Arabic A1, lesson 13: at the market: numbers up to 100 and prices

A1 Lesson 13 of 18

You ask a price, count up to 100 and say something is expensive or cheap.

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
أَحَدَ عَشَرَ	*aḥadaʿashar*	eleven
اِثْنَا عَشَرَ	*ithnāʿashar*	twelve
خَمْسَةَ عَشَرَ	*khamsataʿashar*	fifteen
عِشْرُونَ	*ʿishrūn*	twenty
ثَلَاثُونَ	*thalāthūn*	thirty
خَمْسُونَ	*khamsūn*	fifty

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
مِئَةٌ	*miʾa*	one hundred
بِكَمْ	*bi-kam*	how much (price)
سِعْرٌ	*siʿr*	a price
غَالٍ	*ghālin*	expensive
رَخِيصٌ	*rakhīṣ*	cheap
دِرْهَمٌ	*dirham*	a dirham (currency)
سُوقٌ	*sūq*	a market
بَائِعٌ	*bāʾiʿ*	a seller

KARIM

بِكَمْ هَذَا الْقَمِيصُ؟

bi-kam hādhā l-qamīṣ?

How much is this shirt?

SALMA

هَذَا الْقَمِيصُ بِعِشْرِينَ دِرْهَمًا.

hādhā l-qamīṣu bi-ʿishrīna dirhaman.

This shirt costs twenty dirhams.

KARIM

غَالٍ! هَلْ عِنْدَكَ قَمِيصٌ رَخِيصٌ؟

ghālin! hal ʿindaka qamīṣ rakhīṣ?

That's expensive! Do you have a cheap shirt?

SALMA

نَعَمْ، هَذَا بِخَمْسَةَ عَشَرَ دِرْهَمًا.

naʿam, hādhā bi-khamsata ʿashara dirhaman.

Yes, this one costs fifteen dirhams.

KARIM

شُكْرًا، أُرِيدُ هَذَا.

shukran, urīdu hādhā.

Thank you, I want this one.

Numbers 11 to 100 and the noun that follows

Tens are formed with ـُونَ: عِشْرُونَ (20), ثَلَاثُونَ (30), خَمْسُونَ (50)… After a preposition such as بِ (for, at) you say ـِينَ: بِعِشْرِينَ.

From 11 to 99 the counted noun is **singular** with an "an" ending: عِشْرُونَ دِرْهَمًا (twenty dirhams). For 100 you say مِئَةُ دِرْهَمٍ (singular noun with "i").

To ask a price: بِكَمْ هَذَا؟, and to react: غَالٍ (expensive) or رَخِيصٌ (cheap).

Examples

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
بِكَمْ هَذَا؟	*bi-kam hādhā?*	how much is this?
عِشْرُونَ دِرْهَمًا	*ʿishrūna dirhaman*	twenty dirhams
خَمْسُونَ دِرْهَمًا	*khamsūna dirhaman*	fifty dirhams
مِئَةُ دِرْهَمٍ	*miʾatu dirhamin*	one hundred dirhams



Ibrahim explains

After a number from 11 to 99 the noun stays singular: "twenty dirham", not "dirhams".

Previous lesson

All lessons

Next lesson

