

GRAMMAR - Three Tips on Prepositions:

You have learnt several prepositions in the last two lessons. Prepositions change their meanings depending upon the context. If you remember the following tips, you will know how to understand them.

- ① The Same thing is expressed in different languages using different prepositions. For example:

أَمَنْتُ بِاللَّهِ I believed in Allah; میں اللہ پر ایمان لایا (in Urdu)

The above 3 sentences in 3 different languages express the same fact, i.e., I believed, but the preposition in each language is different in its basic meanings (with, in, and on).

- ② For the same language, a preposition may be or may not be required depending upon the verb being used. Example: I said to him; I told him.
Sometimes, a preposition may be there in Arabic but not required in English (or any other) language. For example

entering the religion of Allah (you don't need to translate for فِي because 'enter' means 'go in').	يَدْخُلُونَ فِي دِينِ اللَّهِ
Forgive me (you don't need to translate for لِي)	إِغْفِرْ لِي

- ③ Sometimes, a preposition may not be there in Arabic but required in English.

I ask forgiveness <u>of</u> Allah (you have to add 'of' in English)	أَسْتَغْفِرُ اللَّهَ
And have mercy <u>on</u> me (you have to add 'on' in English)	وَارْحَمْنِي

- ④ Change of preposition leads to change in the meanings. This is true perhaps for any language. For example, in English, we have: get; get in; get out; get off; get on. Same is true for Arabic. Let us take just two examples.

<u>Pray to</u> your Rabb	صَلِّ لِرَبِّكَ (صَلِّ + لِ)
<u>Send peace on</u> Muhammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم)	صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ (صَلِّ + عَلَى)

- ⑤ A preposition is followed by a noun and the noun is given by double kasrah on the noun. For example
فِي كِتَابٍ، إِلَى بَيْتٍ
If that noun is specific (i.e., has ال on it), then we will have a single kasrah on it. For example:
فِي الْكِتَابِ، إِلَى الْبَيْتِ، بِاللَّهِ، مِنَ الشَّيْطَانِ

As you study of the Qur'an progresses, you will be familiar with the use of prepositions, inShaAllah.

Demonstrative Pronouns: Let us learn four words in Arabic that are used to show persons, objects, or actions. These four words occur **953 times** in the Qur'an. Practice them using TPI as described below.

- Point one finger to someone near you and say هَذَا. Point four fingers in the same direction and say هَؤُلَاءِ.
- Point one finger towards someone at a distance and say ذَلِكَ. The direction should not be to the right (for هُوَ، هُمْ) nor to the front (for أَنْتَ، أَنْتُمْ) but in between. Point four fingers in the same direction and say أُولَئِكَ.

***** (Spoken Arabic) *****

أَهَذَا مُسْلِمٌ؟	نَعَمْ، هَذَا مُسْلِمٌ
أَهَؤُلَاءِ مُسْلِمُونَ؟	نَعَمْ، هَؤُلَاءِ مُسْلِمُونَ
أَذَلِكَ مُسْلِمٌ؟	نَعَمْ، ذَلِكَ مُسْلِمٌ
أَأُولَئِكَ مُسْلِمُونَ؟	نَعَمْ، أُولَئِكَ مُسْلِمُونَ

(Demonstrative Pronouns)	
This	هَذَا 225
These	هَؤُلَاءِ 46
That	ذَلِكَ 478
Those	أُولَئِكَ 204

Note: The feminine of هَذَا is هَذِهِ⁴⁷ and feminine of ذَلِكَ is تِلْكَ⁴³ eg:

هَذِهِ كُرَّاسَةٌ: This is a notebook.

تِلْكَ مَدْرَسَةٌ: That is a school.