11

New words: البلد *al-balad* Town

1 **Essential vocabulary – Prepositions**

ب*	*bi-* with, by, in	إلى	*'ila* to
دون\بدون	*dūn/bidūn* without	بعد	*ba9d* after
عن	*9an* from, about	على	*9ala* on
في	*fī* in	عند	*9ind* with, in the presence/ possession of
قبل	*qabl* before		
مع	*ma9* with	ل*	*li-* to, for, of
		من	*min* from

* one-letter word, see 3/3.

Open *S98.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat** the Essential vocabulary – Prepositions.

Essential vocabulary – Other words

بلد بلاد	*balad bilād* town	إشارة	*'ishāra* sign
حدّ حدود	*ḥadd ḥudūd* limit	بوليس	*būlīs* police
طريق طرق	*ṭarīq ṭuruq* road	سرعة	*sur9a* speed
كيلومتر\كم	*kīlomitr* kilometre, km	كراج\جراج	*garāj* garage
مركز مراكز	*markaz marākiz* centre	مدينة مدن	*madīna mudun* city
مفرق مفارق	*mafraq mafāriq* crossroad	مرور	*murūr* (also:) passing, turning
ميدان ميادين	*maydān mayādīn* square		
وقوف	*wuqūf* parking, stopping	نقل	*naql* transport
يمين	*yamīn* right(-hand)	يسار	*yasār* left(-hand)

Open *S99.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat** the Essential vocabulary – Other words.

Reference vocabulary – Prepositions

تحت	*taḥt* below, under	أمام	*'amām* in front of
حسب	*ḥasab* according to	جنب	*jamb* next to (NB pronunciation: *-mb*)
خارج	*khārij* outside		
داخل	*dākhil* inside	خلال	*khilāl* during
غير	*ghayr* apart from	ضدّ	*ḍidd* against
ك*	*ka-* as	فوق	*fowq* above, over
وراء	*warā'* behind, beyond	مثل	*mithl* like

* one-letter word, see 3/3.

Open *S100.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat** the Reference vocabulary – Prepositions.

Reference vocabulary – Other words

بلدية**	*baladīya* municipality, town hall	برلمان	*barlamān* parliament
حيّ أحياء	*ḥayy 'aḥyā'* quarter	جامعة	*jāmi9a* university
عاصمة عواصم	*9āṣima 9awāṣim* capital city	شرطي	*shurṭī* policeman
قنصلية	*qunṣulīya* consulate	قصر قصور	*qaṣr quṣūr* palace
		مجلس مجالس	*majlis majālis* council, council chamber

** بلدية is literally only 'municipality', but is popularly used also for 'town hall'.

Open *S101.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat** the Reference vocabulary – Other words.

Prepositions

2 A preposition is a word connecting a noun or pronoun to the rest of the sentence. Examples in English are 'in', 'with', 'from'. In the essential and reference vocabularies given above, the prepositions are shown separately because of their importance.

In Arabic the preposition precedes its noun, as it does in English. **Read and write:**

بعد سنة *ba9d sana* after a year

ضدّ الحكومة *(ḍidd)* against the government

حسب الخبراء *(ḥasab)* according to the experts

داخل البلاد *(dākhil)* inside the country

في البنك *fi* l-bank* in the bank

عند المدير *9ind al-mudīr* with ('in the presence of') the director

* The long *ī* of *fī* shortens to *i* before the article (Final long vowel rule, see 9/5). The spelling is unchanged. Pronounce *[filbánk]*.

Open *S102.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

A dual noun or a regular-plural masculine noun (7/1, 2) after a preposition has the ending ...ين *-ayn* or *-īn* respectively. **Read and write:**

مع المهندسين *ma9 al-muhandisayn/al-muhandisīn* with the (two) engineers

Open *S103.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

When we want to combine a preposition with a *pronoun*, we add the pronoun as an ending, using the same endings as the possessives (9/5). The meanings then become 'me', 'you', 'him' etc. We can add the pronoun endings without further ado to those prepositions which end in a consonant (including *hamza*). **Read and write:**

معي *ma9ī* with me

أمامه *'amāmu* before him

Open *S104.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

When ...ي *-ī* 'me' or ...نا *-na* 'us' is added to عن *9an* or to من *min*, the *n* is doubled. **Read and write:**

منّا *minna* from us

عنّي *9annī* about me

Open *S104a.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

With the prepositions ending in a vowel it is not so simple. Examples are given below. Don't try to learn the following details at one stroke. Use them for reference until at least some become familiar:

- إلى *'ila* and على *9ala* change to ...إلي *'ilay-* and ...عليه *9alay-* before adding a pronoun. **Read and write:**

إليها *'ilayha* to her/it/them (inan. pl.)

علينا *9alayna* up to us ('on us')

Open *S105.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

You have certainly heard of the classic greeting السلام عليكم *as-salām 9alaykum* 'Peace (be) upon you'. Thinking of this might help you to remember the form of these prepositions before a pronoun ending.

- ل *li-* becomes لي *lī* for 'to/for me', but changes to *la-* before the other pronouns. **Read and write:**

لهم *lahum* to/for them

له *lahu* to/for him, it

Open *S106.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

- After ب *bi-*, في *fī*, ... إلي *'ilay-* and ... علي *9alay-* (see above), the pronoun endings ...ـه and ...هم are pronounced *-hi* and *-him*. The spelling is unchanged.
  Also, after في *fī*, ... إلي *'ilay-* and ... علي *9alay-* the pronoun ending ...ي 'me' is pronounced *-ya*. Note the spelling, with *shadda* and no final *'alif*. **Read and write:**

إليهم إليهم *'ilayhim* to them
به به *bihi* with him/it; in him/it
إليّ إليّ *'ilayya* to me
فيّ فيّ *fīya* in me

Open *S107.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat**.

In 9/5 we noted that a dual or regular m. pl. noun loses its final ...ن when a possessive is added. Note now that the vowel-change shown immediately above also applies also to examples like these:

حسب معلّميه *ḥasab mu9allimīhi* according to his teachers
من ممثّليهم *min mumaththilayhim* from both their representatives

and note the form (من) معلّميّ *(min) mu9allimīya* (from) my teachers

(A form like e.g. *[mu9allim**ūy**a]* is not used; the combination *[ūy]* occurs nowhere in Arabic.)

Translating prepositions

3 Arabic phrases do not always have prepositions corresponding exactly to the English; be prepared for different ones. Here are two examples out of many.

Read and write:

مسؤول عن مسؤول عن *(9an)* responsible for
ممنون من ممنون من *(min)* grateful for

Open *S108.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat**.

Prepositions in equations

4 We can use a prepositional expression as either term in an equation (10/3). **Read and write:**

هو ضدّ الاقتراح. هو ضدّ الاقتراح. He is against the proposal.
الطبيب في البلد. الطبيب في البلد. The doctor is in town.
المرور إلى اليسار ممنوع. *al-murūr 'ila l-yasār mamnū9.*
المرور إلى اليسار ممنوع. NO LEFT TURN ('Turning left prohibited')
هو عند الأستاذ. *huwa 9ind al-ustādh.*
هو عند الأستاذ. He is with the professor.

Open *S109.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat**.

When (as is far more common) it is the *predicate* which takes the preposition, that predicate may sometimes be *fronted*, i. e. put before the subject; this can give a meaning equivalent to English 'There is/are ...'. **Read and write:**

في العاصمة جامعتان. في العاصمة جامعتان. *fi l-9āṣima jāmi9atān*.*
There are two universities in the capital. ('In the capital [are] two universities.')
أمامك كراج. أمامك كراج. *'amāmak garāj.*
There is a garage in front of you./In front of you (there is) a garage.

Open *S110.wav*. **Read, listen and repeat**.

The subject in such statements is mostly *indefinite*, as it is in the English equivalent.

* For emphasis we can add هناك *hunāka* ('there', 6/2) before the subject:

في العاصمة هناك جامعتان. In the capital [there are] *there* two universities.

عند *9ind*

5 The preposition عند *9ind* 'in the possession of', used in a fronted predicate as above, is also the standard Arabic way of expressing the sense of the English verb 'have' or 'has'. **Read and write:**

عندي كتاب عربي.	*9indī kitāb 9arabī.* I have an Arabic book.
عندي كتاب عربي.	('In my possession [is] an Arabic book.')
عند مدير كم وظيفة صعبة.	*9ind mudīrkum waẓīfa ṣa9ba*
عند مديركم وظيفه صعبه.	Your director has a difficult job.
عندهم جرائد أجنبية.	*9ind-hum jarā'id 'ajnabīya.*
عندهم جرائد أجنبيه.	They have foreign newspapers.

Open *S111.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

Since عند is a preposition, a dual or a regular-plural masculine noun (7/1, 2) depending on it (i.e. expressing the *'possessor'*) has the ending ...ين *-ayn* or *-īn* respectively, as stated in paragraph 2 above. But any such noun expressing the things or persons *'possessed'* has the ending ...ان *-ān* or ...ون *-ūn* respectively. **Read and write:**

عند الشرطيين مفتّشون جدد.	*9ind ash-shurṭīyī**n** mufattish**ūn** judud.*
عند الشرطيين مفتّشون جدد.	The policemen have new inspectors.
عند الشرطيين مفتّشان جديدان.	*9ind ash-shurṭīyī**n** mufattish**ān** jadid**ān**.*
عند الشرطيين مفتّشان جديدان.	The policemen have two new inspectors.

Open *S112.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

Use the formula *'with me/you* (etc.) *there is/are...'* to express the idea 'to have'.

Command form

6 You may see a notice, advertisement or instruction like one of these. **Read and write:**

إشرب فانتا اشرب فانتا	*'ishrab fanta* Drink Fanta
إقفل الباب اقفل الباب	*'iqfil al-bāb* Shut the door
إركب\إنزل هنا اركب\انزل هنا	*'irkab/'inzil huna* Get on/off here
إفتح بانتباه افتح بانتباه	*'iftaḥ bi-ntibāh* Open carefully ('with caution')
أنظر ... انظر..	*'unẓur* See ... (used in text references)
أطلب ... اطلب ..	*'uṭlub* Ask for ...

Open *S113.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

These are verbs, in the command form. They can often be recognised by two characteristics: they stand at the beginning of the expression, as in English; and they begin with *'alif hamza*, which is pronounced *'i-*, *'u-* or *'a-* depending on the verb.

Unfortunately not all commands take this easily recognisable form with initial *'alif*. In Lesson 3 we had تمهّل *tamahhal* 'SLOW DOWN', and in Lesson 6 قف *qif* 'STOP'. These important notices are also in the command form. The forms shown are masc. sing., which is generally used; add ...ي *–ī* for the fem. sing. form. You may occasionally see the masc. pl. form – as if addressing a group – with ...وا *-ū* added to the masc. sing. form:

إشربوا *'ishrabū* Drink ... أطلبوا *'uṭlubū* Ask for ... (NB. the final *'alif* is silent).

These forms are used in advertisements, or when an authoritative tone (police, road signs, warnings etc.) is needed. A more polite form, similar to our 'Please ...' takes the following guise.

Read and write:

الرجاء الانتظار هنا. الرجاء الانتظار هنا.	*ar-rajā' al-intiẓār huna.* Please wait here.

Open *S114.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

You will note that the verbal noun, in this case انتظار 'waiting', is *definite* in this expression. 'Please do not ...' is written with the same formula, but using the noun عدم *9adam* 'lack of', followed by a definite verbal noun. **Read and write:**

الرجاء عدم التدخين. الرجاء عدم التدخين *ar-rajā' 9adam at-tadkhīn.*

(تدخين *tadkhīn* smoking, verbal noun of group [b], 8/2) Please do not smoke.

Open *S115.wav*. Read, listen and repeat.

Signs and notices

7 In many signs and similar short messages and warnings, an equation is used in reverse order, for effect. This happens, for example, with the essential word ممنوع *mamnū9* 'PROHIBITED'. In an ordinary text, the sentence 'Entry is prohibited' would be the equation

الدخول ممنوع. *ad-dukhūl mamnū9.*

But often the same warning in a sign may place the predicate before the subject, for emphasis:

ممنوع الدخول. *mamnū9 ad-dukhūl.*

The meaning is unchanged. Don't confuse this purely stylistic inversion with the *fronted predicate* structure (paragraph 4 above), with its indefinite subject and special meaning.

Not all Arab countries use the same words in their notices. You will soon get used to local preferences. The words given in this book are those most widely used.

Exercise 1 Read and translate these equations:

(a) الاسم فوق الإعلان. (b) المفرق خارج البلد. (c) مكتبي أمام المستشفى.

(d) الكراج على يمينك. (e) البلدية وراءنا.

Exercise 2 Rewrite, and read aloud, the equations in Exercise 1 but with the opposite meaning.

Exercise 3 Choose for each sign a caption from the box. Read aloud and translate each caption:

(a) (b) (c) (d) (e) (f)

(g) (h)

ممنوع الدخول، قف، ممنوع للمرور،
المرور إلى اليسار ممنوع، ممنوع للسيّارات،
مستشفى، ممنوع التدخين، مفرق.

Exercise 4 Join the two elements to make a sentence showing possession, then read your answer aloud and translate it into English. The first example is done for you:

(a) هي، شغل كثير → عندها شغل كثير. *9ind-ha shughl kathīr.* She has much work.

(b) الممثّل، سيّارة خاصّة (c) المراسل، علاقات رسمية بالحكومة

(d) العاصمة، جامعتان (e) نحن، قنصليات في مصر

The answers to these exercises follow below the picture.



Answers to Exercises

1 (a) *al-ism fowq al-'i9lān.* The name is above the notice.
(b) *al-mafraq khārij al-balad.* The crossroad is outside the town.
(c) *maktabī 'amām al-mustashfa.* My office is in front of the hospital.
(d) *al-garāj 9ala yamīnak.* The garage is on your right.
(e) *al-baladīya warā'na.* The town hall is behind us.
2 (a) الاسم تحت الإعلان. *al-ism taḥt al-'i9lān.*
(b) المفرق داخل البلد. *al-mafraq dākhil al-balad.*
(c) مكتبي وراء المستشفى. *maktabī warā' al-mustashfa.*
(d) الكراج على يسارك. *al-garāj 9ala yasārak.*
(e) البلدية أمامنا. *al-baladīya 'amāmna.*
3 (a) قف *qif* STOP (b) ممنوع الدخول *mamnū9 ad-dukhūl* NO ENTRY
(c) ممنوع للسيّارات *mamnū9 li-s-sayyārāt* VEHICLES PROHIBITED
(d) ممنوع للمرور *mamnū9 li-l-murūr* TRAFFIC PROHIBITED
(e) المرور إلى اليسار ممنوع *al-murūr 'ila l-yasār mamnū9.* NO LEFT TURN
(f) مفرق *mafraq* CROSSROAD (g) ممنوع التدخين *mamnū9 at-tadkhīn* NO SMOKING
(h) مستشفى *mustashfa* HOSPITAL
4 (b) عند الممثّل سيّارة خاصّة. *9ind al-mumaththil sayyāra khāṣṣa.* The representative has a private/special car.
(c) عند المراسل علاقات رسمية بالحكومة. *9ind al-murāsil 9alāqāt rasmīya bi-l-ḥukūma.* The correspondent has official relations with the government.
(d) عند العاصمة جامعتان. *9ind al-9āṣima jāmi9atān.* The capital has two universities.
(e) عندنا قنصليات في مصر. *9indna qunṣulīyāt fī miṣr.* We have consulates in Egypt.

Tests

1 Read aloud and translate:
(a) ممنوع الانتظار (b) في البلد (c) في البلاد* (d) أشغال على الطريق
(e) المرور إلى اليمين
* two possible meanings in English

2 Make the adjective agree with the noun in a description:
(a) سيّارات (جديد) (b) أشغال (هامّ) (c) الشرطة (محلّي) (d) مستشفيات (كبير)
(e) مشاكل (فنّي)

3 Which of these are descriptions, and which are equations? Read everything aloud and translate it:
(a) المأمور المسؤول (b) المأمورون هم المسؤولون (c) البلاد جميل
(d) زميلي في المستشفى (e) زميلي المريض

4 Make the expression first *dual*, then *plural*. Read out and translate your answers into English:
(a) للموظّف (b) عند المهندس موظّف أجنبي. (c) في مدينة أجنبية
(d) عند الصحيفة مراسل عراقي. (e) أمام المجلس

5 Add the possessive ending, then read your answer aloud and translate it:
e.g. (هو) مع معلّمين ← مع معلّميه *ma9 mu9allimīhi* with his teachers
(a) (أنا) مستخدمون (b) (أنتم) مستخدمون (c) (هم) عند مستخدمين (d) (أنا) مساعدون
(e) (هي) مدرّسون

*