

KURMANJI GRAMMAR SERIES 02

NUMBERS IN KURMANJI KURDISH | A complete English-language course and reference workbook

Counting 0–100 • Large numbers • Cardinal and ordinal numbers • Noun phrases • Fractions • Percentages • Dates and time • Age • Money • Number patterns • Exercises and answer key

Kurdistan Voice | Learn Kurdish Grammar Series | 2026 edition | Main variety: Kurmanji (Northern Kurdish), using a consistent Latin-based Hawar orthography.

Level: Beginners to advanced learners. **Method:** Learn the sound and spelling of each numeral, understand how numerals combine, then use them in natural noun phrases and real situations. Regional alternatives are clearly labeled rather than silently mixed with the reference system.

Language-scope note: “Kurdish numbers” can differ across Kurmanji, Sorani, Southern Kurdish, and other Kurdish-associated varieties. This is a complete *Kurmanji* lesson, not a claim that every Kurdish variety shares the same forms.

Learning outcomes

- Recognize, write, and pronounce basic numbers, teens, tens, and large compounds.
- Build any ordinary whole number from units, tens, hundreds, and thousands.
- Use cardinals before nouns and ordinals in appropriate phrases.
- Talk about age, quantity, price, dates, times, fractions, and percentages.
- Recognize regional spelling alternatives and avoid frequent learner errors.
- Complete independent practice with a full answer key.

Course map

Unit	Topics
01	Orientation and spelling conventions
02	Cardinal numbers 0–20
03	The tens and all numbers 21–100
04	Hundreds, thousands, millions, and large-number construction
05	Numbers with nouns: word order and agreement
06	Ordinal numbers and position
07	Fractions, decimals, and percentages
08	Amounts, prices, age, and measurements
09	Dates, years, and time expressions
10	Frequency, distribution, comparisons, and mathematics
11	Regional forms, pronunciation, and common mistakes
12	Conversations, guided practice, and review
13	Exercises with answer key
Appendix	Full 0–100 reference and academic sources

01 | Orientation: What is a number in Kurmanji?

The Kurmanji noun **hejmar** means “number.” **Hejmaran** is one plural or oblique plural form; **jimartin** is associated with counting. The expressions **hejmarên bingehîn** (basic/cardinal numbers) and **hejmarên rêzî** (ordinal numbers) are useful descriptive teaching terms.

Kurmanji is commonly written in a 31-letter Latin-based alphabet. In numbers, pay special attention to **ê** and **î** (as in *sê, bîst, pêncî*), **ş** (as in *şeş, heşt*), and **ç** (as in *çar, çil*). These are letters, not decoration. Do not replace them indiscriminately with English letters.

Pronunciation guidance here is descriptive: ê and î indicate written Kurdish vowel distinctions; learners should listen to native recordings and their target regional variety rather than assume an exact English-vowel equivalent.

02 | The cardinal numbers: 0–20

Cardinal numbers answer “How many?” The most useful everyday forms are listed below. **Du** and **sê** are the ordinary short forms before nouns; longer **didu/dido** and **sisê** can occur in counting or regional contexts.

Number	Kurmanji	English
0	sifir	zero
1	yek	one
2	du	two
3	sê	three
4	çar	four
5	pênc	five
6	şeş	six
7	heft	seven
8	heşt	eight
9	neh	nine
10	deh	ten
11	yanzdeh	eleven
12	diwanzdeh	twelve
13	sêzdeh	thirteen
14	çardeh	fourteen
15	panzdeh	fifteen
16	şanzdeh	sixteen
17	hevdeh	seventeen
18	hejdeh	eighteen
19	nozdeh	nineteen
20	bîst	twenty

Practice aloud: yek, du, sê, çar, pênc, şeş, heft, heşt, neh, deh. Then continue: yanzdeh, diwanzdeh, sêzdeh, çardeh, panzdeh, şanzdeh, hevdeh, hejdeh, nozdeh, bîst.

Why 11–19 deserve extra attention

Many common teen forms are historical words rather than perfectly transparent combinations of ten + unit. Do **not** invent the whole teen series by merely placing *deh* before a digit. Some western Kurmanji varieties do use more regularized constructions for the teens; those are dialectal variants, not the reference spellings taught in this workbook.

03 | The tens and numbers from 21–100

Number	Kurmanji
20	bîst
30	sî
40	çil
50	pêncî
60	şêst
70	heftê
80	heştê
90	nod
100	sed

To make most non-round two-digit numbers, use **tens + û + units**. The conjunction **û** means “and,” and is normally written as a separate word in the standard presentation used here.

Value	Construction	Kurmanji
21	20 + 1	bîst û yek
32	30 + 2	sî û du
44	40 + 4	çil û çar
57	50 + 7	pêncî û heft
69	60 + 9	şêst û neh
73	70 + 3	heftê û sê
88	80 + 8	heştê û heşt
99	90 + 9	nod û neh

Rule: The linking word *û* is required in the standard examples above: *çil û yek* ("forty-one"), not simply *çil yek*. In rapid speech, pronunciations can become contracted, so written and spoken forms may look different.

Full reference chart: every number from 21 to 100

The following is a complete written-number reference. Cover the Kurmanji column and reconstruct each form before checking.

Number	Kurmanji	Number	Kurmanji
21	bîst û yek	61	şêst û yek
22	bîst û du	62	şêst û du
23	bîst û sê	63	şêst û sê
24	bîst û çar	64	şêst û çar
25	bîst û pênc	65	şêst û pênc
26	bîst û şeş	66	şêst û şeş
27	bîst û heft	67	şêst û heft
28	bîst û heşt	68	şêst û heşt
29	bîst û neh	69	şêst û neh
30	sî	70	heftê
31	sî û yek	71	heftê û yek
32	sî û du	72	heftê û du
33	sî û sê	73	heftê û sê
34	sî û çar	74	heftê û çar
35	sî û pênc	75	heftê û pênc
36	sî û şeş	76	heftê û şeş
37	sî û heft	77	heftê û heft
38	sî û heşt	78	heftê û heşt
39	sî û neh	79	heftê û neh
40	çil	80	heştê
41	çil û yek	81	heştê û yek
42	çil û du	82	heştê û du
43	çil û sê	83	heştê û sê
44	çil û çar	84	heştê û çar
45	çil û pênc	85	heştê û pênc
46	çil û şeş	86	heştê û şeş
47	çil û heft	87	heştê û heft

Number	Kurmanji	Number	Kurmanji
48	çil û heşt	88	heştê û heşt
49	çil û neh	89	heştê û neh
50	pêncî	90	nod
51	pêncî û yek	91	nod û yek
52	pêncî û du	92	nod û du
53	pêncî û sê	93	nod û sê
54	pêncî û çar	94	nod û çar
55	pêncî û pênc	95	nod û pênc
56	pêncî û şeş	96	nod û şeş
57	pêncî û heft	97	nod û heft
58	pêncî û heşt	98	nod û heşt
59	pêncî û neh	99	nod û neh
60	şêst	100	sed

04 | Hundreds, thousands, millions, and larger numbers

For larger whole numbers, learn the place-value pattern. The ordinary base words are **sed** (hundred), **hezar** (thousand), **milyon** (million), **milyar** (billion), and **trilyon** (trillion). International loanwords for very large values can vary in spelling and commonness.

Number	Kurmanji
100	sed
101	sed û yek
115	sed û panzdeh
120	sed û bîst
125	sed û bîst û pênc
200	du sed
350	sê sed û pêncî
999	neh sed û nod û neh
1,000	hezar / yek hezar
1,001	hezar û yek

Number	Kurmanji
1,200	hezar û du sed
2,026	du hezar û bîst û şeş
5,431	pênc hezar û çar sed û sê û yek
10,000	deh hezar
21,000	bîst û yek hezar
100,000	sed hezar
1,000,000	milyon / yek milyon
2,000,000	du milyon
1,000,000,000	milyar

The number-building algorithm

- Divide the value into millions, thousands, hundreds, tens, and units.
- Express the highest nonzero group first.
- Use *sed* for a hundred and *hezar* for a thousand; quantities such as *du sed* and *du hezar* place the multiplier first.
- Join remaining nonzero parts with *û*.
- Do not add unnecessary zero words inside an ordinary whole number.

Worked example 1 — 2,026: 2,000 + 20 + 6 *du hezar û bîst û şeş*.

Worked example 2 — 4,507: 4,000 + 500 + 7 *çar hezar û pênc sed û heft*.

Worked example 3 — 12,345: 12,000 + 300 + 40 + 5 *diwanzdeh hezar û sê sed û çil û pênc*.

Some grammars write hundreds as compounds (for example, dused) while others show a space (du sed). This workbook adopts spaced multiplier + magnitude forms for clarity and internal consistency. Local conventions may differ.

05 | Numbers and nouns: the grammar beyond memorization

5.1 Cardinal numerals normally precede their nouns

A common pattern is **NUMERAL + NOUN**. The noun often remains in a basic/singular-looking form even when the English translation uses a plural noun.

Kurmanji	English
yek kitêb	one book

Kurmanji	English
du kitêb	two books
sê zarok	three children
çar roj	four days
pênc mamoste	five teachers
deh sal	ten years
bîst pirtûk	twenty books

Avoid mechanically putting English-style plural markers after every numeral. Kurdish case, definiteness, and regional variation can affect longer noun phrases; the examples above model basic counting, not every inflectional context.

5.2 Questions with çend

Çend is a very common question word meaning “how many” or “how much,” depending on context.

Kurmanji	English
Çend kitêb hene?	How many books are there?
Sê kitêb hene.	There are three books.
Tu çend salî yî?	How old are you?
Ez bîst û sê salî me.	I am twenty-three years old.
Ev çend e?	How much is this?

5.3 The number yek and indefiniteness

The numeral **yek** (“one”) should not be confused with the ordinary indefinite suffix **-ek** (“a/an”) on nouns. Thus *yek kitêb* emphasizes the number “one book”; *kitêbek* can simply mean “a book.” The suffix itself is not another free-standing number word.

5.4 Adjectives and Ezafe

Kurmanji attributes often follow a noun using an **Ezafe** linking form. Thus the position of an ordinary cardinal number before a noun differs from many adjective constructions. Compare *sê kitêb* (“three books”) with an ordinal expression such as *kitêba yekem* (“the first book”). The shape of the Ezafe depends on the noun, its gender, number, and construction.

06 | Ordinal numbers: first, second, third...

Ordinal numbers indicate position or order rather than quantity. Two useful modern formations are **-em** and **-emîn**, with adjusted forms after vowels. The first three are irregular enough to memorize: **yekem / yekemîn**, **duyem / duyemîn**, **sêyem / sêyemîn**.

Position	Short ordinal (-em)	Extended ordinal (-emîn)
1	yekem	yekemîn
2	duyem	duyemîn
3	sêyem	sêyemîn
4	çarem	çaremîn
5	pêncem	pêncemîn
6	şeşem	şeşemîn
7	heftem	heftemîn
8	heştem	heştemîn
9	nehem	nehemîn
10	dehem	dehemîn
11	yanzdehem	yanzdehemîn
12	diwanzdehem	diwanzdehemîn
13	sêzdehem	sêzdehemîn
14	çardehem	çardehemîn
15	panzdehem	panzdehemîn
16	şanzdehem	şanzdehemîn
17	hevdehem	hevdehemîn
18	hejdehem	hejdehemîn
19	nozdehem	nozdehemîn
20	bîstem	bîstemîn
21	bîst û yekem	bîst û yekemîn
22	bîst û duyem	bîst û duyemîn
23	bîst û sêyem	bîst û sêyemîn
30	sîhem	sîhemîn

In the main standard pattern, an ordinal compound changes its **last element**: 21st = *bîst û yekemîn*; 22nd = *bîst û duyemîn*. Avoid converting all elements into ordinals.

6.1 Ordinals in phrases

Kurmanji	English / construction
roja yekem	the first day (noun + Ezafe + short ordinal)
cara duyem	the second time
yekemîn roj	first day (preposed extended ordinal)
duyemîn ders	second lesson
rûpela pêncem	the fifth page

Regional Kurmanji also uses older ordinal patterns (e.g., ordinal -an forms or local -ê forms). Their distribution and syntactic behavior differ, so an unfamiliar ordinal is not automatically an error. A detailed comparison is available in standard grammar references.

07 | Fractions, halves, quarters, decimals, and percentages

7.1 Halves, quarters, and unit fractions

The everyday word **nîv** means “half.” The word **çarêk / çaryek** may express a quarter, with regional variation. A general fraction construction can use **ji** (“of/from”) with a denominator form; for example, **ji çaran yek** for “one out of four.”

Value	Kurmanji (illustrative)	English
1/2	nîv; nîvek	half; a half
1/3	sêyek; ji sêyan yek	one third
1/4	çarêk / çaryek; ji çaran yek	one quarter
3/4	ji çaran sê	three quarters
2/5	ji pêncan du	two fifths
1/10	ji dehan yek	one tenth
1½	yek û nîv	one and a half
2½	du û nîv	two and a half

These examples present accessible patterns, not one invariant fraction morphology across every Kurmanji variety. In more formal mathematics, speakers may prefer symbolic notation or alternative denominators.

7.2 Percentages

For percentages, **ji sedî** literally expresses “out of a hundred.” The phrase **ji sedî pênc** means “five percent.” **Sedî pênc** is also encountered in usage. In numeric charts, the conventional symbol **%** is convenient and avoids ambiguous verbal conventions.

Written	Kurmanji	English
1%	ji sedî yek	one percent
5%	ji sedî pênc	five percent
25%	ji sedî bîst û pênc	twenty-five percent
50%	ji sedî pêncî	fifty percent
100%	ji sedî sed	one hundred percent

7.3 Decimal numbers

Ordinary measurements, currencies, and digital displays may contain decimals. Written conventions vary by location: **2.5** is common in English-language materials, while **2,5** is used in many European contexts. In practical Kurmanji, **du û nîv** (“two and a half”) is natural for 2.5 in everyday contexts. For arbitrary decimal strings such as 3.14, numeral-by-numeral readings and borrowed decimal-marker terms vary across speakers and educational settings; verify the intended convention with your target community rather than treating one borrowed term as universal.

08 | Everyday applications: age, price, quantity, and measurement

8.1 Age

Kurmanji	English
Tu çend salî yî?	How old are you?
Ez hijdeh salî me.	I am eighteen years old.
Ew çil salî ye.	He/she is forty years old.
Birayê min bîst û yek salî ye.	My brother is twenty-one years old.

Notice the useful age pattern **NUMBER + salî + copula**. English learners should not translate the phrase word by word as “I have twenty years.”

8.2 Money, shopping, and quantities

Kurmanji	English
Ev çend e?	How much is this?
Ev pênc euro ye.	This is five euros.
Min du kitêb kirîn.	I bought two books.
Sê kîlo sêv dixwazim.	I want three kilograms of apples.
Pênc litre av	five liters of water
Deh metre	ten meters

Currency names and metric unit words are often international loans. Local word choices, orthography, and grammatical treatments vary; the Kurmanji sentence frame and numeral remain the instructional focus here.

8.3 Telephone numbers, codes, and addresses

When reading telephone numbers, identification codes, and serial numbers, pronounce **each digit separately** when exact recognition matters. For example, the teaching sequence **405** can be read *çar – sifir – pênc* as a code, even though 405 as a quantity is *çar sed û pênc*. Phone-number grouping differs by speaker and country.

An apartment or street number may be treated as a label, not an amount. Avoid using large-number reading conventions mechanically for every code or address.

09 | Dates, years, and telling the time

9.1 Calendar years

When reading an entire year numerically, the whole-number system works. The year **2026** is **du hezar û bîst û şeş**. The year **1999** is **hezar û neh sed û nod û neh** in this teaching convention. Some speakers shorten years or use local patterns, especially in conversation.

9.2 Dates

Dates combine numeral expressions with calendar vocabulary such as **roj** ("day"), **meh** ("month"), and **sal** ("year"). Ordinals or ordinal-like forms may be used to identify the day of the month, with dialect and local naming differences.

For formal international contexts, **28/10/2026** or **2026-10-28** avoids ambiguity when a specific Kurdish month naming system is not agreed. Before speaking dates, clarify whether the context uses the Gregorian calendar or another calendar and which set of month names is in use.

9.3 Clock time

A widely understood question is **Saet çend e?** ("What time is it?"). Useful simple expressions are **Saet sê ye** ("It is three o'clock") and **Saet sê û nîv e** ("It is half past three").

More detailed time expressions, especially “quarter to” and minutes before/after the hour, vary regionally. Use the numerical clock display (e.g., 03:15, 15:45) where precision is essential and confirm local phrase patterns with a speaker.

10 | Frequency, distribution, comparison, and mathematics

10.1 How many times?

The word **car** means “time/occasion” in frequency expressions. Compare **carek** (“once / one time”), **du caran** (“twice”), and **sê caran** (“three times”).

Kurmanji	English
carek	once
du caran	twice
sê caran	three times
pir caran	many times / often
her car	every time

10.2 Distribution and stepwise counting

Repeated number constructions with **bi** provide expressions such as **yek bi yek** (“one by one”) and **du bi du** (“two by two”). These indicate distribution or procedure rather than the cardinal number alone.

Kurmanji	English
yek bi yek	one by one
du bi du	two by two
sê bi sê	three by three
cot bi cot	pair by pair

10.3 Calculations

In written exercises, internationally familiar arithmetic symbols are reliable: + addition, subtraction, × multiplication, and ÷ division. The purpose of this lesson is to master number formation; terminology for mathematical operations may differ among school traditions and regional vocabularies.

Equation	Result in Kurmanji
$2 + 3 = 5$	pênc

Equation	Result in Kurmanji
$10 - 4 = 6$	şêş
$3 \times 4 = 12$	diwanzdeh
$100 \div 4 = 25$	bîst û pênc
$18 + 7 = 25$	bîst û pênc

11 | Pronunciation, regional variants, and common errors

11.1 Recognize variant forms

Reference form	Attested alternatives / comments
sifir (0)	zîro and other zero terms occur; <i>nîn/tune</i> are context-dependent “none” expressions, not interchangeable numeric labels everywhere.
du (2)	didu / dido in some counting or regional contexts.
sê (3)	sisê in some counting or regional contexts.
yanzdeh (11)	yazdeh and other regional short forms.
diwanzdeh (12)	dwanzdeh, dozdeh, duwazdeh.
hevdeh (17)	hivdeh and other local realizations.
hejdeh (18)	hijdeh and local variants.
sî (30)	sih / sihî in some traditions and grammatical contexts.
çil (40)	çel.
nod (90)	not.

Variations do not automatically indicate mistakes. The forms in this course are selected for one consistent written reference. Compare dictionaries and recordings from the specific region you are studying.

11.2 Seven high-impact learner errors

- **Confusing ç and c, or ş and s.** Correct alphabetic distinctions matter: *çar, şeş*.
- **Writing ê or î as e or i.** These change the written form: *sê, bîst, pêncî*.
- **Forgetting û in compound cardinals.** Write *bîst û yek* for twenty-one.
- **Overgeneralizing teen formation.** Learn *yanzdeh* and *diwanzdeh* as forms, not invented *deh û yek*.
- **Forcing plural endings on every noun after a numeral.** The basic phrase is *sê kitêb*.
- **Confusing cardinal and ordinal.** *sê* is “three”; *sêyem* is “third.”

• **Assuming all Kurdish varieties use the same words.** This is a Kurmanji course; Sorani and other varieties require their own guides.

12 | Everyday conversations: guided practice

Dialogue A: In a bookshop

Kurmanji	English
A: Ev çend e?	A: How much is this?
B: Ev pênc euro ye.	B: It is five euros.
A: Du kitêb dixwazim.	A: I want two books.
B: Baş e.	B: All right.

Dialogue B: Age and family

Kurmanji	English
A: Tu çend salî yî?	A: How old are you?
B: Ez bîst û sê salî me.	B: I am twenty-three.
A: Xwişka te çend salî ye?	A: How old is your sister?
B: Ew hijdeh salî ye.	B: She is eighteen.

Dialogue C: Counting objects

Kurmanji	English
A: Çend kitêb hene?	A: How many books are there?
B: Sê kitêb hene.	B: There are three books.
A: Çend zarok hene?	A: How many children are there?
B: Pênc zarok hene.	B: There are five children.

A useful daily learning routine

- **Day 1:** read and write 0–20 from memory.
- **Day 2:** learn all tens and practice 21–99.
- **Day 3:** build hundreds and thousands using place values.

- **Day 4:** use quantities with nouns and ask *çend* questions.
- **Day 5:** learn ordinal phrases and common fractions.
- **Day 6:** practice prices, ages, years, and percentages.
- **Day 7:** finish the worksheet below, check your answers, and read the three dialogues aloud.

13 | Exercises: Test yourself

Try every exercise without the reference chart first. Sample answers follow on the next pages; alternative regional spellings may also be acceptable where they are identified.

Exercise A: Write these numbers in Kurmanji

- A1. 0 _____
- A2. 7 _____
- A3. 12 _____
- A4. 16 _____
- A5. 19 _____
- A6. 24 _____
- A7. 31 _____
- A8. 46 _____
- A9. 58 _____
- A10. 67 _____
- A11. 79 _____
- A12. 80 _____
- A13. 94 _____
- A14. 100 _____
- A15. 108 _____
- A16. 217 _____
- A17. 999 _____
- A18. 2,026 _____
- A19. 4,531 _____
- A20. 12,045 _____

Exercise B: Convert Kurmanji words to digits

- B1. sî û heft _____

- B2. heştê û sê _____
- B3. du sed û bîst û yek _____
- B4. pênc hezar û pêncî _____
- B5. hezar û heft _____
- B6. pêncî û şeş _____
- B7. sê sed û neh _____
- B8. diwanzdeh hezar _____
- B9. heftê û çar _____
- B10. neh sed û nod _____

Exercise C: Cardinal or ordinal?

- C1. Write "first" in Kurmanji: _____
- C2. Write "eight" in Kurmanji: _____
- C3. Write "second" in Kurmanji: _____
- C4. Write "third" in Kurmanji: _____
- C5. Write "twenty-one" in Kurmanji: _____
- C6. Write "twenty-first" in Kurmanji: _____
- C7. Write "fifth" in Kurmanji: _____
- C8. Write "ten" in Kurmanji: _____

Exercise D: Fill in the missing word

- D1. ____ kitêb (three books)
- D2. Tu ____ salî yî? (How old are you?)
- D3. Ev ____ e? (How much is this?)
- D4. bîst ____ yek (twenty-one)
- D5. du ____ (two hundred)
- D6. ____ û nîv (two and a half)
- D7. ____ bi yek (one by one)
- D8. ji sedî ____ (five percent)

Exercise E: Translate into English

- E1. Sê zarok hene. _____

E2. Ez bîst û sê salî me. _____

E3. Ev pênc euro ye. _____

E4. Du kitêb dixwazim. _____

E5. Saet sê û nîv e. _____

Exercise F: True or false? Explain your choice

F1. Kurdish numerals are identical across all Kurdish varieties. True / False: _____

F2. The ordinary Kurmanji spelling for 40 in this workbook is çil. True / False: _____

F3. *Bîst û du* means the twenty-second rather than twenty-two. True / False: _____

F4. Kurmanji can express “one by one” as yek bi yek. True / False: _____

F5. Sê kitêb is a normal beginner model for “three books.” True / False: _____

Answer key

Answers A: Digits to Kurmanji

Item	Digit	Sample answer
A1	0	sîfir
A2	7	heft
A3	12	diwanzdeh
A4	16	şanzdeh
A5	19	nozdeh
A6	24	bîst û çar
A7	31	sî û yek
A8	46	çil û şeş
A9	58	pêncî û heşt
A10	67	şêst û heft
A11	79	heftê û neh
A12	80	heştê
A13	94	nod û çar
A14	100	sed
A15	108	sed û heşt
A16	217	du sed û hevdeh
A17	999	neh sed û nod û neh
A18	2026	du hezar û bîst û şeş
A19	4531	çar hezar û pênc sed û sî û yek
A20	12045	diwanzdeh hezar û çil û pênc

Answers B: Kurmanji to digits

Item	Answer
B1	37
B2	83
B3	221
B4	5050
B5	1007
B6	56
B7	309
B8	12000
B9	74
B10	990

Answers C: Ordinals and cardinals

Item	Answer
C1	yekemîn
C2	heşt
C3	duyemîn
C4	sêyemîn
C5	bîst û yek
C6	bîst û yekemîn
C7	pêncemîn
C8	deh

Answers D: Missing words

Item	Missing word	Completed example
D1	sê	sê kitêb
D2	çend	Tu çend salî yî?
D3	çend	Ev çend e?
D4	û	bîst û yek
D5	sed	du sed
D6	du	du û nîv
D7	yek	yek bi yek
D8	pênc	ji sedî pênc

Answers E: English translations

Item	Sample translation
E1	There are three children.
E2	I am twenty-three years old.
E3	This is five euros.
E4	I want two books.
E5	It is half past three.

Answers F: True or false

Item	Answer and explanation
F1	False — Kurdish varieties can have different forms and spelling conventions.
F2	True — çil is the reference form here; çel is also attested.
F3	False — bîst û du is a cardinal, “twenty-two”; bîst û duyemîn is ordinal.
F4	True — yek bi yek means “one by one.”
F5	True — it is a normal simple cardinal + noun phrase.

Further study: how to check your own examples

When writing or speaking numbers, identify the **variety**, **regional pronunciation**, and **context**. A number read as a quantity may be spoken differently when it is a date, house number, phone number, or mathematical expression. For precise formal writing, use Arabic numerals in addition to Kurdish wording when needed.

After this lesson, continue to core Kurmanji noun morphology, gender, case, and Ezafe. These systems help explain why numeral phrases can acquire different endings in longer sentences.

References and editorial methodology

The central cardinal and ordinal forms were checked against descriptive grammars, pedagogical resources, and independent numeral references. Some sources document alternative pronunciations or orthographies; these are labeled rather than mixed into the main counting tables. Practical sentences are original teaching examples, not quotations from the cited materials.

1. Haig, Geoffrey (2018), "Northern Kurdish (Kurmanjî)", descriptive overview; section 2.4 on numerals.

<https://it.scribd.com/document/750742501/haig-2018-ch-2-3-northernkurdish>

2. Thackston, W. M., Kurmanji Kurdish: A Reference Grammar, §§ cardinal and ordinal numbers.

<https://www.scribd.com/document/369311993/Kurmanji-Kurdish-Grammar-pdf>

3. Bedir Khan and Lescot, Grammaire Kurde (Kurmandji): historical and descriptive reference; Kurdish Institute resources.

https://www.institutkurde.org/bibliotheque/en_ligne/kurtce_grameri.pdf

4. Omniglot, "Northern (Kurmanji) Kurdish numbers" (cardinal/ordinal/fractional forms).

<https://www.omniglot.com/language/numbers/kurdish.htm>

5. Kurmancî reference tables, "Numbers, ordinals and fractions," Kurmanci.app.

<https://kurmanci.app/rehber/sayilar>

6. CrowdsourcedKurdish, "Kurdish Numbers to Words" (number-construction rules).

<https://github.com/CrowdsourcedKurdish/Kurdish-Numbers-to-Words>

7. University of Manchester, Kurdish Linguistics Project: language structure and diversity.

<https://kurdish.humanities.manchester.ac.uk/about-kurdish/general-structural-characteristics/>

8. Goethe-Verlag, "Numbers" (Kurmanji audio-oriented learning material).

<https://www.goethe-verlag.com/book2/TR/TRKU/TRKU009.HTM>

© 2026 Kurdistan Voice. Original pedagogical explanations, exercises, and layout; source works are credited above.

<https://voice-of-the-kurdistan.org/>