

Numbers, prices & time

Count to 1000, read a price tag, haggle at the market and say what time it is, the way people do in Beirut. Say every number out loud; numbers only stick when your mouth knows them.

NAME _____

DATE _____

A. NUMBERS 0 TO 10 _____ LEARN THESE COLD. EVERYTHING ELSE IS BUILT FROM THEM.

٠ صفر sefr 0	١ واحد wahad 1	٢ تنين tnein 2	٣ ثلاثة tlete 3	٤ أربعة arba'a 4	٥ خمسة khamse 5	٦ ستة sette 6	٧ سبعة sab'a 7	٨ ثمانية tmene 8	٩ تسعة tes'a 9	١٠ عشرة 'ashra 10
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B. 11 TO 19, TENS, HUNDREDS, THOUSANDS _____

11 TO 19 · ALL END IN -'SH (AND -'SHAR BEFORE A NOUN)

١١ حدعش hda'sh	١٢ طنعش tna'sh	١٣ تلطعش tletta'sh	١٤ أربعتعش arba'-ta'sh	١٥ خمسطةعش khamsta'sh	١٦ سطعش setta'sh	١٧ سبعطعش saba'-ta'sh	١٨ تمنطعش tmen-ta'sh	١٩ تسعتعش tesa'-ta'sh
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TENS · ALL END IN -IN

٢٠ عشرين 'eshrin	٣٠ ثلاثين tletin	٤٠ أربعين arb'in	٥٠ خمسين khamsin	٦٠ ستين settin	٧٠ سبعين sab'in	٨٠ ثمانين tmenin	٩٠ تسعين tes'in
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HUNDREDS · SHORT NUMBER + MIYYE

١٠٠ مئة miyye	٢٠٠ ميتين mitein	٣٠٠ ثلاث مئة tlet miyye	٤٠٠ أربع مئة arba' miyye	٥٠٠ خمس مئة kham miyye	٦٠٠ ست مئة sett miyye	٧٠٠ سبع مئة saba' miyye	٨٠٠ ثمان مئة tmen miyye	٩٠٠ تسع مئة tesa' miyye
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THOUSANDS

١٠٠٠ ألف alf	٢٠٠٠ ألفين alfein	٣٠٠٠ ثلاث آلاف tlet talaf	١٠٠٠٠ عشر آلاف 'ashar talaf
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PUTTING NUMBERS TOGETHER	RULE	EXAMPLES
Units come first	21 is "one and twenty": unit + w (and) + ten.	wahad w 'eshrin (21) · khamse w tletin (35) · tes'a w tes'in (99)
Then hundreds and thousands	Biggest part first, then the rest, each joined with w .	miyye w khamse (105) · mitein w arba'a w 'eshrin (224) · alfein w sette w 'eshrin (2026)
miyye before a noun	"a hundred dollars" is mit dolar, not miyye dolar. Only this word changes.	mit dolar (100 dollars) · mit sene (100 years) · mit alf (100,000)

Lebanese numbers: what to listen for

- The Beirut -e ending: **tlete**, **khamse**, **sette**, **tmene**. After ' the -a stays: **arba'a**, **sab'a**, **tes'a**, and also **'ashra**. Two is **tnein**, with no i- in front as in Egypt.
- No "th" sounds as in Standard Arabic: **tlete** not thalatha, **tmene** not thamaniya.
- Lebanon uses both kinds of digits. Menus and price tags mostly show 1, 2, 3; banknotes, some signs and older shops show • ١ ٢ ٣ ٤ ٥ ٦ ٧ ٨ ٩, written **left to right** like ours: ٢٥ is 25. Watch out: ٦ is 6, • is a dot, ٥ a small circle.

C. THE COUNTING RULE THE ONE GRAMMAR POINT EVERYONE GETS WRONG

The noun after a number changes its form. Four cases, and you need all four at the market.

NUMBER	WHAT HAPPENS	EXAMPLES
1	Singular noun, then wahad (f: wahde) after it.	واحد ktab wahad · ساعة وحدة sa'a wahde
2	No "tnein". Add the dual ending - ein to the noun.	كتابين ktabein · يومين yomein · ساعتين sa'tein
3 to 10	Short number + plural . Short forms: tlet, arba', khams, sett, saba', tmen, tesa', 'ashar. Before a plural that starts with a vowel, a t slides in.	خمس تيام · خمس ساعات 'ashar sa'at · تلت كتب tlet kotob · khamst iyyem (5 days)
11 and up	Full number + singular again. 11 to 19 get -ar back before the noun.	مئة · عشرون يوم 'eshrin yom · حدهش كتاب hda'shar ktab · ساعة mit sa'a
Ordering & money	Drinks, food and dollars often keep the full number + singular, even for 3 to 10.	تلاتة شاي tlete shay · تنين قهوة tnein 'ahwe (two coffees) · خمسة دولار khamse dolar

Ex. 1 How many? Apply the counting rule

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Write the Arabic in Latin letters. Think first: singular, dual, plural, or ordering?

- 1 3 books _____ 2 2 days _____ 3 12 hours _____
 4 1 hour _____ 5 5 days _____ 6 2 coffees (order) _____

D. PRICES & MONEY

ENGLISH	ARABIC	PRONUNCIATION
How much is this?	قَدِّيش هيدا؟	'addesh hayda? (f thing) 'addesh hayde?
How much is a kilo?	قَدِّيش الكيلو؟	'addesh el-kilo?
Dollar · Lebanese pound	دولار · ليرة	dolar · lira two dollars: dolarein
Half · a quarter	نص · ربع	noss · reb' noss kilo = half a kilo
Too expensive!	غالي كثير!	ghali ktir!
Cheap	رخيص	rkhis
Is there a discount?	في حسم؟	fi hasm?
Final price?	آخر كلمة؟	akher kelme?
Make it ... (lower the price)	خليها ب...	khalliha b ...
I only have ...	معي ... بس	ma'i ... bass
The change	الباقى	el-ba'i
I'd like a kilo of tomatoes	بدي كيلو بندورة	baddi kilo banadoura same for (m) and (f)

Prices the way you will hear them

- b** means "for": **el-kilo b-tlete** (the kilo is three), **el-wahde b-dolarein** (two dollars each). The currency is often dropped when it is clear.
- You will hear prices in dollars and in Lebanese pounds. Lira prices are usually in thousands: **khamsin alf** (50,000), **mit alf** (100,000), **miyye w khamsin alf** (150,000).

AT THE VEGETABLE STALL

READ IT TWICE, ONCE AS EACH SPEAKER

Nour صباح الخير. قَدِّيش كيلو البندورة؟ **sabah el-kheir. 'addesh kilo el-banadoura?**
 Good morning. How much is a kilo of tomatoes?

Seller	صباح النور. الكيلو بتلاتة دولار.	sabah en-nur. el-kilo b-tlete dolar. Good morning. Three dollars a kilo.
Nour	تلاتة؟ غالي كتير!	tlete? ghali ktir! Three? That's too expensive!
Seller	هيدي بندورة بلدية يا مدام.	hayde banadoura baladiyye ya madame. These are local tomatoes, madam.
Nour	خليها بتنين وباخذ كيلوين.	khalliha b-tnein w bekhod kilwein. Make it two and I'll take two kilos.
Seller	تكرمي، كرمال خاطرک. أربعة دولار.	tekrame, kermel khatrik. arba'a dolar. Fine, just for you. Four dollars.
Nour	تفضل خمسة.	tfaddal khamse. Here's five.
Seller	وهيدا الباقي، دولار. يسلمو!	w hayda el-ba'i, dolar. yeslamo! And here's your change, one dollar. Thanks!

E. TIME & DAYS

MINUTES PAST WITH W, MINUTES TO WITH ILLA

قديش الساعة؟ 'addesh es-sa'a? what time is it?	الساعة تلاتة es-sa'a tlete 3:00	الساعة وحدة es-sa'a wahde 1:00 (feminine!)	تلاتة وخمسة tlete w khamse 3:05	تلاتة وعشرة tlete w 'ashra 3:10
تلاتة وربع tlete w reb' 3:15 (quarter)	تلاتة وتلت tlete w telt 3:20 (third)	تلاتة ونص tlete w noss 3:30 (half)	أربعة إلا تلت arba'a illa telt 3:40 (four minus a third)	أربعة إلا ربع arba'a illa reb' 3:45
الصبح es-sebeh in the morning	الظهر ed-dohr at noon	بعد الظهر ba'd ed-dohr in the afternoon	بالليل bel-leil at night	هلق halla' now

DAYS AND TIME WORDS · THE WEEKEND IS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

الاثنين et-tanein Monday	الثلاثاء et-talata Tuesday	الأربعاء el-arb'a Wednesday	الخميس el-khamis Thursday	الجمعة ej-jem'a Friday
السبت es-sabt Saturday	الأحد el-ahad Sunday	مبارح mbereh yesterday	اليوم el-yom today	بكرأ bokra tomorrow

Ex. 2 Three ways to write a number

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Fill in the two missing forms in each row: our digits, Arabic-Indic digits, and the word.

DIGITS	ARABIC	WORD	DIGITS	ARABIC	WORD
1 7		٧	2		١٥
3		٢٣	4 40		
5		٩٨	6 100		
7		mitein w khamsin	8 2026		

Ex. 3 Read the price tags

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Six tags from a Beirut street. Write what the item is in English and say the price in Arabic, then write it in words. \$ is dolar, .ل.ل is lira.

منقوشة \$ ٣ PRICE IN WORDS	ENGLISH	قهوة \$ ٢ PRICE IN WORDS	ENGLISH	شاورما \$ ٦ PRICE IN WORDS	ENGLISH
تبولة \$ ١٢ PRICE IN WORDS	ENGLISH	عصير \$ ٥ PRICE IN WORDS	ENGLISH	مي ٥٠ ألف ل.ل. PRICE IN WORDS	ENGLISH

Ex. 4 What time is it?

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Write the time in Lebanese Arabic under each clock. Start every answer with **es-sa'a**.



Ex. 5 Hagggle! A role-play for two

PAIR WORK

One of you is the seller, one the buyer. Only Arabic numbers allowed. Buy everything on the list without going over budget, then swap roles and play it again. The seller keeps the last column secret.

Seller card · البائع				Buyer card · الزبون	
Start at the asking price. Never go below your minimum. Useful lines: hayde baladiyye! · akher kelme ... · kermel khatrak ...				Your budget: 15 dolar . Ask the price of each item, complain, make an offer, agree, pay and check your change.	
ITEM	UNIT	ASKING	MINIMUM (SECRET)	SHOPPING LIST	PRICE AGREED
تفاح teffeh	kilo	4 dolar	3	2 kilos of apples (kilwein teffeh)	_____
بندورة banadoura	kilo	3 dolar	2	1 kilo of tomatoes (kilo banadoura)	_____
عنب 'enab	kilo	6 dolar	4	1 kilo of grapes (kilo 'enab)	_____
بطاطا batata	kilo	2 dolar	1	1 kilo of potatoes (kilo batata)	_____
				Total (must be 15 or less)	_____

Ex. 6 Maths out loud

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Solve each sum, write the answer in Arabic-Indic digits, then say the whole sum in Arabic: **zayed** (+), **na'es** (-), **darb** (×), **byesawi** (=). Example: tlete zayed arba'a byesawi sab'a.

$٣ + ٤ =$ _____	$١٠ - ٢ =$ _____	$٥ \times ٣ =$ _____
$٢٠ + ٣٠ =$ _____	$١٠٠ - ٢٥ =$ _____	$١٢ + ٩ =$ _____

Done? Speaking check

- ☐ I counted from 0 to 20 and in tens to 100 out loud, without looking.
- ☐ I read the vegetable-stall dialogue as both speakers.
- ☐ I haggled once as the buyer and once as the seller, in Arabic numbers only.

Answer key

For teachers and self-learners. Remove this page before handing the sheet out in class.

Ex. 1 1 tlet kotob · 2 yomein · 3 tna'shar sa'a · 4 sa'a wahde · 5 khamst iyyem · 6 tnein 'ahwe

Ex. 2 1 sab'a · 2 15, khamsta'sh · 3 23, tlete w 'eshrin · 4 ٤٠, arb'in · 5 98, tmene w tes'in · 6 ١٠٠, miyye · 7 250, ٢٥٠ · 8 ٢٠٢٦, alfein w sette w 'eshrin

Ex. 3 man'ushe (thyme flatbread), tlete dolar · coffee, dolarein · shawarma, sette dolar · tabbouleh, tna'shar dolar · juice, khamse dolar · water, khamsin alf lira

Ex. 4 1 es-sa'a tlete · 2 es-sa'a sab'a w noss · 3 es-sa'a 'ashra w reb' · 4 es-sa'a khamse illa reb' · 5 es-sa'a wahde · 6 es-sa'a tes'a w telt

Ex. 5 Open. The seller may not go below the minimum column (3 · 2 · 4 · 1). At minimum prices the list costs 13 dolar, at asking prices 19, so the buyer has to haggle to stay at 15 or under.

Ex. 6 ٧ tlete zayed arba'a byesawi sab'a · ٨ 'ashra na'es tnein byesawi tmene · ١٥ khamse darb tlete byesawi khamsta'sh · ٥٠ 'eshrin zayed tletin byesawi khamsin · ٧٥ miyye na'es khamse w 'eshrin byesawi khamse w sab'in · ٢١ tna'sh zayed tes'a byesawi wahad w 'eshrin

TEACHER'S NOTES

- Timing: 45 to 60 minutes for the full sheet. Short version: section A, the counting rule and the haggling role-play (30 minutes).
- Section C is the grammar point of this sheet. Drill it with real objects in the room: one pen, two pens, three pens, eleven pens ('alam wahad, 'alamein, tlet 'lem, hda'shar 'alam). Point out the -ar that comes back on 11 to 19 before a noun.
- Lebanese students and heritage speakers may write Western digits; both are correct in Lebanon. Make sure everyone can at least read the Arabic-Indic digits.
- Ex. 5 is the centrepiece. Insist on Arabic numbers only and let the pairs run it twice so both roles are played. The minimum column is secret; the buyer who finishes within budget wins.
- Money in daily speech is flexible: khamse dolar and khams dolarat are both heard; the first is more common at the market. Prices in lira come in thousands (khamsin alf), a good chance to practise big numbers.

NEXT WORKSHEET

Worksheet 3: Pronouns, questions & "I have". I and you, my and your, 'andi and ma 'andi, and the seven question words, with a partner interview. Free at yallahspeak.com/worksheets/lebanese-arabic.

To practise prices and times with an AI shopkeeper who answers in Lebanese Arabic and corrects your numbers word by word, try the Yallah Speak app (free to start, iOS and Android).