

Describing People

Title: Mastering Arabic 2

Unit number: 8

Topic: Describing people **Aim:** To review age/clothes

Materials needed:

- Photo (as attached).
- Other similar photos of people.

This is a review activity that brings together different topics. It is most useful after completing the main part of Unit 8, *Mastering Arabic 2*, but before tackling the extended "Clothes Show" listening on pages 130-131.

Step I

✓ Complete *Mastering Arabic 2*, Unit 8, pages 118–128 and the associated exercises.

Step 2

- ✓ Display the main photo (this has been chosen for the variety of characters and clothing).
- ✓ In pairs, ask the students to write down as many of the Arabic words as they can for the clothes and colours they see in the picture.
- ✓ Elicit the words and write them on the board.

Step 3

✓ Choose one of the people in the picture and ask questions about age and clothing (including colours) so that you build up a description, e.g.

هناك إمرأة في وسط الصورة. أعتقد أن عمرها حوالى أربعين سنة وهى تلبس حجاباً رماديّاً، ...

✓ You can extend the description into opinions about the characters, nationalities and jobs of the people in the picture to add an additional level of sophistication to the description.

Step 4

- ✓ In pairs, ask the students to choose another person in the picture and create a similar description (it can be someone in the background).
- ✓ Each pair should then describe the person to the rest of the class and they decide who it is.

Step 5

- ✓ Ask students to write up their descriptions.
- ✓ Students can also bring in their own photos of family and friends to describe to the class.



