



# Happy Families

**Title:** *Mastering Arabic 1*

**Unit number:** 4

**Topic:** Jobs and family

**Aim:** To revise jobs and family relationships; to ask questions and respond

**Materials needed:**

- 32 blank pieces of card (playing-card size) for each group of four students.

This is a variation of the classic card game, “Happy Families”. The twist is that the students create their own cards, extending the activity to writing practice. Ideally four students play the game together, but up to six can play if you have extra numbers.

## Step 1

- ✓ Complete *Mastering Arabic 1*, Unit 4 and, if possible, the accompanying unit of *Mastering Arabic 1: Activity Book*.

## Step 2

- ✓ Write these occupations on the board, checking that the students can read and understand them:

خبّاز نجّار مدرّس طالب

ممرّضة محاسبة مهندسة مصوّرة

- ✓ Establish that the students recognise that the first line are all males and the second line all females.
- ✓ Explain that each person needs a family - a wife or husband, a son and a daughter.

## Step 3

- ✓ Each group of students needs to make eight families of four cards. On the first card they write the profession, e.g. الخبّاز, on the second card زوجة الخبّاز, on the third card ابن الخبّاز, and on the fourth card بنت الخبّاز (or ابنة الخبّاز if you prefer the less casual version).

- ✓ It's more fun if the students also illustrate the cards with pictures of the people on the same side as the writing. The other side of the card must be kept blank.

## Step 4

- ✓ Once each group has made their families, they should shuffle all 32 cards together. The pack is dealt between the players face down.
- ✓ The purpose of the game is to collect complete families by asking the player on your right for a card. Teach the students a suitable simple question with the two responses, e.g.:

هل معك زوج المهندسة؟

نعم، تفضّل (ي). / لا، ليس معي.

- ✓ The first player asks the player to their right, who hands over the card if they have it; then the next player asks to their right, and so on. When someone has a complete family, they put the four cards down and the game continues until no cards are left. The winner is the player with most complete families at the end of the game.

You can adapt this game to teach other professions and different family members.

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