

# LEBANESE ARABIC

Manual

by

Roman Bushuiev

اللهجة اللبنانية

رومان بوشويف

Odesa, Ukraine  
2025

## **License**

Please read both the short & the detailed description of the license.

Lebanese Arabic Manual © 2025 by Roman Bushuiev is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 4.0. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>

Lebanese Arabic Manual © 2025 by Roman Bushuiev is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International. To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>

## Contents

Acknowledgments	4
Introduction	5
Important disclaimer	7
Sources	8
General information about Lebanese Arabic	9
The general-to-specific formula	11
Skipped prepositions & conjunctions	16
Present tense	18
The particle عم	26
ح or ح for the future tense	31
Passive voice using the prefix ان	35
The uses of بد	38
The non-ba'a verbs	45
Present participles	53
The verb كان	62
Negative imperative	70
Form II verbs	73
The multi-functional conjunction و	77
Verbs	80
عمل	81
شاف	83
جاب	85
رجع	87
خلي	91
إجا	94
طلع	96
صار	98

ضل	103
حب	106
The preposition في	108
شو used as <i>what &amp; how</i>	114
The word حال	118
<i>One, someone</i>	120
The word شي	123
<i>In order to</i>	127
<i>For the sake of or for or so that</i>	130
The word بقى that means <i>come on or but (for emphasis), and no more</i>	132
بعد which means <i>still</i>	134
Another way to say <i>am not, is not and are not</i>	137
Several — كرا and كم	140
The preposition ل that is written as one word with a verb or a present participle	142
The state someone or something is in using ان	145
The letter ل for emphasis	147
The word قد that conveys the degree or size	149
The word كثير	153
The word غير	155
The preposition عند / ما عند	157
Well — ما	161
Expressions	163
Tense harmony	169
That's it for now	174

## Acknowledgments

I would like to thank my Lebanese Arabic native speaker friends who helped and are still helping me understand and go deeper into this beautiful dialect.

My special thanks go to my Invisible Friend who requested not to mention his name and with whom I used to chat in and about Lebanese Arabic for a few years. I got lots of useful information & vocab and had an excellent chance to improve my speaking skills. Actually, that's the person who helped me start **speaking** this beautiful dialect. That was invaluable!

Rami Hajjar (رامي الحجّار), whenever I can't understand a word in a movie or come across an interesting line but am not sure about using it, I know the right guy to reach out to :) Rami is always there to offer clear explanations with multiple examples. The posts I've shared on Instagram and X, where I thanked Rami for his assistance, are but a tiny fraction of the information that I got from him. That is incredibly helpful, Rami!

Elsy Nassif's (إلسي ناصيف) and Mohammed Al-Sakhal's (محمد السكحل) responses are always fast, concise and to the point :)

Thank you very much, my friends!

Hi there.

Thank you for your interest in Lebanese Arabic and for downloading this e-book.

First off, it assumes some level of skill either in Modern Standard Arabic or another dialect. I hope that one day I will convert it into a comprehensive manual for beginners.

Most importantly, the book is not a magic pill and, therefore, there's no way it can transform you into a native speaker, even if you thoroughly and conscientiously do all the exercises. All it can do is help you make the first step or feel the taste of Lebanese Arabic and **start** using it.

There is nothing supernatural about the book. I just got a collection of sentences, that I see interesting and/or useful, split them up subject-wise and translated them into English, so that you can reverse-translate them back into Lebanese Arabic and then check your version by comparing it with the original one.

This method works perfectly for me. If you keep translating those sentences over and over, you'll finally learn them by heart and be able to use them like math formulas, i.e. by substituting the words with the ones you need in certain scenarios.

The disadvantage of this method is that you don't know the context. Yes, that will make some sentences difficult to understand and translate. Sadly, there is nothing I can do about it because I was looking for real-life type of sentences that help understand the grammar of Lebanese Arabic. To give you the context, I would have had either to write down long dialogues or add long explanations to every single sentence. However, you can solve this problem by watching the shows from my list of sources :) Think of it as my recommendation to you :)

There will be no long explanations, instead, in every chapter I will give you the key that will help you do the translation.

Some sentences are going to show up more than once, in different chapters. That is because finding a sentence that falls under one chapter only is quite difficult. There is an advantage to that aspect though, for translating the same line multiple times will sure help you memorize it faster and see the interaction patterns between various rules.

As I promised, no long paragraphs. Let's get started.

Good luck!

Regards,

Roman

P.S. If you have any questions, requests or remarks, feel free to DM me on Instagram, X, TikTok or Blogspot. They're clickable :) My username is @romanbouchouiev. By the way, you can use my posts on Instagram as micro-drills.

## **Important disclaimer**

1. All the rights to the sentences written in Arabic belong to respective copyright holders. Please find the list of sources herein.
2. I did my best to accurately write down the sentences in Arabic but I am a human being and I can make mistakes. Please keep that in mind. I hereby waive any liability for all and any consequences of using the Arabic sentences, their translation or any other information from this e-book.
3. I am not the author of the sentences that I used for exercises, and I do not always share the views of people who authored them. The reason I'm saying that is because some sentences are about things like healthcare and psychology. I've used them here for vocabulary purposes only. None of the sentences used herein shall be regarded as my recommendation or urging to do something. It is only the language aspect that we're dealing with.
4. This manual is a work in progress, for some details require more thorough research and verification, and, even though I have proofread it, there might be some mistakes left. Why am I sharing it online then? The answer is because polishing will take a lot of time, meanwhile I would like to share the ideas that I have **now**. I need to make the first step. We can agree that this is a blogging type of book.
5. I've put the diacritics but I do understand that audio records would be a much better tool. Presently, I don't have a solution. I'll probably record myself saying the sentences and upload them to YouTube.
6. Since I corrected some mistakes while translating this e-book from Ukrainian, we can agree that this is the second edition.



## Sources

This e-book is based on sentences that I got from the following sources. In the exercises I am going to use the short version that you see between parentheses:

### TV series:

- عشق النساء (ع ن)

- ولاد البلد (و ب)

- فادي وراضي (ف ر)

- حياة سكول (ح س)

- وين كنتي (و ك)

- آخر خبر (آ خ)

- أبطال وحرامية (أ ح)

- حلوة وكزابة (ح ك)

### TV shows:

- ما في متلو (م م)

- يا ليل يا عين (ل ع)

Go Green -

private conversations with my Lebanese friends (marked by the letter ص for صديق).

## General information about Lebanese Arabic

Here, I will briefly describe some features of this dialect.

1. The first thing that caught my attention was the pronoun كُنْ used for both genders. Example: *your houses* - بُيُوتُكُنْ.
2. The masculine pronoun ه becomes و and is pronounced [y]. Example: *with him* - مَعُو. In combination with the preposition بِ, it's pronounced بُو, whereas after ي or kasrah you can barely hear it: *Did you [to a lady] see him?* - شِفْتِيهِ؟ You know it's there if the long vowel, that comes before it, is stressed, like in the example above. Try to feel the difference: [SHIF-ti] - you (lady) saw VS [shif-teeh] - you (lady) saw him.
3. The feminine pronoun ها transforms into ا. Example: *her house* - بَيْتَا. The exception is when there is an ا or و that are used as vowels. Example: *they found her* - لاقوها.
4. Whenever you're not sure what vowel to use, use kasrah :) Well, it's not that easy, but in many situation that lifehack can help. Example: *you do* - بَتَعْمَلْ. Quite often ا and ة are pronounced like é or è in French. Example: *for the sake of, in order to* - كِرْمَال [kirmèl]; *man, guy* - زَلْمَة [zalamé].
5. If the pronoun ك is masculine, a fatha comes before it, if it's feminine a kasrah will be there. Example: *your farm* (to a male) - مَرَرَعَتَكَ, *your school* (to a female) - مَدْرَسَتِكَ. If there is a long vowel before it, then the masculine pronoun will have a sukoon over it, whereas the feminine ك will have a ي added to it. Example: *they found you: to a male* - لاقوكْ, *to a female* - لاقوكي.
6. The letter ق is almost always pronounced like hamzah. I know only four words where ق is pronounced the MSA way, here they are قُدُوة, إِقَامَة, إِرْهَاق, تَقَاعُد. In this manual I am going to use ق so that the words remain recognizable.
7. The letter ذ becomes ز or د. Examples: *memories* - زَكْرِيَات, *you take* - بتاخذ.
8. The letter ث becomes س or ت. Example: *thirty seconds* - ثلاثين سانية.

9. The letters ظ and ض often transform into one another. Example: *he went out [often on a date]* — ظهر from ظهر; *correct* — مضبوط from ضبط. As you can see, ظ is pronounced as ز but in that case the emphatic pronunciation applies to the respective syllable which is [maz] in this example.

10. I will be writing *إلي* (which/that) this way, because this version is often used in the Internet. It's pronounced إيلي.

11. The letter ج is pronounced like j in French and is regarded as *solar*. Example: Friday — يوم الجمعة

12. The conjunction و is often pronounced as u in *put*. Let's agree that if you don't see the *harakah* over و, pronounce it as u in *put*, however, if there is a *harakah* say [w + the *harakah*].

13. Verbs like دَقَّ are conjugated this way: دَقَّيْتُ، دَقَّيْتُمْ، دَقَّ

Let's stop here for now. We'll take a look at some other features in the chapters.

Scroll down.

We'll be moving the general-to-specific way in this manual. And that, by the way is our first chapter - **The general-to-specific formula**

One of my favorite parts about Lebanese Arabic.

Quite often native speakers say the key word first, and the remaining part of the sentence is used to describe the word, in a way. Sounds complicated... I know... I'll give you an example from the Fadi & Radhi show where, in the first episode, Vivo is talking to her boyfriend, the famous singer Fadi, over the phone and says:

وَيُوْ زِيَاد؟! عَطِينِي يَا ه!

Literally, that means "Where is he Ziad?! Give him to me (Give him the phone)!". I mean, it's not just "Where's Ziad?!", there's also the pronoun و, which in this case is that very **key** word, whereas the name, Ziad, is its 'description'.

I believe that structure was created to make life easier :) For instance, you want to ask about someone but you suddenly realize that you forgot his or her name. That is when you say وَيُوْ or وَيَا , **Where is he** or **she?**, then you think for a second or two, remember the person's name and add it to complete the question.

That was an easy sentence. There are more complicated ones in the exercise below. It's time to check them out.

1. I really don't understand what has that girl, Sawsan, got?..
2. Hey, sonny, could you please go and check if Ramona is up by now. (This sentence has got lots of features to it. Let me warn you that the Arabic version looks nothing like the English one. First of all, the mother uses the word **mom** to address her son. That's the custom. If that request came from the kid's dad or uncle, they would have used the word **dad** or **uncle**, respectively :) )
3. Lodi, please go check if the doctor needs a hand.
4. - My friend is coming over [to my place] soon.  
- Which one of your friends?
5. What happened to your friend and threw her off the track?

6. What happened to your mom?
7. How could you leave Nana alone?
8. Is there any reason behind you being so quiet?
9. Your "I'm sorry" and "I apologize" are not going to make it up for me. (Literally — *I'm not gonna get any refunds from your "I'm sorry" and "I apologize".*)
10. Why are you all looking at me that way?
11. Why do you look so off? Did you two have a fight again?
12. They already love Lara.
13. Why are you acting that way?
14. What does that smile on your face mean?
15. Isn't it too early to travel there?
16. I didn't let Nay come [here].
17. What happened between you and Nadeem?
18. Don't create problems between you and your wife.
19. I really like that apartment. I have nice memories about it.
20. Moreover, why would I need that vacation? To stay at home and get bored alone?
21. You know how that is gonna affect him, right?
22. Why are you all silent like that?
23. Why are you upset? (to a lady)
24. OK. Did anything happen to the boss? (BTW, the word madame is used here for **boss**, in certain scenarios it also means **wife** or **miss**.)
25. Don't worry about the kids, they're gonna come to my place and stay here for a while.
26. Did anything happen to one of your kids?

27. OK. I'm waiting for you and the kids.

28. What's wrong with this elevator? It keeps lagging.

29. OK, Jihane, what is it? Why did you bring me here?

30. Is it true that sometimes lying is inevitable?

31. Because people like Gina find it very difficult to trust someone.

32. What a 'beautiful' picture you're sharing about our family...

33. A young lady like you may want to have a child.

Now check your versions.

1. أنا اللي مَحِيرْنِي شُو اللي عِنْدَا سَوَسَن؟ (آخ)
2. لِيك، ماما، تُقْبِرْنِي، شُو فلي رامونا إِذَا وَعَيْت. (أح)
3. لودي، شوفي الدُّكتور إِذَا بِدُو مُسَاعَدَة (ع ن)
4. - جَايَة صَاحِبَتِي لَعْنَدِي
- صَاحِبَتِكَ أَيَّاهَا؟ (أح)
5. شُو قُصَّتَا صَاحِبَتِكَ مِشْ عَلَى بَعْضَا؟ (أح)
6. شُو بَهَا الْوَالِدَة؟ (أح)
7. كَيْفْ تَرَكْتِيَا لَنَانَا؟ (ع ن)
8. سَكُوتْكَ فِي وَرَاه شِي؟ (ع ن)
9. "سُورِي" وَ"بَعْتِرْز" أَنَا مَا عِنْدِي مِنْ عُوْضَة. (ع ن)
10. شُو بِكُنْ عَمَّ نِتَطْلَعُو فِينِي هِيك؟ (ع ن)
11. شُو بِكِي مِشْ عَ بَعْضِكَ؟ مِتَخَانَقِينْ شِي؟ (ع ن)
12. صَارُوا يُجْبُوها لِلَارَا. (ع ن)
13. شُو بِكِي عَامِلَة هِيك؟ (ع ن)
14. شُو مَعْنَاتَا هَالَا بِتْسَامَة اللِّي عَ وَجِّكَ؟ (ع ن)
15. مِشْ بِكِيرُ السَّفَر؟ (ع ن)
16. مَا خَلَيْتَا لَنَائِي تَجِي. (ع ن)
17. شُو بِكِي إِنِّي وَنَدِيم؟ (ع ن)
18. مَا تَعْمَلْ مَشْكَلْ إِنْتِ وَمَرَتْكَ. (ع ن)

19. بُجِبَا كَثِيرٌ هَيْدِي الشَّقَّةَ. عِنْدِي زِكَايَاتٌ حَلْوَةٌ فِيَا. (ع ن)

20. بَعْدَيْنِ شُو بَدِّي فِيَا الْفُرْصَةَ؟ بَقْعُدْ بِالْبَيْتِ، يَزْهَقْ لَوْحْدِي... (ع ن)

21. إِنِّي بَتَعْرِفِي هَالْمَوْضُوعَ شُو رَحْ يَأْسِرْ عَلَيْهِ؟ (ع ن)

22. شُو بَكْنِ سَاكْتَيْنِ هَيْكْ؟ (ع ن)

23. شُو بِيكِي زَعْلَانَةٌ؟ (ع ن)

24. خَيْرْ، بِهَا شَيْي الْمَدَامْ؟ (ع ن)

25. مَا تَعْطِيِ الْهَمَّ الْوَلَادْ. يَجُوْ يَتَقَعْدُوا عِنْدِي. (ع ن)

26. حَدَا مِنْ الْوَلَادْ بُو شَيْي؟ (ع ن)

27. يَلَا تَعَالْ، نَاطَرْتَكِ إِنْتِ وَالْوَلَادْ. (ع ن)

28. شُو بُو هَيْدَا الْأَسْنُسُورْ؟ يِيضَلُوْ مَعْلَقْ. (ع ن)

29. خَيْرْ، جِيَانْ، شُو فِي؟ شُو بِيكِي طَلَعْتِيْنِي لُحُونْ؟ (ع ن)

30. هَلْ مَرْبُوطْ إِنْو الْكَزْبْ أَوْقَاتْ مَا فِي مَهْرَبْ مِنْو؟ (ع ن)

31. لِأَنُّوْ إِنْسَانْ مِتْلْ جِينَا كَثِيرْ صَعْبْ يُوسَقْ بِهَالسَّرْعَةِ. (و ك)

32. حَلْوَةٌ كَثِيرْ الصُّورَةِ اللَّيْ عَمْ تَعْطِيَا عَنْ عَائِلَتِنَا. (و ك)

33. مَرَّةً صَغِيرَةً بَعْمَرَكْ حَقًّا تَفَكَّرْ تُجِيبْ وَلَدَ. (و ك)



## Skipped prepositions & conjunctions

We, non-natives, might be thinking that a preposition or a conjunction has been skipped in a sentence, until we get used to it.

Example:

عِنْدِي مِشْكَلَةٌ بِشَرِّ السَّبَبِ. (ع ن)

If I, a non-native, had to build a sentence like that from scratch, I would have said something like

عِنْدِي مِشْكَلَةٌ مَعَ شَرِّ السَّبَبِ.

The reality is that the first sentence, that I heard from a native Lebanese Arabic speaker, sounds totally natural.

This subject's got a lot in common with the general-to-specific formula.

1. Why are you shouting?

2. Why is your friend so off-the-track?

3. - Did you go to Germany as a tourist?

- No, to work.

4. Since it was your mom who made them, they must taste good. Oh, they're supernaturally good!

5. Oh... So, that's why you're a permanent resident here?

6. ..., but I still don't have enough courage to make the decision.

7. Because he knows you're dumb (to a lady).

8. I know, it's too early to talk about that.

9. Why are you in a rush?

10. There are thief-souled people out there. They become thieves right after they're born.

11. Is 500 dollars a month a sufficient amount for you?

1. شُو فِي عَمِّ اتَّعِيطُ؟ (م م)
2. شُو قُصْتَا صَاحِبَتِكَ مِشْ عَلَى بَعْضَا؟ (أ ح)
3. - رِحْتُ عَ أَلْمَانِيَا سِيَاحَةً، إِيَّاهُ؟  
- لَا، شِغْلُ. (أ ح)
4. إِذَا شِغْلُ الْوَالِدَةِ أَكِيدُ طَيِّبِينَ. مِشْ طَبِيعِي شُو طَيِّبِينَ! (أ ح)
5. آه، مِنْ شَانِ هَيْكَ حَضْرَتِكَ إِقَامَةٌ دَائِمَةٌ هُونْ؟ (أ ح)
6. بَسْ مَا عِنْدِي الْجِرَّةُ آخَذَ الْقَرَارَ بَعْدَ. (ص)
7. لِأَنُّ بِيَعْرِفُكَ حُمَارَةً. (ع ن)
8. بَعْرِفْ بِكَيِّرْ هَالْحَكِيِّ. (ع ن)
9. لِيَهْ الْاسْتِعْجَالُ؟ (ع ن)
10. فِي نَاسٍ نَفْسِيَّاتُنْ سَرَاقَةً، مِنْ بَطْنِ إِمُو حَرَامِي. (أ ح)
11. خَمْسُ مِئَةِ دُولَارٍ بِالشَّهْرِ بِيَكْفُوكْ مَصْرُوفْ؟ (ع ن)

## Present tense

Verbs in present tense have the prefix ب that often comes with a *kasrah* or *sukoon*. We'll use Ragheb Alameh's and Elissa's song as an example — بَتَغِيبُ بِتْرُوحَ. That was quite straightforward. Let's move on.

First, let me remind you what their conjugation pattern looks like:

أَنَا بِرُوحَ	نَحْنُ مِرُوحَ
أَنْتِ بِتْرُوحَ، أَنْتِي بِتْرُوحِي	أَنْتُمْ بِتْرُوحُو
هُوَ يِرُوحُ، هِيَ بِتْرُوحُ	هِنَّ يِرُوحُو

However, just like in English, these verbs can convey future tense as well.

Example: I'm gonna call you back later. — بَرَجَعُ بِحَكِيكَ بَعْدِينَ.

In the exercise below, I'm going to split the sentences into two sections, so that you can sense the difference between the present and future tenses.

## Present tense

1. A woman can sense even the intangible things.
2. You shouldn't say *cheerful*. Use words like *happy* or say *It's good that I've learned that* instead.
3. I would like you to stop mentioning her name.
4. Because he knows you're dumb. (to a lady)
5. Adel cherishes you, Amal, but he cherishes Ghada in a special way.
6. - It's not your call.  
- Whose call is it then?
7. My kids speak English better than Arabic.

8. Dr. Ibrahim, I don't care about your private life since the time when the person that I do care about walked out of it.

9. Is that the way you do things?!

10. Maybe... However, the bitter yet amusing part about it is that we use other languages more than Arabic.

11. Honestly, I'm not 100% sure what he's talking about, and I don't wanna give you a wrong answer.

12. I swear, it was my first time and my last time.

13. These are two different subjects and I don't wanna mix them together.

14. I know it's too early to talk about that.

15. Yes, he is very talkative, but he is smart as well. There's no way I can work without him in the picture.

16. It has never happened that you weren't out, whenever I came to your place.  
(Version No. 2 - *Whenever I come to your place, you're not at home.*)

17. We can't travel back in time.

18. Is he a sole player or part of a network?

19. We say *kubbeya*. As for *kasa*, it's what you eat soup from.

20. We normally order our Ramadhan sweets from abroad.

21. Darling, there are two of us here and we cannot handle it. Do you think I can leave him alone?

22. I can play oud and guitar.

Now, scroll down and check.

1. المَرَّةُ بِتَحْسٍ حَتَّى بِالْمِشْمَلُوسِ. (ع ن)
2. مَا يَتَقُولُ فَرَحَانٌ، يَتَقُولُ مَبْسُوطٌ أَوْ مُنِيحٌ إِلَيَّ عَرَفْتُ. (ص)
3. بِفَضْلٍ إِذَا مَا يَتَلَفِظِي إِسْمَاعَ لِسَانِكَ. (ع ن)
4. لِأَنُو يَبْعِرِفُكَ حَمَارَةً. (ع ن)
5. عَادِلٌ يَبْعِرِزُّكَ كَثِيرٌ أَمَلٌ، بَسْ غَادَةٌ إِلَّا مَعَزَّةٌ خَاصَةٌ. (ع ن)
6. - هَيْدَا قَرَارٌ مَا يَبْرِجَعُ لِإِلَافِكَ.
- لَمَيْنٌ يَبْرِجَعُ؟ (ع ن)
7. وَلَادِي يَحْكُو الْإِنْكَلِيزِيَّةَ بِطَلَاقَةٍ أَكْثَرُ مِنَ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ. (ص)
8. دَكْتُورُ إِبْرَاهِيمَ، حَيَاتُكَ الْخَاصَّةُ مَا يَتَهَمِّنِي مِنْ بَعْدِ مَا صَارَتْ الْإِنْسَانَةُ إِلَيَّ يَتَهَمِّنِي بَرَّاتًا. (ع ن)
9. هَيْدَا عَمَلٌ يَبْنَعَمَلُ؟! (ح س)
10. مُمْكِنٌ، بَسْ الْمَضْحَكُ الْمُبْكِي إِنْهُ مُنْسْتَعْمَلُ اللُّغَاتِ الثَّانِيَةِ أَكْثَرُ مِنَ الْعَرَبِيَّةِ. (ص)
11. صِرَاحَةٌ أَنَا مَا بَعْرِفُ عَ الْأَكِيدِ شَوْ قَصْدُو بَسْ مَا بَدِّي قَلْكَ شَيْ غَلَطَ. (ص)
12. وَحَيَاتُكَ إِنْهُ هَيْدِي أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ بَعْمَلًا وَآخِرَ مَرَّةٍ. (أ ح)
13. هَدُولُ مَوْضُوعَيْنِ مَخْتَلِفَيْنِ وَأَنَا مَا مِخْلَطُ بَيْنَاتِنِ. (ع ن)
14. بَعْرِفُ بِكَبِيرِ هَالْحِكِيِّ. (ع ن)
15. صَحِيحٌ يَحْكِي كَثِيرٌ بَسْ شَاطِرٌ كَثِيرٌ. يَدُونُو مَا بَعْرِفُ أَعْمَلُ شَيْ. (ف ر)
16. وَلَا مَرَّةً يَحْيِي لَعْنَدِكَ إِلَّا مَا يَتَكُونِي ضَاهِرَةً. (ع ن)
17. بَسْ السَّاعَةُ مَا يَبْرِجَعُ لَوْرًا. (ع ن)
18. هُوَ يَبْشَتَغِلُ لِحَالُو وَلَا هِنَ شَبَكَةٍ؟ (ع ن)

19. مَنْقُولٌ كِبَّيَّةٌ، الْكَاسَةُ هِيَ الَّتِي يَتَشَرَّبُ فِيهَا شُورِبَةٌ. (ص)

20. بِالْعَادَةِ مَنْشَتَرِي حِلْوُ رَمَضَانَ مِنْ بَرٍّ. (ص)

21. حَيَاتِي، تَنْيَنَاتِنَا وَمَا مَنَلَحِقَ. يَتْرُكُو لَوَحْدُو؟ (ف ر)

22. بُدِّقَ عَلَى الْعُودِ وَالْجَيْتَارِ. (أ ح)

## Future tense

1. We'll talk [about it] in the evening.
2. If your presence makes her feel uneasy, I won't take you back, no matter what the consequences are.
3. Perhaps, we should postpone that until tomorrow? See you tomorrow.
4. I really want to see you today. I can come to your office if you want.
5. Moreover, why would I need a vacation? To stay at home alone and get bored?
6. They'll be ready in 15 minutes.
7. - I asked you to do a simple blood test. I'll collect the sample and send it under a different name.  
- No.  
- To a different hospital.
8. I'll go with you. It's gonna be fun.
9. It (i.e. the *surprise*) will no longer be fresh tomorrow.
10. When I meet up with him, I'll give him the books that I got for you. (The original version will look a little unexpected.)
11. That would mean it was supposed to happen to me.
12. If I don't put dots above and below the letters, feel free to assume that my name is no longer Azeez. You two, out!
13. I'm gonna [go] make you a cup of coffee (or tea) that will calm your nerves and help you focus a little. Probably, it will wake you up.
14. I'm gonna analyze that and let you know asap.
15. I'll do the job and then confess my guilt.
16. I'm gonna offer you some advice.

17. Hang up now, and I'll think what we can do.

18. - What about the university?

- Dr. Mejdi's gonna replace me.

19. Nisrine, are you sure I won't be an inconvenience to your husband?

20. I'll come pick you up at your office, and then we're gonna go have lunch together.

Please check.



1. عَشِيَّةٌ مِّنْحِي. (ع ن)

2. إِذَا وَجَدَكَ بِضَاقًا، مَا بَرَدَكَ لَوْ شِئَا مَا كَانَتْ النَّتَاجُ. (ع ن)

3. بَرَكِي نَاجِلًا لُّبَكَا. بُشُوفُكَ بُكَرَا. (ف ر)

4. كَتَبْتُ بِحَالِي شُوفَكَ الْيَوْمَ. بِحِي لَعْنَدُكَ عَ الْمَكْتَبِ إِذَا بِدَّكَ. (ف ر)

5. بَعْدَيْنِ شُوبَدِي فَيَا الْفُرْصَةَ؟ بَقْعُدْ بِالْبَيْتِ، بِزَهَقْ لَوَحْدِي. (ع ن)

6. بَدُنْ شَيْ رُبْعَ سَاعَةٍ وَيَكُونُوا جَاهِزِينَ. (ع ن)

7. - طَلَبْتُ فَحْصَ دَمٍ صَغِيرٍ. أَنَا بِسَحْبِكَ يَا وَبَعْتُوعَ الْمُخْتَبَرِ بِاسْمِ مُسْتَعَارٍ.

- لا.

- بِغَيْرِ مُسْتَشْفَى. (ع ن)

8. بُرُوحٌ مَعَكَ، بِتَسْلَى. (ح س)

9. بِتَبْطَلُ طَازَةً بُكَرَا. (ف ر)

10. وَلَمَّا شُوفُوا بَعْطِيهِ الْكُتُبِ الْيَا عِنْدِي يَا هُنْ إِلَك. (ص)

11. بِيَكُونُ نَصِيْبِي. (أ ح)

12. مَا بِيَكُونُ إِسْمِي عَزِيزًا مَا بِحُطِّ النُّقْطِ فَوْقَ الْحُرُوفِ وَتَحْتَ الْحُرُوفِ. شَرَّفَ إِنْتَ وَيَّاه. (أ ح)

13. حَ قَوْمِ أَعْمَلْكَ (حَاغَمَلْكَ) فَجَنَانُ قَهْوَةٍ (كَبَايَةِ/كَاسَةِ شَاي) بِتَرَوَّقْ أَعْصَابَكَ وَتَخْلِيكَ تَرَكَّزْ شَوِي، بِرُكِّي بِتَنْصَحْصَحْ. (ص)

14. رَحْ إِدْرِسَا أَنَا بُرْدَ عَلَيْكَ خَبْرَ هَالْيَوْمِينَ. (م م)

15. بُضْرُبْ ضَرْبَتِي وَتُوبْ. (ح س)

16. بِنَصَحَكَ نَصِيْحَةً. (ع ن)

17. سِكْرِي هَلَّقْ، بُشُوفْ شُوبَعْمَلْ. (ع ن)

18. - وَشَوْ رَحْ تَعْمَلْ بِالْجَامَعَةِ؟

- پروفیسور مجدی بیاخذ عینی. (ع ن)

19. مِتَّا کَدَہْ یَا نَسْرینْ اِنُو جُوزِکْ مَا یِتَضَاقِ مِی؟ (وک)

20. رَحْ اَقْطَعْ آخِذِکْ مَنَ الشَّغْلْ وَمِتَغَدِّ سَوَا. (وک)

## The particle عم

I guess, it is safe to say that عم conveys present continuous in Lebanese Arabic. And, just like present continuous, this particle adds new nuances to a verb. We'll take a look at them herein.

A long time ago I didn't know whether the verb after عم should come with or without the prefix ب. My consultant friend's response was a bit unexpected, he said that both versions work :) My guess is that it depends on pronunciation convenience, i.e. some verbs are easier to pronounce with ب others — without it.

I'll try to analyze this point too when writing the exercise. Practice is our best teacher :)

## With ب

1. See what games the fate is playing with us?
2. I can't hear you! Could you try standing in a different spot? (That's because the connection was weak.)
3. You're risking your life.
4. Aunt, are you sure about what you're saying to me?
5. I left you because I was weak. I'm coming back to you consciously.
6. I don't have time even for the university and hospital.
7. Why are you dancing around it? (That was said to a lady. In addition, please take into account that there's only one prefix ب which probably applies to both verbs.)
8. They're probably waiting to tell you about all the events at the same time. (The original version looks totally different.)
9. She doesn't give me a single chance to start this conversation!
10. I'm not doing any harm to anyone.

11. Nothing serious. I was told she ate something bad and got food poisoning.
12. I recall lots of things from the past.
13. My phone lags too.
14. I didn't mean his money. His money is the last thing that I care about.
15. Because you wanted to use us for your own benefit.

Please check.

1. شَايِفَة كَيْفِ الْقَدَرِ عَمَّ يَلْعَبُ فِينَا أَلْعَابُ؟ (ع ن)
2. مِشْ عَمَّ بِسْمَعْ! زَيْطُ وَقْتَتِكَ. (أ ح)
3. عَمَّ بِخَاطِرِ بَحْيَاتِكَ. (أ ح)
4. خَالَتِي، إِنْتِي أَكِيدَة مِنْ أَلِي عَمَّ يَتَّقُولِي لِي؟ (و ك)
5. تَرَكْتِكَ عَنْ ضَعْفٍ، وَهَلَّقَ عَمَّ يَرْجَعُكَ عَنْ قَنَاعَة. (ع ن)
6. مِشْ عَمَّ بَلَّحْتُ بَيْنَ الْمُسْتَشْفَى وَالْجَامَعَة. (ع ن)
7. لِيَهْ عَمَّ يَتَلَفِّي وَتُدَوِّرِي؟ (مَا تَوَازَعُونِي، نَسِيتُ وَبِنَ سَمْعَتَا...)
8. يَمَكِّنْ عَمَّ يَجْمَعُو كُلَّ الْأَحْدَاسِ لَحْتِي يَقُولُوكْ يَاهُنْ بَفَرْدَ مَرَّة. (ع ن)
9. مَا عَمَّ يَتَخَلِّبُنِي إِفْتَحْ لَا الْمَوْضُوعَ، نِهَائِيَا (لَا = لَهَا). (ع ن)
10. أَنَا مِشْ عَمَّ يَبْزِي حَدَا. (و ك)
11. مَا شَيْ مِهْم. عَمَّ يَقُولُوا إِنْهُ يَتَكُونُ أَكَلْتُ شَيْ وَتَسَمَّمْتُ. (و ك)
12. عَمَّ يَسْتَعِيدُ شَغَلَاتِ كَثِيرَة صَارَتْ. (و ك)
13. تَلْفُونِي عَمَّ يَلْقَى كَمَّا. (ص)
14. مِشْ عَمَّ بِحِكِّي عَنْ مَضْرِبَاتُو. آخِرْ هَمَّ عِنْدِي مَضْرِبَاتُو. (و ك)
15. لِأَنَّكَ كُنْتَ عَمَّ يَخْطِطُ لَتَسْتَفِيدَ وَتَسْتَغْلَنَّا. (و ك)

## Without ب

1. Do you hear [me]?!
2. Day after day you're getting more and more beautiful.
3. We're plowing like horses, and we cannot make it!
4. Are you trying to hurt my feelings?
5. Please do not hide anything away from us. Why are you silent? Say something. Is her shock temporary?
6. Are you sure you're not confused between love and affection?
7. I've heard your conversation by accident and I'm gonna let myself interfere.
8. Why are you looking at me like that?
9. Now you're making up excuses in order to walk out and leave me alone here.
10. Thank you for everything you're doing for Gina.
11. - Hey, since you're here, what is he doing there alone?  
- He's talking to Nisrine a little.
12. I was just trying to help.
13. Didn't you notice that you're interfering in my private life?
14. Sila, could you please call Youssef and say that Gina is crying a lot and won't be able to talk to him?
15. You know, I'm thinking, if I were still living at home, among all those disgusting things that were going on at my home, I would be feeling better than now, when I'm a stranger among them.

Time to check.

1. عَمَ تَسْمَعُ؟! (ص)
2. يومك عن يوم عم تتَحَلَّى (أغنية الله الله لفارس كرم)
3. عَمَ نَفْلَحْ مِثْلِ التَّرَاكُتَاتِ وَمَا عَم نَلْحَقْ! (ف ر)
4. عَمَ تُقْصِدُ تَخْرِجَنِي؟ (ع ن)
5. پَلِيزْ مَا تُنْجِي عَلَيْنَا شَيْءَ. قَلِّ شُو عَنَدَا. لِيَهْ هِيَكْ مَا عَم تَحْكِي؟ طَمَنِّي. الصَّدْمَةُ اللَّيْ عَنَدَا صَدْمَةُ مُوقَّتَةٍ؟ (آ خ)
6. إِنْتِي مِتَّا كِدَةُ أَنْكْ مَا عَم تَخْلَطِي بَيْنَ الْعَطْفِ وَالْحُبِّ؟ (ع ن)
7. سَمِعْتُ بِالْغَلَطِ شُو عَم تَحْكُو وَرَحْ أَسْمَحْ لِحَالِي أَتَدْخَلْ. (ع ن)
8. شُو بِكُنْ عَم تَتَطَلَّعُو فِيهِ هِيَكْ؟ (ع ن)
9. صَايِرَةُ عَم تَخْلَقِي حَجَجْ كَرْمَالِ تَضْهَرِي تَتْرِكِينِي لَوَحْدِي. (ع ن)
10. مِيرِسِي عَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَم تَعْمَلِيهِ كَرْمَالِ جِينَا. (و ك)
11. - دَخَلِكْ، شُو عَم يَعْمَلْ لِحَالُو وَإِنْتِي هُونْ؟  
- يَكُونْ عَم يَحْكِي شَوِي مَعَ نَسْرِينْ. (و ك)
12. أَنَا بَسْ كُنْتُ عَم جَرَّبْ سَاعِدْ. (و ك)
13. مِشْ مَلَا حِظْ أَنْكْ عَم تَتَدْخَلْ بِحَيَاتِي الْخَاصَّة؟ (و ك)
14. سِيَلَا، رَجْعِي طَلْبِي يَوْسُفْ، قُولِي لُو إِنُو جِينَا عَم تَبْكِي كَثِيرْ وَمِشْ قَادِرَةُ تَحْكِي مَعُو هَلَقْ. (و ك)
15. تَعْرِفِي صِرْتُ عَم فَكَّرْتُ لُو لَوْ كُنْتُ عَالِشَةً بَبَيْتِي، يَعْنِي مَعَ كُلِّ الْقَرْفِ يَلِّي بَبَيْتِي بَضَلْ أَحْسَنْ مِّنَ الْغُرْبَةِ اللَّيْ عَم بَحْسَا هُونْ بَيْنَاتْنْ. (و ك)

## ح or ح for the future tense

The above title has got everything we need to know about it. Simple, right? The thing is that there are other ways in Lebanese Arabic to show the future tense, therefore, why not do an exercise and try to sense when we may or have to use the above two options? Let's start.

1. Of course, Nisrine's gonna come here, and there will be no issues whatsoever about that, because she's coming to her house.
2. Someday I'm gonna walk away.
3. The act is already in the Parliament, and I'll do everything I can to make sure it gets enforced.
4. What difference is it gonna make?
5. I don't think I'm gonna eat anything else. I'm gonna go to bed right away.
6. Sooner or later this issue will be solved, and, I hope, we'll become friends.
7. Every time you joke your way out, professor, but this time it's not gonna work for me.
8. She's not gonna fire you. That's not gonna do any good to her or to the CEO.
9. That is my decision and I'm not gonna give up on it.
10. I think, Youssef knows nothing about Gina, and when he finds out, he'll get angry, and we'll have more problems.
11. You're gonna come over to my place, and tomorrow morning we're gonna have breakfast together. Sounds good?
12. This man is not gonna hurt you again.
13. How is it possible that someone who's that nasty is studying medicine? He's gonna be responsible for people's lives...
14. Mind your language. Soon I'll start thinking that you're jealous.



15. Come on! What do you have to lose?
  16. The good your presence brings me won't outweigh the harm your absence will cause you.
  17. I'm staying out of your life — no moral advice, no money involved.
  18. I'm really worried about children... This thing will make them travel back in time, in a way...
  19. We're not talking about that now. The point is that our child should be included on your father's list of heirs and receive his or her share, just like you and Jad.
  20. I think this situation will bring about more problems.
  21. My head's gonna blow up. I can't stand it anymore. I'm going to bed.
  22. If I wanted to get it (he's talking about money) I would have been in charge of the company now (instead of his father).
  23. In the end, everything will be fine.
  24. And I'm not going anywhere until you get well.
  25. I'll do the required to find out what is really going on. You stay away from it.
- Scroll down and check.

1. نَسْرِين رَحْ تُوصَلْ أَكِيدْ، وما رَحْ يُكُونْ فِي مَشْكَلْ طَبْعًا لِأَنَا وَاصِلَةٌ عَلَى بَيْتَا. (و ك)
2. شَيِّ يَوْمَ رَحْ فَلَّ (عنوان فيلم)
3. القانون صارَ بِمَجْلِسِ الْإِنْيَابَةِ. أَنَا رَحْ أَعْمَلْ كُلَّ جَهْدِي إِنْوُ يَنْتَفِزْ. (ع ن)
4. شُو رَحْ تَفْرُقْ يَعْنِي؟ (آ خ)
5. مَا بَعْتَقِدْ رَحْ أَكَلْ شَيِّ بَعْدْ. رَحْ فُوتْ نَامْ دِغْرِي. (ع ن)
6. بَعْدَ قَتْرَةٍ رَحْ نَتَخَطَّى الْأَزْمَةَ وَإِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ نَصِيرُ أَصْحَابْ. (ع ن)
7. كُلِّ مَرَّةٍ بِتَخْلَصْ حَالَكْ بِالْمَزْحِ بِرُوفُسُورْ. بَسْ هَالْمَرَّةِ مَا رَحْ تُمَرِّ مَعِي. (ع ن)
8. مَا رَحْ تَشْحَطْكَ. مِشْ مِنْ مَصْلَحَتَا وَلَا مِنْ مَصْلَحَةِ الْمُدِيرَةِ. (ع ن)
9. هَيْدَا قَرَارِي وَمَا رَحْ إِتْرَاجَعْ عَنُو. (ع ن)
10. حَاسَّةٌ أَنْ يُوسُفَ مَا بَيْعِرِفْ قِصَّةَ جِينَا، وَلَمَّا رَحْ يَعْرِفْ، رَحْ يَجْنِّ وَرَحْ يَكْبِرُ الْمَشْكَلْ. (و ك)
11. إِنْتَ رَحْ تَجِي عَلَى بَيْتِي، وَبُكْرَا الصُّبْحِ مَنْتَرَوِّقْ سَوَا. مَنِخْ هَيْكْ؟ (و ك)
12. هَيْدَا الرِّجَالْ مَا بَقِيَ رَحْ يَنْزِيكِي أَبَدًا. (و ك)
13. مَعْقُولٌ يُكُونُ فِي حَدَا وَاطِي لَهَالْدَرَجَةِ وَعَمَّ يَدْرِسْ طِبِّ؟ يَعْنِي أَرْوَاحُ النَّاسِ رَحْ إِتْكُونْ تَحْتِ رَحْمَتُو. (ع ن)
14. نَبِيِّي عَلَى حَكِيكْ. بَعْدَ شَوِي رَحْ فَكَّرْ أَنَّكَ غَيْرَانَةِ. (ع ن)
15. يَا عَمِّي، شُو رَحْ تَخْسِرِي؟ (ع ن)
16. وَجُودُكَ هُونْ مَا رَحْ يَفِيدُنِي أَكْثَرْ مَا غِيَابُكَ رَحْ يَضْرِكْ. (ع ن)
17. مَا رَحْ أَتَدَخَّلْ بِحَيَاتُكُنْ مِنْ وَلَا نَهَايَةٍ، لَا مَعْنَوِيًّا وَلَا مَدِيًّا. (ع ن)
18. أَنَا خَائِفَةٌ عَ الْوَلَادْ. هَالْقِصَّةِ رَحْ تُرَجِّعُنْ لُورَا مِنْ الْجَدِيدِ. (و ك)
19. هَيْدَا غَيْرَ حَدِيْسْ، الْمِهْمُ إِنْوُ هَيْدَا الْوَلَدِ رَحْ يَتَسَجَّلْ عَ إِسْمِ الْبَابَا وَيَاخُذْ مِثْلِكَ وَمِثْلَ جَادْ. (و ك)

20. حَاسَّةٌ إِنَّوْ مَشَاكِلَ رَحٍ تَكْتَرُ مِنْ وَرَا هَالْقُصَّةِ. (و ك)
21. أَنَا رَحٌ يَنْفِجِرُ رَاسِي، مَا بَقِيَ فِيَّ، فَابْتَ نَامْ. (و ك)
22. لَوْ أَنَا طَمَعَانٌ فَيُنْ كُنْتُ رَحٌ اسْتَلَمْتُ الشَّرِكَةَ. (و ك)
23. كُلُّ شَيْءٍ رَحٌ يَخْلُصُ عَ خَيْرٍ. (و ك)
24. أَصْلًا أَنَا مَا رَحٌ رُوحٌ لَمْطَرَحٌ قَبْلُ مَا إِنْتَ تَصَحَّ. (ع ن)
25. رَحٌ أَتَصَرَفُ وَرَحٌ أَعْرِفُ الْحَقِيقَةَ بَدُونِ مَا يُتَوَرَّطِي. (ع ن)

## Passive voice using the prefix ان

This one's simple. To make the voice passive, just add ان to the verb. The sound [i] is quite often skipped in both speaking and writing.

Example. When I asked a native speaker whether he knew that his messages were stored in a backup, he responded أَكِيدُ بِنَحْفَظُ, which means *Of course, they're stored.*

Does that apply to all verbs or is it better to change the middle vowel to *fatha*, like we do in MSA, in certain cases? I think, some scenarios require ان, while others look and sound more natural with a *fatha*, and there must be scenarios when both ways are possible. Let's try to make our research on this point together. The best way is to take a close look at a bunch of sentences. Time to start:

1. I'm worried about you. (Literally —*My mind is busy because of you.* A bit difficult but I'm sure you can make it ;) )
2. ... something that cannot be told in a couple of words.
3. ... something I can't tell you over the phone...
4. A musical instrument is like a turtle — it shall be stored in its own house.
5. Tell me, don't feel shy. Say what you want to say.
6. Hey, why do you still feel shy when my mom sees us together? Didn't she give you the green light?
7. Looks like you won't get it until you're pushed around a bit.
8. I didn't ask you to do anything that you don't normally do in my mom's presence.
9. He'll, probably, get used gradually, and, thus, the problem will be solved.
10. Is that how it's supposed to be done?!
11. Come on, Nadir!.. Do you think it's acceptable to mess around with things like that??
12. Everything's gonna be OK in the future.

13. One day, when the truth comes out, Linda might show up here saying, "Why didn't you tell me?!"

14. These people's villa has been sold.

Time to check.

1. نُسْغِلْ بالي عليك. (أ ح)
2. خَبْرِيَّةٌ مَا بِنْتُخَبَّرُ بِكَلِمَتَيْنِ. (أ ح)
3. شَغْلَةٌ مَا بِنْتُنْحَكِي عَ التَّلْفُونِ. (أ ح)
4. الْقُطْعَةُ الْمَوْسِيقِيَّةُ مِثْلُ الزَّلْحَفَةِ، مَا بِنْتَحَفِظُ إِلَّا بَيْتًا. (م م)
5. قَلِي، مَا تَنْخَرَجُ مِنِّي، حَكِي إِلَيَّ بِدَّكَ يَا ه. (ع ن)
6. دَخَلْتُ، لِيَهْ بَعْدَكَ بِنْتُخَرَجُ لَمَّا يَتَكُونُ مَعِي بُوْجُودٌ مَامْ؟ مَعَ أَنَا عَطَيْتُكَ الضُّوءَ الْأَخْضَرَ. (ع ن)
7. شَكْلُكَ مَا بِنْتَفْهَمُ إِلَّا مَا يَنْضَغَطُ عَلَيْكَ. (ع ن)
8. أَنَا مَا طَلَبْتُ مِنْكَ تَعْمَلُ شَيْءًا مَا كَانَ يَنْعَمَلُ بُوْجُودٌ مَامَا. (ع ن)
9. يُمْكِنُ بَعْدَ وَقْتٍ يَتَأَقَلَمُ تَحْلَلُ الْقُصَّةِ. (مَا تَوَازَعُونِي، نَسِيتُ وَهِنْ سَمْعَتَا...)
10. هَيْدَا عَمَلٌ يَنْعَمَلُ؟ (ح س)
11. بِشَرَفَكَ نَادِرُ، الشَّغْلَةُ مِثْلُ هَيْدَا يَنْلَعَبُ فَيَا؟ (و ك)
12. كُلُّ هَالَأُمُورٍ يَنْتَعَلِجُ بَعْدَيْنِ. (و ك)
13. يُمْكِنُ بَعْدَيْنِ، إِذَا نَفَضَحْتَ الْقُصَّةَ، تَحِي لِينْدَا وَتُلُومْنَا: "لِيَهْ مَا خَبَرْتُونِي؟". (و ك)
14. نَبَاعَتُ الْفَلَّةِ تَبِعَ الْجَمَاعَةَ. (و ك)

## The uses of بَدَّ

I would say this is one of the most well-known features of Lebanese Arabic.

It is most often used as

### TO WANT

Add the appropriate pronoun and you're good to go. We're gonna use Elissa's famous song بَدِّي دُوب as an example, which translates as *I want to melt away*.

**Please note** that the verb that follows بَدَّ comes without ب and sometimes even without أ, just like in our above example, as opposed to MSA.

One more example to make things clear:

*I say* — بَقُولُ

*I want to say* — بَدِّي قُول.

Same thing happens to the first-person, plural, present-tense verbs:

*We say* — مَنَقُولُ

*We want to say* — بَدَّنَا نَقُولُ

As you see, the letter م disappears too.

Quite often this word is used as

### CAN

Example No. 1. كَيْفَ بَدِّي إِتْرَكْكَ وَاَنْتِي هِيَكْ؟

*How can I leave you in the state you're in?*

Example No. 2. شَو بَدِّي أَعْمَلْ هَلَقْ؟

*What can I do now?* (The letter أ is not skipped here.)

Example No. 3. شُو بَدِّي قَوْلٌ؟

What *can* I say?

And, finally,

### MUST, SHOULD or TO HAVE TO

Example:

هَيْكَ بِدُو يَكُونُ الرَّدَّ!

*That's what a [proper] response should look like!*

Concise & to-the-point :)

Let's start the exercise:

1. What else do I need? (Hint. Literally — *What do I want better than this?*)
2. We want you to be a man like us.
3. We want you to start over from scratch.
4. We want to be proud of you. (*Get ready, the original version looks way different.*)
5. I wanna talk to him!
6. I want her to travel to London, where her father currently is.
7. I want you to do something for me.
8. OK. We're gonna lower it (the music). Is there anything else I can do for you?
9. Hey, I bought a new car. I want you to see it.
10. Honestly, I'm not 100% sure about what he meant, and I don't wanna give you a wrong answer.
11. I wanna know [what he's talking about] because I do understand what he means but I don't know how to explain it. (Yes, this one's a little out-of-context. Sorry...)
12. Please tell me why you're calling! Right now!



13. - Are jobs over there better than here?

- Anywhere it's better than here!

- But you gotta have friends, right?

- Just like here, you gotta have friends too!.. If you know what I'm talking about...

- You're right, you're right...

14. The Lebanese Arabic version is same as the Gulf Arabic one, except the pronunciation is different. If you wanna say that in Lebanese, you have to say *3ala oletkun*.

15. You're a liar! And what triggered him so much?

16. ... because the quality of teaching is not as high as I want it to be.

17. Feel free to ask me questions whenever you want.

18. Please! I don't wanna hear anything about him and I don't wanna talk about it.

19. As much as you want.

20. Oh no, please, if you don't wanna drink, don't do that. I don't wanna bother anyone.

21. I want you to keep an eye on her to see who she goes out with. That's it.

22. You need half an hour to get here.

23. Look, this is how we can get out of this.

24. Hey, how much time do you need? And what exactly happened?

25. You have to see it first because you're my best friend.

26. What can I say?..

27. - And you picked the easy way, right? You became a thief and began stealing things.

- Oh, do you really think it's easy, sir?!.. It's not easy at all. It means one has to do exercises and work out.

28. - What happened?

- Why did something have to happen?

29. So, something must come at the expense of something else.

30. I don't wanna neglect my job or my house.

31. - Is everything OK?

- "Is everything OK?" What can be OK??

32. I'll come over to your office if you want.

33. Але життя має продовжуватись.

34. Чому він має відчувати дискомфорт [через тебе], любий? Навпаки!

35. I'm on my way to your place. Be there in half an hour.

36. You have to keep that in mind when making your next steps or planning them. Is that clear?

37. What sets her apart from other girls her age?

38. If the doctor tells him that he no longer can have kids, perhaps, he'll think that he is too old.

Time to check.

1. شُو بَدِّي أَحْسَن مِنْ هَيْك؟ (ف ر)
2. بَدْنَا يَاكَ إِنْصِيرِ رَجَالَ مِتْلَنَا. (ما تَوَازَوْنِي، نَسِيت وَين سَمَعْتَا...)
3. بَدِّي يَاكَ تَرْجِعْ تَبْلُشْ مِنْ الْجَدِيدْ. (ما تَوَازَوْنِي، نَسِيت وَين سَمَعْتَا...)
4. بَدْنَا نُشُوفْ حَالْنَا فِيكَ. (ما تَوَازَوْنِي، نَسِيت وَين سَمَعْتَا...)
5. بَدِّي حَكِيه. (ف ر)
6. بَدِّي بَعْتَا عِنْدَ بَابَا عَ لُنْدُنْ. (آ خ)
7. بَدِّي مِنْكَ شَغْلَة. (م م)
8. تَكْرَمْ عَيْنَكْ، مِنْوَطِيَا، مَا بَدَّكَ شَيِّ تَانِي؟ (م م)
9. لِيكَ، جِبْتْ سِيَارَة جَدِيدَة بَدِّي يَاكَ إِنْشُوفَا (م م)
10. صِرَاحَة، أَنَا مَا بَعْرِفْ عَ الْأَكِيدْ شُو قَصْدُو بَسْ مَا بَدِّي قَلَّكَ شَيِّ غَلَطْ. (ص)
11. بَدِّي عَارِفْ لِأَنُو فَهَمَانْ شُو قَصْدُو بَسْ مَا عَارِفْ أَشْرَحْ. (ص)
12. بَشْرَفْكَ، قُولِي شُو بَدَّكَ هَلَقْ؟ (أ ح)
13. - فِي شِغْلْ أَكِيدْ أَحْسَنْ مِنْ هُونْ؟  
- وَينْ مَا كَانَ أَحْسَنْ مِنْ هُونْ!  
- بَسْ يَدُو يَكُونْ وَاحِدْ عِنْدُو مَعَارِفْ؟  
- وَهُونْ كَمَا بَدَّكَ إِنْكُونْ تَعْرِفْ حَدَا وَفَهَمَكَ كَفَايَة!  
- مَعَكَ حَقْ، مَعَكَ حَقْ (أ ح)
14. نَفْسِ الشَّيِّ بِاللَّبْنَانِي مِثْلِ الْخَلِيجِي، بَسْ اللفظ غير، إِذَا بَدَّكَ تَلْفِظًا بِاللَّبْنَانِي بَدَّكَ تَقُولْ "عَلَى أُولَئِكَ". (ص)
15. كَرَابَة! وَلِيهْ يَدُو يَنْفَعِلْ هَالَقْد؟ (ع ن)

16. لَأَنْتُمْ مَسْتَوًى التَّعْلِيمِ مِثْلَ مَا أَنَا بِدِّي. (ص)

17. سَأَلَنِي بَسْ بِدَّكَ. (ص)

18. دَخَيْلَكَ، مَا بِدِّي أَسْمَعُ عَنْ شَيْءٍ أَوْ مَا بِدِّي أَحْكِي بِالْمَوْضُوعِ. (ص)

19. قَدْ مَا بِدَّكَ. (م م)

20. لَا لَا، تُقْبِرُنِي، إِذَا إِنِّي مَا بِدَّكَ تَشْرِي، بَلَاهَا، أَنَا مَا بِدِّي أَرْجَحُ حَدَا. (أ ح)

21. أَنَا بِدِّي تُخَلِّي عَيْنَكَ عَلَيَّ لِحَقِّ تَعْرِفِي مَعَ مِينْ عَمَّ تَضَهَّرْ. بَسْ. (ع ن)

22. بِدَّكَ نَصْ سَاعَةَ لَتُوصِلِي لَعَنْدِي. (ف ر)

23. شُوفْ كَيْفْ بِدَّنَا نَخْلُصْ مِنْ هَالْوَرَطَةِ. (ف ر)

24. لَيْكْ، قَدِيشْ بِدَّكَ وَقْتْ؟ لَيْكْ، شُو؟ شُو فِي؟ (م م)

25. إِنْتَ بِدَّكَ تَشُوفَا أَوَّلْ وَاحِدْ لِأَنَّكَ خِيَّ الْأَصْلِي إِنْتَ. (م م)

26. شُو بِدِّي قَوْلْ؟.. (أغنية "مثل الكذبة" لعاصي الحلاني)

27. - وَخْتَرْتُ الطَّرِيقَ السَّهْلَ. عَمَلْتُ حَرَامِي وَصِرْتُ تَسْرُقْ.

- مِنْ وَينَ لَوِينْ، سِيدَنَّا؟ مِشْ سَهْلْ أَبَدًا. شَغْلَةٌ بَدَا تَمْرِينْ بَدَا لِيَاقَةِ بَدَنِيَّةِ (أ ح)

28. - فِي شَيْءٍ؟

- لِيَهْ بَدُو يَكُونْ فِي شَيْءٍ؟ (أ ح)

29. يَعْنِي شَيْءٍ بَدُو يَجِي عَلَى حَسَابِ شَيْءٍ تَانِي. (ص)

30. يَا بِدِّي قَصِّرْ بِشْغَلِي أَوْ بَيْتِي. (ص)

31. - شُو؟ مَا شَيْءٍ الْحَالْ؟

- مَا شَيْءٍ الْحَالْ؟ عَلَى شُو بَدُو يَمِشِي الْحَالْ؟ (م م)

32. بِحِي لَعْنَدُكَ عَ الْمَكْتَبَ إِذَا بِدَّكَ. (ف ر)

33. بَسَّ الْحَيَاةَ بَدَا تُكْفِي. (و ك)

34. لَيْشَ بِدُو يَتَضَايِقُ، حَبِيبِي؟ بِالْعَكْسِ! (و ك)

35. أَنَا جَاي لَعْنَدُكَ، بِدِّي شَي نَصْ سَاعَة وَبُوصَلْ. (و ك)

36. بِدُكُنْ نِتَصَرَّفُوا وَتَفَكَّرُوا عَلَى هَالَأَسَاسْ. فَاهِمْ؟ (و ك)

37. لَيْشَ بِدَا تُكُونُ بِنْتُ مِخْتَلَفَةٍ عَنْ كُلِّ الْبَنَاتِ الِّي مِنْ عُمَرَا؟ (و ك)

38. إِذَا قَلُّو الدُّكْتُورَ أَنَّكَ مَا بَقِيَ نَجِيبٌ وَلَادْ، بِدُو يَفَكَّرْ إِنْو صَارَ كَبِيرْ. (و ك)

## The non-ba'a verbs

This is the most mysterious chapter.

In Lebanese Arabic, present-tense verbs normally come with the prefix ب, which is dropped in certain scenarios.

Some scenarios are totally user-friendly, while others may require some time to understand them.

There are sentences where a verb can be used both ways - without ب or with ب or عم.

Let's take a look at a couple of examples.

**When the verb follows a verb that has the prefix ب , a participle or a verb that comes with عم**

Easy. First, we have a verb with عم, ب, or a participle, and then comes the non-ba'a verb.

Example: *How could you throw away ten years (of our life) like they were nothing?!*  
(Literally — ... behind my back?!)

كَيْفَ قَدَرْتُ تُكَبِّ عَشْرَاتِ السِّنِّينِ وَرَا ضَهْرِي. (ع ن)

Sentences like بَرَجَعَ بِحِكْمِكَ بَعْدَيْنِ , that we'll take a look at in a different chapter, are an exception.

**After** عم بالي , ضروري , لازم , بد etc.

Example: *I really want to see you.*

كُنْتِيرَعْ بَالِي شُوفْكَ. (ف ر)

This same thing happens in the I-want-you-to-do-something type of structures. That is when we have to use إِيَّا with the appropriate pronoun.

Example: I want you to leave. — بَدِّي يَاكَ اِتْفَلْ

I wrote يَاكَ , and not اِيَّاكَ because the *hamza* here is regarded as connective and is absorbed by the end vowel in بَدِّي . I put an ا before تْفَل because that's the way it's pronounced, for convenience purposes.

### **In-order-to type of sentences**

I'm gonna use an example to explain :)

أنا رايحة ع السوبرماركت جيب أغراض. (ع ن)

Artistic rendering — *I'm off to do some shopping.* Literal translation — *I'm going to the supermarket to get things.*

We see that the feature shared by the above sentences is that the non-ba'a verb is used as an infinitive.

### **Prohibitive mood**

There's an individual chapter on this subject herein but I have to mention this scenario on the overall list. Example: مَا تَقُولْ هَيْكَ. — *Don't say that.*

### **Third person prohibitive mood**

Again a good example's gonna help us.

مَا حَدَا يَكْتَبْ شَيْ! (ح س)

The actress جناح فاخوري very expressively said the above sentence in *Hayat School* — *Nobody writes anything!*

### **Making an offer or lacking confidence**

Example:

مُسْتَعِدَّة طَلَّقْ! نَرْجَعْ سَوَا! (ع ن)

The first sentence pertains to scenario No. 1, i.e. the verb comes after a participle. *I'm ready to get divorced.* And it's an infinitive, in a way.

The second sentence, *We'll be back together again!*, is trickier. I got two assumptions:

Assumption No. 1. Both orders and requests fall under one same rule, which is the previous one. We can consider an offer or a request to be a polite order.

Assumption No. 2. A word like *ممكن* or *مُنْقَدَّر* or *فِينَا*, which means *we can*, has been skipped.

I just thought that, in the previous example, a word like *يجوز* could have faded away with time from a structure like *ما حدا يجوز يكتب شي*.

In the exercise we'll see that the above classification is quite feeble because many sentences can be placed under more than one of the said categories. Let's do the exercise.

### **The mysterious category**

This part requires further research for which I need more sentences.

Just to recap:

- You may not always skip *ب*
- In certain structures you have to skip it.
- Sometimes you may keep it or skip it with slight variations in the meaning, like in the example below. Try to feel the difference:

*You have always said* – (وك) طول عمرك بتقول ...

*You always say* – طول عمرك تقول ...

1. Can I go play outside?
2. A young woman like you *may* want to have a child.
3. I'm not gonna stay silent about this!
4. Oh, no... My brother-in-law... Come on! Let the guy have a break from you someday!
5. I think I'm gonna go and stay at her place for around two days.



6. Are you afraid that someone's gonna see us together and think that we're back together again.
7. I cannot do without him.
8. I can sleep later.
9. What if I suddenly come and sit next to you?
10. I'm going to bed.
11. I don't know if I can live without her.
12. Amal, if you want to bring him back just for the hospital's sake, he's not so essential that we can't do without him.
13. I wanna learn a new language.
14. When you send me the recipe, I'll try to make it.
15. It's time for me to wake up anyway.
16. Can't these talks be just talks?
17. Can you really take away my chance to make a surprise for you?
18. When you remember it, let me know. However, I doubt that I know it.
19. When I see him, I'll give him the books that I got for you.
20. I really wanna see you today. I can come to your office if you want.
21. Shall we put it off until tomorrow? See you tomorrow.
22. Is there something I can do for you before I leave.
23. He's gonna come with you.
24. - Wanna drink something?  
- No, thanks. And I hope you were not planning to put on candles.
25. I've made you breakfast. Go eat, before it gets cold. Hurry up!

26. I'll come pick you up at your office, and then we're gonna go have lunch together.
27. One day, when the truth comes out, Linda might show up here saying, "Why didn't you tell me?!"
28. A couple of good words and fake attitude — and she can already make fun of you.
29. I had had my meal at home before I left. I gotta go now.
30. For how long have you been dating?
31. Because people like Gina find it very difficult to trust someone.
32. I'm afraid I'll be brought back to him, as soon as I get well.
33. We don't need to rush at all.
34. Now, when I get there, I'll call you and give the phone to my dad, so that you can say happy birthday to him.
35. He decided to walk out of my life.
36. Tell Ibrahim to come to me.
37. - You hate her that much?
- What?? I hate Amal?? Why? Who is she to me that I would hate her?
38. You didn't have the heart to leave Nana in those circumstances.
39. I always argued with him about that because he doesn't follow proper etiquette when interacting with people.
- Time to check.

1. فِي رُوحِ أَلْعَبِ عَ الطَّرِيقِ؟ (أ ح)
2. مَرَّةً صَغِيرَةً بَعْمَرِكَ حَقًّا تَفَكَّرُ نَحْيِبَ وَلَدٍ. (و ك)
3. مَا بَقِيَ أَسْكُتْ! (ف ر)
4. يَا عَلَيْنَا وَعَ صَهْرِي يَا عَمِّي! خَلِّي الزَّلِّي يَرْتَاخَ مِنْكَ شَيْ نَهَارًا! (و ك)
5. عَمَ فَكَّرَ رُوحَ لَعْنَدَا شَيْ يَوْمِينَ. (ع ن)
6. خَايِفَ يَشُوفُونَا مَعَ بَعْضَ وَيَفْتَكِرُونَا رَجَعْنَا؟ (ع ن)
7. يَدُونُو مَا بَعْرِفَ أَعْمَلُ شَيْ. (ف ر)
8. لَأَحَقَّةَ نَامُ. (ع ن)
9. وَإِذَا فَاجَأَتْكَ وَجِيتَ قُعْدَ حَدَّكَ مَسَلًا؟ (ف ر)
10. فَايِتَ نَامُ. (ع ن)
11. مَا بَعْرِفَ إِذَا مِنْ دُونَا بِقَدَرِ عَيْشٍ. (و ك)
12. أَمَلْ، إِذَا عَمَ تَرْدِيهِ كَرَمَالِ الْمُسْتَشْفَى مَا هُوَ مِنْهُمْ لَدَرَجَةِ إِنْوَمَا نَقْدَرُ نِسْتَعْنِي عَنْوُ. (ع ن)
13. أَنَا عَلَى بَالِي إِتَعَلَّمْ لُغَةً جَدِيدَةً. (ص)
14. بَسْ تَبْعَتْنِي الْوَصْفَةَ، جَرَبَا. (ص)
15. أَصَلًا أَنَا صَارَ لَازِمَ أَوْعَى. (أ ح)
16. مَشْ يَمَكِّنْ هَانْخَبَرِيَّةَ تَطْلَعُ مَجَرَّدَ خَبَرِيَّةٍ؟ (و ك)
17. مَعْقُولُ تَنْزَعُ لِي السُّورُ بَرِيزُ؟ (ف ر)
18. بَسْ تَبْرَكَرَا، قَلِي. مَعَ إِنْوَبَشَكَ إِنْوَأَعْرِفُ. (ص)
19. وَلَمَّا شُوفُو بَعْطِيهِ الْكُتُبِ اللَّيْ عِنْدِي يَاهُنْ إِيْلَكَ. (ص)

20. كَثِيرٌ عَ بَالِي شُوفَكَ الْيَوْمَ. يَجِي لَعْنَدَكَ عَ الْمَكْتَبِ إِذَا بَدَّكَ. (ف ر)

21. بَرِّي نَاجِلًا لِبُكَرَا. بِشُوفَكَ بُكَرَا. (ف ر)

22. تَأْمِرِي بِحَاجَةٍ قَبْلَ مَا أَمْشِي؟ (و ك)

23. يَجِي مَعَكَ. (ع ن)

24. - تَشْرَبُ كَاسْ؟

- لا، مِيرْسِي. إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ مَا تُكُونِي مَفْكَرَةَ مَوْضُوعِ الشُّمُوعِ كَمَا. (ع ن)

25. حَضَرْتَلْكَ تَرْوِيْقَةً. يَلَا. قَبْلَ مَا تَبْرَدَ. مَا تِنَّاخَر. (و ك)

26. رَحْ أَقْطَعْ أَخْذِكَ مِنْ الشَّغْلِ وَمَنْتَغْدِي سَوَا. (و ك)

27. يُمْكِنُ بَعْدِينَ، إِذَا أَنْفَضَحْتَ الْقُصَّةَ، تَجِي لِينْدَا وَتَلُومُنَا: "لِيَهْ مَا خَبَرْتُونِي؟". (و ك)

28. قَدَرْتُ بِكَلِمَتَيْنِ حَلَوَيْنِ وَشَوِيَّةِ حَرَكَاتٍ مَرْيَفَةٍ تَنْضَحُكَ عَلَيَّ كُنْ كُلُّكُنْ. (و ك)

29. أَكَلْتُ بِالْبَيْتِ قَبْلَ مَا أَجِي. أَنَا لَازِمٌ إِمْشِي. (و ك)

30. قَدِيشْ إِلْكُنْ تَضْهَرُو مَعَ بَعْضْ؟ (و ك)

31. لِأَنُو إِنْسَانٌ مِثْلُ جِينَا كَثِيرٌ صَعْبٌ يُوسَقُ بِهَالْسَرَعَةِ. (و ك)

32. بَخَافْ بَسْ صَحَّ، بِيرْجَعُونِي لَعْنَدُوعَ الْبَيْتِ. (و ك)

33. مَا لَازِمٌ نَتَسَرَّعْ أَبَدًا. (و ك)

34. هَلَقْ بَسْ أَوْصَلْ بَتَّصِلْ فِيكَ وَبَعْطِيكَ الْبَابَا كَرْمَالْ تَعِيدُو. (و ك)

35. قَرَّرْ إِنْوِ يَضْهَرُ مِنْ حَيَاتِي.

36. قُولِي لِإِبْرَاهِيمَ يَجِي لَعْنَدِي. (و ك)

37. - لَهَا الدَّرَجَةُ بَتَّكْرَهَا؟

- سُوءٌ؟ أَنَا إِكْرَهٌ أَمَلٌ؟؟ لَيْشَ؟ مِينِ هِي أَمَلٌ أَصْلًا لِكْرَهَا؟؟ (و ك)

38. مَا كَانَ إِلَّكَ قَلْبٌ تَتْرِكُ نَانَا بِهَالْظُرُوفِ. (ع ن)

39. أَنَا كُنْتُ دَائِمًا أَتَخَانَقُ أَنَا وَيَّاهِ لِأَنُّو مَا يَعْمَلُ وَاجِبَاتُو مَعَ النَّاسِ. (و ك)

## Present participles

The thing that surprised me the most was that present participles in spoken Arabic convey not only present and future tenses but also the past one. You're gonna see that in the exercise below :)

Here are a couple of points (that require a more thorough review and verification though) I came up with. The said present participles quite often express:

1) Present Continuous, just like the **عم** + present tense verb combo, meanwhile the **ب** + verb structure conveys Present Indefinite;

2) movement:

أنا جاي، أنا ماشي، أنا طالع، أنا نازل، أنا رايح، أنا ضاهر، أنا راجع، أنا فالت، هي فالتة

I never heard **مارر** or **مارق** though... Are they exceptions?

3) senses:

حاسس، شامم، سامع، شاف، دايق

I never heard **لامس**, which might be my subjective experience.

Please once again take a look at **مارر** and **فالتة**, where the second and third consonants are the same letter. The feminine structure follows the MSA rule, i.e. the two consonants transform into one doubled letter, whereas the masculine present participle looks like those whose second and third letters are different, i.e. the two letter stay apart from one another, it's not **مار** but **مارر**.

In present participles that stem from the non-doubled verbs, a *sukoon* shows up in masculine plural (which is used for both genders) and feminine singular structures. The same thing happens if a pronoun is added to a participle like that. Examples: **ضاهرة**، **ضاهرين**، **ناطرك**،

I was about to give you one single block of sentences but then I decided to split it up into three chunks, tense-wise, which might help you and me figure out the algorithm behind using it.

Another assumption of mine is that, as I expected, present participles describing the **condition** or the **state** the object can be in at any time, past, present or future. I also think that the verb(s), that previously was/were responsible for the tense, like كان , gradually faded away.

In the Ukrainian version of this book the three categories that I split the exercises into made sense only with regard to the Ukrainian translation. Let's see what happens in English :)

### **Past**

1. Abbas invited us for lunch.
2. You sure have never been out on a date with a girl.
3. She told you everything about her life?
4. Why did you wake up so early?
5. I haven't eaten cheese balls for ages.
6. Have you heard of Robin Hood?
7. Here, you forgot to put a dot over ح.
8. You came here to teach me how to do my job?
9. I don't know how to make it (a hamdaniya), but it looks cute.
10. Well, I wanted us to meet up and get to know each other.
11. - Maybe it (money) just fell out somewhere... Try your pocket. Maybe you never even took it with you.
  - Do you think there's a chance of me not taking it with me, Naeem?
  - Or it fell out in your car.
  - Maybe it fell out onto the road.
  - You're gonna make up for it... What can I say?

12. You haven't seen your husband for ten days. (*Get ready to see a totally different original version.*)

13. What makes me think that you're against me?

14. I've seen him in the high school building several times.

### **Present**

1. Why are you insisting?

2. I'm out for a walk.

3. - I saw that you were looking for an employee.

- Correct! Yes, we are. Are you looking for a job?

4. I was living my life, free and happy, until a problem showed up. A very big one.

5. ... having put 5000 into her handbag.

6. You can see that from his car.

7. I don't need extra trouble.

8. I can't understand (literally — *What's confusing me is*) what is it that Sawsan's got...

9. Become again that Nana that used to drive everyone crazy.

10. - Could you please lower the music a little?

- Does it bother you?

- Listen, there's no one in here, the restaurant is empty. Who did you put it on for?

11. I understand what he meant but I can't explain.

12. OK, my dear Adel. I'll be waiting for you in the parking area.

13. I don't know... He gave me a call and said: "Come over with Tarek. I'm inviting you two for a one-of-a-kind lunch!"

14. Well, and who I was waiting for yesterday at seven?



15. I'm doing a big sale here, by the way.
16. I'm afraid bad guys might teach you bad things.
17. Lucky you are, Ramona! You're getting country food delivered to you... As for us, we don't know what we're eating...
18. How do you combine that within you? Your name, Shareef, means *noble*, but you're a thief?
19. Gulf dialects are difficult. If I weren't living in the Gulf region, I wouldn't understand many things.
20. I don't know what's happening to me.
21. The problem is I can't give you a synonym.
22. As always, you want everything to be your way.
23. Why did you have me wait here for a full hour?
24. I can't believe it! Finally, it's just the two of us.

## **Future**

1. At what time are you coming, darling?
2. Who's coming to the concert?
3. I'm gonna use the elevator.
4. My friend's coming over soon.
5. Listen, my friend, if you're here for long, we better be friends to while away the time.
6. - Why do you think we're here for long?  
- We'll see...  
- See what?  
- See who's backing you.

7. - Maybe it (money) just fell out somewhere... Try your pocket. Maybe you never even took it with you.

- Do you think there's a chance of me not taking it with me, Naeem?

- Or it fell out in your car.

- Maybe it fell out onto the road.

- You're gonna make up for it... What can I say?

8. I was really happy, when I was told he would move in with you again.

9. Ziad, Vivo wants to talk to you. Are you gonna take long in the bathroom?

Please check.

## الماضي

1. عازِمْنَا عَبَّاسَ عَ الْغَدَا. (م م)
2. أَكِيدُ وَلَا مَرَّةً ضَاهِرَ مَعَ بِنْتِ. (ع ن)
3. هِيَ كَانَتْ مَخْبَرَتَكَ كُلِّ شَيْءٍ عَنْ حَيَاتِنَا؟ (مَا تَوَاضَعُونَ، نَسِيتُ وَنَ سَمِعْتَا...)
4. لَيْشَ وَاعِيَةً بِكَبِيرٍ؟ (أ ح)
5. إِلَى عُمَرُ مِشْ أَكَلَةٍ لَبَنَةٍ مَكْعَزَلَةٍ (أ ح)
6. سَامِعِينَ بَرُونِ هُوَذَا؟ (أ ح)
7. هُونُ نَاسِينَ النُّقْطَةَ عَ الْحَاءِ. (أ ح)
8. جَايَ تَعْلَنِي شَغْلِي؟ (أ ح)
9. أَنَا مَا بَعْرِفُ أَعْمَالًا (الْحَمْدَانِيَّة)، بِسْ طَالَعَةُ مَهْضُومَةٍ. (ص)
10. هَلَقْ، أَنَا مِنْ زَمَانٍ حَابِبٍ نَلْتَقِي وَتَتَعَرَّفُ عَلَى بَعْضِ. (م م)
11. - بَرِّكِي وَاقْعِينَ مِنْكَ شَيْءٍ مَطْرَحٍ. نَبِّشْ بِجَبِيكَ. بَرِّكِي مِشْ جَايُنْ مَعَكَ مِنْ الْأَسَاسِ؟  
- مَعْقُولُ مِشْ جَايُنْ مَعِي، نَعِيمُ؟  
- أَوْ وَاقْعِينَ بِالسَّيَّارَةِ.  
- يُمْكِنُ وَاقْعِينَ عَ الطَّرِيقِ.  
- مَعُوضِينَ. شُو بَدِّي قَلِّكَ يَعْنِي؟ (م م)
12. صَارَلْكَ عَشْرَةَ أَيَّامٍ غَايِبَةً عَنْ جُوزِكَ. (ع ن)
13. لِيَهْ حَاسَّةٌ أَنَّكَ آخِذٌ مَوْقِفَ مَعُوْضِدِي؟ (ع ن)
14. صِرْتُ كَرَا مَرَّةً شَايَفْتُو بَقْسَمِ التَّكْمِيلِ. (ع ن)

1. ليه مُصِرَّة؟ (ف ر)
2. ضاهرٍ مشوار. (ع ن)
3. - حَضَرْتُكُنْ طَالِبِينَ مُوظَّفٍ مِثْلَ مَا شِفْتُ.
- صَحِّ! إِيه، مُوظَّفٌ لهُون. حَضَرْتُكَ طَالِبُ الْوُظَيْفَةِ؟ (م م)
4. عَائِشٌ فَاضِي وَرَاضِي لِحَدِّ مَا إِجْتَنِي هَالْمُشْكِلَةَ، مُشْكِلَةَ كَبِيرَةٍ كَثِيرٍ. (ف ر)
5. ... حَاطَّةٌ خَمْسَةُ آلَافٍ بُجْزَانَا (أ ح)
6. بَابِنْ مِنْ سِيَارَتُو. (ما تَوَازُونِي، نَسِيتُ وَينَ سَمَعْتَا...)
7. مِشْ نَاقِصِي مَصَابِيْ عَلَى رَاسِي. (ع ن)
8. أَنَا اللَّيِّ مُحَيَّرِي شُو اللَّيِّ عِنْدَا سَوَسَن؟ (آ خ)
9. رَجَعِي نَانَا اللَّيِّ مَدَوِّخَةَ الْكَلِّ.
10. - بِتَوَطِّلِي هَالْمُوسِيقَى شَوِي؟
- مُضَايَقَتُكَ؟
- اللَّهُ يَخْلِيكَ، مَا فِي حَدَا، الْمَحَلِّ فَاضِي. عَلَى شُو حَاطِينَا؟ (م م)
11. فَهَمَانْ شُو قَصْدُو بَسْ مَا عَارِفْ أَشْرَح. (ص)
12. أُوَيَّي، عَدُول، نَاطِرُكْ أَنَا تَحْتِ بِالْپَارِكِنْغ. (م م)
13. مَا بَعْرِفْ، هُو تَلْفَنِي قَلِي: "تَعَا إِنْتَ وَطَارِقْ، عَارِزْمُكُنْ عَالِغْدَا غَيْرَ شَكْل". (م م)
14. لَا، مَا أَنَا مَبَارَحْ مِينْ نَاطِرْ كِنْتُ السَّاعَةَ سَبْعَةَ؟ (م م)
15. هَيْدَا، أَنَا عَامِلَةٌ تَصْفِيَّاتٍ عَامَّة، عَلَى فِكْرَةٍ. (م م)

16. خَافِةٌ عَلَيْكَ مِنْ وُلَادِ الْحَرَامِ. (أ ح)

17. نَيْالَكَ يَا رَامُونَا، يَبِيعُوكَ إِشْيَا بَلَدِيَّةً بِالْوَقْتِ الِّي نَحْنُ مِشْ مَعْرُوفٌ شَوْ عَمْ نَاكُلْ. (أ ح)

18. كَيْفِ رَاكِبَةٌ مَعَكَ هَيْكْ، شَرِيفٌ وَحَرَامِي؟ (أ ح)

19. اِخْلِيجِي صَعْبْ. أَنَا لَوْ مَا عَاشِشْ بِالْخَلِيجِ، فِي إِشْيَا كَثِيرْ مَا بِنَهَمَا. (ص)

20. مَا بَعْرِفْ شَوْ صَايِرِي. (ص)

21. وَالْمِشْكِلَةُ مَا قَادِرْ أُعْطِيكَ مَرَادِفْ. (ص)

22. إِنِّي مُصِرَّةٌ مِثْلِ الْعَادَةِ تَمَثِّي الْأُمُورَ طَرِيقَتِكَ. (ع ن)

23. عَ شُو إِلَكْ سَاعَةٌ مَنْطَرْنِي هُونْ؟ (ع ن)

24. مِشْ مُصَدِّقْ أَنَا. وَيَا كِي أَخِيرًا لِحَالْنَا. (ع ن)

#### المستقبل

1. أَيَّا سَاعَةٍ جَايَ حَيَاتِي (ف ر)

2. مِينْ جَايَ عَ الْحَفْلَةِ؟ (مَا تَوَاضَعُونِي، نَسِيتْ وَينْ سَمَعْنَا...)

3. أَنَا طَالِعٌ بِالْأَسْنُسُورِ. (مَا تَوَاضَعُونِي، نَسِيتْ وَينْ سَمَعْنَا...)

4. جَايَةُ صَاحِبَتِي لَعَنَدِي (أ ح)

5. لَيْكَ حَبِيبِي، إِذَا مَطُولِينَ هُونْ، الْأَفْضَلُ نَصِيرُ أَصْحَابَ لِنَقْتِلِ الْوَقْتِ. (أ ح)

6. - لِيَهْ نَحْنُ مَطُولِينَ هُونْ؟

- حَسَبْ

- حَسَبْ شَوْ؟

- حَسَبْ مِينْ فِي بَطْهَرُكُنْ. (أ ح)

7. - بَرِّكِ واقِعِينَ مِنْكَ شَيْءٍ مَطْرَحَ. نَبِّشْ بِجِيبِكَ. بَرِّكِ مِشْ جَائِئِينَ مَعَكَ مِنْ الْأَسَاسِ؟

- مَعْقُولٌ مِشْ جَائِئِينَ مَعِي، نَعِيمٌ؟

- أَوْ واقِعِينَ بِالسَّيَّارَةِ.

- يُمْكِنُ واقِعِينَ عَ الطَّرِيقِ.

- مَعْوَضِينَ. شُو بَدِّي قَلَّكَ يَعْنِي؟ (م م)

8. كَثِيرٌ انْبَسَطَتْ وَقْتُ عَرَفْتُ إِنْو رَاجِعٌ يَعِيشُ مَعَكَ. (ع ن)

9. يا زِيَادَ، فَيُفُو عَايَرَتَكَ. مَطَوَّلٌ يَا خَيِّ بِالتَّوَالِيَتِ؟ (ف ر)

## The verb كان

I've made an individual chapter about this verb because it does what the verbs like *would, to have, to be* and *to be going to do* in English.

Let's take a look at a couple of formulas:

### كان + present tense verb

#### كان is in present tense

1. Maybe he still loves you, and what you saw was just a moment of weakness.
2. Maybe it is awesome.
3. I'm glad that my presence makes you feel better.
4. Things like those can wreck people's lives, so I might harm you by not telling you.
5. Oh, come on!.. I swear we were talking about politics.

#### كان is in the past tense

1. They didn't let us go until July. (My friend told me that his son's academic year was extended a little.)
2. Maybe your ex-husband will agree to take you back, and he'll give you an amazing life — way better than the one I gave you.
3. I wanted to give you some advice. (Well, the word in the original sentence is not exactly a verb but let us assume it is.)
4. I would have taken you with me, but I'm, afraid, you'll get bored there.
5. I know, I talked to her a few minutes ago.
6. Any girl can do for him what I did for him.
7. Sorry, I made you wait. I was packing my luggage.
8. If it weren't for a particular goal, I wouldn't have consented.

9. If it weren't for you, I wouldn't be able to split my life between my home and Paris.
10. Won't you tell me what were you talking about with professor Ahmad?
11. What was I going to tell you?

كان + particle ح + present tense verb

1. I was going to stay here all this time, even though we're married.
2. ... because in that case you would have asked questions to which I wouldn't have had answers.
3. Of course that's because of you, for, even if Ahmad was really wrong, he wouldn't have caused the divorce.

كان + past tense verb

**كان is in the present tense**

1. Nothing serious. I was told she ate something bad and got food poisoning.
2. I hope we've sorted things out.
3. You should have come not called.
4. So you couldn't find a good excuse for the kids and avoid coming here.
5. Maybe she's already in love with him.
6. If we kick Nisrine out, this danger will completely disappear.
7. My marriage isn't important right now. What matters is the trouble you've probably gotten into — and that you're dragging me into it too.

**كان is in the past tense**

1. Find a neurologist to prescribe you medication for your nerves. You'll need to take it until this period is over.
2. You don't love her. If you did, you wouldn't have left her back then. You're just taking revenge on me.



3. - Oh, God!.. I've prepared an awesome surprise for you.

- Oh, darling...

4. Her lifelong dream was to marry the professor.

5. Why didn't you tell me? I would have done something...

6. If your sister had been doing the treatment properly, like she used to do before we got married, nothing would have happened to her, and she could have made a family without facing any difficulties.

### كان + a present participle

#### **كان is in the present tense**

1. It has never happened that you weren't out, whenever I came to your place.

2. He was supposed to come back yesterday. He's emotionally exhausted.

3. - Wanna drink something?

- No, thanks. And I hope you were not planning to put on candles.

4. I need half an hour more to finish.

#### **كان is in the past tense**

1. I was gonna go with them but I wanted to see you.

2. And what reaction were you expecting from them?

3. He wanted a million but I said I would give him half that.

4. Your father gave up on the idea of getting married.

5. He was determined to stick to his decision, and nothing would have swayed him.

6. You don't deserve it! Stay away from me, you scoundrel! Don't you come close to me.  
I was bringing you cakes...

7. I didn't plan to come. It was spontaneous.

كان when it looks like you can do without it

1. What were you gonna tell me? Hope that was something good.
2. Hey, why do you still feel shy when my mom sees us together? Didn't she give you the green light?
3. Until you see it with your own eyes, it's just suspicion.
4. This is the first time you've been honest with me.
5. Will I come home and find him gone? Will I walk in and not see his belongings or smell his scent?

Time to check.

## كان + a present-tense verb

### كان is in the present tense

1. يُمْكِنُ يَكُونُ يَجِبُكَ، وَاللَّيْ شَفِيتِيهِ كَانَ نَزْوَةً عَابِرَةً. (ع ن)
2. يُمْكِنُ تَكُونُ يَتَعَقَّدُ. (ع ن)
3. يَبْسِطُنِي كَثِيرٌ إِنْهُ يَكُونُ وَجُودِي عَمَّ يَبْرِيحُكَ. (ع ن)
4. الْقُصَّةُ فَيَا خَرِبَانَ بَيُوتَ، وَيُمْكِنُ إِذَا مَا نَخْبِرُكَ بَكُونُ عَمَّ يَنْزِيكِي. (ع ن)
5. يَا عَمِّي، وَاللَّهِ كَمَا عَمَّ نَحْكِي بِالسِّيَاسَةِ. (ع ن)

### كان is in the past tense

1. هُونُ مَا كَانُوا يَخْلُصُونَا بَعْدَ لَشَهْرٍ سَبْعَةٍ. (ص)
2. بَلَكِي جُوزَكَ السَّابِقَ يَتَقَبَّلُ يَسْتَرْجِعُكَ، وَسَاعَتَا يَبْعِثُكَ حَيَاةً لَوْ كُنْتُ أَكْثَرُ مَا أَنَا كُنْتُ بَعِثُكَ يَا هَا. (ع ن)
3. كُنْتُ بَدِي وَصِيكِي عَ شَيْ. (ع ن)
4. كُنْتُ بَاخِدُكَ مَعِي، بَسْ رَحْ تَزْهَقِي بِالْجَوِّ. (ع ن)
5. بَعْرِفْ، كُنْتُ عَمَّ بَحِكَا مِنْ شَوِي. (ع ن)
6. كُلِّ إِلَيَّ كُنْتُ أَعْمَلُ يَا هُنَّ، حَيَلًا وَاحِدَةً فَيَا تَعْمَلُو يَا هُنَّ. (ع ن)
7. سُورِي، نَطَرْتُكَ، بَسْ كُنْتُ عَمَّ ضَبَّ الشَّنْطَةِ. (ع ن)
8. لَوْ مَا كَرَّمَالْ هَدَفْ مَعِينْ، مَا كُنْتُ يَقْبَلْ. (ع ن)
9. أَنَا، لَوْ مَا مِنْكَ، مَا كُنْتُ بَعْرِفْ كَيْفَ بَدِي شَقِيفْ حَالِي بَيْنَ هُونُ وَبَارِسْ. (ع ن)
10. مَا رَحْ تَقُولِي لِي شُو كُنْتُ تَحْكُو إِنْتِي وَبُرُوفُورْ أَحْمَدُ؟ (ع ن)
11. شُو كُنْتُ بَدِي قَلِّكَ؟ (مَا تَوَازَعُونِي، نَسِيتَ وَبِنَ سَمِعْتَا...)

## كان + particle + present tense verb

1. كُنْتُ رَحَ أَبْتَى هُونُ بِهَالْفَتْرَةِ، حَتَّى لَوْ نَحْنُ مَجُوزِينَ. (ع ن)
2. لِأَنِّي كُنْتُ رَحَ فُوتَ مَعَكَ بِأَسْئَلَةٍ، يُمْكِنُ مَا كُنْتُ رَحَ لَاقِيَلَا جَوَابَ وَقْتًا. (ع ن)
3. أَكِيدُ إِنِّي الْعَلْطَانَةَ. لِأَنَّهُ أَحْمَدُ لَوْ قَدْ مَا كَانَ غَلْطَانُ مَا رَحَ يُوصَلُ لَدَرَجَةٍ أَنْكُنْ تَتَطَلَّقُوا. (ع ن)

## كان + a past-tense verb

### كان is in the present tense

1. مَا شَيْءٍ مِنْهُمْ، عَمَّ يَقُولُوا إِنْهُ يَتَكُونُ أَكَلْتُ شَيْءٍ وَشَمَمْتُ. (و ك)
2. يَتَمَنَّى تَكُونُ تَوْصَحْتُ الْإِشْيَا بَيْنَانَا. (ع ن)
3. مَفْرُوضٌ تَكُونُ وَصَلْتُ مِنْشَ عَمَّ تَحْكِينِي. (ع ن)
4. يَتَكُونِي مَا لَا قِيَّتِي حِجَّةً تَعْطِيَا لِلْوَلَادَةِ مَا تَجِي. (ع ن)
5. يُمْكِنُ يَتَكُونُ حَبْتُو. (ع ن)
6. إِذَا خَلَصْنَا مِنْ نَسْرِينَ، مِنْكُونُ خَلَصْنَا مِنْ الْخَطَرِ كُلِّهِ. (و ك)
7. مِنْشَ مِنْهُمْ زَوَاجِي هَلَقَ. الْمَهْمُ الْمَشْكَلُ الَّتِي مُمْكِنُ تَكُونِي وَقَعْتِي حَالِكٌ فِيهِ وَوَقَعْتِنَا مَعَكَ. (و ك)

### كان is in the past tense

1. سُوفِيْلِكُ شَيْءٍ حَكِيمٍ أَعْصَابُ يَعْطِيكِ دَوَا يَرْوِقُكَ أَعْصَابُكَ تَ كُنْتِي مَرَقْتِي هَالْفَتْرَةِ. (ع ن)
2. إِنْتَ مَا بَحْبَا. لَوْ بَحْبَا مَا كُنْتَ تَرَكْنَا مِنْ زَمَانٍ. إِنْتَ بَسْ عَمَّ تَنْتَقِمُ مِنِّي. (ع ن)
3. - يَا اللَّهُ كُنْتَ عَمَلْتَلِكُ سُورَ بَرِيْزُ يَعْقَدُ.

- حَبِيْبِي إِنِّي. (ف ر)

4. وَهِيَ أُمْنِيَّةٌ حَيَاتًا أَنَا كَانَتْ تَجُوزَتْ إِلْبَرُوسُورُ. (ع ن)

5. لِيَهْ مَا خَبَرْتَنِي؟ كُنْتُ تَصَرَّفْتُ بِشِي طَرِيقَةً. (ع ن)

6. إِخْتَكْ لَوْ كَفَّتْ عِلَاجَ عَ الْمَرْبُوطِ، مِثْلَهَا كَانَتْ قَبْلَ الزَّوْجِ، مَا كَانَ صَارَ مَعًا شَيْ، وَكَانَتْ قَدَرْتُ تَعْمَلُ عَائِلَةً بِدُونِ أَيِّ مَضَاعِفَاتٍ. (و ك)

### كان + a present participle

#### كان is in the present tense

1. وَلَا مَرَّةً يَجِي لَعْنَدِكَ إِلَّا مَا يَتَكُونِي ضَاهِرَةً. (ع ن)

2. مَفْرُوضٌ يَكُونُ رَاجِعٌ إِمْبَارِحَ. حَالَتُو النَّفْسِيَّةِ كَثِيرٌ تَعَبَانَةٍ. (ع ن)

3. - تَشْرَبُ كَأْسٌ؟

- لَا، مِيرْسِي، إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ مَا تَكُونِي مَفْكَرَةً مَوْضُوعِ الشُّمُوعِ كَمَا. (ع ن)

4. نَصَّ سَاعَةً وَيَكُونُ خَالِصًا. (و ك)

#### كان is in the past tense

1. أَنَا كُنْتُ رَائِحَةً مَعْنُ بَسْ فَضَلْتُ شُوفَكَ. (ع ن)

2. شُو كُنْتُ مَسْتَنْظِرٌ تَكُونُ رَدَّةً فَعَلُنْ يَعْنِي؟ (ع ن)

3. هُوَ كَانَ طَالِبٌ مَلِيُونُ بَسْ تَزَلْتُو لِلنَّصِّ. (ع ن)

4. يَكُنْ كَانَ شَائِلٌ فِكْرَةَ الزَّوْجِ مِنْ رَأْسُو. (ع ن)

5. كَانَ مُصَرَّ عَلَى رَأْيُو، وَمَا فِي شَيْ يَغَيِّرُ رَأْيُو. (ع ن)

6. إِنْتَ مَا بَسْتَاهَلْ! حَلَّ عَيِّي يَا وَاطِي. مَا نَبْعَاطِي مَعِي. كُنْتُ جَائِلْتُكَ "غَاتُو". (ف ر)

7. مَا كُنْتُ مَقَرَّةً أَجِي، طَلَعْتُ مَعِي هَيْكَ. (ع ن)

### كان when it looks like you can do without it

1. شُو خَبَرْتِكَ؟ إِنْ شَاءَ اللَّهُ تَكُونُ حُلُوةً. (ع ن)

2. دَخَلَكَ، لِيَهْ بَعْدَكَ بِنَحْرَجَ لَمَّا يَتَكُونُ مَعِيَ بَوُجُودَ مَا؟ مَعَ أَنَا عَطَيْتَكَ الضَّوءَ الْأَخْضَرَ. (ع ن)

3. طَالَمَا مَا شَفَيْتِي شَيْءٍ بِعُيُونِكَ، مُمْكِنٌ يَكُونُ مَجَرَّدَ شَكٍّ. (ع ن)

4. هَيْدِي أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ يَتَكُونُ صَادِقٌ فَيَا مَعِيَ. (ع ن)

5. يَدِّي إِجِي عَ الْبَيْتِ مَا يَكُونُ مَوْجُودٌ؟ إِجِي عَ الْبَيْتِ مَا لَا قِيَّ أَغْرَاضُ، مَا شَمَّ رِيحَتْهُ... (ع ن)

## Negative imperative

We've seen the present-tense conjugation pattern, so, the only point I can add is that, to get the negative imperative, we need to use the second-person versions of the verbs, drop the prefix ب and add ما, to get something like **ما تَعْمَلُوْا**, **ما تَعْمَلِيْ**, **ما تَعْمَلْ**.

Just a small side note on positive imperatives. Some verbs assume the following shapes:

Laugh - ضَحَكْ

Watch - حَضَرَ

Start moving or Come out - طَلَعَ

Shut up - خَرَسَ

Now, when you know the steps and have seen the example, you can easily reverse-translate the sentences below:

1. Please don't hide anything from us.
2. Don't complicate things for yourself.
3. Don't worry about the kids, they're gonna come over and stay at my place.
4. Please don't be late.
5. We've been together for years, don't leave me like that.
6. Take it easy, Amal! Don't be so rash.
7. - Don't forget to tell her where you were right and where you were wrong.  
- I was wrong?  
- Yeah. Did you forget those James Bond-style special ops you used to pull off at night?  
- Oh... Great! So now you're making me feel guilty?
8. Don't say that about my husband. I'm not gonna tolerate it.
9. Don't joke with me when I'm angry.

10. Don't exaggerate, sister. It's not good.
11. Stay away from me, you scoundrel! Don't ever cross my path again!
12. Don't create problems between you and your wife.
13. Don't add more fuel to the fire.
14. I made you breakfast. Come on, before it gets cold! Hurry up!
15. Quiet, Jad. You don't have to talk that much.
16. Please don't be offended by anything the young master says.
17. Don't worry about her now.

Time to check. Scroll down please.



1. پَلِيزْ مَا تُنْجِي عَلَيْنَا شَيْ. (ما تَوَاضَعُونِي، نَسِيتْ وَين سَمَعْتَا...)
2. مَا تُصْعَبِي الْأُمُورَ عَ حَالِكْ. (ما تَوَاضَعُونِي، نَسِيتْ وَين سَمَعْتَا...)
3. مَا تَعْطِي الْهَمَّ الْوَلَادِ. يَجُو بِقَعْدُوا عِنْدِي. (ع ن)
4. پَلِيزْ، مَا تُتَاخَّرِي عَلَيَّ. (و ك)
5. فِي بَيْنَاتِنَا رَفَقَةُ عُمَرْ. مَا تَطْلَعْ مِنِّي بِهَالطَّرِيقَةِ. (ع ن)
6. رُوْقِي أَمَلْ! مَا تُنْصَرِفِي تَهَوْرًا! (ع ن)
7. - بَسْ مَا تُنْسِي تَخْبَرِيَا إِلَيَّ إِيَّاكَ وَاللَّي عَلَيَّكَ.  
- إِلَيَّ عَلَيَّ؟  
- إِيَّاهُ، هُوَ دِي الْعَمَلِيَّاتِ الْجَيْمَسُونْدِيَّةِ إِلَيَّ كُنْتِي تَعْمَلِينَ بِاللَّيَالِي، نَسِيتِينَ؟  
- وَاللَّهِ شُو... حَلَوْ كَثِير... عَمَّ تَقْلَبْ عَلَيَّ؟ (ع ن)
8. مَا تُحْكِي هَيْكَ عَنْ جُوزِي. مَا يَقْبَلْ. (ع ن)
9. مَا تَبْقَى تَمَزَحْ مَعِي أَنَا وَمَعْصَبَةٌ. (ع ن)
10. مَا تُكْثَرِي كَثِيرًا إِيَّاهُ، مَا يَسُوءُ. (ع ن)
11. إِنْتَ مَا بَتَسْتَاهِلْ! حَلَّ عَيْنِي يَا وَاطِي. مَا تَتَعَاطَى مَعِي! (ف ر)
12. مَا تَعْمَلْ مَشْكَلْ إِنْتَ وَمَرْتَكَ. (ع ن)
13. مَا تَزِيدِيَا. (ع ن)
14. حَضَرْتَلْكَ تَرْوِيقَةً. يَلَا. قَبْلَ مَا تَبْرَدْ. مَا تُتَاخَّرْ. (و ك)
15. سَكْتُ، جَادْ، وَمَا تُكَبِّرْ بِكَلَامْ. (و ك)
16. شُو مَا قَالْ الْخَوَاجَةُ الصَّغِيرْ، مَا تَزْعَلِي مِنْهُ. (و ك)
17. إِنْتِي هَلَقْ مَا تُشْعَلِي بِالْكَ فَيَا. (و ك)

## Form II verbs

Nothing new here. In plain English, form II verbs very often reflect the affect of someone or something on someone or something else.

There are uncommon scenarios though. For example,

سَمَعْنَا شَيْءًا. (برناج "يَلَا نَرْقُصُ")

Literally that means *Make us listen to something*. In that case it was simply *Say something*. The judge Charles Makriss said that one of the contestants had a narrator type of voice and asked him to say something.

According to my Invisible Friend, the same line is used to ask someone to play a tune on a musical instrument.

The *shadda* over the second consonant often transforms into *sukoon*. Probably, pronunciation convenience is the reason behind that. You'll find examples in the exercise :)

Practice time:

1. Make me forget the entire Universe, make me forget the entire world (or *all the people*).
2. Thanks, dear. You've made me feel better.
3. Where are you gonna take us for lunch today?
4. You've put a lot on my shoulders.
5. Pain makes you forget fear.
6. He made me feel like I was nothing more than an accident — there one moment, gone the next. As if I had no worth.
7. How am I supposed to know?
8. What brings you over? You called, and then you came right over.
9. Our whole lives, circumstances have kept us apart. Now, for the first time, they're finally on our side.

10. It feels like she stabbed me in the heart with a knife.
11. She's the only one who can make me stronger and put me back onto my feet.
12. Don't you wanna offer me a coffee?
13. I'm going through all this because of you!
14. OK, Jihane, what is it? Why did you bring me here?
15. Tell me what happened? You've made me tense.
16. Don't get yourself into a maze you can't handle.
17. Sorry, I made you wait. I was packing my luggage.
18. No force on Earth can make me get back together with you.
19. He made me feel like I'm a small kid again.
20. Are you dumb or just pretending to be? Nothing will make us break up.
21. You wouldn't have stopped your treatment in France unless it was something really serious like that.
22. Come on. We have to go downstairs. We shouldn't make our guests wait.
23. - What do you bring to the table besides talking?  
- Talking *is* what brings in the money!
24. I'm worried about the kids... This situation will make them travel back in time.
25. Drinking and getting drunk will only lead you down a criminal path.
26. It took you quite some time to arrive, doctor. What happened? Tell us.
27. She never said anything to me or made me sense something was going on.
28. Those who were the dearest ones to me made my eyes cry...

1. نَسِينِي الدُّنْيَا، نَسِينِي الْعَالَمَ (أغنية "نسيني الدنيا" لراغب علامة)
2. مِيرْسِي، حَبِيبِي، رَحْمَتِي. (ع ن)
3. وَبِنَ رَحْ تَغْدِينَا الْيَوْمَ؟ (ع ن)
4. حَمَلْتَنِي هَمْ كَبِير. (ع ن)
5. الْوَجَعُ بَيْنَسِيكِ الْخُوف. (ع ن)
6. حَسَسَنِي كَأَنِّي شَيْءٌ صُدِفَ وَمَرَقَتْ وَمَا إِلَيَّ قِيَمَةٌ. (ع ن)
7. شُو بَعْرِفَنِي؟ (ع ن)
8. شُو فَوَّتَكَ عَلَيَّ وَدَقَيْتَنِي وَجِيتِي. (ع ن)
9. فَرَقْتَكُنْ الظُّرُوفَ كُلَّهَا الْعُمُرَ وَلَا أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ عَمَّ تَلْعَبُ لَصَالِحُكُنْ. (ع ن)
10. مِثْلُ كَأَنَّ سَكِينٍ وَفَوَّتُو بَقْلِي. (ع ن)
11. هِيَ الْوَحِيدَةُ الَّتِي قَادِرَةٌ تَقْوِيَنِي، تَقْدِرُ تَوْقَفَنِي عَلَى إِجْرَائِي. (ع ن)
12. مَا بَدَّكَ تُضَيِّفَنِي قَهْوَةً؟ (ع ن)
13. إِنِّي وَصَلْتَنِي لُحُون. (ع ن)
14. خَيْر، جِيَان، شُو فِي؟ شُو بِكِي طَلَعْتَنِي لُحُون؟ (ع ن)
15. قَلِّ شُو فِي. وَتَرْتَنِي. (ع ن)
16. مَا تَفَوَّتِي حَالِكُ بَمَتَاهَةِ إِنِّي مِشْ قَدَّا. (ع ن)
17. سُورِي، نَطَرْتَكُنْ، بَسْ كُنْتُ عَمَّ ضَبَّ الشَّنْطَةِ. (ع ن)
18. مَا فِي قُوَّةِ عَ الْأَرْضِ بَتَقْبَلُ تَرْجَعْنِي إِلَيْكَ. (ع ن)
19. حَسَسَنِي بَعْدَنِي وَلَد. (مَا تَوَازَعُونِي، نَسِيتَ وَبِنَ سَمِعْتَا...)

20. إِنْتِي مَجْدُوبَةٌ وَلَا مَا يَنْفَهِي؟ مَا فِي شَيْءٍ يَفْرِقُنَا عَنْ بَعْضٍ. (ما تؤاخزوني، نسيت وين سمعتا...)
21. مَا فِي شَيْءٍ يَبْتَرِكُكَ عِلَاجَكَ بَفَرَنَسَا إِلَّا خَبَرِيَّةٌ مِثْلُ هَيْكٍ. (ع ن)
22. يَلَا، لَا زِمَ نَزَلْ، مَا مَنَظَرُ الضُّيُوفِ. (ما تؤاخزوني، نسيت وين سمعتا...)
23. - بَسْ إِنْتِ شُو يَبْطَلَعُ مِنْكَ غَيْرَ الْحَكِيِّ؟
- مَا هُوَ الْحَكِيُّ الِّي يَبْطَلَعُ مَصَارِي. (ف ر)
24. أَنَا خَافِيَةٌ عَالُودًا. هَالْقَصَّةُ رَحْ تَرْجَعُنْ لَوْرَا مِنْ الْجُدِيدِ. (و ك)
25. الشَّرْبُ وَالسَّكْرُ مَا يَبْوَصُلُوكَ إِلَّا عَ الْحَرَامِ. (و ك)
26. طَوَّلْتُ، دَكْتُور. فِي شَيْءٍ؟ طَمَنَّا. (و ك)
27. وَلَا مَرَّةً قَالَتْ لِي شَيْءٌ أَوْ حَسَّسْتَنِي بِشَيْءٍ. (و ك)
28. بَكُّوا عِيُونِي إِلْ كَانُوا عِيُونِي (أغنية "عز الحبايب" لصابر الرباعي)

## The multi-functional conjunction و

This is one of my favorite topics, I mean, the use of the conjunction و that looks uncommon to us, non-natives. It often means *which, even, if and when*.

Example. *I told you that already.* (to a lady)

سَبَقَ وَقُلْتُكَ.

That literally means *That happened previously, and I told you.*

1. He made me feel like I was nothing more than an accident—there one moment, gone the next. As if I had no worth.

2. You used to support me in this.

3. It feels like she stabbed me in the heart with a knife.

4. Why are you going to lose your mind? It's in the past now... That was his fate.

5. Hey, since you're here, what is he doing there alone?

- He's talking to Nisrine a little.

6. You must be out of your mind — it's freezing, even the bird is frozen...

7. What they've been through since they were kids is enough.

8. She faced tough circumstances and had to grow up too soon, while she was still just a kid.

9. I'll be ready in half an hour.

10. When she found out that your father got married, she became a completely different person.

11. Well, it's already happened. We need to find a solution.

12. I'll call you when I'm on my way.

13. Mr. Jad occasionally comes here with his fiancée, but not for long.

14. How can you be doing that if you're aware that what you're doing can harm you?
15. She's afraid of him, even when he's nowhere near.
16. The moment that pretty girl walked in, you were all smiles and hugs with her... As if nothing was going on!

Let's check.

1. حَسَّنِي كَأَنِّي شَيْءٌ صُدِفَ وَمَرَقَتْ وَمَا إِلَيَّ قِيَمَةٌ. (ع ن)
2. سَبَقَ وَخَدَيْتُ مَوْفِقِي بِهِ الْمَوْضِعَ. (ع ن)
3. مِثْلُ كَأَنَّ سَكِينٍ وَفَوَيْتُو بَقْلِي. (ع ن)
4. لَيْهِ رَحْ تُجَنِّي؟ شَغْلَةٌ وَصَارَتْ... قَدَرُو. (ع ن)
5. - دَخَلْتُ، شَوْ عَمَّ يَعْمَلُ لِحَالُو وَإِنِّي هُونُ؟  
- يَكُونُ عَمَّ يَحْكِي شَوِيَّ مَعَ نَسْرِينَ. (و ك)
6. إِنْتُ أَكِيدُ مَجَانِينَ إِذَا الْعُصْفُورُ وَرَدَانُ. (ع ن)
7. اللَّيِّ تَحْمَلُوهُ مِنْ هِنِّ وَصَغَارٍ يَكْفِي. (و ك)
8. مَرَقَتْ بَطْرُوفٌ صَعْبَةٌ، كَبَرَتْ بِكَيْرٍ، نَضَجَتْ هِيَ وَطِفْلَةٌ. (و ك)
9. نَصَّ سَاعَةً وَيَكُونُ خَالِصًا. (و ك)
10. مِنْ وَقْتِ اللَّيِّ عَرَفْتُ بَزَوَاجِ بَيْكَ وَهِيَ مَرَّةٌ تَانِيَةٌ صَارَتْ. (و ك)
11. هَلَقْتُ، شَيْءٌ وَصَارَ، لَازِمٌ نَلَاقِي حَلًّا. (و ك)
12. بِحُكَيْكَ أَنَا وَعَ الطَّرِيقَ. (و ك)
13. خَوَاجَةٌ جَادَ أَوْقَاتٍ يَجِي وَخَطِيبَتُو لَهُونُ، بَسْ مَا يَطُولُو. (و ك)
14. كَيْفَ بَتَّعْمَلِي هَيْكَ وَإِنِّي عَارِفَةٌ إِنُّو مُمْكِنُ الشَّيْءِ اللَّيِّ عَمَّ تَعْمَلِيهِ يَثْرِيكِ كَثِيرٌ؟ (و ك)
15. يَخَوِّفَا حَتَّى وَهُوَ مَشْ مَوْجُودَ مَعًا. (و ك)
16. مِنْ وَقْتِ مَا فَاتَتْ السَّتَّ الْحِلْوَةُ لَهُونُ وَإِنْتُو وَيَاهَا ضَحَكَاتُ وَطَبَطَبَاتُ! مَا كَانُوا صَايِرُ شَيْءٍ. (و ك)



## Verbs

Lebanese Arabic, probably, just like all the other dialects, has a limited number of multi-functional verbs that are used very often for multiple purposes. Just like in English, there are nice and concise ways to say relatively complicated things using the said verbs.

Warning! This is not a learn-five-verbs-and-speak-like-a-native type of magic pill. Like this whole book, this chapter is but a small step that will help you feel the taste of this beautiful dialect.

Below is the list of the verbs:

- عمل

- شاف

- جاب

- رجع

- خلى

- إجا

- طلع

- صار

- ضلّ

- حبّ

## The verb عمل ...

... , which is used quite often, is reminiscent of the English verb *to do*, which is also multi-functional.

These verbs deserve an individual book, as for now, we'll only do a small exercise. Let's start:

1. I'll do the statistics.
2. My voice is traveling. (Context. My Lebanese friend said that when I mentioned I was listening to his voice messages in various places, including buses and bus stops.)
3. I think of doing CELTA.
4. - Thanks.  
- For what?? I didn't do anything.
5. I don't know how to make it (a hamdaniya)... It looks cute though.
6. I don't have a father anymore. He has this right, he may do whatever he wants.
7. It's Gina... She's having a nervous break-down.
8. ... , just like he didn't wanna have a middleman do things for him.

Scroll down and check.

1. بَعْمِلْ إِحْصَاءَات.
2. صَوْتِي يَبْعِمِلْ سِيَاْحَة.
3. كُنْتُ عَم فَكَّرَ أَعْمِلْ السِّلَتَا. (ص)
4. - شَكَرَا.
- وَلَوْ، مَا عَمِلْتُ شَيْ. (ص)
5. أَنَا مَا بَعْرِفُ أَعْمَلَا (الْحَمْدَانِيَّة)، بَسْ طَالَعَة مَهْضُومَة. (ص)
6. أَنَا بَطْلٌ عِنْدِي بِي. يَصْطَفِلْ، يَعْمِلُ اللَّيْ بَدُو يَاه. (و ك)
7. هَيْدِي جِينَا عَامِلَة كَرِيْزَة أَعْصَاب. (و ك)
8. ... وَلَا كَانَ يَقْبَلُ حَدَا يَعْمَلُو وَسَطَى. (و ك)

## The verb شاف

In addition to its literal meaning, which is *to see*, it is also used as *to find*, *to think*, *to regard*, etc.

1. This part is not working because of what your daughter has seen.
2. Think how we can get out of this.
3. I have nine missed calls from you.
4. May I check something, sir? (Said to a senior police officer.)

Let's check.

1. إِلَهِي إِلِي شَافِتُو بِنْتَك عَطَّلْ هَالْجِزَّة (آخ)
2. شُوفْ كَيْفْ بَدْنَا نَخْلَصْ مِنْ هَالْوَرَطَة. (ف ر)
3. شِفْتْ مِنْكْ تَسْعْ مِسْتْ كُولْ. (أ ح)
4. سِيدْنَا فِي شُوفْ شَغْلَة؟ (أ ح)

## The verb جاب

I personally think that this is the most multi-functional verb in both Lebanese and many or all the other dialects.

It is used as:

- *to make* [money];

Before I forget, **please note** that the verb قبض can serve this same purpose in Lebanese Arabic.

- *to have or to give birth to kids*;

- *to pick up someone* [at an airport or train/bus station] or *to take someone* [with you];

- *to bring someone or something*;

- *to give*;

- *to get or to buy*;

- *to find*.

Hands-on time!

1. Hey, I bought a new car. I want you to see it.

2. Arabic in Kareem's school is weak. I have to hire an Arabic teacher, so that he can learn to read and write.

3. Find another employee to be the head of the Cardiology Department.

4. Why did you bring him up?

5. Bringing him up is forbidden!

6. She left you, got married, gave birth to a son and then asked about you.

7. And here comes the result confirming that Ramzi cannot have kids.

Please check.

1. لِيَكْ جِبَتْ سِيَارَةَ جَدِيدَةً، بَدِّي يَاكَ اِنْشُوفَا. (م م)
2. بِمَدْرَسَةٍ كَرِيمٍ مَا فِي عَرَبِي قَوِي، مِضْطَرَّ جَبْلُو مَعْلَبَةٍ لُغَةِ عَرَبِي لِيَقْدَرُ يَكْتَبَ وَيَفْهَمَ. (ص)
3. جِيي حَدَا غَيْرِي كَرَمَالْ يَسْتَلِمَ قِسْمَ الْكَرْدِيُولُوجِي. (ع ن)
4. اِنْتَ بَأَيَّا حَقَّ بِيْجِبْ سِيرْتُو؟ (ع ن)
5. مَمْنُوعٌ تُجِيبْ سِيرْتُو بِالْمَرَّةِ! (ع ن)
6. تَرَكَتْكَ وَتَجَوَزْتَ وَجَابْتَ وَلَدَّ وَسَلَّاتِ عَنَّكَ. (ع ن)
7. هُونْ طَلَعَتْ النَّتِيجَةُ. اِنْتُو رَمَزِي مَا يَجِيبْ وَلَادْ. (و ك)

## The verb رجع

This verb is used as:

- [to do something] *again*.

This explains the logic behind sentences like رَجَعَ بِحِكْمٍ بَعْدَ and not رَجَعَ أَحْكَمٌ بَعْدَ :

- *to get back to one's previous shape*.

Sounds a bit complex, I guess. Well, practice makes perfect. The exercise is gonna make things clear.

- when followed by the preposition بَ it means *to return something*;

- and it means *to depend on* when followed by the preposition لَ.

Let's start the exercise.

1. Use your memory to travel back in time.
2. Become again that Nana that used to drive everyone crazy.
3. It feels like you made me travel 50 years into the past.
4. Here we go again with this topic?
5. I've recovered. I'm OK now.
6. When she saw you with another woman, she thought you didn't love her anymore.
7. She's about to make a big scene again.
8. - The solution to her problem requires making a decision that is beyond my control.  
- Then who has control over it?
9. On the contrary, things have taken too long and gone off track. It's time to get them back on track.



10. I think Gina has to restart her medication, regardless of whether Youssef loves her or not. That's the last thing we care about.
11. Ramzi won't love anyone else anymore — only Nisrine.
12. Sila, call Youssef. Tell him that Gina is crying a lot and won't be able to talk to him.
13. OK, but on condition that you'll be smiling like you were when you walked in.
14. I'm worried about the kids... This situation will make them travel back in time.
15. - I wanna become a man.
- But you *are* a true man.
16. Why are you making that decision on your own, without discussing it with me.
17. I came back five days ago.
18. - How shall I understand what you said? Can I come back?
- That depends on Amal.
19. But time doesn't go back.
20. She did the impossible in order to get you back.

Please check.

1. رَجِعْ بِزَاكِرَتِكَ لَوْرَا. (ع ن)
2. رَجَاعِي نانا إِلِّي مَدَوَخَةَ الْكِلِّ (ع ن)
3. رَجَّعْتِنِي نَحْسِينَ سَنَةَ لَوْرَا (ع ن)
4. رَجَعْنَا لَهَا نَعْمَةً؟ (ع ن)
5. أَنَا صَحِيَّتْ. رَجَعْتُ نُورْمَلْ. (ع ن)
6. لَمَّا رَجَعْتُ شَافَتُكَ مَعَ مَرَّةٍ تَانِيَةِ فَتَكْرَتِكَ إِنُو بَطَلْتُ نَحْبًا. (ع ن)
7. رَحْ تَرْجِعْ تَنْزِلَ السَّمَاعِ الْأَرْضِ. (ع ن)
8. - حَلَّا بِدُو قَرَارْ مَا يِيرْجَعْلُكَ.
- لَمَيْنْ يِيرْجِعْ؟ (ع ن)
9. بالعكس، كَثِيرْ طَوَلْتُ الْأُمُورْ، وَزَا حَتَّ عَنِ السِّكَّةِ... صَارَ لَازِمَ تَرْجِعْ عَ السِّكَّةِ. (ع ن)
10. أَنَا رَايِي إِنُو جِينَا لَازِمَ تَرْجِعْ تَاخُدْ أَدَوِيَّتَا، إِنْ قَبْلَ يَوْسُفْ وَلَا مَا قَبْلَ. آخِرْ هَمَّ عَنَّا. (و ك)
11. وَمِشْ رَحْ يَرْجِعْ يَحِبُّ رَمَزِي وَيَتَجَوَّزْ غَيْرَ نَسْرِينْ أَكِيد. (و ك)
12. سِيَلَا، رَجَعِي طَلْبِي يَوْسُفْ، قُولِيلُو إِنُو جِينَا عَمَّ تَبْكِي كَثِيرْ وَمِشْ قَادِرَةٌ تَحْكِي مَعُو هَلَقْ. (و ك)
13. أُوْكِي، بَسْ عَ شَرْطِ تَرْجِعْ تَضْحَكِي مِثْلَهَا كِنْتِي عَمَّ تَضْحَكِي أَوَّلْ مَا فَيِّي. (و ك)
14. أَنَا خَايِفَةٌ عَ الْوَلَادْ. هَالْقُصَّةِ رَحْ تَرْجِعْ لَوْرَا مِّنَ الْجُدِيدِ. (و ك)
15. - بَدِّي إِرْجِعْ رِجَالْ.
- إِنْتِ رِجَالْ وَنُصَّ. (و ك)
16. إِنْتِي كَيْفْ بَتَّخْزِي هِيكَ قَرَارْ لَوْحَدِكَ بِدُونْ مَا تَرْجِعِي لِإِي؟! (ع ن)
17. إِلَى نَحْسَةِ أَيَّامِ رَا جَعَّة. (ع ن)

18. - شَوْ بَفَهَم مِّنْ كَلَامِكَ؟ إِنُّو فِئِي أَرْجَعُ؟

- هَيْدَا الْمَوْضُوعَ يَرْجِعْ لِأَمَلٍ. (ع ن)

19. بَسْ السَّاعَةَ مَا يَرْجِعْ لَوْرَا. (ع ن)

20. عَمَلْتُ الْمِسْتَحِيلَ حَتَّى تَرْجِعَ تَسْتَرْجِعَكَ. (ع ن)

## The verb خَلَّى

This verb means *stay* (imperative), *to let*, *to make someone do something* or *to keep doing something*.

I'm gonna elaborate on it a little.

### Stay

Example. *Stay with us for dinner.*

خَلِّكَ مَعَنَا عَ الْعِشَاءِ. (ع ن)

### Urging

Example. *Let's get back together again.*

خَلِّينَا نَرْجِعَ لِبَعْضُنَا. (ع ن)

### Let's or Let it...

Example. *Let Nabeel take away your entire life, the way he took away your past and present.*

خَلِّي نَبِيلَ يَسْرِقْ لِكَ حَيَاتِكَ مِثْلَمَا سَرَقَ مِنْكَ مَاضِيكَ وَحَاضِرِكَ. (ع ن)

### To allow

Example. *I didn't let Nay come here.*

مَا خَلَّيْتُ لَنَائِ تَجِي. (ع ن)

Time to do the exercise.

1. So let Ziad do all the work for you.
2. Now listen, no matter where you work, your job can be useful, you can either make fun of it or make it important.
3. Stay away from that.

4. Oh, no... My brother-in-law... Come on! Let the guy have a break from you someday!
5. Don't let him take advantage of your feelings for him.
6. If he's not interested in her, she should move on.
7. - I'm gonna make a cup for you too.
- I don't feel like it...
- Don't feel like it? I know how to make you feel like it.
8. She doesn't give me a single chance to start this conversation.
9. Try to feel for him a little. Keep in mind the circumstances he's in.
10. I want you to keep an eye on her to see who she goes out with. That's it.
11. Today, I'm going to stay and sleep here, and tomorrow, I'll leave when I'm ready.
12. - Oh, God!.. I've prepared an awesome surprise for you.
- Oh, darling... It's OK. Let's postpone it until tomorrow.
- Why shall we "postpone it until tomorrow"? It's not gonna be fresh tomorrow.
13. Let the things go the way they do.
14. I once had a nervous break-down because of your marriage.
15. Let the one, who initially made up this entire lie, use his knowledge to find the solution.

Please check.

1. طَبْ، خَلِي زِيَاد يَعْمَلْ عَنْكَ الشَّغْلْ. (ف ر)
2. هَلَقْ، لَيْكْ، شو ما كَانِتْ وَظِيْفَتْكَ، فَيَا تُكُونْ مُفِيدَة بَسْ إِنْتْ يَا بْتَسَخِّفَا يَا بَخْلِيَا إِلَّا مَعْنَى. (ص)
3. خَلِيْكَ بَرَّاتْ هَيْدَا المَوْضُوع. (ع ن)
4. يَا عَلَيْنَا وَعَ صِهْرِي يَا عَمِّي! خَلِي الزَّلْمِي يَرْتَا ح مِّنْكَ شَيْ نَهَارًا! (و ك)
5. مَا لَازِمْ تُخَلِّيْهِ يَسْتَعِلْ مَشَاعِرْكَ تَجَاهُو. (ع ن)
6. إِذَا مَا بَدُو يَاهَا لِلْبِنْتِ خَلِيَا تَرْوَحْ بَقِي تُشُوفْ حَيَاتَا. (ع ن)
7. - خَلِينَا أَعْمَلْكَ مَعِي فَنَجَانْ.
- مَا إِلِي نَفْسْ.
- مَا إِلْكَ نَفْسْ؟ أَنَا بَعْرِفْ كَيْفْ أَفْتَحْلِكَ نَفْسِكَ. (ع ن)
8. مَا عَمْ بَخْلِيْنِي إِفْتَحَلَا المَوْضُوع، نِهَائِيَا. (ع ن)
9. خَلِيْ عِنْدْكَ شَوِيَة إِحْسَاسْ وَاحْتِرْمِيلُو ظَرْفُو. (ع ن)
10. أَنَا بَدِي تَخْلِي عَيْنْكَ عَلِيَا لَحْتِي تَعْرِفْ مَع مِينْ عَم تَضَهْر. بَسْ. (ع ن)
11. خَلِينِي نَامْ هُونِ اللَّيْلَة وَبَكْرَا بَسْرَبْ ع رَوَاقْ (ع ن)
12. - يَا اللّٰهُ... كُنْتُ عَمَلْتُ لَكَ سَوْرِيْزْ بَتَعْقَدْ.
- حَبِيْبِي إِنْتِي. مَا عَلِيْشْ حَبِيْبِي. خَلَاصْ خَلِيَا لِبَكْرَا.
- شو "خَلِيَا لِبَكْرَا"؟ بَتَبْطَلْ طَازَة بَكْرَا!.. (ف ر)
13. خَلِي كُلْ شَيْ مَا شِي طَبِيْعِي. (و ك)
14. قِصَّة زَوَاجْكَ خَلْتْنِي اِنْهَارْ فَرْدْ مَرَّة. (و ك)
15. خَلِي اِلْيَا فَبْرَكَ هِيْدِي الْكَزْبَة كَلَا سِوَا مِنَ الْاَسَاسْ يَحْلَا هُوْ بِمَعْرِفْتُو. (و ك)

**The verb إجا , in MSA it's جاء**

With English it easy, as this verb is pretty synonymous with the verb *to come*, in terms of the meanings it is used in.

1. I was living my life, free and happy, until a problem showed up.

2. If I don't do this, there will be others.

3. So, something has to come at the expense of something else.

4. This is its meaning.

5. - This self-confession looks nice.

- Yet it came too late, right?

6. - Are you back, darling?

- What do you think? Am I back or not?

7. Where did this problem come from? The last thing I need is problems...

8. One day, Nadia came and said they were already living together as a couple.

9. See, now we have one more point to take care of, which is where to spend them...

Let's check.

1. عَاشَ فَاذِي وَرَاضِي لَحْدَ مَا إِجْتَنِي هَالْمَشْكِلَةِ. (ف ر)

2. لَوْ مَا أَنَا، رَحْ يَجِي غَيْرِي.

3. يَعْنِي، شَيِّ بِدُو يَجِي عَلَى حَسَابِ شَيِّ تَانِي. (ص)

4. هَيْكَ يَجِي مَعْنَاتَا. (ص)

5. - حِلْوَةُ هَالْمُصَارَحَةِ مَعَ زَاتِ.

- بَسْ إِجْتِ بَعْدَ فَوَاتِ الْأَوَانِ، مَا هَيْكَ؟ (ع ن)

6. - شُو، حَبِيبي، جِيْتْ؟

- شُو قَوْلْكَ؟ جِيْتْ أَوْ مَا جِيْتْ؟ (ع ن)

7. مِنْ وَنِ إِجْتَنِي هَالْمَصِيبَةِ؟ مِشْ نَاقِصِنِي بَقِي مَشَاكِلِ. (و ك)

8. نَهَارِ بِيحِي نَادِيَةِ وَتَقْلِي إِنْو صَارَ يِنَاتُنْ عِلَاقَةُ مِثْلِ كَانُنْ مَجَوَزِنْ. (و ك)

9. تَفْضَلِي، هَلَقْ إِجَانَا هَمَّ جَدِيدَ - وَنِ بَدِي أَصْرِفُنْ؟



## The verb طلع

This verb is used as *to come out* (basically, it's a synonym of *خرج*), *to appear*, *to show up*, *to exit*, *to go*.

Let's do the exercise:

1. He should leave the house without asking my permission.
2. I don't know why I said that... Just philosophizing a bit...
3. It came out (i.e. *I said it*) spontaneously.
4. Come have some coffee.
5. I tried to get revenge on you, but it turns out, I was just getting revenge on myself.
6. I didn't plan to come. It was spontaneous.
7. Thank God, the blood test came back negative. (Literally — *Thank God for the blood test. It turned out to be clean.*)

Let's check.

1. ما يَظْلَعُ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ بِدُونِ مَا يَأْخُذُ إِزْنَ مِنِّي. (أ ح)
2. ما بَعْرِفُ لِيَهْ طَلَعَتْ مَعِيَ بَسْ إِنْوْ عَمْ إِنْفَلَسَفْ شَوِي. (ص)
3. طَلَعَتْ مِنِّي عَفْوِيَّا. (ع ن)
4. طَلَعِي شَرِي قَهْوَة. (ع ن)
5. جَرَبْتُ أَنْتَقِمَ مِنْكَ، طَلَعْتُ عَمْ بِنْتَقِمَ مِنْ حَالِي. (ع ن)
6. مَا كُنْتُ مُقَرَّرَة إِجِي، طَلَعْتُ مَعِيَ هِيكْ. (ع ن)
7. الحمد لله عَ فَخْصَ الدَّم. طَلَعَ نَظِيف. (ع ن)

## The verb صار

This verb is also used in many ways, however, most or all of them are close to its basic meanings, *to become* and *to happen (to)*, which is why those structures are pretty easy to understand. We only have to add it to our active vocabulary and get used to the fact that quite often it means *already*.

In the English sentences I will try to get as far from *to become* as I can :) Try to guess where you have to use صار or صاير.

I'm gonna give you just one hint. Whenever صار shows duration of a process, it is used this way:

كم صارلك بلبان؟

*How long have you been staying in Lebanon?*

As you see, the preposition ل is written and pronounced as one word with the verb that comes before it. We are going to discuss that in one of the coming chapters.

Let's do the exercise now.

1. I've been making this cake since morning.
2. Darling, what's been going on with you lately? (Literally — ... *during these two days.*)  
You're always angry. Praise God, today's a holiday.
3. The act is already in the Parliament, and I'll do everything I can to make sure it gets enforced.
4. Now, it's your turn to ask why.
5. What's going on? (The sentence is used very often.)
6. What happened to her?
7. We want you to become a man, like us.
8. That thing is very likely to happen.

9. Even if we don't do any business together, we can say that we're now officially friends.
10. From now on, Joud and you are solely responsible for this.
11. You lived in Lebanon, right?
12. It's time for me to wake up anyway.
13. - How do you feel now?
- Better.
14. We're ten minutes late to start the broadcast.
15. Like nothing's happening.
16. She stopped taking her meds to be a normal woman, so that Youssef would love her and not leave her.
17. - That marriage has already happened. Period. There's no way we can cancel it now.
- Oh, I bet, we can.
18. Doctor, my sister Gina is having a big problem.
19. Some will see him as an awesome and loyal guy, others will see no loyalty in him.
20. Yes, darling. Where are you now?
21. Two hours we've been waiting for the doctor to come, and he's still not here.
22. So where's the doctor?
23. Why did you change your attitude toward people?
24. - Where's Youssef?
- He walked out to talk on his mobile two hours ago. It's better this way.
25. I don't understand... If something happens to someone, shall he or she die waiting for the doctor?!

26. You know, I'm thinking, if I were still living at home, among all those disgusting things that were going on at my home, I would be feeling better than now, when I'm a stranger among them.

27. I'm recalling many things that happened in the past.

28. Nothing is happening to me.

29. They already love Lara.

30. I've seen him in the high school building several times.

Time to check.

1. صارلي م الصبح عم بشتغل بالغاتو. (ع ن)
2. حبيبي، شو صارلك هاليومين بتصلك معصب؟ سح ربك، إاليوم عيد. (ع ن)
3. القانون صار بمجلس النيابة. أنا رح أعمل كل جهدي إنو يتنفز. (ع ن)
4. صار دورك تقول "ليه"؟ (ع ن)
5. شو عم بيصير؟ (آ خ)
6. شو صار فيا؟ (آ خ)
7. بدنا ياك تصير رجال متلنا. (ما تواخزوني، نسيت وين سمعتا...)
8. في احتمال كبير إنو يصير هيدا الشي. (ص)
9. وحتى لو ما صار شغل بيناتنا فينا نعتبر حالنا صرنا أصحاب. (م م)
10. من هون وبالرايح القصة صارت بينك وبين جود. (ع ن)
11. صارلك فترة بلبنان؟ (ص)
12. أصلاً أنا صار لازم أوعى. (أ ح)
13. - كيف صرتي؟
- أحسن. (و ك)
14. صارلنا عشر دقائق متأخرين ع الهوا. (و ك)
15. ما كاتو صاير شي. (و ك)
16. هي موقفة إلدوا لتصير مرة طبيعية، ويوسف يحباً وما يتركأ. (و ك)
17. - هيدا الزواج صار. خلص. ما بقى فينا نلغيه.
- منلغيه ونص! (و ك)

18. دُكْتُورْ، جينا إختي صارَ مَعَا مُشْكِلَة كَبِيرَة. (و ك)
19. بِصِيرْ بالنسبة للنَّصِّ وافي وَيَجَنِّ، وبالنسبة للنَّصِّ التَّانِي — بَلَا وَفَا. (و ك)
20. إِيه، حَبِيبَتِي، وَنْ صِرْتِي؟ (و ك)
21. صارَلْنَا سَاعَتَيْنِ نَاطِرِينَ الدَكْتورَ وَبَعْدَ مَا وَصَلَ. (و ك)
22. طَبْ، وَنْ صارَ الحَكِيم، يَعْنِي؟ (و ك)
23. لِيَه صَايِرَة هِيَك نِيَّتْكَ تَجَاهِ النَّاسْ؟ (و ك)
24. - يوسف وَنْ؟
- صارَلُو سَاعَتَيْنِ ضَاهِرٍ يَحْكِي عَ التِّلْفُون. أَحْسَن. (و ك)
25. مَا فَهِمْتْ إِذَا وَاحِدَ عَمْ يَصِيرُ لَوْ شَيْ، شُو، يَمُوتُ قَبْلُ مَا يُوصَلْ؟ (و ك)
26. تَعْرِفِي، صِرْتْ عَمْ فَكَّرْ إِنْو لَوْ كُنْتْ عَايشَة بَيْتِي، يَعْنِي مَعَ كُلِّ الْقَرْفِ يَلِّي بَيْتِي بِبِضَلْ أَحْسَنَ مِنَ الْغُرْبَة الِّي عَمْ بِحَسَا هُونْ بَيْنَاتْن. (و ك)
27. عَمْ بَسْتَعِيدْ شَغَلَاتْ كَثِيرَة صَارْت. (و ك)
28. مَا صَايِرِي شَيْ. (ع ن)
29. صارُوا يُحِبُّوْهَا لِلْأَرَا. (ع ن)
30. صِرْتْ كَرَا مَرَّة شَايَفْتُو بَقْسَمِ التَّكْمِيلِي. (ع ن)

## Duration using the verb ضل

I've mentioned in the intro that ظ in spoken Arabic transforms into ض. Hence, ضل is ظَلَّ. It's worth to mention that, even though this verb's conjugation follows the standard Lebanese Arabic pattern, there's a frequent feature I'd like to point out — the respective pronoun is often added to it. We'll get the examples from Elissa and Ragheb Alama's song *بِتَغِيبْ بِرُوحْ* that has the following lines:

وَبِتَغِيبْ أَوْهَامَ لَوْ بِتَضَلِّي بَعْيُونِي

*All the illusions will go away, if you stay in my eyes.*

لَوْ بِتَضَلَّكَ مَشْغُولٌ، رَحَّ حَبَّكَ عَلَى طُولِ

*Even if you're busy, I will always love you.*

The first example is the standard version, whereas the second one's got the pronoun.

One of my friend thinks that the pronoun reflects longer duration.

Let's do the exercise.

1. I'm going to stand firm on my point of view.
2. You don't have to always be by her side.
3. What's wrong with this elevator? It keeps lagging.
4. Darling, what's been going on with you lately? (Literally — ... *during these two days.*) You're always angry. Praise God, today's a holiday.
5. He's always quiet and gloomy. He doesn't fit into our conversation or plans.
6. I don't wanna go anywhere, wanna stay here.
7. [Our marriage was] A failure?! Why?! We've been married for years, and we were supposed to stay together our whole life, if he hadn't made that mistake...
8. Were you sleeping like that when Ghada was here?



9. Whoa, you're still arguing? Take a breather, will ya?
10. You can't stay here 24/7... Step outside and get some fresh air.
11. I wish you could sit down with your dad and tell him what *sacrifice* really is.
12. But I need you to stay strong...
13. You know, I'm thinking, if I were still living at home, among all those disgusting things that were going on at my home, I would be feeling better than now, when I'm a stranger among them.

Let's check.

1. رَحَ ضَلَّ عَ مَوْقِفِي. (ع ن)
2. مِشْ مَطْلُوبٌ مِّنْكَ اِتَّضَلَّكَ مَعَا كُلِّ الْوَقْتِ. (ع ن)
3. شُو بُو هَيْدَا الْأَسْنُسُورُ؟ يِضْلُو مَعَلَّقْ. (ع ن)
4. حَبِيبِي، شُو صَابِرْ لَكَ هَالْيَوْمِينَ يِتَّضَلَّكَ مَعْصَبْ؟ سَبَّحْ رَبَّكَ، الْيَوْمَ عِيدُ. (ع ن)
5. يِضْلُ سَاكِتْ وَمَكْشَرْ وَمَا يِنْسَجِمُ مَعَنَا بَحْدِيسْنَا وَلَا بَمَشَارِينَا. (ع ن)
6. مَا بَدِّي سَافِرْ بَدِّي ضَلْنِي هُونْ. (ع ن)
7. بَاطِلْ؟ لِيَهْ؟ كَانَ إِلْنَا سَنِينَ مَجُوزِينَ، كَانَ مَفْرُوضْ نَضَلْنَا سَوَا كُلِّ الْعُمَرُ لَوْ مَا حَضَرْتُو غَلَطْ! (ع ن)
8. وَهَيْكَ كِنْتِ اِتَّضَلَّكَ نَائِمٌ وَقْتِ كَانَتْ غَادَةٌ؟ (ع ن)
9. يَا عَمِّي، يِتَّضَلُّوا تَخَانَتْوَا؟! رُوقُوا عَ بَعْضُكُنْ شَوِي!! (ع ن)
10. مَا فِيكَ اِتَّضَلَّكَ هَيْكَ قَاعِدْ. طَلَعَ شَمُّ شَوِيَّةَ هَوَا. (ع ن)
11. يَا رَيْتِ اِتَّضَلَّكَ مَعَ الْبَابَا وَتَخْبَرُو شَوِي عَنِ التَّضْحِيَّةِ. (و ك)
12. بَسْ أَنَا بَدِّي مِّنْكَ اِتَّضَلَّكَ قَوِيَّةَ. (و ك)
13. تَعْرِفِي، صِرْتُ عَمَّ فَكَّرْتُو لَوْ كُنْتُ عَالِيشَةَ بَيْتِي، يَعْنِي مَعَ كُلِّ الْقَرْفِ يَلِّي بَيْتِي، بَضَلَ أَحْسَنُ مِّنَ الْغُرْبَةِ اللَّيِّ عَمَّ بِحْسَا هُونْ يِنَاتْنُ. (و ك)

## The verb حَبَّ

In addition to its common meaning, *to love*, this verb is used as *to want*, *to wish* and *to prefer*.

1. What do you wanna grab?
2. How can I help you?
3. I always tend to blame it on others.
4. That's because I respect your privacy! What if you prefer not to share your kids' pictures?
5. I'm like this, I prefer to avoid posting lots of pictures but, of course, I do send them to my friends.

1. شُوِئِجِبَّ تَاخُذْ؟ (م م)
2. كَيْفَ تُجِبُّ سَاعِدْ كُنْ؟ (م م)
3. دَائِمًا نُجِبَّ حُطِّ الْحَقِّ عَلَى غَيْرِي. (و ك)
4. احترامًا لْخُصُوصِيَّتِكَ! بَرِّكِي مَا يُجِبُّ تَفَرُّجِي صُورَ وَلَدِكَ. (ص)
5. أَنَا هَيْكَ مَا نُجِبَّ كَثِيرَ حُطِّ صُورَ بَسْ مَعَ أَصْحَابِي أَكِيدُ بِنَعْتِ. (ص)

We're done with the framework, so to say. Let's go ahead and take a look at some subtleties that I see as the most prominent features of Lebanese Arabic. We've seen most or all of them in the previous chapters, therefore, the chapters that follow are there only to get to grips with them.

### **The preposition في**

In Lebanese Arabic, apart from *in* and *at*, it also conveys:

#### **- availability, presence or possession**

Example: كان في راعي

That's a kids' song — *There Was a Shepherd*.

**Please note** that if someone or something **was** present somewhere, use the كان في combination to describe that, and not just كان by itself.

#### **- ability, consent or permission to do something**

Example: في في فوت؟ — *May I come in?*

Let's do the exercise.

#### **Availability, presence or possession**

1. Why are you calling me? Did anything happen?

2. - What are you celebrating?

- Honestly, there's more than one occasion.

3. Success doesn't come without failures.

4. Those two states are incomparable.

5. There's a strong bond between us.

6. So, Linda, what happened? (Literally — ... *what is there today?*)

- Oh, it did, it did happen. Let's take a seat and talk.

7. Don't you value me?

8. Is there any problem with Joud that I can solve right now? (That was said as a joke because the character, Adel, had helped solve the problems of Ghada's other two children before he said that line.)

9. No other person is kinder than her.

10. Ghada is an amazing lady.

### **Ability or permission**

1. Can I go play outside?

2. And, if someone next to you keeps making mistakes and doesn't understand what you're talking about you can say to him "What's wrong?" or "What's happening to you today?".

3. You can say it in a simplified manner. (That's the beginning of my friend's answer to my question about what to say in a certain scenario. Take a look at the word *it*. Hint: translate it as *her*.)

4. Now listen, no matter where you work, your job can be useful, you can either make fun of it or make it important.

5. Would you be able to come over sometime soon? (Literally — ... *within these two days*?)

6. Who would want to attack you if robbing you wasn't his goal?

7. You can think that I'm a patient and dedicate your life to treating me.

8. - How shall I understand what you said? Can I come back?

- That depends on Amal.

9. Can I invite you for dinner now?

10. - How are you, Ramona?

- Could be better.

11. - That marriage has already happened. Period. There's no way we can cancel it now.

- Oh, I bet, we can.

12. My head's gonna blow up now. Can't stand it anymore... I'm going to bed.

13. She suddenly got busy and can't pick me up.

14. You can't burden me with a responsibility I'm incapable of handling.

15. Feel free to sleep wherever you want.

16. You also have to avoid making this problem bigger and adding fuel to the fire.

17. - Thank you for everything you're doing for Gina.

- Come on. That's the least I can do.

18. - Can you tell Nadeem to come?

- Did you and Adel plan this?

19. You're not going anywhere without me! I'll be right behind you every step of the way.

20. - Can you come over?

- Sure, dear. I'm coming.

Let's check.

## Availability, presence or possession

1. لِيَهْ عَمَّ تَحْكِينِي؟ فِي شَيْ؟ (و ك)

2. - شُو سَبَبُ الْاِحْتِفَالِ؟

- وَاللّٰهُ صَرَاحَةً فِي كَرَا مَنَاسِبَةٍ. (ع ن)

3. مَا فِي نَجَاحٍ مِنْ دُونِ فَشَلٍّ. (ص)

4. مَا فِي مَجَالٍ لِلْمُقَارَنَةِ بَيْنَ الْوَضْعَيْنِ. (ع ن)

5. فِي رَابِطٍ تَامٍ يِّنَاتِنَا. (ع ن)

6. - خَيْرٌ، لِيَنَدَا، شُو فِي الْيَوْمِ؟

- فِي فِي! قَعْدِي لَخَبْرِكَ. (و ك)

7. مَا فِي إِلَيَّ مَعَزَةٍ عِنْدَكَ؟ (ع ن)

8. فِي شَيْ مَشْكَلَةٍ مَعَ جُودٍ تَحَلَّا؟ (ع ن)

9. مَا فِي أَطْيَبٍ مِنْ قَلْبًا! (مَا تَوَاحَزُونِي، نَسِيتُ وَنِ سَمِعْتَا...)

10. غَادَةً مَا فِي مَنَّا. (ح ك)

## Ability or permission

1. فِي رُوحِ الْعَبِّ عَ الطَّرِيقِ؟ (أ ح)

2. آه، كَمَا إِنْ كُنْتُ إِنْ مَعَ حَدَا، وَضَلَّ يَغْلُظُ أَوْ مَا يَسْتَوَعِبُ عَلَيْكَ، فِيكَ إِتَقَلُّوْ "شُو قُصَّتَكَ؟" أَوْ "شُو صَايِرٌ مَعَكَ الْيَوْمِ؟" (ص)

3. فِيكَ إِتَقُولَا بِطَرِيقَةٍ مُبَسَّطَةٍ. (ص)

4. هَلَقَ لَيْكَ شُو مَا كَانَتْ وَظِيفَتَكَ فَيَا تُكُونُ مُفِيدَةً بَسْ إِنْتَ يَا بَسْخَفَا يَا بَخْلِيَا إِلَّا مَعْنَى. (ص)

5. فِيكَ إِتَمَّرَ لَعْنَدِي بِهَالْيَوْمَيْنِ؟ (ع ن)



6. مِينْ بَدُو يَتَعَدَّى عَلَيْكَ وَكِرْمَالْ شُو إِذَا مَا فِي سِرْقَةٍ؟ (ع ن)

7. فِيكِ تَعْتَبِرِينِي مَرِيضْ وَتُكْرِسِي حَيَاتِكَ كِرْمَالِي. (ع ن)

8. - شُو بَفَهَمْ مِنْ كَلَامِكَ؟ إِنْو فِي أَرْجَعْ؟

- هَيْدَا الْمَوْضُوعْ يَرْجَعْ لَأَمَلْ. (ع ن)

9. فِيْنِي رِدْلَكَ عَزِيمَةُ الْعَشَا؟ (ع ن)

10. - كَيْفِكَ رَامُونَا؟

- فِيْنِي كُونْ أَحْسَنْ. (أ ح)

11. - هَيْدَا الزَّوْاجْ صَارْ. خَلَصْ. مَا بَقِيَ فِيْنَا نَلْغِيهِ.

- مَنَلْغِيهِ وَنُصْ! (و ك)

12. أَنَا رَحْ يَنْفَجِرْ رَاسِي، مَا بَقِيَ فِيْ، فَايْتْ نَامْ. (و ك)

13. انْشَغَلْتُ جَحَاةً وَمَا فِيَا تَسْتَقْبِلْنِي. (و ك)

14. مَا فِيْكِ تُحْمِلْنِي مَسْئُولِيَّةً أَنَا مَاي قَدَّا. (ع ن)

15. فِيْكَ اِتْنَامْ مَطْرَحْ مَا بَدَّكَ. (ع ن)

16. إِنْتِي كَمَّا مَا فِيْكِ تَزِيدِي الْمَشَاكِلْ وَتُصَيِّبِي الزَّيْتْ ع النَّارْ. (و ك)

17. - مِيرْسِي عَ كُلْ شَيْءٍ عَمَّ تَعْمَلِيهِ كِرْمَالْ جِينَا.

- وَلَوْ؟ هَيْدَا أَقَلْ شَيْءٍ فِيْ أَعْمَلُو. (و ك)

18. - فِيْكِ تَبْعِي وَرَا نَدِيمْ؟

- شُو، مِتَّفَقَةٌ مَعَ عَادِلْ؟ (ع ن)

19. مَا فِيْكَ تَضْهَرْ بَلِي! إِجْرِي عَ إِجْرِكَ. (ع ن)

20. - فِئِكِي تَجِي لَعْنَدِي؟  
- تُعْبِرِي قَلْبِي إِنِّي. يَّا يَّا جَايَة. (و ك)

### شو used as *what* & *how*

Again, the title has said it all. Let's just do the exercise.

1. What's your name?
2. What's the occasion?
3. You're so brave!
4. How smart he is!
5. D'you think I'm a small kid?
6. What name did you give him?
7. Depends on what your job's gonna be...
8. I don't know what's wrong with me...
9. I don't know what's happening to me...
10. "I don't know what's happening to me" or "I don't know where my brains are".
11. You know what we say if someone is strong and able to handle himself in a fix? We say "If he falls down, he's gonna get up".
12. Now listen, no matter where you work, your job can be useful, you can either make fun of it or make it important.
13. - So? Is everything OK?
- Is everything OK? What can be OK?
14. Welcome, sir. How can I help you?
15. Listen, there's no one in here, the restaurant is empty. Who did you put it (music) on for?
16. Hey, how much time do you need? Hey, what? What happened?
17. What's wrong with you?

18. Why are you yelling?
19. Tell me, what's wrong with her?
20. What can I say?..
21. Please tell me right now, what do you want? (to a lady)
22. Why? What happened to you?
23. How clean everything was! What respect they treated me with!
24. And what was your job there?
25. Please tell me quickly, what's going on?
26. He likes labneh balls so much!
27. If your mom made them, they must be good. They're super-good!
28. Why are you behaving like that?
29. Why did you come here then?
30. - What do you do for a living?
- I'm currently job hunting, but I'm a musician by profession.
- Why aren't you working in your field of study?

Please check.

1. شُو إِسْمَكْ؟
2. شو المناسبة؟
3. شو هالشيامة؟!
4. شو زكي!
5. شو، أنا صغير؟
6. شو سميتو؟
7. حَسَبْ شُو بَشْتَعِلْ. (ص)
8. ما بَعْرِفْ شُو قُصَّتِي. (ص)
9. مَدْرِي شُو صَارِي. (ص)
10. "ما بَعْرِفْ شو صَارِي" أَوْ "ما بَعْرِفْ وَنْ مَحِي". (ص)
11. بَتَعْرِفْ شُو مَنقُولْ عَنَّا؟ إِذَا حَدَا قَوِي وَقَدْ حَالُو بِالْمَوَاقِفِ الصَّعْبَةِ؟ مَنقُولْ بَيُوقَعْ بِيحِي وَاقِفْ. (ص)
12. هَلَقْ، لِيكْ، شُو مَا كَانَتْ وَظِيفَتَكْ فَيَا تُكُونْ مُفِيدَةً بَسْ إِنْتِ يَا بَتَسَخِّفَا يَا بَتَحْلِيَا إِلَّا مَعْنَى. (ص)
13. - شو؟ ماشي الحال؟
- ماشي الحال؟ على شو بدو يَمِشِي الحال؟ (م م)
14. تَفْضَلْ، مُسَيُو. شُو بَسَاعَدَكْ؟ (آخ)
15. اللَّهُ يَخْلِيكَ، مَا فِي حَدَا، الْحَلْ فَاظِي. على شُو حَاطِينَا؟ (م م)
16. لِيكْ، قَدِيشْ بَدَّكَ وَقْتْ؟ لِيكْ، شُو، شُو فِي؟ (م م)
17. شُو بَكْ؟
18. شُو فِي عَمْ اِتْعِيطْ؟

19. قَلِي شُو عَنَدَا؟ (آخ)

20. شُو بَدِّي قُول؟.. (أغنية "مثل الكزبة" لعاصي الحلاني)

21. بَشْرَفَكْ، قُولِي شُو بَدَّكَ هَلَقْ؟ (أح)

22. لِيَه؟ شُو عَنَدَكْ؟ (أح)

23. شُو نَظَافَة! شُو إِحْتِرَام! (أح)

24. شُو كُنْتَ تَشْتَغِلْ حَضْرَتِكَ بَلَا زَغْرَا؟ (أح)

25. خَبْرِي عِ السَّرِيعِ شُو الْقِصَّة؟ (أح)

26. شُو يَجِبُ اللَّبَنَةُ الْمُكَعَّرَلَة! (أح)

27. إِذَا شِغْلِي الْوَالِدَة أَكِيد طَيِّبِينَ. مِشْ طَبِيعِي شُو طَيِّبِينَ! (أح)

28. شُو بَكِي عَامِلَة هِيَكْ؟ (ع ن)

29. شُو جَايَة تَعْمَلِي لَكَانْ؟ (ع ن)

30. - شُو بَتَشْتَغِلْ إِنْتَ؟

- أَنَا هَلَقْ بَنَشْ عَلَى شِغْل. بَسْ بِالْأَسَاسِ مُوسِيقِي.

- لِيَه مَا بَتَشْتَغِلْ بِشِغْلَتِكَ؟ (أح)

## The word حال

Easy. In Lebanese Arabic it is used as *oneself*.

لِيَهْ عَمَّ تَعْمَلِي مَعَ حَالِكْ هَيْكْ؟! (ع ن)

*Why are you doing that to yourself?*

زَكِي كَثِيرْ، يِعْتَمِدْ عَلَى حَالُو.

*Very smart, able to handle himself. (Literally — ... relying on himself.)*

If we add the preposition لَ to it, the meaning will change to **alone, on one's own**, etc.

That's it. Let's do the exercise.

1. - Dad, you're still alone here?

- No matter where I am, I feel alone...

2. Don't get yourself into a maze you can't handle.

3. I can't believe it! Finally, it's just the two of us!

4. He's at peace with himself.

5. I've heard your conversation by accident and I'm gonna let myself interfere.

6. I tried to get revenge on you, but it turns out, I was just getting revenge on myself.

7. Is he a lone player, or is he part of a network?

8. I'm always invited alone.

9. You're wrong about yourself.

10. I'm impressed with your career and the way you built yourself from scratch.

11. Please leave us for now.

12. If she doesn't brace herself, she's gonna fail.

1. - بابا، بَعْدَكَ قَاعِدْ هُونْ لِحَالِكْ؟

- وَينْ ما كانْ لِحَالِي... (و ك)

2. ما تَفَوَّيْ حَالِكْ بَمَتَاهَة إِنِّي مِشْ قَدَّا. (ع ن)

3. مِشْ مُصَدِّقْ أَنَا. وَيَا كِي أَخِيرًا لِحَالِنَا. (ع ن)

4. هُوَ مِرْتَاخ مَعَ حَالُو. (ع ن)

5. سَمَعْتَ بِالْغَلَطْ شُو عَمْ تَحْكُو وَرَحْ أَسْمَحْ لِحَالِي أَتَدَخَّلْ. (ع ن)

6. جَرَبْتَ أَنْتَقِمَ مِنْكَ، طَلَعْتَ عَمْ بَنْتَقِمَ مِنْ حَالِي. (ع ن)

7. هُوَ يَشْتَغِلْ لِحَالُو، وَلَا هِنْ شَبَكَة؟ (ع ن)

8. دَائِمًا يَبْعِزْ مُوْنِي لِحَالِي. (ع ن)

9. عَمْ تَغْلَطِي بِمَقِّ حَالِكْ. (ع ن)

10. أَنَا مُعْجَبٌ بِمَسِيرَتِكَ الْمَهْنِيَّةِ وَكَيْفِ كَوْنِي حَالِكْ مِنْ الصَّفْرِ. (ع ن)

11. تَرْكِينَا لِحَالِنَا پَلِيزْ. (ع ن)

12. إِذَا مَا شَدَّتْ حَالَا، رَحْ تُسْقُطْ. (ع ن)



## One, someone

واحد is a multi-functional word that means *one*, *some* or even *first*, if we put أول after it.

In English, we use the articles *a* and *an* to talk about someone we don't know or someone we see for the first time. For example, *I asked a guy from Lebanon* or *There is a girl wearing white cloths working in your office.*

In Lebanese I would say:

سَأَلْتُ وَاحِدَ لِبْنَانِي.

and

بِتَشْتَغِلْ عِنْدَكُنْ وَاحِدَةً بَيْضًا.

respectively.

That made me remember a line from Amr Diab's song that says أنا أَكْثَرُ وَاحِدٍ يَحِبُّكَ. Think about it a little and then read on.

Done? Good.

I'm sure you've figured out that it means *I'm the one (!!!) who loves you the most.* The literal translation is *I'm the biggest one who loves you.*

The exercise is gonna be short, so, instead of writing long and wordy explanations in this section I will be giving you hints right in the exercise.

1. She's a liar! (Where do we use **one** here, right? :) Well, see the article **a**? What do you think we should do? OK, one more hint, it literally sounds like this **This is one liar!**)
2. You are a scammer and thief. (Apply the formula from sentence 1.)
3. You gotta see it (he's talking about his new car) **first** because you're my real friend.
4. I want you to be the first one to know about that. (Use the pattern from sentence 3.)

5. On the contrary, you're the one who can help her the most at this stage. (See the example from Egyptian Arabic - Amr Diab's song.)

6. As soon as they see me walk into my office, they start coming in, one after the other — questions and more questions, phone calls and more phone calls. (Relax. Here, it's literally **ONE**.)

7. "Come and get some flowers!", she might say it only once. "Come and get some flowers!", she might say that again. (The character was talking about a flower seller.)

8. Any girl can do for him what I was doing for him. (This is the most difficult one in the exercise, however, you've seen it in one of the previous chapters, which will make the job easier for you. I'm gonna give you a hint — **anything** translates as *حَيَّا شَي*.)

9. I was the first one to hold you in my hands when you came into this world. (Literally — ...*when you came to this life*.)

10. **Radhi**: Coward.

**Ziad**: A coward is someone like you!

**Fadi** (reproachfully): Ziad!

**Ziad**: A coward is someone like you, sir!

11. I can feel what she's going through better than any one of you. I need neither your approval nor your blessing.

12. I don't understand, if something happens to someone, then what, should he or she die waiting for the doctor to come?

Please check.

1. هَيْدِي وَاحِدَةً كَرَّابَةً! (ح س)
2. إِنْتَ وَاحِدَ نَصَّابٍ وَحَرَّامِي. (م م)
3. إِنْتَ بِدَّكَ تُشَوِّفَا أَوَّلَ وَاحِدَ لَأَنَّكَ خِيَّيَ الْأَصْلِي إِنْتَ. (م م)
4. حَبِيتْ تُكُونِي أَوَّلَ وَاحِدَةٍ بَتَعْرِفِي. (ع ن)
5. بِالْعَكْسِ بَهَيْدِي الْمَرْحَلَةَ إِنْتَ أَكْثَرُ وَاحِدَ مُمْكِنٍ يَفِيدَا. (ع ن)
6. بَسْ يَشُوفُونِي فَتَّ عَ الْمَكْتَبِ يَبْلِشُو يَفُوتُو وَاحِدَ وَرَا الثَّانِي وَسْوَالَ وَرَا سُؤَالَ، تَلْفُونِ وَرَا تَلْفُونِ. (ع ن)
7. "يَلَّا عَ الزُّهُورِ!" يُمْكِنُ تَقُولُ وَاحِدَةً بَسْ. "يَلَّا عَ الزُّهُورِ!" يُمْكِنُ تَقُولُ تَانِي كَمَا. (ف ر)
8. كُلِّ اللَّيْلِ كُنْتُ أَعْمَلُو يَاهُنْ حَيَّلاً وَاحِدَةً فَيَا تَعْمَلُو يَاهُنْ. (ع ن)
9. أَنَا كُنْتُ أَوَّلَ وَاحِدَةٍ حَمَلْتُكُمْ لَمَّا جِئْتُوا عَالِحِيَا. (ع ن)
10. - جَبَانْ.
- وَاحِدَ مِثْلِكَ جَبَانْ!
- زِيَادْ!
- وَاحِدَ مِثْلَ حَضْرَتِكَ جَبَانْ! (ف ر)
11. أَنَا أَكْثَرُ وَاحِدَةٍ فَيَكُنْ قَادِرَةً حَسَّ فَيَا. مَا بَدِّي لَا رِضَاكُنْ وَلَا بَرَكْتِكُنْ. (و ك)
12. مَا فَهَمْتُ إِذَا وَاحِدَ عَمَّ يَصِيرُ لَوْ شِئِي، شُو، يُمُوتُ قَبْلَ مَا يُوصَلْ؟ (و ك)

## The word شَي

### Something or nothing

We'll start from the easiest part. Just like in MSA, شَي often means *something* or, when the context is negative, *nothing*.

Example 1.

*You say something but you do something different.*

بِحِكِّي شَي وَتَعْمَلُ شَي تَانِي. (ع ن)

Example 2.

- *What are you reading?*

- *Nothing important.*

- شُو عَمَّ تَقْرَأُ؟

- مَا شَيِّ مُهِمَّ. (ع ن)

### Adverbs

The word شَي helps make adverbs. Тут я просто наведу невеликий перелік прикладів:

- *firstly*

- *mostly*

- *lastly*

- *I think that's the best option.*

Translation:

- أَوَّلُ شَيِّ

- أَكْثَرُ شَيِّ

- آخر شي

- نجس أحلى شي.

### ***Some, about, approximately***

The best part is when *شي* is used to express uncertainty.

Example. *Do something for my sake at least once* (literally — *some time*).

شي مَرَّةٍ إَعْمَلْ شي كَرْمَالِي. (ع ن)

### **Interrogation emphasis**

This section is going to be a 'riddle'. Try to spot the sentence that fits the title.

Let's do the exercise. It's not going to be difficult, basically, you're gonna go through what you've just read above.

1. Some day I'm gonna leave (quit?).
2. We'll get you a role in a movie.
3. I you ever need something, I'm at your service.
4. About an hour, maybe two. (That is the answer to the question *How long you're gonna stay there?*)
5. Maybe it (money) fell out somewhere... Try to look in your pocket.
6. I swear, that's disgusting!..
7. So, Sameer... You're secretly giving him money?
8. They need around 15 more minutes, and they will be ready.
9. I don't lack anything.
10. What's wrong with you? Did you have another fight?
11. First off, he's not your age. (Literally — ... *he's not from your generation*.)
12. Is there any problem with Joud that I can solve right now?

13. Why didn't you tell me? I would have done something...

14. You wouldn't have stopped your treatment in France unless it was something really serious like that.

15. He made me feel like I was nothing more than an accident—there one moment, gone the next. As if I had no worth.

Let's check.

1. شَيِّ يَوْمَ رَحَ فَلَ (عنوان فيلم)
2. مَنْدَرَلْكَ شَيِّ دُور فِي فِيلْم. (ما تَوَازُونِي، نَسِيت وَين سَمْعَتَا ... يَمَكُن بَشَيِّ بَرْنَايْج أَوْ تَوَك شُولَبْنَانِي.)
3. إِذَا شَيِّ نَهَارَ عَرَّتْ شَيِّ أَنَا بِالْخَدِمَةِ. (أ ح)
4. شَيِّ سَاعَة، سَاعَتَيْن. (ح س)
5. بَرَكِي وَاقَعِين مَنكَ شَيِّ مَطْرَح. نَبْش بَجِيك (م م)
6. وَاللَّهِ شَيِّ يَبْقَرَف! (ع ن)
7. شُو، سَمِير؟ عَم تَعْطِيهِ الْمَصَارِي شَيِّ بِالْمَخْفِي؟ (ع ن)
8. بَدُنْ شَيِّ رُبْع سَاعَة وَيَكُونُو جَاهِزِين. (ع ن)
9. مَانُو نَاقِصِنِي شَيِّ. (ع ن)
10. شُو بَكِي مَشْ عَ بَعْضُكَ؟ مِتْخَانَقِين شَيِّ؟ (ع ن)
11. أَوَّلْ شَيِّ، مَانُو مِنْ جِيلِكَ. (ع ن)
12. فِي شَيِّ مَشْكَلَة مَعَ جُودَ تَ حَلَّا؟ (ع ن)
13. لِيَه مَا خَبَرْتِينِي؟ كُنْتُ تَصَرَّفْتُ بِشَيِّ طَرِيقَة. (ع ن)
14. مَا فِي شَيِّ يَبْتَرَكْ عَلاَجْكَ بَفَرَنَسَا إِلَّا خَبَرِيَّة مِتْلَ هَيْك. (ع ن)
15. حَسَّنِي كَانِّي شَيِّ صُدْفَة وَمَرَقْتُ وَمَا إِلَي قِيمَة. (ع ن)

## ***In order to***

Lebanese dialect has multiple ways to say *in order to*. There's لَ, there's حَتَّى, and there's a combination of the two — لَحَتَّى, and the short version of حَتَّى which is تَ.

The verb that comes after the said prepositions should be in present tense, the prefixes م , ب and sometimes even أ (in first-person singular verbs) should be dropped.

Example: ... so that I respond — تَ رَدّ —

Practice time:

1. - You need half an hour to come here.  
- Who told you I'd need half an hour? I'm already here.
2. - He's gonna finish in about an hour, and he's sending you a big hi.  
- Tell him I say hi back.
3. Yes! That's what you get! Maybe next time, you'll figure out how to lie better.
4. I don't know. I have to watch [it] to find out.
5. He's still waiting for Gina to calm down and talk to him.
6. Do you need ten years to open the door?!
7. Have a seat. I'm gonna tell you [what happened].
8. - I came here not to drink beer.  
- Why did you come then?
9. Mom got three bodyguards to escort me.
10. It didn't take long for my dear son-in-law to show his true self.
11. You couldn't give them any persuasive excuses in order not to come?
12. I need some advice from you.



13. She stopped taking her meds to be a normal woman, so that Youssef would love her and not leave her.

14. She did the impossible in order to get you back.

15. ... [and all that happened] after she had sacrificed everything so that he could become a doctor.

Please check.

1. - بِدِّكَ نَصَّ سَاعَةً لَتُوصِلِي لَعْنَدِي. (ف ر)
- وَمِنْ قَلَّكَ بَدِّي نَصَّ سَاعَةً؟ وَصَلْتُ! (ف ر)
2. - بِدُّو شَيْ سَاعَةً لِيَخْلَصَ تَقْرِيْبًا، وَعَ فَوْقًا يَسْلِمُ عَلَيْكِي كَثِيرًا.
- اللَّهُ يَسْلَمُ. (ف ر)
3. هَيْكَ لَكَانَ، تَسْتَاهِلْ لَتَتَعَلَّمْ كَرْبَ مَرَّةٍ تَانِيَةً. (ف ر)
4. مَا بَعْرِفْ، لَازِمَ أَحْضَرْ لَأَعْرِفْ. (ص)
5. بَعْدُو نَاطِرْ جِينَا تَ تَرْوُقْ وَتَحْكِيه. (و ك)
6. عَشْرَةَ سَنِينَ بَدُّكُنْ لَتَفْتَحُوا الْبَابَ؟! (و ك)
7. قَعْدِي لَخْبِرْكَ. (و ك)
8. - مَشْ جَايَةً لَهُونْ لَأَشْرَبْ يِيرَا.
- شُو جَايَةً تَعْمَلِي لَكَانْ؟ (ع ن)
9. مَامَا جَنْدَتْ لِي تَلَايَةً "بُودِغَارْدَز" تَ يَرَاْفُقُونِي. (ع ن)
10. صَهْرِي الْعَزِيزَ مَا نَطَرْ كَثِيرَ تَ يَفْضَحْ حَالُو. (ع ن)
11. مَا قَدَرْتِي تَلَا قِيلُنْ أَعَزَّارَ مِقْنَعَةٍ تَ مَا تَجِي؟ (ع ن)
12. أَنَا بِحَاجَةٍ لَتَنْصَحْنِي. (و ك)
13. هِي مَوْقَفَةٌ إِلْدَوَا لَتَصِيرَ مَرَّةً طَبِيعِيَّةً وَيُوسُفُ يَحِبُّ وَمَا يَتْرَكَ. (و ك)
14. عَمَلْتُ الْمِسْتَحِيلَ حَتَّى تَرْجِعَ تَسْتَرْجِعْكَ. (ع ن)
15. ... مِنْ بَعْدَ مَا ضَحَّتْ بِكُلِّ شَيْ هِي لَحَتَّى يَعْمَلْ هُوَ حَكِيمًا. (ع ن)

### ***For the sake of or for or so that***

All of those are the meanings of كَرَمَال. There is a slightly tricky point about using it though. You're gonna get familiar with it when doing the exercise:

1. Come on, darling, [do it] for me.
2. Just for you, 20 dollars.
3. I was ready to stand against the entire world for him.
4. Honestly, even if I had plans, I would've canceled them for you.
5. So that he won't report him to the police.
6. Amal, if you want to bring him back just for the hospital's sake, he's not so essential that we can't do without him.
7. Suit yourself... I only want what's best for you.
8. That's why (This is the scenario that I mentioned in the intro. You have to add something to كَرَمَال.) I want you to respect my decision and agree to divorce me without any trouble.
9. Now, when I get there, I'll call you and give the phone to my dad, so that you can say happy birthday to him.

Please check.

1. يَلَا يَا بَيْي، كِرْمَالِي. (ف ر)
2. كِرْمَالَكُنْ عَشْرِينَ دُولَار. (م م)
3. تُحَدِّثُ كُلَّ الْعَالَمِ كِرْمَالُو. (ع ن)
4. أَصْلًا حَتَّى إِذَا عِنْدِي مُشَارِعَ بُلْعَيْنُ كِرْمَالَك. (ع ن)
5. كِرْمَالُ مَا يَشْكِيهِ عِنْدَ الْبُولِيْس. (ع ن)
6. - أَمَل، إِذَا عَمَّ تَرْدِيهِ كِرْمَالِ الْمُسْتَشْفَى مَا هُوَ مِنْهُمْ لَدَرَجَةِ إِنْهُ مَا نَقْدِرُ لِنَسْتَعْنِي عَنْهُ. (ع ن)  
- خَلَصَ، رَدِيهِ.
7. صُطْفَلُ. أَنَا بَدِّي كِرْمَالَك. (ع ن)
8. كِرْمَالُ هَيْكَ يَتَمَنَّى أَنَّكَ تَحْتَرِمِيلِي إِرَادَتِي وَتَعْطِينِي الطَّلَاقَ مِنْ دُونِ مَشَاكِل. (ع ن)
9. هَلَّقَ بَسْ أَوْصَلَ بَتَّصَلَ فِيكَ وَبَعْطِيكَ الْبَابَا كِرْمَالُ تَعِيدُو. (و ك)

The word **بقی** that means *come on* or *but* (for emphasis), and *no more*

When I asked one of my friends what that word meant, I got the short answer, "It doesn't really have a meaning here". And he was right :) because that's a parenthetical word, i.e. if we remove it, the meaning of the sentence will not change much. However, there are scenarios where it means **no longer**, which, as I noticed, happens in sentences that have a negating word in them.

Technically, we can translate it as *to remain* but in many sentences *no longer* would be a much better option. Confusing, right? The exercises will surely make things clear :)

My collection of **بقی** based sentences is small, so, instead of giving you examples, I'm gonna bold the relevant words :)

1. **But** why?
2. **Come on!** Stop crying!
3. Why should I apologize to her? Even if I wanted to, I can't **anymore**.
4. Nothing is stopping you from being together **anymore**.
5. **It's time** to let go of the past.
6. I'm not staying quiet **anymore**.
7. If the doctor says to him, "You can't have kids **anymore**", he'll probably think that he's too old.
8. There's **nothing more** I can say.
9. If she does come back home to sleep in her bedroom, I'm ready to take care of her until she gets well.
10. That marriage has already happened. Period. There's **no way** we can cancel it **now**.
11. This guy can't harm you anymore.
12. Why is this happening to me? **Хіба** мені потрібні ці проблеми.

Let's check.

1. لِيَهْ بَقَى؟
2. حَاشَ تَبِيكِي بَقَى.
3. لِيَهْ بَدِّي أَعْتَزِرْ مِنَّا. حَتَّى وَلَوْ بَدِّي، هَلَقَ مَا بَقَى فِيَّ. (ع ن)
4. مَا بَقَى فِي شَيْءٍ يَمْنَعُكَ تَكُونُ سَوَا! (ع ن)
5. مَا بَقَى يَتَطَّلَعُ لَوْرًا. (ع ن)
6. مَا بَقَى أَسْكُتْ. (ف ر)
7. إِذَا قُلُّ الدُّكْتُورِ إِنَّكَ مَا بَقَى تُجِيبُ وَلَدٌ يَدُو يَفْكِرُ إِنَّهُ صَارَ كَبِيرًا. (و ك)
8. مَا بَقَى عِنْدِي شَيْءٌ قُولُوا. (و ك)
9. إِذَا بَقَى تَرْجِعْ عَ الْبَيْتِ تَمَامٌ بِأَوْضَتَا، أَنَا مِسْتَعِدَّةٌ أَهْتَمَّ فَيَا لَتَرْجِعْ قَوِيَّةً. (و ك)
10. هَيْدَا الزَّوْجَ صَارَ. خَلَصَ. مَا بَقَى فِينَا نَلْغِيهِ. (و ك)
11. هَيْدَا الرِّجَالُ مَا بَقَى رَحَ يَثْرِيكِي أَبَدًا. (و ك)
12. مِنْ وَمِنْ إِيْتَنِي هَالْمَصِيبَةِ؟ مِشْ نَاقِصِنِي بَقَى مَشَاكِلَ. (و ك)

بعد which means *still*

If you're familiar with the Egyptian dialect, you know that it uses the word لَسَّا, that comes from للسَّاعَة, for this same purpose.

An example from Egyptian Arabic:

- خَلَصْتُ إِيَّاكَ؟

- لا، لَسَّا.

Let's go ahead and translate it:

- **Have you finished eating?**

- *Not yet. (i.e. still no.)*

Let's try to translate it into Lebanese Arabic:

- خلصت الأكل؟

- لا، بعد.

Let's do the exercise:

1. Sheep head. Still hot. Try it.
2. Got anything else? 'Coz I'm a bit busy.
3. Why is there still no relationship between us?
4. Are you still at your grandmother's place?
5. I'm still a bit busy.
6. Perhaps it's not time for it yet.
7. Is it still hurting, or are you feeling better today?
8. There's one more thing. (Said when a conversation is almost over.)

9. What else you got?

10. So, there are more issues beside this one?

11. He knew he was still in love with you.

12. - How long are you gonna stay here?

- Two more days.

13. This news is the last thing I needed...

14. Are they all still at home?

15. We've been waiting for the doctor for two hours, and he's still not here.

16. - So, darling, are you at home?

- Not yet.



1. راس نيفاء، بعدو ساخن، تفضلي (آخ)
2. في شي بعد؟ لأنو أنا مشغولة شوي. (ع ن)
3. ليش بعد هلق ما صار في علاقة بيناتنا؟ (ع ن)
4. بعدك عند التيتا؟ (ع ن)
5. بعدني مشغول شوي. (ع ن)
6. يمكن بعد ما فات الأوان. (ع ن)
7. بعدك موجه ولا صرت أحسن اليوم؟ (ع ن)
8. بعد في شغلة. (ع ن)
9. شو في بعد؟ (ع ن)
10. بعد في مشكلة غير هيدي؟ (ع ن)
11. كان عارف إنو بعدو بيحبك. (ع ن)
12. - إنت قديه باقي هون؟
- بعد يومين. (ع ن)
13. بعد ما ناقصا هيك أخبار. (وك)
14. بعدن كلن بالبيت؟ (وك)
15. صارلنا ساعتين ناظرين الدكتور وبعد ما وصل. (وك)
16. - شو، حبيبي؟ صرت بالبيت؟
- لا، بعد.

## Another way to say *am not*, *is not* and *are not*

Get ready to use the مَآن + pronoun combo.

Example:

- تَعَشَّيْتُ؟

- تَغْدِيْتُ مُؤَخَّرًا، مَآيَّ جُوعَان. (ع ن)

- *Did you have dinner?*

- *I had a late lunch, so I'm not hungry.*

That's it. This chapter's easy. I just want you to know that this way of negation exists.

Let's do the exercise:

1. But why, darling? Aren't you happy being with your friends and cousins.

2. - So all this is not delivery food?

- No, it's not delivery food. It's been authored, prepared and cooked by me.

3. This thing is not easy.

4. I don't lack anything.

5. First off, he's not your age. (Literally — ... *he's not from your generation.*)

6. You're not responsible for them.

7. I don't see anyone who's smarter than you.

8. Tarek is not like that at all. He's a really nice and kind-hearted guy.

9. I'm not far from you. Are they all at home?

10. She's aware of what's going on, understands the problems, and is quite familiar with the environment. (Literally — ... *she's not far from the environment.*)

11. You don't believe me, right?

12. However, *Gina's* situation is not an easy one. We're all on edge here.

13. You're being unjust to me. I've never been violent with *Gina*.

14. *Gina* is not pregnant.

15. You're right. That situation is not an easy one.

Please check.

1. بَسْ لِيْه، حَيَاتِي؟ مَانَّكَ مَبْسُوطَة مَعَ أَصْحَابِكَ وَوَلَادَ عَمِّكَ؟ (ع ن)
2. - هَيْدَا كَلِّ الْأَكْلَ مَانُو دِلْفِرِي؟
- مَانُو دِلْفِرِي. هَيْدَا مِنْ تَأْلِيْفِي، مِنْ تَنْفِيْزِي وَمِنْ إِنْتَاجِي. (ع ن)
3. هَالشَّغْلَة مَانَا هَايْنَة. (ع ن)
4. مَانُو نَاقِصِي شَيْ. (ع ن)
5. أَوَّلُ شَيْ، مَانُو مِنْ جِيْلِكَ. (ع ن)
6. إِنْتَ مَانَّكَ مَسْئُول عَنْ. (ع ن)
7. أَنَا مَاْنِي شَايِفْ أَزْكِ مِنْكَ. (ع ن)
8. طَارِقْ مَانُو هَيْكَ أَبَدًا، كَثِيرَ طَيِّبَ وَحَنُون. (و ك)
9. أَنَا مَاْنِي بَعِيدَة عَنْكَ. بَعْدُنْ كَلْنْ بِالْبَيْتِ؟ (و ك)
10. بَتَعْرِفْ الْأَوْضَاعَ وَبَتَعْرِفْ الْمَشَاكِلَ كَلَّا، مَانَا بَعِيدَة عَنِ الْجَوِّ. (و ك)
11. مَانَّكَ مُصَدِّقِي، مَا هَيْكَ؟ (و ك)
12. بَسْ قُصَّةُ جِينَا مَانَا هَايْنَة، كَلْنَا قَاعِدِيْنَ عَ أَعْصَابِنَا. (و ك)
13. عَمَّ تَظْلُمْنِي، أَنَا مَاْنِي عَنِيفٌ مَعَ جِينَا أَبَدًا. (و ك)
14. جِينَا مَانَا حَابِلَة. (و ك)
15. مَعَكَ حَقٌّ، مَانَا قُصَّةُ صَغِيرَة. (و ك)

## Several — كذا i كم

This is also a small chapter which has been explained in the title. So let's do the exercise right away:

1. - What are you celebrating?

- Honestly, there's more than one occasion.

2. I've seen him in the high school building several times.

3. Why did he take a few days off at the company?

4. - What do you say? How many more lessons do I need to take?

- Well... You need to take some more lessons.

5. It so happened that I was very busy today. I did several surgeries.

6. - Where do you party?

- In Beirut, different locations.

Please check.

1. - شُو سبب الاحتفال؟

- والله صراحة في كَزا مناسبة. (ع ن)

2. صِرْتُ كَزا مَرَّة شَايفَتُو بَقِسَمِ التَّكْمِيلِي. (ع ن)

3. لَيْش أَخَذَ كَزا يَوْمَ فُرْصَة مِّنَ الشَّرِكَة؟ (و ك)

4. - شُو بَرَايَك، كَم جَلَسَة بَعْدَ بَدِّي؟

- يَعْنِي، بَدِّكَ بَعْدَ كَم جَلَسَة. (و ب)

5. سَاقِبْتُ الْيَوْمَ كُنْتُ مَشْغُولَةً كَثِيرًا. كَانَ عِنْدِي كَزا عَمَلِيَّة. (ع ن)

6. - وَينَ بَتْسَهْرِي؟

- بِيَهْرُوت، كَزا مَحَلَّ. (و ب)

The preposition ل that is written as one word with a verb or a present participle

Nothing's better than a good example. Many songs use these two lines:

غَيْرِلِي حَالِي

شَاغِلِي بَالِي

In certain scenarios, speakers of some or all dialects say something like

*He has changed the state that I'm in **for** me.*

instead of

*He has changed the state that I'm in.*

If you want to specify what exactly has to be done **for** the person mentioned, you have to use يَا or its short version - يَا. Example:

*Write it for me. - كُتِبِي يَا*

I've written كُتِبِي and not اُكْتُبِي on purpose, because that's the way it is pronounced.

Why is it so? As soon as I find out, I'll let you all know. At this stage just try to memorize.

Sometimes that looks totally reasonable, for example, أَحْسَنَكَ, but quite often we, non-natives, do need time to get used to that.

As always, we need an exercise to understand this rule. In some sentences I will write that structure as one word to reflect the pronunciation better.

1. Rabia tore up my books.
2. ... specifically now that my my new CD is out. It's simply fabulous! It's called *I'm now in love with you, my love*.
3. Because someone I don't know called me and woke me up before dawn!
4. Hey, sonny, could you please go and check if Ramona is up by now.

5. I will make you try them.

6. Lucky you are, Ramona! You're getting country food delivered to you... As for us, we don't know what we're eating...

7. I don't know if you understood what I meant. (Literally — *I don't know if the thought has arrived to you.*)

8. My dear friend... Could you put your love life on hold, Casanova?

9. Isn't dancing a better option for you?

10. It's gonna be better (easier) for him this way.

11. I really appreciate your attitude toward me.

12. I couldn't turn down his request.

13. Did you at least take a bite? Did you at least take a sip?

14. - I asked you to do a simple blood test. I'll collect the sample and send it under a different name.

- No.

- To a different hospital.

15. As repayment for what you did to me, I'm asking for one gram of blood. (He's talking about the above test.)

16. He's felt something for me for a long time, but I don't care—neither about him nor the others.

17. Try putting yourself in his shoes and take into account the state he's in.

Please check.



1. ربيع خَرْقَلِي الكُتُب. (ح س)
2. خُصُوصًا هَلَقَ نَزَلِي سِيدِي جَدِيدَ السُّوقِ، مَكْسِرَ الْأَرْضِ. اِسْمُو "هُوَيْتَكَ يَا هَوَى". (ف ر)
3. لِأَنُّو مَدْرِي مِينْ دَقَلِّي عَ التِّلْفُونِ وَوَعَانِي قَبْلِ الضَّوءِ. (أ ح)
4. لَيْكَ، مَامَا، تُقْبِرْنِي، شُوفِي رَامُونَا إِذَا وَعَيْتْ. (أ ح)
5. رَحْ دِقْلِكَ يَا هُنْ. (أ ح)
6. نِيَالِكَ يَا رَامُونَا، يَبْعَتُولُكَ إِشْيَا بَلْدِيَّةَ بِالْوَقْتِ الِّي نَحْنُ مِشْ مَعْرُوفْ شُو عَمْ نَاكَلْ. (أ ح)
7. مَا بَعْرِفْ إِذَا وَصَلْتَلْكَ الْفِكْرَة. (ص)
8. حَبِيبِي... وَقَقْلِي غَرَامِيَاتَكَ، كَارَانُوفَا. (ح س)
9. مِشْ الرَّقْصُ أَحْسَنَلْكَ؟ (ح س)
10. أَرِيحَلُوه. (ف ر)
11. أَنَا كُتِيرْ مَقْدَرْلَكَ مَوَاقِفْكَ مَعِي. (ع ن)
12. مَا قَدَرْتُ أَرْفُضُلُو طَلَبُو. (ع ن)
13. كَلْتِيْلِكَ شِي لَقْمَة؟ شَرِيْتِيْلِكَ شِي شُرْبَة مَائِي. (ع ن)
14. - طَلَبْتُ فَخْصَ دَمِ صَغِيرِ. أَنَا بَسَحَبَلْكَ يَا وَبَعْتُو عَ الْمُخْتَبَرِ بِاسْمِ مِسْتَعَارِ.
- لَا.
- بَغِيرِ مِسْتَشْفَى. (ع ن)
15. بِدَّكَ تَعَوِّضِي عَنِ الْغَلْطَةِ الْكُبِيرَةِ الِّي ارْتَكَبْتِيَا بِحَقِّي بَغْرَامِ دَم. (ع ن)
16. فِي شِي مِنْ نَاحِيَتُو تَجَاهِي مِنْ زَمَانْ، بَسْ أَنَا مَا يَبْعِنِي، لَا هُوَ وَلَا غَيْرُو. (ع ن)
17. خَلِي عِنْدَكَ شَوِيَّةَ إِحْسَاسٍ وَاحْتَرَمِيلُو ظَرْفُو. (ع ن)

## **ان The state someone or something is in using**

Let's take a look at adjectives that use the ending ان to show the state one is in.

Example. She was right, I'm tired.

صَابِتًا، أَنَا تَعَبَانِي. (ع ن)

See? It's easy. Let's have some practice:

1. Be careful what you say, or I might start thinking you're jealous.
2. He was supposed to come back yesterday. He's emotionally exhausted.
3. Oh no! Please! I've already gained 2 kilos.
4. We're all tired these days. My energy is at zero.
5. See? She herself admitted that she was wrong.
6. He married her because he wanted to get her money.
7. Why are you mad?
8. - Did you have dinner?  
- I had a late lunch, so I'm not hungry.
9. I had mercy on you.
10. Your kids don't like me.
11. If I wanted it (money), I would have already been in charge of the company.
12. We were unjust to him, so he's being unjust to us.
13. Does it matter to you that much whether I believe you or not?
14. What do we have to lose? Let's go have lunch.
15. I am very serious about it. I love this district, I've been raised here.

1. انْتَبِهِي عَلَى حَكِيمِكَ. بَعْدَ شَوَيْ رَحْ فَكِّرْ أَنَّكَ غَيْرَانِيَّة. (ع ن)

2. مفروض يُكُونُ رَاجِعُ إِمْبَارِحْ. حَالَتُو النَّفْسِيَّةِ كَثِيرٌ تَعْبَانِيَّة. (ع ن)

3. لا، دَخِيلِكَ أَنَا نَصْحَانُ تَيْنِ يَكْلُو. (ع ن)

4. كَلْنَا تَعْبَانِينَ هَالْفَتَرَةَ، نَفْسِيَّتَنَا بِالْأَرْضِ. (ع ن)

5. تَفْضَلِي، إِعْتَرَفْتُ بِلِسَانَا أَنَا غَلْطَانِيَّة. (ع ن)

6. نُجَوِّزَا لِأَنْ طَمَعَانُ بِمَصْرِيَاتَا. (ع ن)

7. شُو بِيكِ زَعَلَانِيَّة؟ (ع ن)

8. - تَعَشَّيْتُ؟

- تَغْدَيْتِ مُؤَخَّرَ، مَايِي جوعان. (ع ن)

9. أَنَا كُنْتُ شَفَقَانِيَّةً عَلَيْكَ. (ع ن)

10. وَلَدَكَ كَرْهَانِيَّة. (ع ن)

11. لَوْ أَنَا طَمَعَانُ فَيُنْ كُنْتُ رَحْ إِسْتَلَمْتُ الشَّرِكَةَ. (و ك)

12. نَحْنُ غَلْطَانِينَ مَعُو، هُوَ غَلْطَانُ مَعْنَا. (و ك)

13. هَالَقْدُ فِرْقَانِيَّةً مَعَكَ، إِذَا مُصَدِّقٌ وَلَا لَا. (و ك)

14. نَحْنُ شُو خَسْرَانِينَ؟ مِنْزُوحٌ مِنْتَغْدَى. (م م)

15. أَنَا كَثِيرٌ جَدِيَّةً وَأَنَا نَحْبَا لَهَا لِمَنْطَقَةِ وَرِيَّانِيَّةً فَيَا. (م م)

## The letter **ل** for emphasis

A long time ago I couldn't understand the logic behind these structures:

خَيُّو لَسَامِي

or

يَا لَدَانَا

"If we translate that into English", I asked one of my friends, "we're gonna get His brother of Sami and Her father of Dana". My friend was surprised and said he didn't know why it was said that way, and added that versions like خَيِّ سَامِي and يَا دَانَا were acceptable too.

I think we can find the answer in the general-to-specific formula chapter, because it looks like this is what's happening in such structures.

Let's do the exercise:

1. Generally speaking, I like Mona.
2. I really like that village. I have good memories of it.
3. I like him. (When an actor dressed like George Wassouf thought that the girl liked him, she clarified) Wassouf.
4. I am very serious about it. I love this district, I've been raised here.
5. They already love Lara.
6. I have to admit to Sara that she's got good memory.
7. Believe me, I love Vivo but there's nothing I can do.
8. You know, I miss Mr. Adel a lot. I hope he comes back to us safe and sound.

Please check.

1. أَنَا أَصْلًا بِحِبَابٍ لَمْنَى. (ح س)
2. شُوْ بِحِبَابٍ هَالِضِيْعَةٍ. إِلَيَّ فِيَا زِكْرِيَاتٍ حِلْوَةٍ. (و ك)
3. أَنَا بِحُبُوْ. لَوْ شِئْتُ. (ح ك)
4. أَنَا كُتَيْبٌ جَدِيَّةٌ وَأَنَا بِحِبَابٍ هَالْمَنْطَقَةِ وَرَبِّيَانَةٍ فِيَا. (م م)
5. صَارُوا يُحِبُّوْهَا لِلَارَا. (ع ن)
6. بَدِيَّ اعْتَرَفَا لَسَارَةٍ إِنْوْ زَاكِرَتَا قَوِيَّةٍ. (ع ن)
7. صَدَقُونِي، أَنَا بِحِبَابٍ لَفِيْشُوْ. بَسْ مِشْ بِإِيْدِي. (ع ن)
8. تَعْرِفْ، شَتَقْتَلُوْ لَعَمُوْ عَادِلْ. اللّٰهُ يَرْجِعُوْ لَعَنَّا بِسَلَامَةٍ. (ع ن)

## The word **كَبِيرٌ** that conveys the degree or size

Again the title has said it all. I'm gonna give you only one example. In **حياة سَكُول** Tamara lied to her brother that she had seen a large rat (in Lebanese it's **جَرْدُون**), she used her hands to show its size saying:

هَالَقْدُ! هَالَقْدُ!

which means *This big! This big!*

Practice time.

1. They love me as much as I love them, if not more.
2. No other guy is as talkative as him.
3. This is my girlfriend Vivo. She is as jealous of me as she loves me.
4. I'm not going to love anyone else as much in my life.
5. You don't wanna go back that badly?
6. - How long are you gonna stay here?  
- Two more days.
7. Considering the number of problems she has dealt with, she knows more than we do.
8. - It's the love of my life.  
- Oh... Is it really that serious?  
- Even more serious than that.
9. I want you to prove to me that you're capable of that.
10. Does it matter to you that much whether I believe you or not?
11. I was a little overreacting. I didn't mean it.
12. I wanted to help you with whatever I could.

13. You cannot place the responsibility on me that I'm incapable of handling.
14. You're a liar! So what made him so mad?
15. How can you be so cruel?
16. Don't get yourself into a maze you can't handle.
17. I love her as much as I fear losing her.
18. Give her all the love that you can. Give her all the kindness that you can.
19. I'm as happy for Nisrine's marriage as I am worried about the kids.
20. Don't say that. You're already a fabulous grown-up man.

Please check.

1. قَدْ مَا بُحِبُّنْ قَدْ مَا يَحِبُّونِي وَأَكْثَرُ. (ف ر)
2. زياد مدير أعمالِي وَمَنْسَقْ حَفَلَاتِي. قَدْو حَكُوجِي مَا فِي. (ف ر)
3. هَيْدِي حَبِيبَتِي فَيُفُو. قَدْ مَا بُحِبَّا قَدْ مَا يَتَغَارُ عَلَيَّ. (ف ر)
4. مَا بَعْمَرِي رَحَّ حَبِّ هَالْقَدْ. (ما تَوَازُونِي، نَسِيتْ عَنوانِ الْمَسْلَسِل)
5. هَالْقَدْ مَشْ طَائِقُ الرَّجْعَةِ؟ (ع ن)
6. - إِنْتْ قَدِيهْ بَاقِي هُونْ؟  
- بَعْدُ يَوْمِين. (ع ن)
7. أَصْلًا هِي بَتَعْرِفْ أَكْثَرْ مَنَا قَدْ مَا شَافَتْ مَشَاكِل. (و ك)
8. - هَيْدَا غَرَامِ الْعُمُر.  
- أَفَّ... هَالْقَدْ؟  
- وَأَكْثَرْ مِنْ هِيك. (و ك)
9. يَدِّي يَاكُنْ تَبْرَهْنُولِي إِنْكُنْ قَدْ هَالْحَمْل. (ع ن)
10. هَالْقَدْ فِرْقَانَةِ مَعَكْ، إِذَا مُصَدِّقْ وَلَا لَا. (و ك)
11. أَنَا زِدْتَا شَوِي بَرْدَةِ فَعْلِي. مَا كَانَ بِدَا هَالْقَدْ. (ع ن)
12. جَرِّتْ سَاعِدَكَ قَدْ مَا فِي. (ع ن)
13. مَا فِيكِي تَحْمِلِينِي مَسْؤُولِيَّةَ أَنَا مَا نِي قَدَّا. (ع ن)
14. كَرَّابَة! وَلِيهْ بَدُو يَنْفَعِلْ هَالْقَدْ؟ (ع ن)
15. كَيْفْ فِيكَ إِنْكُونْ هَالْقَدْ قَاسِي؟ (ع ن)
16. مَا تَفَوَّتِي حَالِكْ بَمَتَاهَةِ إِنْتِي مَشْ قَدَّا. (ع ن)



17. على قَدْ ما أنا مَغْرُومٌ فَيَا عَ قَدْ خَافِ أَوْ خَسِرَا. (وك)

18. عَطِيَا حُبَّ قَدْ ما فِيكَ، عَطِيَا حَنَانَ قَدْ ما فِيكَ. (ع ن)

19. قَدْ ما أنا مَبْسُوطٌ بِزَوَاجِ بَنَسْرِينَ، قَدْ ما بَالِي مَشْغُولٌ بِالْوَلَدِ. (وك)

20. ما فِي لُزُومٍ لَهَا لِحَاكِي، حَبِيبِي. إِنْتِ صِرْتَ رِجَالٌ وَكَبِيرٌ وَقَدْ الدِّينِي. (وك)

## The word كَثير

This word remains unchanged and means *many, a lot, lots* and *very*.

Let's do the exercise right away.

1. I really want to see you today.
2. I got a lot of work to do and I have to finish it today.
3. Yes, he's very talkative, but very smart too.
4. Many guys like this type [of girls]. (Literally — ... *like such style*.)
5. Yes, very beautiful.
6. A traffic jam. I swear, a very big one.
7. I am very serious about it. I love this district, I've been raised here.
8. ... (name of the region) dialects are heavy. If I hadn't lived in the ... (name of the region) region, I wouldn't have understood much.
9. Even ... (name of the region) dialects seem heavy to me.
10. I'm like this, I prefer to avoid posting lots of pictures but, of course, I do send them to my friends.

Please check.

1. كَثِيرٌ عَ بَالِي شُوفَكَ الْيَوْمَ. (ف ر)
2. عِنْدِي كَثِيرٌ شَغْلٍ وَمَجْبُورٌ خَلَصُوا الْيَوْمَ. (ف ر)
3. صَحِيحٌ، يَحْكِي كَثِيرٌ بَسْ شَاطِرٌ كَثِيرٌ. (ف ر)
4. فِي كَثِيرٍ شَبَابٍ يَجِبُ هَيْكَ سَتَائِلُ. (آ خ)
5. إِلَيْهِ، كَثِيرٌ حُلُوءَةٍ. (م م)
6. عَجَاةٌ، وَاللَّهُ كَثِيرٌ عَجَاةٌ. (م م)
7. أَنَا كَثِيرٌ جَدِيدٌ وَأَنَا نَجَبًا لَهَا لَمَنْطَقَةٍ وَرَبَّانَةٍ فِيَا. (م م)
8. أَلْ ... صَعْبٌ أَنَا لَوْ مَا عَالِشٌ بِالْ... فِي إِشْيَا كَثِيرٌ مَا يَفْهَمَا. (ص)
9. حَتَّى اللَّهَجَاتِ ... بِحَسَا تَقِيلَةُ كَثِيرٌ. (ص)
10. أَنَا هَيْكَ، مَا نَحِبُّ كَثِيرٌ حُطَّ صُورٌ، بَسْ مَعَ أَصْحَابِي أَكِيدُ بَيَعْتُ. (ص)

## The word غير

It has two meanings: *other, another, different, and except for*, the other meanings are derived from the listed ones.

1. There's a large variety of dialects in the Gulf region. I mean, each country is different, and each region within a country is different too.

2. The Lebanese Arabic version is same as the Gulf Arabic one, except the pronunciation is different. If you wanna say that in Lebanese, you have to say "3ala oletkun".

3. If not me, then someone else will show up.

4. He's in a situation similar to mine, it's the perspective and the circumstances that differ.

5. You're talking about a different thing.

6. Reassign your patients to other doctors.

7. - What were you gonna request?

- No-no... Nothing... Some other time...

8. - I asked you to do a simple blood test. I'll collect the sample and send it under a different name.

- No.

- To a different hospital.

9. What did you come for, Sameer? Well, other than to take our kids out for dinner.

10. She's a fabulous woman. You're gonna like her.

11. Find another employee to be the head of the Cardiology Department.

12. I won't be able to help her, our specializations are different.

Please check.

1. الخليج فيا كُتير تَشْعَب باللهجات، يعني كُل بَلَد في إختلاف وداخل البلد كُل منطقة غَيْر. (ص)
2. نَفْس الشّي بِاللِّبْنَانِي مِثْلِ الْخَلِيجِي بَسَ الْفِظْ غَيْر، إِذَا بَدَكَ تَلْفِظًا بِاللِّبْنَانِي بَدَكَ تَقُول "عَلَى أُولَئِكَ". (ص)
3. لَوْ مَا أَنَا رَحْ بِجِي غَيْرِي. (ما تَوَازُونِي، نَسِيت وَنِ لَاقِينَا...)
4. وَضَعُو مِثْلَ وَضْعِي بَسَ مِنْ غَيْرِ نَاحِيَةٍ وَبَغَيْرِ ظُرُوفٍ. (و ك)
5. إِنْتَ عَمَّ تَحْكِي عَنْ غَيْرِ مَوْضُوعٍ. (و ك)
6. وَزَّعْ مَرَضَاكَ عَلَى غَيْرِ حَكَا. (ع ن)
7. - شُو طَلَبَكْ؟
- لا، وَاللَّهِ مَا نُو شِي... غَيْرَ مَرَّةٍ. (ع ن)
8. - طَلَبْتِ فَخْصَ دَمِّ صَغِيرٍ. أَنَا بِسَحْبِكَ يَا وَبِعْتُوعَ الْخَتْبَرِ بِاسْمِ مُسْتَعَارٍ.
- لا.
- بَغِيرِ مُسْتَشْفَى. (ع ن)
9. أَيِ مَنَاسِبَةٍ لَزَيَارَتِكَ، سَمِير؟ غَيْرِ إِنْو إِنْتَ جَاي تَاخُدُ الْوَلَادَ عَ الْعَشَا؟ (ع ن)
10. هِي سِتَّ غَيْرِ شَكْلٍ. رَحْ تُحْبِيَا. (ع ن)
11. جِيي، حَدَا غَيْرِي كَرَمَالٍ يَسْتَلِمُ قِسْمَ الْكَرْدِيُولُوجِي. (ع ن)
12. مَا بِقَدَرٍ فِيدَا، اخْتِصَاصًا غَيْرِ اخْتِصَاصِي. (ع ن)

## The preposition عند / ما عند

Yes, we all know that this preposition shows possession, however, it also shows direction, time and location. There will be no examples :) You'll figure everything out as you work through the exercise ;) Some of the original versions might look quite surprising.

### Possession

1. Tell me what's wrong with her? (Literally — ... *what she's got?*)
2. I really don't get what has that girl, Sawsan, got?..
3. I got a lot of work to do and I have to finish it today.
4. Will she get over this shock that she's currently experiencing?
5. Why? What's wrong with you?
6. I still don't have the guts to make that decision.
7. Your "I'm sorry" and "I apologize" are not going to make it up for me.
8. Tomorrow I have to wake up at five.
9. I find it difficult to explain why.
10. I have no idea.
11. I didn't mean his money. His money is the last thing that I care about.
12. Tomorrow I have to wake up early.

### Direction, location, time

1. My friend's coming over soon.
2. I want her to travel to London, where her father currently is.
3. I'll come over to your office if you want.
4. - You need half an hour to come here.

- Who told you I'd need half an hour? I'm already here.

5. So that he won't report him to the police.

6. Hey, where's Wisam? I haven't seen him lately. Have you two had a fight?

7. I got dressed and I'm on my way to him.

8. However, as soon as she made a move, you turned your back on everyone and got back with her.

9. It has never happened that weren't out, whenever I came to your place.

10. Don't worry about the kids, they're gonna come over and stay at my place.

Please check.

## ملكية

1. قَلِي شُو عَنَدَا؟ (آخ)
2. أَنَا اللَّيِّ مُحَيَّرِي شُو اللَّيِّ عَنَدَا سَوَسَن؟ (آخ)
3. عَنَدِي كَثِير شِغْل وَمَجْبُور خَلَصُوا الْيَوْم. (ف ر)
4. الصَّدْمَة إِلَيَّ عَنَدَا مُوقَّتَة؟ (آخ)
5. لِيَه؟ شُو عَنَدَك؟ (أ ح)
6. بَسْ مَا عَنَدِي الْجِرَاهُ أَخَذَ الْقَرَارَ بَعْد. (ص)
7. "سُورِي" و"بَعْتَرَز" أَنَا مَا عَنَدِي مِثْنُ عَوْضَة. (ع ن)
8. بُكَرَا عَنَدِي وَعَيَّ السَّاعَة نَحْسَة. (ع ن)
9. عَنَدِي مَشْكَلَة بَشْرَحِ السَّبَب. (ع ن)
10. مَا عَنَدِي خَبْر. (ع ن)
11. مِشْ عَمَّ بَحِيكَ عَنْ مَضْرِيَاتُو. آخِرْ هَمِّي عَنَدِي مَضْرِيَاتُو. (و ك)
12. بُكَرَا عَنَدِي قَوْمَة بَكِير. (و ك)

## اتجاه أو تواجد أو توقيت

1. جَايَة صَاحِبَتِي لَعَنَدِي. (أ ح)
2. بَدِّي بَعْتَا عَنَدَ بَابَا عَ لُئْدُن. (آخ)
3. يَجِي لَعَنَدَكْ عَ الْمَكْتَب إِذَا بَدَّكَ. (ف ر)
4. - بَدَّكَ نَصَّ سَاعَة لَتُوصِلِي لَعَنَدِي. (ف ر)
- وَمِينْ قَلَّكَ بَدِّي نَصَّ سَاعَة؟ وَصَلْت! (ف ر)



5. كَرِّمَالْ مَا يَشْكِيهِ عِنْدِ الْبُولِيْسْ. (ع ن)
6. دَخَلِكْ، وَيْنُو وَسَامْ؟ مَا عَمَّ شُوفُو عِنْدِكْ هَالْأَيَّامْ. مِتْخَانَقِينْ؟ (ع ن)
7. لَبِسْتْ وَمَا شِي لَعْنْدُو هَلَقْ. (و ك)
8. مَعِ إِنْوْ عِنْدَ أَوَّلْ إِشَارَة مَنَا تَرَكْتْ الْعَالَمْ كُلُّو وَرَجَعْتْ إِلا. (ع ن)
9. وَلَا مَرَّةً مِجِي لَعْنْدِكْ إِلا مَا يَتَكُونِي ضَاهِرَة. (ع ن)
10. مَا تَعْطِي الهمَّ الْوَلَادْ. يِجُو يِتَقَعْدُوا عِنْدِي. (ع ن)

## Well — ما

This word, being parenthetical, may be omitted without affecting the sentence's core meaning. It, normally or always, comes at the beginning of a sentence.

This exercise won't be long. It's enough at this point to get a feel for how the word works.

1. Yeah-yeah, keep on laughing! Well, that's the only thing you're good at...
2. But you're my agent!
3. But that's [your] job too!
4. Well... Her father's an ambassador.

Time to check.

1. ضَحَاكَ إِنْتَ، ضَحَاكَ! مَا هَيْدَا أَلِّي شَاطِرِ فِيهِ. (ف ر)

2. مَا إِنْتَ مَدِيرِ أَعْمَالِي! (ف ر)

3. مَا هَيْدَا شِغْلُ كَكَا! (ف ر)

4. مَا بِيَا سَفِيرِ. (آ خ)

## Expressions

Just a selection of useful expressions that, sadly, did not fit any of the chapters.

1. I just love doctors' handwriting...
2. My brother has already booked me since Friday.
3. Start over.
4. Are you serious?
5. Excuse me, I have to go.
6. I've never seen him behave that way.
7. You have your whole future ahead of you.
8. - Are you sure you're in the office?  
- Of course, Vivo?!
9. This is me. (The protagonist introduces himself.)
10. We had a fight because of you. You got me in trouble.
11. I mean, I've sent you lots of pictures, but you haven't sent me any back.
12. I wanna learn one more language.
13. Listen carefully.
14. How could you say that?
15. Do me a favor.
16. It's my pleasure. (A response to someone asking for help.)
17. Lower your voice / Turn down the music.
18. What does that mean, doctor?
19. - Why did you do that in the first place?

- All that is Roger's fault! Hope you fail, Roger!

20. Where do you get all that energy?

21. Between you and me, she's right — I'm not easy to deal with.

22. - What do you mean, it's none of your business? Aren't you my agent?

- I'm JUST your agent. I don't care about your love life.

23. Let's go. (In the show, it was said to the driver to start moving.)

24. Who's Kiki? Here she comes!

25. Come on... It's no trouble for me. I'm happy to help. (A response to *Sorry for disturbing you.*)

26. - How did you know?

- It was obvious.

27. The guy I'm talking to on the phone is Ziad.

28. A singer who is famous and popular, especially among girls.

29. She's got a new number? Give it to me, you smart guy. Come on, faster! I wanna have it.

30. Did your mother make these? (Said about food.)

31. I know the same thing.

32. Is that your final decision?

33. Please continue with your breakfast.

34. This is the final warning.

35. When I first saw it I thought that the style was Moroccan. (Context - interior design.)

36. You don't have to say 'miss' with me. We've known each other forever!

37. I've ordered the food that you like.

38. Please drink your coffee quietly or change the subject.

39. We were unfair to her because we hated her.

40. The guests have left, right?

41. For what? Come on... (A response to *thank you*.)

42. Come one, Dad, blow the candles.

43. - Are you ready to stand by your words?

- Yes, I am.

44. Come on.

45. Why did you stop taking your meds, my dear?

46. Please.

47. Please.

48. Please.

49. Please. (It literally means *You will bury me*, i.e. whoever says it means he or she hopes that he or she will die before the person he or she is talking to.)

50. - Mom!

- Yes!

1. يَاحَلَا خَطِّ الْكَاتِرَةِ!.. (ص)
2. حَجَزْنِي خِيٍّ مِنْ جَمْعَةٍ. (ع ن)
3. عَنِ جَدِيدٍ. (ل ع)
4. عَنْ جَدِّ؟
5. عَنْ إِزْنَكْ.
6. وَلَا مَرَّةً شَفْتُو هِيَك. (ع ن)
7. مِسْتَقْبَلَكُنْ قَدَّامَكُنْ. (ع ن)
8. - أَكِيدُ إِنْتَ بِالْمَكْتَبِ؟
- وَلَوْ، فَيَقُو؟ (ف ر)
9. هَيْدَا حَضْرَتِي. (ف ر)
10. تُخَانِقْتُ أَنَا وَيَاهَا مِنْكَ. فَضَحْتَنِي. (ف ر)
11. يَعْنِي أَنَا بَعَثْتُكَ صُورَ كَثِيرٍ، بَسْ وَلَا مَرَّةً بَعَثْتِي صُورًا! (ص)
12. أَنَا عَلَى بَالِي أَتَعَلَّمُ لُغَةَ جَدِيدَةٍ. (ص)
13. رَكِّزْ مَنِيجْ.
14. شُو هَالْحِكِي؟ (تَقْرِيبًا فِي كُلِّ مَسْلَسَل)
15. اِعْمَلْ مَعْرُوف. (تَقْرِيبًا فِي كُلِّ مَسْلَسَل)
16. تِكْرَمْ عَيْنِكَ. (تَقْرِيبًا فِي كُلِّ مَسْلَسَل)
17. وَطِّي صُوتَكَ / وَطِّي هَالْمُوسِيقِي.
18. كَيْفْ يَعْنِي، دُكْتُور؟ (آ خ)

19. - إِنْتِ أَصْلًا لِيَهْ عَمَلْتَا؟

- كَلِّ الْحَقَّ عَ رُوجِيَه! اللَّهُ لَا يُوفِّقُكَ يَا رُوجِيَه! (أ ح)

20. نِيَالِكْ عَ الْإِنْزَجِي. (ع ن)

21. بَيْنَاتْنَا مَعَا حَقَّ، أَنَا مِشْ هَايْن. (ف ر)

22. - كَيْفْ شُو خَصَّكَ؟ مَا إِنْتَ مَدِيرْ أَعْمَالِي؟

- أَنَا مَدِيرْ أَعْمَالِكَ وَبَسْ. شُو خَصَّنِي بِمُغَامِرَاتِكَ الْعَاطِفِيَّةِ؟ (ف ر)

23. طَلَاغْ. (ع ن)

24. مِينْ كِيكِي؟ شَرَفْتْ كِيكِي! (ف ر)

25. وَلَوْ، مَا فَيَا عَزَابْ وَلَا شَيْ. (ص)

26. - كَيْفْ عَرَفْتْ إِنْوْ هَيْدَا هُوَ الْمَوْضُوعُ؟

- وَلَوْ؟.. (مَا تَوَازَعُونِي، نَسِيتْ وَبِنْ سَمْعَتَا...)

27. وَاللِّي عَمَّ أَحْكِي مَعُوعَ التِّلْفُون - زِيَاد. (ف ر)

28. مَغْنِي مَشْهُورْ وَمُحْبُوبْ مِّنَ الصَّبَايَا خَاصَّةً. (ف ر)

29. مَعَا رَقْمْ جَدِيدْ؟ عَطِينِي يَا هَ شَاطِرْ. يَلَّا عَ السَّرِيعْ لَا شُوفْ! (و ك)

30. هُوْدِي شَغْلِ الْوَالِدَةِ؟ (أ ح)

31. عَلِيَّيْ عِلْمُكَ. (ح س)

32. قَرَارِكَ نِهَائِي؟ (ع ن)

33. كَفُّوا تَرْوِيقَتَكُنْ. (ع ن)

34. هَيْدَا آخِرْ إِنْزَار. (ع ن)



35. فَكَّرْتُ مَغْرَبِي أَوَّلَ مَا شِفْتُ. (ص)

36. إِنِّي كَلِمَةٌ هَالِدَامٌ مِنْ قَاموسِكَ. وَلَوْ؟ مَا نَحْنُ عَشْرَةُ عُمَرُ؟ (ع ن)

37. طَلَبْتُ دِلْفِرِي عَ زَوْقَكَ. (ع ن)

38. بَشَرَفَكَ شَرِي قَهْوَتِكَ عَ السَّاكِتِ أَوْ غَيْرِي الْمَوْضُوعِ. (ع ن)

39. ظَلَمْنَاهَا لَمَّا كَرِهْنَاهَا. (و ك)

40. فَلُّوا الْمَعَارِزِمَ، مَا هَيْكَ؟ (و ك)

41. عَلَى شَوْ؟! وَلَوْ! (ص)

42. يَلَّا، بَابَا، طَفِّي الشَّمْعَ. (و ك)

43. - إِنْتَ قَدْوْ هَالْكَلَامْ؟

- قَدْو!

44. يَلَّا. (و ك)

45. لَيْشَ وَقَفْتِي الدَّوَا يَا حَبِيبَتِي؟ (و ك)

46. إِذَا بُتْرِيدُ.

47. بَشَرَفَكَ.

48. اللَّهُ يَخْلِيكَ.

49. تُقْبِرُنِي.

50. - مَامَا!

- عُيُونَا / قَلْبَا / رُوحَا.

## Tense harmony

Why not just do the exercise to see how the harmony of tenses works in Lebanese Arabic? This subject deserves an individual book, which I will write as soon as I get a bigger selection of sentences.

1. If your sister had been doing the treatment properly, like she used to do before we got married, nothing would have happened to her, and she could have made a family without facing any difficulties.
2. My marriage isn't important right now. What matters is the trouble you've probably gotten into — and that you're dragging me into it too.
3. I think, Youssef is not aware of what's happening to Gina, and when he eventually finds out, he's gonna be mad, and we're gonna have more problems.
4. You're gonna come over to my place, and tomorrow morning we'll have breakfast together. Does that sound OK?
5. I don't understand, if something happens to someone, then what, should he or she die waiting for the doctor to come?
6. Well, even if it doesn't help, it's not gonna hurt either.
7. If his feelings toward you were sincere, he would realize he was wrong and change his mind.
8. When she saw you with another woman, she thought you didn't love her anymore.
9. You couldn't give them any persuasive excuses in order not to come?
10. Who would want to attack you if robbing you wasn't his goal?
11. I'm not going anywhere, until you get well.
12. If you ever need something, I'm at your service.
13. If your mom made them, they must be good. They're super-good!
14. I was living my life, free and happy, until a problem showed up. A very big one. Bigger than you can imagine...

15. - I saw that you were looking for an employee.

- Correct! Yes, we are. Are you looking for a job?

16. If we kick Nisrine out, this danger will completely disappear.

17. If she gets back to live in your house, she'll be doing same things to herself.

18. I'm sure if Gina gets back to live in your house, my father-in-law, she'll cause a lot of problems to you.

19. You did not ask such questions when we were married, Sameer.

20. If Gina says my presence makes her feel better, then I can't leave her.

Please check.

1. إِيْحَتْكَ لَو كَفَّتْ عِلَاجَا عَ الْمَزْبُوطْ، مِثْلَهَا كَانِتْ قَبْلِ الزَّوَاكِجْ، مَا كَانَ صَارَ مَعَا شَيْ، وَكَانِتْ قَدَرِتْ تَعْمَلْ عَائِلَةً بِدُونِ أَيِّ مَضَاعِفَاتٍ. (و ك)
2. مِشْ مِنْ زَوَاكِجِي هَلَقْ. الْمَهْمُ الْمَشْكَالُ الِلي مُمَكِّنْ تُكُونِي وَقَعْتِي حَالِكْ فِيهِ وَوَقَعْتِينَا مَعَكْ. (و ك)
3. حَاسَّةٌ إِنْوِ يَوْسُفَ مَا يَعْغِرِفْ قُصَّةَ جِينَا، وَلَمَّا رَحْ يَعْغِرِفْ، رَحْ يَجْنِ وَرَحْ يَكْبِرُ الْمَشْكَالْ. (و ك)
4. إِنْتِ رَحْ تَحِي عَلَى بَيْتِي، وَبُكْرَا الصُّبْحِ مَنْتَرَوِّقْ سَوَا. مَنِيحْ هِيَكْ؟ (و ك)
5. مَا فَهَمْتِ إِذَا وَاحِدَ عَمَّ يَصِيرُ لَوْ شَيْ، شُو، يَهْوَتْ قَبْلَ مَا يُوصَلْ؟ (و ك)
6. يَعْنِي، إِذَا مَا فَادَا، مَا يَبْضِرَا. (ع ن)
7. إِذَا كَانَ صَادِقْ بِمَشَاعِرُو تَجَاهِكْ، رَحْ يُوعَى عَلَى غَلَطْتُو وَيَتَرَا جَعَّ عَنْ قَرَارُو. (ع ن)
8. لَمَّا رَجَعْتِ شَافْتِكْ مَعَ مَرَّةٍ تَانِيَةِ إِفْتِكْرَتِكْ إِنْوِ بَطَلَتْ تُحِبَّا. (ع ن)
9. مَا قَدَرْتِي تَلَا قِلْنِ أَعْرَارْ مِقْنَعَةٍ مَا تَحِي. (ع ن)
10. مِينْ بَدُو يَتَعَدَّى عَلَيْكَ وَكِرْمَالْ شُو إِذَا مَا فِي سِرْقَةٍ؟ (ع ن)
11. أَصْلًا أَنَا مَا رَحْ رُوحْ لَمْطَرَحْ قَبْلَ مَا إِنْتِ تَصَحَّ. (ع ن)
12. إِذَا شَيْ نَهَارْ عَرِزْتُ شَيْ، أَنَا بِالْخِدْمَةِ. (أ ح)
13. إِذَا شِغْلِ الْوَالِدَةِ أَكِيدْ طَيِّبِينَ. مِشْ طَبِيعِي شُو طَيِّبِينَ! (أ ح)
14. عَائِشَ فَاظِي وَرَاضِي لَحْدَ مَا إِجْتَنِي هَالْمَشْكَالَةَ. مَشْكَالَةٌ كُبِيرَةٌ كَثِيرْ. أَكْثَرْ مَا يَنْتَصَوِّرُو. (ف ر)
15. - حَضَرْتُكُنْ طَالِبِينَ مُوَظَّفْ مِثْلَ مَا شِفْتُ.
- صَحَّ! إِيهِ، مُوَظَّفْ لَهُونْ. حَضَرْتِكَ طَالِبُ الْوُظُفَةِ؟ (م م)
16. إِذَا خَلَصْنَا مِنْ نَسْرِينَ، مِنْكُونْ خَلَصْنَا مِنْ الْخَطَرِ كُلُّو. (و ك)
17. إِذَا رَجَعْتِ لَعْنَدَكَ عَ الْبَيْتِ رَحْ تَرْجِعْ تَعْمَلْ بِحَالَا زَاتِ الشَّيْ. (و ك)

18. أَنَا بَأْكَدْلَكْ عَمِّي إِنْو إِذَا جِينَا رَجَعْتْ لَعَنْدَكْ عَ الْبَيْتِ رَحْ يَتْعَزَبْ فَيَا كُتِيرْ. (و ك)

19. وَقْتْ مَا كِتَّا مَجَوَزِينْ مَا كِنْتْ عَمْ تَسْأَلْ هِيَكْ أَسْئَلَة، سَمِير. شَوْبِيكْ؟ (ع ن)

20. إِذَا جِينَا قَالْتْ لِي أَنَا مَرْتَا حَة لُوجُودِي، حَتَّى أَنَا مَا فِيِّي إِتْرَكَا. (و ك)

**That's it for now.**

Thank you for your time.

Hope this book has helped you expand your Lebanese Arabic skills a little or at least make your first step toward that.

Best of luck with your studies!