

PRESENT/FUTURE TENSE

Al Fi'l al Mudari الفعل المضارع

The present / future tense format for three-lettered verbs is as follows:

Plural جمع	Dual مثنى	Singular مفرد	
يَفْعَلُونَ They do/will do	يَفْعَلَانِ They do/will do	يَفْعَلُ He, it does/will do	الغائب المذكر Third person masculine
يَفْعَلْنَ They (all) do/will do	تَفْعَلَانِ They (two) do/will do	تَفْعَلُ She, it does/will do	الغائب المؤنث Third person feminine
تَفْعَلُونَ You (all) do/will do	تَفْعَلَانِ You (two) do /will do	تَفْعَلُ You do/will do	الحاضر المذكر Second person masculine
تَفْعَلْنَ You (all) do/will do	تَفْعَلَانِ You (two) do/will do	تَفْعَلِينَ You do/will do	الحاضر المؤنث Second person feminine
نَفْعَلُ We (all) do / will do	نَفْعَلُ We (two) do / will do	أَفْعَلُ I do / will do	التكلم المذكر/المؤنث First person (masculine & feminine)

Important points about the above chart:

1. The past tense three-lettered verbs did not display prefixes, but the present / future tense chart shows both prefixes and suffixes.
2. The prefixes are called signs of مضارع (mudari). These are four letters, namely:

ألف، ت، ي، ن

- **ي** is placed for masculine third person singular, dual and plural and feminine third person plural.
 - **ت** is placed for feminine third person singular and dual, and masculine and feminine second person singular, dual and plural.
 - **ألف** is placed for masculine and feminine first person singular.
 - **ن** is placed for masculine and feminine first person plural.
3. Signs of مضارع (Mudari) **ألف، ت، ي، ن** are always placed by a for three-lettered verbs.

4. The suffixes are placed to indicate dual or plural for the second and third persons:

ان is for dual, masculine and feminine

ون is for plural, masculine

ن is for plural, feminine

There are no suffixes for the first person.

5. The evident *i'raab* is seen over the last letter of the verbs without suffixes. For verbs

with suffixes, is in the form of **ن** (for dual) and **ن** (for plural).

6. Recall that the middle letter of the verb of the past tense was — or , for the present /

future tense also it is variable (— or ').

7. The *harakah* of the middle letter of the present/future tense does not have to match the *harakah* of the past tense.
8. There are six combinations of the past and present/future tense. The *harakah* for the middle letter is as follows:

Present / future tense	Past tense	Combination
'	—	نَصَرَ / يَنْصُرُ
—	—	ضَرَبَ / يَضْرِبُ
'	—	سَمِعَ / يَسْمَعُ
—	—	فَتَحَ / يَفْتَحُ
'	'	كَرِهَ / يَكْرَهُ
—	—	حَسِبَ / يَحْسِبُ

9. For the *مضارع*, the present/future tense has to be chosen in the proper context.

Examples:

وَيَفْعَلُ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ

And Allah does what He **pleases** (present tense). (14:27)

يَدْخُلُونَ الْجَنَّةَ

They will enter the Paradise (future tense). (40:40)

10. The مضارع is limited to the future tense when it is preceded by **سَوْفَ** or **سَ** (meaning 'very soon').

Examples:

سَيَقُولُ السُّفَهَاءُ

The fools (among the people) will say. (2:142)

فَسَوْفَ يُحَاسَبُ حِسَابًا يَسِيرًا

His account will be taken by an easy reckoning. (84:8)

Exercise

Conjugate the following verbs in مضارع (present/future tense).

To go out	يَخْرُجُ	To write	يَكْتُبُ
To curse	يَلْعَنُ	To kill	يَقْتُلُ
To hear	يَسْمَعُ	To reach	يَبْلُغُ
To know	يَعْلَمُ	To earn	يَكْسِبُ
To leave	يَتْرِكُ	To ride	يَرْكَبُ
To enter	يَدْخُلُ	To wrong	يَظْلِمُ

Note: In Arabic, the long vowels are **ألف**, **و** and **ي**. These formats (past and present / future) are for tri-lettered verbs without the long vowels.

The following are examples of the **مضارع** (present and future tense).

وَيَفْعَلُ اللَّهُ مَا يَشَاءُ

Allah **does** whatever He **wishes**. (14:27)

إِنَّ اللَّهَ يَعْلَمُ مَا تَفْعَلُونَ

Indeed Allah **knows** whatever you all **do**. (16:91)

هُوَ خَيْرٌ مِمَّا يَجْمَعُونَ

It is better than what they (all) **collect**. (10:58)

يَعْلَمُ مَا تَكْسِبُ كُلُّ نَفْسٍ

He **knows** what every soul **earns**. (13:42)

أَتَعْجَبِينَ مِنْ أَمْرِ اللَّهِ

Do you **wonder** at Allah's decree? (11:73)

إِنِّي أَعْلَمُ مَا لَا تَعْلَمُونَ

Indeed I **know** what you do not **know**. (2:30)

وَنَضْبَعُ عَلَى قُلُوبِهِمْ

And we **seal/will seal** their hearts. (7:100)

لَا أَعْبُدُ مَا تَعْبُدُونَ

I do not **worship** what you (all) **worship**. (109:2)

أَفَلَا تَعْقِلُونَ

So, **will** you not **understand**? (2:44)

وَيَجْعَلُونَ لِلَّهِ الْبَنَاتِ

And they **assign** daughters for Allah. (16:57)

سَوْفَ تَعْلَمُونَ

Soon, you (all) **will know**. (102:3)

سَيَصْلُونَ سَعِيرًا

Soon, they (all) **will enter** the fire. (4:10)

لِمَ تَكْفُرُونَ بِآيَاتِ اللَّهِ

Why **do you reject** the signs of Allah? (3:98)