designed for students who have finished the novice low level in Arabic language, have obtained (10-19) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (80) hours.</p> <p>-This level focuses on teaching a group of functional communication topics that the learner mainly needs in his/her life, such as: personal information, the student's daily life, and surrounding social life. It is designed to develop the four skills of listening, speaking, reading, and writing through using dialogues, class interactions, and oral and written exercises depending on the use of short and simplified texts.</p> <p>- This level aims to develop the learner's communicative competence to understand familiar daily expressions in his/her surrounding environment, comprehend short texts that convey basic information and deal with simple personal and social topics.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Students are expected to interact with other language speakers throughout slow and clear dialogue in which they use appropriate phrases and vocabulary for greetings and farewells, and answer simple questions. - Students can conjugate the most common verbs in the present and past tenses with different pronouns, differentiate between masculine, feminine, singular, dual and plural, and correctly employ prepositions indicating place and direction, such as (from, to, for, on, in). - Students of this level will be able to write relatively long sentences and short simple interconnected paragraphs within the limits of (40 words) in which they introduce themselves, provide personal information, use opening, transitional and closing phrases, and integrate simple adverbs and conjunctions including: (waw (and) for conjunction, lam (for) for reasoning, Aidan (also), Qabl (before), ba'd (after), le'an (because), and le'ay (to).
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Level Three: Novice High	
Topics	<p>The last four units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (A1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The house. (2) Daily chores. (3) Food and beverages. (4) Description (people and clothing) <p>- The last four units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (A1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Houses and places. (2) Daily habits. (3) Dietary habits. (4) Personal traits.
Level Description	<p>The Novice High level is designed for students who have finished the two levels of Novice Low and Novice Mid in Arabic language, have obtained (20-29) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (160) hours.</p> <p>- This level focuses on teaching a group of functional communication topics which are needed by the learner in his daily life, such as the house and other community places, daily work and customs, food and eating habits, and different descriptions of people, customs, and clothes. It is designed to develop the four communication skills of listening, speaking, reading, and</p>

	<p>writing through the use of dialogues, classroom interactions, and oral and written exercises.</p> <p>- At this level, the student can understand authentic, uncomplicated reading texts as well as expressions and sentences frequently used in basic personal and social contexts.</p> <p>- Students can also describe their daily life and their surroundings in a simple way focusing on their leisure/free time, family, friends, study, work, and frequently visited places.</p> <p>- Students can speak with no long details about tastes and desires explaining reasons. They can narrate an event from the past using the simple past and some related adverbs.</p> <p>- Student can write, within a limit of (60) words, relatively short topics consisting of an introduction, a body, and a conclusion, in which they explain their daily chores, the house, some customs, and other topics related to nutrition.</p> <p>-Students can also describe in a written manner people and clothes using punctuation marks correctly and some related adverbs and connections, such as thumma (then), laken (but), le'an (because), besabab (for the reason), ba'd (after), bada an (after that), Qabl (before), qabal an (before that) kathalika (as well), bal (yet), mathalan (for example), and bema anna (since).</p>
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Level Four : Intermediate Low	
Topics	<p>- The first three units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (A2):</p> <p>(1) Seasons and Months.</p> <p>(2) Places and Directions.</p> <p>(3) Shopping.</p> <p>- The first three units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (A2):</p> <p>(1) Climate and People's Lives.</p> <p>(2) Places and Civilizations.</p> <p>(3) Markets.</p>
Level Description	<p>The Intermediate Low level is designed for students who have finished the three levels of Novice Low, Mid, and High in Arabic language, have obtained (30-39) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (240) hours.</p>

	<p>- This level focuses on integrating the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing in learning a group of functional communication topics related to daily life, such as presenting information about the self, the family, other acquaintances, weather conditions, seasons and months of the year, asking about things and describing places, locations, and directions.</p> <p>Students will also learn how to ask about commodities, prices, specific products, bargaining, and purchasing things.</p> <p>-In this level, the student can understand the average, recurrent life conversations at a normal pace by the language native speakers, such as those related to the self, weather, selling and purchasing. They can understand and respond to specific personal messages, such as an invitation, a thank-you letter and an apology.</p> <p>-Students can understand rules and instructions related to his academic life on and off campus, and accomplish specific tasks, such as using public transportation, asking about an apartment, or bargaining for a product and completing its purchase.</p> <p>-Students can express their needs, emotions, feelings, and opinions. They can also use expressions of politeness and narration by employing related forms of the past tense, chronological tools, time adverbs, verbal conjunctions, and basic expressions, such as (so that, in order to, because, as a result, before that, after that, etc..).</p> <p>-Students practice the appropriate writing of personal messages, text messages, and short emails. They can also write a coherent text, within (80) words, using concrete vocabulary and memorized phrases, on familiar topics about themselves and others, and describing the surrounding environment including a description of the cities, sites, and different places they visited, lived in, or collected information about.</p>
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Level Five: Intermediate Mid	
Topics	<p>- The last four units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (A2):</p> <p>(1) Residential life.</p> <p>(2) Our healthy life.</p>

	<p>(3) Restaurants and food. (4) Travel and trips.</p> <p>- The last four units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (A2): (1) Where do you prefer to stay? (2) Personal Life. (3) Foods and Nutritional Advice. (4) Travel and Trips.</p>
Level Description	<p>The Intermediate Mid-level is designed for students who have finished the three sub-levels of Novice (low, mid, high) and the Intermediate Low level in Arabic language, have obtained (40-49) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (320) hours.</p> <p>- The student learns to integrate the four communication skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing through a group of functional topics related to study profession and accommodation with the ability to describe parts, types, sections, contents, and problems.</p> <p>-Students will learn about different issues related to personal life, such as hygiene and elegance, daily healthy habits, healthy foods and nutrition, some health problems, diseases, symptoms and related etiquette. Other topics include free time and hobbies, different types of sports, preparations for travel and trips.</p> <p>- At this level, the student can understand conversations at the intermediate level related to daily life, family, friends, housing, study, work, leisure time, means of travel, trip requirements, cooking methods, food types and ingredients, restaurants and food orders.</p> <p>-Students can also speak at length about their impressions, personal preferences, likes and dislikes, and what they should and should not do, explaining reasons, using different negative transitions and coordination, and other related conjunctions such as: (And as a result of this, as soon as...until, Furthermore). They can use expressions of politeness and courtesy with verbal conjunctions and regular expressions. They can also employ different aspects of the past tense, such as the past continuous and the distant past, in addition to the present tense and the imperative.</p> <p>-The student can accomplish some specific tasks, such as planning a trip or booking a travel ticket. He/She can also write a coherent text, within (100) words, using correct punctuation marks, with an introduction, body, and conclusion in which he/she compares two places, or describes aspects of activities, experiences, daily diaries, and autobiography.</p>

Level Six : Intermediate High	
Topics	<p>- The first five units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (B1):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Well-Known figures around us. 2. Professional careers. 3. Health awareness. 4. Occasions and Holidays. 5. Worldwide Landmarks. <p>- The first five units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (B1):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. From bottom to top. 2. Professional careers. 3. Alternative Medicine. 4. Customs and Traditions. 5. Cities of the Past and Future.
Level Description	<p>The Intermediate High level is designed for students who have finished the three sub-levels of Novice (low, mid, high) and the Intermediate Low & Mid-levels in Arabic language, have obtained (50-59) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (400) hours.</p> <p>- Through the main four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing, the student will be exposed to various social, cultural and historical topics. These topics refer to well-known figures in our world, their lives, accomplishments, and secrets of success. Furthermore, topics will include careers, skills of job interviews and employment, types of alternative medicine and its relation to modern medicine, hospitals and their different departments.</p> <p>-The student will also learn about different customs and traditions of the Arab society and other societies, social and religious occasions, popular proverbs and their importance in people's lives, nations growth and conditions, role of technology in solving problems of large cities, and other famous landmarks.</p> <p>-At this level, the student can understand authentic audio dialogues and comprehension texts about various topics, such as famous world figures, e-trade, customs and traditions, etc..</p> <p>-The student can express his/her opinions, feeling, choices, and preferences of various topics supporting each with logical reasons.</p>

	<p>Furthermore, the student can provide a set of medical advice and guidance, make presentations about (a well-known figure, a popular career, an occasion, a holiday, a famous landmark, etc..)</p> <p>-In this level, students are able to make an interview, or a press interview, with a prominent figure, participate in a debate about a certain topic supporting their viewpoints with evidence and examples. The student can play a role of a local tour guide where he/she can introduce the most historical and tourism sites for tourists in his country.</p> <p>-At this level, students can expand sentences with definitions, explanations, and enumerations, and write biographies and resumes. They can compose extensive 120-word essays comparing two different items, such as countries or devices, supporting all viewpoints with reasons for agreement and disagreement. Additionally, they can write realistic stories using collocations and ready-made expressions. They also use linking words for addition, exclusion, reasoning, comparison, and contrast, such as "not only...but also," "in addition," "although," "despite," "even though," "unless," "it is true that," and "for this."</p>
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Level Seven: Advanced Low	
Topics	<p>- The last five units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (B1):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our digital life. 2. Family issues. 3. Education. 4. Social issues. 5. Between past and present. <p>- The last five units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (B1):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Inventions that changed our life. 2. Family relations. 3. Education. 4. Social manners. 5. Between past and present.
Level Description	The Advanced Low level is designed for students who have finished the three sub-levels of Novice (low, mid, high) and the three sub-levels of Intermediate (low, mid, high) in Arabic language, have obtained (60-69)

	<p>grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (480) hours.</p> <p>- With a major focus on integrating the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing, students will be exposed to a number of various social and scientific topics highlighting inventions that changed human history, family issues that deal with women's work, the role of a father in raising children, and certain social issues, such as difficulties of marriage among young people, child labor and begging, and unemployment. They will also learn about certain social etiquettes that Arab society is keen on, such as principles of hospitality and visits.</p> <p>-In this level, the student can understand authentic audio dialogues and comprehension texts on various topics, such as family relations, social etiquette, education, etc.. Furthermore, the student can discuss the pros and cons of various topics, such as paper books vs. e-books, or private vs. public universities.</p> <p>-Students will be able to actively participate in a debate about women's work and early marriage justifying their opinions with convincing reasons and evidence, in addition to their ability to conduct various dialogues with famous and prominent figures.</p> <p>- Students can summarize and express their opinions on various issues using verbal collocations, idiomatic phrases and expressions, as well as transitional words among paragraphs, such as (it is worth mentioning, not to mention, therefore, it would, based on what was mentioned, based on all that mentioned above, etc.. They can write a 150 word-long essay or an essay of several paragraphs comparing and contrasting different topics, such as families in the past and in the age of technology.</p> <p>The student is also able to write logically and sequentially about his/her experience in life describing funny situations and strange paradoxes between the past and the present.</p>
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Level Eight : Advanced Mid	
Topics	<p>- The first four units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (B2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nature and man. 2. Social Institutions. 3. Mass media.

	<p>4. Crime and penalties.</p> <p>- The first four units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (B2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Natural Disasters. 2. Social Characteristics. 3. Mass media. 4. Crime and violations.
Level Description	<p>The Advanced Mid-level is designed for students who have finished the three sub-levels of Intermediate (low, mid, high) and the Advanced Low level in Arabic language, have obtained (70-84) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (560) hours.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By integrating the four main skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing, students will learn about various advanced cultural and cognitive topics. These topics address both general and detailed understanding, such as oral-aural discussions on environmental issues, natural disasters, human nature, and the impact of professions. They are also exposed to topics about the press and mass media, enabling them to accurately determine the main and subordinate ideas of texts and the sequence of events within them. • Students can describe scenes, situations, and feelings; deliver, analyze, and comment on news; and participate in debates, supporting their opinions with arguments and evidence. They can also discuss problems related to the topics at hand, such as the issue of orphans in society, the role of the elderly, social media, and neutrality and bias in media. Students are encouraged to suggest appropriate written or oral solutions for the examined problems, such as exterminating animals or uprooting forests. They will be able to creatively express the content of some images orally. • Students can complete a story, suggest a different ending, or change the course of events. They also have the ability to combine description and narration in writing a short story, as well as writing and editing news or raising questions for a press interview. • At this level, students write a 180-word coherent text adhering to the structure of the topic (i.e., introduction, body, conclusion) using appropriate conjunctions and connections, indicative phrases, and typical expressions such as “however,” “due to,” “especially,” “to know what’s what,” “stick to his guns,” “submitted to,” and “catch him off base.” These texts cover topics related to the country, people, the environment, and media.

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Level Nine : Advanced High	
Topics	<p>- The last four units of the textbook (Speaking and Listening) (B2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Languages of the world. 2. Immigration. 3. Avarice and generosity in our heritage. 4. Between reality and imagination. <p>- The last four units of the textbook (Reading and Writing) (B2):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Our Arabic Language. 2. Immigration. 3. Heritage topics. 4. Between reality and imagination.
Level Description	<p>The Advanced High level is designed for students who have finished the three sub-levels of Intermediate (low, mid, high) and the Advanced Low & Intermediate level in Arabic language, have obtained (85-100) grade in the placement test, or have previously studied Arabic language for approximately (640) hours.</p> <p>- By integrating the four skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing, various oral and aural texts will be presented in this level with topics addressing the familiar abstract level while employing critical thinking, creativity at the language level. Other global issues, its causes and effects, such as global warming and immigration will be addressed. Additionally, students will discuss topics related to ethics and customs of the Arab world, science fiction, myths and legends.</p> <p>- The student is able to conduct presentations about various topics, such as (an international language, famous immigrants, and public figures, etc.. They also have the ability to discuss certain beliefs and phenomena that people believe in such as (coffee cup reading, palm reading and fortune telling, symbols of optimism and pessimism.)</p> <p>- The student is able to state his/her opinion in a written manner about topics and issues that he/she addresses explaining causes and results, proposing appropriate solutions, and referring to scientific facts, data,</p>

	<p>statistics, drawings and illustrative images that enrich the text and deepen the discussion.</p> <p>-The student can write explanatory texts about various phenomena and use comparison and contrast patterns to discuss topics like racism and the challenges of integration.</p> <p>-In this level, the student writes a coherent 200–word essay adhering to the structure of academic writing and using appropriate verbal links, conjunctions, phrases and regular expressions, such as (however, and yet, with a view to, and then, on top of that, according to, breath stopping, to deceive, lay waste and enjoy relief.)</p>
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