



Introducing *Libera for Arabic*: Language Learning for the Mobile Era

The **CJK Dictionary Institute** (CJKI) is proud to present **Libera**, an innovative bilingual text reading platform for the iPad, and its inaugural application **Libera for Arabic**. **Libera** combines the strengths of traditional parallel texts with the latest advances in tablet technology. This cutting-edge platform provides learners with a new mode of accessing foreign language texts, making language learning more effective and enjoyable than ever before.

“Parallel text” refers to a source text and its translation into another language aligned side by side. **Libera for Arabic** is a powerful tool that enables language learners to quickly read Arabic-English parallel texts without the need for tedious dictionary lookups, provides new vocabulary in an *authentic* context, and offers a natural and satisfying learning experience.

The **Libera** platform uses a new form of hypertext called **Interactive Bitext** (IB) to move these strengths from the physical to the virtual page. Up to four texts – from translated versions to alternative script forms – appear side by side for easy viewing.

<p>☰ Chapter 1 Sentence 5 ▾</p> <p>Ali Baba earned what he needed for a living by selling firewood, which he collected in a faraway forest, and brought it back on his donkey to sell in the town's market.</p>	<p>⏪ + ⏩</p> <p>فَكَانَ عَلِيٌّ أَبَا يَكْسِبُ مَا يَحْتَاجُ إِلَيْهِ مِنَ الْقُوتِ بِبَيْعِ الْحَطَبِ الَّذِي يَجْمَعُهُ فِي غَابَةِ بَعِيدَةٍ وَيَعُودُ بِهِ عَلَى حِمَارِهِ لِيَبِيعَهُ فِي سُوقِ الْمَدِينَةِ.</p>
<p>جَمَعَ jámæa verb</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">gather, collectcombine, joinadd (in math) <p>W Word Info</p>	<p>fakāna ʿalī bāba yaksibu mā yaḥtāju ʿilāyhi mīna l-qūti bibāyēi l-ḥāṭabi lladhī yajmāʿuhu fī ghābatin baʿīdatin wayaʿūdu bīhi ʿāla ḥimārihi liyabīʿahu fī sūqi l-madīnati.</p>

A critical feature of **Libera** is that the texts are precisely linked at the *segment* (word or phrase) level: tapping a segment in one text simultaneously highlights the linked

segment in each of the other texts, making cross-lingual correspondences clear and unambiguous. For example, in the phrase “*to pick the crying baby up*”, tapping any of the words of the split segment “to pick up” highlights the whole segment as well as linked segments in alternative scripts and the translated text.

Furthermore, activating a bitext link immediately generates additional helpful information, such as vocabulary glosses, grammar notes, and recordings of native pronunciation. **Libera** places each of these tools at the user’s fingertips, taking the pain out of reading in a new language and encouraging learners to read on.

Libera for Arabic, the newest of over 60 mobile language learning applications from CJKI, provides a powerful learning tool in a user-friendly, aesthetically pleasing environment ideal for serious learners of Arabic. The app currently offers the classic fable of *Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves* in both Arabic (featuring vocalized, unvocalized, and romanized versions of the text) and English, and users will soon have access to a broad range of Arabic texts. Notable features include a customized Arabic-English dictionary, which is accessible by simply tapping the unknown word. Notably, when several meanings exist, the relevant one is highlighted in red. Additionally, **Libera** offers full audio recordings, notes on key grammar forms, and more.

In short, **Libera for Arabic** offers an ideal experience to the Arabic learner, providing everything needed to quickly and effectively acquire the language in a user-friendly and aesthetically pleasing environment. By making the learning experience genuinely enjoyable, Libera promises to transform the face of computer-aided language learning.

KEY FEATURES

- **Customized Arabic-English dictionary** shows English equivalents in context
- **Segment bar** offers a compact alternative to the dictionary
- **Word Info screen** enables in-depth word study with examples
- **Favorite word list** allows users to review new vocabulary
- **Full-form search** lets users search quickly and easily
- **Grammar Notes** highlight issues in grammar and usage
- **Verb Conjugator tool** provides the relevant conjugation paradigm for each verb
- **Word Structure tool** offers explanations of word-level grammar
- **Full audio recordings** aid in pronunciation and listening
- **Multi-panel interface** displays up to four different texts side by side

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