Your first 100 words in ARABIC

Features Flashcards and Audio CD for Perfect Pronunciation!

Beginner's Quick & Easy Guide to Demystifying Arabic Script
Your first 100 words in Arabic

Beginner's Quick & Easy Guide to Demystifying Arabic Script

Series concept
Jane Wightwick

Illustrations
Mahmoud Gaafar

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Mahmoud Gaafar

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INTRODUCTION

In this activity book you’ll find 100 key words for you to learn to read in Arabic. All of the activities are designed specifically for reading non-Latin script languages. Many of the activities are inspired by the kind of games used to teach children to read their own language: flashcards, matching games, memory games, joining exercises, etc. This is not only a more effective method of learning to read a new script, but also much more fun.

We’ve included a Scriptbreaker to get you started. This is a friendly introduction to the Arabic script that will give you tips on how to remember the letters.

Then you can move on to the eight Topics. Each topic presents essential words in large type. There is also a pronunciation guide so you know how to say the words. These words are also featured in the tear-out Flashcard section at the back of the book. When you’ve mastered the words, you can go on to try out the activities and games for that topic.

There’s also a Round-up section to review all your new words and the Answers to all the activities to check yourself.

Follow this 4-step plan for maximum success:

1. Have a look at the key topic words with their pictures. Then tear out the flashcards and shuffle them. Put them Arabic side up. Try to remember what the word means and turn the card over to check with the English. When you can do this, cover the pronunciation and try to say the word and remember the meaning by looking at the Arabic script only.

2. Put the cards English side up and try to say the Arabic word. Try the cards again each day both ways around. (When you can remember a card for seven days in a row, you can file it.)

3. Try out the activities and games for each topic. This will re-inforce your recognition of the key words.

4. After you have covered all the topics, you can try the activities in the Round-up section to test your knowledge of all the 100 words in the book. You can also try shuffling all the flashcards together to see how many you can remember.

This flexible and fun way of reading your first words in Arabic should give you a head start whether you’re learning at home or in a group.
The purpose of this Scriptbreaker is to introduce you to the Arabic script and how it is formed. You should not try to memorize the alphabet at this stage, nor try to write them yourself. Instead, have a quick look through this section and then move on to the topics, glancing back if you want to work out the letters in a particular word. Remember, though, that recognizing the whole shape of the word in an unfamiliar script is just as important as knowing how it is made up. Using this method you will have a much more instinctive recall of vocabulary and will gain the confidence to expand your knowledge in other directions.

The Arabic script is not nearly as difficult as it might seem at first glance. There are 28 letters (only two more than in the English alphabet), no capital letters, and, unlike English, words are spelled as they sound. There are two main points to etch into your brain:

- Arabic is written from right to left.
- The letters are "joined up" – you cannot "print" a word as you can in English.

The alphabet

The easiest way of tackling the alphabet is to divide it into similarly shaped letters. For example, here are two group of similar letters. The only difference between them is the dots:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{ح} & \quad \text{(the letter haa)} \\
\text{ب} & \quad \text{(the letter baa)} \\
\text{ج} & \quad \text{(the letter jeem)} \\
\text{ت} & \quad \text{(the letter taa)} \\
\text{خ} & \quad \text{(the letter khaa)} \\
\text{ث} & \quad \text{(the letter thaa)}
\end{align*}
\]

When these letters join to other letters they change their shape. The most common change is that they lose their "tails":

\[
\text{ح} + \text{ب} = \text{ح ب} = \text{حب} \quad \text{(read from right to left)}
\]

Because letters change their shape like this, they have an initial, a medial (middle) and a final form. For example, the letter ج (jeem) changes like this:

- at the beginning of a word (initial) \[ججج\]
- in the middle of a word (medial) \[ججج\]
- at the end of a word (final) \[جج\]
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic Letter</th>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>التاء (tā)</td>
<td>a strong “t,” pronounced with the tongue on the roof of the mouth rather than up against the teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>الزاي (zā)</td>
<td>a strong “z,” pronounced with the tongue on the roof of the mouth rather than up against the teeth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>هاء (hā)</td>
<td>pronounced as a breathy “h”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>خاء (khā)</td>
<td>pronounced like the “ch” in the Yiddish “chutzpah”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ئاء (‘āyn)</td>
<td>the sound most often associated with Arabic, and most difficult to produce: a sort of guttural “ah”-sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>غاء (ghāy)</td>
<td>pronounced like the French throaty “r”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>حاء (hāmza)</td>
<td>a strange “half letter.” Not really pronounced at all, but has the effect of cutting short the previous letter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>دال (dāl marbūta)</td>
<td>a version of (tā) that only appears at the end of words and is pronounced “a”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary of the Arabic alphabet
The table below shows all the Arabic letters in the three positions, with the Arabic letter name, followed by the sound. Remember that this is just for reference and you shouldn’t expect to take it all in at once. If you know the basic principles of how the Arabic script works, you will slowly come to recognize the individual letters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic Letter</th>
<th>Initial: medial: final</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>أ /ا /ئ /ى /ؤ</td>
<td>zaa z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ب</td>
<td>seen s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ت</td>
<td>sheen sh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ث</td>
<td>saad s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ج</td>
<td>baad d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ح</td>
<td>taa t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>خ</td>
<td>zaa z</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>د</td>
<td>‘ayn ‘</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ذ</td>
<td>ghayn gh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ر</td>
<td>faa f</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8
Look at the pictures of things you might find in a house. Tear out the flashcards for this topic. Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Match the pictures with the words, as in the example.

Now match the Arabic household words to the English.
Match the words and their pronunciation.

See if you can find these words in the word square.
The words run right to left.
Decide where the household items should go. Then write the correct number in the picture, as in the example.

10 كمبيوتر
11 شباك
12 باب

10 كمبيوتر
11 شباك
12 باب

7 دولاب
8 فرن
9 ثلاجة

7 دولاب
8 فرن
9 ثلاجة

11 شباك
12 باب

11 شباك
12 باب

1 مائدة
2 كرسي
3 كتبة

1 مائدة
2 كرسي
3 كتبة

4 تلفزيون
5 تليفون
6 سرير

4 تلفزيون
5 تليفون
6 سرير
Now see if you can fill in the household word at the bottom of the page by choosing the correct Arabic.

English word:  📽️ 📽️ 📽️ 📽️ 📽️ 📽️ 📽️
Look at the pictures of different clothes. Tear out the flashcards for this topic. Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
See if you can find these clothes in the word square.

Match the Arabic words and their pronunciation.

- Hiziaam
- Gubba
- Short
- Juslaa
- Hijmaa
- Qamees
- Jawrab
- Tee-sheer
Now match the Arabic words, their pronunciation, and the English meaning, as in the example.
Candy is going on vacation. Count how many of each type of clothing she is packing in her suitcase.
Someone has ripped up the Arabic words for clothes. Can you join the two halves of the words, as the example?
AROUND TOWN

Look at the pictures of things you might find around town.

Tear out the flashcards for this topic.

Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Match the Arabic words to their English equivalents.

Now list the correct order of the English words to match the Arabic word chain, as in the example.

bicycle taxi house train bus road car
Match the words to the signs.

- TAXI
- Bus
- Car
- Train
- Restaurant
- Bed
- Bicycle

- أوتوبيس
- دراجة
- سيارة
- قطار
- مدرسة
- مطعم
Now choose the Arabic word that matches the picture to fill in the English word at the bottom of the page.

English word: s  s  s  s  s  s  s
Now match the Arabic to the pronunciation.
Look at the pictures of things you might find in the countryside. Tear out the flashcards for this topic. Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Can you match all the countryside words to the pictures?

جَبَل
مَزَّرعة
بَحْر
غَابَة
صَحْرَاء
تَل
بُحيرة
جَسَر
نَهْر
وَردة
شَجَرَة
حَقَل
Now check (✔) the features you can find in this landscape.

- جسر
- شجرة
- صحراء
- تل
- جبل
- بحر
- حقل
- غابة
- نهر
- بحيرة
- وردة
- مزرعة
Match the Arabic words and their pronunciation.

See if you can find these words in the word square.
The words run right to left.
Finally, test yourself by joining the Arabic words, their pronunciation, and the English meanings, as in the example.
Opposites

Look at the pictures.

Tear out the flashcards for this topic.

Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Join the Arabic words to their English equivalents.

expensive  نَظِيف
big  ثَقِيل
light  صَغِير
slow  قَديم
clean  جَديد
inexpensive  رَخيص
dirty  سَريع
small  بَطيء
heavy  غَالٍ
new  وَسخ
fast  خَفيف
old  كُبير
Now choose the Arabic word that matches the picture and fill in the English word at the bottom of the page.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English word:</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>سرع</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>بطيء</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>نظيف</strong></td>
<td>h</td>
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<td><strong>جديد</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>رخيص</strong></td>
<td>a</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>وسخ</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>كبير</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ثقيل</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>صغير</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>غال</strong></td>
<td>p</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>رخيص</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>جديد</strong></td>
<td>o</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>خفيف</strong></td>
<td>c</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>صغير</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>نظيف</strong></td>
<td>m</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>قديم</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>بطيء</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Find the odd one out in these groups of words.

- رَخِيصٌ  غَالِبٌ  ثَقِيلٌ
- خَفِيفٌ  صَغيرٌ  ثَقِيلٌ
- بَطيءٌ  سَريعٌ  جَديدٌ
- وَسخٌ  قَديمٌ  جَديدٌ
- نَظيفٌ  وَسخٌ  بَطيءٌ
- رَخِيصٌ  كَبيرٌ  صَغيرٌ
Finally, join the English words to their Arabic opposites, as in the example.
6 ANIMALS

Look at the pictures.
Tear out the flashcards for this topic.
Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Match the animals to their associated pictures, as in the example.
Now match the Arabic to the pronunciation.
Check (✔) the animal words you can find in the word pile.
Join the Arabic animals to their English equivalents.

monkey - كلب
cow - أسد
mouse - قرد
dog - فيل
sheep - أرنب
fish - سمكة
lion - فار
elephant - بطة
cat - بقرة
duck - خروف
rabbit - حصان
horse - قطة
7 Parts of the Body

Look at the pictures of parts of the body.
Tear out the flashcards for this topic.
Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Someone has ripped up the Arabic words for parts of the body. Can you join the two halves of the word again?
See if you can find and circle six parts of the body in the word square, then draw them in the boxes below.

The words run right to left.

Now match the Arabic to the pronunciation.
Label the body with the correct number, and write the pronunciation next to the words.

1. البطن
2. الأنف
3. الأذن
4. العين
5. الراع
6. يد
7. ساق
8. إصبع
Finally, match the Arabic words, their pronunciation, and the English meanings, as in the example.
Look at the pictures. Tear out the flashcards for this topic. Follow steps 1 and 2 of the plan in the introduction.
Match the Arabic words to their English equivalents.

- great
- yes
- yesterday
- where?
- today
- here
- please
- no

Now match the Arabic to the pronunciation.

- هُناك
- أهلا
- تع السَّلامَة
- بَكَمْ؟
- شُكرا
- آسف
- عظيم
- أَمَس
- نَعم
- هُنا
- عظيم
- من فَضْلك
- لا
- اليوم
- أيَن؟

- ma' as-salaama
- ahlan
- 'azeem
- shukran
- ghadan
- aasif
- bikam?

hunaak
Choose the Arabic word that matches the picture to fill in the English word at the bottom of the page.

English word: p
What are these people saying? Write the correct number in each speech bubble, as in the example.
Finally, match the Arabic words, their pronunciation, and the English meanings, as in the example.
**Round-up**

This section is designed to review all the 100 words you have met in the different topics. It is a good idea to test yourself with your flashcards before trying this section.

These ten objects are hidden in the picture. Can you find and circle them?

- كرسي (Chair)
- باب (Door)
- قبعة (Hat)
- دراجة (Bicycle)
- سمكة (Fish)
- كلب (Dog)
- سرير (Bed)
- جورب (Sock)
- معطف (Coat)
- وردة (Rose)
See if you can remember all these words.

اليوم
أتوبيس
سرع
أنف
صحراء
نعم
دولاب
أسد
فستان
رخيص
نهر
ساق
Find the odd one out in these groups of words and say why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>كلب</th>
<th>يقره</th>
<th>مائدة</th>
<th>قرد</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Because it isn't an animal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>سيارة</th>
<th>اوتوبس</th>
<th>قطار</th>
<th>تليفون</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>مزرعة</th>
<th>معطف</th>
<th>قميص</th>
<th>جبنة</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>بحر</th>
<th>بحيرة</th>
<th>نهر</th>
<th>شجرة</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>غالب</th>
<th>وسخ</th>
<th>نظيف</th>
<th>سينما</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>أرنب</th>
<th>قطة</th>
<th>سمكة</th>
<th>أسد</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>نداع</th>
<th>كتبة</th>
<th>رأس</th>
<th>بطن</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>من فضلك</th>
<th>أمس</th>
<th>اليوم</th>
<th>غدا</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>فرن</th>
<th>سرير</th>
<th>دولب</th>
<th>ثلاجة</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Look at the objects below for 30 seconds.

Cover the picture and try to remember all the objects. Circle the Arabic words for those you remember.
Now match the Arabic words, their pronunciation, and the English meanings, as in the example.
Fill in the English phrase at the bottom of the page.
Look at the two pictures and check (✓) the objects that are different in Picture B.

Picture A

Picture B
Now join the Arabic words to their English equivalents.

refrigerator

زراع

pants

بطن

store

صغير

school

ثلاجة

river

محل

great

عظيم

small

نهر

light

بنطلون

arm

نظيف

stomach

خفيف

clean

حصان

horse

مدرسة
Try to match the Arabic to the pronunciation.

- أهلا
- seenimaa
- furn
- أمس
- kharoof
- haql
- فرن
- isba'
- ahlam
- سينما
- feel
- تاكسي
- taaksee
- حقل
- kabeer
- جبیل
- jabel
- هائل
- jadheed
- خروف
- ams
- جديد
- jabal
- فيل
Snake game.

- You will need a die and counter(s). You can challenge yourself to reach the finish or play with someone else. You have to throw the exact number to finish.
- Throw the die and move forward that number of spaces. When you land on a word you must pronounce it and say what it means in English. If you can’t, you have to go back to the square you came from.
### Answers

#### 1 AROUND THE HOME

**Page 10 (top)**
See page 9 for correct picture.

**Page 10 (bottom)**
- door: باب
- cupboard: دولاب
- stove: فرن
- bed: سرير
- table: مائدة
- chair: كرسي
- refrigerator: تلجاء
- computer: كمبيوتر

**Page 11 (top)**
- مائدة
- دولاب
- كمبيوتر
- سرير
- شباك
- تليفون
- تليفزيون
- كرسي

**Page 11 (bottom)**

#### 2 CLOTHES

**Page 15 (top)**
- فستان: fustoan
- شورت: shooort
- حذاء: нітнa
- حزام: hizaam
- قميص: qamees
- تي شيرت: tee-sheert
- جورب: qubba'a
- جورب: jawrab

**Page 15 (bottom)**

**Page 16**
- hat: قبعة
- shoe: حذاء
- sock: جورب
- shorts: شورت
- t-shirt: تي شيرت
- belt: حزام
- coat: قميص
- pants: بناطيل

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>hat</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coat</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>belt</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shoe</td>
<td>2 (1 pair)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pants</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shorts</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dress</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sock</td>
<td>6 (3 pairs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>skirt</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t-shirt</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shirt</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sweater</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Around Town

Page 20 (top)
- movie theater
- store
- hotel
- taxi
- car
- train
- school
- house

Page 20 (bottom)
- bicycle 4
- taxi 7
- house 2
- train 6
- bus 1
- road 3
- car 5

Page 21

4 Countryside

Page 23
- ootoobees
- taaksee
- madrasa
- sayyaara
- funduq
- bayt
- darraaja
- qitaar
- mahall
- seenimaa
- mar'am
- shaar'i

Page 25
See page 24 for correct picture.

Page 26
- جسر ✓
- شجرة ✓
- صحراه ✓
- تل ✓
- جبل ✓
- بحر x
- حقل ✓

Page 27 (top)
- جبل
- نهر
- غابة
- صحراه
- بحر
- مزرعة
- جسر
- حقل

Page 22
English word: school

Page 23
- jabol
- nahr
- ghaaba
- sahraa
- ba'ir
- mazra'a
- jisr
- haql
5 OPPOSITES

expensive — غالي
big — كبير
light — ضئيف
slow — طويل
clean — نظيف
inexpensive — رخيص
dirty — وحش
small — صغير
heavy — ثقيل
new — جديد
fast — سريع
old — قديم

English word: change

Odd one outs are those which are not opposites:
- ثقيل
- صغير
- جديد
- وسخ
- بطيء
- رخيص

Page 33
- جديد
- صغير
- قديم
- سريع
- نظيف
- كبير
- ضئيف
- وحش
- ثقيل
- رخيص
- غالي

6 ANIMALS

Page 35

Page 36

Page 37

Page 38

* All animals marked with a check are present in the text, while those marked with an 'x' are not mentioned.

61
7 Parts of the body

You should have also drawn pictures of:
- leg; mouth; ear; nose; eye; hair

Page 38
- monkey
- cow
- mouse
- dog
- sheep
- fish
- lion
- elephant
- cat
- duck
- rabbit
- horse

Page 40

Page 41
1. uthun
2. thiraa
3. anf
4. yad
5. uthun
6. saaq
7. 'ayn
8. isba'

Page 43
- ear
- hair
- hand
- stomach
- arm
- back
- finger
- leg

Page 41 (bottom)
- رأس
- أذن
- نطق
- أنف
- نرار
- عين
- ظهر

Page 42

- batn
- thiraa
- anf
- yad
- uthun
- saaq
- 'ayn
- isba'

Page 43 (bottom)

- ra-as
- uthun
- batn
- anf
- thiraa
- fom
- 'ayn
- zahr

Page 44

- saaq
8 USEFUL EXPRESSIONS

Page 45 (top)

great عظيم
yes نعم
yesterday أمس
where? أي؟
today اليوم
here هنا
please من فضلك
no لا

great

Page 45 (bottom)

هناك hunaak
أهلاً ahlan
غداً ghadan
مع السلام ma' as-salaama
بكم؟ bikam?
شكرًا shukran
أسف aasif
عظيم 'azeem

Page 46

English word: please

Page 47

Page 48

yes نعم
hello أهلاً
no لا
sorry أسف
please من فضلك
there هنا
thank you شكرًا

good

Page 49

Page 50

Page 51

Because it isn’t an animal.
Because it isn’t a means of transportation.
Because it isn’t an item of clothing.
Because it lives in water/doesn’t have legs.
Because it isn’t a part of the body.
Because it isn’t an expression of time.
Because you wouldn’t find it in the kitchen.
Words that appear in the picture:
- refrigerator
- pants
- store
- school
- river
- great
- small
- light
- arm
- stomach
- clean
- horse
- sweater
- lake
- thank you
- bed
- house
- forest
- where?
- heavy

English phrase: well done!

Here are the English equivalents and pronunciation of the words, in order from START to FINISH:

head ra-as
farm mazra‘a
duck batta
cow baqara
old qadeem
dirty wasikh
hotel funduq
rabbit arnab
hand yad
sea bahr
slow baree
heavy thaqeel
no loa
ear urumun
tomorrow shadon
there hunaak
expensive ghalee
back zahr
table maa-ida
hair sho‘r
leg saaq
now al-aan
chair kursee
yes no‘m
Unravel the riddle of Arabic script

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**JANE WIGHTWICK** is a highly experienced language teacher, author, and product developer.