



Pimsleur®

Eastern Arabic 2

Reading Booklet

Eastern Arabic 2

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Booklet Design: Maia Kennedy

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Arabic Dialects

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

- Syrian Arabic - (*as taught in this course*) spoken in Syria, Lebanon, Palestine, and Jordan
- Egyptian Arabic – spoken in urban Egypt
- Gulf Arabic – spoken in Kuwait, Abu Dhabi, the Emirates (Qatar), Oman, Bahrain, and Eastern Saudi Arabia
- Iraqi Arabic – spoken in Iraq
- North African Arabic – spoken in Libya, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco
- Saudi Arabic – spoken in Central and Western Arabia
- Yemeni Arabic – spoken in Yemen and southern Saudi Arabia

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The Written System

The *written* form of the Arabic language, which dates back to pre-Islamic periods, is called "Standard" or "Literary Arabic" and is used and understood throughout the Arab world. It is the form of the language taught in schools and is the default for educated Arabs of any nationality. The written system has also been adopted by neighboring countries whose language is not Arabic, such as Iran, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

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

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

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The Arabic Alphabet

The Arabic alphabet contains 28 letters in addition to the *hamza* (glottal stop) and two variants of existing letters (*alif* and *taa*). A number of diacritical marks complement the alphabet. These are signs written above or below the letters; they are listed on page 10, after the alphabet chart.

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

ا د ز ر ن و

The other 25 letters of the alphabet constitute the letters of the second category. They connect to both preceding letters (to the right) and following letters (to the left), hence the term "two-way connectors."

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

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

A complete listing of the Arabic alphabet has been included for your reference, beginning on page 8. It is shown in two 2-page spreads, reading right to left. Each letter has four different representations, depending on its position within a word and includes the forms that the connectors assume in different word positions. There is an independent form, as well as a beginning, a middle, and an end form. The term "initial" means the first letter of the word starting from the right, "medial" means all the letters in the middle, and "final" refers to the last letter of the word, on the left. This is to be used only as a guide since all of the necessary information for beginning to read in Arabic will be given in the audio portion of the Reading Lessons. In the Readings for this course, you will practice recognition and pronunciation of Arabic letters and combinations of letters, as well as their use in different words and contexts.

If you are not familiar with the Arabic alphabet, you may at first find that it takes some time to associate the appropriate sounds with each letter and/or group of letters. Therefore, we recommend that you take the Reading Lessons at your own pace, repeating

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each until you feel comfortable proceeding to the next. With a little effort, you will be astonished at how quickly you are reading Arabic.

Introduction to Readings

There are nineteen Reading Lessons. The first sixteen Reading Lessons that follow are a review from Level 1. They'll give you a solid introduction to reading Standard Arabic. In the final three Lessons, you'll have a chance to try "reading" a transcription of three telephone calls. These are written in the Syrian dialect, so you will be able to understand what you are reading. Normally, writing is done only in Standard Arabic, and experienced readers look at the words written in Standard and translate them "on the fly" into dialect.

The recorded portion of the reading materials for *Eastern Arabic 2* will be found at the end of the program. You can do the Readings when it is most convenient for you, either with the lessons, or entirely after completing the full 30 lessons. Full instructions on how to proceed are in the recording.

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Alphabet Chart (Read from right to left)

Symbol in Transliteration	Final Position	Medial Position	Initial Position
aa	ا	ا	ا
b	ب	ب	ب
t	ت	ت	ت
th	ث	ث	ث
j	ج	ج	ج
H	ح	ح	ح
kh	خ	خ	خ
d	د	د	د
dh	ذ	ذ	ذ
r	ر	ر	ر
z	ز	ز	ز
s	س	س	س
sh	ش	ش	ش
S	ص	ص	ص
D	ض	ض	ض

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Alphabet Chart (Read from right to left)

Name	Name in Transliteration	Letter
ألف	alif	ا
باء	baa	ب
طاء	taa	ت
ثاء	thaa	ث
جيم	jiim	ج
حاء	Haa	ح
خاء	khaa	خ
دال	daal	د
ذال	dhaal	ذ
راء	raa	ر
زاي	zay	ز
سين	siin	س
شين	shiin	ش
صاد	Saad	ص
ضاد	Daad	ض

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Alphabet Chart (Read from right to left)			
Symbol in Transliteration	Final Position	Medial Position	Initial Position
T	ط	ط	ط
Dh	ظ	ظ	ظ
`	ع	ع	ع
gh	غ	غ	غ
f	ف	ف	ف
q	ق	ق	ق
k	ك	ك	ك
l	ل	ل	ل
m	م	م	م
n	ن	ن	ن
h	ه	ه	ه
uu/w	و	و	و
ee/y	ي	ي	ي
aa	آ	—	—
t	ة	—	—
,	أؤئ	أ	أ

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Alphabet Chart (Read from right to left)

Name	Name in Transliteration	Letter
طاء	Taa	ط
ظاء	Dhaa	ظ
عَيْن	çayn	ع
غَيْن	ghayn	غ
فاء	faa	ف
قاف	qaaf	ق
كاف	kaaf	ك
لام	laam	ل
ميم	miim	م
نون	nuun	ن
هاء	haa	ه
واو	waaw	و
ياء	yaa	ي
ألف مقصورة	alif maqSuura	ى
تاء مربوطة	taa marbuuTa	ة
همزة	hamza	ء

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Diacritical Marks (read from right to left)

Name in Transliteration	Name	Sound	Letter
sukuun	سُكُون	none	◌ْ
no vowel follows, above the letter			
fatHa	فَتْحَة	a	◌َ
short vowel, above the letter			
Damma	ضَمَّة	u	◌ُ
short vowel, above the letter			
kasra	كَسْرَة	i	◌ِ
short vowel, below the letter			
shadda	شَدَّة	none	◌ّ
indicates a double consonant, above the letter			

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Lesson One

را	11.	ا	1.
دار	12.	دا	2.
راد	13.	داد	3.
راذ	14.	دادا	4.
دارا	15.	ذا	5.
رادا	16.	داز	6.
رادار	17.	زاد	7.
زا	18.	دازا	8.
زار	19.	زادا	9.
زاد	20.	زادازا	10.

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Lesson Two

- | | | | |
|------|-----|-------|-----|
| بار | 11. | زادا | 1. |
| بود | 12. | زادار | 2. |
| بادو | 13. | زود | 3. |
| دابو | 14. | رادو | 4. |
| | | رود | 5. |
| | | روز | 6. |
| | | دو | 7. |
| | | دوب | 8. |
| | | داب | 9. |
| | | باد | 10. |

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Lesson Three

- | | | | |
|------|-----|------|-----|
| بیر | 11. | دور | 1. |
| یاد | 12. | ذور | 2. |
| بادي | 13. | زور | 3. |
| رودي | 14. | باب | 4. |
| | | زادو | 5. |
| | | دي | 6. |
| | | دید | 7. |
| | | ري | 8. |
| | | دابي | 9. |
| | | ديب | 10. |

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Lesson Four

- | | | | |
|--------|-----|---------|-----|
| ثَابِت | 11. | ذَوْبِي | 1. |
| ثَرِيد | 12. | رَازِي | 2. |
| يَثُوب | 13. | بُورِي | 3. |
| دَارِي | 14. | دَادِي | 4. |
| | | بَابَا | 5. |
| | | بَات | 6. |
| | | تُوب | 7. |
| | | بَتِيد | 8. |
| | | رَبِّيت | 9. |
| | | رُوث | 10. |

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Lesson Five

- | | | | |
|--------|-----|--------|-----|
| دَلِيل | 11. | تور | 1. |
| بَلِيد | 12. | روبي | 2. |
| لَا | 13. | تاب | 3. |
| بِلَاد | 14. | ثابو | 4. |
| | | زول | 5. |
| | | بيل | 6. |
| | | لَبِيب | 7. |
| | | لاري | 8. |
| | | بِلَال | 9. |
| | | لودي | 10. |

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Lesson Six

نان	11.	ليزا	1.
نَبِي	12.	لودِي	2.
بُنْتُ	13.	ليرا	3.
نَبِيل	14.	لوز	4.
بَنَات	15.	ثول	5.
بَيْن	16.	لاذا	6.
نار	17.	تَلال	7.
بَرِيد	18.	وَلِيد	8.
نَوَال	19.	بان	9.
ذِيب	20.	تان	10.

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Lesson Seven

11.	إِبْنِي	1.	داوي
12.	إِذَا	2.	باري
13.	رَاء	3.	بَيَان
14.	دَوَاء	4.	بَيْت
15.	بَرَاء	5.	وَلَدَ
16.	تَاء	6.	تَيْن
17.	نَبَات	7.	أَبِي
18.	تِيل	8.	أَدِيب
		9.	أَب
		10.	أَدَب

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Lesson Eight

لَاف	11.	أَنَا	1.
بَرْق	12.	إِنْ	2.
بَرِيق	13.	دَاء	3.
قَرِيب	14.	نَوَال	4.
يَقِين	15.	بُؤْرِي	5.
رَاقِي	16.	نُؤْذِي	6.
دَافِي	17.	فِي	7.
فَرِيد	18.	فَنْ	8.
قَرَار	19.	نَفِير	9.
قَلِيل	20.	رِيف	10.

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Lesson Nine

ضَرِير	11.	لَبَن	1.
نَضِير	12.	نور	2.
يُضِير	13.	لَن	3.
قَدِير	14.	فِيل	4.
نُدِير	15.	ثَقِيل	5.
قَرَض	16.	فَرِيق	6.
بَرِيق	17.	الْفَرِيق	7.
بَرْد	18.	نِيل	8.
بَارِد	19.	النِيل	9.
دَافِي	20.	أَرْض	10.

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Lesson Ten

- | | | | |
|----------|-----|--------|-----|
| ثَرِي | 1. | سَفِير | 11. |
| لَدُود | 2. | بُوش | 12. |
| أَرَاذِي | 3. | شَفَق | 13. |
| رَاس | 4. | شَفِيق | 14. |
| سَرِير | 5. | بَشَر | 15. |
| سَارِي | 6. | رِيش | 16. |
| سُورِي | 7. | رُوسِي | 17. |
| نَسَب | 8. | نَشَر | 18. |
| نَسِيب | 9. | شُوف | 19. |
| سَفَر | 10. | أَلْف | 20. |

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Lesson Eleven

نَصِير	11.	بَشِير	1.
قَصِير	12.	رَف	2.
شام	13.	زَفِير	3.
مِين	14.	فَقِير	4.
مِير	15.	ضَرَب	5.
سَمِير	16.	سَيَب	6.
رِيم	17.	باص	7.
مَسَاء	18.	صابون	8.
مِيل	19.	بَصِير	9.
سَلَام	20.	نَاصِر	10.

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Lesson Twelve

رَشِيد	1.	كُتُبُ	11.
شَدِيد	2.	رَفَاه	12.
رَئِيس	3.	بَهَاء	13.
أَمِين	4.	هَنَاء	14.
سُوق	5.	هَادِي	15.
دِينَار	6.	هِلَال	16.
نَاس	7.	كِتَاب	17.
مَلَاك	8.	شَكِيب	18.
كَرِي	9.	سَلَام	19.
مَكَان	10.	رَشِيق	20.

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Lesson Thirteen

صافي	1.	داخ	11.
صديق	2.	بليخ	12.
توم	3.	بُخار	13.
بَصَل	4.	بَخيل	14.
فُؤاد	5.	خَروف	15.
سُؤال	6.	خَشِن	16.
سيرة	7.	خَشَب	17.
قهوة أليسار	8.	سَماء	18.
سَفيرة	9.	صَباح	19.
فَقيرة	10.	صَلاح	20.

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Lesson Fourteen

جَرِيدَة	11.	صَالِح	1.
رَاح	12.	صَح	2.
حَدِيث	13.	سَحَر	3.
حَدِيثَة	14.	حَرِير	4.
بَقَاع	15.	بَحْر	5.
رَبِيع	16.	كَرِيمَة	6.
بَعِيد	17.	بَصِيرَة	7.
عَسَل	18.	سُرُوج	8.
جَمِيل	19.	نَسِيج	9.
حَجَر	20.	سَجَد	10.

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Lesson Fifteen

هَاتِف	1.	بَغْدَاد	11.
عَلِي	2.	غَرِيب	12.
مَاهِر	3.	بَلَاغ	13.
كَشَف	4.	سُورِيَا	14.
خَبِيرَة	5.	سَلَوَى	15.
بَخِيل	6.	مَشْفَى	16.
جَمِيل	7.	دَعْوَى	17.
عَصِير	8.	غَالِي	18.
فَرَاغ	9.	خَبَر	19.
بَلِيغ	10.	بَلِيد	20.

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Lesson Sixteen

بَنْكٌ	1.	غَلَطَ	11.
شَاي	2.	بَاظ	12.
دَفَعَ	3.	غَلِيظٌ	13.
مَدَافِعُ	4.	فَظِيعٌ	14.
جَامِعٌ	5.	ظَرِيفٌ	15.
بَلَاطٌ	6.	ظَالِمٌ	16.
رَبَطَ	7.	غَارَ	17.
لَطِيفَةٌ	8.	حَافِظٌ	18.
طَبِيبٌ	9.	صَخْرٌ	19.
مَطَرٌ	10.	بَطَلَ	20.

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Lesson Seventeen

1. أَلو! مروان؟
2. إِيه، مين عم يحكي؟
3. أنا آلن ...
4. من نيويورك.
5. آلن! مرحبا آلن!
6. كيفك؟
7. منيح كتير، شكرا.
8. أنا مسافر ...
9. لسوريا ...
10. بعشرة شباط.

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Lesson Seventeen

11. عن جد؟
12. عظيم!
13. حابقي ...
14. بالشام ...
15. كم أسبوع.
16. منيح كثير. منيح كثير.
17. بدي تزورني ...
18. وحتبقى عندي؟
19. إيه، إيه، على عيني!
20. شكرا جزيلا.

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Lesson Eighteen

1. ألو آلن؟ أنا مروان.
2. مروان، إنت هون بالشام؟
3. إيه، وصلت الصبح.
4. ممكن اخذ تكسي...
5. لعندك؟
6. إيه، طبعا،
7. أو ممكن تروح ...
8. بالباص.
9. وبعدين، ...
10. شو رأيك نروح ...

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Lesson Eighteen

11. على مطعم أبو جورج؟
12. الأكل طيب كثير.
13. أحيانا ...
14. بروح لهنك ...
15. مع رفقاتي .
16. عظيم! بكرة ...
17. شو رأيك نروح لحفلة؟
18. طيب، في حفلة الخميس بالليل.
19. ممكن نروح لهنك مشي .
20. بحب الشام كثير!

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Lesson Nineteen

1. أَلُو! مروان؟
2. إِيه؟ آلن؟ إِنْت لسة بِحَلْب؟
3. إِيه، حَارِج لِنْيُورِك ...
4. السبْت الصبَح.
5. كَانَتْ رَحْلَة مَنِحَة. شَكَرَا جَزِيلًا.
6. عَفُوا.
7. بِحَب كَمَان.
8. آسَف مُو مَمَكِن إِبْقَى ...
9. بِحَلْب مَعَك،
10. بَس كَان عِنْدِي شَغَل كَثِير.

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Lesson Nineteen (continued)

11. بتحكي عربي منيح كتير هلاً.
12. شكراً. ما بحكي كتير.
13. بس بحكي أحسن هلاً.
14. إيمتى حتجي ...
15. تزورني بأميركا؟
16. ممكن نروح لمطعم منيح ...
17. بنيويورك.
18. ممكن حسافر ...
19. لنويويورك بكانون تاني.
20. عظيم!

For more information,
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