

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 → كُتِبْ 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 → كُتِبْ → أُكْتُبْ 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. :

أُكْتُبْ uktub

يَا بِلَالُ اُكْتُبْ yâ Bilâlu ktub (not : ya Bilâlu 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 :

أُكْتُبْ and not كُتِبْ

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 التَقَاءُ 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 uktub-û

اُكْتُبِي يَا آمِنَةُ uktub-î uktub-na

2) اَعْقَرَبُ 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 : اَعْقَرَبُ فِي الْفَصْلِ؟! 'a

scorpion in the classroom?!' Here is another example from the Qur'an: اَللَّهُ مَعَ

اللَّهِ? 'Is there a god with Allâh?'

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

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

اُدْخُلْ فَاِنَّ الدَّرْسَ قَدْ بَدَأَ 'Get in for the lesson has already started.'

اِغْسِلْ الْقَمِيصَ فَاِنَّهُ 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 التَقَاءُ السَّاكِنَيْنِ.
6. Read the following sentences bearing in mind the rule about التَقَاءُ 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 | ثِينٌ | fig |
| نَعْسَانٌ | sleazy | لَا أَدْرِي | 'I don't know' |
| مُظْلِمٌ | dark | قُوَّةٌ | strength |
| كَنَّسَ يَكْنَسُ | (a-u) to sweep | بِقُوَّةٍ | strongly, fast |
| نَظَرَ يَنْظُرُ | (a-u) to look at | | |