

## Lesson-09: فعل ماضٍ: فَعَلَ، فَتَحَ، جَعَلَ

**GRAMMAR:** In the previous lessons, we learnt about nouns and letters. Starting with this lesson, we shall concentrate on the verb.

The verb is a word that shows action. For example فَتَحَ (he opened), نَصَرَ (he helped), يَشْرَبُ (he is drinking or he will drink), etc.

Verbs and nouns in Arabic are generally made up of three letters called root letters, for example, فَعَلَ، نَصَرَ، ضَرَبَ، etc. In the Arabic language, there are three tenses; فعل ماضٍ (Perfect tense), فعل مضارع (Imperfect tense), and فعل أمر (Imperative). In this lesson we shall study فعل ماضٍ (Perfect tense), meaning that the work is completed. Let us master the six forms of the فعل ماضٍ through the TPI. The methodology is explained below:

- When you say فَعَلَ (He did), point the index finger of the right hand towards your right and imagine a person sitting on your right. Keep the forearm at chest level in a horizontal position. When you say فَعَلُوا (They did), point the four fingers of your right hand in the same direction.
- When you say فَعَلْتَ (You did), point the index finger of your right hand towards your front. When you say فَعَلْتُ (I did), point the index finger of your right hand towards yourself. In a class, the teacher should point his finger towards the students and the students should point their fingers towards the teacher.
- When you say فَعَلْتُمْ (You all did), point the four fingers of your right hand towards your front. When you say فَعَلْنَا (We did) point the four fingers of your right hand towards yourself.

Remember, right-hand directions represent the masculine gender and left hand for feminine gender. Make sure to keep the forearm at a horizontal level for all the directions in فعل ماضٍ.

### Spoken Arabic

Everyone has done good works; so answer the following using "yes."

هَلْ فَعَلَ؟ نَعَمْ، فَعَلَ  
 هَلْ فَعَلُوا؟ نَعَمْ، فَعَلُوا  
 هَلْ فَعَلْتَ؟ نَعَمْ، فَعَلْتُ  
 هَلْ فَعَلْتُمْ؟ نَعَمْ، فَعَلْنَا

فعل ماضٍ (ف ع ل)	
He did.	فَعَلَ
They all did.	فَعَلُوا
You did.	فَعَلْتَ
I did.	فَعَلْتُ
You all did.	فَعَلْتُمْ
We did.	فَعَلْنَا

هَلْ فَعَلْتُمْ؟ نَعَمْ، فَعَلْنَا

Depending upon the **person**, (3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>) or **number** (singular or plural), the ending words of the past tense change. The change shows who has done the work.

If you are standing in the middle of a road, you can see the backside of a car, a truck or a jeep that is gone. Something that has taken off or has gone, represents the past. A look at the backside is enough for you to tell which type of vehicle has gone. Instead of drawing all these, we show an airplane taking off while you are standing in the middle of the runway. Looking at the ending letters, you can say who has done the work, you, him, or me. These ending words are: (، وا، ت، ث، تُم، نا)

Some more points to remember:

- تُم تُم ت ت and ت ت ت: You can notice the relationship clearly between ت ت ت and تُم تُم ت.
- نَخُنْ، فَعَلْنَا: Both have the letter ن.

Let us take another verb فَتَحَ: he opened.

**Spoken Arabic:** You have opened the books before; so, answer the following using 'yes.'

هَلْ فَتَحَ؟ نَعَمْ، فَتَحَ  
 هَلْ فَتَحُوا؟ نَعَمْ، فَتَحُوا  
 هَلْ فَتَحْتَ؟ نَعَمْ، فَتَحْتُ  
 هَلْ فَتَحْتُمْ؟ نَعَمْ، فَتَحْنَا

فعل ماضٍ ( ف ت ح )	
He opened.	فَتَحَ
They all opened.	فَتَحُوا
You opened.	فَتَحْتَ
I opened.	فَتَحْتُ
You all opened.	فَتَحْتُمْ
We opened.	فَتَحْنَا

The verb جَعَلَ (He made) is similar to فَعَلَ and فَتَحَ. Make sure to practice its past tense forms as homework.

جَعَلَ جَعَلُوا جَعَلْتُمْ جَعَلْتُ جَعَلْنَا