

# Arabic Language

Spoken in Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen

## Script

- Arabic is written from right to left on the line.
- Arabic has 29 letters - with 3 letter sounds, which do not exist in English.
- Arabic does not distinguish between vowels and consonants; the use of a small sign on the top or under the letter indicates the pronunciation.
- There are no capital letters in Arabic.
- Punctuation is similar to English except for comas, which sit on the line instead of under the line.
- Some letters change shape depending on whether they are at the start, in the middle or at the end of the word.
- Arabic uses suffixes but no prefixes

## Sentence structure

- The basic word order in a sentence is: subject:-verb-object (SVO)

## Nouns and pronouns

- The second and third person pronoun is different for masculine and feminine gender.

Ten different person pronouns exist in Arabic.

- Extra letters in a word are added to the singular form to make plurals or to indicate masculine or feminine gender.

## Adjectives follow the noun.

Verbs inflection signals gender. Arabic uses either masculine or feminine gender for all known nouns.

## Typical Errors

- Incorrect use of auxiliary verbs: "I am gone for visiting the city" (instead of "I am going to the city").
- Incorrect use of personal pronouns.
- Difficulties in placement of noun-adjective: "My friend the bossy one" (instead of "My bossy friend").
- Inappropriate use of no, not, none, much, many etc.
- Inappropriate word order when using auxiliary verbs, adjectives.