Arabic B2, lesson 13: weak verbs: special cases

رَأى to see	جاءَ to come	أَتى to come
وَفى to keep (a promise)	شاءَ to will	مُنْذُ since
سَنَوات years	اِبْتَسَمَ he smiled	نَحْوَ towards

وَعْد

promise

رَأَيْتُ صَديقًا قَديمًا في الشّارِعِ.

جاءَ نَحْوي مُبْتَسِمًا وَقالَ: لَمْ أَرَكَ مُنْذُ سَنَواتٍ.

أَتى إِلى المَدينَةِ لِلْعَمَلِ.

وَعَدْتُهُ أَنْ آتِيَ لِزِيارَتِهِ، وَهُوَ يَفي بِوَعْدِهِ دائِمًا.

▶ **Show the translation**

Some verbs cumulate two “weaknesses”:

- **رَأى** (to see): hamzated and defective. Past: رَأَيْتُ, رَأَيْنا; present: يَرى; jussive: لَمْ يَرَ; imperative: رَ (rare, أُنْظُرْ is used). Passive: رُئِيَ.
- **جاءَ** (to come): hollow and hamzated. Past: جِئْتُ; present: يَجيءُ; jussive: لَمْ يَجِئْ; imperative: جِئْ.

- **أَتَى** (to come): hamzated and defective. Past: أَتَيْتُ; present: يَأْتِي; jussive: لَمْ يَأْتِ; imperative: **ائْتِ**; form IV: آتى, أَعْطى.
- **وَفَى** (to keep a promise): assimilated and defective ("lafīf"). Past: وَفَيْتُ; present: يَفِي (the و drops); jussive: لَمْ يَفِ; imperative: فِ.
- **شاءَ** (to will): hollow and hamzated. Past: شِئْتُ; present: يَشاءُ.

Practical rule: apply the rules of each weakness in turn: first the beginning, then the middle, then the end.

Verbs with a double weakness

Verb	I (past)	present	jussive	imperative
رَأى	رَأَيْتُ	يَرى	لَمْ يَرَ	رَ
جاءَ	جِئْتُ	يَجيءُ	لَمْ يَجِئْ	جِئْ
أَتَى	أَتَيْتُ	يَأْتِي	لَمْ يَأْتِ	ائْتِ
وَفَى	وَفَيْتُ	يَفِي	لَمْ يَفِ	فِ
شاءَ	شِئْتُ	يَشاءُ	لَمْ يَشَأْ	—

Write the "I" past form of each verb.

رَأَى	…choose
جاءَ	…choose
أَتَى	…choose
وَفَى	…choose
شاءَ	…choose

Check Start again

Tell an unexpected meeting in five sentences with رَأَى, جاءَ, أَتَى and وَفَى.

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