

HOW TO:

BY BUSHRA SHUKAIRY

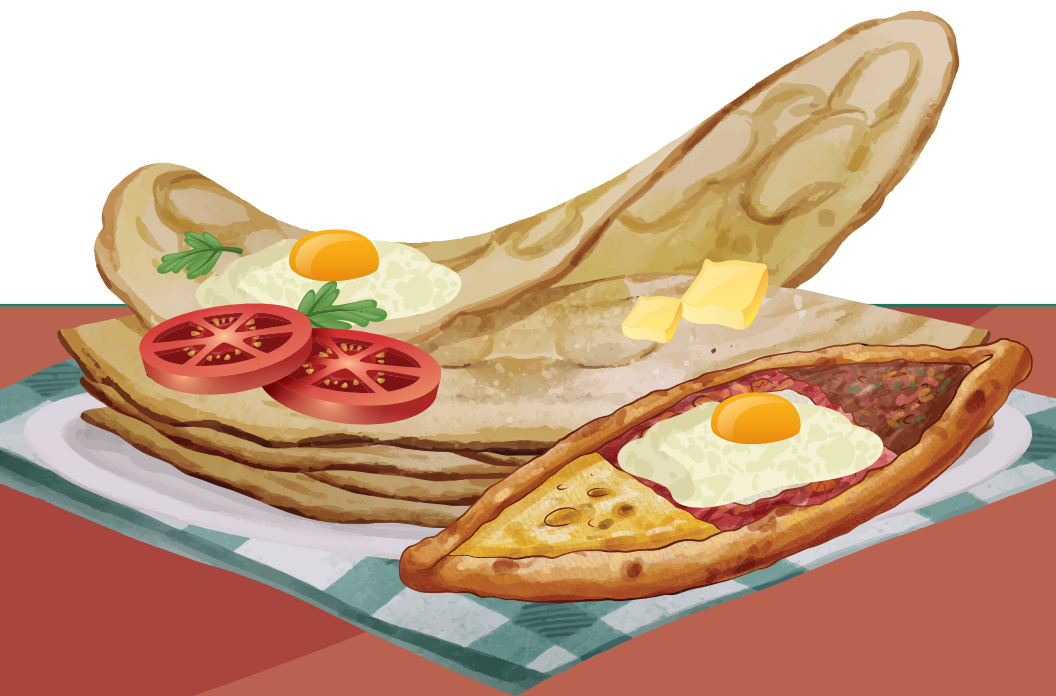
FOOD EXPRESSIONS IN ARABIC : LEVANTINE DIALECT



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This e-book is part of a series of themed vocabulary books that aids students in learning Arabic in a fun and simple way! You will learn essential basics as well as sample dialogues to practice. If you enjoyed this book and found it beneficial, be sure to check out the other books in the series by Bushra on her website: baytbushrateachesarabic.com

There are so many learning resources in Arabic for the Modern Standard Arabic (Fusha) but limited learning resources on Levantine, spoken Arabic. Teacher Bushra has made it her life's passion to create material and content in the spoken Levantine dialect of Arabic. Giving students access to the spoken Arabic is essential to connect with the people, culture, and history of the Levant region.

For this reason, these e-books are presented and written in the Levantine dialect, specifically the Damascene dialect of Syria. Syrian Arabic is broadly understood and it is an easy dialect to learn as it is very similar to that of the Fusha (MSA) origins. May we all see a prosperous, lively, and free Levant, Bilad al-Sham.

Please email any inquiries to:

baytbushra@gmail.com

For all courses and more Arabic learning, please visit:
baytbushrateachesarabic.com

Happy studying!

Most Arabic books do not have short vowels or harakat.

Click on the 🔊 for the audio recordings which will help you read the vocabulary in this book.

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1.

AT HOME



في البيت

Let's cook together.



Kitchen

To cook

I cook

She cooks

He cooks

مطبخ

طبخ

أنا بطبخ

هي بتطبخ

هو بيطبخ

Here you go! (to m.)

Here you go (to f.)

Tasty

The food is delicious

تفضل

تفضلي

طيب / طيبة

الأكل بشهي

I want...
I want to eat...
What do you want?

بدي ...
بدي آكل ...
شو بذك؟



Some cooking verb commands:

Stir
Mix
Add
Knead
Cook
Bake
Boil
Fry

حرك / حرّكي
اخلط / اخلطي
ضيف / ضيفي
اعجن / اعجني
اطبخ / اطبخي
اشوي
اغلي
اقلي

SAMPLE DIALOGUE:

بابا: شو بدك تاكلي يا ليلي؟
ليلي: هممم... أنا بدي أكل شاورما.
بابا: بدي اشوي الشاورما ... تفضلي.
ليلي: شكرا كتير بابا... بسم الله... الأكل بشهي
بابا: نعم كتير طيب الحمد لله.

In Arabic the verb conjugation for the 'you' form changes depending on if you are speaking to a boy or a girl. For the verb commands on the previous page, the verb ends in **ي** when you speak to a girl. If the verb already ends with **ي** you do not another **ي** letter.

The word **تفضل** or **تفضلي** is a commonly used polite way to say 'here you are' when someone gives you something. It can have other meanings based on context such as "Follow me", "After you", "Go ahead", "Tell me".

Usually when someone offers you something you asked for, or a cup of tea, a plate of food, a gift etc, they will say **تفضل** and it is polite to respond with **شكراً** or thank you. Muslims will begin their meal with **بسم الله** which means 'in the name of Allah'. It is a signal that the meal can begin. Or you can say **تفضل** again to mark the beginning of the feast.

EXERCISES

1. In Arabic, how do you say "I want to eat falafel"?

2. In Arabic, how do you tell someone to "cook, mix, bake!"?

3. In Arabic, how do you ask someone "Do you want tea?"

Answers:
1. أريد أأكل فلفل.
2. طبخ، امزج، اخبز.
3. أريد شاي؟

2.

AT THE COFFEE SHOP



عند محل القهوة

I would like to order a coffee, please.



Hello, welcome
Welcome (to m.)
Welcome (to f.)
My pleasure

اهلاً وسهلاً
تفضل
تفضلي
تكرم / تكرمي

What would you like to order? (to m.)

What would you like to order? (to f.)

I would like to try... (m.)

I would like to try... (f.)

شو حابب تطلب؟

شو حابة تطلبي؟

حاب جرب...

حابة جرب...

I would like to order ...	بدي اطلب ...
I'll take	باخذ
Turkish coffee	قهوة تركية
Black coffee	قهوة سادة
Cappuccino	كابوتشينو
Tea with mint	شاي بالنعناع
Camomile	بابونج
A slice of cake	قطعة كيك / كاتو
With sugar	مع سكر
Without sugar	بدون سكر
A little bit of sugar	سكر خفيف



What size?
Small
Medium
Large

شو الحجم؟
حجم صغير
حجم وسط
حجم كبير

SAMPLE DIALOGUE:

موظف: أهلاً وسهلاً كيف ممكن اخدمك؟
(Employee)

ليلي: يا مرحباً. بدي قهوة تركية واحدة مع

سكر، لو سمحت.

موظف: تكرم عيونك. واحدة قهوة تركية. شو

الحجم؟

ليلي: حجم وسط.

موظف: تمام. بدك شي ثاني؟

ليلي: بدي قطعة كاتو، لو سمحت.

موظف: حاضر. الحساب ١٥ دولار.

— CULTURAL NOTE —

When you are making an order in Arabic, it is natural to say **بدي** followed by the item and then the number you want. For example: **بدي سباناش لاتية واحدة** and you can always end your order by saying please or **لو سمحت**. You can also just say the menu item and then **واحدة** (one) and then say **لو سمحت**.

As in the sample dialogue, the employee can greet you by saying **كيف ممكن اخدمك** which roughly translates to 'how can I be of service'. It is a show of Arab kindness and hospitality.

EXERCISES

- 1. Order one Turkish coffee without sugar in Arabic:

- 2. Tell the barista you want a large size, please.

- 3. In Arabic, how do you say "I would like to try a slice of cake?"

Answers:
1. أريد أن أحاول قطعة من الكعكة (إنجليزي)
2. أحسن حجم كبير
3. قهوة تركية بدون سكر / قهوة تركية / قهوة

3.

AT THE RESTAURANT

🎧 في المطعم

The check, please!

**See notes

100 welcomes

Of course/my pleasure/you got it

How many people?

Follow me please (to m.)

Follow me please (to f.)

Follow me please (to pl.)

I would like a table inside

I would like a table outside

يعطيك العافية

الله يعافيك

يا مية أهلا وسهلا

تكرم / تكرمي

كم شخص؟

تفضل معي

تفضلني معي

تفضلو معي

بدي طاولة جوا

بدي طاولة برا





I would like to try
 I want to order
 Please (to m.)
 Please (to f.)
 If possible

حاجة جرب
 بدي اطلب
 لو سمحت
 لو سمحتي
 إذا ممكن

Appetizers
 Main meal
 Drinks
 Desserts
 Soups
 Salads

مقبلات
 وجبة رئيسية
 مشروبات
 حلويات
 شوربات
 سلطات

The total / The bill
 The receipt

الحساب
 الفاتورة

SAMPLE DIALOGUE:

ليلي: يعطيك العافية.
موظف: الله يعافيك. يا مية أهلا وسهلا. كم شخص؟
ليلي: ٤ اشخاص. بدنا طاولة جوا إذا ممكن.
موظف: تكرمي. تفضلو معي.
ليلي: حابة اجر ب صحن مشاوي وحمص و متبل لو سمحت.
موظف: تكرمي.

— CULTURAL NOTE —

In Arab countries there is no tipping. Many restaurants pride themselves on their hospitality and food and will even give free tea or sweets to show that Arab hospitality.

When you enter a store, shop, or a food restaurant you can greet the employee or store owner with

يعطيك العافية to announce yourself and thank them for their service.

The phrase **يعطيك العافية** literally means “May you have good health”. It’s a common greeting when you enter many establishments in the Middle East. It is also something you say to appreciate someone’s hard work or effort. The response **الله يعافيك** returns the prayer and says “May God give you health”.

EXERCISES

1. Tell the restaurant host you want a table outside if possible.

2. What is the response to يعطيك العافية ?

3. In Arabic, how can you ask for the bill?

Answers:
1. طاولتي برأ إذا ممكن.
2. الله يعطيك العافية.
3. الحاسب لو ممكن.

4.

AT THE GROCERY STORE

في السوق

Fruits and veggies.



Beef meat

Lamb meat

Chicken

Fish

Shrimp

Yogurt

Cheese

Bread

لحمة عجل

لحمة غنم/خاروف

دجاج

سمك

قريدس

لبن

جبنة

خبز

Onion

Garlic

Potato

Pepper

Mushroom

Zucchini/squash

Eggplant

Carrot

Lettuce

Peas

Tomato

بصل

توم

بطاطا

فليفلة

فطر

كوسا

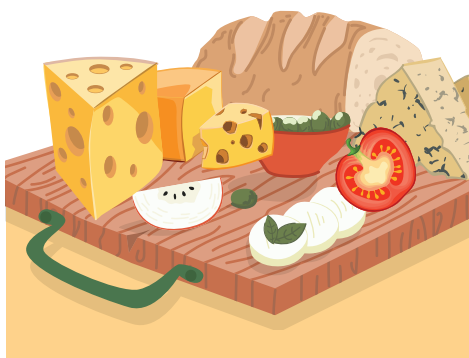
بتنجان

جزر

خس

بازاليا

بندورة



Apple	تفاح
Banana	موز
Watermelon	بطيخ
Pineapple	اناناس
Strawberry	فريز
Berry	توت
Mango	مانجا
Orange	بردقان
Pomegranate	رمان
Plum	خوخ
Peach/Nectarine	دراق

How much is the total price? كم الحساب كامل؟
How much did they come out to? أديش طلعو؟



SAMPLE DIALOGUE:

ماجد: عندك كوسا؟

الخطري: طبعاً. عندي كوسا حجم صغير
(The Grocer)

وكبير. كم بدك؟

ماجد: بدي كيليين كوسا من الحجم الصغير لو
سمحت.

الخطري: تكرم عينك.

ماجد: كم الحساب؟

الخطري: ٥ دولار.

ماجد: تفضل... يعطيك العافية.

الخطري: الله يعافيك.

In the Middle East it is common to buy fruits and vegetables from outdoor markets and stalls. Some vendors do not like you to pick your own vegetables and some allow it. You can ask if they have a certain item and then follow their lead if they start packing the item for you.

The vendor might ask how much you want of grocery food item. You can tell them you want a specific number of items or a weight. 1/2 kilogram is نص كيلو 1 kilogram is كيلو 2 kilograms is كيلو (+ 1) . Anything more than that is كيليين (kilogram = 2.2 pounds)

EXERCISES

Match the Arabic grocery item to the English meaning.

Apple	بطاطا
Yogurt	بنتجان
Bread	تفاح
Onion	موز
Eggplant	بطيخ
Watermelon	خبز
Pomegranate	سمك
Potato	لبن
Garlic	رمان
Fish	توم
Banana	بصل

Answers:
Apple - تفاح / Yogurt - لبن
Bread - خبز / Onion - بصل
Eggplant - بطيخ / Watermelon - بطا
Pomegranate - رمان / Potato - بطاطا
Garlic - سمك / Fish - توم / Banana -



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bushra Shukairy is a California Credentialed language teacher. She speaks English, Arabic, and French. She also studies Korean in her free time. Teacher Bushra believes language breaks barriers and is part of the human experience. Learning languages opens doors to rich culture and deep friendships.

Founder of Bayt Bushra and Bayt Bushra Teaches Arabic.