



سلام 1

Salem 1



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Live 2 Learn would like to credit the Arabaphon Language School for the initial development of this curriculum. Arabaphon is a language school in Fes, Morocco. With their permission, Live 2 Learn has adapted their work to teach students Tunisian Arabic.

Introduction

Salem means "peace" or simply "greeting". You will hear this word often and in many combinations. We are sure that this course will help you to learn the Tunisian dialect successfully and to understand Tunisian culture better.

The Salem course does not offer a phonetic transcription. While the original course does use the transliteration in Salam 1, Live 2 Learn has decided that the best way for our students to learn to read and write Arabic script is to be given no other option. Our experience has shown that if a transliteration is offered, it becomes a crutch and keeps us from the hard work of learning another set of characters. But for the long-term student, Arabic script is a must. It will also facilitate learning Classical Arabic in the future. For some of our students who enter our classes already reading Arabic script, we see no reason to return to transliteration. However, this being said, the goal of the Salam course is speaking, not reading and writing.

Any written form of a spoken language, using Arabic or phonetic alphabet, can only be an approximation of what it really sounds like. Therefore we advise you to rely on your ear more than on your eye for the pronunciation. The writing then serves as an aid to your memory.

The pronunciation of the dialect has been represented as closely as possible in the Arabic scripts, while at the same time remaining faithful to the writing of literary Arabic. This is a compromise. The aim is to help you to pronounce the day to day Arabic, while at the same time enabling you to find the roots of dialect words in the literary Arabic that you will see in the newspapers, books, dictionaries and elsewhere.

We are conscious that this procedure will attract criticism from most Arabists who say that Arabic must be written "correctly", i.e following the rule for literary, Koranic and sacred Arabic. We decided not to follow these rules but to use a more pragmatic, linguistic approach. We are also conscious that the Tunisian dialect has many expressions that are regional. Ours is the Arabic of Sousse, middle class, middle aged. We believe that this Arabic will be understood everywhere in Tunisia and that it will be relatively easy, when necessary, to augment it with the local vocabulary that you will need.

LESSON 1: Greetings!

صَبَاحُ الْخَيْرِ Good Morning

أَمِينَة: صَبَاحُ الْخَيْرِ بُشْرَى.	Amina: Good morning, Buchra.
بُشْرَى: صَبَاحُ الْخَيْرِ أَمِينَة شَنْحَوَالِك	Buchra: Good morning, Amina, how are you?
أَمِينَة: لَا بَأْسَ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ يُعَيِّشُكَ، وَ أَنْتِي	Amina: Fine thanks, and you?
بُشْرَى: لَا بَأْسَ الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ، سَلَّمَ عَالِدَار.	Buchra: Fine, Thank God. Greetings to the family.
أَمِينَة: يَبْلُغُ بِالسَّلَامَةِ.	Amina: I will. Goodbye.
بُشْرَى: بِالسَّلَامَةِ.	Buchra: Goodbye.

عَالَسَالَمَة Good Afternoon

خَدِيجَة: عَالَسَالَمَة سَيِّ عَبْدَ اللَّهِ.	Khadija: Good afternoon, Mr Abdallah.
عَبْدَ اللَّهِ: عَالَسَالَمَة مَا دَامَ خَدِيجَة. شَعْنُكَ جَدِيد	Abdallah: Good afternoon, Khadija. What's new?
خَدِيجَة: كُلُّ شَيْءٍ لَا بَأْسَ، الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ. وَ أَنْتِي. شَنْحَوَالِ الصَّحَّة	Khadija: Everything's fine, Thank God. And you, how's your health?
عَبْدَ اللَّهِ: لَا بَأْسَ يُعَيِّشُكَ. شَنْحَوَالِ الْوَالِدِ وَ الْوَالِدَة	Abdallah: Fine thanks. How are your parents?
خَدِيجَة: الْوَالِدُ لَا بَأْسَ، أَمَّا الْوَالِدَة مُرِيضَة.	Khadija: My father is fine, but my mother is sick.
عَبْدَ اللَّهِ: رَبِّي يَشْفِيهَا، سَلِّمْلِي عَلَيْهَا رَبِّي.	Abdallah: May God heal her. Greet her for me please.
عَلَى خَيْرٍ، خَدِيجَة: يَبْلُغُ يُعَيِّشُكَ.	Khadija: I will, Thanks. Have a good evening.
عَبْدَ اللَّهِ: لَيْلَتِكَ زَيْنَة.	Abdallah: Have a good night.

DISCOVER THE LANGUAGE: CONJUNCTIONS

خُوْكَ طَوِيْلٌ بَرَشًا وَ مَزِيَانٌ.	Your brother is very tall and handsome!
الْكُسْكُوسِي هَادَا بَنِيْنٌ وَ حَارٌ بَرَشًا.	This couscous is delicious and very spicy.
صَحْتُو لَبَاسٌ أَمَّا تَاعِبٌ شَوِيَّةٌ مَالْخِدْمَةِ.	His health is good but he is a little tired from work.
خُونَا لَبَاسٌ أَمَّا بِنْتُو مَرِيضَةٌ بَرَشًا.	Our brother is well but his daughter is very sick.
وَلَدُو نَاسٌ مَّلَاحٌ أَمَّا رَاسُو صَحِيْحٌ شَوِيَّةٌ.	His son is nice but a little stubborn.
الْوَلَدُ يَا إِمَّا تَاعِبٌ وَ إِلَّا مَرِيضٌ شَوِيَّةٌ.	The boy is either tired or a little sick.
إِنْتِ لَاهِي وَ إِلَّا لَا؟	Are you busy or not?

