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## الدَّرْسُ الثَّلَاثُ - LESSON 3

### الْ - Definite Article

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#### مُقَدِّمَةٌ - Introduction

- In this lesson we will learn about the definite article **الْ** which corresponds to the word 'The' in the English Language (known as the definite article in grammar as it refers to a specific object).
- Take particular note of the change in the vowel ending when a word is changed to its definite form, i.e. the /tanwīn/ (double vowel) which represents indefinite form e.g. (a house) has been changed to a single /ḍammah/. It is hence also important to remember that a word can never take /alif lām/ at the beginning and /tanwīn/ at the same time (i.e. it can never be both indefinite and definite at the same time).
- Remember to always start reading the examples below from right to left. The first example below will illustrate the change from indefinite form (e.g. a house) to definite form (e.g. the house).

Please click on the words to hear speech, i.e. how the words should be pronounced.

			
مَسْجِدٌ: الْمَسْجِدُ	كِتَابٌ: الْكِتَابُ	قَلَمٌ: الْقَلَمُ	بَيْتٌ: الْبَيْتُ
The mosque: A mosque	The book: A book	The pen: A pen	The house: A house

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Continued ...

- We will study some practical sentences using the definite article **الْ** which corresponds to 'the' in the English language In-Shā'-Allâh (God-Willing).

Please click on the words to hear speech

Picture	Answer	Question
	The pen is broken.	الْقَلَمُ مَكْسُورٌ.
	The door is open.	الْبَابُ مَفْتُوحٌ.



The boy is sitting and the  
teacher is standing.

الْوَلَدُ جَالِسٌ  
وَالْمُدْرَسُ وَقِفٌ.

- We shall continue with some more practical sentences, please make an effort to memorise the words and common sentence structures.

Please click on the words to hear speech.

Picture	English	Arabic
	<p>The book is new and the pen is old.</p>	<p>الْكِتَابُ جَدِيدٌ وَالْقَلَمُ قَدِيمٌ.</p>
	<p>The donkey is small and the horse is big.</p>	<p>الْحِمَارُ صَغِيرٌ وَالْحِصَانُ كَبِيرٌ.</p>



The chair is broken.

الْكُرْسِيُّ مَكْسُورٌ.



The handkerchief is dirty.

الْمِنْدِيلُ وَسَخٌ.



The water is cold.

الْمَاءُ بَارِدٌ.



The moon is beautiful.

الْقَمَرُ جَمِيلٌ.



The house is near and  
the mosque is far away.

الْبَيْتُ قَرِيبٌ  
وَالْمَسْجِدُ بَعِيدٌ.



The stone is heavy and  
the paper is light.

الْحَجَرُ ثَقِيلٌ وَالْوَرَقُ  
خَفِيفٌ.

		
	<p>The milk is hot.</p>	<p>اللَّبَنُ حَارٌ.</p>
	<p>The shirt is clean.</p>	<p>الْقَمِيصُ نَظِيفٌ.</p>

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### الْ - Definite Article

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### تَدْرِيبٌ - Exercise

- In this section we will have multiple questions to test your understanding of the principles we have learnt In-Shā'-Allāh (God-Willing). To answer the questions:
  - o Type the complete answer for the following questions by selecting the question and using the on-screen keyboard or your actual keyboard.
  - o Use the Shift key to enter characters on the upper portions of the letters and use full diacritics in your answers – e.g. fathah, kasrah, sukūn etc.
  - o Do not use diacritics in the following cases:
    - § The Alif followed by laam **ال** (while the laam itself can be signed with a vowel)
    - § The laam followed by alif **لا** (while the Alif itself can be signed when it comes with hamzah).
    - § Do not put the small Alif on words like **هذا**.
    - § Do not put diacritics on long vowels.
  - o Upon completion of all questions, click on the Mark button to see the correct answer and to get your mark.

For more instructions click [here](#).

## اقْرَأْ وَاكْتُبْ مَعَ ضَبْطِ أَوَاخِرِ الْكَلِمَاتِ

- The Arabic sentence above means "Read and write the following words again with the correct endings". In each of the words below simply type the word again using the keyboard (as above) with the vowel-marks and punctuation, e.g. /masġid/ = masġidun/ as below:

مَسْجِدٌ = مَسْجِدٌ

- Remember: a word can be either definite (with /alif lām/ but not /tanwīn/) or indefinite (with no /alif lām/ but with /tanwīn/). The proper pronunciation (and hence answers) can be heard by clicking on the speaker image by the sentences, but please don't click on these until you have attempted to complete the exercise so that you may benefit In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing).

Mark Reset

	مَاءٌ		الْمَاءِ
	الْمَسْجِدِ		قَلَمٌ
	بَابٌ		الْبَيْتِ
	قَمِيصٌ		الْكَلْبِ
	الْقَلَمِ		الْوَلَدِ
	الْحَجَرِ		وَلَدٌ
	الْحِصَانِ		الْحِمَارِ
	حِمَارٌ		حِصَانٌ

Mark Reset

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### الْ - Definite Article

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### تَدْرِيبٌ - Exercise

- In this section we will have multiple questions to test your understanding of the principles we have learnt In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing). To answer the questions:
  - o Type the complete answer for the following questions by selecting the question and using the on-screen keyboard or your actual keyboard.
  - o Use the Shift key to enter characters on the upper portions of the letters and use full diacritics in your answers – e.g. fathah, kasrah, sukūn etc.
  - o Do not use diacritics in the following cases:
    - § The Alif followed by laam **ال** (while the laam itself can be signed with a vowel)
    - § The laam followed by alif **لا** (while the Alif itself can be signed when it comes with hamzah).
    - § Do not put the small Alif on words like **هذا**.
    - § Do not put diacritics on long vowels.
  - o Upon completion of all questions, click on the Mark button to see the correct answer and to get your mark.

For more instructions click [here](#).

## اقْرَأْ وَ اَكْتُبْ

- The Arabic sentence above means "Read and write". In each of the sentences below simply type the words again using the keyboard as in the previous questions and including the vowel-marks which have been omitted. Once again, upon completing the exercise you can click on the speakers by each sentence to hear the correct pronunciation and hence answers.

Mark Reset



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المكتب مكسور



اللبن بارد



القميص وسخ



الحجر كبير



المسجد مفتوح



الإمام جالس والمدرس واقف



اللبن بارد والماء حار



المنديل نظيف

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## الدَّرْسُ الثَّلَاثُ - LESSON 3

### أَلْ - Definite Article

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### تَدْرِيبٌ - Exercise

- In this section we will have multiple questions to test your understanding of the principles we have learnt In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing).
- Fill in the blanks in the questions below by using one of the possible options in the top section (below). Click on the question you would like to answer (this will be highlighted), then click on the correct option from the blocks above the questions area to complete the answer – you will find the blank in the question is replaced with your selected option. Upon completing all the questions, click on the Mark button to see the correct answers and obtain your mark.

املأ الفراغ فيما يلي بوضع الكلمة المناسبة من الكلمات التالية

- The Arabic sentence above means "Fill in the blanks with the words given". For each of the sentences, type out the full sentence using the words below - e.g. for the first question, click on the question and type as below (include vowel-marks).

الْحَجَرُ ثَقِيلٌ

- The words to use to complete the sentences are:
- Once again - by clicking on the speakers you can hear the correct answer to the question. Please do not do this until you have attempted the exercise.

[Mark](#) [Reset](#)



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## الدَّرْسُ الثَّلَاثُ - LESSON 3

### الْ - Definite Article

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### تَدْرِيبٌ - Exercise

- In this section we will have multiple questions to test your understanding of the principles we have learnt In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing). To answer the questions:
  - o Type the complete answer for the following questions by selecting the question and using the on-screen keyboard or your actual keyboard.
  - o Use the Shift key to enter characters on the upper portions of the letters and use full diacritics in your answers – e.g. fathah, kasrah, sukūn etc.
  - o Do not use diacritics in the following cases:
    - § The Alif followed by laam **ال** (while the laam itself can be signed with a vowel)
    - § The laam followed by alif **لا** (while the Alif itself can be signed when it comes with hamzah).
    - § Do not put the small Alif on words like **هذا**.
    - § Do not put diacritics on long vowels.
  - o Upon completion of all questions, click on the Mark button to see the correct answer and to get your mark.
- For more instructions click [here](#).

## إِمْلَأِ الْفَرَاغَ فِيمَا يَلِي بِوَضْعِ كَلِمَةٍ مُنَاسِبَةٍ

- The Arabic sentence above means "Fill in the blanks with a suitable word". For each of the questions below, type out the full sentence starting with the word in the bracket followed by the word noted. E.g. for the first question, click on the question and type as below (include vowel-marks). Once again, the sound has been included (click on the speaker icon by the sentence to hear the sound) but once again please only listen to the sentences after doing the exercises.

### الْقَمِيصُ نَظِيفٌ

Mark Reset

	مَكْسُورٌ ..... (The pen)		نَظِيفٌ ..... (The handkerchief)
	قَرِيبٌ ..... (The mosque)		بَارِدٌ ..... (The water)
	وَأَقْفٌ ..... (The teacher)		بَعِيدٌ ..... (The moon)
	كَبِيرٌ ..... (The stone)		جَالِسٌ ..... (The student)
	جَدِيدٌ ..... (The bed)		قَدِيمٌ ..... (The house)

Mark Reset

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### الْ - Definite Article

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### الْحُرُوفُ الْقَمَرِيَّةُ وَالْحُرُوفُ الشَّمْسِيَّةُ - The Moon and Sun Letters

- In this section we will learn some new vocabulary and we shall also learn the rules relating to the sun and moon letters. The most important point to understand with this rule is that it governs the spoken (pronunciation) Arabic and not the written word.
- Arabic has 28 letters. Of these 14 letters are called Solar Letters, and the other 14 are called Lunar letters. In the articulation (speaking) of the Solar letters, the tip or blade of the tongue is involved as in t, n, r, s, etc. The tip or blade of the tongue does not play any part in the articulation of the Lunar Letters as in b, w, m, k etc.
- When /alif-lām/ "al" is prefixed to a noun beginning with a Solar letter, the "l" of "al" is assimilated (joined) to the Solar Letter, e.g. al-shamsu (the sun) is pronounced /ash-shamsu/.
- No change takes place in writing **الشَّمْسُ**. The assimilation is indicated by the /shaddah/ on the first letter of the noun after "al".
- No such assimilation takes place with the Lunar Letters, e.g. /al-qamaru/ (the moon) is pronounced /al-qamaru/ **القَمَرُ**. Here are some more examples of the assimilation of the "l" of "al" to the Solar Letters (don't worry about the meanings of the words yet):
  - /al-naġmu/ becomes /an-naġmu/.
  - /al-raġulu/ becomes /ar-raġulu/.
  - /al-dīku/ becomes /ad-dīku/.
  - /al-samaku/ becomes /as-samaku/.
- Note that the "a" of "al" is pronounced only when it is **not** preceded by another word. If it is preceded by a word it is dropped in pronunciation, though it remains in writing, e.g. /wal-baitu/.

Here the "a" is dropped and the phrase is pronounced /wal-baitu/ not /wa al-baitu/. To indicate this omission in pronunciation, this sign: ( َ ) is placed above the /alif/.

- The initial vowel (a, i, or u) which is omitted when preceded by a word is called /hamazatu l-wasl/.
- We have learnt that the /tanwīn/ is the indefinite article, and it is to be translated as "a" e.g.: **بَيْتٌ** means a house. This rule does not apply to adjectives like **مَفْتُوحٌ** "open", and **مَكْسُورٌ** "broken".

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## الدَّرْسُ الثَّلَاثُ - LESSON 3

### أَلْ - Definite Article

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### تَدْرِيبٌ - Exercise

- In this section we will have multiple questions to test your understanding of the principles we have learnt In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing).
- Choose a word from column **ب** that can be used to complete the sentence in column **أ**. Click on a word in column **أ** that you would like to answer (this will be highlighted) then click on its suitable complement in column **ب**. Upon completing all possible questions, click on the Mark button to see the correct answer and obtain your mark.

اخْتَرِ كَلِمَةً مِنَ الْقَائِمَةِ (ب) تُنَاسِبُ الْكَلِمَةَ الَّتِي فِي الْقَائِمَةِ (أ)

- The sentence above means "Match the words in **أ** with those in **ب**"
- Please write the following answers with a pen and paper joining the letters. It is important that you practice your writing skills in the duration of this course to master the language In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing).

Mark Reset

(ب)	(أ)
لَذِيذٌ	الطَّالِبُ 
مَكْسُورٌ	الدُّكَّانُ 

ثَقِيلٌ	الثَّفَاحُ	
مَفْتُوحٌ	الْمَاءُ	
مَرِيضٌ	الْحَجَرُ	
حَارٌ	الْقَلَمُ	

Mark Reset

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### Definite Article - أَلْ

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Continued...

- The sentence above means "The Moon and The Sun Letters". See section 7 (which should have already been covered) if you do not already understand the rules relating to the sun and the moon letters. Remember, this rule affects the pronunciation of the word and not the written form. Please listen carefully to the pronunciation. Pay attention to how in the Sun Letters **الْحُرُوفُ الشَّمْسِيَّةُ**, the /lām/ of /alif-lām/ is assimilated to the first letter in pronunciation. The table below covers each letter in the Arabic alphabet along with an example of a word which starts with that letter under the relevant column depending on whether it is a sun or moon letter.

The Sun Letters	The Moon Letters
الْحُرُوفُ الشَّمْسِيَّةُ	الْحُرُوفُ الْقَمَرِيَّةُ
(١) ت: التَّاجِرُ	(١) أ: الأَبُ
(٢) ث: الثَّوْبُ	(٢) ب: البَّابُ
(٣) د: الدِّيْكُ	(٣) ج: الجِنَّةُ
(٤) ذ: الذَّهَبُ	(٤) ح: الحِمَارُ

(٥) ر: الرَّجُلُ	(٥) خ: الْخُبْزُ
(٦) ز: الزَّهْرَةُ	(٦) ع: الْعَيْنُ
(٧) س: السَّمَكُ	(٧) غ: الْغَدَاءُ
(٨) ش: الشَّمْسُ	(٨) ف: الْفَمُ
(٩) ص: الصَّدْرُ	(٩) ق: الْقَمَرُ
(١٠) ض: الضَّيْفُ	(١٠) ك: الْكَلْبُ
(١١) ط: الطَّالِبُ	(١١) م: الْمَاءُ
(١٢) ظ: الظَّهْرُ	(١٢) و: الْوَلَدُ
(١٣) ل: اللَّحْمُ	(١٣) هـ: الْهَوَاءُ
(١٤) ن: النَّجْمُ	(١٤) يـ: الْيَدُ

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## الدَّرْسُ الثَّلَاثُ - LESSON 3

### أَلْ - Definite Article

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### تَدْرِيبٌ - Exercise

اقْرَأِ الْكَلِمَاتِ الْآتِيَةَ وَارْتَبِهَا مُرَاعِيًا قَوَاعِدَ نُطْقِ الْحُرُوفِ الْقَمَرِيَّةِ وَالشَّمْسِيَّةِ

- The sentence above says: "Read and write the words keeping in mind the rules pertaining to the Solar and Lunar Letters". Once again, please write the words below with a pen and paper and read the words prior to clicking on them below to hear the correct pronunciation. As these words have already been covered before, the vowel-marks and diacritical marks (e.g. /fathah/, /kasrah/, /ḍammah/, /sukūn/ etc) have not been used over the letters. This is the way standard Arabic is written and it is important to get used to this.

EXERCISE:

المدرس	الديك	البيت
السكر	الطالب	الباب
الكعبة	الصلاة	القرآن
الصابون	الإصبع	الرأس

الظهر	الفجر	الظفر
العشاء	المغرب	العصر

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## الدَّرْسُ الثَّلَاثُ - LESSON 3

### أل - Definite Article

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### مُرَاجَعَةٌ - Revision

#### مُرَاجَعَةُ الْمُفْرَدَاتِ - Vocabulary Revision

Sweet	حُلُوٌّ
Sick	مَرِيضٌ
Shop	الدُّكَّانُ
Rich	غَنِيٌّ
Tall	طَوِيلٌ
Poor	فَقِيرٌ
Short	قَصِيرٌ
Apple	التِّفَاحُ

Cold	بَارِدٌ
Hot	حَارٌّ
Sitting	جَالِسٌ
Standing	وَاقِفٌ
New	جَدِيدٌ
Old	قَدِيمٌ
Near	قَرِيبٌ
Far Away	بَعِيدٌ
Clean	نَظِيفٌ
Dirty	وَسِخٌ
Small	صَغِيرٌ
Big	كَبِيرٌ
Light	خَفِيفٌ
Heavy	ثَقِيلٌ
Paper	الْوَرَقُ

Water	الماء
Beautiful	جميل

- Now that you have covered this lesson, please also try some of the additional features we have including:
  - o [Discussion Forum](#)– Discuss the grammatical topics learnt and any areas of confusion.
  - o [Vocabulary Flashcards](#)– Practice your vocabulary by category.
  - o [Questions Flashcards](#)– Practice questions related to the grammatical topics covered in the lessons.
- We will be updating the features above to help you throughout the course In-Shā'-Allāh (God willing).

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