

ALI 620: Learning Arabic Thru the Quran

Wednesdays Jan 5 – Feb 16, 2022

Description: The course has seven sessions via Zoom, we will go through some of the common suras to learn words which occur often in the Quran and derive simple rules of Arabic grammar.

Besides using *The Phrase-by-Phrase English Translation of the Quran* by Syed Ali Quli Qarai, we will use the text *Qur'anic Language Made Easy* by Hafiza Iffath Hasan. Participants can use any Quran translation.

Du'a before reciting the Quran

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ * اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَآلِ مُحَمَّدٍ
اللَّهُمَّ إِنِّي نَشَرْتُ عَهْدَكَ، وَكِتَابَكَ، فَاجْعَلْ نَظْرِي فِيهِ عِبَادَةً، وَقِرَائَتِي فِيهِ
فِكْرًا، وَفِكْرِي فِيهِ إِعْتِبَارًا، وَلَا تَجْعَلْ قِرَائَتِي قِرَاءَةً لَا تَدُبُّرَ فِيهَا، بَلِ اجْعَلْ لِي
أَتَدَبَّرُ آيَاتِهِ وَأَحْكَامِهِ، إِنَّكَ أَنْتَ الرَّؤُوفُ الرَّحِيمُ

In the name of Allah, the Beneficent the Merciful. O Allah, bless Muhammad and the family of Muhammad. O Allah I have opened Your Pledge and Your Book. So, make my looking at it worship, and my reciting it thoughtful, and my thinking on it, a means of deriving lessons; and do not make my recitation without reflection. Rather make me ponder over its verses and its rules. Surely You are the Kind, the Merciful.

Definitions of grammatical words

A **noun** is a name of any living being, object or idea.

A **pronoun** is a word used instead of a noun.

An **adjective** is a word which describes a noun.

An **adverb** adds information about a verb, an adjective or another adverb. In the sentence *speak slowly*, 'slowly' is an adverb informing us how to speak, thus telling us more about verb.

Harakāt (singular **harakah**) are the vowel signs (damma, fatha and kasra) that are placed on letters of nouns, verbs and particles. Adding a harakah on the last letter based on grammatical rules is known as putting an **i'rab** (إعراب).

Nouns and adjectives having the i'rab of damma are said to be in the **nominative** case.

Nouns and adjectives having the i'rab of fatha are said to be in the **accusative** case.

Nouns and adjectives having the i'rab of kasra are said to be in the **genitive** case.

A quick revision of Lesson 10

The messenger	الرَّسُولُ	=	رَسُولٌ	+	أَلْ
Your messenger	رَسُولُكُمْ	=	كُمْ	+	رَسُولٌ
My servants	عِبَادِي	=	يَ	+	عِبَادٌ
Their hearts	قُلُوبُهُمْ	=	هُمْ	+	قُلُوبٌ
Messenger of Allah	رَسُولُ اللَّهِ	=	اللَّهِ	+	رَسُولٌ
Punishment of grave	عَذَابُ الْقَبْرِ	=	الْقَبْرِ	+	عَذَابٌ
Verse of the throne	آيَةُ الْكُرْسِيِّ	=	الْكُرْسِيِّ	+	آيَةٌ

Note the effects: 1) nakirah noun loses its tanwīn when prefixed by article ‘al’, 2) nakirah loses the tanwīn when suffixed by pronouns, 3) nakirah loses its tanwīn when joined to a ma‘rifah noun, and 5) the ma‘rifah noun changes to genitive case (i.e., its i‘rab has kasra) from nominative case. 4

Homework on Lesson 10

Translate the phrases in **bold** from the following verses taken from an earlier sura in the Quran. Note the phrases have been composed by connecting a nakirah noun to ma'rifah noun.

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ ۖ * هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ مِنْهُ آيَاتٌ مُحْكَمَاتٌ هُنَّ أُمُّ الْكِتَابِ * رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ جَامِعُ النَّاسِ لِيَوْمٍ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ ۗ * إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَنْ تُغْنِي عَنْهُمْ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُهُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا ۗ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمْ وَقُودُ النَّارِ * قَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ آيَةٌ فِي فِئَتَيْنِ التَّكْفَا ۗ فِئَةٌ تُقَاتِلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَأُخْرَى كَافِرَةٌ * زِينٌ لِلنَّاسِ حُبُّ الشَّهَوَاتِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ وَالْبَنِينَ وَالْقَنَاطِيرِ الْمُقَنْطَرَةِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَالْفِضَّةِ وَالْخَيْلِ الْمُسَوَّمَةِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ وَالْخَرْثِ ۗ ذَلِكَ مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا ۗ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الْمَآبِ * وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ * قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً ۗ إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ .

Meaning of some of the words included in the above phrases:

أُمُّ = mother; جَامِعٌ = gatherer; وَقُودٌ = fuel; سَبِيلٌ = path, way; الشَّهَوَاتُ = lusts, desires; مَتَاعٌ = comfort, provision. الْمَآبُ = destination; سَرِيعٌ = quick, swift; سَمِيعٌ = listener.

Bonus question: Identify phrases constructed by joining a nakirah noun to a ma'arifah noun in Surat al-Bayyinah (No. 98) of the Quran.

Meanings of phrases formed from nakirah & ma'rifah

The following verses are from Surat Aali Imran (chapter 3 of the Quran):

إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ لَهُمْ عَذَابٌ شَدِيدٌ ۝ 4 هُوَ الَّذِي أَنْزَلَ عَلَيْكَ الْكِتَابَ مِنْهُ آيَاتٌ مُحْكَمَاتٌ هُنَّ أُمُّ الْكِتَابِ 7 رَبَّنَا إِنَّكَ جَامِعُ النَّاسِ لِيَوْمٍ لَا رَيْبَ فِيهِ ۝ 9 إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا لَنْ تُغْنِي عَنْهُمْ أَمْوَالُهُمْ وَلَا أَوْلَادُهُمْ مِنَ اللَّهِ شَيْئًا ۝ وَأُولَئِكَ هُمْ وَقُودُ النَّارِ 10 قَدْ كَانَ لَكُمْ آيَةٌ فِي فِئَتَيْنِ الْتَقَتَا ۝ فِئَةٌ تُقَاتِلُ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ وَأُخْرَى كَافِرَةٌ 13 زَيْنٌ لِلنَّاسِ حُبُّ الشَّهَوَاتِ مِنَ النِّسَاءِ وَالْبَنِينَ وَالْقَنَاطِيرِ الْمُقَنْطَرَةِ مِنَ الذَّهَبِ وَالْفِضَّةِ وَالْخَيْلِ الْمُسَوَّمَةِ وَالْأَنْعَامِ وَالْحَرْثِ ۝ ذَلِكَ مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا ۝ وَاللَّهُ عِنْدَهُ حُسْنُ الْمَآبِ 14 وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ 19 قَالَ رَبِّ هَبْ لِي مِنْ لَدُنْكَ ذُرِّيَّةً طَيِّبَةً ۝ إِنَّكَ سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ 38

translation	text	translation	text
The love of pleasure/joy	حُبُّ الشَّهَوَاتِ	The gatherer of people	جَامِعُ النَّاسِ
Provision of the life of the world	مَتَاعُ الْحَيَاةِ الدُّنْيَا	The mother of the Book	أُمُّ الْكِتَابِ
Goodness of the destination	حُسْنُ الْمَآبِ	Fuel of the fire	وَقُودُ النَّارِ
Quick/swift in accounting	سَرِيعُ الْحِسَابِ	The path of Allah	سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ
The signs of Allah	آيَاتِ اللَّهِ	Listener of the supplication	سَمِيعُ الدُّعَاءِ

Surat al-Bayyinah: Nakirah and ma'rifah phrases

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ * لَمْ يَكُنِ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ **أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ** وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ مُنْفَكِينَ حَتَّى تَأْتِيَهُمُ
 الْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿١﴾ رَسُولٌ مِّنَ اللَّهِ يَتْلُو صُحُفًا مُّطَهَّرَةً ﴿٢﴾ فِيهَا كُتِبَ قِيَمَةٌ ﴿٣﴾ وَمَا تَفَرَّقَ الَّذِينَ أُوتُوا
 الْكِتَابَ إِلَّا مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا جَاءَهُمُ الْبَيِّنَةُ ﴿٤﴾ وَمَا أُمِرُوا إِلَّا لِيَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ مُخْلِصِينَ لَهُ الدِّينَ حُنَفَاءَ وَيُقِيمُوا
 الصَّلَاةَ وَيُؤْتُوا الزَّكَاةَ ۚ وَذَلِكَ دِينُ الْقِيَمَةِ ﴿٥﴾ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ كَفَرُوا مِنْ **أَهْلِ الْكِتَابِ** وَالْمُشْرِكِينَ فِي نَارِ جَهَنَّمَ
 خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا ۚ أُولَئِكَ هُمْ **شَرُّ الْبَرِيَّةِ** ﴿٦﴾ إِنَّ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ أُولَئِكَ هُمْ **خَيْرُ الْبَرِيَّةِ** ﴿٧﴾

Phrases constructed by joining a nakirah noun to a ma'rifah noun has been highlighted in the above surah. Here are their meanings:

meaning	phrase	meaning	phrase
The upright religion	دِينُ الْقِيَمَةِ	People of the book	أَهْلُ الْكِتَابِ
The best of people	خَيْرُ الْبَرِيَّةِ	The worst of the people	شَرُّ الْبَرِيَّةِ

Nakirah & Ma'rifa nouns in Rajab & Sha'ban Hadiths

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (صَلَّى اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِ وَآلِهِ وَسَلَّمَ): أَلَا وَإِنَّ رَجَبَ شَهْرُ اللَّهِ وَشَعْبَانَ شَهْرِي وَشَهْرَ رَمَضَانَ شَهْرُ أُمَّتِي

Messenger of Allah (s) said: Indeed, Rajab is the month of Allah, Sha'bān is my month, and Ramadān is the month of my ummah.

قَالَ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ (ص): رَجَبُ شَهْرُ الْإِسْتِغْفَارِ لِأُمَّتِي أَكْثَرُوا فِيهِ مِنَ الْإِسْتِغْفَارِ . . . وَ إِنَّمَا سُمِّيَ شَعْبَانُ شَهْرَ الشَّفَاعَةِ لِأَنَّ رَسُولَكُمْ يَشْفَعُ لِكُلِّ مَنْ يُصَلِّي عَلَيْهِ فِيهِ

Rajab is the month of istighfār (seeking forgiveness) for my Ummah, (so) do a lot of istighfār in it . . . Indeed Sha'bān is known as the Month of Intercession, for Your Messenger intercedes on behalf of one who says *salawāt* on him

عَنْ عَلِيِّ عَلَيْهِ السَّلَامُ: كَانَ يُعْجِبُهُ أَنْ يُفْرَغَ نَفْسَهُ أَرْبَعَ لَيَالٍ فِي السَّنَةِ وَهِيَ: أَوَّلُ لَيْلَةٍ مِنْ رَجَبٍ، وَلَيْلَةُ النِّصْفِ مِنْ شَعْبَانَ، وَلَيْلَةُ الْفِطْرِ، وَلَيْلَةُ النَّحْرِ.

Imam Ali (a): loved freeing himself [for worshipping Allah] on four nights in the year: 1st night of Rajab, night of mid Sha'bān, eve of [Eid] al-Fitr and eve of [Eid] al-Nahr (i.e., 10th of Dhūl Hijjah).

رُوِيَ عَنْ أَمِيرِ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ (ع): أَنَّهُ كَانَ يَصُومُهُ وَيَقُولُ: رَجَبُ شَهْرِي وَشَعْبَانُ شَهْرُ رَسُولِ اللَّهِ (ص) وَشَهْرُ رَمَضَانَ شَهْرُ اللَّهِ

Amīrul Mu'minīn (Ali ibn Abī Tālib) عليه السلام that he used to fast in it and say: Rajab is my month, Sha'bān is the month of the Messenger of Allah صلى الله عليه وآله and the month of Ramadān is month of Allah.

Lesson 11: al-sifah wal-mawsuf

A noun in a sentence is known as **mawsūf**, i.e., a person or a thing which is being described. The adjective in that sentence which describes the noun is known as **sifah**. Today's night (1st of Rajab) is *laylatun mabarakatun* (لَيْلَةٌ مُّبَارَكَةٌ) which means a blessed night. Here *laylatun* is mawsuf and *mabarakatun* is sifah. Similar in a descriptive phrase كِتَابٌ مُّبِينٌ (a manifest book), kitab is mawsuf and mubin is sifah.

Note in a descriptive phrase the adjective follows the noun in 1) gender, 2) number, 3) being definite or indefinite and 4) I'rab (being nominative, accusative or genitive). Here are a few examples from Surat Yasin

	الْبَلَاغُ الْمُبِينُ		وَالْقُرْآنِ الْحَكِيمِ
	مَنْ رَبِّ رَحِيمٍ		عَلَى صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ
	صِرَاطٍ مُسْتَقِيمٍ		الْعَزِيزِ الرَّحِيمِ
	خَصِيمٍ مُّبِينٍ		وَأَجْرٍ كَرِيمٍ
	الْخَلَّاقِ الْعَلِيمِ		إِمَامٍ مُّبِينٍ

Homework on Lessons 11 & 12

1. Translate the phrases in **bold** composed of nakirah and ma'rifah nouns

وَقُولُوا لَهُمْ قَوْلًا مَّعْرُوفًا * فَلْيَتَّقُوا اللَّهَ وَلْيَقُولُوا قَوْلًا سَدِيدًا * تِلْكَ حُدُودُ اللَّهِ ۗ * كِتَابَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْكُمْ * لَوْ آمَنُوا بِاللَّهِ وَالْيَوْمِ الْآخِرِ

Vocabulary: قَوْل = words; مَعْرُوف = good, honorable, سَدِيد = upright, حُدُود = limits/bounds

2. Identify the descriptive phrases by underlying them, and then highlight the adjectives. For e.g.,

وَمَنْ يَعْصِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ وَيَتَعَدَّ حُدُودَهُ يُدْخِلْهُ نَارًا خَالِدًا فِيهَا وَلَهُ عَذَابٌ مُّهِينٌ 4:14

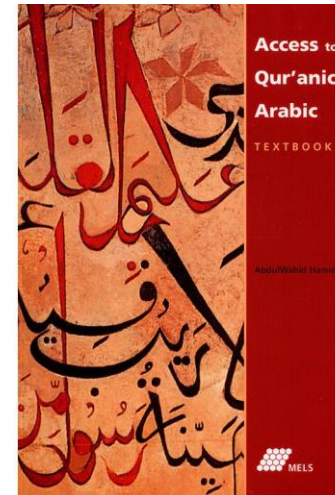
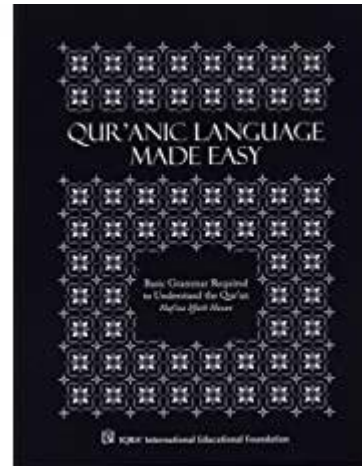
وَلَا تَأْكُلُوا أَمْوَالَهُمْ إِلَىٰ أَمْوَالِكُمْ ۗ إِنَّهُ كَانَ حُوبًا كَبِيرًا 4:2 ، وَمَنْ يُطِيعِ اللَّهَ وَرَسُولَهُ يُدْخِلْهُ جَنَّاتٍ تَجْرِي مِنْ تَحْتِهَا الْأَنْهَارُ خَالِدِينَ فِيهَا ۗ وَذَلِكَ الْفَوْزُ الْعَظِيمُ 4:13 ، وَلَا الَّذِينَ يَمُوتُونَ وَهُمْ كُفَّارٌ ۗ أُولَٰئِكَ أَعْتَدْنَا لَهُمْ عَذَابًا أَلِيمًا 4:18 ، وَعَاشِرُوهُمْ بِالْمَعْرُوفِ ۗ فَإِنْ كَرِهْتُمُوهُمْ فَعَسَىٰ أَنْ تَكْرَهُوا شَيْئًا وَيَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ فِيهِ خَيْرًا كَثِيرًا 4:19 ، وَكَيْفَ تَأْخُذُونَهُ وَقَدْ أَفْضَىٰ بَعْضُكُمْ إِلَىٰ بَعْضٍ وَأَخَذْنَ مِنْكُمْ مِيثَاقًا غَلِيظًا 4:21 ، إِنْ تَحْتَبَبُوا كَبَائِرَ مَا تُنْهَوْنَ عَنْهُ نُكَفِّرْ عَنْكُمْ سَيِّئَاتِكُمْ وَنُدْخِلْكُمْ مُدْخَلًا كَرِيمًا 4:31 ، وَأَعْتَدْنَا لِلْكَافِرِينَ عَذَابًا مُّهِينًا 4:37

You may refer to the above verses in any translation of the Holy Quran to get an idea on how the descriptive phrases contained in those verses.

The texts for the course

Level 1 lessons & text at <https://academyofislam.com/ali-607/>

Ali Quli Qarai	Hafiza Iffat Hasan	AbdulWahid Hamid
<i>The Qur'an: with a phrase-by-phrase English translation</i>	<i>Qur'anic Language Made Easy</i>	<i>Access to Qur'anic Arabic</i>



References