

Spoken and Written Arabic

Egyptian Dialect

About the Book

This book is not your average Arabic textbook.

In fact, this is not a textbook at all. We have designed our book to be used as a supplemental aid to our video lessons, not a substitute.

This way, you will continuously hear the correct accent and rhythm from the beginning.

Through our method, instead of deciphering a tedious written grammar explanation as is common practice in the world of Arabic study, we will explain the complexities of Arabic grammar in simple terms and through use of examples.

In combination to our video lessons and this text, you will be absorbing Arabic at a much faster rate and enjoying the journey.

A Note on the Choice of Dialect

In this course, we have chosen to teach Egyptian Arabic in depth, while providing the student with the added knowledge of the Palestinian and Jordanian dialects. Egypt is not only the most populated Arabic speaking country, but is a cultural center of film, literature and music, making knowledge of this dialect essential to familiarizing oneself with Arab culture.

In the modern age of satellite television, you will be understood by a native Arabic speaker no matter which of these dialects you speak.

Furthermore, by learning more than one dialect, you, the student, will be able to better understand those around you. As you study with us, you will see that the differences in dialect are smaller than one would think.

Roots

As a member of the Semitic language family,
Arabic is consequently built on a root system,
where the main stem contains usually 3 and
sometimes 4 or 5 letters.

The meaning and role of the word is altered by
affixations to the root letters, which themselves must
always remain in the same order.

The root of each word can be found in the 3rd person
singular masculine past-tense verb
form (examples: كتب, شرب, فعل)

Verb Forms

There are 10 basic Arabic verb forms, where each form possesses its own general attributes which affect the root. For example, by placing the same root in a different form, the verb could become passive, causative, reflective or intensify in meaning. Theoretically, each root can be transformed into all of the 10 verb forms.

Gender and Number

Arabic is a gender and number sensitive language, where verbs, nouns and adjectives are modified accordingly.

Each word is defined as masculine or feminine and can be altered to be singular or plural.

درس ١

أيّام الاسبوع

The days of the week

يوم - أيّام

١ - الاحد

٢ - الثّنين

٣ - الثّلاثه

٤ - الاربعه

٥ - الخميس

٦ - الجمعة

٧ - السبت

Vocabulary

١

كبير

big, old

٢

صغير

small

٣

وضع

situation

٤

النَّهَارِدا

today

٥

معلّيش

not a problem

٦

هون

here

٧

مدينة

city

٨

فرصة

opportunity

٩

سعيدة

happy f.

١٠

قوي - اوي

very

١١

قريب من

close to...

١٢

حدّ

near

١٣

كويس

good

١٤

لو سمحت ؟

Can I ? can we ?

١٥

تمام

perfect

١٦

قبل

before

١٧

بعد

after

١٨

يسافر / يسافر

he travels

١٩

يجي / يجي

comes

٢٠

الاقصر

Luxor

Questions and Answers

١

النهاردا يوم ايه ؟

٢

اليوم يوم الجمعة ؟

٣

يوم الخميس حضرتك فين ؟

٤

هو مسافر يوم الجمعة على امريكا ؟

٥

دارك قريب من داره ؟

٦

انتو رايعين الاقصر يوم التلاتة ولا اربعة ؟

٧

انتو مبسوطين ؟

٨

يوم التّنين دلال بالجامعة ؟

٩

العربيّة حد الفندق ؟

١٠

دي مدينة كبيرة ؟

١١

انت كويّس ؟

١٢

هو ساكن قريّب منك ؟

١٣

يوم الثلاثاء الرئيس رايح فين ؟

١٤

يوم الاحد الكل بيسافرو الاهرامات؟

١٥

بعد الاربعة بيحي اي يوم ؟

١٦

قبل الجمعة بيحي اي يوم ؟

١٧

التّنين بعد السبت ؟

١٨

الثّلاثة قبل الاحد ؟