

revised edition

THE BIG FAT BOOK OF EGYPTIAN ARABIC VERBS



MATTHEW ALDRICH

WITH

YOMNA ADLY



**THE
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OF
EGYPTIAN
ARABIC
VERBS**

**MATTHEW ALDRICH
WITH
YOMNA ADLY**



lingualism

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Revised 2021

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website: www.lingualism.com

email: contact@lingualism.com

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INTRODUCTION

This book is designed as a learning tool for advanced beginner and intermediate learners of Egyptian Colloquial Arabic (ECA). It contains conjugation tables for 264 of the most common verbs used by Egyptians in their everyday speech. Each table appears on a left-facing page, while the opposing, right-facing page gives several example sentences demonstrating the verb in various contexts. All of the examples were written by a native speaker from Cairo and *then* translated into English. Care was given to provide a variety of forms for each verb (different persons, numbers, tenses, negative forms, etc.) in the examples, following which are notes shedding more light on the verb's meaning and usage.

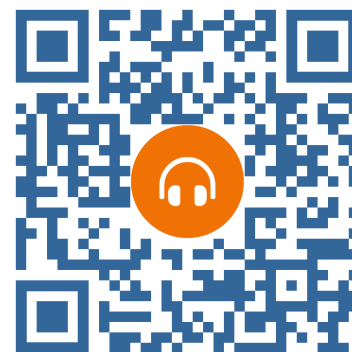
All of the Arabic in this book appears in both Arabic script and its phonemic transcription. The Arabic is written with tashkeel (vowelings) so that each word's pronunciation is clear. The phonemic transcription provides an even more accurate representation of the sounds of ECA, which cannot always be represented by the Arabic script. It can also be helpful for learners who are not yet completely comfortable with Arabic script.

I would like to thank Yomna Adly for her tremendous help throughout this project. Not only did Yomna write the example sentences, but she also answered numerous questions I had about verb forms and usage and checked the accuracy of the conjugation tables, offering invaluable feedback along the way. Of course, any remaining mistakes are my own. I would also like to thank Mohamed Maged and Heba Salah Ali for providing the excellent audio recordings that accompany this book on MP3.

FREE ACCOMPANYING AUDIO

You can download or stream the accompanying audio tracks from our website, where you can also find other resources.

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HOW TO USE THIS BOOK

The Big Fat Book of Egyptian Verbs is *not* an introduction to ECA verbs. To best make use of this book, you should have some Arabic under your belt, whether that be ECA or MSA (Modern Standard Arabic). It is assumed that you already have at least a basic understanding of verb conjugation in Arabic and the use of tenses. But fear not, very brief reviews are provided in the glossary on page vi. A review of the sounds of ECA and the phonemic transcription is found in the Pronunciation section starting on page iii. For more in-depth coverage of verb tenses, see Lingualism's book **Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Verbs: Conjugation Tables and Grammar**, which lays out the system by which all ECA verbs can be grouped.

This book contains 264 'key' verbs, numbered for easy reference. They are ordered alphabetically according to the Arabic script, with the exception of the first two tables. Verb 1 is كان *kān* 'be', which is arguably the most important and common verb in Arabic and is used to form compound tenses. Verb 2 is actually not a verb at all, but three common structures (pseudo-verbs) which are used with the verb كان *kān* 'be' and translate 'have'.

Next to each verb's number (on the left margin of the left-facing page), you will see the base form of the Arabic verb (that is, the masculine third-person singular perfect tense form) with a common English translation. A verb often has many possible translations, and these are given after the examples on the right-facing page.

THE CONJUGATION TABLES

Take a look at any of the conjugation tables in this book as you read the following paragraph:

In ECA, there are eight persons (labeled on the left side of each table) and, therefore, eight conjugations for each tense of a verb. (Strictly speaking, some of these should be called *moods*, not tenses, but for simplicity's sake, we'll call them all *tenses*.) The four tenses of ECA are the perfect, the (bare) imperfect, the bi-imperfect, and the future. You will see each of these labels along the right side of each table. The four tenses and the imperative have both affirmative and negative forms. The affirmative forms are listed on the left half of the table, while the negative forms are on the right. At the bottom of the table, you can see the participle forms. Not all verbs have both active and passive participles. Finally, on the left edge of the table, you will see the verbal noun(s). (Explanations for all of these terms can be found in the Glossary on page vi.)

Take a look on page 1 to see an English translation example of a table, which will help you understand the organization of the conjugation tables better.

THE RIGHT-FACING PAGE

Several example sentences are given on the right-facing page. Each example is numbered for easy reference. Try to find the key verb in each example and match it to its place on the conjugation table. Notice if the verb's pronunciation is affected by neighboring words or suffixes. (See Pronunciation: Sound Changes) Take time to analyze the sentence and notice how the verb is used in relation to other words. Does it take a direct object? Does a preposition follow it? Does it seem to have just one meaning or several distinct meanings? Can you spot collocations? Some of these questions will be answered for you in the notes.

Below the example sentences, you will see English translations for the verb. Synonyms are separated by commas, while semicolons separate different meanings. If a verb requires a preposition before its object, you will also see this here in parentheses. Note that a verb may require a preposition in one meaning but not in another.

Preceding the translations, you will see square brackets. These contain references to the verb's corresponding table as presented in the book *Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Verbs: Conjugation Tables and Grammar*. In brief, Arabic verbs can be grouped into a few dozen conjugation patterns. If you compare two verbs in this book that have the same reference number in brackets, you will see that their conjugations are identical. Only the radicals (consonants) are different. The book *Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Verbs: Conjugation Tables and Grammar* focuses on the underlying organization of the verb system in Egyptian Arabic.

Under the line of translations, there may be bullet-pointed notes highlighting interesting points about the verb, its forms, and its uses in some of the examples. It is beyond the scope of this book to gloss the vocabulary found in the examples or explain the grammar. But hopefully, you can work out the individual meaning of most unknown words by comparing a sentence to its English translation.

Finally, if the key verb can be found in examples on other pages in the book, these are referenced at the bottom of the page.

THE MP3s

You can download or stream the audio tracks from our website. Each key verb has its own MP3 file, labeled by the table number it corresponds to. First, you will hear the base form of the verb in the perfect tense followed by the imperfect tense, and then any common verbal nouns, as shown in the book. The example sentences follow, in the order they appear on the page. You are encouraged to pause the audio at any time to repeat the sentences after the native speaker(s).

THE INDEX

At the back of the book, starting on page 534, you can find an English-Arabic index. Note that the numbers in the index reference the table numbers of verbs and not page numbers.

PRONUNCIATION

Egyptian Colloquial Arabic is a spoken dialect with no official status or rules of orthography. Egyptians tend to borrow spelling conventions from MSA with some accommodations to account for ECA pronunciation. Arabic script, however, is ill-suited to show the actual pronunciation of ECA and the sound changes that occur when words are inflected. Even if you are comfortable with Arabic script, it is advised that you pay close attention to the phonemic transcription to determine the exact pronunciation of words and phrases.

CONSONANTS

The following sounds are also found in English and should pose no difficulties for learners:

			<i>examples</i>
b	ب	[b] as in bed	<i>bána</i> بِنَى (<i>build</i>)
d	د	[d] as in dog , but with the tongue touching the back of the upper teeth	<i>dáras</i> دَرَس (<i>study</i>)
f	ف	[f] as in four	<i>fāz</i> فَاز (<i>win</i>)
g	ج	[g] as in gas	<i>gíri</i> جَرِيَ (<i>run</i>)
h	ه	[h] as in house	<i>hágam</i> هَجَم (<i>attack</i>)
k	ك	[k] as in kid	<i>kal</i> كَل (<i>eat</i>)
l	ل	[l] a light <i>l</i> as in love ; but in the word الله [t] a dark, velarized <i>l</i> as in yell .	<i>libis</i> لَبِس (<i>get dressed</i>)
m	م	[m] as in moon	<i>māt</i> مَات (<i>die</i>)
n	ن	[n] as in nice	<i>nísi</i> نَسِيَ (<i>forget</i>)
s	س	[s] as in sun	<i>sāb</i> سَاب (<i>leave</i>)
š	ش	[š] as in show	<i>šakk</i> شَكَّ (<i>doubt</i>)
t	ت	[t] as in tie , but with the tongue touching the back of the upper teeth	<i>taff</i> تَفَّ (<i>spit</i>)
w	و	[w] as in word	<i>wárra</i> وَرَى (<i>show</i>)
y	ي	[j] as in yes	<i>yiktib</i> يَكْتَب (<i>he writes</i>)
z	ز	[z] as in zoo	<i>zār</i> زَار (<i>visit</i>)
ž	ج	[ž] as in pleasure and beige ; used in foreign borrowings and sometimes written ج to distinguish it from ج [g].	<i>žim</i> جِيم (<i>gym</i>)
v	ف	[v] (sometimes spelled ف) and [p] (ب) appear in some	<i>seven ap</i> سَفَنَ اِب (7 Up)
p	ب	foreign borrowings, but may also be pronounced [f] and [b], respectively, by many speakers	

The following sounds have no equivalent in English and require special attention. However, some exist in other languages you may be familiar with.

r	ر	[r] tapped (flapped) as in the Spanish <i>cara</i> , or the Scottish pronunciation of <i>tree</i>	<i>rāma</i> رَمَى (<i>throw</i>)
ɣ	غ	[ɣ] very similar to a guttural <i>r</i> as in the French <i>Paris</i> , or the German <i>rot</i>	<i>yāb</i> غَاب (<i>be absent</i>)
x	خ	[x] as in the German <i>doch</i> , Spanish <i>rojo</i> , or Scottish <i>loch</i>	<i>xad</i> خَد (<i>take</i>)
q	ق	[q] like <i>k</i> but further back, almost in the throat, with the tongue touching the uvula	<i>qād</i> قَاد (<i>lead</i>)
ħ	ح	[ħ] like a strong, breathy <i>h</i> , as if you were trying to fog up a window	<i>ħáfar</i> حَفَرَ (<i>dig</i>)

3	ع	[ʕ] a voiced glottal stop, as if you had opened your mouth under water and constricted your throat to prevent choking and then released the constriction with a sigh	3írif عَرِفَ (know)
ʔ	ء	[ʔ] an unvoiced glottal stop, as [ʕ] above, but with a wispy, unvoiced sigh; or more simply put, like the constriction separating the vowels in uh-oh	ʔíbil قَبِلَ (accept) ʔá3lan اَعْلَنَ (announce)

The following sounds also have no equivalent in English but are emphatic versions of otherwise familiar sounds. An emphatic consonant is produced by pulling the tongue back toward the pharynx (throat), spreading the sides of the tongue wide as if you wanted to bite down on both sides of your tongue, and producing a good puff of air from the lungs.

d	ض	[dˤ] emphatic d	dárab ضَرَبَ (hit)
s	ص	[sˤ] emphatic s	šamm صَمَرَ (memorize)
t	ط	[tˤ] emphatic t	ṭáwa طَوَى (fold)
z	ظ	[zˤ] emphatic z	zann ظَنَّ (believe)

VOWELS

			<u>examples</u>
a	ا	[æ] normally as in cat (but with the jaw not quite as lowered as in English); [a] as in stock when in the same syllable with h or 3 (with the tongue lower than [æ]); usually [a] as in father (but shorter) when in the same word as q, d, s, t, z or, in most cases, r	kátab كَتَبَ (write) ma-bá3š مَبَاعَشَ (he didn't sell) dárab ضَرَبَ (hit) yášab غَضِبَ (force)
ā	آ	[æ:] / [a:] / [ɑ:] as with a above but longer	nām نَامَ (sleep) gā3 جَاعَ (get hungry) qād قَادَ (lead)
ē	ي	[e:] as in play (but without the glide to [j])	malēt مَلَيْتَ (I filled)
ə	ا	[ə] as in ticket . In ECA, ə is inserted to avoid three adjacent consonants.	kúntə kúnta هِنَا كُنْتُ (I was here)
i	ي	[ɪ] as in kid ; [ɛ] as in bed when in the same syllable with h or 3 ; when in the same word as q, d, s, t, z [i] with the tongue pulled back a bit	3ílím عِلِمَ (know) biyíšib يَبْحَسِبُ (he calculates) itžāhir اِنْتَظَاهِرُ (protest)
ī	ي	[i:] as in ski ; [ɛ:] and [i:] as with i above (but longer)	biygīb يَبْجِيبُ (he brings) biybī3 يَبْيِيعُ (he sells) 3āqib عَاقِبَ (punish)
ō	و	[o:] as with o above but longer	nōm نَوْمَ (sleep)
u	و	[ʊ] as in book ; [o] as in know (but shorter and without the glide to [w]) when in the same syllable with h or 3	yúṭlub يُطْلُبُ (he orders) inbā3u اِنْبَاعُوا (they sold)
ū	و	[u:] as in moon ; [o:] as in know (but without the glide to [w]) when in the same syllable with h or 3	bitšūf يَبْشُوفُ (you see) maba3ūš مَبَاعُوشُ (they didn't sell)

SOUND CHANGES

A lot of the changes which occur in conjugated ECA verbs are due to the rules of syllable structure and stress. The rules are summarized here using phonemic transcription only, as the Arabic script does not reflect these changes.

Vowel Shortening: When a suffix beginning in a consonant is added immediately after a syllable containing a long vowel, or when a suffix causes the stressed syllable to move, the long vowel is shortened. This is because a long vowel can only exist in a stressed syllable and cannot be followed by two consonants.

<i>bagīb + ha = bagībha → bagībha</i>	I bring it
<i>ma + nām + š = ma-nāmš → ma-námš</i>	he didn't sleep
<i>sāfir + t = sāfirt → safirt</i>	you traveled
<i>nisīt + ni = nisītni → nisītni</i>	you forgot me

A long ē is shortened to i.

<i>ma + ḥabbēt + š = ma-ḥabbētš → ma-ḥabbītš</i>	I didn't love
--	---------------

Vowel Lengthening: A final vowel is lengthened when certain suffixes are added to a word ending in a short vowel.

<i>ma + ráma + š = ma-rámaš → ma-ramāš</i>	he didn't throw
<i>3ámalu + u = 3ámaluu → 3amalū</i>	they did it
<i>nísi + t = nísit → nisīt</i>	you forgot

Vowel Elision: A short, unstressed i (or u) is elided (that is, omitted) from a word when its omission would not result in a series of three adjacent consonants, in other words, when the vowel is both preceded and followed by a single consonant only. This does not happen in a final syllable, and it only happens in the first syllable if the preceding word ends in a vowel.

Vowel omission occurs when **-it** (the third person feminine singular (*ḥiyya*) suffix of the perfect tense) or **-u** (the third person plural (*ḥúmma*) suffix of the perfect tense) is added to a sound measure I verb containing i:

<i>širib + it = širibit → širbit</i>	she drank
--------------------------------------	-----------

Notice that the elision may create two adjacent consonants following a long vowel, in which case the long vowel must be shortened. In the second example, it is the feminine form of an active participle in which elision occurs.

<i>sāfir + it = sāfirit → sāfrit → sáfrit</i>	she traveled
<i>kātib + a = kātiba → kātba → kátba</i>	writing

Elision can also take place with the addition of a prefix. That is, the i of the imperfect prefixes **ni-**, **ti-**, and **yi-** is elided when the imperfect prefix **bi-**, the negative prefix **ma-**, or the future prefix **ha-** is added, as long as the elision would not result in three adjacent consonants.

<i>ha + nifákkar = hanifákkar → hanfákkar</i>	we'll think
<i>ma + yisāfir + š = ma-yisāfirš → ma-ysafirš</i>	he doesn't travel
<i>bi + yitárgim = biyitárgim → biytárgim</i>	he translates
<i>ha + tiʔūl = hatʔūl → hatʔūl</i>	you'll speak
<i>bi + tiḥíbb = bitḥíbb → bitḥíbb</i>	she loves

An originally long vowel is normally not elided, even after it has become short because of a shift in stress. An exception occurs in the following verb:

ma + tīgi + š = ma-tīgiš → ma-tīgīš → ma-tgīš she doesn't come

Elision can occur in the first syllable of a word if the preceding word ends in a vowel, as long as this would not result in three adjacent consonants (as in the second example below).

hīyya bītúskun → hīyya btúskun she lives
húwwa biyhíbb → húwwa biyhíbb he loves

Vowel Insertion (Epenthesis): A short vowel is inserted when a suffix or a following word would create a situation with three adjacent consonants. *i* is inserted between two consonants and the negative suffix *-š* or indirect object pronouns. Direct object pronouns may take *a*, *i*, or *u*.

ma + ḡúlt + š = ma-ḡúltš → ma-ḡúltiš I didn't say
gibt + li = gibtli → gibtīli you brought (to) me
šuft + ni = šuftni → šuftīni you saw me
šuft + ha = šuftḥa → šuftáha I saw her
šuft + ku = šuftku → šuftúku I saw you (pl.)

Vowel insertion can also occur between word boundaries. When a word ends in two consonants and the next word begins with a consonant, *a* is inserted to avoid three adjacent consonants.

biyhíbb bint → biyhíbb^a bint He loves a girl.
ḡúlt ḡē → ḡúlt^a ḡē What did you say?

Once *a* is inserted, the vowel of the first syllable of the following word may be a candidate for elision.

kúnt^a mišīt → kúnt^a mšīt I had walked
kúnt^a bitúskun → kúnt^a btúskun you were living

Consonant Assimilation: A voiced consonant immediately preceding an unvoiced consonant tends to become unvoiced. The table below shows such consonants in pairs—voiced consonants in the left column and their voiceless counterparts on the right. The change is not reflected in writing, either in Arabic script or the phonemic transcription used in this book.

voiced	voiceless	
b	p	<i>b → p: katábt /katápt/</i>
d	t	<i>d → t: rafádku /rafátku/</i>
ḡ	t̤	<i>ḡ → t̤: ma-faraḡš /-raṭš/</i>
v	f	-
g	k	<i>g → k: nahágti /nahákti/</i>
ɣ	x	<i>ɣ → x: balláɣt /balláxt/</i>
z	s	<i>z → s: ḥagázt /ḥagást/</i>
ʒ	ʃ	<i>ʒ → ʃ: ḥafaʒt /ḥafaʃt/</i>

The reverse is also true, so that a voiceless consonant followed by a voiced consonant may become voiced. Listen for such sound changes in the accompanying MP3s.

The prefix *it-* of many verbs is not only affected by the following consonant's voicing, but, in relaxed speech, it may be totally assimilated by a following *d, ḏ, g, k, s, ṣ, ṣ̣, t, z*, or *z*.

<i>itdāra</i> → /iddāra/	be hidden
<i>itqārr</i> → /iqqārr/	be damaged
<i>itgāmma3</i> → /idgāmma3 / → /iggāmma3 /	come together
<i>itkátab</i> → /ikkátab/	be written
<i>itsállim</i> → /issállim/	receive
<i>itṣāḥib</i> → /iṣṣāḥib/	become friends
<i>itšárab</i> → /iṣṣárab/	be drunk
<i>itṭábax</i> → /itṭábax/	cook
<i>itzáhla?</i> → /idzáhla? / → /izzáhla? /	slip
<i>itzábat</i> → /idzábat / → /izzábat /	be adjusted

Vowel Assimilation: Two vowels cannot occur together. When the addition of a prefix or preceding word would result in such a case, one vowel is assimilated into the other. As seen in the last example below, this also applies across word boundaries in some cases.

<i>ma- + itkátab + š = ma-itkátabš</i> → <i>ma-tkatábš</i>	it wasn't written
<i>ma- + áktib + š = ma-áktibš</i> → <i>ma-ktíbš</i>	I don't write
<i>ha- + áktib = haáktib</i> → <i>háktib</i>	I will write
<i>yí- + istáxdim = yíistáxdim</i> → <i>yistáxdim</i>	he uses
<i>ána + istaxdímt = ána istaxdímt</i> → <i>ána staxdímt</i>	I used

Vowel assimilation also occurs with the final vowel a verb ends in *a* or *u*. This vowel is dropped when a suffix beginning with a vowel is added.

<i>yímši + -u = yímšiu</i> → <i>yímšu</i>	they walk
<i>tínsa + -i = tínsai</i> → <i>tínsi</i>	you (f.) forget
<i>ráma + -u = rámau</i> → <i>rámu</i>	they threw
<i>mála + -it = málait</i> → <i>málit</i>	she filled

When *-it* and *-u* are added to a verb ending in *i*, the *i* changes into a *y*.

<i>nísi + -it = nísiit</i> → <i>nísyit</i>	she forgot
<i>míši + -u = míšiu</i> → <i>míšyu</i>	they walked

GLOSSARY

- active participle:** In English, the active participle (commonly known as the present participle) ends in -ing. It can be used as an adjective, as in *the singing bird* or *the book is interesting*. In ECA, active participles are also used as quasi-verbs, often corresponding to the present perfect (*I have eaten*) or present continuous (*I am going*) of English. An active participle agrees with its subject in gender or number but is otherwise unconjugated.
- affirmative:** This is simply a verb that is grammatically not negative. *I like* and *I dislike* are affirmative verbs, while *I don't like* and *I don't dislike* are negative verbs.
- auxiliary:** An auxiliary is a conjugated verb or participle that precedes an imperfect verb. This corresponds to verbs that precede an infinitive or gerund in English: *I might come*. / *I need to go*. / *I like drawing*.
- bi-imperfect:** The bi-imperfect tense is formed by adding the prefix **بـ** *bi-* to the imperfect tense. It is essentially the present tense of ECA, translating as the present simple (*I write*) or the present continuous (*I am writing*) of English. It can express a repeated (habitual) action or an ongoing (continuous) action.
- collocation:** A collocation is a combination of two or more words that are commonly found together. Collocations can be adjectives with nouns (*fast car, cold day*), verbs with nouns (*quit a job, play soccer*), etc. By comparison, combinations like *cold car, fast day, and quit soccer* are far less common, and *play a job* hardly makes sense.
- ditransitive:** A ditransitive verb takes two direct objects. English and Arabic are similar in their use of ditransitive verbs. In the example *give me the pen*, the verb *give* has two objects *me* and *the pen*. By comparison, the verb *explain* is not ditransitive. You cannot say *explain me it*. Instead, you have to use a preposition before one of the objects: *explain it to me*.
- future:** The future tense in Arabic is formed with the prefix **هـ** *ha-*. (Note that it can also be written and pronounced **حـ** *ħa*.) **هَعْمِلُ** *há3mil*, for example, can be translated as *I will do, I'm going to do, or I'm doing* in English.
- imperative:** The imperative is the command form used to give an order: *Do!* / *Don't do!*
- imperfect:** The imperfect tense of ECA is comparable to the subjunctive of MSA. It is most commonly used after certain conjunctions, and also after auxiliaries and other verbs. It would be used to translate the following underlined words: *I'm studying in order to pass the test*. / *I want to go*. / *I can swim*. / *I have to try* / *I like drawing*.
- intransitive:** An intransitive verb cannot take a direct object. (See **transitive**)
- invariable:** If an adjective is invariable, it remains in the masculine form, not taking the feminine suffix **ة** *-a* or plural suffix **ين** *-in*. An invariable verb remains in the masculine third-person form.
- negative:** A negative verb is formed in ECA with the prefix-suffix combo **مـ...ش** *ma-...š* or the word **مِش** *miš* (also pronounced **مُش** *muš*). In English, this is done using the word *not*, in various forms such as *didn't, don't, doesn't, and won't*.
- participle:** Participles are the *adjective* forms of verbs. (See **active participle** and **passive participle**.)
- passive participle:** Passive participles are derived from verbs but are used as adjectives. In English, this may be referred to as the *past participle* and is formed with -ed or may be irregular: *cooked, written, done*.
- perfect:** The perfect tense is the past tense of ECA. It is usually translated with the past simple of English (*I did*) or the present perfect (*I have done*).
- transitive:** A transitive verb takes, or at least can take, a direct object. If the object requires a preposition, the verb is not considered transitive. For example, *see* is transitive: *I see it*. But *go* is intransitive because you cannot *go something*, although you can *go to something*.
- verbal noun:** A verbal noun is also known as a gerund, and in Arabic grammars, as *mašdar*. The English gerund always ends in -ing. However, in Arabic it may take many different forms. It always expresses an action (the act of ___ing), rather than a tangible object. The verbal noun is, as the name implies, a noun form derived from a verb. As such, it can be the subject or object of a verb: *Cooking is fun*. / *I'm interested in learning more about that*.

EXAMPLE TABLE

This is an English translation example to help you understand the organization of a conjugation table.

0 to write

verbal noun: (the act of) writing

affirmative		negative		
I	I wrote	I didn't write		perfect
we	we wrote	we didn't write		
you (m.)	you wrote	you didn't write		
you (f.)	you wrote	you didn't write		
you (pl.)	you wrote	you didn't write		
he (it)	he wrote	he didn't write		
she (it/they)	she wrote	she didn't write		
they	they wrote	they didn't write		
I	I write	I don't write		imperfect
we	we write	we don't write		
you (m.)	you write	you don't write		
you (f.)	you write	you don't write		
you (pl.)	you write	you don't write		
he (it)	he writes	he doesn't write		
she (it/they)	she writes	she doesn't write		
they	they write	they don't write		
I	I write	I don't write		bi-imperfect
we	we write	we don't write		
you (m.)	you write	you don't write		
you (f.)	you write	you don't write		
you (pl.)	you write	you don't write		
he (it)	he writes	he doesn't write		
she (it/they)	she writes	she doesn't write		
they	they write	they don't write		
I	I will write	I won't write		future
we	we will write	we won't write		
you (m.)	you will write	you won't write		
you (f.)	you will write	you won't write		
you (pl.)	you will write	you won't write		
he (it)	he will write	he won't write		
she (it/they)	she will write	she won't write		
they	they will write	they won't write		
you (m.)	write!	don't write!		imperative
you (f.)	write!	don't write!		
you (pl.)	write!	don't write!		
active		passive		
masculine	writing	written		participles
feminine	writing	written		
plural	writing	written		

Note that the tenses can be translated in more than one way. See the Glossary for details on the tenses.

THE VERBS

Sample

كان 1 to be kān

verbal noun: kān كَوْنٌ

affirmative			negative		
ána	kunt	كُنْتُ	ma-kúntiš	مَكُنْتُش	perfect
íḥna	kúnna	كُنَّا	ma-kunnāš	مَكُنَّاش	
ínta	kunt	كُنْتَ	ma-kúntiš	مَكُنْتُش	
ínti	kúnti	كُنْتِي	ma-kuntīš	مَكُنْتِيش	
íntu	kúntu	كُنْتُوا	ma-kuntūš	مَكُنْتُوَش	
húwwa	kān	كَانَ	ma-kánš	مَكَانْش	
híyya	kānit	كَانَتْ	ma-kanītš	مَكَانْتِش	
húmma	kānu	كَانُوا	ma-kanūš	مَكَانُوَش	

ána	akūn	أَكُونُ	ma-kúnš	مَكُونْش	imperfect
íḥna	nikūn	نَكُونُ	ma-nkúnš	مَنَكُونْش	
ínta	tikūn	تَكُونُ	ma-tkúnš	مَتَكُونْش	
ínti	tikūni	تَكُونِي	ma-tkunīš	مَتَكُونِيش	
íntu	tikūnu	تَكُونُوا	ma-tkunūš	مَتَكُونُوَش	
húwwa	yikūn	يَكُونُ	ma-ykúnš	مَيَكُونْش	
híyya	tikūn	تَكُونُ	ma-tkúnš	مَتَكُونْش	
húmma	yikūnu	يَكُونُوا	ma-ykunūš	مَيَكُونُوَش	

ána	bakūn	بَكُونُ	ma-bakúnš	مَبَكُونْش	bi-imperfect
íḥna	binkūn	بِنَكُونُ	ma-binkúnš	مَبِنَكُونْش	
ínta	bitkūn	بِتَكُونُ	ma-bitkúnš	مَبِتَكُونْش	
ínti	bitkūni	بِتَكُونِي	ma-bitkunīš	مَبِتَكُونِيش	
íntu	bitkūnu	بِتَكُونُوا	ma-bitkunūš	مَبِتَكُونُوَش	
húwwa	biykūn	بِيَكُونُ	ma-biykúnš	مَبِيَكُونْش	
híyya	bitkūn	بِتَكُونُ	ma-bitkúnš	مَبِتَكُونْش	
húmma	biykūnu	بِيَكُونُوا	ma-biykunūš	مَبِيَكُونُوَش	

ána	hakūn	هَكُونُ	miš hakūn	مِش هَكُونُ	future
íḥna	hankūn	هَنَكُونُ	miš hankūn	مِش هَنَكُونُ	
ínta	hatkūn	هَتَكُونُ	miš hatkūn	مِش هَتَكُونُ	
ínti	hatkūni	هَتَكُونِي	miš hatkūni	مِش هَتَكُونِي	
íntu	hatkūnu	هَتَكُونُوا	miš hatkūnu	مِش هَتَكُونُوا	
húwwa	haykūn	هَيَكُونُ	miš haykūn	مِش هَيَكُونُ	
híyya	hatkūn	هَتَكُونُ	miš hatkūn	مِش هَتَكُونُ	
húmma	haykūnu	هَيَكُونُوا	miš haykūnu	مِش هَيَكُونُوا	

ínta	xallīk	خَلِيكَ	ma-tbaʔāš	مَتَبَقَّاش	imperative
ínti	xallīki	خَلِيكِ	ma-tbaʔīš	مَتَبَقِّيَش	
íntu	xallīku(m)	خَلِيكُو / خَلِيكُم	ma-tbaʔūš	مَتَبَقُّوَش	

active		passive	
masculine	—	—	—
feminine	—	—	—
plural	—	—	—

participles

①
أنا كنت أطول واحدة في فصلي في ابتدائي.

ána kunt^o ʔátwal wáħda f fásli f ibtidāʔi.

I was the tallest in my class in elementary school.

②
أحمد مكانش فاهم ولا كلمة من الرجل الألماني بس فضل يبتسم و يهز راسه.

áħmad ma-kánš^a fāhim wála kílma min irrāgil ilʔalmāni bass^o fīdíl yibtísim wi yhízz^o rāsu.

Ahmed couldn't understand a word the German man said, but he kept smiling and nodding his head.

③
سمية بتكون مبسوطة لما جوزها ييفاجئها بورد.

sumáyya bitkūn mabsūṭa lámma gúzha biyfaǧíʔha bi-wárd.

Sumaya becomes happy when her husband surprises her with flowers.

④
إنتو هتكونوا فين النهارده بالليل؟

intu hatkūnu fēn innahárda bi-llēlʔ

Where will you guys be tonight?

⑤
كونك متضايق ميسمحلکش تعلي صوتك علينا بالطريقة دي.

kōnak mitḍāyiʔ ma-yismaħlákš^o tí3állí šōtak 3alēna bi-ṭṭaríʔa di.

Being angry doesn't make it okay for you to raise your voice at us like that.

⑥
خليك صبور و كل شيء هيتحل.

xallík šabūr wi kull^o šēʔ hayitħáll.

Be patient, and everything will sort itself out.

⑦
فكها بقي و متبقاش رخم.

fukkáha báʔa wi ma-tbaʔāš ríxim.

Cheer up! Don't be so glum.

❖ [1h1] to be (am, is, are; was, were); to become

- Although this verb is generally omitted in the present tense (➔ 27.7, 54.3, 156.4), it is commonly found in the imperfect after auxiliaries and conjunctions. (➔ 9.2, 28.3, 34.1) The bi-imperfect forms are used in compound tenses and to express habitual states or occurrences. (➔ 1.3, 12.3, 183.6)
 - There is no imperative form based on this verb. You may expect a form such as كون *kūn*, but this is not in common use. Instead, the verb *xállā* (to cause/make) with a pronoun suffix can be used to express the affirmative imperative, literally 'make yourself...'. (➔ 1.6) The negative imperative is borrowed from the synonymous verb *báʔa*. (➔ 1.7)
 - This verb has neither an active nor passive participle.
 - In relaxed speech, *kutt* may be heard instead of *kunt* and *kāt* for *kānit*. (➔ 73.1)
- ➔ This verb is so common that it appears in over one hundred example sentences throughout this book. It would not be practical to cross-reference so many examples here. So, keep an eye out for it. You'll be seeing it around a lot.

عند ل مع 2 to have

affirmative			negative	
ána	3ándi	عندي	ma-3andīš	مَعْنَدِيش
íḥna	3andína	عندنا	ma-3andināš	مَعْنَدِنَاش
ínta	3ándak	عندك	ma-3andákš	مَعْنَدَكش
ínti	3ándik	عندك	ma-3andikīš	مَعْنَدِكِيش
íntu	3andúku	عندكو	ma-3andukūš	مَعْنَدَكُوش
húwwa	3ánda	عنده	ma-3andūš	مَعْنَدُوش
híyya	3andáha	عندها	ma-3andahāš	مَعْنَدَهَاش
húmma	3andúhum	عندهم	ma-3anduhúmš	مَعْنَدُهُمَش

ána	líyya	لِيا	ma-līš	مَلِيش
íḥna	līna / lína	لينا	ma-lnāš	مَلِنَاش
ínta	līk / lak	ليك / لك	ma-lákš	مَلَكش
ínti	līki / líki	ليكي	ma-lkīš	مَلَكِيش
íntu	līku / líku	ليكو	ma-lkūš	مَلَكُوش
húwwa	lī / lu(h)	ليه / له	ma-lūš	مَلُوش
híyya	līha / láha	ليها / لها	ma-lhāš	مَلَهَاش
húmma	līhum / líhum	ليهم	ma-lhúmš	مَلَهُمَش

ána	ma-3āya	مَعاي	ma-(m)3īš	مَمَعِيش / مَعِيش
íḥna	ma-3āna	مَعانا	ma-(m)3anāš	مَمَعِنَاش / مَعِنَاش
ínta	ma-3āk	مَعاك	ma-(m)3ákš	مَمَعَكش / مَعَكش
ínti	ma-3āki	مَعاكي	ma-(m)3akīš	مَمَعَكِيش / مَعَكِيش
íntu	ma-3āku	مَعاكو	ma-(m)3akūš	مَمَعَكُوش / مَعَكُوش
húwwa	ma-3ā(h)	مَعاه	ma-(m)3ahūš	مَمَعَهُوش / مَعَهُوش
híyya	ma-3āha	مَعاها	ma-(m)3ahāš	مَمَعَهَاش / مَعَهَاش
húmma	ma-3āhum	مَعاهم	ma-(m)3ahúmš	مَمَعَهُمَش / مَعَهُمَش

① كان عِنْدِي قُطَّةٌ إِسْمُهَا مِيزُو وَ دِلْوَقْتِي عِنْدِي سُلْحِفَةٌ إِسْمُهَا فِلفِل.

kān 3ándi ḡúṭṭa ḡismáha mízzu wi dilwáḡti 3ándi sulḥífa ḡismáha filfil.

I used to have a cat called Mezzo, and now I have a turtle called Felfel.

② إِنْت لِيكَ كَامر إِيدِ عِشان تِسوق وَ تَأكُل وَ تَرُدُّ عَ المِوبائِلِ فِي نَفْسِ الوَقْتِ؟

ínta līk kam ḡid 3ašān tisū? wi tākul wi trúdd⁹ 3a -lmubáyl fi nafs ilwáḡt?

How many hands do you have that you can drive, eat, and talk on the phone at the same time?

③ أ: هَتتَفَرِّجِي عَلَى الماتَشِ مَعانا؟

ب: لَأ، مَلِيش فِي الكُورَةَ خالِص.

A: hatitfarrági 3ála -lmatš⁹ ma3āna?

B: laḡ, ma-līš fi -kkōra xāliṣ.

A: Are you going to watch the match with us?

B: No, I'm not interested in soccer at all.

④ معاك عشرة جنيه سلف؟

ma3āk 3ášara ginēh sálaf?

Can you lend me ten pounds?

[lit. Do you have ten pounds on you to lend?]

⑤ القاهرة ليها جمال خاص بالليل.

ilqāhíra líha gamāl xaṣṣ³ bi-llēl.

Cairo has a special beauty at night.

⑥ معنديش مانع تروح الحفلة، بس تكون في البيت قبل ١٢.

ma-3andīš māni3 tirūh ilḥáfla, bass³ tkūn fi -lbēt ʔabl itnāšar.

I don't have any objection if you go to the party, but you should be home before 12.

⑦ عندك خطط النهارده؟

3ándak xíṭaṭ innahárda?

Do you have plans for today?

⑧ هيبقي عندك ٦ سنين الشهر الجاي، و هعملك حفلة كبيرة.

hayíbʔa 3ándik sitt³ snīn iššáhr ilgáyy, wi ha3míllak ḥáfla kbīra.

You'll be six next month, and I'll throw you a big party.

⑨ معاكش ولاعة؟

ma-3ákš³ wallā3a?

Don't you have a lighter?

⑩ لما يبقى معاك مليون جنيه إبقى دور على قبالا تشتريها.

lámma yíbʔa ma3āk milyōn ginēh ʔibʔa dáwwar 3ála villa tištiriha.

When you have a million pounds, look for a villa to buy.

❖ to have, possess

- عند *عند* are not actually verbs at all. They are prepositions with pronoun suffixes that usually translate as the verb 'have' in English.
- The most common of the three is عند *عند*, your *go-to* translation of 'have' if the subject is human. (↪ 2.1, 2.6, 2.7) It is also used in an idiom expressing 'be __ years old', literally 'have __ years'. (↪ 2.8)
- مع *مع* specifically expresses 'have on oneself', literally 'with one'. (↪ 2.4, 2.9, 2.10)
- ل *ل* is used when the object is a body part or a relative (↪ 2.2), or when the subject is inanimate. (↪ 2.5) It can also be used idiomatically. (↪ 2.3)
- These prepositions do not precede nouns when they express 'have'. Instead, the noun subject is followed by the preposition with a pronoun suffix. (↪ 2.5)
- The masculine third-person singular form of the verb كان *kān* 'be' is used to express various tenses. (↪ 2.1) The verb بقى *báʔa* 'become' is also sometimes used. (↪ 2.8, 2.10)
- The audio for this verb begins: كان *kān* 3ánda / *kān ma3āh* / *kān luh*.

↪ عند *عند* 39.4, 40.2, 51.7, 90.4, 93.3, 103.5 105.1, 106.3, 117.1, 123.2, 161.2, 178.3, 195.5, 199.3, 227.3

مع *مع* 39.1, 81.5, 169.3

ل *ل* 101.4

3 to begin *ibtáda* اِبْتَدَى

verbal noun: *bidāya* بداية

affirmative			negative	
ána	<i>ibtadēt</i>	اِبْتَدَيْتَ	<i>ma-btadítš</i>	مَبْتَدَيْتَشْ
íḡna	<i>ibtadēna</i>	اِبْتَدَيْنَا	<i>ma-btadināš</i>	مَبْتَدَيْنَاشْ
ínta	<i>ibtadēt</i>	اِبْتَدَيْتَ	<i>ma-btadítš</i>	مَبْتَدَيْتَشْ
ínti	<i>ibtadēti</i>	اِبْتَدَيْتِي	<i>ma-btaditīš</i>	مَبْتَدَيْتِيَشْ
íntu	<i>ibtadētu</i>	اِبْتَدَيْتُوا	<i>ma-btaditūš</i>	مَبْتَدَيْتَوْشْ
húwwa	<i>ibtáda</i>	اِبْتَدَى	<i>ma-btadāš</i>	مَبْتَدَاشْ
híyya	<i>ibtádit</i>	اِبْتَدَتِ	<i>ma-btadítš</i>	مَبْتَدَتَشْ
húmma	<i>ibtádu</i>	اِبْتَدُوا	<i>ma-btadūš</i>	مَبْتَدَوْشْ

perfect

ána	<i>abtídi</i>	اَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-btidīš</i>	مَبْتَدِيَشْ
íḡna	<i>nibtídi</i>	نَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-nibtidīš</i>	مَنْبْتَدِيَشْ
ínta	<i>tibtídi</i>	تَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-tibtidīš</i>	مَتَبْتَدِيَشْ
ínti	<i>tibtídi</i>	تَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-tibtidīš</i>	مَتَبْتَدِيَشْ
íntu	<i>tibtídu</i>	تَبْتَدُوا	<i>ma-tibtidūš</i>	مَتَبْتَدَوْشْ
húwwa	<i>yibtídi</i>	يَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-yibtidīš</i>	مَيَبْتَدِيَشْ
híyya	<i>tibtídi</i>	تَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-tibtidīš</i>	مَتَبْتَدِيَشْ
húmma	<i>yibtídu</i>	يَبْتَدُوا	<i>ma-yibtidūš</i>	مَيَبْتَدَوْشْ

imperfect

ána	<i>babtídi</i>	بَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-babtidīš</i>	مَبَبْتَدِيَشْ
íḡna	<i>binibtídi</i>	بِنَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-bnibtidīš</i>	مَنْبَبْتَدِيَشْ
ínta	<i>bitibtídi</i>	بِتَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-btibtidīš</i>	مَبِتَبْتَدِيَشْ
ínti	<i>bitibtídi</i>	بِتَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-btibtidīš</i>	مَبِتَبْتَدِيَشْ
íntu	<i>bitibtídu</i>	بِتَبْتَدُوا	<i>ma-btibtidūš</i>	مَبِتَبْتَدَوْشْ
húwwa	<i>biyibtídi</i>	بِيَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-biyibtidīš</i>	مَبِيَبْتَدِيَشْ
híyya	<i>bitibtídi</i>	بِتَبْتَدِي	<i>ma-btibtidīš</i>	مَبِتَبْتَدِيَشْ
húmma	<i>biyibtídu</i>	بِيَبْتَدُوا	<i>ma-biyibtidūš</i>	مَبِيَبْتَدَوْشْ

bi-imperfect

ána	<i>habtídi</i>	هَبْتَدِي	<i>miš habtídi</i>	مِشْ هَبْتَدِي
íḡna	<i>hanibtídi</i>	هَنْبْتَدِي	<i>miš hanibtídi</i>	مِشْ هَنْبْتَدِي
ínta	<i>hatibtídi</i>	هَتَبْتَدِي	<i>miš hatibtídi</i>	مِشْ هَتَبْتَدِي
ínti	<i>hatibtídi</i>	هَتَبْتَدِي	<i>miš hatibtídi</i>	مِشْ هَتَبْتَدِي
íntu	<i>hatibtídu</i>	هَتَبْتَدُوا	<i>miš hatibtídu</i>	مِشْ هَتَبْتَدُوا
húwwa	<i>hayibtídi</i>	هَيَبْتَدِي	<i>miš hayibtídi</i>	مِشْ هَيَبْتَدِي
híyya	<i>hatibtídi</i>	هَتَبْتَدِي	<i>miš hatibtídi</i>	مِشْ هَتَبْتَدِي
húmma	<i>hayibtídu</i>	هَيَبْتَدُوا	<i>miš hayibtídu</i>	مِشْ هَيَبْتَدُوا

future

ínta	<i>ibtídi</i>	اِبْتَدِي	<i>ma-tibtidīš</i>	مَتَبْتَدِيَشْ
ínti	<i>ibtídi</i>	اِبْتَدِي	<i>ma-tibtidīš</i>	مَتَبْتَدِيَشْ
íntu	<i>ibtídu</i>	اِبْتَدُوا	<i>ma-tibtidūš</i>	مَتَبْتَدَوْشْ

imperative

active			passive	
masculine	<i>mibtídi</i>	مَبْتَدِي	<i>mibtídi</i>	مَبْتَدِي
feminine	<i>mibtidíyya</i>	مَبْتَدِيَّة	<i>mibtidíyya</i>	مَبْتَدِيَّة
plural	<i>mibtidiyīn</i>	مَبْتَدِيِّين	<i>mibtidiyīn</i>	مَبْتَدِيِّين

participles

①
لِسَّه مَبْتَدِيْتَش رَجِيم رَغْمِ إِنْني وَأَخْدة قَرَارٍ مِّنْ أَوَّلِ السَّنَةِ.

líssa ma-btadíťš³ ržim raym ínni wáxda qarār min áwwil issána.

I still haven't started my diet, even though I
decided to at the beginning of the year.

②
إِنْتَ هَتَبْتَدِي امْتِحاناتِ يَوْمِ أَيَّه؟

ínta hatibtídi -mtiḥanāt yōm ʔē?

When will you start your exams?

③
لَوْ مَبْتَدِيناش نَتَحْرِكُ حَالًا، مَش هَنُوصِلُ فِي مَعادِنَا.

law ma-btadināš niḥárrak ḥālan, miš haníwṣal fi ma3ádna.

If we don't start moving now, we won't arrive in time.

④
هُمَا يَبْتَدُوا الحَفْلَةَ السَّاعَةِ كَام؟

húmma biyibtúdu -lḥáfla -ssā3a kām?

When do they begin the performance?

⑤
المَوْضُوع ده ابْتَدَى مِنْ زَمَانٍ بَسْ هُما مَكَانُوش عَائِزِينَ حَدَّ يَعْرِف.

ilmawḏū3 dah ibtáda min zaman, bass³ húmma ma-kanūš 3ayzīn ḥadd³ yí3raf.

This issue started long ago, but they didn't want anyone to know.

⑥
مَبْتَدِيَيْنَ حَيَاتِهِمْ مِنَ الصَّفْرِ مَعَ بَعْضٍ، رَبَّنَا يَبَارِكْلُهُمْ.

mibtidiyyīn ḥayáthum min iṣṣifr³ má3a ba3d, rabbína yibariklúhum.

They are beginning their life together
from scratch, God bless them.

❖ [8d] to begin, start

- This verb can be transitive (→ 3.1, 3.2, 3.4, 3.6) or intransitive (→ 3.5).
- It can also be followed by an imperfect verb. (→ 3.3)
- Compare with بدأ *báda*?. (→ 56)

→ 6.2, 41.4, 92.1, 104.6, 178.6

affirmative			negative	
ána	<i>ibtásamt</i>	إِبْتَسَمْتُ	<i>ma-btásamtiš</i>	مَبْتَسَمْتِش
íḥna	<i>ibtásamna</i>	إِبْتَسَمْنَا	<i>ma-btásamnāš</i>	مَبْتَسَمْنَاش
ínta	<i>ibtásamt</i>	إِبْتَسَمْتَ	<i>ma-btásamtiš</i>	مَبْتَسَمْتِش
ínti	<i>ibtásamti</i>	إِبْتَسَمْتِي	<i>ma-btásamtiš</i>	مَبْتَسَمْتِش
íntu	<i>ibtásamtu</i>	إِبْتَسَمْتُوا	<i>ma-btásamtūš</i>	مَبْتَسَمْتَوْش
húwwa	<i>ibtásam</i>	إِبْتَسَمَ	<i>ma-btásamš</i>	مَبْتَسَمَش
híyya	<i>ibtásamit</i>	إِبْتَسَمْتَ	<i>ma-btásamítš</i>	مَبْتَسَمْتِش
húmma	<i>ibtásamu</i>	إِبْتَسَمُوا	<i>ma-btásamūš</i>	مَبْتَسَمَوْش

perfect

ána	<i>abtísim</i>	أَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-btisímš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَش
íḥna	<i>nibtísim</i>	نَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-nibtísimš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَش
ínta	<i>tibtísim</i>	تَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-tibtísimš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَش
ínti	<i>tibtísimi</i>	تَبْتَسِمِي	<i>ma-tibtismiš</i>	مَبْتَسِمِش
íntu	<i>tibtísmu</i>	تَبْتَسِمُوا	<i>ma-tibtismūš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَوْش
húwwa	<i>yibtísim</i>	يَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-yibtísimš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَش
híyya	<i>tibtísim</i>	تَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-tibtísimš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَش
húmma	<i>yibtísmu</i>	يَبْتَسِمُوا	<i>ma-yibtismūš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَوْش

imperfect

ána	<i>babtísim</i>	بَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-babtísimš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَش
íḥna	<i>binibtísim</i>	بِنَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-bnibtísimš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَش
ínta	<i>bitibtísim</i>	بِتَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-btibtísimš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَش
ínti	<i>bitibtísimi</i>	بِتَبْتَسِمِي	<i>ma-btibtismiš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمِش
íntu	<i>bitibtísmu</i>	بِتَبْتَسِمُوا	<i>ma-btibtismūš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَوْش
húwwa	<i>biyibtísim</i>	بِيَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-biyibtísimš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَش
híyya	<i>bitibtísim</i>	بِتَبْتَسِمُ	<i>ma-btibtísimš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَش
húmma	<i>biyibtísmu</i>	بِيَبْتَسِمُوا	<i>ma-biyibtismūš</i>	مَبَبْتَسِمَوْش

bi-imperfect

ána	<i>habtísim</i>	هَبْتَسِمُ	<i>miš habtísim</i>	مِش هَبْتَسِمُ
íḥna	<i>hanibtísim</i>	هَنَبْتَسِمُ	<i>miš hanibtísim</i>	مِش هَنَبْتَسِمُ
ínta	<i>hatibtísim</i>	هَتَبْتَسِمُ	<i>miš hatibtísim</i>	مِش هَتَبْتَسِمُ
ínti	<i>hatibtísimi</i>	هَتَبْتَسِمِي	<i>miš hatibtísimi</i>	مِش هَتَبْتَسِمِي
íntu	<i>hatibtísmu</i>	هَتَبْتَسِمُوا	<i>miš hatibtísmu</i>	مِش هَتَبْتَسِمُوا
húwwa	<i>hayibtísim</i>	هَيَبْتَسِمُ	<i>miš hayibtísim</i>	مِش هَيَبْتَسِمُ
híyya	<i>hatibtísim</i>	هَتَبْتَسِمُ	<i>miš hatibtísim</i>	مِش هَتَبْتَسِمُ
húmma	<i>hayibtísmu</i>	هَيَبْتَسِمُوا	<i>miš hayibtísmu</i>	مِش هَيَبْتَسِمُوا

future

ínta	<i>ibtísim</i>	إِبْتَسِمِ	<i>ma-tibtísimš</i>	مَبْتَسِمِش
ínti	<i>ibtísimi</i>	إِبْتَسِمِي	<i>ma-tibtismiš</i>	مَبْتَسِمِش
íntu	<i>ibtísmu</i>	إِبْتَسِمُوا	<i>ma-tibtismūš</i>	مَبْتَسِمَوْش

imperative

		active	passive	
masculine	<i>mubtásim</i>	مَبْتَسِمُ	—	—
feminine	<i>mubtásma</i>	مَبْتَسِمَةٌ	—	—
plural	<i>mubtasmīn</i>	مَبْتَسِمِينَ	—	—

participles

①
اِبْتَسَمَتْ مَرَامٌ بِخَجَلٍ لَمَّا خَطَبَهَا بِاسٍ إِيْدِيهَا.

ibtásamit marām bi-xágal lámma xaṭībha bās ḡidēha.

Maram smiled bashfully when
her fiancé kissed her hands.

②
خِدْمَةُ الْعَمَلَاءِ لِأَزْمٍ يَبْتَسِمُوا لِلْجُمُحُورِ مَهْمَا كَانُوا مُرْهَقِينَ.

xídmīl il3úmala lāzīm yibtísmu li-lǧumhūr máhma kānu murhaqīn.

Employees in customer service should
smile at people even if they are tired.

③
أ: أَيُّهُ أَكْثَرُ حَاجَةً بِتَخْلِيكِ تَبْتَسِمِي؟
ب: لَمَّا بَشُوفِ اِبْتِسَامَةِ طِفْلِ صَغِيرٍ.

A: ḡē áktar ḡāga bitxallīki tibtísmi?

B: lámma bašūf ibtisāmit ṭifl^p ṣuḡáyyar.

A: What makes you smile?

B: When I see a baby's smile.

④
اِبْتَسَمَ لِحَدٍّ مَتَعْرِفُوشِ وَ هَتَشُوفِ قَدْ أَيُّهُ هَيَفْرَحُ.

ibtísim li-ḡádd^p ma-ti3rafūš wi hatšūf add^p ḡē hayífraḡ.

Smile at someone you don't know, and
you'll see how happy they will be.

⑤
عَمَّ جَمَالٌ مُبْتَسِمٌ عَلَى طَوْلٍ. بِيَدِينَا دَفْعَةٌ تَفَاؤُلٌ.

3amm^p ḡamāl mubtásim 3ála ṭūl. biyiddīna dáf3it tafāʔul.

Uncle Gamal is always smiling. He
gives us a boost of optimism.

⑥
عَامِرٌ مَبْيُتْسِمُشْ أَبَدًا. دَائِمًا مُعْتَرِضٌ وَ مِشْ عَاجِبُهُ الْكَلَامُ.

3āmir ma-byibtisímš ábadan. dáyman mu3tarīḡ wi miš 3áḡbu -lkalām.

Amer never smiles. He's always objecting
and not happy with anything you say.

❖ [8s1] to smile (at لـ / li-)

➔ 1.2

INDEX

You can look up verbs by their English translations using references to their TABLE numbers. For example, T-264 refers to table 264 (on p. 532).

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