ARABIC INTENSIVE

INTRODUCTION TO NAHW 101

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Nahw is the science which teaches us how to join two words correctly using the right i'raab (harakah). The basic objective of nahw is to understand which harakah should be on the last letter of each word, and to understand how to form words into sentences.

- There are 3 types of words in the Arabic language:
    1. اسم - Noun, adjective (everything that is not a verb)
    2. فعل - Verb
    3. حرف - Harf (prepositions)
- Nahw focuses on the ism (noun).
- In arabic, every ism has 4 characteristics:
    1. اعراب - Refers to the fatha, dhumma, and kasrah
    2. عَدَد - Number/quantity
    3. مَعرِفَ/ نَكِرَ - Proper/common
    4. جِنس - Gender

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Gender
- Masculine (مُذَكَر) or Feminine (مُؤَنث)
- Feminine nouns include:
  - Words that end with a ة
    - This is the **main** sign of a feminine noun.

The car is new.	السَيارةُ جَدِيدةٌ
The garden is big.	الحَديقَةُ كَبِيرَةٌ
The window is clean.	النافِذةُ نَظِيفةٌ

  - Body parts that come in pairs
    - Examples:
      - The ears - الأُذُن
      - The eyes - العُيون
  - Nouns that are biological feminine.
  - They don't need a ة because they are representing female characters.

The **mother** is smart.	**الامُ** ذَكِيَّةٌ
The **sister** is kind.	**الأُختُ** لَطِيفَةٌ
The **daughter** is respectful.	**البِنتُ** مُحْتَرِمَةٌ

  - Names of places and countries

America is beautiful.	**أمرِيكا** جَمِيلةٌ
Africa is a great country.	**افرِيقا** هِيَ بَلَدٌ عَظِيمةٌ

- Some words are feminine because that is how the Arabs chose to use them based on how the Quran uses them.
  - Example: The sun (الشَمسُ) is a feminine word.
  - This is rare.
- A word ending with ى or اء
  - Examples: بُشرى، اسماء ، سَوداء، حَمراء، السَماء ،
- A feminine noun does not mean it is referring to a female.
- There are no specific signs for a masculine noun. If there are no signs of a feminine noun, then it is masculine.
- The gender of a noun is unchangeable.
- The gender of an adjective or a descriptor must be changed to match the gender of the noun.

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