



IH CAIRO NEWSLETTER

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A word from the Managing Director

Dear Students,

Welcome to our latest newsletter, the second of this year, of which we hope will keep you updated on our latest news and provide you with vital linguistic and cultural tips. A special warm welcome to our new students that arrived in March; we hope you will be getting the most out of your stay here! Here at IH Cairo, we are preparing for our courses teaching applicants how to become a certified IELTS or TAFL Trainer. These courses are ideal for those who wish to travel the world and be able to work as a teacher wherever! You will be reading more about this in our newsletter. Moreover, with international Women's Day (8th of March) falling this month and Mother's Day being celebrated in most Arab countries on the first day of Spring (21st of March), we have a special focus on Egyptian proverbs and songs celebrating mothers. Wishing you all the best in your (study) adventures here in Cairo!

Aimen Hassanien.

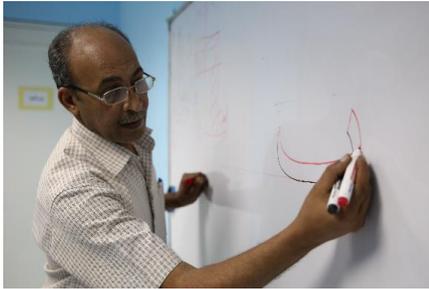


IH Cairo offers TAFL Teacher Courses

International House Cairo is the only IH-recognized center for training teachers to teach Arabic as a Foreign Language (TAFL). Over the years, we have trained hundreds of teachers using the techniques and standards of our affiliate organization, International House London. Our next courses – taking place five days a week from 10 AM – 7 PM and totaling 120 contact hours of teacher training – will start on the 2nd of April, and will be followed by another course on the 24th of July or 15th of October. Mohammad Amer, head of the Teacher Training, tells us more about the course.

Who can become a TAFL Teacher?

On the level of personal skills, basically anyone who finds him- or herself possessing communication skills or the ability to interact with people in a guiding way, showing them how to do things. On an educational level, any university graduate could join our course, you do not need to have a major in Arabic language! However, from a language skill point of view, you need to have a good understanding of the grammar of Modern Standard Arabic. Please note; you don't have to be a native speaker of Arabic, any nationality is welcome, as long as you have a C1 understanding of the language!



Why is it useful?

After completing our course, you will receive a certificate recognized by IH World Organization, which has an excellent reputation across the world. With this, you can either change your career totally into becoming an Arabic teacher. I have been giving this traineeship for over 25 years now and I have seen many people do

this, coming from the field of medicine, tourism, software development or art! Or; you could stay in your own domain and teach Arabic in addition to your usual work. Think of teaching Arabic online, or only in the evening hours.

What will a trainee teacher learn during the course?

The course covers classroom management, teaching literacy skills, how to analyze the language in terms of grading and selecting what to teach and in which order, different techniques to analyze, present and practice language and how to manage a student-centered class, where the teacher is mainly a facilitator of learning and focusses on maximizing student participation. You will also develop your IT technology skills to supplement teaching and learning.

With almost three decades of experience; what is your teaching secret?

Before I teach anything, grammar, a text or a poem, I break everything down into small components. Then, I look at how to rebuild those small entities with the learner in a step-by-step fashion; choosing the best order of what builds on what and what can be delayed to a later stage because it represents an irregularity of the pattern or frame of concept. And, of course, this gradual build-up of the smallest components of a unit to be learned is combined with a lot of systematic practice!



Mohammed Amer

Top 10 Phrases Celebrating Mothers

In light of both Mother's Day and International Women's Day falling this month, we choose ten Egyptians sayings commonly heard among women and mothers. Memorize them, wait for the perfect opportunity and... impress your Egyptian friends!

OUR SPECIAL

EASTER OFFER
IS HERE

SIGN UP TODAY



Guarantee a 10% discount on our 2 or 4 weeks, single or combined courses and serviced accommodation!
Courses start on 2nd of April.

الأم مدرسة إذا أعددتها أعددت شعب طيب الأعراق.

The mother is like a school; prepare her well as if you were preparing a good nation.
Meaning: the mother has a very important role in the upbringing of children, and therefore the nation.

أعظم كتاب قرأته أمي.

The best book I read is my mother.

أدعي على إبنی و أكره اللی یقول أمین.

When I wish something bad for my child, I hate the one who would say 'Amen.'
Meaning: It is fine if I say something bad about my child, but I hate it if someone else would do the same.

أعز من الولد ولد الولد.

The one who is more dear than my own child is my grandchild.
Meaning: a grandmother usually loves her grandchild a lot.

قلبي على ولدي انفطر و قلب ولدي عليا حَجَر.

My heart is broken for my child out of care and love, but my child's heart is like a stone
This is said when a child is treating his parents in a bad way or neglects them.

يا مأمنة الرجال يا مأمنة للمية في الغربال.

Trusting men is like trusting a colander with water.

القرد في عين أمه غزال.

It doesn't matter how ugly your child is, you will always see him/her as great.
This is said when everybody in a room, except for one person, speaks negatively about another person. This saying would then be said to that person.

إكفي القدرة على فَمَها، تطلع البنت لأمها.

Place the pot upside down, and the girl will take after her mother.
Meaning: a girl will grow up very similar to her mum. This is said to comment on the physical or behavioral resemblance of mother and daughter.

إبنك على ما تربيته و جوزك على ما تعوديه.

Your son will be exactly like you raise him and your husband will get accustomed to your habits.
Meaning: if you raise your son to be a good person he will be, if not, he will be a bad person. As for the second part, if you have the habit of cleaning for your husband, he will get used to that. If you don't, he will get accustomed to that (and hopefully do it himself).

اللي يقول لمراته يا هانم يقابلوها على السلام.

When one calls his wife a lady, people will meet her on the stairs.
Meaning: when the husband treats his wife with respect, people will be welcoming and respecting her.



Soad Hosny

Sing a Song!

In light of Mother's Day we chose the song 'Ya Mama' by Soad Hosny, also known as the 'cinderella' of Egyptian cinema. Soad was born to a family that was active in the art community. Her father was a renowned calligrapher noted for contributing embroidered script to the Holy Ka'aba. Soad ascended to stardom at the end of the 1950s and performed in more than eighty films. Please click [here](#) to listen to the song, which is actually a poem

سعاد حسني – يا ماما

يا ماما يا أمّا اماتي
سلاماتي احتراماتي قبلاتي

صباح الخير يا مولاتي
يا ماما يا أمّا يا اماتي
ابوس الايد و قلبي سعيد
يا أول حب في حياتي
يا أمي

علشانك انهاردة الدنيا كارت معايدة
ملا الربيع أركانها بمليون الف
وردة
والكون بقى جوة بيتك و انا قبل الكل
جيتك

يا اللي انتبهت لقيتك أنا وانتي حاجة
واحدة
تحبيني وأنا أحبك و أعيش بالقرب
من قلبك
عيوني معجبة بيكي و روعي كلها
تجاوبك

وأغمض و أفتح أقولك
صباح الخير يا مولاتي

يا ماما يا أمّا يا اماتي
سلاماتي احتراماتي قبلاتي

باغني للأوممة و لليد الخدمة
و أقول الله يا أمي على الدفاء و
النعممة

و باغني يا ست يا فدائية يللي
قضيتها هي
تجعل حياتي هنية ولو تبات مهمومة
تعيتي كتير عشان خاطري
عشان أمشي عشان أجري
و مهما جريت بعيد خالص
أديني جيت قوام بدري
اضمك بفرحة وأقولك
صباح الخير يامولاتي

يا ماما يا أمّا يا اماتي
سلاماتي احتراماتي قبلاتي

Soad Hosny – Ya Mama

*Oh Mama, Oh Mum, Oh my Mother
I send you my greetings, my respect and my
kisses*

Good Morning my queen
Oh Mama, Oh Mum, Oh my Mother
When I kiss your hand my heart is happy
You are the first love in my life
Oh my Mother

Because of you, the world today is like a
greeting card
Spring fills its corners with a thousand million
roses
You mean the world to me (lit.: the universe
becomes in your house)
And I came before anyone else came to you

One who pays attention discovers we are one
You love me and I love you and I live close to
your heart
My eyes admire you and my whole soul will
answer you

I close my eyes and open them, telling you
Good morning my queen

*Oh Mama, Oh Mum, Oh my Mother
I send you my greetings, my respect and my
kisses*

I sing to motherhood and to the helping hand
And I say how beautiful is warmth and
softness!

I'm singing for the woman who sacrifices and
fights for her cause
Which is making my life better, even when she
sleeps sad
You get exhausted a lot because of me
To make me walk or run
No matter how far I run,
Here I am, I came quickly and very early to you
To hug you happily
And tell you good morning my queen!

*Oh Mama, Oh my Mother
Good morning my child*



IH Cairo Events

Conversation classes: sign up and improve your speaking skills with a teacher! You can agree on a date and time with Mrs. Abeer at registration. Lessons run on a daily basis and a one-hour session costs \$20. It is also possible to book half an hour.

Please note that if you want to book a class with your friends, all should approximately be at the same level.

Friday 10th March: Giza Pyramids and Sakkara

Saturday 11th March: Old Cairo

Monday 13th March: Movie Afternoon 3.00 PM at IH Cairo, showing the film 'Asmaa'

Friday 17th March: Alexandria

Saturday 18th March: Sound and Light Show

Friday 24th March: Cairo Museum and Khan el-Khalili

Saturday 25th March: Islamic Cairo

For more information about the trips schedule, prices and minimum amount of participants, please check our weekly email update.

Other Events this Month

Thursday 9 March, 6.00 – 7.30 PM: Poetry Reading by Rasha Omran at NVIC – Omran is a Syrian poet currently living in Cairo. She holds a degree in Arabic literature from Damascus University and has been a central figure in Syrian literary and intellectual movements. She has published six poetry collections and writes for various Arabic journals. The readings will be in Arabic: a very good way to practice your linguistic skills!

Thursday 9 March, 8.00 – 10.00 PM: Harakat Watar Concert at El-Sawy Culturewheel – A music band that is known for its different styles of music, combining Rock, Jazz and Eastern music. Click [here](#) to watch them perform during a previous concert!

Monday 13 March, 7.00 PM: 'Feminist' Play by Utopia Theater Troupe at El-Sawy Culturewheel – The aim of this play is to shed light on some of the common problems women suffer from. Apart from its interesting cultural aspect, the show is entirely in Arabic: the perfect way to practice your listening skills in a relaxed and fun manner!

Saturday 18 March, 6.00 – 9.00 PM: Pottery for Beginners Workshop at Darb1718 – learn the basics in this fun practical workshop that runs every Saturday and Wednesday until the 19th of April. You will create between 8 to 12 pieces of pottery and all materials and tools will be included.

Saturday 25 March, 4.00 – 6.00 PM: Sufi Meditation Session with Sonia Hassan at Darb1718 – This is an extra special session as it will be held outdoors on the venue's rooftop! Sonia has been offering Healing Meditations for Egyptians after the 25th of January Revolution, to support their (as well as her) journey through the country's transitions. The purpose of the session is to release all that blocks the connection to The Truth, The Universe and to The One... and receive Peace! This is done through the process of Dhikr. Note: the language spoken will mostly be English.

Sunday 26 March, 7.30 – 9.30 PM: Cinema Screening 'Zaatari Djin' followed by a Q&A with the production manager at NVIC – This exceptionally intimate movie shows how it is to grow up in the Zaatari Refugee Camp located in the Jordanian desert. It is shot through the eyes of four children who, despite their very few resources or prospects, have an enormous scope for dreams.