



Mystery Objects

Title: *Mastering Arabic 1*

Unit number: 6

Topic: Identifying pictures

Aim: To ask and answer questions about masculine and feminine objects and animals

Materials needed:

- Mystery photos as attached (close-up and full).
- Other similar photos of familiar vocabulary.

This is a fun activity that can be used at a very early stage of learning and with almost all vocabulary for everyday things. This example uses words from *Mastering Arabic 1*, Units 3-6, but any other vocabulary from the early stages of *Mastering Arabic 1* can be used, as well as words you have introduced yourself. The activity works better if you can add a few more items of vocabulary and mystery pictures of your own.

Step 1

- ✓ Complete *Mastering Arabic 1*, pages 75-76. (It is better to complete this in a previous lesson, and then start a subsequent lesson with this activity.)

Step 2

- ✓ Remind students of the masculine/feminine: هذا/هذه.
- ✓ Remind them also that هل is used to ask a question with the answer نعم or لا:
هل هذا/هذه...؟ نعم/لا.

Step 3

- ✓ Show the first mystery close-up picture and explain that students have three yes/no questions to guess what the photo is.
- ✓ Students ask questions starting with هل (you can pick different students to ask in turn), e.g:

هل هذا كلب؟ لا.

هل هذه دجاجة؟ لا.

هل هذا حمار؟ نعم، هذا حمار.

- ✓ After three guesses you can show the full photo to the students.

Step 4

- ✓ A good follow-on activity is to ask students to bring in their own mystery photos for the next lesson (of a word the class is generally familiar with in Arabic). They then present their photos in turn to the class to see if the other students can guess what the object or animal is. The less obvious the picture is, the better.

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