Using the DVD: The DVD is an integral part of this program. It should be used in conjunction with the text, not occasionally as an extra component. You should begin each week's study by reviewing the DVD and scanning the contents of the new lesson.

A Learning Strategy: You will meet Maha in your book and on your DVD; she will accompany you through your study of Arabic in this textbook. Maha's "story" will introduce you to vocabulary, phrases, grammatical concepts, and everyday situations in a young person's life. In addition to understanding what Maha says about herself, you should put yourself in the place of Maha (for example, Maha studies chemistry. I study biology). In addition, create an imaginary friend, an alter ego of the opposite gender, and create a scenario for this person also. This allows you to automatically practice grammatical and vocabulary concepts using both genders as a base. You will be doing a lot of interacting with "imaginary" people in this course, so rev up your imaginations!

Preparing the Tutorial: When you go into your tutorial, you should have thoroughly prepared the lesson material so that you are ready to ask questions about concepts that you don't understand and are ready for the mentor to drill you to enable you to further your learning. By the time of the tutorial, vocabulary should be memorized and you should be so familiar with the pages for that week that you dream about them.

The Conversation Session: This is the time each week when you will have the opportunity to practice speaking with others learning Arabic. In order to get the most out of your conversation session, you must be prepared to speak, role play, and use your imagination to further your active involvement in Arabic. Your conversation session should be spent speaking, listening, and working in Arabic. You can ask lesson-based questions in your tutorial, but when you come to the conversation session, you should be ready to speak so much Arabic that you are tired afterward!

Remember! Before you can effectively practice and internalize a language, you have to be in control of the chapter vocabulary and general concepts. So the key to success is memorize, memorize, memorize! You must also be creative in your learning. Let's say that you are given the phrase "I study" in your chapter vocabulary list; you memorize that. Then as you continue working your way through the chapter, you actively listen for other forms, such as "she studies, they study, we study, etc." When you have finished going over the chapter for the first time, then it is time to sit back, re-think, and compartmentalize what you have learned. An in-class language professor will bring you back to concepts over and over to help with that learning process. In an independent course such as this, the students must do that on their own. So by the time you are completely "finished" with a chapter, you should have memorized a great part of the chapter. Your goal is active use of a concept not passive recognition of it.

Study Goals
- Familiarity with textbook and DVD
- Completion of Lesson 1, pp. 1-9
- Memorization of new vocabulary, Al Kitaab, Lesson 1, p. 2
- Understanding and memorization of basic phrases of introduction
- Understanding of formats of Arabic names
- Understanding of concept of gender in nouns and adjectives

Getting Started
- Look over Lesson 1, pp. 1-9
- Watch Maha's introduction of herself on the DVD
• Listen to the new vocabulary

Practice Exercises
• Listen to the DVD vocabulary on p. 2 of Al Kitaab, Lesson 1. At first, repeat after the speaker and begin to memorize the words. Then you say the word first and listen to the speaker's pronunciation second.
• Listen to the vocabulary words being used in sentences on the DVD. Repeat the sentences until you can say them easily without stumbling. Write out the sentences.
• Complete the information exercise on p. 2 of Al Kitaab.
• Complete all written / listening exercises on pp. 3-4 of Al Kitaab.
• Read the sections on names and genders on pp. 5-7 Al Kitaab. Complete the accompanying exercises through p. 9.

Homework to Hand in at Tutorial
• Write out the sentences that you have heard on the DVD utilizing Lesson 1 vocabulary (p. 2).
• Prepare a narration of the Maha video in which you describe everything she said about herself (in other words, put her own narration into the 3rd person -- "she" studies, etc).
• Write out exercise B. on p. 8 of Al Kitaab, Lesson 1 in which you describe the things in your room.
• Prepare a narration of the Maha video in which you describe everything she said about herself (in other words, put her own narration into the 3rd person -- "she" studies, etc). Hand in the written version to your mentor and present the narration orally in conversation session. Retell the narration as an iMovie for your portfolio.

Conversation Session Preparation Guide
• Do ex 3 page 3 with conversation partner. Practice repeating after the partner. Try to match both pronunciation and intonation. You need to practice in a place where you are free to talk out loud to yourself. After listening, practice playing the parts of each speaker. Also practice changing the dialogues by inserting the vocabulary variations. Role play.
• Practice improvising dialogues. Think of different situations in which students, teacher, mentors, and others meet. Imagine yourself in the situation and practice out loud. You need to practice in a place where you can act out the dialogues and talk to yourself. If you have the opportunity, practice improvising dialogues with someone else.
• Students should be prepared to introduce themselves to the group, to take the role of their alter ego and introduce themselves as that person, and finally, to ask questions of other students and their alter egos.
• Students should be prepared to describe Maha and to talk about her.
• Students should be prepared to describe objects and people pointed out by the conversation partner using the vocabulary and phrases learned.
• Students should be prepared to identify proper usage of vocabulary words when used in a sentence by the conversation partner.

Self Assessment: to be submitted at the end of the unit.

e-Portfolio Proficiency Sample: make a picture dictionary of 10 new words or expressions, include an image, a bilingual subtitle (Arabic & English) and voice over. (Think learning strategies.)