

Introduction to Nahw

- Nahw is the science which teaches us how to join two words correctly using the right i'raab (harakah).
- The basic objective of nahw is to understand which harakah should be on the last letter of each word, and to understand how to form words into sentences.
- There are 3 types of words in the Arabic language:
 1. اسم - Noun, adjective (everything that is not a verb)
 2. فعل - Verb
 3. حرف - Harf (prepositions)
- Nahw focuses on the ism (noun)
- In arabic, every ism has 4 characteristics:
 1. اعراب - Refers to the fatha, dhumma, and kasrah
 2. عدد - Number/quantity
 3. معرف / نكرة - Proper/common
 4. جنس - Gender

Marifa Nouns

- Every noun in the Arabic language is either marifa or nakira.
 - Marifa = A specific/proper noun
 - Nakira = A common noun
- Marifa (proper) nouns are recognized in 3 ways:
 1. Adding **ال**
 - Marifa nouns are translated with “the”

The house is small.

البيت صغيرٌ

The book is new.

الكتاب حديثٌ

The boy is tall.

الولد طويلاً

2. Natural proper nouns are marifa

- A city's name, a person's name, and a country's name are all naturally proper nouns.
- These nouns don't need **ال**
 - Correct = **زيدٌ**
 - Incorrect = **الزيد**

Fatima left.

خرجت فاطمة

I traveled to **Syria**.

سافرت إلى سوريا

Zaid rode a horse.

ركب زيد حصان

3. Pronouns are always proper nouns.

- He, she, they, etc. (هُوَ، هِيَ، أَنْتَ، أَنْتِ، هُمْ، هُنَّ)

Nakira Nouns

- Nakira (common) nouns have tanween.
 - Nakira nouns are translated with “a” or “an”.

This is **a small book**.

هذا كِتابٌ صَغِيرٌ

He has **a new car**.

عِنْدُهُ سَيَّارَةٌ جَدِيدَةٌ

This is **a big house**.

هذا بَيْتٌ كَبِيرٌ

- A noun can never have both الـ and tanween.
- When a sentence starts with a noun, that noun must be Marfia.

The flower is beautiful.

الْزَهْرَةُ جَمِيلَةٌ

This is a very old house.

هذا بَيْتٌ قَدِيمٌ جِدًّا

Ibrahim is a smart boy.

ابْرَاهِيمُ وَلَدٌ ذَكِيٌّ

Additional Points

- When a sentence begins with a noun, the subject is always marifa (has الـ), and the predicate is nakira (has tanween).

The girl is tall.

الْبِنْتُ طَوِيلَةٌ

The car is fast.

السَّيَّارَةُ سَرِيعَةٌ

The garden is big.

الْحَدِيقَةُ كَبِيرَةٌ

- When a sentence starts with a verb, the noun can be marifa or nakira (it's up to you).

The girl ate the food.

أَكَلَتْ بِنْتُ الطَّعَامَ

Ahmad helped Zaid.

نَصَرَ اَحْمَدُ زَيْدَ

The boys left the house.

خَرَجَ الْوَلَادُ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ

Gender - Feminine Nouns (مُؤنث)

- There are specific signs which help to recognize the gender of a word.
- Words that end with a ة
 - This is the **main** sign of a feminine noun.

The car is new.

السيارةُ جَدِيدَةٌ

The garden is big.

الحَدِيقَةُ كَبِيرَةٌ

The window is clean.

النَّافِذَةُ نَظِيفَةٌ

- Nouns that are biological feminine
 - They don't need a ة because they are representing female characters.

The **mother** is smart.

الْأُمُّ ذَكِيَّةٌ

The **sister** is kind.

الْأَخْتُ لَطِيفَةٌ

The **daughter** is respectful.

الْبَنْتُ مُحْتَرِمَةٌ

- Body parts that come in pairs

- Examples:

- The ears - الأذْنُ

- The eyes - العُيُونُ

- Names of places and countries

America is beautiful.

أَمْرِيْكَا جَمِيلَةٌ

Africa is a great country.

افْرِيْقَا بَلَدٌ عَظِيمَةٌ

- Some words are feminine because that is how the Arabs chose to use them based on how the Quran uses them.
 - If the Quran used a noun with a feminine adjective, the word is considered feminine, even if it does not possess any of the typical signs of a feminine noun.
 - Example:
 - The sun (الشَّمْسُ)
 - Fire (نَارٌ)
 - Wind (رِيحٌ)
 - This is not very common
- Word ending with *ي* or *اء* are also considered feminine
 - Examples: بُشَرٌ, اسْمَاءٌ, سَوْدَاءٌ, حَمَراءٌ, السَّمَاءُ, .

Gender - Masculine Nouns (مُذَكَّر)

- There are no specific signs for a masculine noun.
- If there are no signs of a feminine noun, then it is masculine.

Additional Points

- The gender of a noun is unchangeable.
 - The only times that a noun will change gender is if it is a/an:
 - Adjective
 - Profession
- The gender of an adjective or a descriptor must be changed to match the gender of the noun.
 - The gender of the adjective must always match the noun.
 - The noun and adjective do not have to match when it comes to being marifa/nakira.

Status - إعراب

- There are 3 kinds of statuses:
- Dhumma = Rafa (رفع)
 - The natural state of a noun is rafa.
 - When there is a verb, the **doer** of the verb generally takes the status of rafa.
 - When there is no verb, the noun naturally has a dhumma as the **subject** of the sentence.

The **man** ate my food

أَكَلَ الرَّجُلُ طَعَامِي

The **fasting male** sat

جَلَسَ الصَّائِمُ

The **boy** is tall

الْوَلَدُ طَوِيلٌ

The **book** is new

الْكِتَابُ جَدِيدٌ

- Fatha = Nasab (نصب)

- The object of the sentence generally takes the status of nasab.
- Generally, if there is no verb, there will be no nasab.

The student helped the **boy**

نَصَرَ الطَّالِبُ الْوَلَدَ

I hit the **boys**

صَرَبْتُ الْوَلَدَ

Allah SWT struck an **example**

صَرَبَ اللَّهُ مَثَلًا

She drank the **water**

شَرِبَتِ الْمَاءَ

- Kasrah = Jarr (جر)

- A word that comes after a harf jarr takes the status of jarr.

Examples of harf jar: مِن، إِلَى، عَن، عَلَى، فِي، لِ، بِ

The book is **on the table**

الْكِتَابُ عَلَى الطَّاولةِ

I left **from the house**

خَرَجْتُ مِنَ الْبَيْتِ

The boy is **in the kitchen**

الْوَلَدُ فِي الْمَطَبِخِ