Arabic A2, lesson 16: numbers, age, date and prices

A2 Lesson 16 of 18

You say your age, a date and a price with compound numbers and hundreds.

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
ثَلَاثَةَ عَشَرَ	*thalāthataʿashar*	thirteen
خَمْسٌ وَعِشْرُونَ	*khamsun waʿishrūn*	twenty-five (f)
سِتُّونَ	*sittūn*	sixty
سَبْعُونَ	*sabʿūn*	seventy
ثَمَانُونَ	*thamānūn*	eighty
تِسْعُونَ	*tisʿūn*	ninety

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
مِئَتَانِ	*miʾatān*	two hundred
أَلْفٌ	*alf*	one thousand
عُمْرٌ	*ʿumr*	age (of a person)
سَنَةً	*sanatan*	year(s)
تَارِيخٌ	*tārīkh*	a date, history
ثَمَنٌ	*thaman*	a price
الْعَاشِرُ	*al-ʿāshir*	the tenth
كَمْ	*kam*	how many, how much

KARIM

كَمْ عُمْرُكِ؟

kam ʿumruki?

How old are you? (to a woman)

SALMA

عُمْرِي خَمْسٌ وَعِشْرُونَ سَنَةً.

ʿumrī khamsun waʿishrūna sanatan.

I am twenty-five years old.

KARIM

وَمَا تَارِيخُ مِيلَادِكِ؟

wa mā tārīkhu mīlādiki?

And what is your date of birth?

SALMA

الْعَاشِرُ مِنْ أُكْتُوبَرَ.

al-ʿāshiru min uktūbar.

The tenth of October.

KARIM

وَكَمْ ثَمَنُ هَذَا الْكِتَابِ؟

wa kam thamanu hādhā l-kitāb?

And how much is this book?

SALMA

مِئَتَانِ وَخَمْسُونَ دِرْهَمًا.

miʾatāni wa khamsūna dirhaman.

Two hundred and fifty dirhams.

Compound numbers, hundreds and dates

For 21 to 99 say the unit first, then وَ (and), then the ten: خَمْسٌ وَعِشْرُونَ (25: “five and twenty”). Reminder: from 3 to 10 the number takes the opposite gender of the noun; you say خَمْسُ وَعِشْرُونَ سَنَةً (fem.: year) but خَمْسَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ كِتَابًا (masc.: book). The counted noun is singular with “an”.

Hundreds: مِئَةٌ (100), مِئَتَانِ (200, dual), ثَلَاثُمِئَةٍ (300), then أَلْفٌ (1000).

For a date use the masculine ordinal: الْعَاشِرُ مِنْ أُكْتُوبَرَ (10 October). For age: كَمْ عُمْرُكَ؟ / عُمْرِي ... سَنَةً.

Examples

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
خَمْسٌ وَعِشْرُونَ سَنَةً	*khamsun waʿishrūna sanatan*	twenty-five years
خَمْسَةٌ وَعِشْرُونَ كِتَابًا	*khamsatun waʿishrūna kitāban*	twenty-five books
مِئَتَانِ وَخَمْسُونَ دِرْهَمًا	*miʾatāni wa khamsūna dirhaman*	two hundred and fifty dirhams

ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION	MEANING
الْعَاشِرُ مِنْ أُكْتُوبَرَ	*al-ʿāshiru min uktūbar*	the tenth of October



Ibrahim explains

For 25: the unit first, then “and”, then the ten. And for a date the day is an ordinal.

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