

TÜRKÇE ALIŞTIRMA KİTABIM

MY TURKISH EXERCISE BOOK

Turkish Exercises For Foreign Students 1

Beginners

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AKADEMİSYEN
KİTABEVİ

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aileme...

to my family...

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PREFACE

After realizing that foreign students have difficulties with learning Turkish Language as a foreign language, I decided to prepare materials for them to learn Turkish efficiently. During this preparation, my dear friend, Patrice Page, living in Turkey for a long time and struggling with learning Turkish, offered me to prepare a Turkish Book, entitled *Türkçe Alıştırma Kitabım* (My Turkish Exercise Book) in order to help foreign students learn Turkish easily. There is no doubt, as a foreign language learner, the sensitive attitude of Patrice on linguistic difficulties in Turkish made this book more understandable and usable for many learners. All the exercises in this book are prepared to have this book in beginner level. Hence, students will have opportunity of consolidating the items they learned in the classroom and accelerating their comprehension of this language outside the classroom.

All the exercises have been done many times by different groups to proof its validity and reliability. Especially during the learning process, students have been very objective and critical upon each exercise in this book. Their comments and suggestions for each topic made this book more usable and practical. Thus, my special thanks go to Olga Shulgina, Lena Rudaya, Olga Zinkevich, Nadya Gurskaya, Lika Kokshina, Inna Rogach, Katya Pshezdiyak and others who gave their opinions without hesitation to make this book more appreciated.

I would like to thank to İrfan Demir for his unending energy and a great support to make this book very functional and practical. His talent to desing made this book great looking.

I would like to thank my students, Ramazan Dönmez and Umut Fahlioğulları for their offer unhesitating when I asked them to prepare the glossary at the end of the book. Without their support, this book would be not practical for students to understand all words that take part in the exercises.

In order to make the second edition of this book more practical and friendly user, I asked my colleagues working as Turkish Language Instructors abroad and my foreign students learning Turkish abroad to give me feedback about

this book. I received several e-mails written enthusiastically to suggest and criticize the book. I am grateful to all my colleagues, especially, Eşref Özdemir (Portugal), Semahat Resmi (Belgium), Elma Nap-Kolkoff, the Ph.D student of Kutlay Yağmur (Holland) and Bent Kiilerich, the Ambassador (Sweden), who devoted all their valuable time to help me make this book beneficial to all learners.

I would like to thank specially to my students, Pınar Atasoy, Musa Tömen, Burla Çiftçi, Gizem Karaterzi, Meltem Loğoğlu, Melike Erdoğan, Ahmet Özdemir, Tarık Atalar, and Bahar Alıç, who are taking Material Evaluation and Adaptation Course at ELT Department in Çukurova University as they gave their opinions as would-be-foreign language teachers. Without contribution of all, this book would be difficult in terms of carrying out all exercises.



Gülден TÖM

Who is this book for?

This book has been designed for you, *foreigners in Turkey or in your home lands*, who want to acquire the basic grammar of Turkish at a very simple level in order to make their stay more rewarding. Since you wish to communicate for different purposes when in Turkey, you will learn, for example, how to give information about yourselves and to ask for similar information about other people, how to express your likes or dislikes, agree or disagree, how to apologize, accept or refuse invitations and so on. The book will also provide you with some background information and exercises in Turkish.

What is the framework of this book?

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEF) was taken into consideration during the preparation of this book. The CEF views language knowledge as a set of skills and strategies which are needed to use a language for communication in real-life situations.

Understanding	A ₁	A ₂
Reading	Can understand familiar names, words and very simple sentences, for example on notices and posters or in catalogues.	Can read very short, simple texts. Can find specific, predictable information in simple everyday material such as suffixes, advertisements, prospectuses, menus, timetables and can understand short simple personal letters.
Writing	Can write a short, simple postcard, for example sending holiday greetings. Can fill in forms with personal details, (e.g., entering his name, nationality and address on a hotel registration form).	Can write short and simple notes, messages, and personal letters.

How to use this book

This book is designed to acquaint you with the basic vocabulary and grammar that will help you to be able to understand Turkish structure. In order to make the book practical, you are provided with many exercises you might need. As this book is not written for linguists, elaborate definitions are avoided. Grammar is explained in a clear and straightforward manner, and the use of grammatical terms is excluded whenever possible. A number of examples are provided to support grammar learning and through these examples, you are introduced with actual language in different contexts.

At the end of the book, an answer key, an index and glossary are provided to make this book user-friendly.

Some general tips about how to practice Turkish

Everybody has their own learning style. Try some of the suggestions given here as a hint and find out how to accelerate your practice in Turkish. In order to succeed, remember:

- ▶ every language reflects a different way of thinking, and some rules in Turkish might NOT always sound logical when compared to the rules of your language.
- ▶ do not try to find a logical explanation behind every single phenomenon you come across. Just try to learn it as it is.
- ▶ be positive when you are faced with the difficulties of the language. Learning a new language can enrich you in many ways.
- ▶ make the efforts to think in Turkish from the start as much as possible. This will activate your vocabulary.
- ▶ whenever you find an opportunity, try to repeat the words or instructions in your mind.
- ▶ understanding grammar is just the first step. You should learn the patterns in the examples given rather than just learn abstract rules. This will help you remember the rules when to apply them. Practice comes with practice.
- ▶ do not rush onto the next unit until you feel confident that you have thoroughly mastered the structures introduced in the previous unit.
- ▶ apply what you have added to your knowledge with different examples. You will then be ready for the next stage.
- ▶ repeat the new words and phrases several times because it is the easiest way to learn them. After that, you should write these expressions a few times. This activity will accelerate your learning.
- ▶ try to use a new word or phrase in a sentence of your own. This can be done any time (e.g., while going to work or university, or even waiting for a bus).
- ▶ try to watch Turkish programs on television. Do not worry if you do not understand much of it.
- ▶ you are not a native speaker. Therefore, you will have an accent and make mistakes. Try to do your best; your aim is to be understood- not to be perfect.
- ▶ You should listen to Turkish songs and try to learn some of the words.

In any case, just listening to Turkish being spoken while out will help your pronunciation and intonation tremendously.

Table of Contents - İçindekiler

The most common words - En sık kullanılan kelimeler	1
Unit 1 - Bölüm 1	5
1.1 Turkish Alphabet - Türk alfabesi	5
1.2 Vowel Harmony - Ses uyumu	5
1.3 Pronunciation of Turkish Letters - Türkçe harflerin telaffuzu	6
1.3.1 Pronunciation of vowels - Sesli harflerin telaffuzu.....	6
1.3.2 Pronunciation of consonants which are unfamiliar Aşına olmayan sessiz.....	6
harflerin telaffuzu	
1.3.3 Pronunciation of diftongs Diftongların telaffuzu	7
1.4 Stress Vurgu	7
1.4.1 Stress in roots - Köklerde vurgu	7
1.4.2 Stress in compounds - Bileşik isimlerde vurgu.....	8
1.4.3 Stress in suffixes - Eklerde vurgu.....	8
1.5 Article - Artikel	8
1.6 Words - Kelimeler	9
1.7 The Plural Form - Çoğul eki (-ler, -lar).....	11
1.8 Word Order - Cümle yapısı	12
1.8.1 Verbal Sentences -Eylem cümlesi	12
1.8.2 Noun Sentences - İsim cümlesi	13
1.8.2.1 The Personal Ending - Kişi ekleri.....	14
1.8.2.2 Separator / Buffer -Y - Kaynaştırma harfi	15
1.8.2.3 Interrogative Particle for Yes / No Questions - Soru eki.....	17
1.8.2.4 Question Words - Sorular.....	18
1.8.2.5 Negative Form of Noun Sentences - Olumsuz isim cümlesi	19
Unit 2 - Bölüm 2.....	25
2.1 Six Cases in Turkish - Türkçede ismin halleri	25
2.2 Locative Case - Bulunma durumu (-de, -da, -te, -ta).....	26
2.3 Separator / Buffer -N - Kaynaştırma harfi	27
Test 1 for Unit 2.....	32
2.4 Numbers - Sayılar	36
2.5 Telling Time - Saatler.....	37
2.6 Genitive Case - İyelik durumu.....	40
Test 2 for Unit 2.....	50
2.7 There Is, Are / There Isn't,Aren't - Var / Yok.....	51
2.8 Days of the week - Haftanın günleri	55
2.9 Months of the year - Aylar	56
2.10 Seasons of the year - Mevsimler.....	56
2.11 Have got, Has got - Haven't Got, Hasn't Got Var / Yok.....	61
Test 3 for Unit 2.....	64
Unit 3 - Bölüm 3.....	67
3.1.Present Continuous Tense = Şimdiki zaman	67
Test 1 for Unit 3	82
3.2 Dative Case - Yönelme durumu (-e, -a, -ye, -ya, -ne, -na).....	86
Test 2 for Unit 3.....	92
3.3 Accusative Case - Belirtme durumu (-ı, -i, -u, -ü, -yi, -yı, -yu, -yü, -nı, -ni, -nu, -nü) ..	95
Test 3 for Unit 3.....	99
3.4 Ablative Case - Uzaklaşma durumu (den, -dan, -ten, -tan, nden, -ndan).....	102
Test 4 for Unit 3.....	110

Unit 4 - Bölüm 4	113
4.1 Simple Present Tense = Geniş zaman (-r, -ar, -er, -ir, -ür)	113
Test 1 for Unit 4	119
4.2 Instrumental Case - Vasıta durumu (-le, -la, -yle, -yla)	122
Unit 5 - Bölüm 5	131
5.1 Modal (Can, Could, May, Might) (-ebilir, -abilir)	131
5.2 Modals (Must, Should, Need To, Ought To, Have To) (-meli, -malı)	139
Test 1 for Unit 5	148
Unit 6 - Bölüm 6	151
6.1 Past Tense / Belirli geçmiş zaman (-dı, -di, -ti, -ti)	151
6.1.1 Question Statement (Wh Questions)	152
6.2 Past Tense Verb 'To Be' = Geçmiş zaman -(Y)dı, -di, -ti, -ti)	163
6.2.1 Positive Statement	163
6.2.2 Negative Statement	163
6.2.3 Question Statement (Yes/No Questions)	164
6.2.4 Question Statement (Wh Questions)	164
Test 1 for Unit 6	175
6.3 Postpositional Phrases (For / Since)	178
6.3.1 For (-dır, -dir, -dur, -dür, -tır, -tir, -tur, -tür)	178
6.3.2 Since (-den beri, -dan beri, -ten beri, -tan beri)	178
Unit 7 - Bölüm 7	183
7.1 The Future Tense = Gelecek zaman (-ecek, -acak)	183
Test 1 for Unit 7	189
Key Answer - Cevap Anahtarı	194
Reference for Turkish Grammar - Türkçe Dilbilgisi Referansı	201
1. Types of Sentences	201
A. Positive Statement	201
B. Negative Statement	202
i. değil	202
ii. -ma, -me	202
iii. yok	203
C. Question Statement	203
i. Interrogative Particle for Yes/No Questions	203
ii. Tag Questions	204
iii. Question Word Questions WH Questions	205
2. Types of Words	206
3. Nouns	206
3.1 Inflection of Nouns	206
3.2 Cases of Nouns or Pronouns in Turkish	209
I. Accusative Case	209
a. Accusative Case of Interrogative Pronouns	209
b. Accusative Case of Demonstratives: Definite Objects	210
c. Accusative Case of Personal Pronouns: Kimi	210
d. Obligatory Usage of Accusative Case	211
II. Dative Case	212
a. Dative Case of Interrogative Pronouns	212
b. Dative Case of Demonstratives: Definite Objects	212
c. Dative Case of Personal Pronouns: Kime	213
III. Locative Case	213
a. Locative Case of Interrogative Pronouns	214
b. Locative Case of Demonstratives: Definite Objects	214

c. Locative Case of Personal Pronouns: Kimde	214
d. Reduction of Locative Case	215
IV. Ablative Case	215
a. Ablative Case of Interrogative Pronouns	215
b. Ablative Case of Demonstratives: Definite Objects	216
c. Ablative Case of Personal Pronouns: Kimden	216
d. Reduction of Ablative Case	216
V. Instrumental Case	217
a. Instrumental Case of Interrogative Pronouns	217
b. Instrumental Case of Demonstratives: Definite Objects	217
c. Instrumental Case of Personal Pronouns: Kimde	217
d. Other Uses of Instrumental Case	218
VI. Genitive Case	219
A. Genitive Constructions	219
B. Possessive Compounds	224
3.3 Inflectional and Derivational Suffixes of Nouns	229
4. Pronouns	230
A. Demonstrative Pronouns	230
B. Personal Pronouns in Cases	230
C. Interrogative Pronouns	231
5. Adjectives	231
A. Qualitative Adjectives	232
B. Determinative Adjectives	233
C. Suffixes to Produce Adjectives	234
1. Possessive Adjectives	234
2. -lı, -li, -lu, -lü	236
3. -sız, -siz, -suz, -süz	236
6. Numbers	237
7. Verbs	237
1. Commands	238
2. The Verb TO BE	239
A. Positive Statement	239
B. Negative Statement	239
C. Suffixes dir or its variations	240
3. The Verb TO HAVE	241
4. The Verb Tenses	242
1. Present Continuous Tense	242
2. Simple Present Tense	245
3. Past Tense	248
4. Past Tense TO BE	248
5. Future Tense	249
6. Can	249
7. Must	250
8. Appendices - Ekler	255
A. Handy Phrases	255
B. Occupations	257
C. English Verbs in List	258
Ç. Turkish Verbs in List	259
Glossary - Sözlükçe	260