

Elementary Arabic I – Integrated Performance Assessment
Themes: Family, hobbies and sports, daily activities, Ramadan and Eid

TASK SCENARIO:

You are a college student, currently enrolled in an undergraduate elementary level Arabic class. Your plans are to study abroad in an Arab country during the coming semester. In order to prepare for study abroad, you want to become more fluent in Arabic and to better understand Arab family life and cultural/religious values.

You are very interested in comparing and contrasting the lifestyles of Arab-Americans with their peers who have been born and raised in Arab countries. An Arab-American friend invites you to meet her family during Eid and you are happy for this learning opportunity.

The following series of Interpretive, Interpersonal and Presentational tasks will help you gather and assimilate information about the life of an Arab-American citizen.

INTERPRETIVE TASK

Reading Task:

صَدِيقَتِي إِسْمُهَا خَدِيجَةٌ وَهِيَ سُورِيَّةٌ الْأَصْلُ. وُلِدَتْ فِي مَدِينَةِ حُمْصٍ فِي سُورِيَا. وَلَكِنْ سَكَنْتْ فِي السُّعُودِيَّةِ حَيْثُ عَمَلُ وَالِدَيْهَا فِي جَامِعَةِ "الْمَلِكِ عَبْدِ الْعَزِيزِ" فِي الرَّيَاضِ. سَافَرَتْ خَدِيجَةٌ مَعَ أُسْرَتِهَا إِلَى مَدِينَةِ "دَيْتْرُويت" فِي الْوَلَايَاتِ الْمُتَّحِدَةِ الْأَمْرِيكِيَّةِ لِأَنَّ وَالِدَيْهَا حَصَلَ عَلَى وَظِيفَةِ أَسْتَاذِ تَارِيخِ شَمَالِ إِفْرِيْقِيَا وَالشَّرْقِ الْأَوْسَطِ.

أُسْرَتُهَا تَتَكَوَّنُ مِنَ الْوَالِدَيْنِ وَأُخْتٍ وَاحِدَةٍ وَثَلَاثَةِ إِخْوَةٍ. عَائِلَةُ خَدِيجَةَ كَبِيرَةٌ. عِنْدَهَا خَالَاتٌ وَعَمَّاتٌ كَثِيرَاتٌ. حَنَانٌ، أُخْتُ خَدِيجَةَ، تَسْكُنُ فِي سَانِ فَرَنْسِيْسِكُو فِي شَقَّةٍ مَعَ أَصْدِقَاءِ أَمْرِيكِيِّينَ. حَنَانٌ مُخْتَلِفَةٌ عَنِ خَدِيجَةَ لِأَنَّهَا مِنْ جِيلٍ أَصْغَرَ. فِي الْعَادَاتِ وَالتَّقَالِيدِ السُّورِيَّةِ، لَا يَسْكُنُ الْأَوْلَادُ بَعِيدًا عَنِ الْأُسْرَةِ وَخَاصَّةً قَبْلَ الزَّوْاجِ. أُمًّا* مُحَمَّدٌ، أَخُ خَدِيجَةَ الْأَكْبَرُ، هُوَ مُتَزَوِّجٌ وَعِنْدَهُ أَرْبَعَةُ أَوْلَادٍ وَيَعْمَلُ فِي شَرِكَةِ كَنْدِيَّةِ فِي مَدِينَةِ "دَيْتْرُويت".

تَزَوَّجَتْ خَدِيجَةُ مِنْ رَجُلٍ أَمْرِيكِيٍّ تَعَرَّفَتْ عَلَيْهِ فِي الْعَمَلِ. وَالِدُ خَدِيجَةَ لَيْسَ سَعِيدًا بِهَذَا الزَّوْاجِ بِسَبَبِ الْإِخْتِلَافَاتِ فِي الْعَادَاتِ وَالتَّقَالِيدِ وَاللُّغَةِ وَالثَّقَافَةِ.

أُسْبُوعٌ قَبْلَ الْعِيدِ، تَحْضُرُ خَدِيجَةُ الْكَثِيرَ مِنَ الْحَلْوِيَّاتِ وَتُنْظِّفُ الْبَيْتَ مَعَ أُمِّهَا. فِي "عِيدِ الْفَطْرِ"، تَسْتَنْقِظُ الْأُسْرَةَ بَاكِرًا فِي السَّاعَةِ السَّابِعَةِ وَيَذْهَبُ كُلُّ أَفْرَادِ أُسْرَةِ خَدِيجَةَ إِلَى الْمَسْجِدِ ثُمَّ بَعْدَ الصَّلَاةِ يَعُودُونَ إِلَى الْبَيْتِ لِأَكْلِ الْحَلْوِيَّاتِ وَالشَّايِ أَوْ الْقَهْوَةِ. بَعْدَ الظُّهْرِ، يَذْهَبُ الْوَالِدُ مَعَ أَبْنَائِهِ لِزِيَارَةِ الْأَقْرَابِ وَالْأَصْدِقَاءِ. هَذَا يَوْمٌ سَعِيدٌ لِلْأَوْلَادِ.

however = أُمًّا*

I. Key Word Recognition

In the provided reading passage, find the Arabic word that best expresses the meaning of each of the following English words. Please use only words from the text. Use context clues as needed to figure out unfamiliar words.

1. Apartment _____
2. Different _____
3. Hobbies and sports _____
4. To travel to _____
5. Afternoon _____
6. To meet/to know _____
7. Generation _____
8. Language _____
9. Week _____
10. To visit _____

II. Main Ideas

Using information from the reading passage, provide the main idea (s) in English.

III. Supporting Details:

Instructions:

- Circle the letter of each detail below that is mentioned in the reading passage (not all items are mentioned).
- Write the letter of the detail next to where it appears in the passage.
- Write the information from the reading passage in the space provided next to the appropriate details below.

A. Khadija is a Syrian citizen living in Saudi Arabia: _____

B. Khadija's father is a professor: _____

C. Khadija's brother is an employee in a company: _____

D. Two family activities on Eid day: _____

E. One way that Khadija and her mother prepare for Eid: _____

F. How many children are in the family including Khadija: _____

G. Khadija's sister lives with roommates: _____

H. The reasons why Khadija's father is angry at her: _____

IV. Guessing Meaning from Context: 1

Based on the reading passage, write what the following three words/phrases probably mean in English:

1. لِأَنَّ وَالِدَهَا حَصَلَ عَلَى وَظِيفَةٍ

2. تَحَضَّرَ خَدِيجَةَ الْكَثِيرِ مِنَ الْحَلْوِيَّاتِ وَتُنَظَّفُ الْبَيْتَ مَعَ أُمِّهَا

3. ثُمَّ بَعْدَ الصَّلَاةِ يَعودُونَ إِلَى الْبَيْتِ لِأَكْلِ الْحَلْوِيَّاتِ وَالشَّايِ أَوْ الْقَهْوَةِ.

V. Inferences:

“Read between the lines” to answer the following questions, using information from the provided text. Your responses may be in English or Arabic.

Do you think Khadija would have the same life experience if she lived away from her family in the U.S.? _____

Why do you think Khadija might not be able to have a successful marriage?

VI. Author’s Perspectives:

From the three options below, select which option best describes the author’s perspective, or the point of view you think the author has adopted as he wrote this reading passage. Justify your answer with information from the text.

- A. Humorous
- B. Cultural
- C. Political

Justification from the text: _____

VII. Comparing Cultural Perspectives:

Answer the following questions in English:

1. Based on the text, what are some cultural similarities and/or differences between Arabic society and North American belief and life style?

2. How does Khadija’s life reflect both her Arab cultural heritage and her American life style?

Listening Task: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUCwSINnQJc>

I. Key Word Recognition

List at least eight Arabic words you heard in the dialogue:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

II. Main Ideas

Using information from the listening passage, provide the main idea (s) in English.

III. Supporting Details

1- What is the father's name?

2- What is the mother's name?

3- What is the brother's name and what does he do?

4- How old is the man asking questions?

IV. Inferences:

“Listen between the lines” to answer the following questions, using information from the listening prompt. Your responses may be in English or Arabic.

How can you infer that the speakers are Muslims?

How can you infer that one of the speakers is not married?

INTERPERSONAL TASK

Conversation Prompt:

You are at a party held by a classmate from SILP and have the opportunity to get to know some of your fellow students in this social situation.

You will converse with a classmate, exchanging information about your families, schedules, studies, favorite hobbies and sports, travels and other relevant information about yourselves. Include as many details as you can.

Each conversation partner will participate in this back and forth dialogue and will be expected to contribute equally. You have 3-5 minutes to complete this task.

PRESENTATIONAL TASK:

Writing Prompt: 1 page

Imagine that you have begun a year of study abroad in an Arab country of your choice. Write about your life as a student in that country. Discuss your schedule, your daily activities, your host family and your pastimes.

Speaking Prompt:

You will research a well-known personality (political figure, entertainer, athlete, etc.) from the Arab world or of Arab heritage, and deliver an oral presentation, using PowerPoint. Include information about his/her family background, hobbies, and likes and dislikes.

Examples: Rony Seikaly- basketball player
Salma Hayek – actress

You must deliver the presentation without reading or using note cards.