

Arabic 1: Syllabus

Session 1	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 1 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 1, texts
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Read Units 2 and 3. There is no need to do the exercises, as we will do most of them next time during class. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Unit 1. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Read grammar in Unit 1 and start learning the new vocabulary.
Session 2	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 2 and 3 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 1, exercises
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Units 2 and 3. Read Units 4 and 5. There is no need to do the exercises in Units 4 and 5, as we will do most of them next time during class. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Units 2 and 3. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 1, ex. 6, 7 en 8.
Session 3	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 4 and 5 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 2, texts
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Units 4 and 5. Read Unit 6. There is no need to do the exercises in Unit 6, as we will do most of them next time during class. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Units 4 and 5. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Read grammar in Unit 2 and start learning new vocabulary.
Session 4	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 6 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 2, exercises
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Unit 6. Read Units 7 and 8. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Unit 6. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 2, ex. 8 and 10.

Session 5	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 7 en 8 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 3, texts
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Unit 7 and 8. Read Unit 9. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Units 7 and 8. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Read grammar in Unit 3 and start learning the new vocabulary.
Session 6	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 9 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 3, exercises
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Unit 9. Read Unit 10. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Unit 9. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 3, ex. 10, 12, and 13.
Session 7	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 10 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 4, texts Discussion: How to write your name in Arabic
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Unit 10. Read Unit 11. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Unit 10. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Read grammar in Unit 4 and start learning the new vocabulary.
Session 8	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 11 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 4, exercises
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Unit 11. Read Unit 12. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Unit 11. <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 4, ex. 12, 13, and 14.
Session 9	During class <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Unit 12 <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 5 Final exam: Speaking skills
	Homework for the next session <i>Bite-Size Arabic:</i> Do remaining exercises in Unit 12. <i>Writing Workbook:</i> Do exercises in Unit 12.
Session 10	During class <i>Tasharrafnaa:</i> Unit 5 (cont.) Final exam: Writing portion

Remarks:

- Scheduled discussion of *Tasharrafnāa* in this syllabus is approximate, but *Bite-Size* and the handwriting workbook will always follow the set schedule.
- Priorities: You should always give priority to *Bite-Size*, especially the translation exercise at the end of each unit.

Final Exam Information

Written portion. The written portion of final exam will take place during our tenth session. The first hour of the session will be a normal class session, focusing on things that will help further prepare you for the exam. Then we will have a short break, followed by the exam, which you will have one hour to complete. Your instructor will try to correct the exams immediately and calculate the final score. At the end of the class, the instructor will hand out the certificates to everyone who has passed the exam (hopefully all of you).

The written portion of the test is based entirely on *Bite-Size* and the writing worksheets (not on *Tasharrafnaa*), and the types of questions resemble those found in the exercises in that book. The exam covers all of the vocabulary from the entire *Bite-Size* book. You need to score at least 60% to pass and earn your certificate. The types of questions are approximately as follows:

1. About six multiple choice questions entirely in Arabic script that test your comprehension, vocabulary, and grammar. There may also be two questions in which you are asked to translate a sentence from Arabic into your choice of Dutch or English. A good way to practise is to review the final exercise (translation exercise) in each chapter of *Bite-Size*.
2. One question that demonstrates your ability to read and write Arabic numerals. For example, you could be presented with the words **ثلاثة** and **سبعة** in Arabic and asked to write the Arabic numerals ٣ and ٧ underneath them, or you could be presented with a simple addition equation and be asked to fill in the answer with an Arabic numeral (like an exercise we did in class).
3. One each of the following types of questions:
 - identify *shamsiyy* and *qamariyy* letters,
 - you are given the masculine form of an adjective and are asked to write the feminine form,
 - identify diacritics (such as *shadda* and *ḍamma*) and similar-looking letters (such as *ṣaad* and *ḍaad*),
 - fill in the correct form of the demonstrative,
 - fill in the missing forms in a conjugation,
 - translate possessive phrases from Arabic into English or Dutch (i.e. *thawb-ak* ‘your dress’), and
 - identify an Arabic name as either a man’s name (**رجل**) or a woman’s name (**امرأة**).
4. Write from memory the very short personalised text you have been given (see next page). You will be given the English translation to remind you what the text is.

Speaking skills. The final exam also has a section that tests your speaking skills. This portion counts for 10% of your exam score. For this section, which may be held on a different day than the written portion, your teacher will ask you a number of simple questions and expressions in Arabic, which you will need to respond to. Exercises in *Tasharrafnaa* that are particularly helpful in preparing you for the speaking skills test are Unit 1, ex. 1; Unit 2, ex. 4; and Unit 5, ex. 4. While we hope it doesn’t happen, if you fail the exam, you can contact UvA Talen to schedule a resit (herkansing).

Memorised Text

After completing an introductory Arabic course, it is nice to be able to show people what you can do and impress them with your new skills. We will therefore learn how to write a couple sentences from memory, which include your own name. Personalised for your instructor, the text looks like this:

أهلاً وسهلاً! اسمي بلبل وأنا من أمريكا.

With the vowel markings, the text would look like this, but don't write it like this on the exam or you'll make more mistakes:

أَهْلًا وَسَهْلًا! اسْمِي بُلْبُلٌ وَأَنَا مِنْ أَمْرِيكَ.

For the exam, you will personalise this text with your own name and country. To be sure you know this, write them here in Arabic:

Name: _____

Country: _____

So, you what you need to do is insert your own name and country into the text:

أهلاً وسهلاً! اسمي _____ وأنا من _____ .

On the exam you will only be given the following English translation to remind you of the text you need to write:

Hello! My name is _____ and I'm from _____ .

This question is worth about 10% of the exam score, so be sure to practise it from memory, making sure that you spell everything correctly.

Tip: Remember that no space should be written between the word وَ 'and' and the following word. The two are written together as if they formed a single word.