Mastering Conversational Farsi

Farsi (Persian) for Beginners

- Practical dialogs help you converse with confidence
- Short, guided lessons allow you to learn quickly
- Read and write the Farsi script from the start
- Native-speaker audio recordings on the enclosed disc

Saeid Atoofi, Ph.D.
DEDICATION

For Sofia, my daughter living in three worlds. May you be the link: logos, pathos, and mythos
I would like to express my gratitude to many people who helped me with this book. My sister Ameneh (Maliheh) Atoofi who patiently and meticulously proofread the manuscript many times, provided me with valuable advice on contents, and organized many other aspects such as photos and sound files. Of course, I am indebted to other members of my family for the creation of this book, some with their wonderful photographic skills (Donya and Majid), and others with the sound files and advice (Nahid, Haydeh, Homyra, Davood, Mehran, Baran, Bahareh, Majid, Donya, Diba, Banafsheh, Azadeh, and Marjan). I have been very fortunate to be around wonderful people who constantly encouraged me and gave me moral support in this project: my soulmate Viviana and my best of friends and family, Marjan Shokri and Alireza Keshvari. I would also like to thank my editors and reviewers for their wonderful comments and suggestions. It has been great learning from the masters.
The Tuttle Story: “Books to Span the East and West”

Many people are surprised to learn that the world’s leading publisher of books on Asia had humble beginnings in the tiny American state of Vermont. The company’s founder, Charles E. Tuttle, belonged to a New England family steeped in publishing.

Immediately after WWII, Tuttle served in Tokyo under General Douglas MacArthur and was tasked with reviving the Japanese publishing industry. He later founded the Charles E. Tuttle Publishing Company, which thrives today as one of the world’s leading independent publishers.

Though a westerner, Tuttle was hugely instrumental in bringing a knowledge of Japan and Asia to a world hungry for information about the East. By the time of his death in 1993, Tuttle had published over 6,000 books on Asian culture, history and art—a legacy honored by the Japanese emperor with the “Order of the Sacred Treasure,” the highest tribute Japan can bestow upon a non-Japanese.

With a backlist of 1,500 titles, Tuttle Publishing is more active today than at any time in its past—still inspired by Charles Tuttle’s core mission to publish fine books to span the East and West and provide a greater understanding of each.
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Answer Key
English-Farsi Glossary
Farsi-English Glossary
Audio Tracklist/Photo Credits
How to Download the Bonus Material of this Book.

1. You must have an internet connection.
2. Click the link below or copy paste the URL to your web browser.
   
   http://www.tuttlepublishing.com/farsi-persian-for-beginners-downloadable-cd-content
   
   For support email us at info@tuttlepublishing.com.
To the Learner

Farsi shekar ast (Farsi is sugar). This is how Farsi speakers refer to their own language, because they believe speaking Farsi is a sweet treat to the tongue. I hope this book provides you a sweet first step to learning Farsi. This book will teach you how to:

- Read and write all Farsi letters
- Combine letters to write words in Farsi
- Read and write simple sentences or phrases in Farsi
- Greet someone, interact at a bank, get a taxi, invite someone to a party, and many other useful conversational skills
- Become aware of the differences between colloquial and formal forms of Farsi, and the context in which each form is used
- Express yourself as native Farsi speakers would do, adjusting your speech according to culturally relevant situations
- Learn essential Farsi grammar in the context of daily conversation
- Read some proverbs, songs, and poems in Farsi
- Scan Farsi content in newspapers, emails, or websites to get the gist of what is being discussed

Get ready! In Farsi for Beginners, I will help you step by step to learn, and enjoy essential Farsi.
Whatever has motivated you to learn Farsi, there is probably no better time to learn this vibrant and rich language than today. Iran is home to a great number of classical and contemporary poets, philosophers, and artists who have written and created most of their works in Farsi. Knowing Farsi will allow you to enjoy the poems of Rumi and Hafiz, read the philosophical works of Nasir Khusraw and Allameh Tabatabaei, and watch the world-class cinema of Kiarostami and Farhadi in their original language.

_Farsi for Beginners_ is intended as an entry level to learning Farsi. You do not need to have any prior background knowledge in Farsi to start using this book. However, “entry level” does not mean simple or limited. The contents of this book have been devised to reflect real use of language by ordinary people in the streets of Tehran. At the same time, the chapters are very much accessible to novice learners. And, although beginners in Farsi will get the most out of this book, the chapters can still be challenging for intermediate and advanced learners of Farsi because they provide ample new vocabulary words and are rich in cultural information.

Its accessibility sets this book apart from other Farsi language books. For the most part, learning Farsi as a second language has been out of reach for general audiences. Most Farsi instructional books are written in a highly specialized language, or focus on specific language skills, or lack the freshness of current approaches to learning a second language. Too often, learners using those books need to stomach tedious grammar instructions chapter after chapter, or will learn only one skill (for instance, how to read Farsi script). But not here!

Learning a new script can be very intimidating for new language learners. Most Farsi books either avoid teaching the alphabet altogether by using a romanized version of the Farsi words throughout, or they show the entire alphabet on the first few pages and assume that the reader will be able to remember the sounds of all the 32 Farsi letters at one time, immediately knowing how complex words should be pronounced by connecting these letters.

I wrote _Farsi for Beginners_ with the perspective of a new language learner in mind. Throughout the book, I have provided sufficient transition stages so that you can comfortably learn each language skill, step by step. For instance, you can start reading Farsi conversations using recognizable transliterations, while at the same time learning four or five Farsi letters. As you move on to the next chapter, the study of the previous Farsi letters is reinforced, and gradually the transliterations are replaced by Farsi letters and words.

I also wanted to make learning Farsi fun and useful. All chapters are based on a fictional story following a mixed Iranian and American family visiting Iran. You get to know each character of the story while they take a cab, shop, exchange money, and receive an invitation for a family dinner. Again, I had the reader in mind. I imagined what kind of skills and knowledge a new Farsi learner would need to accomplish real and culturally relevant tasks. What kind of interactions would he or she have, with whom, where, and how?

However, making this book useful and fun did not come at the expense of forgetting to teach you the structures of the Farsi language. Every chapter contains practical grammar sections that directly link to the contents of the conversation you encounter in that chapter. As such, you will learn Farsi grammar and vocabulary in the context of real situations, some of which will require you to bend or break “textbook” grammar rules. For instance, just like most languages of the world, in Farsi there is not just one way to greet everyone. So, based on the person and place, you will learn different greetings that require you to become more formal or less formal, use contractions, and even change your pronunciation.

This book also adapts a modern pedagogical approach to learning language. Situations, conversations, grammar structures, and the pronunciation are authentic. They are not simplified or toned down. A simplified language is an artificial language that no one uses in the real world. Modern methods of language learning also acknowledge that language and culture are inseparable aspects of communication. You will learn relevant Farsi vocabulary and grammar in the context of
the cultural background that accompanies them. For instance, in Iran you have to insist to pay the fare to a taxi driver although he or she may seem to refuse to take your money in your first attempt, a concept called **tarof kardan**.

I enjoyed writing this book and I hope you find it valuable and informative. Language learning is a lifelong endeavor. When you are done with this book, keep going. Read, watch, listen, and chat, text, e-mail and blog in Farsi. I strongly believe that language is more than a medium in which to communicate. When you learn a new language, little by little, you start to see and experience the world from the perspective of the speakers of that language. And my wish is that this can bring us all closer to one another.
How to Use This Book

Farsi may be enjoyable to learn, but it does take effort! To get the most from your work, the best approach is to study a chapter in a single day, and then repeat the same chapter the following day, before moving onto the next chapter. The chapters are rather long, and it may not be possible for everyone to dedicate enough time to cover one complete chapter a day. In that case, I suggest working through a chapter on two or three successive days without taking a break between days. If you need to take a day off during your Farsi study, try to do it between two chapters and not within a chapter.

Learning a language, for the most part, is a motor skill similar to riding a bike. A language is not a piece of information that is learned, but a skill that is acquired. Reading instructions about how to ride a bike does not teach you to ride one. Rather, you learn to ride a bike by the pedaling, falling, and then more pedaling. Do not be afraid to make mistakes. More importantly, do not limit yourself to reading the conversations in the chapters or practicing the Farsi letters only once. Repeat the chapters! Every now and then, go back to previous chapters and repeat some of the pronunciation and writing practices. Your tongue, your vocal cords, and the muscles of your fingers are doing most of the learning. Give them enough opportunity to acquire the language.

The book provides detailed instructions in each section. However, here are some general pointers that will help you best use the book.

■ Most sections for which you will need help with pronunciation are marked with an audio disc icon like this: 🎧. Listen to the correct pronunciation before you start that section of the book. When in doubt, go back to the audio to listen to the specific sound you are unsure about, and repeat it out loud.

■ Sometimes transliterations include accent marks. These accents have been used to facilitate your correct pronunciation of Farsi words. For instance “ā” stands for the long form of this vowel in Farsi, which is the sound of “a” in the English word “tall.” This is in contrast to the short sound of “a” in Farsi, which is pronounced like the “a” in the English word “man.”

■ Unlike English, Farsi is a formal language. There are many ways in which Farsi grammar is influenced by the level of formality people feel that they need to use with their audience. While studying the Conversations, pay attention to subtle differences in the use of pronouns, contraction of verbs, and changes in pronunciation.

■ Due to the high level of differences between formal and informal language in Farsi, the chapters include two additional aids for learners. First, in the Conversations, informal variants of words (i.e., colloquial words) have been marked with an asterisk like this: *. Second, right after each Conversation, there is a table showing all the colloquial words which were used. The table includes their formal variants as well as their actual meanings in Farsi. When you see an asterisk next to a word, go to the table and study the formal version of the word.

■ All chapters include a section called Let’s Talk. Practice the provided examples many times—not just once. Imagine yourself in a real situation in which you have to use the example. Be creative. For instance, as you practice the example, replace a pronoun with a name, or switch verbs.

■ For letter-writing practice, line guides are provided on the page to facilitate your initial learning process. As you become more proficient, try to avoid using the line guides and practice on plain paper.
Language is learned both from the bottom-up and from the top-down. While you need the letters to compose words, at the same time, you can also learn words and complete sentences without the need to deconstruct them into their single letters. As you progress through the book, you will find that whole English words have been replaced by their Farsi counterparts because you had encountered the Farsi term before, either in the same chapter or previous chapters. So, while you try to combine letters and make sense of the sound of a word, also try to get a feeling for the overall look of the word and try to capture it in your mind as a whole. When in doubt, look back at the Vocabulary list.

An Answer Key to the practice activities is found at the end of the book. But be careful! Instead of jumping right to the Answer Key whenever you find yourself stumped, just respond to all the questions as best you can, and only then review your responses against the provided answers.

Some considerations

There are many dialects of Farsi. Apart from Dari and Tajiki, two languages very closely related to Farsi used primarily in Afghanistan and Tajikistan, there are a great number of different dialects and accents within Iran. This book for the most part teaches the Tehrani dialect and intonation style, primarily used by people residing in Iran’s capital, Tehran. Due to heavy use of this dialect on national TV and radio stations, people of other regions in Iran understand and may even be able to speak this dialect with ease. (However, the reverse is not always true. That is, people from Tehran may find it somewhat difficult to understand people from elsewhere in Iran.) Hence, even though it is only one among many Farsi dialects, knowing the Tehrani dialect will allow you to reach a greater audience.

As mentioned in the Introduction, romanized versions of the Farsi, or transliterations, have been provided for English speakers who want to learn Farsi. As such, the transliterations are only intended to facilitate the pronunciation of Farsi words; they are not meant to provide comparable phonetic notations between Farsi and English letters. So, you may encounter times when some of the letters in Farsi have been transliterated differently in different words. For instance, you may find the letter heh at the end of Farsi words transliterated as e, eh, and sometimes a, a reflection of its varying pronunciations. Use the accompanied audio disc when you are not sure about a certain pronunciation.

As you will see in the chapters, in Farsi writing, there are three short vowels which are generally not written, but are pronounced. Hence, the reader has to guess the sound of these vowels by recognizing the whole word rather than breaking down the word into its vowels and consonants. Some Farsi instructional books use diacritics for the missing vowels to jump-start new learners. I chose not to use this method for pedagogical reasons. Although in the beginning it may be a bit more difficult to read a Farsi word in this book, later you will come to appreciate not having had the aid of those diacritics, for two good reasons. First, in real life, nobody uses these diacritics. You will never find a real Farsi book, magazine, or Internet site that uses them on words. So, if you were to rely on these aids, later you would come to a complete stop at the point when you needed to switch to real use of real language. Second, as I mentioned previously, language learning is both a bottom-up and a top-down process. New learners, of course, need to know the letters in order to read and write words in a new language (a bottom-up process). However, and at the same time, beginners have to be guided to see the larger picture—words and phrases. Avoiding the use of diacritics, as we do in Farsi for Beginners, encourages you toward a global (top-down) view of language that facilitates a natural and uninterrupted way of reading.
In order to facilitate independent reading, transliterations have been used to help new Farsi learners get an idea on how to pronounce the words and sentences in this book. Transliteration can never replace actual pronunciation of utterances. Use the accompanied audio disc when you are not sure about a certain pronunciation. Also, transliteration is only a convention. That is, while the transliteration system used in this book is very consistent, other Farsi instructional materials may choose different methods to transcribe the sound of words. Finally, transliterations are meant to provide comparable phonetic notations between Farsi and English phonemes (the sound of letters). So, you may encounter times when some of the Farsi letters have been transliterated differently in different words as a reflection of its varying pronunciations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Sound and example (based on English sounds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>“a” as in “bad”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>à</td>
<td>“a” as in “tall”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b</td>
<td>“b” as in “boy”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>“p” as in “pen”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>t</td>
<td>“t” as in “tree”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>s</td>
<td>“s” as in “sand”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j</td>
<td>“j” as in “jam”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ch</td>
<td>“ch” as in “China”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>“h” as in “home”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kh</td>
<td>“j” in “Jaime,” as pronounced in Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d</td>
<td>“d” as in “dog”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>“z” as in “zoo”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>r</td>
<td>“r” as in “rich”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zh</td>
<td>“g” as in “general,” as pronounced in French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sh</td>
<td>“sh” as in “short”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gh</td>
<td>“r” in “Rome,” as pronounced in French</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f</td>
<td>“f” as in “fan”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c</td>
<td>“c” as in “cat”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>“g” as in “good”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l</td>
<td>“l” as in “language”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m</td>
<td>“m” as in “mother”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>“n” as in “nice”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o</td>
<td>“o” as in “home”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oo</td>
<td>“oo” as in “pool”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e</td>
<td>“e” as in “bed”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i</td>
<td>“i” as in “bid”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ee</td>
<td>“ee” as in “been”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eh</td>
<td>“et” as in “gourmet”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There are 32 letters in the Farsi alphabet. Farsi is written in script, in that most letters connect to other letters. These letters have four forms which are called initial, medial, final, and independent. There are seven letters which never connect to any subsequent letter. These letters have only two forms. In each chapter you will learn part of the Farsi alphabet in more details. You will have plenty of time and ways to practice the letters in each form and within words. However, if you are a type of learner who prefers to know the alphabet before starting to learn words and sentences, you can study the following table to get acquainted with the Farsi alphabet system first.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Arabic</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ز</td>
<td>ze</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>زه</td>
<td>zhe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>س</td>
<td>sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>شئن</td>
<td>shin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ص</td>
<td>sād</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ض</td>
<td>zād</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ط</td>
<td>tā</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>طع</td>
<td>zā</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ع</td>
<td>eyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>غ</td>
<td>gheyn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ف</td>
<td>fe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ق</td>
<td>ghāf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ك</td>
<td>kāf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>كا</td>
<td>gāf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ل</td>
<td>lām</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>م</td>
<td>mim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ن</td>
<td>nun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>و</td>
<td>vāv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ه</td>
<td>he</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ی</td>
<td>ye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Delam bārat tang shodeh bood.

Salam dokhtaram.

Salam mamān joon.

Bāba koo? Farzād kojast?

Ánha darand miānd.

In Danieleh.

Salam. Hale shomā khoob ast?

Ghorboonet beram Sārā joon.

In Saraeh?

Āreh, fārsī harf mizaneh.

Salam, mādar bozorg.
In this chapter, you will learn the customs of greetings in Iranian culture. You will also learn some Farsi letters and also become familiar with how to conjugate the verb (to be) boodan بودن.

1.1 Conversation

Didār bā rahmatihā
ديدار با رحمتی ها

Meeting the Rahmatis
Daniel Paradise is traveling to Iran with his Iranian wife, Nasrin Rahmati, and their child, Sara, to visit his wife’s family in Iran and to do some sightseeing. Nasrin’s parents and their son, Farzad, have come to the airport to welcome them. Listen to the conversation first. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text below.

**NASRIN:**

*Salām māmān joon*.

سلام مامان جون.

*Hello my dear Mama.*

**MRS. RAHMATI:**

*Salām dokhtaram.*

سلام دخترم.

*Hello my daughter.*

**NASRIN:**

*Delam barāt* tang shodeh bood.

دلم برات تنگ شده بود.

*I missed you. (Literally: “My heart had become narrow for you.”)*

**NASRIN:**

*Bābā koo? Farzād kojāst?*

بابا کو؟ فرزاد کجاست؟

*Where is Daddy? Where is Farzad?*

**MRS. RAHMATI:**

*Ānhā dārand miānd*.

آنها دارند میاند.

*They are waiting.*
They're coming.

NASRIN:

In Dānieleh*.
این دانیلَهُ.

This is Daniel.

MRS. RAHMATI:

Salâm. Hâle shomâ khoob ast?
سلام. حال شما خوب است؟

Hello. How are you?

DANIEL:

Man khoobam*.
من خوبمَ.

I'm well.

MRS. RAHMATI:

In Sârâeh*?
این ساراهَ؟

Is this Sara?

NASRIN:

Āreh, fârsi harf mizaneh*.
آره، فارسی حرف می‌زنِه.

Yes, she speaks Farsi.

MRS. RAHMATI:

Ghorboonet* beram Sârâ joon.
قربونت برم سارا جون.

I adore you, dear Sara. (Literally: “I die for you, dear Sara.”)

SARA:

Salâm, mādar bozorg.
سلام مادر بزرگ.

Hello, Grandma.

1.2 Formal vs. Colloquial: Words from the Conversation
As explained in the Introduction, the following table provides alternative forms of formal and colloquial words used in the Conversation. The colloquial forms (محاوره‌ای mohāverei) have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the Conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used (usually denoting a very close relationship, or that the conversational partners are of the same age). Then, study the formal forms (رسمی rasmi) to become familiar with the way you would speak to a person formally, or would find that word in printed materials, for example, in a Farsi book or a newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formal</th>
<th>Colloquial*</th>
<th>محاوره‌ای</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>māmān jān</td>
<td>māmān joon</td>
<td>مامان یون</td>
<td>dear Mom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barāye to</td>
<td>barāt</td>
<td>برات</td>
<td>for you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kojā ast?</td>
<td>Kojāst?</td>
<td>کجا است؟</td>
<td>Where is it/he/she?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miāyand</td>
<td>miānd</td>
<td>میاند</td>
<td>they come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dānīel ast?</td>
<td>Dānieleh?</td>
<td>دنیاله؟</td>
<td>Is [this] Daniel?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khoob hastam</td>
<td>Khoobam</td>
<td>خوب هستم</td>
<td>I am good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sārā hast?</td>
<td>Sārāeh?</td>
<td>ساراه؟</td>
<td>Is [this] Sara?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>harf mizanad</td>
<td>harf mizaneh</td>
<td>حرف میزنه</td>
<td>speaks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghorbāne to beravam</td>
<td>Ghorboonet beram</td>
<td>قربان تو برم</td>
<td>I adore you, I would die for you</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 Let's Talk

In Farsi, there is a class of pronouns that attach themselves to a noun and very often make these nouns possessive. These are the endings to use for different persons.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>-am</td>
<td>مان</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>-at</td>
<td>تان</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>-ash, -esh</td>
<td>شان</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For instance, in the Conversation, Mrs. Rahmati told her daughter, Nasrin, Salām dokhtar am. (Hello, my daughter). Here -am ֶFunctions as my in English. Accordingly, if she wanted to say your daughter, then she would say, dokhtar at دخترت. And, for their daughter, she would say dokhtāreshān دخترشان.

Like other languages, there are a variety of ways in which you can ask “How are you?” in Farsi. Mrs. Rahmati used a very formal way of presenting this question to Daniel, whom she was seeing for the first time, by saying, Hāle shomā khoob ast? حال شما خوب است؟

Here are other ways of asking “How are you?” in different contexts:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Context</th>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shomā khoobid?</td>
<td>شما خوبید؟</td>
<td>Are you (formal) well?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With a stranger or an older person</td>
<td>Khoob hastid?</td>
<td>خوب هستید؟</td>
<td>Are you (formal) well?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khoobid?</td>
<td>خوبید؟</td>
<td></td>
<td>Are you (formal) well?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chetor hastid?</td>
<td>چطور هستید؟</td>
<td></td>
<td>How are you (formal)?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>With a friend or same age relative</th>
<th>Khoob hasti?</th>
<th>خوب هستی؟</th>
<th>Are you (informal) well?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Khoobi?</td>
<td>خوی؟</td>
<td></td>
<td>Are you (informal) well?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chetori?</td>
<td>چطوری؟</td>
<td></td>
<td>How are you (informal)?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Try It**

Now let's practice a bit with what you have learned so far. Imagine you are greeting people in different situations. Read and repeat to yourself the following sentences. The letters in shade show the bound pronouns. Can you recognize which person they refer to?

a. **Dokhtar** khobeh?

Dخترت خوی؟

*Is your daughter well? (Very informal, used among close friends)*

b. **Pesaretān** khobeh?

پسرتان خوبه؟

*Is your son well? (Formal, used to show respect toward an older person)*

c. **Bābāhāyetān** khoob hastand?

باباهایتان خوب هستند؟

*Are your fathers well? (Formal, one probably would use this in formal writings)*

d. **Mādar bozorgesh** chetoreh?

مادر بزرگش چطوره؟

*How's his/her grandma? (Informal, used among friends)*

e. **Hāleh māmān o bābāt** khomeh?

حال مامان و بابات خوی؟

*Are your mom and dad well? (Informal, used among friends)*

f. **Chetori Farzād?**

چطوری فرزاد؟

*How are you, Farzad? (Informal, used among friends)*
The Farsi Alphabet

Farsi is written from right to left. There are 32 letters in the Farsi alphabet. Farsi is written in script, in that most letters connect to other letters. Of the 32 letters, 25 connect to both the previous and subsequent letters. These letters have four forms which are called initial, medial, final, and independent. There are seven letters which never connect to any subsequent letter. These letters have only two forms, initial, and final.

Don’t be intimidated in thinking that you cannot learn so many forms of letters. As you will see in this chapter as well as in the subsequent chapters, different forms of each letter look very similar, so they are easy to recognize. And also, there is a specific pattern for how different forms of the letters are written. Let’s start by learning a few of these letters.

1.4 The Letters Alef, Lām, Sin, and Mim

(CD – Chapter 1, sounds of letters and words)

The letter alef

The letter alef is one of those letters which only connects to letters preceding it, and not following it. If alef is the first letter in a word, then it stands alone. As such, alef has only two forms, an initial form for when it begins a word, and a final form for when there is another letter prior to it. Alef can be pronounced in two main ways in Farsi. First, like the short “a” in the English word “man.” Second, as a Farsi long “ā,” like in the English word “tall.”

Here are the forms for alef with a short “a”:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ا</td>
<td>است</td>
<td>ast</td>
<td>is</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>۱</td>
<td>پاپا</td>
<td>bābā</td>
<td>father</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The alef with a long ā is called ā bā kollāh (“the ā with the hat”). While its initial form is an alef with a line above it, its final form is the same as a normal alef.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>أ</td>
<td>أرک</td>
<td>āreh</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ی</td>
<td>مادر</td>
<td>mādar</td>
<td>mother</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ی</td>
<td>سارا</td>
<td>Sārā</td>
<td>Sara</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Let’s practice writing the letter **alef** on the following lines. Don’t forget to write from right to left!

Now, let’s learn some more of Farsi letters. At this point, we are mostly concerned with the shapes and sounds of the letters. While you are reading this section, remember to:

1. Pay attention to the forms of each letter as it is written in different places in a word. At least one part of each letter will remain unchanged regardless of the form.
2. Write the different forms of the letters on the lines provided.
3. Listen to the audio for the pronunciation of each word in the following tables. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the words.

### The letter **lām** ل

The letter **lām** is pronounced like the “l” in the English word “language.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter **lām** ل. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ل</td>
<td>لب</td>
<td>lab</td>
<td>lips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>ل</td>
<td>قلب</td>
<td>ghalb</td>
<td>heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ل</td>
<td>کل</td>
<td>gol</td>
<td>flower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ل</td>
<td>پول</td>
<td>pool</td>
<td>money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lām</strong> followed by <strong>alef</strong></td>
<td>ل or للا</td>
<td>سلام</td>
<td>salām</td>
<td>hello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter **lām** ل.
The letter mim ﮕ

The letter mim ﮕ is pronounced like the “m” in the English word “mother.” The following table shows the four forms of the letter mim ﮕ. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>مـ</td>
<td>من</td>
<td>man</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>ﮕـ</td>
<td>بمن</td>
<td>beman</td>
<td>to me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ﮕـ</td>
<td>دلم</td>
<td>delam</td>
<td>my heart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ﮕـ</td>
<td>سلام</td>
<td>salām</td>
<td>hello</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter mim ﮕ.

The letter sin ﮝ
The letter **sin** س is pronounced like the “s” in the English name “Sam.” The following table shows the four forms of the letter **sin** س. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>س</td>
<td>سلام</td>
<td>salām</td>
<td>hello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>بس</td>
<td>pesar</td>
<td>pesar</td>
<td>boy/son</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>هس</td>
<td>hes</td>
<td>hes</td>
<td>sense</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ترس</td>
<td>tars</td>
<td>tars</td>
<td>fear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the letter **sin** س in its four forms.

1.5 Let’s Write

Now let’s learn how to connect the letters you have learned thus far together in order to form words. For example, if we want to connect **alef** ا and **sin** س in that order, **alef** uses its initial form and **sin** uses its independent form, giving us سا، because **alef** does not connect to the letter that comes after it, and as **sin** is the last letter. However, if we reverse the order, then **sin** uses its initial form and **alef** uses its final form, giving us سا.

In the following exercise, reproduce the different combinations of the letters **alef**, **lām**, and **sin**. Writing Farsi words over and over is the best way to learn and remember the way words are written, so that your Farsi writing skills become strong. Note that the following words may not have any particular meanings. We just want you to learn the ways Farsi letters are combined together.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Order of letters</th>
<th>Independent forms</th>
<th>As words</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 alef + lām + sin</td>
<td>الس ل س</td>
<td>السا</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 alef + sin + lām</td>
<td>اس ل</td>
<td>اسل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 lām + sin + alef</td>
<td>ل س ا</td>
<td>لسا</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you remember, when lām is followed by alef, as in the case of numbers 4 and 5, the letters take the forms لس or سلا.

**1.6 Cultural Insight**

**Delam barāt tang shodeh bood**

دلم برات تند شده بود

*I missed you.* (Literally: “My heart had become narrow for you.”)

Farsi is riddled with emotional expressions which may seem like hyperbole to outsiders. For instance, Farsi speakers frequently use the word jān or its informal form joon (translated literally as “life force” or “soul”) toward one another to display intimacy and closeness. Most phone calls, letters, and emails to friends, relatives, and acquaintances open with the name of the receiver plus the word jān, for example, Sara jān (literally: “my life, Sara”).

In the Conversation section, Nasrin used many expressions to show emotional closeness to her mother. First, she used the word joon in the phrase Salām māmān joon (Hello, dear Mama) to greet her mother. Later, she told her mother Delam barāt tang shodeh bood (literally: “My heart had become narrow for you”) to convey that she had missed her mother, Mrs. Rahmati. Similarly, Mrs. Rahmati used the expression Ghorboonet beram Sārā joon (literally: “I would die for you, dear Sara”) to express that she was very excited to see her granddaughter. In Farsi, these expressions are used frequently among intimates to display endearment and show affection, especially among females.

**1.7 Vocabulary**

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meanings. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section for a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section.
1.8 Grammar Point: The verb (to be) boodan

While reading the Conversation, you might have wondered why the counterpart of the English verb “is” in Farsi (است) had different forms in different places. For instance, when Nasrin introduced her husband to her mom, she said, In Dāniel eh (This is Daniel). In another place, Nasrin asked her mom, Farzād kojāst? (Where is Farzad?).

Like English, Farsi also uses both full and contracted forms of the verb to be. In English, we can say, “I am happy,” “Jane is beautiful,” and “You are smart,” or we can contract the verb and say, “I’m happy,” “Jane’s beautiful,” and “You’re smart.” In the same way, Nasrin used contracted forms of the be-verb.

Like most Indo-European languages, Farsi verbs are conjugated. Conjugation means that speakers attach endings to verbs that provide information about the person, number, and tense of a verb. In Farsi, very often pronouns are omitted from sentences because the verb endings imply the pronoun.

The following table shows the present tense conjugation of the full and contracted forms of the verb boodan (to be).
Are you Daniel?

hast/ast/eh (he/she/it is)
Kojā hast/kojāst/kojāeh?
(Where is he/she/it?)

hastim/im (we are)
Del tang hastim/del tangim
(We are heavy-hearted)

hastid/id (you all are)
Chetor hastid/chetorid?
(How are you?)

hastand/and (they are)
Ānhā khāneh hastand/ānha khāneānd
(They are home)

boodan (to be)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I am</td>
<td>hastam</td>
<td>khoob hastam (I am well.)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Hast is the present tense stem of the verb boodan. The endings -am, -i, -im, -id, and -and have been added to the stem to include information about different persons and numbers. Remember these endings, because this is all you need to know to conjugate nearly all Farsi verbs in the present tense.

You may have also noticed that the third person singular form of the verb boodan has two contracted forms, -ast and -eh. Unlike English, Farsi does not have a gender marking for the third person, such as he, she, and it, and as such, the difference between hast and -ast is not of the gender of the speaker. Hast is often used to emphasize the existence of something.

1.9 Poem

When Muslim Arabs conquered the Persian Empire in 644 ad, many words of Arabic origin found their way into Farsi. In fact, modern Farsi script is an adaptation of the Arabic script. One of the greatest Persian poets, Ferdowsi (935–1020 ad) is famous for his exclusive use of Farsi (i.e., non-Arabic) words in his poetry. His great epic is called Shahnāmeh (“The Book of the Kings”). Most school textbooks in Iran start with the following poem from Ferdowsi.

Tavanā bovad harke dānā bovad
توانباً بود هرکه دان باشد
Ze dānesh dele pir bornā bovad
ز دانش دل پیر برن باشد

The wise person is also an able person
From wisdom an old heart turns to young

1.10 Exercises
1. How many letters are there in the Farsi alphabet?

2. What are the four forms of the Farsi letters? Write all the forms for the letter sin.

3. What do the words Dāniel jooj دانیال جون mean?

4. Draw lines on a piece of paper and copy the following letters several times. Make sure you write the letters exactly the same way as below.

```
آل لا م م س س
```

5. Connect the following letters to create words, then write down their transliterations. Remember that the letter alef can only connect to the previous and not the following letter.

Example:

```
ما
m + a = ما
```

a. ___________ س + م
b. ___________ ل + م

c. ___________ ل + ا

d. ___________ س + ا + ل

e. ___________ م + ل + س

f. ___________ م + ا + ل

6. How do you say “How are you?” in Farsi, both formally and informally?

7. Translate the following sentences from English into Farsi using transliteration. Refer to the Conversation and Vocabulary sections to find the right translation for each Farsi word.

Example:

**Hi Daddy.**

a. Where is mother?

b. Dear grandmother

c. Is this Daniel?

d. My daughter speaks Farsi.

e. Daniel and Sara are coming.
Shoma koja mirid?

Ma râ be hotel Homâ bebareed.

Anâm ham be oo bedam?

Agar doost dari.

Khodâhâfez.

Merci.

Be shomâ khosh begozarad.
In this chapter, we will learn more new letters, and discuss personal and possessive pronouns in Farsi. We will also familiarize ourselves with some of the cultural issues regarding transportation in Iran.

2.1 Conversation
Dar tāxi

Listen to the conversation first. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text below. In this chapter, the Paradise family takes a cab from the airport to their hotel in the northern part of Tehran.

DANIEL:
Nasrin az oon* tāxi bepors.
نسرین از اون تاکسی بپرس.
Nasrin, ask that taxi.

NASRIN:
Āghā in tāxi khālieh*?
آقا این تاکسی خالیه؟
Sir, is this taxi available? (Literally: “Is this taxi empty?”)

DRIVER:
Baleh khânoom, biāeed bālá.
بله خانم، بیایید بالا.
Yes ma’am, get in. (Literally: “Come up.”)

NASRIN:
Sārā jān, to dar rā bāz kon.
سارا جان، تو دار را باز کن.
Dear Sara, open the door.

SARA:
Māmān man dastam bandeh*.
مادرم من دستم بند.
My hands are full.

DRIVER:
Shomā kojā mirid*?
شما کجا میرید؟
Where are you going?

NASRIN:
Mā rā be hotel Homā bebareed.
ما را به هتل هوما بپرداز.
Take us to Hotel Homa.
(Some time later, the Paradise family reaches their destination)

**Daniel:**

**Merci mā īnjā piādeh mishim.**
مرسی ما این جا پیاده میشیم

*Thank you. We’ll get out here.*

**Nasrin:**

**Che ghadr taghdīm konam?**
چه قدر تقضیم کنم؟

*How much can I offer you?*

**Driver:**

**Befarmāeed, ghābel nadāreh.**
بفرمایید، قابل نداره.

*Please, it’s not worth mentioning.*

**Nasrin:**

**Khāhesh mikonom, befarmāeed.**
خواهش میکنتم، بفرمایید.

*Please, tell me.*

**Driver:**

**Si hezār toman misheh.**
سی هزار تومان میشه.

*It’s thirty thousand tomans.*

**Nasrin:**

**Dāniel to pool dāri?**
Daniél, to pool dāri?

*Daniel, do you have the money?*

**Daniel:**

**Anām ham be oo bedam?**
انجام هم به او بدم؟

*Should I give him a tip?*

**Nasrin:**

**Agar doost dāri.**
اگر دوست داری.

*If you like.*
DANIEL:
Khedmate shomā.
خدمت شما.
Here you are.

DRIVER: Merci, be shomā khosh begozarad.
مرسي، به شما خوش بگذرد.
Thank you. Have a nice stay.

DANIEL:
Khodāhāfez.
خدا حافظ.
Goodbye.

2.2 Formal vs. Colloquial: Words from the Conversation

The colloquial forms of the words (محاروهای mohāverei) in the Conversation have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used. Then, study the formal forms (رسمی rasmi) to become familiar with the way you would address a person formally, or would find that word in a Farsi book or a newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formal</th>
<th>رسمی</th>
<th>Colloquial*</th>
<th>محاروهای ای</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ān</td>
<td>آن</td>
<td>oon</td>
<td>۴ون</td>
<td>that</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khāli ast</td>
<td>خالی است</td>
<td>khālieh</td>
<td>خالیه</td>
<td>is empty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>band ast</td>
<td>بند است</td>
<td>bandeh</td>
<td>بنده</td>
<td>is full/tied up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miravid</td>
<td>میروید</td>
<td>mirid</td>
<td>میرید</td>
<td>you go (pl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>piādeh mishavim</td>
<td>پیاده میشوم</td>
<td>piādeh mishim</td>
<td>پیاده میشیم</td>
<td>we will get out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghābel nadārad</td>
<td>گابل ندارد</td>
<td>Ghābel nadāreh</td>
<td>گابل نداره</td>
<td>It is not worth mentioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mishavad</td>
<td>میشود</td>
<td>misheh</td>
<td>میشیه</td>
<td>will become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bedaham</td>
<td>بدهم</td>
<td>bedam</td>
<td>بدم</td>
<td>I give</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.3 Let's Talk

As in English, there are four types of demonstrative adjectives in Farsi. These are ān (that), in (this), ānhā (those), and inhā (these). Also, as we learned in the last section, Farsi speakers often colloquially use the term oon instead of ān (that). For example, in the Conversation section, Daniel said,

Nasrin az oon tāxi bepors. (Nasrin, ask that taxi).

Now let’s build some Farsi phrases, using demonstrative pronouns with the words you have learned so far. Read and repeat to yourself the following sentences. The shaded letters show the demonstrative pronouns.

a. in āghā
   ān āghā
   this man

b. ān hotel
   ān hotel
   that hotel

c. in khānoom
   ān khānoom
   this woman

d. ānhā khaliānd
   ānhā khaliānd
   those are empty

e. Inhā misheh si hezar tomān.
   ānhā misheh si hezar tomān.
   These will be thirty thousand tomans.

f. In daro bāz kon.
   daro bāz kon.
   Open this door.

Some Farsi pleasantries are very difficult to translate into English. They have to be learned as they are. Let us study some of them to see what they mean and how they can be used in different circumstances.

i. taghdim kardan
   This expression can have a wide range of meanings, such as to offer, present, pay, and bring. It usually means, “I will deliver or give something to you with pleasure.” For instance, Nasrin said to the taxi driver, Che ghadr taghdim konam? (How much can I offer you?)
ii. ghābel nadāshtan قابل نداشتن

This expression is similar to the English phrase *Don't mention it*. You would use it in places where you do not want to give someone a bad feeling because you helped them, offered to do them a favor, or gave them money or a gift. For instance, in the conversation, when Nasrin wants to pay for the ride, the taxi driver says, *Befarmāeed*, ghābel nadāreh. *Please, it is not worth mentioning.*

Did you notice that in the conversation, both Daniel and the taxi driver used the French word *merci* مرسی to say *thank you*? In fact there are many French loanwords which have found their way into modern Farsi. These words are usually used by middle and upper-class people in the capital Tehran or big urban areas.

#### 2.4 The Letters Jim, Che, Heh, and Khe

Now, we will learn four new letters. These letters are very similar in form. In fact, their only difference is whether they have dots, and the placement of these dots if they have them.

---

### The letter jim Ğ

The letter jim Ğ is pronounced like the “j” in the English word “jam.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter jim Ğ. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>Ğ ġ</td>
<td>ġā</td>
<td>jā</td>
<td><em>place</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>Ğ ġ</td>
<td>ġa</td>
<td>kojā</td>
<td><em>where</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>Ğ ġ</td>
<td>ġây</td>
<td>laj</td>
<td><em>grudge</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>Ğ Ğ</td>
<td>ġāy̚</td>
<td>tāj</td>
<td><em>crown</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

### The letter che Ğ

The letter che Ğ is pronounced like the “ch” in “China.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter che Ğ. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>چ</td>
<td>چه</td>
<td>che</td>
<td>what</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>کچل</td>
<td>کچل</td>
<td>kachal</td>
<td>bald</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>مچ</td>
<td>مچ</td>
<td>moch</td>
<td>wrist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>پارچ</td>
<td>پارچ</td>
<td>pārch</td>
<td>jar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The letter heh چ

The letter heh چ is pronounced like the “h” in the English word “home.” Pay attention that this letter does not have any dots, either above or under it. The following table shows the different forms of the letter heh چ. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>چ</td>
<td>حالا</td>
<td>hālā</td>
<td>now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>صارح</td>
<td>صارح</td>
<td>sahar</td>
<td>dawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>صبح</td>
<td>صبح</td>
<td>sobh</td>
<td>morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>شرح</td>
<td>شرح</td>
<td>sharh</td>
<td>description</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The letter khe خ

The letter khe خ does not have a counterpart in the English alphabet, and is often difficult for English speakers to pronounce. The sound is similar to the sound of the letter “j” in the Spanish name “Juan.” For transliteration purposes, we have shown this letter as “kh.” Listen to the recordings and try to imitate the sound of the letter khe خ as well as you can. The following table shows the different forms of the letter khe خ. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>خ</td>
<td>خدا</td>
<td>khodā</td>
<td>God</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>خط</td>
<td>خط</td>
<td>sakht</td>
<td>hard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>میخ</td>
<td>میخ</td>
<td>mikh</td>
<td>nail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>شاخ</td>
<td>شاخ</td>
<td>shākh</td>
<td>horn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the letter heh چ first, and then add dots to convert heh چ into jīm ج, che چ, and khe خ.
2.5 Let's Write

In this chapter, we learned four new letters which looked very similar in form. Now let's combine these letters with other letters you learned in the previous chapter to create words in Farsi. The following table consists of three columns. From right to left (in the Farsi way), the first column shows the letters we want to combine in their independent forms. The second column shows what form each letter should have based on its placement in the word. Finally, the third column indicates how the actual Farsi word looks when these letters are connected. Note that the following words may not have any particular meanings. We just want to learn how to write Farsi letters and words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters in proper position</th>
<th>Letters in independent form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>حس</td>
<td>حس</td>
<td>حس</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ممج</td>
<td>مج</td>
<td>مج</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ماج</td>
<td>ماج</td>
<td>ماج</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>مجس</td>
<td>مجس</td>
<td>مجس</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>لجام</td>
<td>لجام</td>
<td>لجام</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>جال</td>
<td>جال</td>
<td>جال</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now, fill in the last column of the following table with the letters provided.
From now on, we will replace some of the important words with their actual Farsi words within the English texts. The idea is to encourage you, one step at a time, to build up your reading ability in Farsi. First you will see an English word in italics. That word is followed by parentheses. Inside the parentheses, first you see a transliteration of that word in Farsi and then the same word using Farsi script. Remember how that word is pronounced and written. The next instances of that word in the same text will only show the Farsi script (without any transliteration or English meaning).

2.6 Cultural Insight

Har māchīnī mitavānād yek tāxi bāshad.

هر ماشینی میتواند یک تاکسی باشد.

Every car can be a taxi.

In Iran, especially in the capital Tehran (Tehrān تهران), many private cars serve the function of taxis. Passengers hold up their hands in the main streets to show that they need a ride. Official taxis as well as private cars stop to amass passengers (plural mosāferān مسافران, singular mosāfer مسافر), sometimes as many as four to a car. Most cars only go in direct (mostaghim مستقیم) routes or between major landmarks in the cities, and as such shared rides become more manageable. However, very often need to take two or three rides in order to get to their destinations.

The fare (kerāyeh کرایه) can be relatively cheap (arzān ارزان) for these rides, and private drivers use the money to supplement their income while driving in the city. The official currency of Iran is called rial (Riāl ريال). However, as was mentioned in the Conversation, people frequently use the word toman (Tomān تومان) instead of rial. Each toman is equal to 10 ريال. There are other forms of taxis that are more similar to American taxis, which are called ājānce (from the French word agence which means agency in English, اژانس), and there are phone taxis (tāxi telephoni تاکسی تلفنی) which are called in advance to pick up passengers.

2.7 Vocabulary

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meaning. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section as a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bepers</td>
<td>بپرس</td>
<td>ask</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.8 Grammar Point: Personal Pronouns

In the Conversation section, participants used different pronouns to address other people. The following table denotes subject personal pronouns in Farsi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular pronouns</th>
<th>Plural pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>man (I)</td>
<td>mā (we)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to (you)</td>
<td>shomā (you all)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>oo (he, she, it)</td>
<td>ānhā (they)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The plural second person pronoun shomā (you all) is frequently used instead of the singular second person pronoun to
2.9 Zarbol masal (Proverb) of the Day

Tārof āmad nayāmad dāreh.

The “tārof” may or may not come. (Tārof may be accepted or refused.)

There is a complex cultural practice in Iran called tārof, which includes a host of pleasant-ries, acts of politeness, and formalities toward others. For instance, when two or more people are passing through a door, they offer to the other person the chance to enter first by saying Avval shomā (You first) or Shomā befarmāeed (Please, you enter). Furthermore, it is considered very disrespectful to accept food, drink, money, or help from others upon first offer. Customarily, one has to refrain from accepting an offer until it is extended at least twice, and sometimes even several times.

In the Conversation section, when Daniel offered to pay for the cab ride, the taxi driver responded by saying Befarmāeed ghābele shomāro nadāreh (Please, it is not worth mentioning). The taxi driver’s response is an act of tārof. Almost all taxi drivers will refuse to accept money upon first offer, and all passengers know that they have to insist in order to pay for the ride. However, in offering and refusing, sometimes one might, for example, offer politely to give his lunch to another person, expecting this offer to be refused. However, this polite gesture may be mistaken for a genuine offer and eventually accepted, leaving the person who offered the food without lunch. People use the expression Tārof āmad nayāmad dāreh to caution others not to insist too much about something they do not really mean to offer, but are just trying to be polite about.
1. Find and write down the personal pronouns in the Conversation section, using Farsi script.

2. What are the various forms of the pronoun “you” in Farsi, and what are their differences?

3. Read the following words out loud and check your pronunciation against the Conversation section of the CD.
   a. Khānoom
   b. Khāli
   c. Khāhesh mikonam
   d. Khedmat
   e. Khosh begozarad
   f. Khodā hāfez

4. You already know all the letters used to construct the following combinations. Try to guess how they should be pronounced by writing down their transliterations.

   Example: سم
   Answer: sam

   a. ________ حاال
   b. ________ جسم
   c. ________ جام
   d. ________ خم
   e. ________ مال
   f. ________ سال
   g. ________ سمح
   h. ________ خام
   i. ________ صح
   j. ________ چال

Responses to writing practice in section 2.5:

Words
a. خجل
b. لقاج
c. جال
d. معل
e. تحم
مَمَّان جوَن سَلام نَسرِنام.

سلام دَوخترام، رَسیدد هَوتِل؟

آره، هَمَن وَلَن رَسیدم.

بَکِهداد نَبِایاد مِرَافتِد هَوتِل.

إنْجورِی هَمَوم نَرام رَحَت‌تارِم.

بَنَاماتوَن بَرَایِه فَردّا چِهِه؟

میکَّاَهِم بَرَایِه شَم مَزَهمَتِوَن بَیشِم.

غَدَامِتَوَن روَیه شَهَم.

نا یِک اَجَّانَص مِگَریم.

بَسیه، خُوَدَافِز

فاَگَت زَوَد بَیَاَهِد.
In this chapter, we will learn more new letters and learn about short and long vowels in Farsi. In the Grammar section, we will learn how to form *wh*-questions in Farsi. And, we will discuss expressions and customs regarding phone conversations in Iranian culture.

3.1 Conversation
Barnāmehrizie shām

Arranging a dinner party

Listen to the conversation first. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text below. In this chapter, Nasrin calls her mom from her hotel room to ask to have dinner at her place. Mrs. Rahmati suggests to invite her other daughter, Manijeh, and her kids to the dinner party.

Nasrin:
Māmān joon* salām. Nasrinam*.
 маман جون* سلام. نسرينام*
Hello, dear Mommy. It’s Nasrin.

Mrs. Rahmati:
Salām dokhtaram. Residid hotel?
سلام دخترم. رسيديد هتل?
Hello my daughter. Did you arrive at the hotel?

Nasrin:
Āreh. Hamin alān residim.
أره. همين الان رسيديم.
Yes, we just got there.

Mrs. Rahmati:
Bekhodā nabāyad miraftid hotel.
بخدا نبايد ميرفتيد هتل.
I swear, you shouldn’t have gone to a hotel.
Nasrin:

Injoori hamamoon* rāhat-tarim*.

Everyone’s more comfortable this way.

Mrs. Rahmati:

Barnāmatoon* barāye fardā chieh*?

What’s your plan for tomorrow?

Nasrin:

Mikhāhim barāye shām mozāhemetoon* beshim*.

We want to trouble you for dinner.

Mrs. Rahmati:

Ghadametoon* rooyeh cheshm.

You’re most welcome. (Literally: “Your steps on my eyes.”)

Mrs. Rahmati:

Mikhāhee māchin bābāto* dāshteh bāshee?

Do you want to use your dad’s car?

Nasrin:

Na, mozāheme kār o zendegitoon* nemishim*.

No, we don’t [want to] become burden to your life and work.

Mrs. Rahmati:

Behar hāl bābāt* ke digeh* kār nemikoneh*.

In any case, your dad is no longer working.

Nasrin:

Na yek ājānce migirim.

No, we will get a taxi.

Mrs. Rahmati:
Mikhāi* Manijeh inhā-ro* ham davat konam?
میخواهی منیژه اینها رو هم دعوت کنم؟
Do you want me to invite Manijeh and her family?

NASRIN:
Ākhe* digeh* kheili sakhtetoon* mishe*.
آخه دیگه خیلی سختتون میشه.
But you are going to put yourself to too much trouble.

MRS. RAHMATI:
Na tāzeh Manizheh ham komakam mikoneh*.
نه تازه منیژه هم کمک میکنه.
No, Manizheh can help me.

NASRIN:
To rā bekhodā khodet ro* be zahmat nandāz*.
تو را به‌خودت رو به‌زحمت ننداز*.
In God’s name, do not put yourself to the trouble.

MRS. RAHMATI:
Na negarān nabāsh. Faghat zood biāeed.
نه نگران نباش فقط زود بیایید.
No, don’t worry. Just arrive early.

NASRIN:
Bāshe* Khodāfez*.
باشه خدافظ.
Ok. Bye.

MRS. RAHMATI:
Khodāfez* tā fardā.
خدافظ تا فردا.
Bye. See you tomorrow.

3.2 Formal vs. Colloquial: Words from the Conversation

The colloquial forms of the words (محارب های mohāverei) in the Conversation have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the Conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used. Then, study the formal forms (رسمی rasmi) to become familiar with the way you would address a person formally, or would find that word in a Farsi book or a newspaper.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>فارسی</th>
<th>محاوره‌ای</th>
<th>انگلیسی</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>مامان جان</td>
<td>Mamān Joan</td>
<td>dear Mom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasrin hastam</td>
<td>Nasrinam</td>
<td>I am Nasrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>همه امانت</td>
<td>Hamamoon</td>
<td>all of us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>راحتتر هستیم</td>
<td>Rahattirim</td>
<td>We are more comfortable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>برنامه تون</td>
<td>Barnāmatoon</td>
<td>your plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بی‌ست؟</td>
<td>Chieh?</td>
<td>What is it?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>مزاحم‌تان</td>
<td>Mozāhematoon</td>
<td>your trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بی‌شیم</td>
<td>Beshim</td>
<td>we become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>قدمنتن</td>
<td>Ghadametoon</td>
<td>your steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>پیشینم</td>
<td>Beshim</td>
<td>we become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بابا تو را</td>
<td>Bābātou</td>
<td>your father’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>زندگی‌تان</td>
<td>Zendegitoon</td>
<td>your life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>نمیشیم</td>
<td>Nemishim</td>
<td>we won’t be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>دیگه</td>
<td>Dīgeh</td>
<td>no longer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>کار نمیکنه</td>
<td>Kar nemikoneh</td>
<td>does not work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>میخوای</td>
<td>Mikhāi</td>
<td>do you want</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>رو</td>
<td>Ro</td>
<td>(a preposition)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>سخت‌تان</td>
<td>Sakhtetoon</td>
<td>your hardship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>میشه</td>
<td>Misheh</td>
<td>it becomes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>کمک‌میکنه</td>
<td>Komak mikoneh</td>
<td>he/she/it helps me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>زحمت ننداز</td>
<td>Zahmat nandaz</td>
<td>Don’t trouble yourself</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>باشه</td>
<td>Bāsheh</td>
<td>Let it be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>خداحفظ</td>
<td>Khodāfez</td>
<td>bye</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.3 Let’s Talk

From the Conversation, you might have noticed that the word *نا* in Farsi means *no* in English. Similarly, in order to make a verb negative in Farsi, you just need to add the letter “ن” to its beginning. For instance, Nasrin told Mrs. Rahmati, *نا*، مزاجم کار و زندگی‌تون نمی‌شیم (No, we don’t [want to] become burden to your life and work). First, there is the word *نا*, and then the verb *نمی‌شیم* at the end of the sentence, which is constructed from *ن* and *می‌شیم*. As you just learned in the above table, *نمی‌شیم* is a colloquial way of saying *می‌شیم* (we will be or we will become). The *ن* makes this verb negative: *نمی‌شیم* or *نمی‌شیم* (we won’t be or we won’t become).

Conversely, you can affirm an action or statement either by saying *آره* or *بله* (yes). For instance, Mrs. Rahmati asked her daughter, *سلام دخترم. رسیدگی هتل؟* (Hello my daughter. Did you arrive at the hotel?). And Nasrin affirmed her mother’s question by saying,
Baleh بلله is a more polite way of saying yes. Āreh آره is reserved for informal conversations and among close relatives.

Now let’s practice using āreh, baleh, and na with the words we have learned so far. Read and practice the following sentences.

a. Residid be hotel?

Did you get to the hotel?

Na, hanooz naresidim.

No, we have not arrived yet.

b. Mikhāhid fardā bā ham shām bekhorim?

Do you want us to have dinner together tomorrow?

Baleh, kheili doost dāram.

Yes, I would like it very much.

c. Mikhāi barāt ye tāxi begiram?

Do you want me to get a taxi for you?

Āreh, barām ye tāxi begir.

Yes, please get a taxi for me.

3.4 Short and Long Vowels, and the Letters Dāl and Zāl

Farsi consists of six vowels. Three of these are considered long vowels, and three are considered short vowels. In Farsi, long vowels are written. However, short vowels are not written, but have to be guessed. In Chapter 1, we discussed one of the long vowels, ā (“ā”). The other two long vowels are ɛ and ɔ.
The long vowel **ieِّ**

The vowel **ieِّ** is pronounced like the “ee” in the English word “been.” In the following table, you will learn different forms of the letter ِّ. Read and reexamine how this letter changes form depending on its place in a word. Note that in its initial and medial forms, this letter has two dots, but in the final and independent forms, it does not have any dots and it also changes shape.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>بِّ</td>
<td>يَاس</td>
<td>yās</td>
<td>jasmine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>بِّ</td>
<td>بِّأ</td>
<td>biā</td>
<td>come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>سِّ</td>
<td>سِّر</td>
<td>si</td>
<td>thirty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>بِّ</td>
<td>بِّر</td>
<td>parī</td>
<td>fairy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The long vowel **uُّ**

The vowel **uُّ** is pronounced like the “oo” in the English word “pool.” Like the vowel **aِّ**, the vowel **uُّ** only has a final and an independent form. Study the following table to see how these two forms are used in words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>جِّ</td>
<td>جِّن</td>
<td>jōn</td>
<td>dear, life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>عِّ</td>
<td>زِّود</td>
<td>zōod</td>
<td>early, quick</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the different forms of the long vowels **uُّ** and **ieِّ**.
Short Vowels

By now, you might have suspected that many Farsi words have hidden vowels, vowels which are pronounced but not written. For instance, the word dar در (door) has a short, unwritten vowel. This short vowel sounds like the “a” in the English word “cat,” and is called fat-heh فتحه. Another short vowel, called kasreh کسره, sounds like the “e” in the English word “bed.” The last short vowel is called zammeh زمنه, and sounds like the “o” in the English word “home.”

For example, the Farsi word del دل (heart) is written with only two consonants, “d” د and “l” ل. However, these two letters are connected with a short and unwritten kasreh کسره, and so the word is pronounced del دل. And, in the word moch مچ (wrist), there is an unwritten “o” which connects the “m” م to the “ch” چ.

Occasionally, these short vowels are written in children’s books and dictionaries as diacritics above and under the letters, to help novice readers learn the correct pronunciation of the words. In the beginning, it may be somewhat difficult to read Farsi words without the use of these diacritics. However, eventually it will be much easier to learn the pronunciation of the whole word rather than trying to spell out each individual letter while trying to figure out their corresponding short vowels. Hence, in this book we do not use these diacritics.

In the Conversation section, you might have noticed that sometimes we write the long vowel ا، but we do not pronounce it. For example, Nasrin said, Mikhāhim barāye shām mozāhemetoon beshim میخواهیم برای شام مزاحمتون بشم (We want to trouble you for dinner). Look closely at the word mikhāhim. As you can see, there is an ا in میخواهم, but the word is pronounced as though the ا does not exist. You will often see this when the ا is followed by the long vowel ا، such as in the words khāb خواب (sleep), khāndan خواندن (to read), khāstan خواستن (to want), and khāhar خواهر (sister).

The letter dāl د

The letter dāl د is pronounced like the “d” in the English word “dog,” and has only two forms, final and independent. Study the following table to see how these two forms are written in Farsi words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>د</td>
<td>بَد</td>
<td>bad</td>
<td>bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>د</td>
<td>فردا</td>
<td>fardā</td>
<td>tomorrow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the “a” in the word “bad” is a short vowel, and is unwritten in Farsi. There are, however, two forms of “a” in the
word “fardā.” The first “a” is a short vowel and is unwritten, while the second “a” is a long vowel and written as ą.

Although there are some common words and derivatives between English and Farsi, the similarity of the sound and meaning of the word “bad” in both languages in the above example appears to be just a linguistic coincidence.

![The letter zāl ژ]

The letter zāl ژ is pronounced like the “z” in the English word “zoo,” and has only two forms. There are three other Farsi letters that sound exactly like zāl (ز, ض, and ظ), which we will be studying in future chapters. Study the following table to see how these two forms of the letter zāl ژ are written in Farsi words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ژ</td>
<td>بذر</td>
<td>bazr</td>
<td>seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ژ</td>
<td>زهن</td>
<td>zehn</td>
<td>mind</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the letter dāl، and then place dots over the letters to convert dāl into zāl.

![Practice writing dāl and converting it to zāl]

3.5 Let’s Write

Now let’s combine the letters we have learned in this chapter with the letters from previous chapters to create new words. In the following table, from right to left, the first column shows the letters we want to combine, in their independent forms. The second column shows what form each letter should have based on its placement in the word. You just have to fill in the last column by attaching them together. An example has been provided in the first row.

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Closely related to the concept of **tārof**، which was discussed in the previous chapter, greetings and farewells in Farsi are very lengthy and formal. For instance, **friends** (plural *doostān* دوستان, singular *doost* دوست) and family members start a phone conversation by not only asking about one’s health, **Hālet khoobeh؟** (How are you?), but also about the health of close members of each other’s family, such as parents, siblings, and children.

A typical phone conversation between two related people usually includes questions such as, **Hāle māmān va bābā khoobeh؟** حالت مامان و پایا خوبه؟ (Are your mom and dad ok?), **Bachehā chetorand؟** بچه‌ها چطورند؟ (How are the kids?), and questions about the other party’s siblings, for example, **Az Manijeh joon che khabar؟** از منیژه جون چه خبر؟ (Any news about dear Manijeh?). It is only then that one can start delivering the real intended message for the phone call, for example, **Mikhāstam doshanbeh barāye shām davatetoon konam** میخواستم دوشنبه برای شام دعوتتون کنم (I wanted to invite you for dinner on Monday).

A phone conversation is similarly terminated by saluting the extended members of the one’s family. For instance, one would...
close a phone conversation by saying, **Be māmāno bābā salām beresonid** (Send my greetings to your mom and dad), **Bacheh hāro az jānebe man beboosid** (Kiss your children on my behalf), and **Torā bekhodā be Manijeh joon begid ye yādi az mā bekoneh** (In God’s name, please tell dear Manijeh to remember us some time).

### 3.7 Vocabulary

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meaning. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section as a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dokhtar</td>
<td>دختر</td>
<td>daughter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>residid</td>
<td>رسیدید</td>
<td>you arrived (pl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>alān</td>
<td>الآن</td>
<td>now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāyad</td>
<td>باید</td>
<td>must</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miraftid</td>
<td>میرفتید</td>
<td>you went</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rāhat</td>
<td>راحت</td>
<td>easy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barnāmeh</td>
<td>برنامه</td>
<td>plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikhāhim</td>
<td>میخواهیم</td>
<td>we want</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shām</td>
<td>شام</td>
<td>dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>māchin</td>
<td>ماشین</td>
<td>car</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beharhāl</td>
<td>بهرحال</td>
<td>any way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>digeh</td>
<td>دیگه</td>
<td>other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zahmat</td>
<td>زحمت</td>
<td>trouble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>davat konam</td>
<td>دعوت کنم</td>
<td>I invite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ākheh</td>
<td>آخه</td>
<td>but</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kheili</td>
<td>خیلی</td>
<td>very</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sakht</td>
<td>سخت</td>
<td>difficult</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>komak</td>
<td>کمک</td>
<td>help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negarān</td>
<td>نگران</td>
<td>worry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>faghat</td>
<td>فقط</td>
<td>only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zood</td>
<td>زود</td>
<td>early</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3.8 Grammar Point: **When, Where, What, Why, and How**

*Wh*-question words are commonly used in all languages. The following table shows the *wh*-question words in English, followed by their counterparts in Farsi. While studying this table, go back and look in this and previous chapters to find any
3.9 Expression of the Day

**Ghadametoon royeh cheshm**

قدمتون روی چشم

*Your steps on my eyes*

The chashm چشم (eye) in Iranian culture is considered one of the most sensitive parts of the body (badan بدن), and the word chashm چشم is often used as an expression of showing sensitivity toward others. For instance, children often say chashm چشم instead of baleh بله (yes) when responding positively to an adult’s command. The word chashm چشم here means, “I accept your request without challenge.”

Similarly, Farsi speakers may say Ghadametoon royeh cheshm قدمتون روی چشم (Your steps on my eyes) to welcome someone with utmost respect (ehterām احترام). In the Conversation section, Nasrin informed her mother that she wanted to come to her home for dinner, Mikhāhim baraye shām mozāhemetoon beshim میخواهم برای شام مزاحمتون بشیم (We want to trouble you for dinner). Mrs. Rahmati welcomed her daughter’s request by stating, Ghadametoon royeh cheshm قدمتون روی چشم. By this expression, Mrs. Rahmati intends to say that she welcomes her daughter’s family to her home with great pleasure.

3.10 Exercises

1. The following words have been taken from the Conversation of this chapter. They all use short vowels, which are pronounced but not written. Try to guess the correct pronunciation of these words by writing down their English transliterations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ki</td>
<td>کی</td>
<td><strong>who</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>key</td>
<td>کی</td>
<td><strong>when</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kojā</td>
<td>کجā</td>
<td><strong>where</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheh, chi</td>
<td>چه، چی</td>
<td><strong>what</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cherā</td>
<td>چرا</td>
<td><strong>why</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>chegooneh, che joori</td>
<td>چه گونه، چه جوری</td>
<td><strong>how</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. The following words have been taken from the Conversation of this chapter. They all use long vowels. Find the long vowel, guess its sound, and say the whole word in Farsi.

   a. __________ همین
   b. __________ یون
   c. __________ تا
   d. __________ کار
   e. __________ چیه

3. The following are Farsi transliterations. Rewrite these words using Farsi letters.

   Example: dād داد
   a. zam  __________
   b. jad  __________
   c. khodā  __________
   d. zal  __________

4. Read these Farsi phrases with wh-question words and guess their meanings.

   a. ________________ کی رضید؟
   b. ________________ کجا میرفتید؟
   c. ________________ چه چوری دارند میاند؟
   d. ________________ چرا دوستش داری؟

Responses to writing practice in section 3.5:
شاید دوشانبه بهتر باشه.

انروز میخام بazaar را بهینم.

چند روز تهران میمونیم؟

فکر کنام یک هفته خوبه.

چون تابستانه اول بریم شمایل.

بچه‌ها یخه مانیه هام میاند؟

چه فصل باری بیان دیدن اصفهان خوبه؟

فکرمیکنام بهار بهتر باشه.

فکرمیکنام بهتر باشه.
In this chapter, we will learn more Farsi letters and also become familiar with the names of the days, months (such as Farvardin, Ordibehesht, and Khordad that correspond to March, April, and May, respectively), and seasons in Farsi. Related to this topic, we will talk about the importance of spring in Iranian culture, and discuss why the Iranian New Year starts in spring.

4.1 Conversation

(CD – Chapter 4, conversation)
key va kojā
کی و کجا
When and where

Daniel, Nasrin, and Sara are having breakfast in their hotel while discussing plans for their stay in Iran. They talk about visiting a major city in the south of Iran called Shiraz and a hike to a mountain top called Tochal. Listen to the Conversation first, and then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text below.

**SARA:**

*Emrooz mikhām* bāzār rā bebinām.*

امروز میخوام بازار را ببینم.

*Today, I want to see the bazaar.*

**DANIEL:**

*Shāyad doshanbeh behtar bāsheh.*

شاید دوشنبه بهتر باشه.

*Maybe Monday would be better.*

**NASRIN:**

*Avval bāyad fāmil ro* bebinim.*

اوّل باید فامیل رو ببینیم.

*First, we have to see the family.*

**DANIEL:**

*Chand rooz Tehrān mimooniṃ?*

چند روز تهران میمونیم؟

*And when will we visit Tehran?*
何天我们在德黑兰停留？

Nasrin:
فکر کنم یک هفته خوبه.
I think one week is good.

Nasrin:
چون تابستان، اول باید شمال شم.
Since it is summer, first we should go to shomal (the north).

Sara:
بخشیه خاله منیژه هم میاد؟
Will Aunt Manijeh's kids also come?

Nasrin:
امشب از مادرش می‌پرسیم.
Tonight, we'll ask her mom.

Daniel:
چه فصلی برای دیدن اصفهان خوبه؟
What season is best to go to Esfahan?

Nasrin:
فکر می‌کنم بهار بیشتر باشه.
I think spring is better.

Daniel:
مثل فروردين یا اردیبهشت؟
For instance, Farvardin or Ordibehesht?

Nasrin:
آره، ولی خرداد هم خوبه.
آره، وعلى خرداد هم خوبه.
Yes, but Khordad is also good.

SARA:
Māmān to gofti ke mitoonim* berim* kooh.
مامان تو گفتی که میتونیم بروم کوه
Mom, you said we could go to the mountains [to hike].

NASRIN:
Āreh, shāyad jomeh berim* Tochāl.
آره، شاید جمعه برم توچال.
Yes, maybe we will go to Tochal on Friday.

DANIEL:
Shirāz ra ham kheili doost dāram bebinam.
شیراز را هم خیلی دوست دارم ببینم.
I really want to see Shiraz as well.

NASRIN:
Bad az Esfahān, be Shirāz mirim*.
بعد از اصفهان، به شیراز میریم.
After Esfahan, we will go to Shiraz.

DANIEL:
Sārā, agar sobhānat* tamām shod, berim*.
سارا، اگر صبحانت تمام شد، برم.
Sara, if you are done with breakfast, let’s go.

SARA:
Āreh bābā. berim* shahr rā bebinim.
آره پapa، برم شهر را ببینم.
Yes Daddy. Let’s go and see the city.

4.2 Formal vs. Colloquial: Words from the Conversation

The colloquial forms of the words (محاوره آی mohāverei) in the Conversation have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used. Then, study the formal forms (رسمی rasmi) to become familiar with the way you would address a person formally, or would find that word in a Farsi book or a newspaper.
4.3 Let’s Talk

In Farsi, you show intention with the verb khāstan خواستن (to want). The following table shows the conjugation of the verb khāstan خواستن.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mikhāham</td>
<td>ميخوهاهم</td>
<td>I want</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikhāhi</td>
<td>ميخوهاهي</td>
<td>you want</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikhāhad</td>
<td>ميخوهاه</td>
<td>she/he/it wants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikhāhim</td>
<td>ميخوهاهم</td>
<td>we want</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikhāhid</td>
<td>ميخوهايد</td>
<td>you want (pl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikhāhand</td>
<td>ميخوهاهنده</td>
<td>they want</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the previous section, we saw that the colloquial form of mikhāham is mikhām. For example, in the beginning of the Conversation, Sara says, Emrooz mikhām bāzār rā bebinām अमरोज़ मिखाम पाजार रा बिनाम (Today, I want to see the bazaar).

Now, let us practice this new verb. Read and repeat to yourself the following sentences.

a. Mikhāham beram hotel homā.

I want to go to Hotel Homa.
As you may have noticed from the previous examples, for the most part questions in Farsi have the same grammatical structure as statements, but use a rising intonation to turn a statement into a question. While listening to the conversations
4.4 The Letters Re, Zeh, Zheh, Kāf, and Gāf

We will now learn more Farsi letters, some of which were frequently used in the Conversation section. These letters can be divided into two categories. The letters re ɻ, zeh ژ, and zheh ژ have similar forms, and only differ in the number (or its absence) of dots placed above them. The letters kāf ک and gāf گ also have similar forms, but the letter gāf گ has a strike above its top line.

■ The letter re ɻ

The letter re ɻ is pronounced like the “r” in the English word “rich,” and has only two forms, final and independent. The following table shows the different forms of the letter re ɻ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ɻر</td>
<td>مرد</td>
<td>mard</td>
<td>man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ɻر</td>
<td>کار</td>
<td>kār</td>
<td>work</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

■ The letter zeh ژ

The letter zeh ژ is pronounced like the “z” in the English word “zoo,” and has only two forms, final and independent. In the previous chapter, we encountered a “z” sound in the letter zal ژ. In fact, there are still two other “z” sounds in the Farsi alphabet. More than a millennium ago, Farsi adapted the Arabic script. Later, many Arabic words found their way into spoken and written Farsi. Over time, Farsi speakers began to pronounce some of the Arabic letters in similar ways. Arabic speakers, however, pronounce these letters differently. The different letters that produce the sound “z” are examples of this. We will encounter more of these similar-sounding letters in upcoming chapters.

The following table shows the different forms of the letter zeh ژ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ژز</td>
<td>مزد</td>
<td>mozd</td>
<td>wage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ژز</td>
<td>بازار</td>
<td>bāzār</td>
<td>bazaar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

■ The letter zheh ژ

The letter zheh ژ sounds like the “g” in the French word “général,” and has only two forms, final and independent. For convenience, we will use “zh” to denote the letter zheh ژ in our transcriptions throughout this book. The following table
shows the different forms of the letter zheh ز as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>زر</td>
<td>مزه</td>
<td>mozheh</td>
<td>eyelash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>زر</td>
<td>ال زه</td>
<td>zhāleh</td>
<td>dew</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the letter ز first, and then place a dot over it to convert it into ز. Next, add three dots to ز in order to make it into ز.

■ The letter kāf ك

The letter kāf ك is pronounced like the “c” in the English word “cat.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter kāf ك as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>كم</td>
<td>كم</td>
<td>kam</td>
<td>little</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>شكر</td>
<td>shekar</td>
<td></td>
<td>sugar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>نمک</td>
<td>namak</td>
<td></td>
<td>salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>خوک</td>
<td>khook</td>
<td></td>
<td>pig</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

■ The letter gāf گ

The letter gāf گ is pronounced like the “g” in the English word “good.” The following table shows the different forms of
the letter gāf گ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>گا</td>
<td>گاو</td>
<td>gāv</td>
<td>cow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>گ</td>
<td>چگر</td>
<td>jegar</td>
<td>liver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>گ</td>
<td>گس</td>
<td>sag</td>
<td>dog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>گ</td>
<td>مرگ</td>
<td>marg</td>
<td>death</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the letter گ first, and then place an extra strike above the upper line to convert the گ into گ.

4.5 Let's Write

Now let's combine the letters we have learned in this chapter with the letters you learned previously to create new words. This time we omit the second column you saw in previous chapters, and you will have to join the letters by only having access to the independent forms of the letters. Two examples have been provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Letters in independent form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. کودک</td>
<td>کودک</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. مگر</td>
<td>مگر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. زاله</td>
<td>زاله</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. کارگر</td>
<td>کارگر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e. مزه</td>
<td>مزه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f. گزار</td>
<td>گزار</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g. مکر</td>
<td>مکر</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.6 Cultural Insight: Spring and the Iranian New Year

Spring (بَهَار) in Iranian culture (فرهنگ) has a profound symbolic meaning. In fact, the Iranian New Year, called Norouz (نوروز) (literally: “the new day”) starts on the first day of Bahar. New Year is celebrated for thirteen days, and four of these days are national holidays. A few days before the arrival of Bahar, people dust and clean their entire homes (خانه) in a tradition called خانه تکانی (literally: “to shake the home”). On the day of the spring equinox, families sit down around a decorated table called a sofreh haftsin (سفره هفت سین) (literally: “the seven S’s table”) to congratulate one another on the arrival of Bahar. During the New Year’s festival, people also visit their extended family (فامیل), starting from the oldest to the youngest, in a tradition called dido bāzdīd (دیدو باز دید) (literally: “visiting and revisiting”), to offer sweets and candies. On the thirteenth day of the Norouz, people celebrate the last day of Norouz, which is called sizdeh-bedar (سیزده بدر) (literally: “to see off the thirteen”) by spending the day in nature (طبیعت).

4.7 Vocabulary

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meanings. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section as a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>bāzār</td>
<td>پزار</td>
<td>bazaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shāyad</td>
<td>شاید</td>
<td>maybe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>behtar</td>
<td>بهتر</td>
<td>better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>avval</td>
<td>اول</td>
<td>first</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.8 Grammar Point: Days of the Week, Months, and Seasons

The Iranian calendar is solar based, and consists of 365 days and 12 months. The week starts on Saturday, and Friday is a holiday. The first day of the each month usually falls on either the 20th or 21st of the Gregorian (i.e., Western) calendar. Practice reading the names of the days, months, and seasons in Farsi.

Days of the week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shanbeh</td>
<td>یکشنبه</td>
<td>Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yekshanbeh</td>
<td>یکشنبه</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doshanbeh</td>
<td>دوشنبه</td>
<td>Monday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seshanbeh</td>
<td>سه شنبه</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaharshanbeh</td>
<td>چهار شنبه</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panjshanbeh</td>
<td>پنج شنبه</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jomeh</td>
<td>جمعه</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Names of the months

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farvardin</td>
<td>فروردین</td>
<td>March-April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordibehesht</td>
<td>اردیبهشت</td>
<td>April-May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khordad</td>
<td>خرداد</td>
<td>May-June</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tir</td>
<td>تیر</td>
<td>June-July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Iranian poetry and songs are filled with allegories of bahār, not only as a reference to the rejuvenation of the natural world, but also to the rejuvenation of the person. The following is a poem (shear شعر) about bahār بهار which has been sung by some of Iran’s most famous singers, such as Banān بانان and Zanganeh زنگنه.

\[
\text{ta bahāre delneshin āmadeh sooye chaman} \\
\text{تا بهار دلنیشین آمده سوی چمن}
\]
\[
\text{Since the pleasant spring has settled down on the grass} \\
\text{ای بهار دلمشین آمده سوی چمن}
\]
\[
\text{ey bahār ārezo bar saram sāyeh fekan} \\
\text{ای بهار آرزو بر سرم سایه فکن}
\]
\[
\text{You, the spring of the desires, spread your shade on me} \\
\text{ای بهار آرزو بر سرم سایه فکن}
\]
\[
\text{chon nasime nou-bahār bar āshiānam kon gozar} \\
\text{چون نسمی نوبهار بر آشیانم کن گذر}
\]
\[
\text{Like the breeze of a new spring, visit my little nest home} \\
\text{که گلباران شود کله ویران مین}
\]
\[
\text{ta keh golbāran shaved kolbeyeh virāne man} \\
\text{تا که گلباران شود کلبه ویران مین}
\]
\[
\text{So my desolate hut can become a sea of flowers} \\
\text{ویران مین}
\]
1. Translate and write the following English words into Farsi.

   Example: week
   Answer : چهلم

   a. ________ Spring
   b. ________ season
   c. ________ day
   d. ________ today
   e. ________ Friday
   f. ________ mountain
   g. ________ city

2. The following phrases consist of the words you have already studied in this chapter. Read them and then translate them into English.

   میخواهم ببینم
   Answer : I want to see

   a. شاید باید بروم.
   b. خبی دوستش دارم.
   c. فکر میکنم.
   d. امشب میپرسم.
   e. بچه ها میاند.

3. Complete the following table by writing in either the English or Farsi days of the week.

   | Thursday | | 
   | Monday | | 
   | Friday | | 

   | شنبه | | 
   | سه شنبه | | 
   | چهارشنبه | | 
   | پنج شنبه | | 

4. Each of the following months falls during a specific season. Read the month and write down the name of the appropriate season in Farsi.
Responses to writing practice in section 4.5:

Words

a. کودک
b. مگر
c. زاله
d. کارگر
e. مزه
f. گذاز

g. سکر
h. زلزله
i. بذر
j. گچکار
k. گلهوره
مادر مادر شده است که خوشبختی که حالا شده است.

آقای دانیل بفرمایید کباب.

نوش جان دخترم. بزام بکش.

مری به عارف جان، خیلی خوردم.

پویا یک چیزی بکهور.

دیگه نمی‌خورم. سیر شدам.
In this chapter, we will learn five more new letters, and also study how to form imperatives in Farsi. The theme of this chapter is about dinner table customs, and giving and receiving souvenirs. As such we will discuss some of the expressions and formalities that people use on these occasions.

5.1 Conversation

(NC – Chapter 5, conversation)

Soghâti

Soupâti

Souvenirs

Nasrin’s parents, Mrs. and Mr. Rahmati, have invited Nasrin, Daniel, and Sara for dinner. Mrs. Rahmati has also asked Nasrin’s sister, Manijeh, and her family to join them at the dinner table. First, let’s learn the Farsi names of the characters of the story. In the dialogue sections of this and the following chapters, the names of the characters are written only in Farsi (the names in English have been omitted intentionally). This is to encourage you to recognize Farsi words. Before starting to read the dialogues, make sure you can recognize these names in Farsi.
Now, listen to the conversation. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text.

Māmān kholeshtet kheili khoshmazeh shodeh*.

Mom, your stew tastes wonderful.

Nooshe jān dokhtaram. Bāzam* bekesh.

Bon appétit my daughter. Have some more.

Āghāye Dāniel befarmāeed kabāb.

Mr. Daniel, help yourself to some kebab.
Merci pedar jān, kheili khordam.

Thanks dear father, I've already eaten a lot.

منیزه: آزاده جان به برادرت سالاد بده.

Dear Azadeh, give your brother some salad.

Pooya, yek chizi bekhor.

آزاده: پویا، یک چیزی بخور.

Pooya, eat something.

Digeh nemikhām*. Siir shodam.

پویا: دیگه، نمیخوام. سیر شدم.

I don't want anymore. I am full.

Bad az shām

بعد از شام

After dinner

Yek chizhāye nāghābeli barātoon* āvordim*.

نسرین: یک چیزهای ناقابلی برایون، آوردم.

We have brought everyone some small gifts

Nemikhāst zahmat bekeshid.

منیزه: نمی خواست زحمت بکشد.

You didn’t have to trouble yourself.

Māmān in lebās rā bepoosh.

نسرین: مامان این لباس را بیوش.

Mom, please wear this dress.

Ghorboone* dastet, dokhtaram.

خانم رحمتی: قربون دستت، دخترم.
God bless you, my daughter. (Literally: “I die for your hands, my daughter.”)

In dotâ kâdou ham barâye Āzadeh va Pooyâand*.

سارا: این دوتا کادوهم برای آزاده و پویا اند.
These two gifts are also for Azadeh and Pooya.

Biâyeed. Begireed.

سارا: بیایید. بگریبد.
Come [you all]. Take [you all]. Merci Sârâ Jân.

آزاده: مرسی سارا جان.
Thank you, dear Sara.

Manijeh jân, yek kiif barât* āvordam*.

نسرين: ميزيه جان یک كيف برات* اوردم*.
Dear Manijeh, I have brought you a purse.

Omidvâram ke doost dâshteh bâshi.

نسرين: اميدوارم كه دوست داشته باشي.
I hope that you like it.

Dastet dard nakoneh*.

منيژه: دستت درد نکنه*
Thanks for troubling yourself. (Literally: “May your hand never ache.”)

Beram* ājiil biâram* saremoon* garm besheh*.

خانم رحمتى: برئم* اجیل بیارم* سرمون* گرم بشه*.
I will go to get some dried mixed nuts so we won’t get bored. (Literally: “… bring dried mixed nuts so our head becomes busy.”)
The colloquial forms of the words (ماهوره اي mohāverei) in the Conversation have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used. Then, study the formal forms ( رسمي rasmi) to become familiar with the way you would address a person formally, or would find that word in a Farsi book or a newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formal</th>
<th>رسمی</th>
<th>Colloquial*</th>
<th>محاوره اي</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>shodeh ast</td>
<td>شده است</td>
<td>shodeh</td>
<td>شده</td>
<td>has become</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāz ham</td>
<td>باز هم</td>
<td>bāzam</td>
<td>بازم</td>
<td>again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>digar</td>
<td>دیگر</td>
<td>digeh</td>
<td>دیگه</td>
<td>anymore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nemikhāham</td>
<td>تمیخوام</td>
<td>nemikhām</td>
<td>I don't want</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barāyetān</td>
<td>برایتان</td>
<td>barātoon</td>
<td>براتون</td>
<td>for you (pl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>āvardehim</td>
<td>آورده ایم</td>
<td>āvordim</td>
<td>اورديم</td>
<td>we have brought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ghorbān</td>
<td>آورده ایم</td>
<td>ghorboon</td>
<td>اورديم</td>
<td>dear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Āzādeh va Pooyā hastand</td>
<td>آزاده و پویا-اند</td>
<td>They are Poya and Azadeh's.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>barāyat</td>
<td>برایت</td>
<td>barāt</td>
<td>برات</td>
<td>for you (sing.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>āvardeham</td>
<td>آورده ام</td>
<td>āvordam</td>
<td>اوردم</td>
<td>I have brought</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dard nakonad</td>
<td>درد نکند</td>
<td>dard nakoneh</td>
<td>درد نکنه</td>
<td>won't hurt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beravam</td>
<td>دروم</td>
<td>beram</td>
<td>برم</td>
<td>I go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>biāvaram</td>
<td>بیاورم</td>
<td>biāram</td>
<td>بیارم</td>
<td>I bring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>saremān</td>
<td>سرمان</td>
<td>saremoon</td>
<td>سرمنون</td>
<td>our head</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beshavad</td>
<td>بشود</td>
<td>besheh</td>
<td>بشه</td>
<td>become</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.3 Let's Talk

As we discussed in Chapter 2, تعارف tārof is an important feature of Iranian culture that is used to show respect and politeness toward others. تعارف is very often associated with specific words and expressions. This notion is especially more salient when giving orders or telling people what to do. For instance, in the conversation, when Mr. Rahmati wanted to tell Daniel to get more food, he said,

Āghāye Dāniel befarmāeed kabāb (Daniel, help yourself to some kabab).

Other polite expressions include khāhesh mikonam خواهش میکنم (I beg you or I ask you), lotfan لطفاً (please), Daste shomā dard nakoneh دست شما درد نکنه (literally: “Your hand won’t ache,” said to show appreciation for someone’s effort), and Ghorboone dastetoon دستتون قربون (literally: “I die for your hand,” said to show appreciation, especially when receiving a gift).

Now let us practice some of these expressions. Read and repeat to yourself the following sentences. The words in shade are all polite expressions.
a. Befarmāeed to. 

بفرمایید تو.

Please come on in.

b. Befarmāeed injā beshinid. 

بفرمایید اینجا بشینید.

Please sit here.

c. Dastetoon dard nakoneh, che ghazâye khoshmazieh! 

دستتون درد نکنه چه غذا خوشمزه!

Your hand won’t ache, what a great food it is!

d. Khāhesh mikonam, tārof nakonid. 

خواهش میکنم، تعارف نکنید.

I beg you, don’t make tarof (don’t be polite).

e. Dastetoon dard nakoneh, che mehmooni bāshekoohi! 

دستتون درد نکنه چه مهمونی باشکوهي!

Your hand won’t ache, what a magnificent party!

f. Ghorboone dastetoon, mishe lotfan oon daro bebandid. 

قربون دستتون میشه لطفاً اون درو ببنید.

I die for your hands, can you please shut the door.

5.4 The Letters Beh, Peh, Teh, Seh, Noon, and Shin

Now we will learn six new letters which are frequently used in Farsi. The first four letters are very similar in form, and only differ in their number of dots and whether the dots are placed over or under the letter.

■ The letter beh ب

The letter beh ب is pronounced like the “b” in the English word “boy.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter beh ب as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>بـ</td>
<td>بوس</td>
<td>boos</td>
<td>kiss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>بـ</td>
<td>قبل</td>
<td>ghabl</td>
<td>before</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>بـ</td>
<td>تب</td>
<td>tab</td>
<td>fever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>بـ</td>
<td>تاب</td>
<td>tāb</td>
<td>swing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The letter **peh** پ is pronounced like the “p” in the English word “pen.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter **peh** پ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>پر</td>
<td>پر</td>
<td>par</td>
<td>feather</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>سپر</td>
<td>سپر</td>
<td>separ</td>
<td>shield</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>چپ</td>
<td>چپ</td>
<td>chap</td>
<td>left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>توپ</td>
<td>توپ</td>
<td>toop</td>
<td>ball</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The letter **teh** ت  is pronounced like the “t” in the English word “tree.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter **teh** ت as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>تر</td>
<td>تر</td>
<td>tar</td>
<td>wet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>بهتر</td>
<td>بهتر</td>
<td>behtar</td>
<td>better</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>سخت</td>
<td>سخت</td>
<td>sakht</td>
<td>hard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>سوت</td>
<td>سوت</td>
<td>soot</td>
<td>whistle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The letter **seh** س is pronounced like the “s” in the English word “sand.” As mentioned before, there are four different letters in Farsi with the sound of the letter “s.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter **seh** س as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>نروت</td>
<td>نروت</td>
<td>servat</td>
<td>wealth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>کثیف</td>
<td>کثیف</td>
<td>kasif</td>
<td>dirty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>مکت</td>
<td>مکت</td>
<td>maks</td>
<td>pause</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>لوث</td>
<td>لوث</td>
<td>los</td>
<td>tainted</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter **beh** ب، and then write it again using a different placement of dots to form **peh** پ، **teh** ت، and finally **seh** س.
The letter noon ن

The letter noon ن is pronounced like the “n” in the English word “nice.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter noon ن as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>نـ</td>
<td>نمک</td>
<td>namak</td>
<td>salt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>نـ</td>
<td>تند</td>
<td>tond</td>
<td>fast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>نـ</td>
<td>سن</td>
<td>sen</td>
<td>age</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>نـ</td>
<td>جان</td>
<td>jän</td>
<td>life</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter noon ن.
The letter shin ش is pronounced like the “sh” in the English word “short.” For transliterations, we will use “sh” to denote the sound of the letter shin ش. The following table shows the four forms of the letter shin ش as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ش</td>
<td>شیر</td>
<td>shir</td>
<td>milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>شش</td>
<td>جشن</td>
<td>jashn</td>
<td>festivity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>شش</td>
<td>ریش</td>
<td>rish</td>
<td>beard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>شش</td>
<td>باش</td>
<td>bash</td>
<td>be</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter shin ش.

5.5 Let's Write

Now let’s combine the letters we have learned in this chapter with the letters you learned previously to create new words. First you have to figure out what form each letter must take, based on its placement in a word, and then you have to join the letters accordingly. An example has been provided.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letters in independent form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. شاد</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. ندر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. ندر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. ساکت</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.6 Cultural Insight

Sofreh
سفره
Tablecloth

Iranian homes are usually carpeted with beautiful hand-woven Persian rugs, or Farsh فرش, and all rooms are cleaned and swept with a broom or a vacuum cleaner on the daily basis. Because of this, people take off their shoes when entering a home. Similarly, in traditional homes, most activities are performed on the carpeted floors rather than on the seats, sofas, and dinner tables.

During mealtime, a tablecloth, or sofreh سفره, is usually spread over the carpet, and family members sit down on the floor to consume food (ghazā غذا). On a typical Iranian Sofreh سفره other than the main meal, one can find fresh noon نون (bread; formal nān), doogh دوغ (yogurt drink), and a combination of fresh herbs such as mint (nanā نعنا), basil (reyhān ريحان), and watercress (shāhi شاهي). These herbs are called sabzi khordan خوردن سبزی (literally: “edible herbs”). Iranians enjoy rice (berenj برنج) with different kinds of stews (khoresh) خورش as their main meal, depending on the region and ethnicity. Skewered meat (kabāb کباب) of all kinds is very popular and can be found on Iranian’s Sofreh سفره throughout the country.

Sofreh سفره also signifies an important cultural and spiritual quality for Iranian people. Many traditions and practices are associated around the concept of Sofreh سفره. For instance, Sofreh سفره is considered the place of barakat برك، the source of blessing or abundance. Children, for instance, are discouraged to jump over Sofreh سفره which is considered rude and disrespectful.
behavior. Occasionally, females give honor to *Islamic saints* (emanzādeh (آمام زاده) for a particular vow by throwing *shirīn* or *pastry* (shirīn (شیرینی) for other women, usually neighbors and close relatives. In this tradition, special *shirīn* (shirini (شيرینی) is served on *shirīn* (شیرینی) accompanied by prayers.

5.7 Vocabulary

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meanings. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section as a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>khoresht/khorosht</td>
<td>خورشت</td>
<td>stew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khoshmazeh</td>
<td>خوشمزه</td>
<td>delicious</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nooshe jān</td>
<td>نوش جان</td>
<td>bon appétit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bekesh</td>
<td>بکش</td>
<td>serve, pull</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>siir</td>
<td>سیر</td>
<td>full, garlic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shām</td>
<td>شام</td>
<td>dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nāghābel</td>
<td>ناقابل</td>
<td>trivial, trifle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>zahmat</td>
<td>زحمت</td>
<td>trouble, inconvenience</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lebās</td>
<td>لباس</td>
<td>dress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bepoosh</td>
<td>بپوش</td>
<td>wear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kādou</td>
<td>کادو</td>
<td>gift</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kiif</td>
<td>کیف</td>
<td>purse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dard</td>
<td>درد</td>
<td>pain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ājīl</td>
<td>آجیل</td>
<td>dried mixed nuts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>garm</td>
<td>گرم</td>
<td>hot</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.8 Grammar Point: Imperatives

Farsi infinitives add the ending *-dan* دَن (and occasionally *-tan* تَن) to the end of the verb, for instance, *khordan* خوردن (to eat). An imperative is formed by removing *-dan* دَن from the end of the verb, and by adding the letter “b” ب to its beginning. Therefore, the imperative of *khordan* is *bekhor* بخور (Eat!). The plural of the imperative is created by adding *-id* ید to the end of the singular imperative form: *bekhorid* بخورید (You all, eat!).

In order to create the negative form of the imperative, we just replace the letter “b” ب with the letter “n” ن for example *nahkor* نخور (Don't eat!), or *nakhorid* (You all, don't eat!). Some verbs are irregular.
Omar Khayyam \((1048–1131 \text{ AD})\)

The Persian mathematician, astronomer, and philosopher, Omar Khayyām \( عمر خیام\) is one of Iran’s most popular poets. His \( \text{robāiāt} \) (quatrains) verses are famous for their celebration of the mundane aspects of life (although many people believe that the mundane language of his poetry is only a metaphor for very profound Sufi spiritual beliefs). The following is one of his \( \text{robāiāt} \). First listen to the audio for pronunciation, and then try to understand the meaning of the words and expressions.

\[
\text{In yek do seh rooz nobate omr gozasht,}
\]
\[
\text{These two and three days of life have passed by,}
\]

\[
\text{Choon āb be jooybār-o choon bād be dasht.}
\]
\[
\text{Like water passing through a stream and wind though a meadow.}
\]

\[
\text{Hargez ghame do rooz ma ra yād nagasht.}
\]
\[
\text{I never reminded myself of the sorrow of two days.}
\]

\[
\text{Roozi ke nayāmadast-o roozi ke gozasht.}
\]
\[
\text{The day that has not come yet, and the day that just went by.}
\]

5.10 Exercises

1. Convert the following Farsi infinites into imperatives.

\begin{itemize}
  \item \text{Example:} خواندن
  \item \text{Answer:} بخوان
  \item a. \text{خوردن}
  \item b. \text{بردن}
  \item c. \text{ماندن}
  \item d. \text{رساندن}
\end{itemize}

2. Draw lines to match the transliterations of the following Farsi words with the Farsi script.

\[
\text{tamāsha}
\]
\[
\text{تنها}
\]
3. The following Farsi imperative sentences have been written using transliterations. Rewrite them using Farsi script.

Example: kabāb bekhor.
Answer: کباب بخور

a. Sālād biār. __________

b. Zahmat bekesh. __________

c. Lebās bepoosh. __________

d. Bāz kon. __________

e. Injā bemān. __________

f. Inrā bebar. __________

4. In the top row of the table below, fill in the missing words from lines of the poetry you read in this chapter. In the second row, fill in your guess as to the English meaning of the words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>يک</th>
<th>مرا</th>
<th>دو</th>
<th>هزگر</th>
<th>نگشت</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not reminded</td>
<td>day</td>
<td>sorrow</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Responses to writing practice in section 5.5:
a. شاد
b. بندر
c. پدر
d. ساکت
e. مثلث
f. نام
g. مثبت
h. نشستن
i. ثابت
j. منسوخ
k. تشکر
بپذیر، نمی‌خواهم دلار تبدیل کنم.

حساب کنید، چگونه ضرورت دارید.

متاوانیم یک حساب جاری هم باز کنیم؟

برای چه کاری ضرورت دارید؟

نرخ روزه دلار روزیه تابلو الام شده است.

میخوام پولمن را در این نگاه‌داری کنیم.

ریال یا دلار؟

پیشنهاد می‌کنم پاک‌تر باز کنید.

ریال.

باسبه، همین کار را می‌کنم.
In this chapter, you will be learning more Farsi letters, and you will also learn about shopping in Iran. You will also learn Farsi numbers as an important part of commerce.

6.1 Conversation

(CD – Chapter 6, conversation)
At the bank

Nasrin and Daniel need to stop at a bank and exchange some of their money into local currency. Listen to the conversation first. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text below.

**Dar bānk**

**At the bank**

Nasrin and Daniel need to stop at a bank and exchange some of their money into local currency. Listen to the conversation first. Then replay the audio, this time reading along with the text below.

**bānkdar**

بانکدار

teller

Dāniel injā dame bānk beist.

نتسرين: دانيل اينجا دم بانک بايست.

Daniel, park close to the bank.

Chi* ehtiāj dari?

دانيل: چی احتجاج داري؟

What do you need?

Bāyad kami az poolemān rā tabdil konim.

نتسرين: بايد كمي از پولمان را تبديل کنیم.

We must change some of our money.

Mitoonam* injā park konam*?

دانيل: ميتونيم، اينجا پارک كنم؟

Can I park here?

Injā tavagghhof mamnooeh*.

نتسرين: اينجا توقف ممنوعه.

Stopping is prohibited here.

Pas kojā beram*?

دانيل: پس كجا برم؟

So, where can I park?

Yek kami jolotar parkinge omoomi hast.

نتسرين: يك كمي جلوتر پارکينگ عمومي هست.

Further down, there's public parking.

Dar bānk

در بانک
At the bank

Bāyad berim* bājeh moāmelāte arzi.

We must go to the currency exchange booth.

Bebakhshid āghā, mā mikhāhim dolār tabdil konim.

Excuse me, Sir. We want to exchange some dollars.

Nerkhe rooze dolār rooye tāblo ealām shodeh ast.

Today's dollar rate is shown on the display.

Hesāb konid, cheghadr ehtiāj dārid.

Calculate how much you need.

Mitavānim yek hesābe jāri ham bāz konim?

Can we open a checking account as well?

Barāye che kāri ehtiāj dārid?

What do you need it for?

Mikhāhim poolemān rā dar ān negahdāri konim.

We want to keep some money in it.

Riāl ya dolār?

Rials or dollars?

Riāl.

Rials.

Pishnahād mikonom pasandāz baz konid.

I suggest you open a savings account.
6.2 Formal vs. Colloquial: Words from the Conversation

The colloquial forms of the words (ماهوره آی mohāverei) in the Conversation have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used. Then, study the formal forms (رسمی rasmi) to become familiar with the way you would address a person formally, or would find that word in a Farsi book or a newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formal</th>
<th>رسمی</th>
<th>Colloquial*</th>
<th>محاوره آی</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cheh</td>
<td>جه</td>
<td>chi</td>
<td>جی</td>
<td>what</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitavānam</td>
<td>میتوانم</td>
<td>mitoonam</td>
<td>میتومن</td>
<td>I can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bekonam</td>
<td>بکنم</td>
<td>konam</td>
<td>کنم</td>
<td>I do</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mammoo ast</td>
<td>ممنوع است</td>
<td>mammooeh</td>
<td>ممنوعه</td>
<td>is prohibited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beravam</td>
<td>بروم</td>
<td>beram</td>
<td>برم</td>
<td>I go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beravim</td>
<td>برویم</td>
<td>berim</td>
<td>بریم</td>
<td>we go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāshad</td>
<td>باشد</td>
<td>bāsheh</td>
<td>باشه</td>
<td>let it be</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.3 Let's Talk

In the conversation, Daniel said to Nasrin,

"Mitoonam injā park konam? (Can I park here?)"

The first word in this sentence is the first person of the modal verb tavānestan (can). The following table shows the conjugation of this modal verb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration (formal/informal)</th>
<th>Farsi (formal/informal)</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>mitavānam/mitoonam</td>
<td>میتوانم/میتونم</td>
<td>I can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitavāni/mitooni</td>
<td>میتوانی/میتونی</td>
<td>you can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitavānad/mitooneh</td>
<td>میتوانند/میتونه</td>
<td>he/she/it can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitavānim/mitoonim</td>
<td>میتوانیم/میتونیم</td>
<td>we can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitavānid/mitoonid</td>
<td>میتوانند/میتونند</td>
<td>you (pl.) can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mitavānand/mitoonand</td>
<td>میتوانند/میتونند</td>
<td>they can</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now let us practice making simple sentences using this modal. First read the transliteration aloud while paying attention to the meaning of the expression. Then practice reading the Farsi script. The words in shade show the different forms of
tavānestan (can).

a. Mitoonam beram?
   (Formal: Mitavānam beravam?)
   میتونم برم؟
   Can I go?

b. Mitoonid behem komak konid?
   (Formal: Mitavānid beman komak konid?)
   میتونید بهم کمک کنید؟
   Can you help me?

c. Nemitooneh biad injā.
   (Formal: Nemitavānd biāyad injā.)
   نمیتونه بیاد اینجا.
   He/She/It cannot come here.

d. Mitoonand be man begand.
   (Formal: Mitavānand be man begoyand.)
   میتونند بمن بگند.
   They can tell me.

e. Mitoonim behet telefon konim.
   (Formal: Mitavānim be to telefon konim.)
   میتونیم بهت تلفن کنیم.
   We can call you.

f. Mitoonid pisham bemonid?
   (Formal: Mitavānid pishe man bemanid?)
   میتونید پیشتم بمونید؟
   Can you stay with me? (Here, “you” can be taken as either the plural you, or the formal singular you.)

6.4 The Letters Feh, Ghāf, Eyn, Gheyn, and Heh

Now we will learn five new Farsi letters. While reading and writing these letters, pay special attention whether a letter has a dot or dots, and if so where these are placed.

■ The letter feh ف

The letter feh ف is pronounced like the “f” in the English word “fan.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter feh ف as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.
Now practice writing the four forms of the letter feh ﬀ.

The letter ghāf ق is pronounced similarly to the French “r.” The Conversation in this chapter (and also previous chapters) have many instances of the use of the letter ghāf ق , for example in the word tava gh of . Listen again to the audio of the Conversations and look for words containing this letter. Try to replicate the sound as closely as you can. The following table shows the different forms of the letter ghāf ق as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ﺛ</td>
<td>قاضى</td>
<td>ghāzi</td>
<td>judge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>ﺛ</td>
<td>نقاد</td>
<td>naghd</td>
<td>cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ﺛ</td>
<td>عشق</td>
<td>esgh</td>
<td>love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ﺛ</td>
<td>بوچ</td>
<td>boogh</td>
<td>horn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter ghāf ق.
The letter eyn ی
In Farsi, the letter eyn ی is pronounced like the letter ی ("a" as in "apple" or "tall"), which we studied in Chapter 1. This letter is from Arabic, and is pronounced differently in that language. The following table shows the different forms of the letter eyn ی as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>یعلم</td>
<td>علم</td>
<td>aelm</td>
<td>science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>یبعد</td>
<td>بعد</td>
<td>baed</td>
<td>then/next</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ینفع</td>
<td>نفع</td>
<td>nafea</td>
<td>profit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>یابداغ</td>
<td>ابداع</td>
<td>ebdāa</td>
<td>innovation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The letter gheyn غ
The letter gheyn غ is pronounced like ق (i.e., it sounds like the French "r"), which we just studied. The following table shows the different forms of the letter gheyn غ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>غغرب</td>
<td>غرب</td>
<td>gharb</td>
<td>west</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>غبغال</td>
<td>بغلال</td>
<td>baghal</td>
<td>embrace/side</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>غبیغ</td>
<td>بیغ</td>
<td>jigh</td>
<td>scream</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>غباغ</td>
<td>باغ</td>
<td>bāgh</td>
<td>garden</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter eyn ی, and then place one dot over the letter to convert eyn ی into gheyn غ.
The letter heh ٰ

The letter heh ٰ is pronounced like the “h” in the English word “home,” like the letter heh چ which we studied in Chapter 2. To avoid confusion, چ is called heh jimi چ جیمی, and ٰ is called heh docheshm ٰ دو چشم (“the heh with two eyes”). The following table shows the different form of the letter heh ٰ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ھ</td>
<td>هوُا</td>
<td>havā</td>
<td>air</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>بھار</td>
<td>bahār</td>
<td></td>
<td>spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>مهُ</td>
<td>meh</td>
<td></td>
<td>fog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ماهُ</td>
<td>māḥ</td>
<td></td>
<td>moon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Now practice writing the four forms of the letter heh ٰ.
6.5 Let's Write

In previous chapters, we learned how to join letters to form Farsi words. In this chapter, we will take the bigger step of constructing simple phrases and sentences. As you have already learned the hardest part, making sentences should not be very difficult.

Farsi belongs to an Indo-European family of languages and, as such, its grammar is not that different than the English grammar. However, unlike English sentences which use the Subject-Verb-Object word order, formal sentences in Farsi use the Subject-Object-Verb word order. For example, in English we might say, “I bought a book.” In this sentence, “I” is the subject, “bought” is the verb, and “book” is the object. In Farsi, the object and the verb are reversed, so we say,  *

`Man yek ketāb kharidam`

(literally: “I a book bought”).

Let us now write some simple sentences using Farsi words. In the following, you will see some Farsi words that have been mixed up. Rearrange them into grammatically correct sentences and write them out in Farsi.

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Correct order</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. khāneh kharid āghâye shokri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Man dādam pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Ali tamās gereft bā man</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Shirāz mirim mā</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.6 Cultural Insight

**Takhfif Gereftan**

*Bargaining*

Like people in many Middle Eastern countries, Iranians love to bargain, a cultural practice called  *

`takhfif gereftan`

Shoppers negotiate for the price of almost all  *

`kālā` *(goods)*. There are, however, some exceptions. For
instance, the price (gheymat قیمت) of bread (nān نان), gasoline (benzin بنزین), tickets (belit بلیط) (for buses, trains, events, etc.) and many other services (khadamāt خدمات) cannot be negotiated.

Store-owners are used to bargaining with their customers (moshtari مشتری), and have developed many skills to gently thwart their customer’s plea to bring down the قیمت. For example, when a مشتری insists on a lower قیمت، the vendor may say, “Ghābele shomāro nadāreh” قابل شما رو نداره (literally: “It is not your worthwhile,” which means that they may as well just take it as a gift). Of course, a مشتری is aware that such offers are only customary and are never intended to be taken literally. So, the مشتری may respond by saying, “Sāhebesh ghābel dāreh” صاحب کنید قابل داره (literally: “Its owner is worthy,” which denotes that they would not take it from him for free). After a long exchange, the مشتری and the vendor (forooshandeh فروشنده) will finally reach an agreement for the قیمت of the کالا.

6.7 Vocabulary

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meaning. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section as a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section. Pay special attention to the new letters you learned in this chapter to make sure that you learn to pronounce them correctly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>beist</td>
<td>بایست</td>
<td>stop, park, standup (imperative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ehtiāj</td>
<td>احتیاج</td>
<td>need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kami</td>
<td>کمی</td>
<td>a little, some</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tabdil</td>
<td>تبدیل</td>
<td>change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tavaghof mamnoo</td>
<td>توفیق ممنوع</td>
<td>no parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>jolotar</td>
<td>جلوتر</td>
<td>further down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>omoomi</td>
<td>عمومی</td>
<td>public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bājeh</td>
<td>بابه</td>
<td>booth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>moāmelāte arzi</td>
<td>معاملات ارزی</td>
<td>currency exchange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nerkh</td>
<td>نرخ</td>
<td>rate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tāblo</td>
<td>تابلو</td>
<td>display, sign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ealām shodeh</td>
<td>اعلان شده</td>
<td>has been announced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hesāb konid</td>
<td>حساب کنید</td>
<td>count, calculate (imperative)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hesābe jari</td>
<td>حساب جاری</td>
<td>checking account</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negahdāri</td>
<td>نگهداری</td>
<td>keep, save, protect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pishnahād</td>
<td>پیشنهاد</td>
<td>suggestion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hesābe pasandāz</td>
<td>حساب پس انداز</td>
<td>savings account</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.8 Grammar Point: Farsi Numbers

The following table shows the Farsi cardinal numbers (plural: **aadād** اعداد; singular: **adad** عدد). Read through these and practice the way they are written in Farsi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number in</th>
<th>Pronounced as</th>
<th>Written as</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farsi</td>
<td>English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>sefr</td>
<td>صفر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>yek</td>
<td>یک</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>do</td>
<td>دو</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>seh</td>
<td>سه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>chāhār</td>
<td>چهار</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>panj</td>
<td>پنج</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>shish</td>
<td>شش</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>haft</td>
<td>هفته</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>hasht</td>
<td>هشت</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>noh</td>
<td>نه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>dah</td>
<td>ده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>yāzdah</td>
<td>ایزده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>davāzdah</td>
<td>دووازده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>sızdah</td>
<td>سیزده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>chāhārdah</td>
<td>چهارده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>pānzdah</td>
<td>پانزده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>shānzdah</td>
<td>شانزده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>hevdah</td>
<td>هفده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>hijdah</td>
<td>هجده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>noozdah</td>
<td>نوزده</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>bist</td>
<td>بیست</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>bist-o-yek</td>
<td>بیست و یک</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>bist-o-do</td>
<td>بیست و دو</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>bist-o-seh</td>
<td>بیست و سه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>bist-o-chāhār</td>
<td>بیست و چهار</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>bist-o-panj</td>
<td>بیست و پنج</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>bist-o-shish</td>
<td>بیست و شش</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>bist-o-haft</td>
<td>بیست و هفته</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>bist-o-hasht</td>
<td>بیست و هشت</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>bist-o-noh</td>
<td>بیست و نه</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
6.9 Zarbol masal (Proverb) of the Day

(CE – Chapter 6, literature)

Ādame khoshhesāb sharike māle mardome.

The person who is honest in dealing with money is a partner to everyone’s wealth.

Like the people in many traditional societies that lack modern credit institutions, Iranians for the most part must rely on someone’s honor when engaging in business (kasb) transactions such as delivery of goods (kālā) or expecting payment (vajh). Although in big cities such as Tehran, this honor may not be kept by some individuals, still most wholesale business transactions are still performed with personal credentials and verbal promises.

When initiating a business transaction, Iranians use the above proverb to remind one another of long-term benefits of honesty in trade (tejārat).

6.10 Exercises

1. Combine the following letters to make complete words.

Example: مغاسژ
Answer: مغاسژ

2. Using vocabulary from the Conversation, translate the following expression from English into Farsi.

20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>30</th>
<th>40</th>
<th>chehel</th>
<th>chehel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>panjāh</td>
<td>panjāh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>shast</td>
<td>shast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>haftād</td>
<td>haftād</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>si</td>
<td>navad</td>
<td>navad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>sad</td>
<td>sad</td>
<td>sad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>110</td>
<td>sad-o-dah</td>
<td>sad-o-dah</td>
<td>sad-o-dah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Combine the following letters to make complete words.

a. گر س
b. قانون

c. 

d. یهم

e. باغ

f. 

g. قاق ق
a. How much do you need?
__________________________________________________________

b. This isn’t a public parking.
__________________________________________________________

c. We want to go further down.
__________________________________________________________

d. Where has it been announced?
__________________________________________________________

3. Look at the table of Farsi numbers (pages 118–120), and write the following numbers in Farsi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Example: 32</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Answer: 3٢</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>6٩</td>
<td>d.</td>
<td>4٠</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>٥٥</td>
<td>e.</td>
<td>١٩٨</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>٩٩</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. How would you say the following in Farsi, if you were in a bank in Iran and speaking to a teller?

a. I want to open a checking account.
__________________________________________________________

b. What is the exchange rate for dollars?
__________________________________________________________

c. What do you recommend, a checking account or a savings account?
__________________________________________________________

d. Where is the exchange currency booth?
__________________________________________________________

Responses to writing practice in section 6.5:

1. آقای شکری خانه خرید

2. من پول دادم

3. علی با من نمی‌گرفت

4. ما شیراز میریم
صرا ان خانومه داره‌ه به همه هلواء تاروف مکونه؟

بهش میزان نازره.

بیاد حتمان هلواء باشه؟

رسم اسک فامیله‌یه نازک باریه مرعی‌نهشون نازره بنده.

نا، وال مولان یا هلواست یا شیرینی یا خرم، یا میوه.

می‌ینام که ادمه ساره‌ه شابر خیلی گریه‌ه‌و زیر می‌کنند.

ایه، ایرانی‌ه خیلی گام او غوسه مرعی‌به‌سهوون میکورند.

البته، شاید بنزار تازه‌ر بیاد، وال ایگه‌ی اس.
In this chapter, you will learn the last four Farsi letters and two special diacritical marks. In the Grammar section, we will study how to make past tense sentences. Additionally, we will discuss some particular ways in which emotions are expressed in Iranian culture. Daniel is surprised to find out that mourners offer Halva, a pastry made of flour, sugar, rosewater, and saffron to people in the cemetery, in the memory of their dead ones.

7.1 Conversation

(CD – Chapter 7, conversation)
The Paradise family has traveled to Mashhad, Iran’s second largest city after the capital Tehran, where Nasrin visits the graveyard of her grandmother in Beheshte Rezā cemetery.

Yādam miād* ke ghabresh dar ghateh chahār bood.

I remember that her grave was in Section Four.

Cherā in khānoome dāreh* be hame halvā tārof mikoneh*?

Why is this lady offering halva to everyone?

Behesh migan* Nazri.

They call it “Nazri” (a religious offering).

Rasm ast ke fāmilhāye nazik barāye mordegāneshoon* nazri bedan*.

It’s a custom for close relatives to offer “Nazri” to people in memory of their dead.

Bāyad hatman halvā bāsheh*?

Does it have to be halva?
Na, vali mamolan yā halvāst* yā shirini yā khormā, yā miveh.

No, but often it’s halva, pastry, dates, or fruit.

Mibinam ke ādamhā sare ghabr khylī gerye o zāri mikonand.

I see that people cry and sob a lot at the graves.

Āreh, Irānihā khyli gham o ghosseh mordehāshoono* mikhorand.

Yes, Iranians grieve and lament a lot for their dead ones.

Albateh, shāyad in benazar tazahor biād*, vali vāgheiy ast.

Of course, it may seem like pretend, but it’s real.

Nasrin va Dāniel be didār marghad Emām Rezā miravand.

Nasrin and Daniel visit the mausoleum of Imam Reza.

Emām Rezā ki bood? Khyli marghad bāshokōohi dāreh*.

Who was Imam Reza? He has a magnificent mausoleum.

Emāme hashtome shiayān hast. Diin bishtare irānihā shiia hast.

He is Shia’s eighth Imam. Shia is the most popular Iranian religious group.

Agar che Irān khyli aghaliat hāye mazhabi dāreh*.

Iran also has many other minority religious groups.

Mesl chi*?

Such as?

Mesl sonni, masihi, kalimi, bahā’i, va zartoshti.

Such as Sunni, Christian, Jewish, Baha’i, and Zoroastrian.

Chera Emām Rezā dar Irān mordeh*?
7.2 Formal vs. Colloquial: Words from the Conversation

The colloquial forms of the words (محاوره ای) in the Conversation have been marked with an asterisk (*). While reading the conversation, consider the context in which a colloquial word has been used. Then, study the formal forms (رسمی) to become familiar with the way you would address a person formally, or would find that word in a Farsi book or a newspaper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formal</th>
<th>رسمی</th>
<th>محاوره ای</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>miāyad</td>
<td>میايد</td>
<td>miād</td>
<td>he/she comes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dārad</td>
<td>دارد</td>
<td>dāreh</td>
<td>he/she has</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mikonad</td>
<td>میکنه</td>
<td>mikoneh</td>
<td>he/she does</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>migoyand</td>
<td>میگین</td>
<td>migan</td>
<td>they say</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mordegāneshān</td>
<td>مردگانشنان</td>
<td>mordegāneshoon</td>
<td>their dead’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bedahand</td>
<td>بدن</td>
<td>bedan</td>
<td>they give</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bāshad</td>
<td>باشند</td>
<td>bāsheh</td>
<td>to be</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>halvā ast</td>
<td>حلوا است</td>
<td>havlāst</td>
<td>is halva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mordehāshōno</td>
<td>مردهاشوئو</td>
<td>mordehāshoon</td>
<td>their dead’s + ra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>benazar biāyad</td>
<td>بنظر بیاید</td>
<td>benazar biād</td>
<td>it appears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mordeh ast</td>
<td>مرده است</td>
<td>mordeh</td>
<td>has died</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7.3 Let’s Talk

As you have seen throughout this book, the expression of emotion is a significant aspect of Iranian culture, and this is profoundly reflected in many languages spoken by the Iranian people, including Farsi. In the following, first we will introduce some common ways to express emotions, and explain their meanings. Then we will practice using these expressions. When practicing, first read the transliteration aloud while paying attention to the meaning of the expression. Then read the expression aloud again, using only the Farsi script.

a. Vāstādan ghalb ُliterally means “a standing-still heart” (vāstādan to stand up + ghalb heart). These words refer to an experience of overwhelming emotion, which could be either happiness or fear.

Az khoshhāli nazdik bood ghalbam vāsteh.
From happiness, my heart almost stopped beating.

b. Shoor zadan ُliterally means “to hit salty” (shoor salty + zadan to hit). These words refer to an experience of anxiety, when one is extremely worried about someone else who is not present.

Khyli delam shoor mizaneh. Panj sāateh ke rafte biroon barnagashteh.
I am very anxious. He/she has left five hours ago and has not come back yet.

c. Ābero bordan ُmeans to be disgraced by actions of others. Ābro means respect or honor, and bordan means to carry, which is basically losing one’s honor or respect.

Bachehām āberoome jolye mehmonā bordand.
My children made me feel so ashamed in front of the guests.

d. Del sokhtan ُliterally means “to have a burnt heart” (del heart or stomach + sokhtan to burn). These words signify that one is in such a state of empathy for another person that his or her heart is burning in pain.

Bichāreh, delam barāsh misoozeh. Khyli tanhāst.
Poor thing, I am so moved for him/her. He/she is so lonely.

e. Khoon bejoosh āmadan ُliterally means “to have the blood boiled” (khoon blood + joosh āmadan to boil). These words signify a situation in which a person is extremely furious and enraged with anger.

Anghadr aziat kard ke khoonam bejoosh āmad.
He/she bothered us so much that he/she brought my blood to the boiling point.

f. **To khod bodan** تو خود بودن literally means “being inside one’s own body.” The expression refers to a situation in which one is very withdrawn and pensive.

*Khyli* to khodeti. *Ye harfi bezan!*

\[
\text{خیلی تو خودتی، یه حرفی بزن!}
\]

*You are so uptight. Say something!*

### 7.4 The Diacritical Marks *Tashdid* and *Tanvin*; and the Letters *Sād*, *Zād*, *Tā*, and *Za¯*

Now we will learn two Farsi diacritical marks which you might have encountered before. Additionally, we will learn the last four letters of the Farsi alphabet. These letters have an Arabic origin and are less frequently used in ordinary Farsi. However, it is essential to learn them in order to read and write Farsi fluently.

#### The diacritical mark *tashdid* ۶

In Farsi, sometimes letters are repeated in a word. In such occasions, we write that letter only once, and then place a *tashdid* above it. This is done to remind the reader that that letter has to be pronounced twice or with emphasis. In this chapter you saw several instances of the *tashdid*. The following table shows how *tashdid* is used in some words. Learn the diacritical mark, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word. In the first column, you will see how a word would have looked like if it did not have a *tashdid*, and in the second column you will see the word the way it is actually written in Farsi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word without tashdid</th>
<th>Word with tashdid</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>بچه</td>
<td>بچّه</td>
<td>bachcheh</td>
<td>child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>قصّه</td>
<td>قصّه</td>
<td>ghesseh</td>
<td>story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>مضّر</td>
<td>مضّر</td>
<td>mozzer</td>
<td>harmful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>امّا</td>
<td>امّا</td>
<td>ammā</td>
<td>but</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### The diacritical mark *tanvin* ۷

Some Farsi adverbs have an ending that consists of an *aleph* ۷ with two strikes above it. The two strikes are called the *tanvin* ۷. In Farsi, the *tanvin* is only used above the letter *aleph*, giving it the pronunciation of “an” like in the English word “artisan.” In Arabic, the *tanvin* is used for other letters and has other functions. You have seen many instances of the *tanvin* in previous chapters, and may have wondered what it was. Now you know this diacritical mark, and how to pronounce it. The following table shows how *tanvin* is used in some words. Learn the diacritical mark, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word. In the first column, you will see how a word would have looked like if it did not have a *tanvin*, and in the second column, you will see the word the way it is actually written in Farsi.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word without tanvin</th>
<th>Word with tanvin</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ظاهرن</td>
<td>ظاهرّان</td>
<td>zāheran</td>
<td>apparently</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Notice that the word jeddan جدًا has both a tashdid and a tanvin.

Occasionally writers omit or forget to place either a tanvin or a tashdid where they should be. However, as a reader, you need to recognize that a word has to have these diacritical marks and pronounce the words accordingly.

Now practice writing the diacritical marks tashdid and tanvin on the following lines.

■ The letter sād ص

In Farsi, the letter sād ص is pronounced like the “s” in the English word “sand.” You may remember that we had two other letters, sin س and se س، which have this same pronunciation. The following table shows the different forms of the letter sād ص as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>صد</td>
<td>صبح</td>
<td>sobh</td>
<td>morning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>صد</td>
<td>قصّه</td>
<td>ghesseh</td>
<td>story</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ص</td>
<td>نص</td>
<td>nas</td>
<td>text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ص</td>
<td>خاص</td>
<td>khās</td>
<td>special</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

■ The letter zād ض

The letter zād ض is pronounced like the “z” in the English word “zebra.” Two other letters, ze ز and zal ژ، have already been introduced which have this same pronunciation, and you will soon learn yet one other letter which is pronounced with the “z” sound. The following table shows the different forms of the letter zād ض as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ضد</td>
<td>ضعيف</td>
<td>zaeef</td>
<td>weak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>ضد</td>
<td>مضّر</td>
<td>mozzer</td>
<td>harmful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ض</td>
<td>بغض</td>
<td>boghz</td>
<td>choked with sorrow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now practice writing the four forms of the letter sād ص. Then add a dot above the letters to convert them into zād.

---

■ The letter tā ﺕ

In Farsi, the letters tā ﺕ and te ﺕ have the same pronunciations, which is like the “t” in the word “Turkey.” The following table shows the different forms of the letter tā ﺕ as it is used in words. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>As in</th>
<th>Pronounced</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial</td>
<td>ﺕ</td>
<td>عاطفه</td>
<td>ātefeh</td>
<td>affection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medial</td>
<td>ﺕ</td>
<td>خط‌ها</td>
<td>khatā</td>
<td>error</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final</td>
<td>ﺕ</td>
<td>خط‌ها</td>
<td>khat</td>
<td>line/script</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>ﺕ</td>
<td>لاط</td>
<td>lāt</td>
<td>rogue person</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: The word lāt ﺖ can also be written as لاط.

■ The letter zā ﺚ

The letter zā ﺚ is pronounced like the “z” in the English word “zoo,” as are the letters ze ﺞ , zāl ﺕ , and zād ض. Learn the letter, practice the pronunciation, and remember the meaning of each word.

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Now practice writing the four forms of the letter tā ۰، and then place one dot over the letters to convert them into zā ۳.

7.5 Let's Write

In the previous chapter, we wrote simple sentences by combining subjects, objects, and verbs. In this chapter, we will extend the writing practice by adding two more components—adjectives and adverbs.

Unlike in English, Farsi adjectives come after the noun they modify. For example, “a red ball” is written “the ball red,” or toope ghermez نوب قرمز in Farsi (tope means the ball and ghermez means red). On the other hand, adverbs almost always come before the adjective they modify. Hence, we write:

besār khoob بسیار خوب very good, khyli ghashang خیلی قشنگ very beautiful, and kāmelan jadid کاملاً جدید totally new or brand new.

Let us now write some simple sentences using Farsi words. In the following, you will see some Farsi words that have been mixed up. Rearrange them into grammatically correct sentences and write them out in Farsi. An example is given.

Example:

Qeshongi

Ghashangi

Beautiful

kharidand

bought

لباس

lebās

dress

آنها

ānhā

they

Khīli

khyli

very

Answer: 

آنها لباس خیلی قشنگی خریدند.
1. 

gerān hotel ast 

expensive hotel is

2. 

khylī ast bachēh khoobi oo

very is child good he

3. 

jadīd kharīdand māchīn kāmelān ānḥā yek

new bought car totally they one

4. 

Ghazāye-to ast khoshmazeh khylī

your food is tasty very

5. 

ast ghaddesh kootāh kyli

is his/her height short very

7.6 Cultural Insight

Āb o māb

آب و ماب

Water and “Matter”

Farsi is filled with poetry (shear شعر). Farsi speakers change their speech using intonation, stress, and many forms of repetition (tekrār تکرار) in order to sound melodic. The poetry of speech in Farsi functions to influence listeners emotionally. Unlike many Western traditions (rosoome gharbi رسوم غربي), in which the label “emotional” usually carries a negative connotation, in Iranian culture, ādame bā ehsās آدم با احساس (an emotional person) is someone who has a superior way of viewing and interacting with the world.

Farsi speakers use many forms of تکرار and alliteration to achieve شعر in speech. For instance, it is very common to use
several adjectives (singular *seffat* صفت ; plural *seffāt* صفات) in tandem in one sentence (*jomleh جمله*), especially adjectives that have similar sounds or that rhyme. For example, in the Conversation section, Daniel used the words *geryeh o zāri* (cry and sob) and Nasrin used the expression *gham o ghosseh* (grieve and lament) to the same effect. Another common practice of Farsi speakers is the use of a noun (*esm اسم*) or a similar-sounding token word (*loghat لغت*) next to it. This token word does not have any meaning at all. For example, in the phrase *āb o māb*, *āb* means water, but *māb* has absolutely no meaning at all. It is used merely to make the talk more melodic.

### 7.7 Vocabulary

In this section, read the words in Farsi and memorize their meanings. Then play back the audio and check your pronunciation. You can use this section as a reference if you have a question about the meaning of the words in the Conversation section. Pay special attention to the new letters you learned in this chapter so that you learn to pronounce them correctly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>yādam miād</td>
<td>پیاده میاد</td>
<td><em>I remember</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ghabr</td>
<td>قبر</td>
<td><em>grave</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ghateh</td>
<td>قطعه</td>
<td><em>section, piece, part</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>halvā</td>
<td>حلوا</td>
<td><em>a sweet made with flour</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nazri</td>
<td>نذری</td>
<td><em>offering</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rasm</td>
<td>رسم</td>
<td><em>custom</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mamolan</td>
<td>معمولًا</td>
<td><em>usually</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>shirini</td>
<td>شیرینی</td>
<td><em>pastry</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>khormā</td>
<td>خرما</td>
<td><em>dates</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>miveh</td>
<td>میوه</td>
<td><em>fruit</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gerye</td>
<td>گریه</td>
<td><em>cry</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gham</td>
<td>غم</td>
<td><em>sadness, grieve</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tazāhor</td>
<td>تظاهر</td>
<td><em>pretense</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vāgheiy</td>
<td>واقعی</td>
<td><em>real</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>marghad</td>
<td>مرقد</td>
<td><em>mausoleum</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hashtom</td>
<td>هشتم</td>
<td><em>eighth</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shia</td>
<td>شیعه</td>
<td><em>a branch of Islam</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aghaliat</td>
<td>اقلیت</td>
<td><em>minority</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mazhab</td>
<td>مذهب</td>
<td><em>religion</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonni</td>
<td>سنی</td>
<td><em>a branch of Islam</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Masihi</td>
<td>مسیحی</td>
<td><em>Christian</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalimi</td>
<td>کالیمی</td>
<td><em>Jewish</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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7.8 Grammar Point

Zamāne gozashdeh

Zمان گذشته

The Past Tense

Farsi infinitives end in either -dan دن or -tan تن, for example raftan رفتن (to go) or khor dan خوردن تن (to eat). The simple past tense is constructed by dropping the -an of the infinitive, and by adding a personal pronoun ending. The six endings are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular pronouns</th>
<th>Plural pronouns</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>-am (I)</td>
<td>-im (we)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-i (you sing.)</td>
<td>-id (you pl.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n/a (he, she, it)</td>
<td>-and (they)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that the third person singular has no ending.

For example, for the past tense of the verb raftan رفتن (to go), first we drop the -an ن to form the root raft رفت. Then, we add an ending corresponding to the person of the verb.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>raftam (I went)</th>
<th>raftim (we went)</th>
<th>raftid (you went [pl.])</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>رفتام</td>
<td>رفتیم</td>
<td>رفتید</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Similarly, we can turn the verb khordan خوردن (to eat) to the past tense by dropping the -an ن and adding personal endings as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>khordam (I ate)</th>
<th>khordim (we ate)</th>
<th>khordi (you ate [sing.])</th>
<th>khordid (you ate [pl.])</th>
<th>khord (he/she/it ate)</th>
<th>khordand (they ate)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>خوردم</td>
<td>خوردم</td>
<td>خوردي</td>
<td>خوردي</td>
<td>خورد</td>
<td>خورند</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 7.9 Expression of the Day

(OD – Chapter 7, literature)

"Elāhi bemiram"

"In God’s name, I die"

In previous chapters, we talked how some Farsi expressions may seem like exaggeration (eghrāgh اغراق) to people in other cultures. The expression elāhi bemiram آلی بیامرم (In God’s name, I die) is one of these.

For example, you can use this statement when seeing a relative’s baby. On this occasion, saying elāhi bemiram آلی بیامرم or elāhi bemiram barāt آلی بیامرم برانت (In God’s name, I die for you) has an endearing (aziz kardan عزیز کردن) effect. You can also use this expression to show sympathy (hamdardi همداری) when you see a friend or a child getting hurt. Occasionally (gahgah گهگاه), you can even use it to show sincere regret (taesof تاسف) when you have caused emotional turmoil to someone you care about.

### 7.10 Exercises

1. Rewrite the following words using tashdid.

Example: مجردرد

Answer: مجردرد

| a. غصننه |
| b. نوواب |
| c. سرر |
| d. اتفاق |
| e. قوتت |

2. Rewrite the following words using tanvin.
3. Name some of Iran’s minority religious groups.

4. Convert the following verbs into the past tense, using all six of the personal endings.

Example: مانند
Answer: مانند مانند مانند مانند مانند مانند مانند

a. ________________________ پوشیدن
b. ________________________ درست کردن
c. ________________________ بالا رفتن
d. ________________________ پوشیدن

e. ________________________ خاراندن

Responses to writing practice in section 7.5:

آنها لیاس خیلی قشنگی خریدند.

1. هتل گران است.
2. او بچه خیلی خوبی است.
3. آنها یک ماشین کاملاً جدید خریدند.
4. غذا توهیل خوش‌مزه است.
5. قدیش خیلی کوتاه است.
**Answer Key**

**Chapter 1**
1) 32
2) Initial, medial, final, and independent; د س ن هم دم
3) It literally means “my life, Daniel,” but it has a similar meaning to the English “dear Daniel.”
4)
5) a. اسم 
   b. ل
   c. ل
   d. سنال
   e. مال
   f. مال
   (Your transliterations may be somewhat different than those here. Don’t worry about it now. Later you will learn that some of the short vowels in Farsi are not written but have to be guessed.)
6) Formal: Chetor hastid? Informal: Chetori?
7) a. مادر کجاست? or مادر کو؟
   b. مادر بزرگ جون or مادر بزرگ چاه
   c. In Dânieleh? or In Dâniel hast?
   d. Dokhtaram Farsi harf mizaneh or Dokhtaram Farsi harf mizanad
   e. Dâniel o Sârâ dârand miând or Dâniel va Sârâ dârand miâyand

**Chapter 2**
1) ا او، ما، چه ای من، تو (1)
2) Singular to تو and plural shomā شمā. Shomā شمā is also commonly used as a polite form of “you” when addressing one person.
3)
4) a. حال
   b. jesm
   c. jâm
   d. kham
   e. māl
   f. sāl
   g. semej
   h. khām
   i. mokh
   j. chāl
   (Do not be disappointed if some of your responses are wrong. The purpose of this exercise is to make you aware of the fact that most short vowels in Farsi are not written but have to be guessed.)

**Chapter 3**
1) a. dokhtaram
   b. ham
   c. yek
   d. sar
   e. hotel
   (If some of your responses are wrong, do not be disappointed. The purpose of this exercise is to make you aware of the fact that most short vowels in Farsi are not written but have to be guessed.)
2) a. The long vowel is ی and the word is pronounced hamin.
b. The long vowel is ֳ and the word is pronounced as joon.
c. The long vowel is ֲ and the word is pronounced as tā.
d. The long vowel is ֳ and the word is pronounced as kār.
e. The long vowel is ֲ and the word is pronounced as chieh.

3) a. زم
   b. جد
   c. خدا
   d. زال

4) a. When did you arrive?
   b. Where were you going?
   c. How are they coming?
   d. Why do you like it/him/her?

Chapter 4

1) a. بهار  b. فصل  c. روز  d. روز  e. جمعه  f. كوه  g. شهر

2) a. Maybe we should go.
   b. I like it/him/her very much.
   c. I think.
   d. We will ask tonight.
   e. The children will come.

3) Thursday  ينچ شنبه
   Saturday  شنبه
   Tuesday  سه شنبه
   Monday  دوشنبه
   Friday  جمعه
   Wednesday  چهار شنبه
   Sunday  پنجم شنبه

4) a. زمان  b. بهار  c. تابستان  d. تابستان  e. بهار  f. تابستان  g. زمستان

Chapter 5

1) a. برسان  b. پیش  c. بیان  d. پیش

2) tamasha
   shâneh
   zende
   Masal
   kāsh
   tanhā
   abr

3) a. اینجا بیان  b. پیش بیان  c. زمین بیان  d. پیش بیان

4)
Chapter 6

1) قلى‌ه. a. فقر b. باغ c. مهم d. دم e. میخوای‌م f. فراق
   a. عروس b. قانون c. تابع d. مهم

2) a. چقدر احتیاج دارید
   b. این پارک‌های عمومی نیست
   c. ما میخواهیم بیم بی‌کمی جلوه
   d. چگونه اعلام شده است؟
   a. ۴۹ b. ۵۶ c. ۹۹ d. ۳۰ e. ۱۹۸

3) a. من میخوای‌م یک حساب جاری باز کنم
   b. نرخ تبدیل دلار چی هست؟
   c. چی پیشنهاد میکنید، یک حساب جاری و یا یک حساب پی انداز؟
   d. چگونه معاملات ارزی کجاست؟

Chapter 7

1) a. قوت b. اتفاق c. سر d. قبضه
   a. غصه b. نواب c. مر

2) a. پادشاهت b. اصلاً c. تدریجاً
   a. لطفاً b. مثلاً c. قاعدتاً

3) Sunni, Christian, Jewish, Baha’i, and Zoroastrian
   a. سنتی، مسیحی، کلیسی، بهایی، و زرتشتی

4) a. پشتیبانی بودند
   b. درست کردند که درست کردند درست کردند درست کردند درست کردند
   c. بالا رفت بالا رفته بالا رفته بالا رفته بالا رفته
   d. پیش‌گرفتی پیش‌گرفتی پیش‌گرفتی پیش‌گرفتی پیش‌گرفتی
   e. خارا‌اند خارا‌اند خارا‌اند خارا‌اند خارا‌اند
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Farsi</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>affection</td>
<td>عاطفه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>again</td>
<td>بارهم/دوباره</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>age</td>
<td>سن</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>air</td>
<td>هو</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>anyway</td>
<td>بهر حال</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>apparently</td>
<td>ظاهر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aunt</td>
<td>خاله/عمه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baha'i</td>
<td>بهائي</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bald</td>
<td>کچل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ball</td>
<td>توپ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>basil</td>
<td>ریحان</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bazaar</td>
<td>بازار</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beard</td>
<td>ريش</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beautiful</td>
<td>زیبا</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>before</td>
<td>قبل</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>better</td>
<td>بیتر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>booth</td>
<td>باجه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bottom</td>
<td>کف</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>boy</td>
<td>پسر</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bread</td>
<td>نان</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>breakfast</td>
<td>صبحانه</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bubble</td>
<td>کف</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>business</td>
<td>کسب</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>but</td>
<td>اما</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>car</td>
<td>ماشین/خودرو</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cash</td>
<td>نقد</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>certainly</td>
<td>حتما</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>change</td>
<td>عوض</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td>ارزان</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
child bachcheh بچه
Christian masihi مسیحی
city shahr شهر
cow gāv گاو
crown tāj تاج
cry geryeh گریه
culture farhang فرهنگ
customer moshtari مشتری

D
daddy bābā پapa
dates (fruit) khormā خرما
daughter dokhtar دختر
dawn sahar سحر
dear joon/jān جون/جان
death marg مرگ
delicious khoshmazeh خوشمزه
delight haz حظ
description sharh شرح
dew zhāleh زلاه
difficult sakht سخت
dinner shām شام
direct mostaghim مستقیم
dirty kasif کنیف
dish zarf ظرف
dog sag سگ
door dar در
dress lebās لباس

E
early zood زود
easy rāhat راحت
embrace baghal بغل
emotions ehsāsāt احساسات
empty khāli خالی
error khatā خطأ
exile tabid تبعید
eye cheshm چشم
eyelash mozheh مرزه

F
fairy pari پری
fall pāeez پایهز
family fāmil فامیل
fare Kerāyeh کرایه
fast tond تنده
father pedar پدر
fear tars ترس
feather par پر
festivity jashn جشن
fever tab تب
first avval اوال
flower gol گل
fog meh مه
food ghazā غذا
for you barāt/barāye to برای تو
Friday Jomeh جمعه
friend doost دوست
fruit miveh میوه

G
garden bāgh باغ
gasoline benzin بنزین
gift kādou/hadieh کادو/هدیه
give dādan دادن
god khodā خدای
good khoob خوب
goodbye khodāhafez خداحافظ
goods kālā کالا
grandmother mādar bozorg مادر بزرگ
grave ghabr قبر
grudge laj لج

H
hard sakht سخت
harmful mozzer مضر
he 00 أو
del/ghalb دل/قلب
salām سلام
komak كمک
khāneh خانه
shākh/boogh شاک/بوغ
dāgh داغ
hotel هتل
che-jori/che-goneh چه جوری/چه گونه
cheh-ghadr چه قدر
man من
innovation ابداع
it án ان
pārch پارچ
yās پاس
Kalimi کلیمی
ghāzi قاضی
boos بوس
chap چپ
zendegi/joon/jān زندگی/جون/جان
lab لب
kami کمی
jegar جگر
eshgh عشق
mard مرد
shāyad شاید
shir شبیر
zehn ذهن
minority aghaliat
mint nanā
miss someone del tang shodan
mom māmān/mādar
Monday doshanbeh
dush shobe
money pool pūl
moon māh mād
morning sobh sobh
mountain kooh kūh
Mr. aghā aqā
Mrs. khānom خانم
Muslim mosalmān مسلمان
must bāyad بايد
N
nail mikh ميخ
nature tabiat طبيعت
need ehtīāj احتياج
new jadid جديد
no na نه
north shomāl شمال
now hālā/alān حالا/الآن
O
occasionally gāhgāh گاهگاه
offering nazri نزری
only faghat فقط
P
pain dard درد
part ghateh/bakhsh قطعه/بخش
passenger mosāfer مسافر
pastry shirini شیرینی
pause maks مکت
payment vajh وجه
person ādam آدم
pig khook خوک
place jā جا
plan barnāmeh برنامه
please lotfān/befarmāeed لطفاً، افرمایید
poem shear شعر
price gheymat قیمت
probably ehtemālan احتمالاً
profit nafea نفع
public omoomi عمویی
purse kif چگونه

R
rate nerkh نرخ
real vāghiy واقعی
really vāghean واقعاً
red ghermez قرمز
religion mazhab مذهب
repetition tekrar تکرار
respect ehterām احترام
rice berenj برنج
rug farsh فرش

S
sadness gham غم
salt namak نمک
Saturday shanbeh شنبه
savings account hesābe pasandāz حساب پس اندیز
science elm علم
scream jigh جیغ
season fasl فصل
seed bazr بذر
sense hes حس
sentence jomleh جمله
seriously jeddan جدا
services khadamāt خدمات
she oo او
shield separ سپر
side baghal بغل
sign tablou تابلو
sleep khāb خواب
snow barf
some kami
son pesar
speak harf zadan
special khās
spring bahār
stew khoresht
story ghesseh
sugar shekar
suggestion pishnahād
summer tābestān
Sunday Yekshanbeh
suspect maznoon
swing tāb
sympathy hamdardi

T
tablecloth sofreh
 tainted los
 taxi tāxi
 thank you motashakeram/merci
 that ān
 then baed
 they ānha
 thirty si
 this in
 thousand hezār
 Thursday Panjshanbeh
 ticket belit
 tomorrow fardā
 tonight emshab
 totally kāmelan
 trade tejārat
 traditions rosoom
 trouble zahmat
 Tuesday seshanbeh

 U
usually 

V
vendor foroshandeh فروشنده
very khyli خیلی
village deh ده

W
wage mozd مزد
we mā ما
weak zaeef ضعیف
wealth servat ثروت
Wednesday Chahārshanbeh چهارشنبه
week hafteh هفته
well khoob خوب
west gharb غرب
western gharbi غربی
wet khis/tar خش/تر
what che چه
when key کی
where koo/kojāو کوا/کجا
whistle soot سوت
why cherā چرا
winter zemestān زمستان
word loghat لغت
work kār کار
worry negarān نگران
wrist moch صچ

Y
yes baleh/āreh بله/آره
you (formal) shomā شما
you (informal) to تو

Z
Zoroastrian Zartoshti زرتشتی
Farsi–English Glossary

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Farsi</th>
<th>English</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ابداع</td>
<td>innovation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>احترام</td>
<td>respect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>احتمالاً</td>
<td>probably</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>احتاج</td>
<td>need</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>احساسات</td>
<td>emotions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>آدم</td>
<td>person/‘adam’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ارزان</td>
<td>cheap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>آره</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>آقا</td>
<td>Mr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>اقلیت</td>
<td>minority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>الان</td>
<td>now</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>اما</td>
<td>but</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>امشب</td>
<td>tonight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ان</td>
<td>that/it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>آنها</td>
<td>they</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>او</td>
<td>he/she/it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>اول</td>
<td>first</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>اين</td>
<td>this</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بابا</td>
<td>dad/father</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بازار</td>
<td>bazaar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بازهم</td>
<td>again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>باغ</td>
<td>garden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>باید</td>
<td>must</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بچه</td>
<td>child</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بخش</td>
<td>part</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بذر</td>
<td>seed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>برای تو</td>
<td>for you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>برف</td>
<td>snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>برنامه</td>
<td>plan/program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>برنج</td>
<td>rice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>بعد</td>
<td>then/next</td>
</tr>
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wealth servat

place jā
life/dear jān
seriously jeddan
new jadid
festivity jashn
liver jegar
Friday Jomeh
sentence jomleh
life/dear joon
scream jigh

left chap
why cherā
eye cheshm
how che-gooneh
what che
Wednesday Chahārshanbeh
how much cheh-ghadr
how che-joori

now hālā
certainly hatman
to speak harf zadan
sense hes
savings account hesābe pasandāz
delight haz

sicemens special khās
aunt khāleh
empty khāli
Mrs. khānom
house khâneh خانه

god khodâ خدا

goodbye khodâhafez خداحافظ

services khadamāt خدمات

dates khormâ خرما

error khatâ خطأ

sleep khâb خواب

good/well khoob خوب

car khodro خودرو

stew khoresht خورشت

delicious khoshmazeh خوشمزه

pig khook خوک

wet khis خیس

very/a lot khyli خیلی

to give dâdan دادن

hot dâgh داغ

daughter/girl dokhtar دختر

doctor dar در

pain dard درد

heart/stomach del دل

again dobâreh دوباره

friend doost دوست

Monday doshanbeh دوشنبه

village deh ده

mind zehn ذهن

easy râhat راحت

traditions rosoom رسوم

basil reyhân ريحان

beard rish ريش

trouble zahmat زحمت

Zoroastrian Zartoshti زرتشتی
winter zemestān زمستان
life zendegi زندگی
fast zood زود
beautiful zibā زیبا

dew zhāleh زاله

shield separ سپر
dawn sahar سحر
difficult/hard sakht سخت

tablecloth sofre سفره

dog sag سگ
hello salām سلام

age sen سن

whistle soot سوت
Tuesday seshanbeh سه شنبه
thirty si سی


horn shākh شاخ

dinner shām شام
maybe shāyad شاید

description sharh شرح

poem shear شعر
sugar shekar شکر
you shomā شما


north shomāl شمال
Saturday shanbeh شنبه

city shahr شهر

milk/lion/faucet shir شیر
pastry shirini شیرینی


morning sobh صبح
breakfast sobhāneh صبحانه


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 Nature tabiat طبیعت

Apparently zāheran ظاهر
Dish zarf ظرف

Affection ātefeh عاطفه
Love esgh عشق
Science elm علم
Public ooomi عمومی
Aunt ammeh عمه
Change avaz عوام

Food ghazā غذای
West gharb غرب
Western gharbi غربی
Sadness gham غم

Family fāmil فامیل
Tomorrow fardā فردآ
Rug farsh فرش
Vendor/seller forooshandeh فروشنده
Culture farhang فرهنگ
Season fasl فصل
Only faghat فقط

Judge ghāzi قاضی
Grave ghabr قبر
Before ghabl قبل
Red ghermez قرمز
Beautiful ghashangh قشنگ
story/fable ghesseh قصّته
part ghateh قطعه
heart ghalb قلب
price gheymat قيمت

gift kādou كادو
work kār كار
goods kālā كالا
totally kāmelan كاملاً
dirty kasif كثيف
where kojā كجا
bald kachal كخل
fare kerāyeh كرايه
business kasb كسب
bottom/foam kaf كف
Jewish Kalimi كليمي
little/some kam/kami كم/كمي
help komak كمك
where koo كو
mountain koohe كوه
when kī كي
purse/wallet kif كيف

calendar gāhgāh كاهگاه
cow gāv گاو
warm garm گرم
cry geryeh گریه
flower gol گل

lips lab لب
dress lebās لباس
grudge laj لج
please lotfan لطفاً
word loghat لغت
tainted los لوث
we mā ما

mother mādar مادر

grandmother mādar bozorg مادر بزرگ

car machin ماشین

mom/mother māmān مامان

moon māh ماه

thank you motashakeram متشکرم

wrist moch مچ

religion mazhab مذهب

man mard مرد

thank you merci مرسي

death marg مرگ

wage mozd مزد

eyelash mozheh مژه

passenger mosāfer مسافر

direct mostaghim مستقیم

Muslim mosalmān مسلمان

Christian masihi مسیحی

customer moshtari مشتری

harmful mozzer مضر

suspect maznoon مظنون

usually mamolan معمولاً

pause maks مکث

I man من

fog meh مه

nail mikh میخ

fruit miveh میوه

bread nān نان

offering nazri نذری

rate nerkh نرخ

mint nanā نعنا

profit nafea نفع

cash naghd نقش

worry negarān نگران

salt namak نمک
و

باقعاً
واقعی
 وجه

hotel هتل
gift هدیه
thousand هزار
week هفته
sympathy همدلی
air هوا

jasmine پیاس
Sunday یکشنبه
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