The student guide

How you study on Thinkera

This guide explains the platform's method, not one course: from making your account to the lesson, practice, paying and your trainer. Every course on the platform is built the same way and presented the same way. The course open today is Programming & AI for Grade 11 (second year of secondary), and the other courses open one after another.

The whole of Unit 1 is free, every lesson in it.

What is in this guide

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2 Your first sign-in

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1 · The method

Before the buttons, the principle — it is what explains why the screens look the way they do.

Every course on the platform starts from **the official syllabus** you are studying: its lessons, its order, its terms. That is the base, and we do not change it. Onto it we add:

The base

The syllabus lessons

Each lesson in the syllabus becomes a full lesson on the platform: a video explanation, files, practice and questions. The order is the syllabus's order and the terms are its terms.

The addition

Extra lessons where they are needed

Where the syllabus passes quickly over something you need to understand properly, or assumes a practical skill it never teaches, an extra lesson is added. It shows in the course as an “extra lesson”, so you always know it is an addition and not part of the syllabus.

The difference

Thinking, not memorising

The questions here do not ask you to recall. They ask you to explain, compare and decide. And a model answer states the claim, the reason, the evidence and its limit — not one line to be learnt by heart.



The syllabus is the base and extra lessons are added onto it where they are needed; together they are one course, with its units and lessons.

2 · Your first sign-in

Three steps, done once: an account, a confirmed email, and the guidelines read and accepted.

1 Make your free account

From “new account”, choose the **student** membership type, then sign up with Google or by email. You give your name, your email and **your mobile number — which is required**: an Egyptian number of 11 digits starting 010, 011, 012 or 015, or a number from another country starting with + and the country code. Your guardian's mobile is optional, and can be added later from your account.

If you sign in with Google for the first time, the platform asks for your mobile once before you carry on.

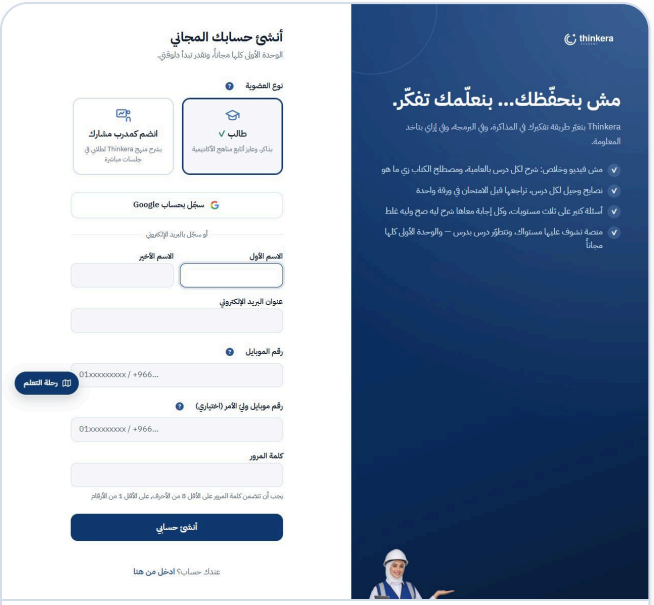
2 Confirm your email

If you signed up by email, a message with a confirmation link reaches you. Press it before anything else, so your account is confirmed and your notices and invoices reach the right address.

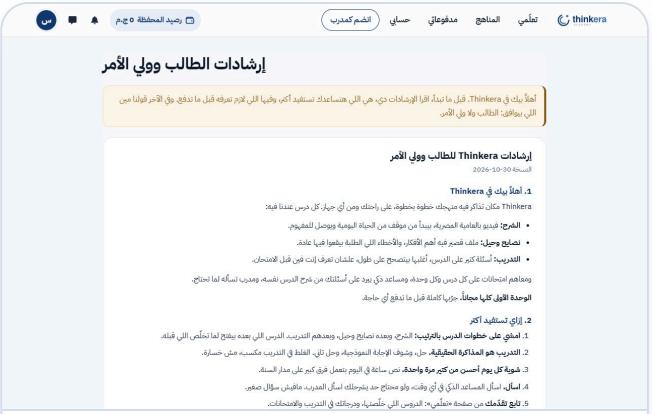
3 Read the student and parent guidelines, and accept them

At your first sign-in the platform stops you once on the guidelines page: how to get the most out of it, advice for parents, the account, paying and refunds, trainers, your data, and respect and honesty. At the end you say who is accepting — **I am the student** or **I am the parent** — and tick the agreement box.

The platform records the acceptance with its date and time, together with the text exactly as you saw it. For a student under 18, the parent's acceptance is given on their behalf. You can read the guidelines again at any time from your account. If the text changes later, you are asked to accept the new version.



The new account: student, then Google or email, and the mobile number.



The guidelines at the first sign-in: read to the end, they hold what you need to know before you pay. (The guidelines are written in Arabic in both editions.)



"Who is accepting?" and then the button to start.



The same step on a phone.

3 · The shape of a course

The same shape in every course: units holding lessons, and exams at the end of each unit.

1 **Join the course for free**

From the course list, open the course you care about and press **explore for free**: no payment and no subscription code, and the free lessons open for you at once.

2 **The unit**

A set of lessons on one subject. **The whole of Unit 1 is free** — all of its lessons, not the first one. Free lessons carry a “free” badge, and the rest open when you unlock the course (section 8).

3 **The lesson**

The thing you actually study in. Inside each one are the four steps in the next section.

4 **Lessons open in order**

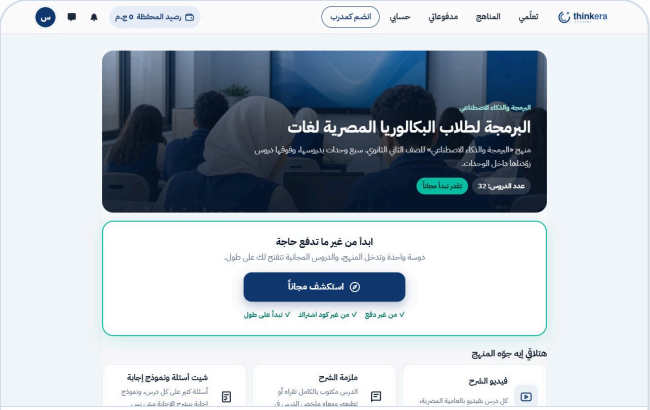
The next lesson opens when you finish the one before it. That is not red tape: a course builds on itself, and lesson four assumes you know lesson three.

And “finish” means one thing: scoring **75% or more on the lesson's “Practice: Advanced level”**. You do not have to open every file or complete every activity — you have to show you can do the hardest practice in the lesson. You get more than one attempt and the best one counts, so if you miss it first time, go back to the explanation and try again.

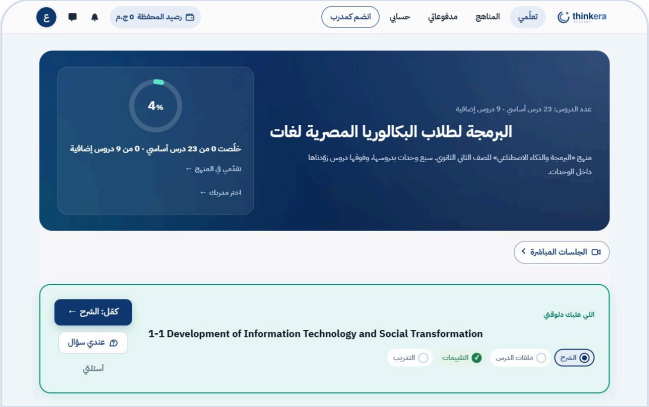
That is the default, and your trainer may change it for a particular lesson: sometimes a whole unit is asked for before a lesson opens, and sometimes you are given a choice of activities and finishing any one of them is enough. Whatever the condition, **the locked lesson itself tells you exactly what you are waiting on** — read the line under its name.

5 **The end-of-unit exams**

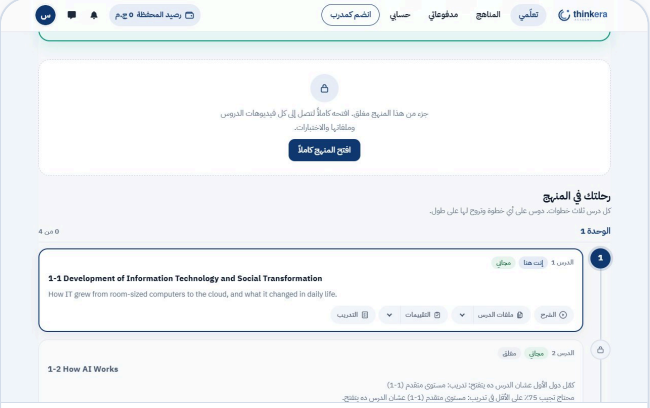
Once the unit's lessons are done its exams open, at three levels — **easy, medium and advanced** — with more than one exam at each level. Every exam is timed, and its questions are drawn at random, so each one differs from the last, with written (essay) questions at all three levels. The unit's mind map sits beside them.



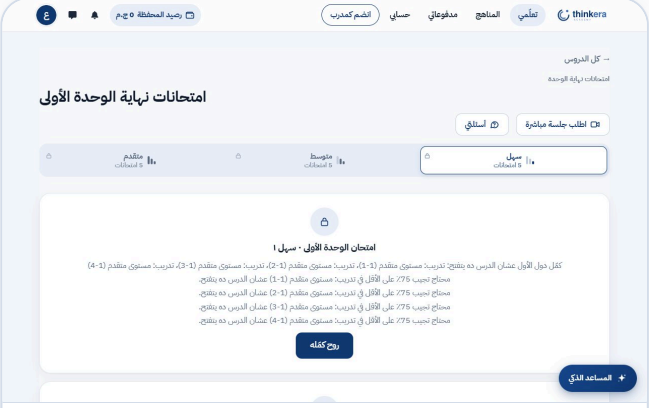
Explore for free: one press and you are in the course.



The course page: where you stand, where to carry on, and “choose your trainer” and “live sessions”.



The course journey: a locked lesson tells you what it takes to open it.



The end-of-unit exams at their three levels.

4 · A lesson's four steps

Every lesson in every course is presented in the same four steps, and you move between them from the bar at the top.

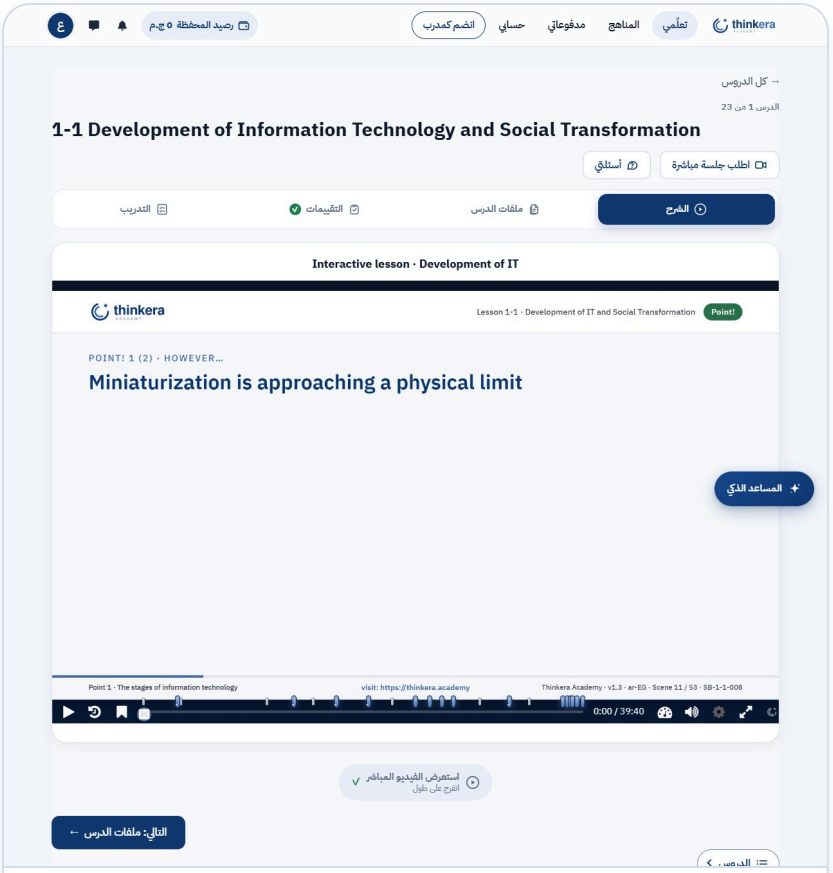
The explanation
an interactive video

Lesson files
booklet, mind map, sheet

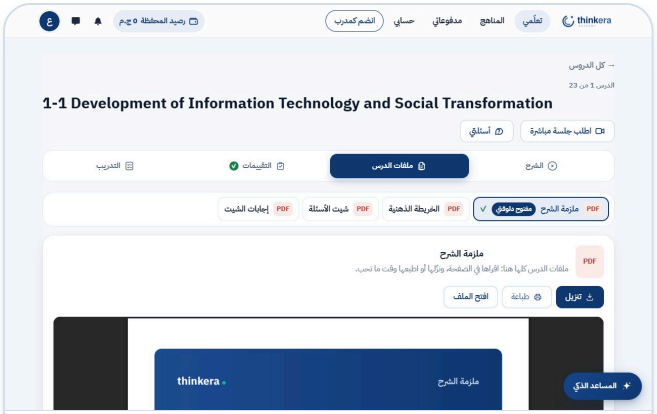
Assessments
how to use them

Practice
three levels, interactive

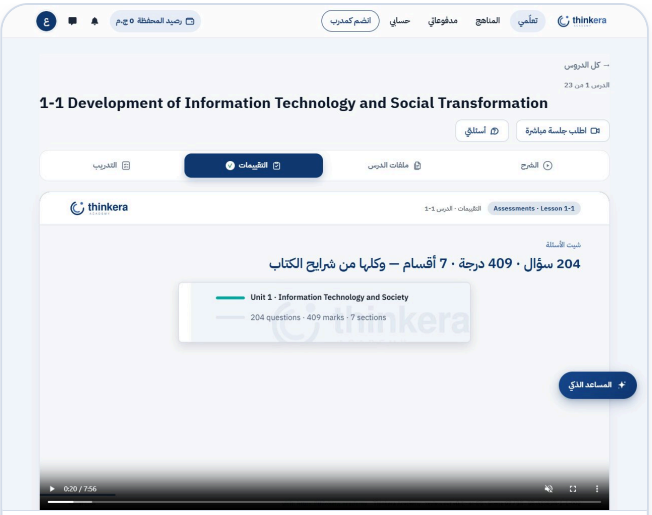
The four steps in order. You can go to any of them at any time, and a step you have done carries a ✓.



The explanation. It opens on the **interactive video** — the marks along the timeline are the points where it stops and asks you a question before it carries on. If you would rather it did not, **watch the plain video** under it takes you to the version that runs straight through, and a link there brings you back. Under both, **next: lesson files**.



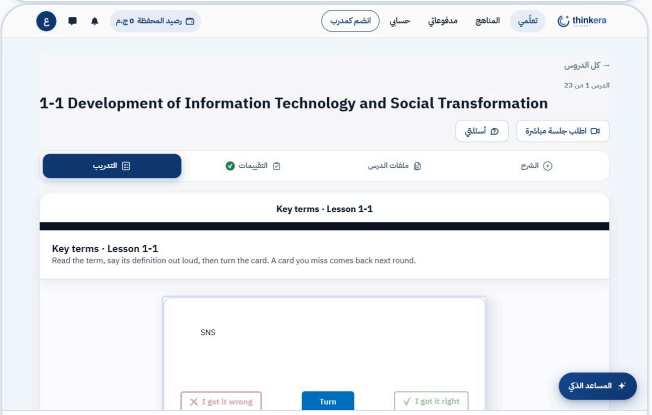
Lesson files. The **explanation booklet**, the **mind map**, the **question sheet** and the **sheet's answers**. They are read inside the page, and you can download or print them.



Assessments. A short video showing how to use the sheet and its answers properly: answer first, mark second, and read the model answer as a way of arguing rather than a text to memorise.



Practice. Three quizzes at three levels: **easy** for the definitions and basics, **medium**, and **advanced** in the style of the exam. Every attempt draws its questions in a new order, and these are the ones that are marked.

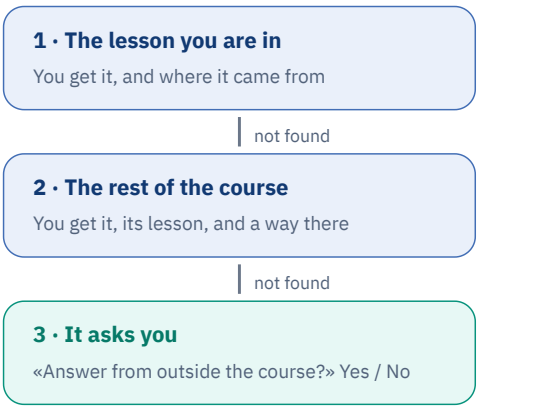


Interactive practice. A link under the levels leads to flashcards for the terms, ordering, matching and other activities, in your edition's language — to work through at your own pace with no mark attached, and a link there brings you back to the quizzes.

5 · The AI assistant

The AI assistant button floats in the corner of the lesson page, and opens a chat box that answers from your own course's lessons.

What makes it different from any other chatbot is that it searches inside your course first, and tells you where the answer came from. That happens in three steps:



What that guarantees you

- The answer comes from your course
- It names the part of the lesson it came from
- If it is not there, it says so
- It leaves the course only if you say so
- An answer from outside is labelled

Three steps, each one reached only when the one before it found nothing.



The box opens over the page, so you never lose your place in the lesson. You can make it bigger when an answer is long.



On a phone it opens across the screen, and the video under it keeps working.

What it actually does for you

Explains a part you did not follow

Ask with the lesson's own words: what does this mean, what is the difference between these two, give me an

Takes you to the right lesson

If the answer is in a different lesson, it names that lesson and asks whether

example. The answer comes from the lesson's own explanation, with its source underneath.

you want to open it — instead of leaving you to search the whole course.

Works while you study

The box opens over the page, so you can ask in the middle of a video or a file without leaving your place.

And things it does not do

- **It does not sit your quiz.** Give it an exam question word for word and it will explain the idea; the answer is still yours to write.
- **It does not invent.** What is not in the course is reported as not in the course, not made up.
- **It does not leave the course on its own.** That takes a press from you, and the answer comes back labelled “an answer from outside the course”. If you say no, it suggests sending the question to your trainer from “my questions”.

Your privacy: the model that answers you runs on the platform's own servers, not on an outside service. What is recorded is that a request happened and how long it took — never your question and never your answer.

Worth remembering: the assistant helps you understand; it does not answer for you. The answer you write in a quiz has to be yours — that is what is being marked.

6 · Practice and marks

How your answer is marked, and when the mark reaches you — and a written answer is marked while you wait.

Multiple choice and true/false

You press **Check** and see the result straight away, with an explanation: why the right one is right, and why each wrong one is wrong. The options are in the language of the question itself — an English question is answered True / False, an Arabic one «صح / خطأ».

Written answers: Check as well

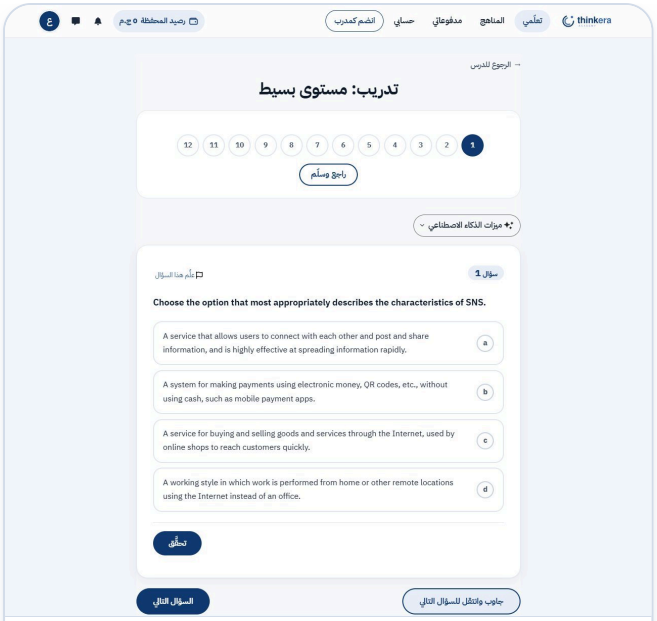
You write your answer and press **Check**. The AI reads it in front of you, against the model answer and the marking criteria written for that question. A bar shows how far along it is, and you can leave the page and come back while the marking carries on.

When it is sure: your mark, at once

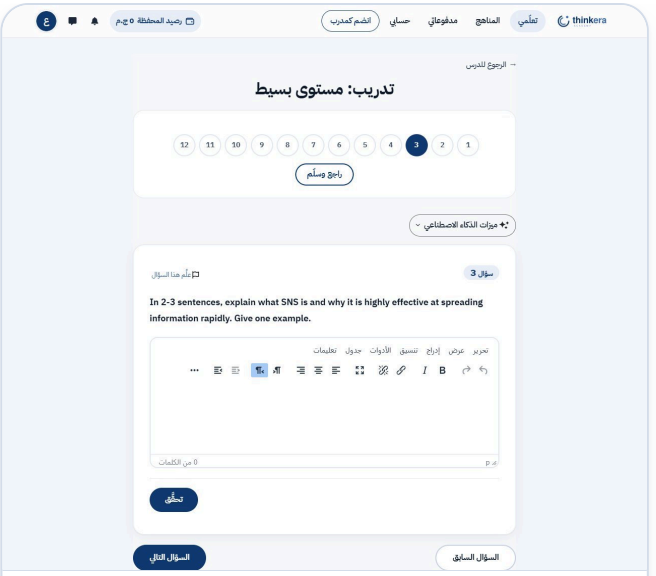
If the model is as sure of its own marking as the course asks — **95% or more** by default — the mark is worked out and shown to you there and then, with the feedback, and it waits for nobody to confirm it. So you carry on practising knowing where you stand.

When it is not: your instructor

Below that, **no mark is given** — deliberately: a number the model is unsure of is worse than no number. You are told that your instructor will read the answer themselves and mark it, and a notice reaches you when they have.



The question numbers at the top take you to any question, and “review and hand in” when you are done. Under the question, **answer and go to the next question** checks what you wrote and moves you on in a single press.



A written question: write your answer and press Check.

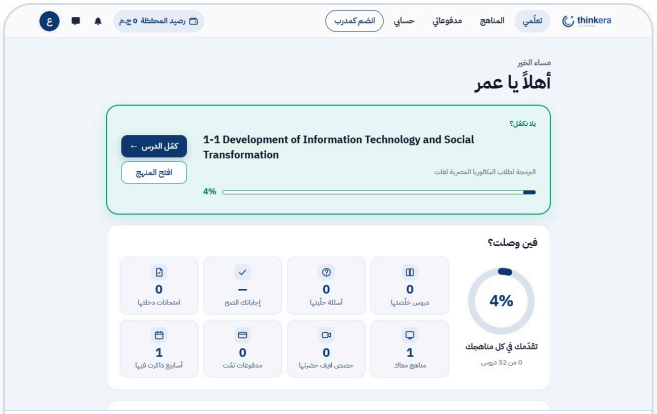
And in the unit exams

An exam is handed in once, at the end, with no question-by-question Check. Objective questions are marked as soon as you hand in. Written answers are marked after it: either the model gives the mark straight away, when the course has that switched on, or the answer waits for your instructor. Either way your instructor reviews it, and if they change a mark you get a notice that your result was revised after review.

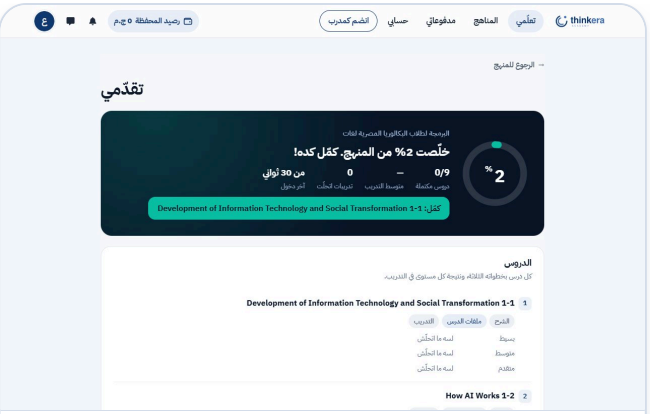
You get more than one attempt: in practice and in the unit exams you can try again, and the best attempt counts. A mistake in practice is a gain, not a loss.

7 · Your progress

Your home page opens on the only question that matters: where do I carry on?



Home. First, “shall we carry on?” with the lesson you stopped at, then “where are you?”: lessons finished, questions answered, exams taken, sessions attended. There are also points for effort and badges, and your courses.



Your progress in the course. Each lesson with its steps, every practice level's result, your average, and your last visit.

The lesson count is split into its two kinds — the syllabus lessons and the extra ones — and under the percentage, how many of each you have finished. From preferences you can set a **weekly reminder** for a day and an hour, which nudges you to carry on from the last lesson you stopped at.

8 · Unlocking the course and paying

When you want to carry on past Unit 1, you unlock the course from inside the platform. Payment happens on the platform only.

On the course page press **unlock the whole course**. A page shows you what opens, the price on its card, and two ways to pay:

1 **Studying with a trainer? (optional)**

If you have a trainer on the platform, type their code here or choose them from the approved trainers. This step is optional, and the course price is the same for every student, with a trainer or without.

2 **Pay from your wallet**

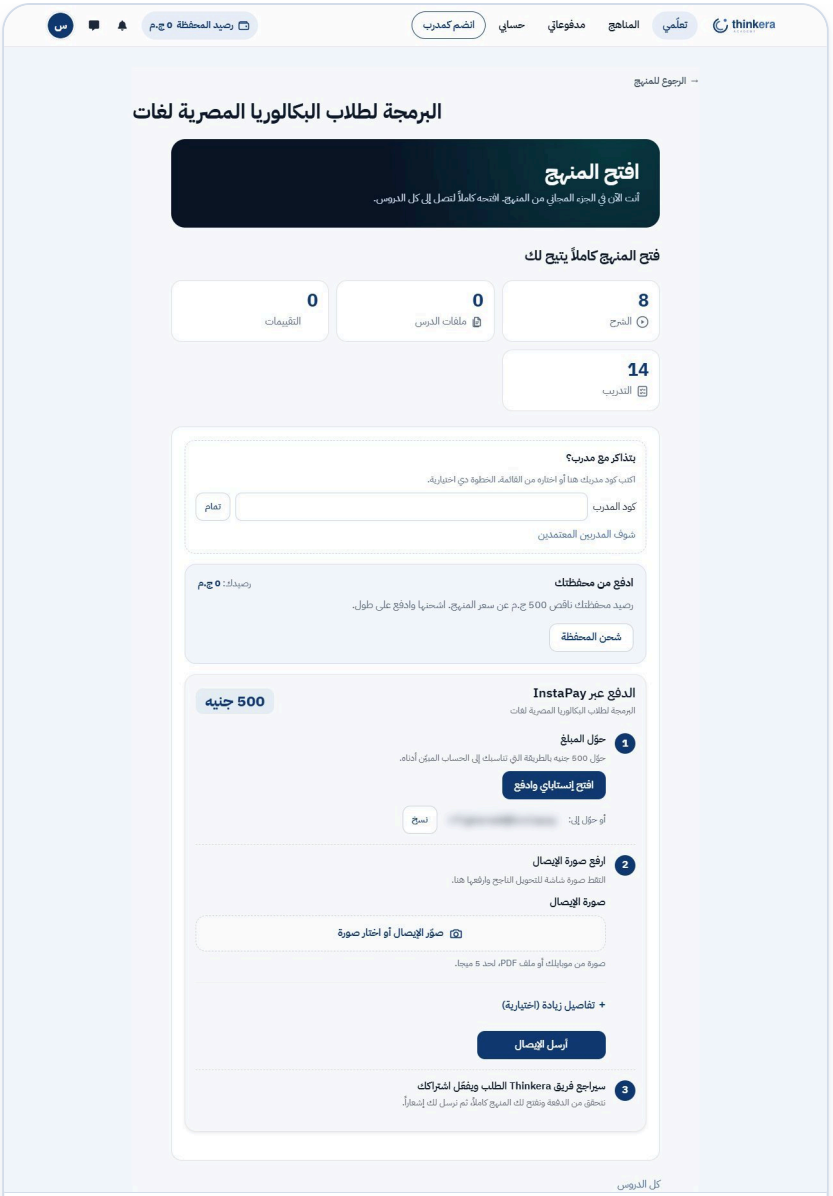
If your wallet holds enough, you confirm, the amount is taken, and the course opens in the same moment. If it holds too little, the page tells you how much is missing, with a button to top up the wallet (section 9).

3 Or pay by transfer

Send the amount by the method shown on the card — InstaPay today, and Vodafone Cash once it is switched on. When more than one method is available you choose one, and only that method's account details show. Then **upload a picture of the receipt** (an image or a PDF) and press send.

4 The review

Your request shows as under review. The Thinkera team checks the transfer and opens the whole course for you — usually within one working day — and you get a notice. If the payment cannot be confirmed, you are told why, and you upload the right receipt from the same page.



The unlock page: the wallet, or a transfer in three steps — send, upload the receipt, and we check and open the course. (The account details are hidden in the picture; on the platform they are written out with a copy button.)

Never pay anyone outside the platform — a trainer included — for the course, sessions or any lesson. Every payment on the platform has its invoice under **payments**, with its status and ready to download. The subscription opens the rest of the course for the period stated on the course page.

9 · The wallet and refunds

Your wallet balance shows at the top of every page. You pay the course and sessions from it, and any money owed to you comes back to it.

Topping up

Send the amount by the method that suits you to the account shown, say how much you sent (or pick a ready amount), upload the receipt and send the request. We check the receipt and credit your balance, and you get a notice the moment it is done.

Paying from it

The course: from the unlock page, and the course opens at once. Live sessions: from the session page or the session request. What is left stays with you.

Asking for your balance back

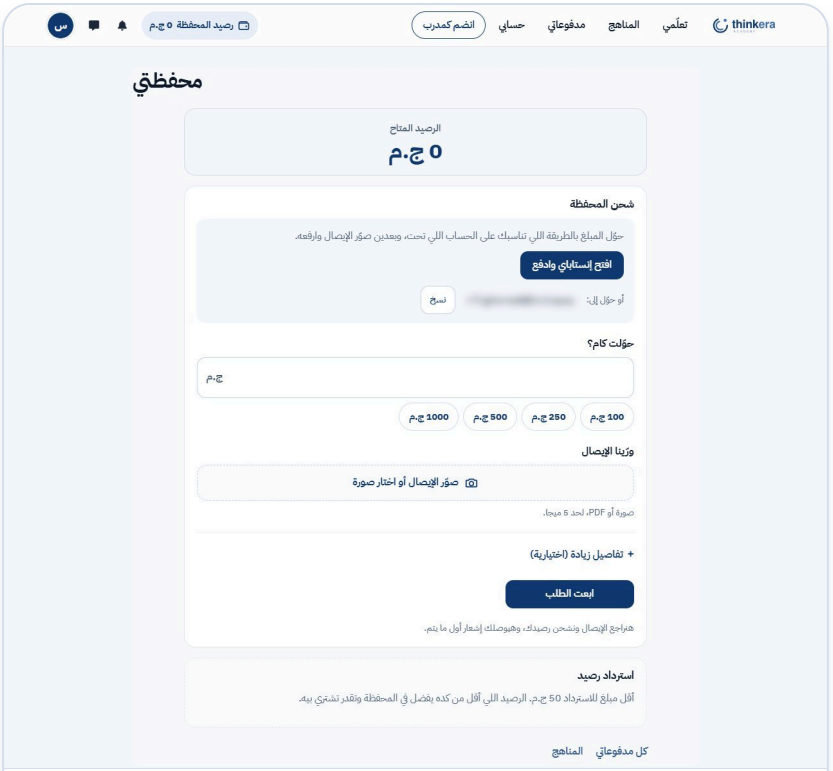
You can ask for your wallet's money in cash. There is a minimum amount and a refund fee, both shown on the page before you confirm. The amount is held from your balance while we check the request, then transferred to the account you gave.

We send it by the payment methods switched on for the platform: **InstaPay**, where you enter your InstaPay address, or **Vodafone Cash**, where you enter a Vodafone number with Vodafone Cash on it (11 digits starting with 010). When both are on you choose at the top of the request under “Send it by”; when only one is on, it goes there. Today that is InstaPay.

Refunds

Changed your mind about the course?

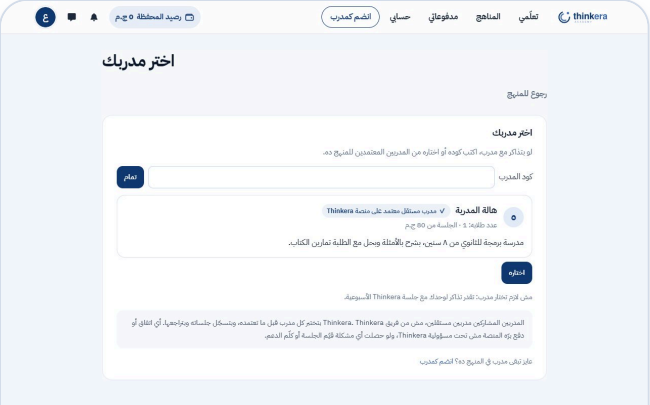
Within 7 days of paying for the course, you get it all back, with no questions about why. Contact us on the support WhatsApp or the email at the foot of every page. The money goes back to your wallet on the platform at once, the subscription closes, and a notice tells you the amount. From the wallet you spend it or ask for it in cash.



Your wallet: the balance, topping up, and asking for your balance back.

10 · Your trainer

A trainer is optional. You can study the whole course on your own with Thinkera's weekly session — and if you want a trainer to follow you, you choose them yourself.



Choose your trainer, from the course page: type a trainer's code, or choose from the trainers approved for the course.

How you choose

- **By code:** type it in the trainer code box and press go.
- **From the list:** each card has the trainer's name, their bio, how many students they have, and the price their sessions start from. Press choose.
- **By their link:** the trainer sends you a link. Without an account, make one from the link and you join them at once; with one, sign in from the same link.

Before you join you agree to one sentence: the trainer will see **your name and your progress in the lessons, the practice and attendance — nothing else**, and can message you inside the platform. They will not see your mobile, your email or your guardian's details.

My trainer, and their sessions

My trainer

Once you have chosen, the same page becomes “my trainer”: since when you have been with them, your groups with them, and their next sessions for your groups.

Booking a session

A trainer holds live sessions on the platform, for one student or a group. The session price is set by the platform for its kind and length, and shows before you pay. You book your seat and pay **from the wallet**, and the amount is held until the session.

If it is cancelled

Rate the session

Cancel 24 hours or more before it starts: you get your money back in full. After that the booking cannot be cancelled, and the session counts whether you come or not. If the trainer cancels, or the platform fails, your money comes back to your wallet in full.

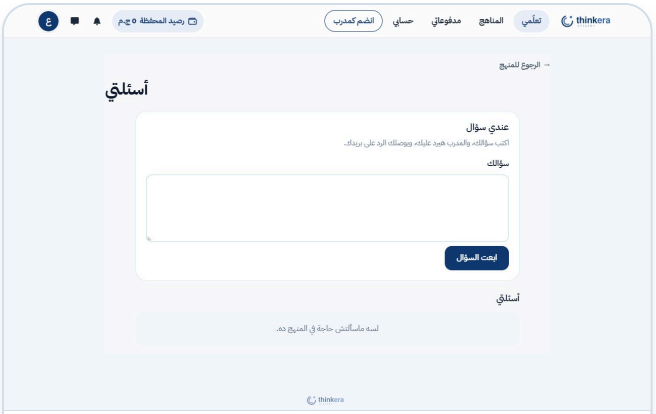
If you attended a session, you can rate it from one to five stars within 14 days. The rating reaches Thinkera only, and the trainer does not learn who rated.

- **You can leave at any time** (“leave the trainer”), from the same page: your course subscription is not affected, the trainer sees nothing of you from that moment, and paid sessions 24 hours or more away are refunded to your wallet.
- **You can move to another trainer once every 14 days.**
- **A trainer is an “independent trainer approved on the Thinkera platform”**, not one of the platform's staff. The platform tests every trainer before approving them, and records and reviews their sessions. You talk to them inside the platform only, and pay on the platform only; if anyone asks otherwise, tell us.

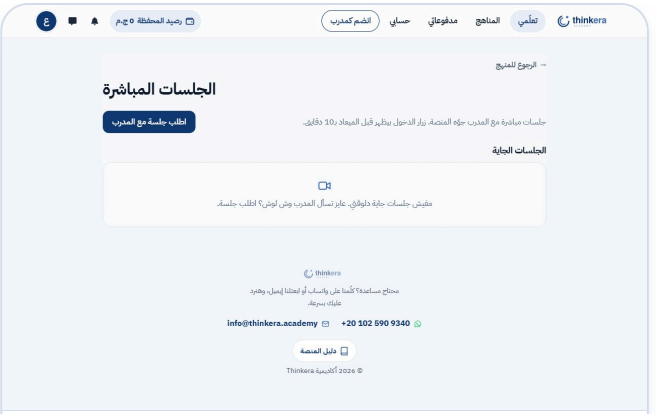
Want to be a trainer? The **join as a trainer** link sits in the top bar on large screens, in your account menu on any screen, and at the foot of “choose your trainer”. You choose the course and the role, read and accept the trainer agreement, and your request is reviewed in stages. Until it is accepted, your account stays a student account as it was.

11 · Questions and live sessions

For when you need a person rather than a model.



My questions. From “I have a question” in any lesson: write your question, your trainer replies, and the reply reaches you as a notice and by email. The question stays with you, with its answer.

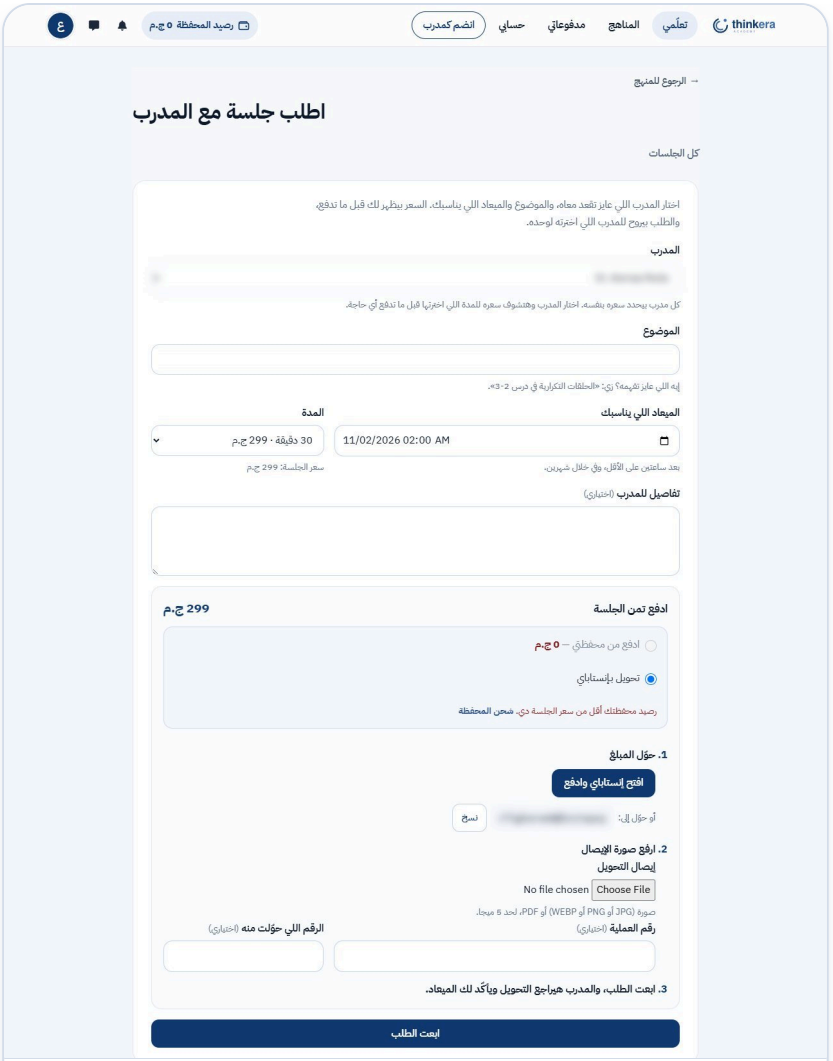


Live sessions. The upcoming sessions with their times; the button to go in appears 10 minutes before the start.

Asking for a session with a trainer

A private session for you alone with one of the course's trainers. You choose the **trainer**, the **topic** (“what do you want to understand?”), a **time** that suits you (at least two hours ahead, and within two months), and the **length**. Each trainer sets their own price for each length, and the price shows before you pay anything. You pay **from the wallet** or **by transfer** with the receipt, and the request goes to the trainer you chose alone; when they accept, the session invitation reaches you.

- **You can withdraw the request** while the trainer has not answered. What you paid from the wallet goes straight back to it; for a transfer, write to the support address and we refund you.
- **If the trainer cannot accept,** you are told why. What you paid from the wallet goes back to it before the notice reaches you; for a transfer, write to us and we refund you.
- You can have up to 3 requests waiting in one course at a time.



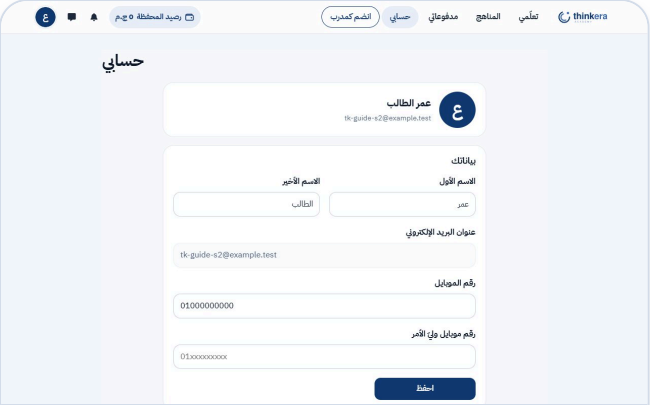
The session request: trainer, topic, time and length, and the price before paying. (The trainer's name and the account details are hidden in the picture.)

12 · Your account and preferences

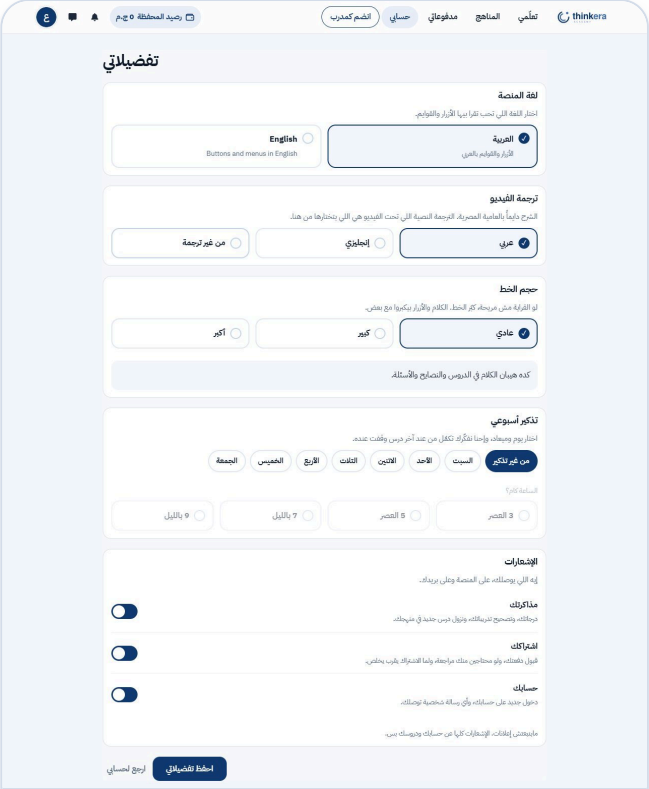
Your account, from the top bar or your picture.

Page	What it does
Account	Your name, email, mobile number and your guardian's mobile (optional), with links to payments, preferences, the student and parent guidelines, and changing your password.

Page	What it does
Preferences	The interface language (Arabic or English), video subtitles (Arabic, English or none — the explanation itself is always in Egyptian Arabic), text size (normal, large or larger), the weekly reminder, and which notices reach you.
Notifications	The bell at the top: a reply to your question, a mark, a payment accepted or a wallet topped up, a session invitation, news from your trainer. Each one takes you to where it happened. We send no advertising.
Payments	Everything you paid: the course and private sessions, each payment's status, its invoice to download, and a link to your wallet.
Wallet	From the wallet balance at the top: the balance, topping up, and refunds (section 9).



Your account.



Preferences: language, subtitles, text size, the reminder and notices.

13 · On a phone

The same platform, fitted to a small screen.

There is nothing to install. Open the platform in your phone's browser: a bar at the bottom holds four pages — **home, courses, payments and account**. A lesson's steps become one list you pick from (“step 1 of 4”), and the assistant opens across the screen. If the text is too small for you, make it bigger in preferences.



Home on a phone.



A lesson: the steps as one list.

14 · The open test

Want to know your level before you make an account? There is an open test on the whole of Unit 1, with no sign-in.

The test is at the **advanced level**, the hardest level of the unit, and completely free. You give your name, email and mobile and press start: objective questions first, then written questions marked by AI, with a time limit that starts the moment you begin — when it runs out, the test hands itself in with what you have written. After handing in you see your result, your result in each lesson, and an explanation of every question. The questions are drawn at random, so another try brings other questions.

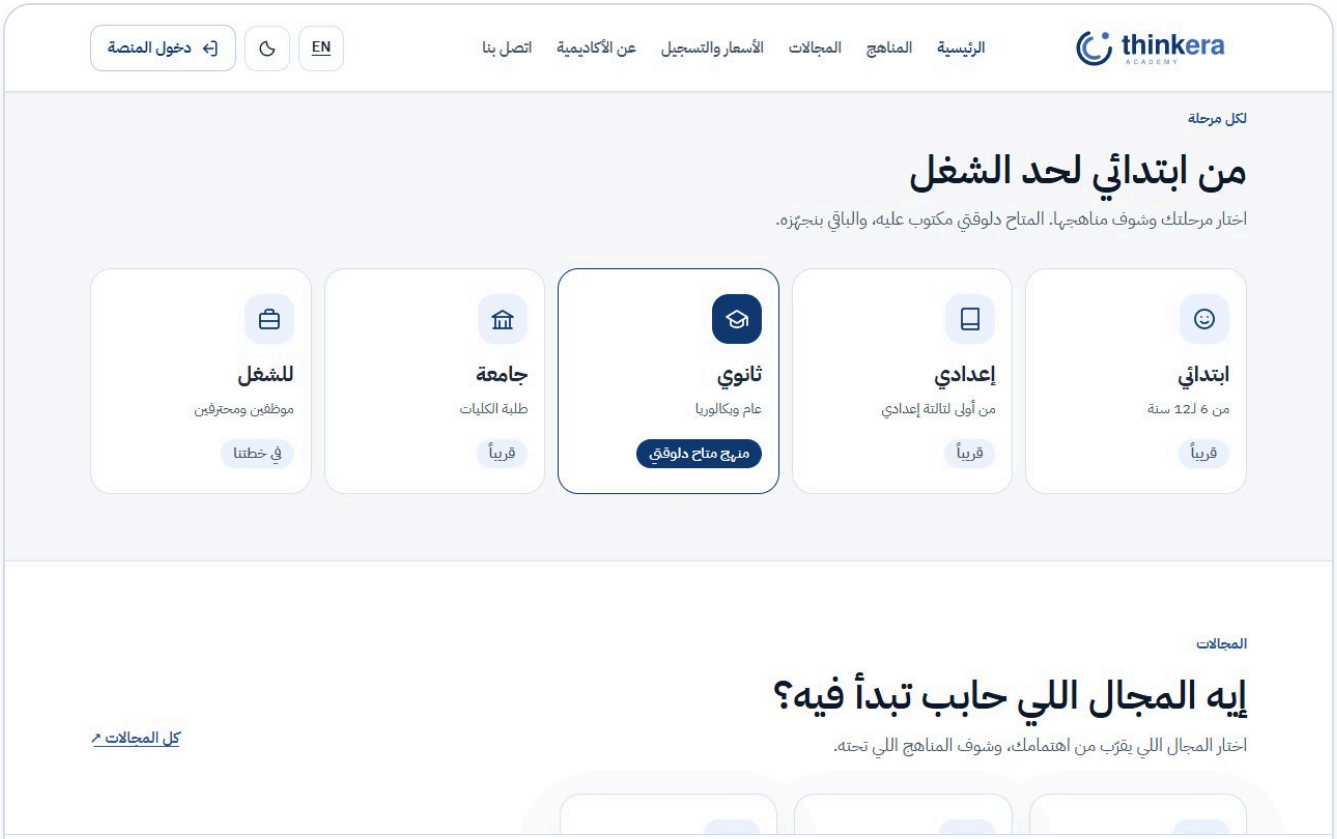
20 questions **5 of them written** **40 minutes** **Advanced level**

Completely free

A written answer the model is not sure how to mark waits for a person, and is left out of your result. By pressing start you agree that Thinkera keeps your name, email, mobile and answers and may contact you about the course.

15 · Start

On thinkera.academy, pick your stage. Each stage says plainly where it stands: open today is **secondary** — Programming & AI for Grade 11 — while primary, preparatory and university are “coming soon”, and work is “in our plans”. Create a free account and study the whole of Unit 1 without paying. If the method suits you, you unlock the rest of the course from inside the platform.



“From primary to work”: what is open now says so, and the rest is being prepared. (The site is shown in Arabic.)

The student guide · **Thinkera**

The instructor guide