

Useful Expressions

Here are some expressions to help you with homestay, travel, and other situations where your language may not yet be at a point where you are able to communicate well in Moroccan Arabic. If you follow the pronunciation of the transcriptions, Moroccans should understand you. More expressions can be found in the appendix. See page 171.

Mealtime Expressions

In the name of God (said when you begin an activity: eating, drinking, working, studying, traveling, etc.).	bismillah	بِسْمِ اللَّهِ
Thanks to God (said after finishing a meal, or after expressing that all is well in life).	l-hamdullah	الْحَمْدُ لِلَّهِ
I don't eat ... meat eggs fish chicken	ma-kan-akul-š... l-lhm l-biḍ l-hut d-djaj	مَا كَنَّاكُلُشَ اللَّحْمَ / الْبَيْضَ / الْحَوْتَ / الدَّجَاجَ.
I drink tea / coffee without sugar.	kan-šrb atay / l-qhwa bla skkar.	كَنْشَرِبُ أَتَايَ / الْقَهْوَةَ بِلَا سَكَّرَ.
I eat everything.	kan-akul kulšī.	كَنَّاكُلُ كُلِّشِي.
I eat vegetables only.	kan-akul ġir l-xoḍra.	كَنَّاكُلُ غَيْرَ الْخَضِرَةِ.
I don't feel like eating.	ma-fiya ma-y-akul.	مَا فَيَا مَا يَأْكُلُ.
I want just/only ...	bġit ġir ...	بَغَيْتَ غَيْرَ ...
I don't want to have breakfast.	ma-bġit-š n-ftṛ.	مَا بَغَيْتُشْ نَفْطُرَ.
The food is delicious.	l-makla bnina.	الْمَأْكَلَةُ بَنِينَةٌ.
I'm full.	šbɛt.	شَبَعْتُ.
I want to learn how to cook.	bġit n-tɛllm n-ṭiyb.	بَغَيْتَ نَتَعَلَّمُ نَطْيَبَ.
May God replenish / reward you. (said after a meal to thank host)	lla y-xlf.	اللَّهُ يَخْلِفُ.
To your health (said to someone after eating, drinking, coming out of the hammam, wearing new clothes, having a hair cut, etc.)	bššhna.	بِالصَّحَّةِ.
May God grant you health too. (response to the above)	lla y-ɛtik ššhna	اللَّهُ يَعْطِيكَ الصَّحَّةَ.

Thanking Expressions

Thank you.	šukran.	شُكْرًا
You're welcome.	bla jmil.	بِلا جَمِيلَ.

Expressions for Nighttime / Sleeping

I'm tired. (male speaker)	ana ɛiyan.	أنا عيَّان.
I'm tired. (female speaker)	ana ɛiyana.	أنا عيَّانة.
I want to read a little bit.	bğit n-qra šwiya.	بغيت نقرى شوية.
I want to go to bed.	bğit n-nɛs.	بغيت نَّعس.
Where I am going to sleep?	fin ğadi n-nɛs.	فين غادي نَّعس؟
Excuse me, I want to go to bed. (addressing a group of people)	smɥ li, bğit n-mši n-nɛs.	سمحو لي، بغيت نمشي نَّعس.
I want to go to bed early.	bğit n-nɛs bkri.	بغيت نَّعس بكري.
I want to get up early.	bğit n-fiq bkri.	بغيت نفيق بكري.
I want a blanket.	bğit waɥd l-manča.	بغيت واحد المانطة.

Hygiene/Cleanliness Expressions

I want to wash my hands with soap.	bğit n-ğsl yddi b ş-şabun.	بغيت نغسل يدي ب الصابون.
I want to brush my teeth.	bğit n-ğsl snani.	بغيت نغسل سناني.
I want hot water, please.	bğit l-ma s-sxun ɛafak.	بغيت الماء الساخن.
I want to take a shower.	bğit n-duwš.	بغيت ندوِّش.
I want to go to the hammam.	bğit n-mši l-hmmam.	بغيت نمشي الحمام.
I want to change my clothes.	bğit n-bddl hwayji.	بغيت نبَدِّل حوايجي.
Where is the toilet?	fin bit l-ma?	فين بيت الماء؟
I want to do laundry.	bğit n-şbbn hwayji.	بغيت نصبِّن حوايجي.
Where can I do laundry?	fin ymkn n-şbbn hwayji.	فين يمكن نصبِّن حوايجي.

Offering Help / Asking for Favors

Can I help you?	weš n-ɛawnk?	واش نعاونك؟
Excuse me. (to a man)	smɥ li.	سمح لي.
Excuse me. (to a woman)	smɥi li.	سمحي لي.
Give me ... please.	ɛṭini ... ɛafak.	عطيني ... عفاك.

Being Sick

I'm sick. (male speaker)	ana mriḍ.	أنا مريض.
I'm sick. (female speaker)	ana mriḍa.	أنا مريضة.
I want to rest a bit.	bḡit n-rtah swiya.	بغيت نرتاح سووية.
Do you feel better?	briti šwiya?	بريتي شووية؟

Transportation Expressions

I want to go to ...	bḡit n-mši l ...	بغيت نمشي ل ...
Take me to ... please.	ddini l ... εafak.	تيني ل ... عفاك.
Stop here, please.	wqf hna εafak.	وقف هنا عفاك.
Is the meter on?	weš l-kuntur xddam?	واش الكونتور خدام؟
Turn on the meter, please.	xddm l-kuntur εafak.	خدم الكونتور عفاك.

Responses to Problems/Difficulties/Apologies

It's not a problem.	maši muškil.	ماشي مُشكِل.
There is no problem.	ma-kayn muškil.	ما كاين مُشكِل.

Congratulations

Congratulations.	mbruk	مبروك
Happy holiday.	mbruk l-εid.	مبروك العيد.
May God grant you grace. (response to the above)	lla y-bark fik.	الله يبارك فيك.

Communication

I don't understand.	ma-fhmt-š.	ما فهمتش.
I don't know.	ma-n-εrf.	ما نعرف.
Slowly please.	b šwiya εafak.	ب شووية عفاك.
Repeat please. (to a man)	εawd εafak.	عاود عفاك.
Repeat please. (to a woman)	εawdi εafak.	عاودي عفاك.
What did you say?	šnu glti?	شنو كَلتِي؟