GILS Elementary Arabic Study Guide 1

Alif Baa Unit 1 and Unit 2

Record chapter dialogue in the FLLRC

Study Goals

- Understanding of the Arabic alphabet, explained in Alif Baa, Unit 1.
- Pronunciation and writing of aa, baa, taa, thaa, uu, and ii in Alif Baa, Unit 2.
- Pronunciation and signifying vowel length in Alif Baa, Unit 2.
- Understanding of the introductions/dialogues
- Understanding of the difference between Modern Standard Arabic and Arabic dialects and the difference between written and spoken language
- Completion of all assigned exercises in Unit 2
- Completion of Alif Baa Unit 1 and part of Unit 2
- Listening, understanding, and comfortable use of phrases Dialogue

Getting Started

- Read the explanation of the Arabic alphabet explained in Alif Baa, Unit 1, pp. 1-14.
- Begin your study of Lesson 2 by reading the explanation of aa, baa, taa, thaa, uu, and ii in Alif Baa, Lesson 1, pp. 20-23 and of methods of signifying vowel length on pp. 34-40.

Practice Exercises

- Complete all exercises dealing with the letters aa, baa, taa, thaa, uu, and ii.
- Complete all exercises dealing with vowel length.
- Use the DVD to complete the listening and writing drills and dictations. Learn the vocabulary words, p. 15.
- Read the Culture section on Arabic Dialects on pp. 16-17.
- Listen to all the material under the dialogue section of the DVD. Watch the videos of different people introducing themselves using Formal Arabic (the spoken version of Modern Standard Arabic). Drill for scene 1. Watch the introductions many times until you can start to pick up the meaning of what they are saying. Try to imitate their introductions and repeat what they say. Figure out what you would say to introduce yourself.
- Listen carefully to the introductions/dialogues under the colloquial section on the DVD. You do no need to learn them, but listen multiple times so that the sounds and format become familiar.
- Read the Culture section on Saying Hello on p. 17. Listen to the greetings and responses on the DVD. Memorize them and be ready to use them with your mentor and in your conversation section. These phrases will be used so often they should become automatic.
- Do your first pencast by the end of chapter 2

Homework to Hand In at Tutorial

- Write out Drill 2 on p. 27.
- Write out Drill 4 on p. 31.
- Write out Drill 13 on p. 39

Conversation Session Preparation Guide

- Students should be able to introduce themselves in formal Arabic and say “Hello”. Students should be able to say and respond to various greetings without referring to books or notes.
- Students should be prepared to introduce themselves by imitating the formal/modern standard introductions under “Dialogues” on the DVD.
• When the conversation partner introduces her/himself or speaks portions of the dialogs, students should be able to identify the spoken language as either Modern Standard Arabic or an Arabic dialect (even if the student cannot give a verbatim rendering of the words spoken).
• Students should be able to role play conversational exchanges using greetings phrases and the vocabulary for introducing oneself that they have learned from the Alif Baa DVD and the Greetings 1 dialogue. Students should be able to handle these basic phrases without reference to books or notes.
• Students should be prepared to write all of the letters and sounds from Lessons 2.

Self-Assessment

_____ I have read and understood the Arabic alphabet.
_____ I can pronounce and write aa, baa, taa, thaa, uu, and ii.
_____ I have used the ePen to pronounce and write aa, baa, taa, thaa, uu, and ii.

_____ I understand the issues associated with distinguishing vowel length.
_____ I have completed all DVD exercises for Lesson 1.
_____ I have completed all audio exercises and drills for Lesson 1.
_____ I understand the introductions/dialogues both in Modern Standard Arabic and in dialect.
_____ I can introduce myself in Formal Spoken Arabic.
_____ I have completed and understand all concepts in Alif Baa Lesson 1 and part of Lesson 2.
_____ I understand and can automatically use the phrases and vocabulary in Greetings 1 in appropriate situations.
_____ I understand and can use the phrases and vocabulary in Introductions.
_____ I have made my first pencast and uploaded it to my e-Portfolio.

Comments: