

**TELEPHONE CALL  
AND  
TELEPHONE MESSAGE  
IN-CLASS LESSON MATERIALS  
EA 12 Listening Lesson B**

**SUGGESTED PRE-ACTIVITY**

• **Telephone Expressions "In-class Quiz"**

A quiz is provided for instructors who wish to give their students a pop quiz on the telephone expressions they were to have studied and learned for homework. See [Telephone Expressions In-class Quiz](#) (one copy per student) and corresponding [Answer Sheet](#). This quiz can be corrected in class and the structure of the expressions discussed--especially changes made to fit calling a female.

**SUGGESTED LANGUAGE FOCUS**

• **Native Expression and Imitation**

Distribute the [In-Class Listening Worksheet](#) (one copy per student) and discuss with the students how important mimicking native expression is in learning a language well. Then show the video segment as needed to help the students complete the worksheet, giving help as necessary.

**SUGGESTED SPEAKING ACTIVITY**

• **Telephone Role Plays**

Distribute the [Speaking Activity Worksheets A and B](#) (one copy per student; half the class receives A, the other half B). Instruct students to role play the speaking scenarios described.

## TELEPHONE EXPRESSIONS IN-CLASS QUIZ

\_\_\_\_\_ الاسم

**INSTRUCTIONS:** How do you say (or ask) the following things in Arabic? Give the native expression, assuming a male is calling a female, and a male answers the phone.

1. May I ask who is calling?
2. Could I take a message for her?
3. Please have her call me at...
4. You can try back around 6 o'clock.
5. You have the wrong number.

**TELEPHONE EXPRESSIONS**  
**IN-CLASS QUIZ**  
**ANSWER KEY**

الاسم \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUCTIONS:** How do you say (or ask) the following things in Arabic? Give the native expression, assuming a male is calling a female, and a male answers the phone.

1. May I ask who is calling?

ممکن أعرف مين حضرتك؟

2. Could I take a message for her?

عاوزني أقولها حاجة؟

3. Please have her call me at this number....

ممکن تخليها تكلمني على الرقم ده...؟

4. When would be a good time to reach her?

ممکن أتصل بيه امتي؟ or ممکن أكلمه امتي؟

5. You have the wrong number.

يظهر انه النمرة غلط. أنا أسف.

(النمرة غلط is optional)

(also accept غلط)

## TELEPHONE MESSAGE IN-CLASS LISTENING WORKSHEET

### تعلم اللغة

A good skill to learn is native imitation. Most language learners tend to think of an expression they would say in their own language and directly translate it into the foreign language. Fortunately, such direct translations will usually be understood, but they do not sound native and are sometimes considered less polite. Learning native manners of expression is a key part of learning any language, and the only way to truly acquire native expression is to pay close attention to the way natives express things. You have to do a lot of listening, especially active listening, in which you pay attention to phrases and sentence patterns natives use which you can copy and re-use in new situations by making only minor changes.

Making and answering telephone calls is a speaking situation in which the same expressions are used each time with only little variation. With this in mind, listen to the video segment "telephone message" again. Write down the expressions and sentence patterns you hear the natives use. From their speech, you can learn a lot about making and answering telephone calls like native Egyptians do.

#### IF YOU ARE CALLING SOMEONE, HOW MIGHT YOU...

- greet the person who answers the call?
- ask for the person you are calling?
- ask the person who answers the phone to tell someone to call you back?
- What is unique about the way Edward gives his telephone number. Copying this pattern, how would you give your telephone number to someone?

#### IF YOU ARE ANSWERING THE TELEPHONE, HOW MIGHT YOU...

- answer the phone?
- explain that someone is not home?
- ask for someone's telephone number?

## IN-CLASS SPEAKING ACTIVITY WORKSHEET A

INSTRUCTIONS: With a partner, role-play the following scenarios and fill in any information asked for. Be sure to practice using native like expressions as you complete each role play. Use your notes if necessary. Italicized print indicates who initiates the call.

1. *Call your friend Amina (female), and see if she is home. You would like to invite her to go with you to a party tonight at your friend's Nasir's house at 8pm. If Amina is not home, find out when she will be so you can call her back.*

- Judging by when Amina get home, will she be able to go to the party with you?

2. You are the Arabic instructor's secretary. He/she is teaching class right now and will not return to the office until after 4pm.

- Does the caller want to leave a message? If so, what is it?

3. *You missed class today. Call your friend Samir to find out what the homework is. If he is not home, leave him a message and a number where he can reach you.*

- Is Samiir home?

4. You are a guest in your friend Nura's home. She just left to visit a friend, and you are not sure when she will be home nor do you know the name or number of the friend she went to meet.

- What is the caller's telephone number?

## IN-CLASS SPEAKING ACTIVITY WORKSHEET B

INSTRUCTIONS: With a partner, role-play the following scenarios and fill in any information asked for. *Italicized print indicates who initiates the call.*

1. You are the sibling of a girl named Amina. She is at work right now and will not be home until after 9pm.

- Who is calling Amina?

2. *You missed class today, so call your Arabic instructor and find out what tonight's homework is. If he/she is not in the office, find out from the secretary when is a good time to reach him/her.*

- When is a good time to call your professor back?

3. You are a parent of Samir. When someone calls for him, find out if the person wants to leave a message.

- Do they wish to leave a message? If so, what is it?

4. *You need to ask your colleague Nura an urgent question. Call her to find out if she is home. If not, ask where you can reach her. If that doesn't work, leave a number where she can reach you and ask the person who answers the phone to have Nura call you as soon as she gets home.*

- Where is Nura? Can you reach her somewhere now? If so, how?