

FUNCTION B: CATCHING A TAXI

GIVING DIRECTIONS ♦♦ Below are some useful expressions for directing a taxi.

<i>shaghghel él-عaddaad</i>	turn the meter on	شغّل العداد
<i>rooh...</i>	go...	روح...
<i>...dégghri</i>	...straight ahead	...دغري
<i>...qéddaam shwayye</i>	...a little further	...قدام شوية
<i>...la (s-saaha)</i>	...to (the circle)	...لـ (الساحة)
<i>ba'deen</i>	then, after	بعدين
<i>léff عa-...</i>	turn to	لفّ ع...
<i>...él-yamiin</i>	...the right	...اليمين
<i>...él-yasaar</i>	...the left	...اليسار
<i>...ésh-shmaal</i>	...the left	...الشمال
<i>léff عand...</i>	turn at...	لفّ عند...
<i>...ishaaret él-méruur</i>	...the traffic lights	...إشارة المرور
<i>...awwal ishaaret méruur</i>	...the first traffic lights	...أول إشارة مرور
<i>...taani ishaaret méruur</i>	...the second traffic lights	...ثاني إشارة مرور
<i>...ackher ishaaret méruur</i>	...the last traffic lights	...آخر إشارة مرور
<i>khud...</i>	take...	خذ...
<i>...awwal dakhle عa-l-yamiin</i>	...the first turn on the right	...أول دخلة عاليمين
<i>hoon عandak</i>	stop here	هون عندك

The second commonly used word for "left" *ésh-shmaal* الشمال actually means "north" because when someone faces Mecca in the east, north is on the left.

It is best not to give overly complicated directions to a taxi driver. The most effective method is to give ONE direction just before you need it.



1. Listen to the conversation and fill in the missing words.

- A *taksi! él-majles éth-thaqafi* أ تكسي! المجلس الثقافي
- lé-briitaani iza bétriid.* البريطاني إذا بتريد.
- B _____ *él-majles?* ب _____ المجلس؟
- A *b-Abu Remmaane.* أ بأبو رمانة.
- _____ *dégghri w ba'deen* _____ دغري و بعدين
- léff _____* _____ لِفّ _____
- عand ishaaret él-méruur.* عند إشارة المرور.
- _____ *عandak iza bétriid.* _____ عندك إذا بتريد.
- A *tékrami.* ب تكرمي.
- B *shukran.* أ شكراً.

2. Write directions from the British Council to your house (use Map 3 as reference if necessary). Make your directions as simple as possible.

Now practise directing someone to your house. The person being directed should either draw a map or make notes of the directions below, or trace their finger along a map, until the destination is reached.