

LESSON 14

In this lesson we learn the following:

1) The *amr* (the imperative) : The *amr* is the form of the verb which signifies a command like 'go!' 'sit!' 'get up!'.

The *amr* is formed from the *mudâri* ' of the second person by omitting the initial 'ta' and the final '-u' as explained below.

تَكْتُبُ → كُتِبَ ta-ktub-u → ktub.

Now the resulting form commences with a *sâkin* letter, i.e. a letter not followed by a vowel. This is not permissible in Arabic. To overcome this difficulty a *hamzat al-wasl* is prefixed to the verb. This *hamzah* takes *dammah* if the second radical of the *amr* has a *dammah*, otherwise it takes *kasrah*, e.g.:

تَكْتُبُ → كُتِبَ → أُكْتُبُ ta-ktub-u → ktub → **uktub**

تَجْلِسُ → جَلَسَ → اجْلِسْ ta-jlis-u → jlis → **ijlis**

تَفْتَحُ → فَتَحَ → افْتَحْ ta-ftah-u → ftah → **iftah**

This *hamzat al-wasl* is pronounced only when the *amr* is not preceded by any word. If it is preceded by a word, the *hamzah* is omitted in pronunciation though it remains in writing, e.g. :

أُكْتُبُ **uktub**

يا بِلَالُ اكْتُبْ yâ Bilâlu ktub (not : ya Bilalu **uktub**)

اقْرَأْ وَاكْتُبْ iqra' wa ktub (not : iqra' wa **uktub**)

اُكْتُبْ وَاقْرَأْ **uktub wa qra'** (not : uktub wa iqra')

As we have seen this *hamzah* is *hamzat al-wasl*, so the sign of the *hamzat al-qat'* (ء) should not be written above or below it :

أُكْتُبُ and not كُتِبَ

اجْلِسْ and not جَلَسَ

The *amr* from تَأْكُلُ is كُلْ, and from تَأْخُذُ is خُذْ. These forms are irregular and the first radical (ء) has been omitted.

If the *amr* of the second person singular is followed by a word commencing with *hamzat al-wasl* the last letter of the *amr* takes a *kasrah* to avoid التِّقَاءُ السَّاكِنَيْنِ, e.g.

اشْرَبِ الْمَاءَ ishrah-i l-mâ'-a 'drink water!' (bl → bil)

اِفْتَحِ الْبَابَ iftah-i l-bâb-a 'open the door!' (hl → hil)

خُذِ الْكِتَابَ khudh-i l-kitâb-a 'take the book!' (dhl → dhil)

Here is the *isnâd* of the *amr* to the other pronouns of the second person:

اُكْتُبْ يَا مُحَمَّدُ uktub اُكْتُبُوا يَا إِخْوَانُ uktub-û

اُكْتُبِي يَا آمِنَةُ uktub-î اُكْتُبْنَ يَا أَخَوَاتُ uktub-na

2) أَعْقَرَبُ فِي الْفَصْلِ؟ : The *mubtada'* is usually definite, but it may be indefinite with certain conditions. One of these is that the indefinite *mubtada'* should be preceded by an interrogative particle as in this example : أَعْقَرَبُ فِي الْفَصْلِ؟! 'a scorpion in the classroom?!' Here is another example from the Qur'an: أَلِلَهُ مَعَ

اللَّهِ؟ 'Is there a god with Allâh?'

3) فَإِنَّ الْغُرْفَةَ مُظْلِمَةٌ : Here فَإِنَّ means 'because'. Here are some more examples:

كُلْ هَذَا فَإِنَّكَ جَوْعَانَ 'Eat this as you are hungry.'

أَدْخُلْ فَإِنَّ الدَّرْسَ قَدْ بَدَأَ 'Get in for the lesson has already started.'

اغْسِلْ الْقَمِيصَ فَإِنَّهُ وَسِخٌ 'Wash the shirt for it is dirty.'

Exercises

1. Answer the following questions.
2. Correct the following sentences.
3. Learn the formation of *amr* and read the examples.
4. Form the *amr* from the following verbs.
5. Learn this rule regarding التِّقَاءُ السَّاكِنَيْنِ.
6. Read the following sentences bearing in mind the rule about التِّقَاءُ السَّاكِنَيْنِ.
7. Read the following examples of the *isnâd* of the *amr* to pronouns of the second person.
8. Fill in the blanks with the *amr* of suitable verbs.

📖 Vocabulary:

عَقْرَبٌ	scorpion	سَكَتَ يَسْكُتُ	(a-u) to keep quiet
حِذَاءٌ	shoe	جَمَعَ يَجْمَعُ	(a-a) to gather, to collect
الْجَنَّةُ	the paradise	طَبَخَ يَطْبُخُ	(a-u) to cook
كُوبٌ	glass	قَطَعَ يَقْطَعُ	(a-a) to cut
يَدٌ	hand	حَلَقَ يَحْلِقُ	(a-i) to shave
زَوْجٌ	spouse	عَبَدَ يَعْبُدُ	(a-u) to worship
عَلَقٌ	clot of blood	عَلِمَ يَعْلَمُ	(i-a) to know
مِذْيَاعٌ	radio set	مَنَعَ يَمْنَعُ	(a-a) to prevent
جَوٌّ	weather	عَادَ يَعُودُ	(a-u) to return
غَرِيبٌ	stranger	وَرَقَةٌ	piece of paper
مُوسَى	razor	تِينٌ	fig
نَعْسَانٌ	sleepy	لَا أَدْرِي	'I don't know'
مُظْلِمٌ	dark	قُوَّةٌ	strength
كَنَسَ يَكْنَسُ	(a-u) to sweep	بِقُوَّةٍ	strongly, fast
نَظَرَ يَنْظُرُ	(a-u) to look at		