Arabic A1, lesson 11: school and the verb “to have”

A1 Lesson 11 of 18

You talk about school and say “I have”, “you have”, “he has” with عِنْدَ.

Vocabulary | Dialogue | Grammar | Exercises

Pronunciation is written in Latin letters (ā, ī, ū = long vowels; ḥ, ṣ, ḍ, ṭ, ẓ = emphatic consonants; ʿ = the letter ع). The Arabic is always fully vowelled.

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
مَدْرَسَةٌ	*madrasa*	a school
فَصْلٌ	*faṣl*	a class
دَرْسٌ	*dars*	a lesson
مُدِيرٌ	*mudīr*	a principal, a manager
تِلْمِيذٌ	*tilmīdh*	a pupil (m)
تِلْمِيذَةٌ	*tilmīdha*	a pupil (f)

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
اِمْتِحَانٌ	*imtiḥān*	an exam
وَاجِبٌ	*wājib*	homework
مَكْتَبَةٌ	*maktaba*	a library
مَلْعَبٌ	*malʿab*	a playground
عِنْدِي	*ʿindī*	I have
عِنْدَكَ	*ʿindaka*	you have (to a man)
عِنْدَهَا	*ʿindahā*	she has
مَاذَا	*mādhā*	what

KARIM

عِنْدِي وَاجِبٌ كَبِيرٌ.

ʿindī wājib kabīr.

I have a big piece of homework.

SALMA

وَعِنْدِي اِمْتِحَانٌ.

wa ʿindī imtiḥān.

And I have an exam.

KARIM

مَاذَا عِنْدَكِ فِي الْحَقِيبَةِ؟

mādhā ʿindaki fī l-ḥaqība?

What do you have in your bag? (to a woman)

SALMA

عِنْدِي كِتَابٌ وَدَفْتَرٌ وَقَلَمٌ.

ʿindī kitāb wa daftar wa qalam.

I have a book, a notebook and a pen.

KARIM

شُكْرًا يَا سَلْمَى.

shukran yā Salmā.

Thank you, Salma.

“To have” with عِنْدَ

Arabic has no verb “to have” in the present. You say عِنْدَ (at) + an ending: عِنْدِي (I have), عِنْدَكَ (you have, m), عِنْدَكِ (you have, f), عِنْدَهُ (he has), عِنْدَهَا (she has).

The thing owned comes after, without ال: عِنْدِي دَفْتَرٌ (I have a notebook), عِنْدَهَا سَيَّارَةٌ (she has a car).

To say “there is” in a place, use هُنَاكَ: هُنَاكَ مَكْتَبَةٌ.

Examples

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
عِنْدِي دَفْتَرٌ	*ʿindī daftar*	I have a notebook
عِنْدَكَ قَلَمٌ	*ʿindaka qalam*	you have a pen (to a man)
عِنْدَهَا سَيَّارَةٌ	*ʿindahā sayyāra*	she has a car
هُنَاكَ مَكْتَبَةٌ	*hunāka maktaba*	there is a library



Ibrahim explains

No “I have” or “you have”: in Arabic you say “at me”, “at you”. And what you own has no ال.

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