

# Hamza Test

Arabic Language Proficiency Test





1

The care for the Arabic language falls within the initiatives of the Ministry of Culture in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, particularly in connection with the establishment of the King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language.

2

The vision of the academy is to lead and become a global reference in the service of the Arabic language.

3

The academy's mandate includes the following specialization: "Designing Arabic language proficiency tests and implementing them in coordination with relevant entities."

## Why Arabic Language Proficiency Tests?

4

The increasing number of individuals enrolling in Arabic language education programs at universities worldwide, at a rate ten times that of other language programs.

5

The need for academic and professional institutions worldwide to standardize competency assessment in the Arabic language.

6

Facilitating individuals' ability to demonstrate their proficiency in the Arabic language anywhere in the world.



Contributed in  
formation of:



### Vision 2030

Vision 2030 has played a pivotal role in shaping the future, with its primary goals centered around encouraging citizens to take pride in their national identity, cultural heritage, and the values of Islam, guided by the principles of moderation and centrism. These objectives aim to construct a dynamic society in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, forming a crucial foundation for realizing this vision.

Implemented:



### Human Capacity Development Program

The program seeks to contribute to achieving the core objectives of the vision, particularly in the aspect of building a vibrant society. Notably, the Arabic language receives significant attention and care within this program.



### Fifth Strategic Goal Regarding the Arabic Language

The care for the Arabic language is part of an initiative by the Ministry of Culture, specifically linked to the establishment of the King Salman International Arabic Language Academy to serve Arab culture, develop the Arabic language, and support all efforts to preserve and maintain it.

Achieved:



### King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language

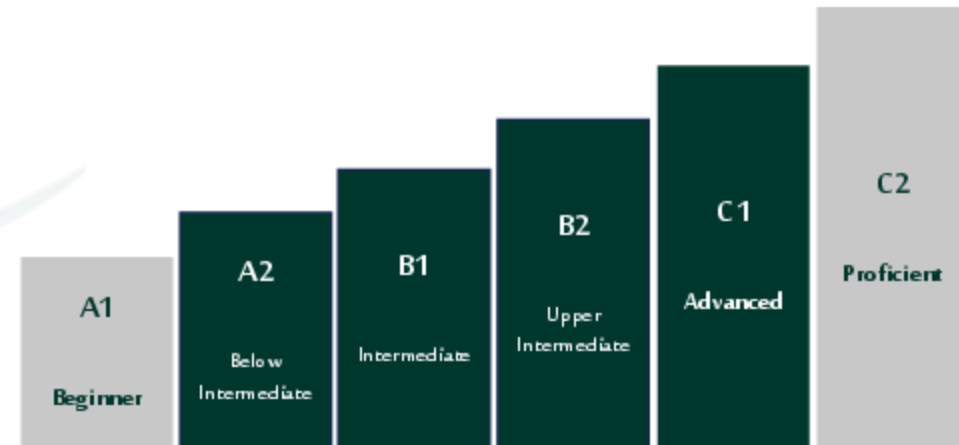
The academy has a clear objective to elevate the status of the Arabic language globally and enhance its technological contribution to the scientific and cultural domains. This aligns with national directives and the academy's defined responsibilities as outlined in Cabinet Decision No. 34, dated 13/01/1442 H. These responsibilities include the construction of Arabic language proficiency tests and their implementation.

## Overview of Hamza (Academic) Test

The Arabic Language Proficiency Test, known as Hamza Test, is designed according to the highest standards, following the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language developed the assessment system and measurement tools, starting with a team of specialists and experts who conducted benchmark comparisons and a survey of internationally recognized language tests. This process was essential for establishing the standards and indicators that the test is based on, relying on the analysis of various global language tests.

### Tested Levels:

The test evaluates proficiency across four levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), ranging from A2 to C1.





## Objectives of the Test

Enhance the status and scientific significance of the Arabic language locally, regionally, and globally.

Establish a globally recognized standard for linguistic competencies among non-native Arabic speakers.

Provide valuable inputs for universities and institutes teaching Arabic language to assess the linguistic proficiency levels of their students from non-Arabic speaking backgrounds.



## Target Audience



### Arabic Language Teachers and Learners:

- To apply for academic programs.
- To compete for scholarships.
- To have better employment opportunities when Arabic language proficiency is a job requirement.



### Employers:

- To distinguish among candidates seeking positions that require proficiency in Arabic language.



### Universities and Arabic Language Institutes, and their Centers:

- To differentiate among applicants for bachelor's and postgraduate programs.
- For those interested in applying for scholarships in Arabic language programs.

# Test Development Processes

1

Conducting Benchmark Comparisons and a Survey of Internationally Recognized Linguistic Tests

2

Alignment with Experts and Selection of a Reference Test Framework According to Arabic Language Characteristics:

3

Developing Test Standards and Indicators, and Adjudicating Them According to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)

4

Determining Test Components and Their Weightings

5

Conducting Workshops for Question Writers

6

Writing Test Questions and Adjudicating Them

7

Building Trial Models from Questions, Computerizing Them According to Test Standards, Components, and Weights

8

Creating Correction Standards for Productive Skills (Writing and Speaking)

9

Conducting a Test Trial on a Sample of Beneficiaries Locally and Globally

10

Training Assessors, Correcting the Test, and Conducting Psychometric Studies

11

Verification of the Validity and Reliability of the Test

12

Building Actual Test Models and Adjudicating Them

## Hamza Test Overview

Test Duration

155 minutes

Number of Questions

75



Listening Comprehension

(30 questions):

Listening to diverse audio clips and answering multiple-choice questions



Reading Comprehension

(40 questions):

Reading various texts and answering multiple-choice questions.



Writing Section

(1 question):

Writing One essay with a word count ranging from 200 to 250 words.



Speaking Section

(4 sections):

Answering general questions.  
Speaking on a general topic.





## Hamza Test Overview

The test is administered worldwide through three methods:

**First Method:** Computer-based (at authorized testing centers).

**Second Method:** Virtual Computer-based (online).



## Q & A

### 1. What is the Academic Hamza Test?

The Academic Hamzah Test is an Arabic language proficiency test designed by drawing on international experiences while considering the characteristics of the Arabic language. This test aims to measure proficiency levels from (A2) to (1) based on the four language skills: listening comprehension, reading comprehension, speaking, and writing.

### 2. What is the duration of the test?

The test duration is (155) minutes.

### 3. Who is the target audience for this test?

1. Universities, Arabic language institutes, and their centers, for differentiation among:
  - Applicants for bachelor's and postgraduate programs.
  - Those interested in applying for scholarships in Arabic language programs.
2. Employers, for differentiation among:
  - Individuals seeking positions that require proficiency in the Arabic language.
3. Arabic language teachers and learners for obtaining a report specifying Arabic language proficiency levels for use in:
  - Application to educational programs.
  - Application for scholarships.
  - Application for jobs that require the Arabic language.



## Q & A

### 4. What is the nature of the questions in each section of the test?

Section One: (Listening Comprehension): Multiple-choice questions based on audio texts covering general and diverse academic topics. The texts can be either direct speeches or dialogues and discussions between two or more parties.

Section Two: (Reading Comprehension): Similarly, multiple-choice questions based on texts covering general and diverse academic topics.

Section Three: (Writing): A written task with a limit of (250) words assigned to the examinee.

Section Four: (Speaking): The examinee speaks on a general topic, describes something, and participates in a simulated dialogue. Time is provided to organize and articulate thoughts.

### 5. What are the available registration dates for the test?

The Hamzah Test is conducted regularly throughout the year, at least once every four months.

### 6. What is the process for taking the test?

- First Method: Computer-based (at authorized testing centers).
- Second Method: Virtual Computer-based (online).



## Q & A

### 7. How do I register for the test?

Please follow the social media platforms of the King Salman International Arabic Language Academy to be informed about registration dates throughout the year and the registration process.

### 8. How do I obtain my test results?

After the test results are released, you can access your performance report through the same registration platform. The report will include your overall score in the test and its different sections.

### 9. What is the cost of the test?

In line with the vision of the King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language to lead and be a global reference in the service of the Arabic language, the test will be free for a period of two years (2024 - 2025).



**Thank You**



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