

Chapter 1: Introductions

الفصل الأول: مُقدِّمات

In this lesson, people will introduce themselves and tell us a bit about their lives, their families, and what they do.

Lesson 1: Miryam

الدَّرْس الأول: مَرِيَم

Vocabulary

Study and memorize the following words.

director (MSA)	مُخْرَج
production (MSA)	إِنْتاج
public institute(MSA)	مَعْهَد
acting (MSA)	تَمْثِيل
directing, production (MSA)	إِخْرَاج

Conversation

1. Watch the video without reading the text. You will notice that Miryam uses a lot of MSA, but with typical Sudanese pronunciation, occasionally using SA words or phrases. What is Miryam's job?
2. Now watch the video again while reading along. What organization did Miryam work for in Sudan? What school did she graduate from?

أنا مريم مُحمَّد الطَّيِّب. سودانية. عَمَلْتُ مُخرِجَةً في التِّلْفِزيون السُّودان وعَمَلْتُ مَعَ مُنْظَمة اليونسيف في إنتاج أفلام قصيرة. اِتَّخَرَجْتُ من مَعْهَد الموسيقى والمسْرَاح ودرَسْتُ التَّمثِيل والإخراج.

Grammar

Past tense verbs

Notice how Miryam pronounces the past tense first person when she says اِتَّخَرَجْتُ, عَمَلْتُ, and دَرَسْتُ. In SA, the past tense first person is pronounced in the فَعَلْتُ form, as opposed to the MSA form, فَعَلْتُ. Other past tense verbs retain the same form as MSA, with the exception of the past tense masculine singular, which drops the final vowel, becoming فَعَلَ instead of فَعَلَّ.

Lesson 2: Mustafa

الدَّرْسُ الثَّانِي: مُصْطَفَى

TIME CODE: 00:33

Vocabulary

Study and memorize the following words.

to come	جا/يجي
to stay, remain; to sit	قَعَدَ/يَقْعُدُ
the middle, half, halfway	النَّص
to go out, leave; get up, stand up	يَطْلُعُ
like	رَئِي
sort of, more or less; <i>pronoun</i> this, that;	كدا
<i>Interrogative</i> is that so, really	
to go	مَشَى/ يَمْشِي

Conversation

1. Watch the video without reading the text. Mustafa' speaks clearer than most, taking words from

MSA more often than the average Sudanese. When and why did Mustafa come to the United States?

2. Now watch the video again while reading along. Did he meet his wife before or after coming to the United States? When did they marry?

3. What does he say about taking trips while they lived in Sudan?

طَيَّبَ أَنَا أَبْدَأُ لِيَكُمُ! أَنَا مُصْطَفَى عُمَرُ الْجِيلِي وَجِينَا... أَنَا جِيتْ هُنَا أَوَّلَ مَرَّةٍ سَنَةَ ثَلَاثَةَ وَثَمَانِينَ. جِيتْ لَعَمَلِ دَرَأَسَاتِ غُلِيَا مَا جَسْتِيرِ وَدَكْتُورَةِ فِي مَاسْتَشُوسْتَسِ وَاتَزَوَّجْنَا... كَتَّ² أَعْرَفَ نَجَاةَ دِي قَبْلُهَا فِي كَلِيَّةِ التَّرْبِيَّةِ كُنَّا فِي نَفْسِ الكَلِيَّةِ وَتَمَّ الزَّوْجُ وَهِيَ جَاتِ سَنَةَ أَرْبَعِ وَثَمَانِينَ. وَبَعْدَ... فِي السَّنَةِ الْأُولَى³ بَعْدَ فِتْرَةِ إِبْرَاهِيمِ دَا اتَوَلَّدَ سَنَةَ خَمْسَةَ وَثَمَانِينَ شَهْرَ مَايُو وَقَعَدْنَا فِي مَاسْتَشُوسْتَسِ بَعْدَ خَمْسَةِ سَنَوَاتِ سَنَةَ ثَمَانِيَةَ وَثَمَانِينَ رَجَعْنَا السُّودَانَ مَرَّةً تَانِيَةَ وَطُبِعَا رَجَعْنَا كَدَا فِي الْفُصِّ زِيَارَاتِ وَكَدَا لَكِنْ سَنَةَ خَمْسَةَ⁴... ثَمَانِيَةَ وَثَمَانِينَ رَجَعْنَا السُّودَانَ اِشْتَعَلَتْ فِي جَامِعَةِ خَرْطُومِ عَشْرَةَ سَنَوَاتِ فِي التَّدْرِيسِ. وَكُنَّا نَطَّلِعُ طُلُوعَاتِ بَسِيْطِ يَعْني مَصْرَ مَشِينَا الْيَمَنِ، مَشِينَا الْهِنْدِ، مَشِينَا اثْيُوبِيَا وَسَنَةَ... إِنَّتْ مُمَكَّنْ تَنْمِي الْبَاقِي. قَدَّمِي نَفْسِكَ وَتَمِي الْبَاقِي

Grammar

Form V verbs

In MSA, the pattern for a form V verb is **تَفَعَّلَ/يَتَفَعَّلُ**. SA, however, has a slight variation on this verb form, which is pronounced **اتَّفَعَّلَ/يَتَّفَعَّلُ**. Notice that Mustafa uses the word **اتَزَوَّجْنَا** to mean, “we married.” He also uses this verb form when he says **بَعْدَ فِتْرَةِ إِبْرَاهِيمِ دَا اتَوَلَّدَ** meaning, “after a while, Ibrahim was born.” This is also true for form VI verbs. Thus, the verb “to meet on another” is **اتَّقَابَلَ/يَتَّقَابَلُ** rather than the MSA form **تَقَابَلَ/يَتَقَابَلُ**.

Demonstrative pronouns

In Sudanese Arabic, the near demonstrative pronoun (i.e. “this”) is pronounced **دا** in the masculine

1 Sudanese often pronounce the pronoun **دا** with an attached suffix differently than in MSA. Notice that Mustafa says **لِيَكُمُ** instead of **لَكُمْ**.

2 Many Sudanese pronounce “**كَتَّ**” as “**كُنَّتْ**”.

3 The speaker misspoke. The sentence should start with **فِي**.

4The speaker changed his mind mid-sentence to say **ثَمَانِيَةَ**.

singular and *دي* or *ديّه* in the feminine singular. These pronouns usually come after the word they are referring to, unlike in MSA, where they always come before. Ali, for example, says *وَعَنْدِي وَلَدَيْنِ أَصْغَرُهُمْ* and *حَيَمَشِي الْكَوْلُجِ السَّنَةِ دِيَّة*, “I have two sons, the youngest of whom will go to college this year.” Notice that he does not say *دِيَّة السَّنَةِ*. Note that this is only the case when it is being used in adjective form, i.e., “this year.” This is not the case when he uses it as a noun, as in “*دا الاختصار*” or “That is the abbreviation.”

Learn the following demonstrative pronouns:

that (masculine)	داك
that (feminine)	ديك
this, these (masculine)	ديل/دول
that, those (feminine)	ديل/دولاك
this, these (feminine)	ديل
that, those (feminine)	ديلاك

Remember that the MSA rule about non-human plurals still applies in Sudanese Arabic. Non-human plurals, such as “books” or “goats” are conjugated in the feminine singular. For example: *الكتب دي* or *العنم دي*.

Translate the following sentences into Sudanese Arabic, paying special attention to the use of demonstrative pronouns.

1. I don't like this weather.
2. These books are heavy.
3. Those people are nice.
4. This car is slow.
5. That is a good film.

6. This is beautiful.
7. These boys don't like vegetables.

Lesson 3: Najaat

TIME CODE: 02:01

الدَّرْسُ الثَّالِثُ: نِجَاة

Vocabulary

Study and memorize the following words.

like he said	زَي مَا قَال
when	لَمَّا
to meet (someone)	لَاقَى/ يَلَاقِي
another, again	تَانِي
yes	آي
to spend (time)	عَدَى/ يَعْدَى
also	بَرَضُو
to be able	قَدْر/ يَقْدِر
to fight	صَارَعَ/ يَصَارِع
the important thing is, the fact is (indicates return to topic after digression)	لِمَهْم/ المَهْم
still	لِسَّه
card	كَرَّت
later, afterwards, next, too, also	بَعْدَيْن
not	مُش

Conversation

1. Watch the video without reading the text. How did Najaat and Mustafa meet? What does Najaat do for work?
2. Watch the video again while reading along. What was the problem she describes about immigration before they moved to the United States? How was her situation different from her husband and son's?

أنا إسمي نجاة عثمان زين العابدين وأنا من مدينة الخرطوم في السودان وإتخرجت من كلية التربية جامعة الخرطوم وزّي ما قال مصطفى لأقبيته في الجامعة. أنا كنت طالبة وهو كان مساعد تدريس وتعارفنا ولزوّجنا. لَمَّا لَزَّوَجْنَا هو كان في أمريكا وأنا كنت في السودان. ثمّ الزواج ونحنا كل واحد في بلد. وبعد داك جيت أمريكا وزّي ما قال في وُسْتِر ماسنشوسس. إتلأقينا وولدت إبراهيم ولدي دا هناك عام خمسة وثمانين والوكت داك كنت لسه ما خلصت الجامعة. وزّي ما قال مصطفى كنا بيمشي زيارات لكن بعد داك مشيت⁶ إنتهيت من الجامعة. وجيت راجعة أمريكا تاني رجعنا سنة تسعة وثمانين كانت ولا ثمانية وثمانين؟

مصطفى: وقبلها كان في موضوع اليمن:

نجاة: آي. لا دا الراجعة الأولى. فرجعنا ثمانية وثمانين إبراهيم كان عمره ثلاثة سنين و نص. وبعد داك لشتغل في السودان, لشتغل في معلمة في المدارس العالمية لفترة ستة سنوات وفي الإجازات كان كثير تمشي القاهرة تمشي... مشينا الهنـد برضو عدينا فترة مشينا إثيوبيا وبرضو كان المرة الأخيرة دي مشينا القاهرة وحاولنا اللجوء من القاهرة لكن ما قدرنا قمشينا اليمن ومن اليمن جينا ب... مع مصطفى كنا بنصارع في السفارة الأمريكية. مصطفى جاتو دعوة من أمريكا وإبراهيم طبعاً مولود هنا ما عنده مشكلة فكت أنا في النص المشكلة. فالمهم في النهاية أدوني التأشيرة وجينا أمريكا وعملنا لجوء وهسا الحمد لله لينا... دخلنا سنة تسعة وتسعين. كان شهر عشرة

مش؟

مصطفى:

شهر عشرة أي.

نجاة:

ولسه ما بقينا مواطنين ولكن عدينا الكرت الأخضر زي ما بيسمونها <<الجرين كارد>>. وأنا الآن... مصطفى دا كان شغال في السفارة القطرية في <<دي سي>> لفترة خمسة سنين. بعد داك جينا على (كاليفورنيا) هنا, مونتراي. لشتغل هو في <<دي ال أي>> وبعديو بستنين أنا برضو لشتغل في <<دي ال أي>>. بندرس اللغة العربية للجنود أو في <<الارمي>> أو الجيش

Grammar

Present continual verbs

Present continual verbs in SA are often pronounced as nouns in the اسم فاعل form. Najaat says مصطفى دا

instead of كان شغال في السفارة القطرية

You will often hear SA speakers express wants or needs by saying, مصطفى دا كان يشتغل في السفارة القطرية

for example, "أنا أدور شّيء" instead of "أنا داير شّيء".

Translate the following sentences into Sudanese Arabic, using the اسم فاعل where appropriate.

5 In MSA, it is more common to use عَدَمًا to mean "when." SA speakers tend to use لَمَّا or لَمَن.

6 The speaker misspoke, saying مشيت when she meant إنتهيت.

7 The اسم فاعل can follow the فاعل pattern, as in داري, or the فعّال patten, as in شغال.

1. I want to travel to Egypt.
2. Where are you Ahmed? I am coming home.
3. Fatima is sitting in her room.
4. Osman and Hamid are going to their father's house.

The prefixed imperfect

In SA, as in most Arabic dialects, the default form of the imperfect verb is prefixed with the letter ب. Najaat, for example, says “كنا بتمشي زيارات” and “بندرس اللغة العربية للجنود.” The first example can be translated as “We would go on trips,” while the second can be translated as “We teach Arabic language to soldiers.” The time frame of the fixed imperfect is not specific. For example:

بَحِبُّو شديداً. “I like him very much.” Here, it is used to make a general statement.

بِنَشْنَعْلُ كلَّ يَوْمٍ. “We work all day.” Here, it describes repeated or habitual action.

بُدْرُسُ في عُرفَتُو. “He is studying in his room.” Here, it depicts an action taking place at the moment of speech.

The ب prefix can also be used to form the future, which will be discussed in the following lesson.

Notice in the above examples that the first person and third person masculine verb lose their affixes when using the ب prefix. “I like” is “بَحِبُّ” instead of “بأحب”⁸ and “He studies” is “بُدْرُسُ” instead of “بيدُرُ”⁸.

Translate the following sentences into Sudanese Arabic, using the prefixed imperfect where appropriate.

1. We are eating breakfast.

⁸ Remember that the hamza is rarely pronounced in SA.

2. When I lived in Khartoum, I would go to Omdurman often.
3. Mohamed drives his car everywhere.
4. I like reading a lot.

Lesson 4: Ibrahim

TIME CODE: 05:22

Vocabulary

Study and memorize the following words.

to transfer	حوّل/يحوّل
material	مادة
MSA museum	متحف/متاحف
forgotten	منسي
wanting, desiring, needing	داير
(possessive adjective) of, belonging to	بتاع
now	هسّه

Conversation

1. Watch the video without reading the text. Ibrahim uses more dialect than the previous speakers, and he stutters a lot, which may make him more difficult to understand. What does he study?
2. Now watch the video and read along. What is the subject of his research? Why is that subject important to him?

أنا إبراهيم. أنا ولِدُن. بَقْرَى في الجامعة هنا. دي سنّتي الأخيرة هنا وبَعْدَ داك حَنَحَرَج. قَبْلَ التَّحْرُجِ كُنْتُ بَقْرَى في ال...من...قَبْلَ ما كُنْتُ بَقْرَى في الجامعة دي كُنْتُ بَقْرَى في المَعَهْدِ العَالِي في مونتريال هنا. كُنْتُ مُتَخَصِّص في الفنون. كُنْتُ أَي كُنْتُ مُتَخَصِّص في الفنون الجَمِيلَة و بَعْدَين حَوَلْتُ الوَكْت داك حَوَلْتُ لمادة تَدْرِيس الفنون ودراسة المتاحف. وهَسَه أَنَا مَوْضُوع التَّحْرُجِ بَتَاعِي عَن السُّودَانِ القَدِيم...عَن حَضَارَة النُوبَة القَدِيمَة. وَمُهْتَمِّي بِأَنِّي أَظَهَّرَ تَارِيخ السُّودَانِ القَدِيم وَأَتُو وَأَتُو هُو مَنَسِي وَأَتُو هُو يَعْني مَا ظَاهِر بِالنَّسْبَة لِلنَّاسِ وداير المَوْضُوع دَا يَطَّلَع وَيَكُون مَعْرُوف في الإِعْلَام وَيَكُون مَعْرُوف في في في في في يَعْني يَكُون مَعْرُوف هِنَايَ في التَّدْرِيسِ وَفِي وَكْدَا

Grammar

Suffixes

Some SA suffixed personal pronouns differ slightly from those in MSA. Notice that Ibrahim says “ولِدُن” instead of “ولِدُهُم” and “أَتُو” instead of “أَتَهُ.” There is some variation in the forms of suffixed personal pronouns. Study the chart below.

	Following a verb	Following a noun
3rd person masculine singular (he)	-و	-و
3rd person feminine singular (she)	-ها	-ا
2nd person masculine singular (you)	-ك	-ك (-ak)
2nd person feminine singular (you)	-ك or -كي	-ك (-ik)
1st person singular (after non verbal forms)	-ي	-ي
1st person singular (after verbal forms)	-ني	-ني
3rd person masculine plural (they)	-هُن or -هُم	(-un or -um)
3rd person feminine plural (they)	-هن or -هن	(-in or -un)
2nd person male plural (you all)	كن or -كم	كن or -كم

2 nd person feminine plural (you all)	-كن	-كن
1 st person plural (we)	-نا	-نا

Future

In SA, the future is formed either with the prefix ب, as in “بشوفك بكرة,” “I will see you tomorrow,” or with the prefix ح as in Ibrahim's sentence “وبعد داك حتخرج,” “After that I will graduate.” The use of the ب tends to refer to an event in the near future, while the ح tends to refer to events further into the future.

Possessive adjective

In SA, there are two ways to express possession. One is the إضافة as in MSA. The other is the possessive adjective construction, in which an adjective is used to link two nouns. The possessive adjectives of SA are بناع and حَق, and they must agree in gender and number like other adjectives.

Notice Ibrahim's usage when he says “موضوع التخرج بتاعي,” i.e., “the subject of my graduation (study).” SA speakers tend to reserve the construct phrase, or إضافة, for things that are inherently possessed, such as family members, body parts, names, and nationality. Here are some examples using the possessive adjective:

1. دا السيارة بتاعت أبي, “This is my father's car.”
2. البيت حق يونس كبير, “Yunis' house is big.”
3. العربية بتاعتي ما بتشتغل كويسة, “My car doesn't work well.”

Translate the following sentences into Sudanese Arabic, using the possessive adjective where appropriate:

1. My suitcase (شنطة) is really heavy.
2. Sami's camels are thirsty.
3. Fuad, where is your sister?

4. My English class is difficult.

Lesson 5: Ali

TIME CODE: 06:52

○Vocabulary

Study and memorize the following words.

most	أغلب
here	هنا
as/like	كـ
just/only (used like the MSA word فقط)	بسّ
until (like the MSA word حتّى)	لحدّ
sort of, more or less; this, that; (interrogative) is that so, really	كـدا
during	في إثناء
since/when I came here	من جيت هنا
general security (a governmental institution)	الصالح العام
to write	يكتيب
in total, in sum	كلّ على بعضها
somewhat, a bit;	
a short period of time (noun or adverb)	شوايه

○Conversation

1. Watch the video without reading the text. Which part of Sudan is he from? Where did he live in

Europe? For how long?

2. Now watch the video again while reading along. What are the different jobs Ali mentions?

طَيَّب. شكرًا جزيلًا وأنا إسمي الكامل عبد الماجد مُحَمَّد علي عُمر علي بوب لكن أغلب الناس هنا بعرفوني كعلي بوب بس. دا الاختصار. وأنا اتولدت في منطقة كورتى في شمال السودان لكن أسرتى بعد داك جات خرطوم ودرست المراحل لحدّ الثانوي العالي. وبعدين سافرت المانيا الشرقية و عملت ال...دراسة الدراسة بتاعتي الجامعية وحضرت للدكتوراه هناك في المانيا. وقضيت في المانيا بفترة بسيطة اشتغلت في الترجمة وكدا. فكلّ على بعضها حوالي اطناسر سنة أنا كت في المانيا. لما رجعت اشتغلت في جامعة جوبا وكانت جامعة جديدة. فأنا كنت أول أستاذ بدرجة جامعية يلتحق بجامعة جوبا. اشتغلت فترة تلتاشر سنة وبعدين جيت لجامعة بيركلي في إجازة «سباتيكل. وفي إثناء وجودي هنا بعد الانقلاب بتاع الجبهة الإسلامية القومية⁹ كت ضمن أربع أشخاص فصلوهم بأوامر رئيس الجمهورية، للصالح العام. فمن جيت هنا التحت هنا بالمعهد دي نفسو، معهد دراسات الأفريقية في جامعة بيركلي وقضيت أغتد ثلاث سنوات أو سنة وشواي وبعدها بتشتغل عمل بكتيب و براسل بعد الصحف وكدا. وأسرتي معي هنا وعندي ولدين أصغرهم. حيمشي الكولج السنة دية وعندي بت هي الآن حصلت على الدراسة الجامعية

9 The National Islamic Front is the political organization associated with the National Congress, the current political party in power.

Grammar

Numbers

Unlike in MSA, SA numbers do not undergo changes of gender, with the exception of , واحد , “one,” which functions as an adjective and must agree with it's noun in gender. Most numbers are the same as those in MSA, but numbers 11-19 and 100-900 differ slightly. Study the numbers below.

11	حداشر	16	سَطاشر
12	اِطْناشر	17	سَبْعَطاشر
13	ثَلْطاشر	18	ثَمْنِطاشر
14	ارْبَعَطاشر	19	تِسْعَطاشر
15	خَمْسَطاشر		

100	مِية	600	سُئْمِية
200	مِئَيْن	700	سَبْعُمِية
300	ثَلْئِمِية	800	ثَمْنُثْمِية
400	رُبْعِمِية or اَرْبُمِية	900	تِسْعُمِية
500	خُمْسُمِية		