1. Broken Idaafas. You have heard about the idaafa structure many times, and how the last word makes the whole thing definite or indefinite:

كتاب الطالب *the student’s book*

كتاب طالب *a student’s book*

What if, however, we want a mix of these – like to say *a friend of the President*? Obviously, the all-or-nothing idaafa structure won’t work. This is done by inserting the preposition ل before the last word. This is no longer an idaafa.

صديق للرئيس *a friend of the President*