

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

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# Action Pack 12



# Units 1 - 4

ملخص القطع - ٢٠١٩  
الدورة الشتوية



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## Ibn Bassal

Ibn Bassal was a writer, a scientist and an engineer who lived in Al-Andalus in the eleventh century CE. He worked in the court of Al-Ma'mun, who was the king of Toledo. His great passions were botany, which is the study of plants and agriculture. Although he was a great scholar, he was also a practical man and all of his writing came from his own "hands-on" experience of working the land.

1. **What was Ibn Bassal interested in ?** Writing - Science - engineering - botany
2. **What is "botany" ?** The study of plants and agriculture.
3. **Who was Al-Ma'mun ?** The king of Toledo.
4. **practical means =** **hands-on**

One of the many things which Ibn Bassal achieved was A Book of Agriculture. The book consisted of sixteen chapters which explain how best to grow trees, fruit and vegetables, as well as herbs and sweet smelling flowers; perhaps the most famous chapter of all was the one that described how to treat different types of soil. Ibn Bassal also worked out how to irrigate the land by finding underground water and digging wells. He designed water pumps and irrigation systems. All of these things were passed on through his writing.

1. **Name two of Ibn Bassal Achievements ?**  
Writing a book of agriculture – designing water pumps – irrigation systems.  
Finding underground water - digging wells
2. **The book consisted of sixteen chapters about :**  
how best to grow trees, fruit and vegetables, herbs and sweet smelling flowers
3. **What did the most famous chapter describe?**  
It described how to treat different types of soil.

The influence of Ibn Bassal's book was enormous. As farmers down the generations followed his instructions and advice, the land became wonderfully fertile and produced more than enough food for the fast-growing population. The irrigation systems that he and his followers put in place are still in evidence in Spain. Although his name is not widely known, Ibn Bassal's legacy to the world has been great.

1. **Why did the land become fertile and produced more than enough food for the fast-growing population. ?**  
As farmers down the generations followed his instructions and advice
2. **Why do you think the area around Toledo had "a fast-growing population"?**  
Because the area was producing a lot of food as a result of Ibn Bassal's irrigation system.

Key Word	Meaning in English	Arabic
irrigate	supply land with water	يسقي
fertile land	produced more than enough food	ارض خصبة
hands on	field working – working by hand	عمل يدوي
legacy	what someone leaves to the world after his death	تركة