

**FUNCTION E: COUNTING FLOORS OF A BUILDING**

**ORDINAL NUMBERS** ♦ There are two forms of ordinal numbers: masculine and feminine. You can use the ordinals either before or after a noun. The difference is that if the ordinal comes before the noun the number is always masculine and *él-* الـ is not used at all. Compare the following

<i>ét-ṭaabeq</i>	<i>ét-taani</i>	the second floor	الطابق الثاني
<i>taani ṭaabeq</i>		the second floor	ثاني طابق

and

<i>él-binaaye</i>	<i>ét-taanye</i>	the second building	البنية الثانية
<i>taani binaaye</i>		the second building	ثاني بناية

Note that even though *él-* الـ is not used, the phrase is still definite and the translation is exactly the same.



**1. Listen to these numbers then practise saying the ordinals from 1-10.**

	m	f	f	m
first	<i>awwal</i>	<i>él-uula</i>	الأولى	أول
second	<i>taani</i>	<i>ét-taanye</i>	الثانية	ثاني
third	<i>taalet</i>	<i>ét-taalte</i>	الثالثة	ثالث
fourth	<i>raabe</i>	<i>ér-raabe</i>	الرابعة	رابع
fifth	<i>khaams</i>	<i>él-khaamse</i>	الخامسة	خامس
sixth	<i>saades</i>	<i>és-saadse</i>	السادسة	سادس
seventh	<i>saabe</i>	<i>és-saabe</i>	السابعة	سابع
eighth	<i>taamen</i>	<i>ét-taamne</i>	الثامنة	ثامن
ninth	<i>taase</i>	<i>ét-taase</i>	التاسعة	تاسع
tenth	<i>eaasher</i>	<i>él-ʿaashra</i>	العاشرة	عاشر

**THE GROUND FLOOR** ♦ There are two ways to refer to the ground floor of a building:

<i>qabu</i>	the basement, the ground floor	قبو
<i>ét-ṭaabeq</i>	the ground floor	الطابق الأرضي



2. Listen to the conversation and write down each facility on the appropriate floor of the hotel. Listen as many times as you need.

١٠	
٩	
٨	
٧	
٦	
٥	
٤	
٣	
٢	
١	
القبو	

3. Prepare a short dialogue between the manager of the above hotel and a representative of an organisation seeking to book a room for one night for a visiting official. The representative wants to find out about available facilities at the hotel, both for business and pleasure. Include:

- greetings and introduction
- room and hotel facilities
- costs
- thanks

**WHAT IS YOUR ADDRESS?** ♦ On an official form you will be asked for your

*él-éénwaan fii suuriyya:* address in Syria: العنوان في سوريا:

In Modern Standard Arabic *fii* في means "in". You can also use the word *éénwaan* عنوان to ask someone:

*shu éénwaanak?* what is your address? شو عنوانك؟

**WHERE DO YOU LIVE?** ♦ In conversation however, it is more common to ask

*ween saaken?* where are you living? وين ساكن؟

The words

<input type="radio"/>	<i>saaken</i>	I (m) / you (m) / he is living	ساكن
<input type="radio"/>	<i>saakne</i>	I (f) / you (f) / she is living	ساكنة
<input type="radio"/>	<i>saakniin</i>	we / you (pl) / they are living	ساكنين

are "active participles". Active participles have a masculine, feminine and plural form and are often used instead of verbs to describe a person's state.

**QUESTION WORD "WHICH"** ♦ The word *'ayy* أي is used before any noun to mean "which", for example

*b-'ayy 'taabeq?* on which floor? بأيّ طابق؟

**4. Answer the questions below by circling the appropriate active participle and type of accommodation, and filling in the name of your suburb and the floor you live on.**


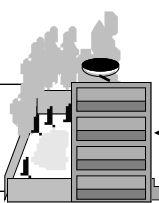
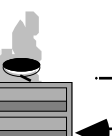
A *ween saaken énte?* أ وين ساكن انت؟  
*ween saakne énti?* وين ساكنة انتي؟

B *ana saaken / saakne* ب أنا ساكن / ساكنة  
*b-shaqqqa / b-beet* بشقة / بيت  
*b-\_\_\_\_\_* \_\_\_\_\_

A *beetak / shaqqetak b-'ayy 'taabeq?* أ بيتك / شقتك بأيّ طابق؟  
*beetek / shaqqetek b-'ayy 'taabeq?* بيتك / شقتك بأيّ طابق؟

B *b-ét-taabeq \_\_\_\_\_* ب بالطابق \_\_\_\_\_

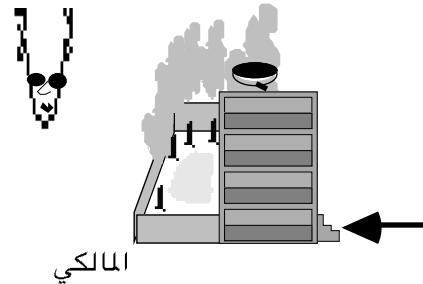
5. Listen to the conversation and fill in the missing words.

- A ween saaken Mark?  أ وين ساكن مارك؟
- B Mark saaken b-\_\_\_\_\_ ب مارك ساكن بـ \_\_\_\_\_
- A beeto b-'ayy<sup>é</sup>taabeq? أ بيته بأيّ طابق؟
- B b-ét-taabeq \_\_\_\_\_ ب بالطابق \_\_\_\_\_
- A fii élo \_\_\_\_\_? أ في إله \_\_\_\_\_؟
- B la, maa fii élo \_\_\_\_\_ ب لا، ما في إله \_\_\_\_\_
- bass fii élo varanda kbüire w  بس في إله قراندا كبيرة و
- manzar ktüir hëlu e-a-l-jneene.  منظر كتير حلو عالجنينة.

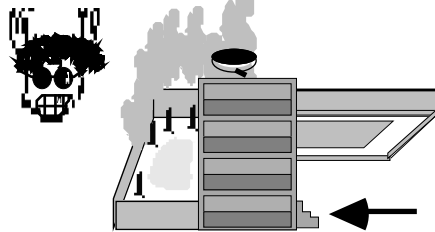
Now work with a teacher or classmate. Look at the pictures and discuss where each of these people live.



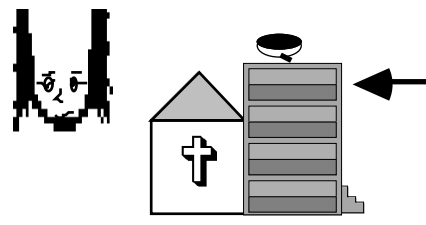
a. *él-Mezze ésh-SHareqiyye*



b. *él-Maalki*



c. *él-Mezze él-CHarbiyye*



d. *shaare e Baghdaad*



e. *ésh-SHaqlaan*



f. *Baab Tuuma*

**GENERAL GREETINGS** ➔ A very common polite general greeting often used by men is:

*és-salaam* *عaleekom*      peace be upon you      السلام عليكم

to which the reply is

*w* *عaleekom* *és-salaam*      and upon you peace      و عليكم السلام

Note that the attached pronoun is the Modern Standard Arabic plural *-kom* كم rather than the Syrian *-kon* كن. This plural pronoun is used whether greeting a single person or a group. This greeting can be used both upon arriving and leaving.

Another common greeting, when someone returns from a trip or from hospital--or as a joke when someone arrives late--is

*él-ḥamd éllah* *ع a-s-salaame*      praise God for your safety      الحمد لله عا لسلامة

to which the reply is also

may He keep you safe

<i>allah ysallmak</i>	(to a man)	الله يسلمك
<i>allah ysallmek</i>	(to a woman)	الله يسلمك
<i>allah ysallmkon</i>	(to a group)	الله يسلمكن

An expression you will hear whenever anyone is or has been working hard, particularly physical labour is

may He give you health

<i>yaḥatiik él-ع aafiyye</i>	(to a man)	يعطيك العافية
<i>yaḥatiiki él-ع aafiyye</i>	(to a woman)	يعطيك العافية
<i>yaḥatiikon él-ع aafiyye</i>	(to a group)	يعطيكن العافية

It is most commonly used to mean "excuse me (for interrupting your work)" if you stop someone from working to ask them a question, or in a shop to attract attention.

If some one says this to you, reply

*allah yaḥ aafiik, -i, -on*      and you      الله يعافيك -ي، -هن

**6. Look at the following conversation. What is the correct order? Write the numbers next to the lines.**

- |   |   |   |                          |
|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| A | <i>w</i> <i>عaleekom</i> <i>és-salaam. miin béddak?</i> | أ | و عليكم السلام. مين بدك؟ |
| B | <i>yéslamu iideek</i>                                   | ب | يسلموا إيديك             |
| A | <i>ع ala raasi</i>                                      | أ | على رأسي                 |
| B | <i>és-salaam</i> <i>عaleekom</i>                        | ب | السلام عليكم             |
| A | <i>amærki? aah, beeto</i>                               | أ | أميركي؟ أه، بيته         |
|   | <i>b-saades taabeṭ</i>                                  |   | بسادس طابق.              |
| B | <i>béddi rfiṭi Mark.</i>                                | ب | بدي رفيقي مارك.          |
|   | <i>huwwe ṭabiib amærki</i>                              |   | هو طبيب أميركي           |

7. Write the appropriate reply for these expressions. Choose from the list underneath, for example

eg *ahlan wa sahlán*      *ahlan fiik*      أهلاً وسهلاً      أهلاً فيك

- a. *és-salaam* عaleekom \_\_\_\_\_ السلام عليكم  
 b. *yaʕaʕiik él-ʕaafiyye* \_\_\_\_\_ يعطيك العافية  
 c. *ṣabaḥ él-kheer* \_\_\_\_\_ صباح الخير  
 d. *masa' l-kheer* \_\_\_\_\_ مساء الخير  
 e. *téṣbeh ʕala kheer* \_\_\_\_\_ تصبح على خير  
 f. *él-ḥamd éllah ʕa-s-salaame* \_\_\_\_\_ الحمد لله عالسلاامة  
 g. *küfak?* \_\_\_\_\_ كيفك؟  
 h. *shu akhbaarak?* \_\_\_\_\_ شو أخبارك؟  
 i. *küf ṣahtak?* \_\_\_\_\_ كيف صحتك؟  
 j. *shukran* \_\_\_\_\_ شكراً  
 k. *yéslamu iideek* \_\_\_\_\_ يسلموا إيديك  
 l. *khaatrak* \_\_\_\_\_ خاطرَكَ  
 m. *maʕ és-salaame* \_\_\_\_\_ مع السلاامة

*él-ajwibe:* الأجابة:

<i>ṣabaḥ én-nuur</i>	<i>masa' n-nuur</i>	مساء النور	صباح النور
<i>w énte b-kheer</i>	<i>él-ḥamd éllah b-kheer</i>	الحمد لله بخير	و انت بخير
<i>maashi él-ḥaal</i>	<i>tamaam</i>	تمام	ماشى الحال
<i>tékram</i>	<i>w ʕaleekom és-salaam</i>	و عليكم السلام	تكرم
<i>allah ysallmak</i>	<i>ahlan fiik</i>	أهلاً فيك	الله يسلمك
<i>w iideek</i>	<i>allah yaʕaafiik</i>	الله يعافيك	و إيديك
<i>maʕ és-salaame</i>	<i>allah ysallmak</i>	الله يسلمك	مع السلاامة

8. Write the question for these statements, for example

*b-él-Maalki.*      *ween saaken ente?*      وين ساكن انت؟      بالمالكي.

- a. *ana mwazzaf.* \_\_\_\_\_ أنا موظف.  
 b. *mén ostraalya.* \_\_\_\_\_ من استراليا.  
 c. *béddi gherfe maʕ ḥammaam.* \_\_\_\_\_ بدى غرفة مع حمام.  
 d. *b-ét-taabeq ét-taani.* \_\_\_\_\_ بالطابق الثاني.  
 e. *bass ٥٥ leera.* \_\_\_\_\_ بس ٥٥ ليرة.  
 f. *ee, métzawwej.* \_\_\_\_\_ ايه متزوج.