Write it in Arabic
A Workbook and Step-by-Step Guide to Writing the Arabic Alphabet

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Write it in Arabic

A Workbook and Step-by-Step Guide to Writing the Arabic Alphabet

Fun with Arabic
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Preface

*Write it in Arabic* is an alphabet guide and workbook that offers a hands-on approach to learning Arabic. Away from lengthy introductions and linguistic complications, this book will lead you directly into unravelling the mystery of the Arabic script and learning how to read and write it.

In this book, you will be introduced to the Arabic alphabet in sequence. You will practice writing the shape of each letter and you will learn how to join the letters to form words. This book will also guide you in the pronunciation of the different letters of the alphabet. You should become familiar with the shape and sound of each letter before moving on to the next one.

The words provided in the exercises have been carefully selected to help you practice the letters that you have already learned, while enriching your vocabulary. A set of easy-to-follow exercises is also included in Part Two. These exercises are designed to help you practice the Arabic style of writing and teach you new, frequently used, Arabic words.

By the end of the workbook, you should have a strong grasp of the Arabic alphabet and knowledge of its shape and sound. This will assist you greatly in further Arabic studies.
The Arabic Language

Arabic is spoken by more than 250 million people in over 22 countries. It is the official language of all Arab countries, hence forming a cultural bond among them. Arabic belongs to the Semitic group of languages which includes Hebrew, Aramaic, Ethiopic and others.

There are three basic forms of the language: classical, modern, and colloquial. The classical form is the language of old literary Arabic and the Arabic of the Qu'ran. The modern standard Arabic is the written and official language of the Arab world today. The colloquial form is the commonly spoken Arabic, which differs greatly from one country to another. Written Arabic, however, remains the same throughout the Arab world. The Arabic alphabet has also been adopted, with some modifications, by non-Semitic languages, including Persian, Urdu, Malay, and Pashto.

This workbook will introduce you to the modern standard Arabic, which is the written language of the Arab world today. Although this form is not the commonly spoken language, it is widely understood in all Arab countries, and shares several similarities with classical Arabic. You might sound out of place if you try to converse in modern standard Arabic, since the colloquial form is usually spoken. Nevertheless, this is the proper form of the language. The purpose of this book is to provide you with the basic skills for reading, writing, and understanding Arabic as it appears in newspapers, current literature, and educational materials.
Before You Start

The Arabic alphabet consists of 28 letters. The letters are written from right to left. To remain faithful to Arabic written work, this book opens like any book printed in Arabic. As well, you will write from right to left when completing the exercises.

When you write in Arabic, you join the letters together to form words. The shape of most letters changes according to their position in a word. There are, however, six letters that never change shape. In this book, we will refer to them as "disjoined letters." These letters do not join the letters following them and their shape does not change according to their position in a word. Joined letters, on the other hand, join the letters on their left and right. Most joined letters have more than one form. The short form of the letter is used at the beginning of a word or when it falls between two other joined letters. The long form is used when the letter falls at the end of a word or when it stands alone.

To complete the exercises in this workbook, start at the dot and follow the arrows. Try your best not to lift your pen when writing. Start with the basic shape of the letter, and then place any additional dots or strokes. Remember, any additional marks are placed from right to left. Pay attention to the writing line, and note which parts of the letter belong above or beneath the line. Do not confuse the name of the letter with its pronunciation. In Arabic, the name of the letter does not necessarily correspond to the sound it produces.
Part One

Letters and Numbers
The *alif* is the first letter of the Arabic alphabet. It is a disjoined letter. This means that it does not join the letter following it. It does, however, join the letter preceding it, that is, the letter to its right. The *alif* is written as a vertical stroke from top to bottom. It has only one form and it rests on the writing line.

When the *alif* is joined to its right, it is written as a vertical stroke from the bottom up. The *alif* represents the long vowel *aa*. It can also represent the short vowels *a*, *i*, or *u*, which depends on its vocalisation (see pages 48 and 52).
The baa', taa', and thaa' are all joined letters and each has two forms. The short form of the letter is used at the beginning of a word or between two other joined letters. The full form is written when the letter falls at the end of a word or when it stands alone.

The dot under the baa' is an integral part of the letter and must not be omitted. Similarly, the two dots on the taa' and the three dots on the thaa' must be kept.
a father *abb*
da door *baab*
daddy *ba'ba*
to broadcast *bath*

**steadyness** *thabaat*
geem, Haa', and khaa'

These three letters belong to the category of joined letters. They each have a short and long form and their shape changes according to their position in a word. The geem (also known as jiim) has a dot underneath, the Haa' has no dots, and the khaa' has one dot on top.

The short form rests on the writing line. The full form starts above the line and then curls beneath it.
حب

love Hub

أخت

sister 'ukht

بحث

research baHth

بأح

to reveal baaH

تحت

under/below taHat

\[\text{حب حب حب حب}]

\[\text{أخت اخت اخت اخت}]

\[\text{بحث بحث بحث بحث}]

\[\text{بأح باح باح باح باح}]

\[\text{تحت تحت تحت تحت تحت}]}
Notes and Review:
First Set of Letters

The letters baa' (ب) , taa' (ت) and thaa' (ث) are easy to pronounce. The baa' is similar to the English letter b, as in the word “boy.” Note that in the Arabic language there is no equivalent to the letter p, so the baa' is always used to transliterate the p.

The taa' has a familiar sound, much like the English letter t as in “toy.”

The thaa' has no direct equivalent in English. Its sound is similar to the letters th as in “theatre.”

The geem (ج) has two possible pronunciations, which depend on the specific dialect used. In Egyptian Arabic, for example, it is pronounced g as in “gap.” Most other dialects pronounce it more like a j as in “John.”

The Haa' (ح) is difficult to learn because it has no direct equivalent in English. The closest sound is the English letter h. The Haa', however, has a more emphatic and heavy sound than the h (see page 42). When we refer to the Haa', we will capitalise it to indicate the emphatic sound it produces.

The khaa' (خ) sounds like the letters kh as in “Khan” or ch as in “Bach.”
to urge/incite Hath

crown taag

pilgrimage Hag

luck bakhet

researcher baaheth
daal and dhaal

The **daal** and **dhaal** are both disjoined letters. They do not join the letter that follows, and their shape does not change according to their position in a word. They have only one form each, and they both rest on the writing line. The **dhaal** has one dot on top, while the **daal** has none.

The **daal** is equivalent to the English letter *d* as in “dad.” The **dhaal** has no direct equivalent in English. The closest sound is the letters *th* as in “this” or as in “with.” The **dhaal** is usually transliterated as *dh.*
a bear deb

grandfather gid

seriously begad

to attract gadhab

flies (insect) dhubaab
raa' and zaay

The raa' and zaay (also known as zayn) belong to the family of disjoined letters and have only one form each. Both letters share the same basic shape. The zaay, however, has a dot on top while the raa' has none. Each letter starts above the writing line and then curves below it. Note that approximately one third of the letter appears above the line and two thirds beneath it.

The sound of the letter raa' is similar to the English letter r as in "Rome." The zaay is equivalent to the letter z as in "zoo."
rice urz

hot (weather) Harr

cold bard

neighbour gaar

butter zibd
seen and sheen

The *seen* and *sheen* belong to the family of joined letters. They each have a short and a long form. The two letters share the same shape except that the *sheen* has three dots arranged as a triangle on top.

The short form rests on the writing line. The long form starts on the line and then descends underneath it, forming a semicircle.

The letter *seen* is equivalent to the English letter *s*. The *sheen* sounds like the letters *sh* as in “she.”
mister/professor *ustaaz*

*garas*  
bell

*asad*  
foundation *asaas*

*shabaab*  
youth

*khadsh*  
to scratch
Saad and Daad

These two letters have no direct equivalent in English. The Saad sounds like a heavy s. Try pronouncing the word “sun” while stressing the s. The Daad also has no equivalent in English. The closest pronunciation to the letter Daad is the sound of a stressed d as in the English word “dome.”

Both letters belong to the family of joined letters and they have two forms each. The short form of the letter rests on the writing line. The long form starts on the line, curves underneath it, and then comes up again to rest just above the line. Take special note of the upward stroke in the short form of both letters.
 صباح صباح صباح
morning Sabaah

حصد حصد حصد حصد
to harvest HaSad

خاص خاص خاص خاص
private khaas

ضباب ضباب ضباب ضباب
fog Dabaab

أرض أرض أرض أرض أرض
land aard
Taa' and Zaa'

Taa' and Zaa' belong to the family of joined letters. However, they have only one form each and their shape does not change according to their position in a word. They rest on the writing line. To write the letters, start with the bottom part first and add the stroke. Then, add a dot on the Zaa'.

Neither of these letters has a direct equivalent in English. The Taa' sounds like a bold or stressed t. The Zaa' (which has one dot) sounds like a stressed z.
طباخ
cook Tabaakh

خطأ
mistake/error khaTa'a

بط
duck baT

حظ
luck HaZ

ضابط
officer DaabbiT
Notes and Review:
Second Set of Letters

You have been introduced to four new letters whose sounds are unfamiliar to non-Arabic speakers: Saad (ص), Daad (ض), Taa’ (ط), and Zaa’ (ظ). However, they are not hard to master. These letters do have familiar equivalents in English, but they need to be pronounced much more forcefully and in a deeper tone. In this book, we will capitalise all references to these letters to indicate the emphatic sound they produce.

Pay careful attention that you distinguish the sounds of these letters from similar letters learned previously. The similar couples are as follows:

1. The Saad (ص) and the seen (س): The seen sounds like the English letter s, while the Saad sounds like a deep and bold s.

2. The Daad (ض) and the daal (د): The daal is equivalent to the English letter d, while the Daad is a more forceful and bolder d.

3. The Taa’ (ط) and the taa’ (ت): The letter Taa’ is a bold strong t. The letter taa’ is the direct equivalent to the letter t.

4. Finally, do not mistake the sound of the Zaa’ (ظ) for the zaay (ز). The Zaa’ is a strong bold z, while the zaay is the direct equivalent to the English letter z.
patience *Sabr*

to hide/conceal *satr*

line *saTr*

lesson *dars*

tooth *Ders*
The 'ayn is difficult to learn. It is a joined letter and has four different shapes. The first, reading from right to left, appears at the beginning of a word and rests on the writing line.

The second shape is used when the 'ayn is standing alone, or at the end of a word after a disjoined letter. It begins just above the line and continues underneath.

The third form of the 'ayn falls in the middle of a word between two joined letters. The last example, shows the 'ayn when it falls at the end of a word after a joined letter. It begins on top of the line and then curves below it.
bread *eysh

street *shara*

difficult *sab*

of course *Tabaan*

quarter *roba*
The *ghayn* is similar in shape to the letter ‘*ayn*; the only difference is that the *ghayn* has a dot on top while the ‘*ayn* has none.

The ‘*ayn* and *ghayn* have no direct equivalent in English. Their sounds are not familiar to most non-Arabic speakers. You need to listen carefully to their pronunciation and try to practice the sound. The *ghayn* is transliterated as *gh*, while the ‘*ayn* is usually transcribed as *‘* indicating that this sound is unique and there is no match in the English alphabet. If you still find it hard to master the sound of the ‘*ayn*, try to think of it as an emphatic or long a, as in Verdi’s opera “Aida.” This is not really accurate, but it will be the closest sound it imitates. The closest sound for the *ghayn* are the letters *gh* in “Baghdad.”
غراب غراب غراب غراب

raven ghorab

غرب غرب غرب غرب غرب

west gharb

غداً غداً غداً غداً غداً

tomorrow ghadan

بغداد بغداد بغداد بغداد

Baghdad

تبغ تبغ تبغ تبغ

tobacco tabgh
fāa' and qāaf

The fāa' and qāaf share the same short form, but their long forms are different. Their short forms rest on the writing line. The fāa' has one dot while the qāaf has two. The long form of the fāa' is elongated and rests on the line, whereas that of the qāaf starts just above the line and then descends beneath it forming half a circle.

Faa' is similar to the English letter f. The qaaaf has no direct equivalent; the closest you can find to its sound is the letter q as in "Iraq."
FAQAD

to lose

TUFAAH

apples

QA'TAF

to pick (flowers)

QETAR

train

SHARQ

east
kaaf

Kaaf is a joined letter, and has two forms. The short form is used in the beginning or middle of a word. To write the kaaf, start with the base of the letter and then add the top stroke.

The full form occurs when the letter stands alone or at the end of a word. The full form rests on the writing line. What's inside the kaaf is a hamza, (see page 48). It is an integral part of the letter, but has no effect on its pronunciation.

The letter kaaf is similar in its pronunciation to the English letter k.
book kitaab

sugar sukar

thank you shukraan

kiosk kushek

window shubbaak
laam

The *laam* is similar to the English letter *l*. It is a joined letter and has two forms. The short form rests on the writing line. The full form starts above the line; its tail descends below the line and then curves up again just above it.

The *laam* and the *alif* have a unique shape when they are joined together. The first example shows the two letters when standing alone. The second shape is used when the *laam* is joined from its right; it then connects with the *alif* to form this distinctive shape. Remember that the *alif* is a disjoined letter, meaning it never joins the letter following it.
liter

dog

thousand

pepper

hills
Notes and Review:
The Prefix alif laam

\[ \text{\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{prefix_alilaa.png}} \]

At this point, let us pause to discuss the definite article "the."

In Arabic there is no equivalent to the English "the." The prefix alif laam ( \(\text{}}\)) serves instead as the definite article. It is also worth noting that in Arabic an adjective has to agree with a noun; if the noun is masculine or feminine, definite or indefinite, singular or plural, the adjective must follow the same form.

In the last two examples (on the facing page) you will notice that since the alif laam prefix indicates that the noun is definite, its adjective must have the prefix agree as well.

You will find the definite article used more frequently in Arabic than in English, especially in general terms and in expressions like love, life, or patience. For example, "life is beautiful" becomes "the life is beautiful."

There are no indefinite articles such as "a" and "an" in the Arabic language, you simply leave them out.
الصبر الصبر الصبر الصبر

patience el-saber

الرجل الرجل الرجل الرجل

the man el-ragoul

الأخبار الأخبار الأخبار الأخبار

the news el-akhbaar

الدور الرابع

the fourth floor el-door el-raba

البرد القارس البرد القارس

the bitter cold el-bard el-qaress
meem

The letter meem corresponds to the English letter m as in “moon.” It is a joined letter with two forms. The short form rests on the writing line, while the full form begins on the line and then descends underneath it.

When the final meem is joined to another letter, it is usually written as a circle counter-clockwise. After completing the circle, you add the tail.
ملك malek

مطار mataar

قمر qamar

تمام tamaam

مطعم matam
The *noon* is a joined letter with two forms. The short form rests on the writing line and is similar in shape to the letters *baa'* (ب), *taa'* (ت), and *thaa'* (ث), which you studied earlier. The long form is different. It is round, resembling half a circle, and begins above the line and then curls underneath it.

The *noon* has only one dot, positioned as shown above. The dot is an integral part of the letter. Remember, it is always best to write the basic part of the letter first, and then add any additional dots or strokes. The *noon* is similar in its pronunciation to the English letter *n* as in “near.”
fire naaъr

bank banк

milk laban

tenderness Hanaаn

cup fingaаn
The *haa'* has four shapes. Reading from right to left, you notice the first form, when the *haa'* falls at the beginning of a word. The second form—the egg-shaped *haa'*—illustrates the letter when standing alone or at the end of a word after a disjoined letter. The third form occurs when the *haa'* falls between two joined letters, and the last shape, when the *haa'* falls at the end of a word after a joined letter.

The *haa'* is pronounced like the English letter *h*. Many students of the Arabic language confuse the sounds of the *haa'* and the *Haa'* (٣). The latter (see page 10) has no equivalent in English, but sounds like a heavily accented *h*.

42
pyramid *haram*

hoopoe (type of bird) *hodhod*

attention *intebah*

month *shahr*

pound (currency) *gineeh*
The waaw is similar in pronunciation to the English letter w. It can also represent the long vowel oo. The letter starts with a circle written clockwise, which starts and ends on the line. The tail of the letter descends in a slight curve beneath the writing line. The waaw is another disjoined letter and has only one form.

Remember, a disjoined letter joins the letter to its right, but does not join the letter that follows it. Disjoined letters have only one shape, as their form does not change according to their position in a word. The six disjoined letters are the alif (ا ), daal (د ), dhaal (ذ ), raa' (ر ), zaay (ظ ), and waaw (و ).
ورق  ورق  ورق  ورق
paper waraq

لون  لون  لون  لون
colour lown

صوت  صوت  صوت  صوت
voice/sound Sout

ورد  ورد  ورد  ورد
flowers ward

وصول  وصول  وصول  وصول
arrival weSool
The *yaa'* has two forms. The short form should by now look familiar to you. This time it rests on the writing line with two dots underneath. The full form is unique. It starts above the line, curves beneath it, and then up again. Remember, the short form of the letter is used at the beginning of a word, or when it falls between two other joined letters. The full form appears when the letter is standing alone or at the end of a word.

The *yaa'* is similar to the English letter *y*. It can also represent the sound of the long vowel *ee*. 
day yoom

right yemeen

tea shaay

taxi taxi

my love Habeebi
The hamza has no specific sound. It indicates a glottal stop. It is usually transcribed as an apostrophe and it indicates a vocal break. The hamza is usually carried by the alif, the waaw, or the yaa'. It can also occur alone at the end of a word; in this case the hamza is placed on the writing line.

The hamza and the alif have a unique relationship together. The hamza can occur above or under the alif. When the hamza occurs above the letter, (١) the alif is pronounced as an a. When the hamza occurs underneath, the alif (۰) is pronounced as an i.
news anbaa'  
dictation imlaa'  
question su'oaal  
president ra'ees  
thing shee'
The *taa' marbouta* is not an alphabet letter; it is more of a feminine mark. In Arabic, all nouns are either masculine or feminine. Most, although not all, feminine nouns end with the *taa' marbouta*. A masculine noun can end in any letter. Remember that a noun and an adjective have to agree, so if a noun is feminine, its adjective will also end with the same feminine mark.

**For example:**

Happy family  
 Pretty woman

*عَائلَة سعيدة*  
*إِمرَأَة جِميلَة*

The *taa' marbouta* is found only at the end of a word. It has two forms that are a variation of the letter *haa'* (see page 42). The egg shape with two dots is used when the *taa' marbouta* falls at the end of a word after a disjoined letter. The second shape is used when it falls at the end of a word after a joined letter. The *taa' marbouta* is commonly pronounced as an *a*.
doctor duktoor

doctor (female) duktoora

pretty gameela

coffee qahwa

gift hedeeya
Vowel marks

Arabic has three special vowel marks, which are not letters of the alphabet. The first vowel mark is the kasra (양). It is written below the consonant it vocalises and represents the short vowel i as in "pit." The second vowel mark, fatHaa (양), is written above the letter and represents the vowel a like in "sat". The third, the dama (양), is written above the letter and represents the short vowel u as in "up."

Example:

* baa’ and a kasra بـ is pronounced bi
* baa’ and fatHaa بـ is pronounced ba
* baa’ and a dama بـ is pronounced bu

The pronunciation of a word, and therefore its meaning, can change according to its vocalisation. This is demonstrated in the examples on the facing page.

There are two additional marks to discuss, which are not vowel marks but do affect the way a word is pronounced. The first is the shadda (양). When the shadda occurs above a consonant, the consonant is pronounced as a doubled letter. The other is the tanween mark, which resembles two fatHaas stacked one on the other (양). The tanween sounds like an n and usually appears over the alif. It can only be placed at the end of a word (see the example shukraan on page 33).
كتاب

to write *kataba*

كتب

books *kotoub*

مدرسة

school *madrasa*

مدرسة

teacher (female) *modarresa*

شباك

window *shubbak*
Numbers

The number system we use in English was developed from the Arabic more than 500 years ago, and is today commonly known as the Arabic numeral system. Over the years, however, numbers in both parts of the world evolved in different ways. For our purposes, we will refer to numbers used in English as “European numerals” and those used in the Arabic language as “Arabic numerals.”

As both systems share the same origin, there are a number of similarities between Arabic and European numerals. Most importantly, numbers composed in Arabic are written from left to right, exactly as in English. So, when you combine words and numbers, you read the word from right to left, but the number from left to right.

Example: House No. 6702
Translates to: بيت رقم: ٦٧٠٢

© Pay careful attention to the zero (٠), which resembles a dot, and the five (٥), which resembles a zero in European numerals.

© In North African countries, European numerals are used in place of Arabic ones, which means that the previous example reads: بيت رقم: ٦٧٠٢

© Today, with new Web technologies, you will find many Arabic Web sites using European numerals instead of Arabic ones.
70 70 70 70 70 70

65

12 12 12 12 12 12

170

28.3 28.3 28.3 28.3

6803

2307 2307 2307

24568

391.7 391.7

39106457
12 o'clock  
el saa'a itnasher

450 guests  
robo'umya wa khamseen maddoo

street 308  
shara' tholthomeea wa thamania

160 dollars  
meea wa seteyn dollar

page 79  
safHaa tesa'a wa sab'eyn
Handwriting

א ב ד ד ת ד ת ג ג ה ה ח ח
ד ה ז ז ל ל
כ כ פ פ א א
ת ת פ פ ע ע
ו ו ק ק ל ל
ן נ
ה ה י י
1965

Until now, we have concentrated on the printed version of the Arabic alphabet. There are only a few differences between printed and handwritten Arabic. The next few pages will guide you through handwritten script. It is recommended, however, that you learn the classic or printed form of writing first, since you can't go wrong with printing. As your comfort level with the alphabet progresses, you will be able to develop your own writing style.
Notes on Handwriting

When a letter has more than one dot on top or bottom, the dots are usually joined together. For example, the two dots under the yaa' (ي) join to form a dash, and the three dots on top of the thaa' (ت) form a triangle.

In handwritten Arabic, the seen (س) and the sheen (ش) lose their sharp upward points and are written as a flat line.

Letters that end with a dot, such as the noon, Daad, qaaf, and sheen, are sometimes written with an outside stroke in place of the dot (٤٨٨٠٠٠٠٠٠٠). The final noon can be written in two different ways. The dot can be replaced by an outside stroke or it can coil inside the letter (٤). When writing the kaaf, a curl can sometimes be placed inside it, instead of the hamza (ح).

The middle haa' is handwritten as (٤) and the final form can be written as: ٤. Similarly, the taa' marbouta will be written as: ٤.

In numbers, the upward point of number two is flattened out (٣), and number three (٣) loses one of its points. Note that three in handwriting resembles two in print; try not to confuse between them.
شرق
East sharq
ثلج
snow/ice thalg
قماش
cloth qumaash
نهر
river nahr
ارض
land ard
hospital mustashfa

problem mushkela

insurance ta'meen

customs gumruk

hotel funduq
Part Two

Exercises
Exercise 1

In this exercise, you are given the short form of the letter. Write the long form. The first one has been done for you. Be sure to practice a few times.

- A  
- B  
- C  
- D  
- E
Exercise 2

In this exercise, you are given the long form of the letter. Write the short form. Practice a few times.

- А
- Б
- В
- Г
- Д
- Е
- Ж
- З

65
Exercise 3

Write the missing letters in the squares provided. The first exercise is done for you.

مركب - A
boat markeb

نعم - B
yes ṇm

قلب - C
heart qalb

صغير - D
small sagheer
جبل -E
mountain gabel

صيف -F
summer Saeef

ربيع -G
spring rabeef

شتاء -H
winter shetaa'

خريف -I
autumn khareef
Exercise 4

In this exercise, you are given the words in handwritten script. Write the letters in the squares provided. The first word is done for you.

وقت - time waqt

ط - road/path Tareeq

م - arrow sahm

ل - closed moghlaq
freedom Hureeya

friend Sadeeq

exit khroug

peace salam

inspector mufatesh
Exercise 5

Match each profession to its Arabic equivalent. Use the transliteration as a guide. The first exercise is done for you.

i- Farmer  
\textit{falaaH}  
\textbf{ صحفي-A}

ii- Engineer  
\textit{muhandis}  
\textbf{ فلاح-B}

iii- Journalist  
\textit{SaHafee}  
\textbf{ محامي-C}

iv- Teacher  
\textit{mudaris}  
\textbf{ مهندس-D}

v- Lawyer  
\textit{muHaamy}  
\textbf{ مدرس-E}
vi- Manager (female)
mudeera

vii- Driver
sa'aek

viii- Consultant
mustashaar

ix- Employee (female)
muwaZafa

x- Nurse(female)
mumareDa

xi- Pharmacist
Saydalee
Exercise 6
Rearrange these Arab countries according to their alphabetical order.

ليبيا -F  مصر -A
Libya  Egypt

اليمن -G  الأردن -B
Yemen  Jordan

لبنان -H  سوريا -C
Lebanon  Syria

تونس -I  المغرب -D
Tunisia  Morocco

البحرين -E  قطر -E
Bahrain  Qatar
Exercise 7

Rearrange these Arab capitals according to their alphabetical order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Capital</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amman</td>
<td>Tripoli</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baghdad</td>
<td>Riyadh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rabat</td>
<td>Sana'a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abu Dhabi</td>
<td>Beirut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Damascus</td>
<td>Khartoum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exercise 8

Match each Arabic number to its English equivalent.

i- 565  15 -A

ii- 91   19 -B

iii- 060  070 -C

iv- 19   91 -D

v- 12   7 -E
Exercise 9

Match each of the following house and street numbers to its English equivalent.

i- House 985  A  شارع رقم ۱۰۰۶
ii- Street 6058  B  بيت رقم ۰۸۹
iii- Street 8056  C  شارع رقم ۰۸۶
iv- Street 8506  D  شارع رقم ۰۵۸
v- House 589  E  بيت رقم ۰۸۵
Exercise 10

Solve these simple equations. Remember, answers must be in Arabic.

\[ = 17 + 24 \quad -F \quad = 5 \times 3 \quad -A \]

\[ = y \div 24 \quad -G \quad = 10 - 3 \quad -B \]

\[ = 00 - 10 \quad -H \quad = 30 + 50 \quad -C \]

\[ = 3 \div 77 \quad -I \quad = 12 \times 8 \quad -D \]

\[ = 0 \times 4 \quad -J \quad = 1 \div 5 \quad -E \]

76
Exercise 11

Match each Arabic date, price, and quantity to its English equivalent.

i- 893/4 kilos ٢٠٠٣/٧/١٨ -A

ii- 505 liras ٥١٢٠ دولار -B

iii- 5.5 liras ١٩٨١/٧/٣٠ -C

iv- 51.25 dollars ٨٩.٣٤/٤ كيلو -D

v- 25.51 dollars ٥٠٠ ليرة -E

vi- 18/7/2003 ٠.٠ ليرة -F

vii- 30/7/1981 ٢٠.٠١ دولار -G
Exercise 12

Join the letters together to form a word. The first exercise is done for you.

_بيت_ -A
house/home beyt

_سوق_ -B
market souq

_سهم_ -C
arrow sahm

_نور_ -D
light noor

_خطر_ -E
danger khaTAR
forbidden *mamnoon*

university *gama*a

small *Sagheer*

Cairo *el-qahera*

bus *utoobees*
جبل
mountain gabal

حفلة
party Hafla

سكوت
silence sekoot

صحراء
desert Sahraa'

صديق
friend Sadeeq
-P  
谈 talk kalaam

-Q  
家庭 family 'a’yla

-R  
关闭 closed mughlaq

-S  
问题 problem mushkela

-T  
水果 fruit faakeha
Exercise 13

Match each noun with an adjective. You are given the translation of the noun followed by the required adjective combination. However, of the three adjectives next to each noun, only one is correct.

- سعيد

- سعيدة

- السعيد

- البعيدة

- بعيد

- البحر

- العلي

- عالي

- عالية

- جبل

- شقية

- شقيقة

- الشقيقة

- يوم - A
  Day (good day)

- البحر - B
  Sea (the far sea)

- جبل - C
  Mountain (a high mountain)

- طفلة - D
  Child (naughty child)
بيت - E
House
(an old house)

المديرة - F
Manager
(the new manager)

حجرة - G
Room
(a clean room)

dور - H
Floor
(the second floor)
Exercise 14

Make each adjective either definite or feminine according to the noun provided. The first example is done for you.

البحر(احمر) - A
The Red Sea

المطعم(غالى) - B
The expensive restaurant

الرجل(لطيف) - C
The nice man

القهوة(ساخن) - D
The hot coffee

إمرأة(لطيف) - E
A nice woman
The narrow street

The rich brother

The closed room

A cheap ticket

The fresh juice

The loyal friend
Exercise 15

There is a four-letter word hidden in this puzzle. Can you find it?

Find and cross out each of the words listed on the facing page. Cross out the words vertically, horizontally, or diagonally. When you’re done, you’ll be left with the hidden word.

د ر س ش ج د م
م ا خ ال ع ح
ك ر ر ب ل
ا ي ع ن ا م
ت ع م ب إ و م
ب ت ح ت أ ق ف
اه ل أ ب ح ر
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>اهلًا</td>
<td>hello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>أم</td>
<td>mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>اخ</td>
<td>brother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>جد</td>
<td>grandfather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تحت</td>
<td>underneath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بحر</td>
<td>sea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>عم</td>
<td>uncle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>شارع</td>
<td>street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>درس</td>
<td>lesson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>لبن</td>
<td>milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>كاتب</td>
<td>writer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>قف</td>
<td>stop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>يوم</td>
<td>day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>محل</td>
<td>store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>مرحباً</td>
<td>welcome</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The text is written in both Arabic and English.*
Writing Exercises

Below are a number of exercises for you to practice your writing. Remember to position the letter correctly either above or underneath the line. Don’t forget to place the dots in their right places.

أستاذ  
master/teacher

عمرأة  
woman

برج  
tower

بعيد  
far away
توائم
twins

ثمن
price

جرس
bell

حرية
freedom

حصان
horse
خروف  
lamb

خطأ  
error/mistake

dليل  
guide

دافئ  
warm

ذئب  
wolf
رياح
wind

زهرة
flower

سيارة
car

شتاء
winter

شرطة
police
صيدلية
pharmacy

ضريبة
tax

ضيف
guest

طائرة
airplane

طبيب
doctor
ظلام  
darkness

عروسة  
doll/bride

عنوان  
address

غرفة  
room

عيور  
jealous
فائز
winner

قصة
story

قاضي
judge

كثير
much/many

كوبري
bridge
language

night

city

music

stars
١٠٥
quietness

١٠٧
gift

١٠٩
loyalty

١١١
left

١١٣
right
واحد
one

إثنين
two

ثلاثة
three

أربعة
four

خمسة
five
ستة
six
سبعة
seven
ثمانية
eight
تسعة
nine
عشرة
ten
اليوم  

week  

شهر  

الأحد  

الاثنين  

Day  

Week  

Month  

Sunday  

Monday
الثلاثاء
Tuesday
الأربعاء
Wednesday
الخميس
Thursday
الجمعة
Friday
السّبت
Saturday
مرحباً

hello

اهلاً وسهلاً

hello & welcome

صباح الخير

good morning

السلام عليكم

peace be upon you
(a traditional greeting)

وعليكم السلام

and peace be upon you (reply)
كيف حالك؟
how are you?

أنا بخير
I am fine

كم الساعة؟
what is the time?

العاشرة والربع
quarter past ten

شكراً
thank you
من فضلك
please

الحمد لله
thank God

إن شاء الله
God willing

ما اسمك؟
what is your name?

أنا اسمي —
my name is ---
ما عمرك؟
how old are you?

ماذا تعمل؟
what do you do?

أين تقيم؟
where do you live?

من أين أنت؟
where are you from?

هل تعرف العربية؟
do you know Arabic?
أين الفندق؟
where is the hotel?

أريد خريطة
I want a map

احتاج مساعدة
I need help

مع السلام
good bye

إلى اللقاء
until we meet again
Answers

Exercise 1

Exercise 2

Exercise 3

Exercise 4

Exercise 5

B(i), C(v), D(ii), E(iv), F(vii), G(vi), H(xi), I(x), J(ix), K (viii)

Exercise 6
Alphabetical order of Arab countries, reading from right to left:

الاردن- البحرين- المغرب- اليمن- تونس- سوريا- قطر- لبنان-
ليبيا- مصر

Exercise 7
Alphabetical order of Arab capitals, reading from right to left:

ابوظبي- الخرطوم- الرياض- بغداد- بيروت- دمشق-
صنعاء- طرابلس- عمان
Exercise 8
A(v), B(iv), C(i), D(ii), E(iii)

Exercise 9
A(iv), B(v), C(iii), D(ii), E(i)

Exercise 10
\[ \begin{array}{cccccc}
2 & -E & 96 & -D & 70 & -C \\
30 & -J & 22 & -I & 90 & -H \\
& & & & & 4-G \\
& & & & & 40-F
\end{array} \]

Exercise 11
A(vi), B(iv), C(vii), D(i), E(ii), F(iii), G(v)

Exercise 12
بيت -B، سوق -C، نور -D، جامع -E، خطر -F، ممنوع -G، صغير -H، ثم -A، القاهرة -I، أتوبيس -J، جبل -K، حفلة -L، سكوت -M، صحراء -N، صديق -O، كلام -P، عائلة -Q، مشكلة -R، مغلق -S، فاكهة -T

Exercise 13
يوم سعيد -B، البحر البعيد -C، جبل عالي -D، طفيلة شقية -E، بيت قديم -F

Exercise 14
الطباشير -B، الرجل اللطيف -C، القهوة الساخنة -D، إمرأة لطيفة -E،HTMLElement1

Exercise 15
Missing word: عربي
Afterword

Congratulations, you have just learned the Arabic alphabet!

You have studied 28 letters, the hamza, vowel marks, numerals, and how to form the feminine. You have also been introduced to handwritten Arabic. By now, you should have a solid grasp of the Arabic script and feel confident enough to read and write basic words. You can now begin developing your vocabulary and learning basic grammatical structures. Remember, practice makes perfect, so continue by copying examples of Arabic writing you see in magazines, newspapers, books, etc.

Where will you go from here? It's up to you to decide!

It all depends on the degree of Arabic proficiency you want to achieve. You may want to continue with classical Arabic studies, learn the culture, learn to read and communicate, or just understand simple signs and instructions. You are now empowered with a strong basis of the Arabic script.

Good luck!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>تاّ</td>
<td>taa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ببٌ</td>
<td>baa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>أأٍ</td>
<td>alif</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ددٍ</td>
<td>daal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>خخٌ</td>
<td>khaa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ححٌ</td>
<td>Haa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ججٌ</td>
<td>geem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>سسٍ</td>
<td>seen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ززٌ</td>
<td>zaay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ررٌ</td>
<td>raa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>تتٌ</td>
<td>Taa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ثثٌ</td>
<td>Daad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>صصٍ</td>
<td>Saad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ششٍ</td>
<td>sheen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ففٍ</td>
<td>faa'</td>
</tr>
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<td>غغٌ</td>
<td>ghayn</td>
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<td>'ayn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ززٌ</td>
<td>Zaa'</td>
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<tr>
<td>ممٍ</td>
<td>meem</td>
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<tr>
<td>ننٍ</td>
<td>laam</td>
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<tr>
<td>ككٌ</td>
<td>kaaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ققٍ</td>
<td>qaaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ييٍ</td>
<td>yaa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ووٍ</td>
<td>waaw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ههٌ</td>
<td>haa'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ننٍ</td>
<td>noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Arabic is written from right to left, this workbook opens on the other side. It was designed this way to help you get used to the Arabic format of writing.

About the Author

Naglaa Ghali is a journalist and English/Arabic interpreter. She has devoted much of her own time to developing funwitharabic.com, an online program that uses a fun approach to learning Arabic. Ghali’s approach helps learners of the Arabic language overcome the sometimes challenging and overwhelming intricacies of the Arabic script. In this new workbook, Write it in Arabic, Ghali extends that same principle to paper and provides students with hands-on experience in writing Arabic.

To learn more about Ghali and Fun with Arabic, visit her Web site at www.funwitharabic.com.
Would you like to read and write Arabic but worry that it all looks like scribbles? Write it in Arabic will help you unveil the mysteries of the Arabic script and will guide you through the basic steps of learning to write the language.

With no lengthy introductions or linguistic complications this workbook offers a hands-on approach to learning how to read and write the Arabic alphabet. You will be introduced to the letters in sequence and practice how to write the different shapes of each letter.

This book will teach you how to join letters to form words, introduce you to new vocabulary, and guide you through pronunciation. This workbook also includes plenty of examples and exercises to help you write and read the Arabic language.