

Beginning Learner's Egyptian Arabic Dictionary

OVER 1,400 COMMON WORDS AND PHRASES WITH EXAMPLE SENTENCES
GRAMMAR AND USAGE NOTES
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Beginning Learner's Egyptian Arabic Dictionary



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Introduction

Whether you are a complete newcomer to the Arabic language or have previously studied Modern Standard Arabic or a colloquial dialect, the *Beginning Learner's Egyptian Arabic Dictionary* will help you gain a solid foundation in Arabic as it is spoken today. Beyond just being a reference in which to look up words to understand what you hear or express yourself, this dictionary is designed to be a self-study tool which you can explore to build your core vocabulary and understanding of the language through the headwords, translations, grammar and usage notes, example sentences, and free downloadable audio tracks.

I would like to thank Heba Salah Ali for partnering with me on this project to produce a fantastic and much-needed resource for Arabic learners. We adapted the materials from the *Beginning Learner's Levantine Arabic Dictionary* taking great care to make sure everything in the book is authentic Egyptian vocabulary, pronunciation, and style.

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Using the Dictionary

To use a dictionary in any language, you need to be somewhat familiar with the writing system and grammar. If you are not yet comfortable enough with the Arabic alphabet, phonemic transcription is provided alongside the Arabic script. For quick reference, at the beginning of the section for each letter, you can find its pronunciation, phonemic transcription, and its position in the alphabetical order. Remember, of course, that Arabic is written from right to left.

Each entry in the dictionary begins with a **headword** ① in large, bold font followed by its phonemic transcription ②, its **part of speech** ③, and **inflected forms** ④ including irregular plurals, elatives, and imperfect verbs. On the next line, the **English translation** ⑤ is followed by an **example sentence** ⑥.

Entries, columns, and pages are arranged from left to right (as this is essentially a book in English about Arabic), but Arabic is written from right to left. So, when an example sentence wraps onto the next line, it continues from the middle of the line, that is, before the phonemic transcription starts to its right, as shown with arrows in the above entry.

① كَبِير ② *kibīr* ③ ADJECTIVE (PLURAL: ④ كُبَار *kubār*,
ELATIVE: أَكْبَر *ʔákbār*)
⑤ **big, large** ⑥ إَحْنَا عَائِشِينَ فِي الْبَيْتِ الْكَبِيرِ دَه اللَّي عَلَى التَّلِّ.
fi-lbēt ikkibīr da (i)lli 3ála -ttall. We
live in that big house on the hill.

• Any relevant notes follow the entry in a gray box. References to entries or notes in other parts of the dictionary are preceded by the symbol ➡.

We have included dozens of valuable notes about grammar, pronunciation, and usage in the dictionary (in gray boxes, as above). A lot of these apply to more than just the entries they follow. However, instead of grouping them together as extended grammar and pronunciation guides, they have been scattered throughout the dictionary to encourage exploration and so that you can see information alongside relevant examples. Linguistic terms are explained in the gray boxes after their first appearance in the dictionary. You can also look up terms in the English Index on p. 149 to find the location of their explanations.

Of course, we cannot explicitly highlight every interesting point of grammar for every headword and example sentence. The intention is to teach you what kind of things to look for in the entries and how to use the example sentences to learn more about the language from observation. The example sentences show how

words can be used with other words in sentences. By studying these, you can see if a verb requires a preposition before its object, for instance, or get a better understanding of word order and how it compares to English.

Synonyms usually have parallel example sentences. This was done intentionally so that if you come across two words with the same translation, you know that they are interchangeable. This is important because, otherwise, learners are left with doubt in their minds about how to use new words: "Which one is correct? Can I say it this way, too?"

Notes on **pronunciation** appear at the beginning of the section for each letter of the alphabet, as well as in gray boxes under certain entries, especially in the first section (for alif). Each letter's **phonemic transcription** is also given. It is good to become familiar with these symbols, as we use them throughout the this dictionary and other Lingualism materials to show pronunciation and word stress, and whether vowels are long or short, which is not always apparent from the Arabic script.

Note that example sentences in the first-person singular ("I") are usually masculine, as this requires more basic forms of adjectives to which the feminine ending **ة -a** can be added. For example, **أنا جعان** *ʔána ga3ān*. This is how a man would say "I am hungry." A woman would say **أنا جعانة** *ʔána ga3āna*. Although a female voice artist, Heba Salah Ali, recorded the accompanying audio, she reads the examples in the masculine singular as they appear in the dictionary.

Tips for Looking Up Words

Arabic dictionaries can be arranged in one of two ways: alphabetically, or more traditionally, by root (three or four consonants around which words are formed). Determining a word's root is an added challenge for learners, so we have opted for a straightforward **alphabetical arrangement** in this dictionary. This presents another challenge, however, as Arabic words can take prefixes and suffixes.

To find a word's basic form listed in the dictionary, you need to be able to recognize and remove any **prefixes** from a word you encounter and want to look up. (Suffixes pose less of a challenge since they appear at the end of a word.) Some knowledge of Arabic grammar is needed to do this with ease, so it may seem a bit daunting at first, but it does get easier as you learn more about

grammar. In the meantime, here are some common prefixes to watch out for and (following the symbol →) what you should look up instead.

Note: This does not mean you should always remove the following letters from the beginning of a word. They may, in fact, be a part of the basic word itself. But if you suspect it is a prefix (from your knowledge of grammar or the context) or can't find it the first time you try to look it up, remove it and look up the word again.

أ Elative adjectives begin with أ. So, if you are trying to look up أَكْبَر and can't find it under أ, try removing the initial letter and looking at entries around where كَبَر would be in the dictionary. You'll find كَبِير (big) has the elative form أَكْبَر (bigger/biggest). أ can also be the first letter of some irregular plurals: أَوْلَاد (children) → وَلَد (child); or the first-person ('I') singular imperfect prefix: أَكْتُب (I write) → كُتِب (write)

ال definite article: الْبَيْت (the house) → بَيْت (house)

ب is the prefixed preposition 'in' when on a noun: بِالْبَيْت (in the house). On a verb, it is a particle that specifies the present tense: بِتُحِبُّ (you love) → حَبُّ (love)

ت This can be a conjugated second-person ('you') or third-person feminine singular ('she') imperfect verb: تُحِبُّ (you love).

ف so, therefore: فَأَنَا (so I...) → أَنَا (I) (But in practice, whether it is prefixed or not varies from person to person. We write it separately as فَ.)

ع means 'on' or 'to', especially before a definite article: عَالِ الْبَحْرِ (to the sea) → بَحْر (sea). (We write it separately as عَ.)

ك as: كِبُولِيس (as police) → بُولِيس (police)

ل on a noun means 'to' or 'for.' When added to a word beginning with the definite article ال, the alif (l) drops becoming لِلْ: لِلْبَيْت (for the girl) → بَيْت (girl)

م has many uses. It can form a negative verb, together with the suffix مَكْتَبِش: مَكْتَبِش (he didn't write) → كُتِب (he wrote, to write). It can also form an active or passive participle. Some common participles are listed in the dictionary, but if you're having trouble, replace it with ل to find the verb it is based on. مَتَّجُوز (married) → اِتَّجُوز (get married). For another interesting use, see the second to last note on p. 121.

ن forms the first-person plural imperfect verb: نَكْتُب (we write) → كُتِب (write)

ه marks the future tense: هَيَعْمَل (he will do) → عَمَل (do)

و means 'and.' Many people write it prefixed, as is correct in written MSA, but many Egyptians write it separately, as do we in our materials. وَأَنَا (and I) = أَنَا
 يـ is the prefix for third-person masculine singular ('he') and third-person plural ('they') conjugations: يَكْتُبُ (he writes), يَكْتُبُوا (they write) → كَتَبَ (write)

Also, keep in mind that many nouns (and adjectives) have **irregular plurals** formed by adding vowels between the consonants or even dropping them. Look around to see if you can spot the word you are trying to look up in the parentheses for plural forms: مَدَن (cities) → مَدِينَة NOUN (PLURAL: مَدَن)

Tashkeel are the diacritics written above or below letters in Arabic. They show short vowels: (َ a, (ِ i, (ُ u), the lack of a vowel (ْ as in كَتَبْتَ *katabt*), or a doubled consonant (ّ as in اِنَّهُ *innu*). Tashkeel can be disregarded when it comes to alphabetical order. To keep the text from being overly cluttered with tashkeel on every letter, in this book and other Lingualism materials, we do not write them when it would be redundant. Firstly, we consider **fatha** (َ a) the default vowel, as it is the most common. If a non-final consonant lacks tashkeel, assume it takes fatha. Secondly, sukuun (ْ) is not written on the final consonant of a word, as a final consonant is not normally followed by a short vowel (unlike in Modern Standard Arabic, which has case endings). Finally, the definite article is written without tashkeel, notably without sukuun: الْبَيْت *ilbēt* (Here, we should not assume fatha is pronounced above the unmarked ل.)

As a primarily spoken language, Egyptian Arabic has **no official spelling rules**. There are popular conventions, but individuals may spell words differently or inconsistently even, sounding them out each time they write them.

An **English-Arabic Index** can be found after the Arabic-English dictionary to help you find words. Please see the introduction to the index on p. 149.

A **Phonemic Transcription Index** on p. 160 can help you look up words by how they sound if you have trouble looking up a word in Arabic script.

Alif is the first letter of the Arabic alphabet. It can represent the long vowel *ā* (which can sound like the vowels in the English words 'can' and 'father,' depending on the word. Alif is also used as a carrier for hamza (ء) and/or short vowels. Because alif has so many roles, we need to take a look at each in more detail. Pronunciation notes can be found in the gray boxes on the following pages.

ا ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م ن ه و ي

أب *ʔabb* NOUN (PLURAL: أَبْهَات *ʔabbahāt*)

father. الرَّاجِلُ دِهْ هَيَّيْقَى أَبْ. *irrāgil da hayībʔa ʔabb*. This man will become a father.

- At the beginning of a word, alif with hamza (ء) written over it represents the short vowel *a*. We could also write it with fatha (َ) above it (أ), but in this book, we generally omit fatha, the most common short vowel, to avoid cluttered script. If a non-final consonant is not marked, you can assume it takes fatha (that is, is followed by the short vowel *a*).

إِبْتِسَامَة *ibtisāma* NOUN

دَائِمًا عِنْدَهُ إِبْتِسَامَة عَلَى وَشِهِ. *dáyman 3ándu ʔibtisāma 3ála wíṣṣu*. He always has a smile on his face.

- Kasra** (ِ) is transcribed *i* and is usually pronounced as in the English word *sit*, but it can sound

closer to the vowel in *set* depending on the neighboring consonants. It is best to listen to the audio and mimic the native speaker's pronunciation.

يَبْتَسِمُ *yibtísim* (إِبْتَسَمَ *ibtásam* VERB)

هُوَ ابْتَسَمَ عِشَانِ الصُّورَةِ. *smile húwwa -btásam 3ašān iṣṣūra*. He smiled for the photograph.

- Both in English and Arabic dictionaries, verbs are given in their citation (base) form. For English, that's the infinitive: (to) *smile*. In Arabic, the most basic form of a verb is the perfect (that is, past tense) 3rd person singular (هُوَ *húwwa*) form. So, in a natural context *ابْتَسَمَ* *ibtásam* really means *he smiled*, but in the dictionary it's translated as the infinitive.
- The imperfect form (given in parentheses) has several uses in

Arabic, including to build the present and future tenses. Just by knowing the perfect and imperfect forms, you can conjugate most verbs if you know the rules of conjugation. (You can learn more about verb tenses and conjugations in our book *Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Verbs*.)

أبدًا *ʔábadan* ADVERB

never مَبْتَصِّلْشْ أَبَدًا. *ma-btittišílšʔ*
ʔábadan. She never calls.

- Alif with two fatha (ا) appears at the end of some adverbs and is pronounced *-an*. Some people write the two fatha on the preceding consonant: أَبَدًا

إبرة *ʔibra* NOUN (PLURAL: إبر *ʔibar*)

needle مِشْ قَادِرْ أَلَاقي الإِبْرَةَ. *miš ʔādir ʔalāʔi -lʔibra*. I can't find the needle.

- Alif with hamza written under it is always pronounced i. We could write it ا with the short vowel sign kasra (ـِ), but this would be redundant, so we avoid this in this book.

إبريل *ʔibrīl* NOUN

April. الجَوَّ حِلْوٌ فِي إِبْرَيْل. *ilgáwwʔ h̄ilwʔ fi ʔibrīl*. The weather is nice in April.

إبن *ʔibn* NOUN (PLURAL: أولاد *wilād*, أولاد *ʔawlād*)

son إِبْنِي فِي الْمَدْرَسَةِ. *ʔibni fi -lmaḍrása*. My son is at school.

- Notice that the plural forms

shown for **إبن** *ʔibn* are actually those of a synonym **ولد** *walad*, as the actual plural of **إبن** *ʔibn* is rarely used in everyday language. There are two variations to this plural, so the more common one is listed first.

أبيض *ʔábyaḍ* ADJECTIVE (FEMININE: بيضا *bīṣa*)

bēḍa, PLURAL: بيض *bīḍ*)

white شَعْرُ جَدِّي أَيْبِض. *ša3rʔ gíddi ʔábyaḍ*. My grandfather's hair is white.

- Although we generally omit fatha in this book (☞ See note for **أَب** on the previous page), we do write it when it appears by the letters **و** and **ي**, as these letters can be used both as consonants and vowels. (☞ See p. 142 and 147)
- Normally, an adjective is made feminine by adding **ة** *-a*. But some, as in this entry, use a different pattern, so the feminine form is given for you.

اتأخر *itʔáxxar* VERB (يتأخر *yitʔáxxar*)

be late بابا اتأخَّرَ عَلَى شَغْلِهِ.

bāba -tʔáxxar 3ála šúʕlu. Dad is late for work.

- Shadda (ّ) represents a double consonant. It is used in Arabic instead of writing a consonant twice: **اتأخَّر** *itʔáxxar* A double consonant is pronounced longer.
- Study the example sentences in this dictionary to better

understand how words are used in context and are connected to other words in a sentence. In English, 'late' can be followed by the preposition 'for,' but in Egyptian Arabic, the preposition is **على** *3ála* (lit. on).

اتَادَبْ *itʔáddib* VERB (**يَتَادَبْ** *yitʔáddib*)

behave **وِإنت بتتكلم مع جدك!**
itʔáddib w ínta btitkállim má3a gíddak!
Behave when you speak to your grandfather!

- Notice that kasra, which is normally written below the line (under a consonant), appears immediately under shadda in most fonts. (Fatha, in contrast, would appear above it: َ)

اتَبَسَطْ *itbásat* bi- VERB (**يَتَبَسَطْ** *yitbásit* bi-)

enjoy **اتَبَسَط بِالْحَفْلَة.** *itbásat bi-lḥáfla.*
He enjoyed the party.
have fun, enjoy oneself **اتَبَسَطْتُ فِي الرَّحْلَة.** *itbasátt fi -rríḥla.* I had fun on the trip.

- While the English verb 'enjoy' takes a direct object, the Arabic verb **اتَبَسَط** *itbásat* requires the preposition **بِ** *bi-*. Keep your eyes out for such verbs throughout the dictionary. There are several. Some show the preposition alongside the entry word while others can be found by studying the example sentences.

اتَّبِعْ *ittába3* VERB (**يَتَّبِعْ** *yittíbi3*)

obey, adhere to, follow **التلاميذ لازم يتبعوا القوانين.**
yittíbu3u -lʔawanīn. Students should obey the rules.

اتَّبِنِ *itbána* VERB (**يَتَّبِنِ** *yitbíni*)

be built **المطار اتبنى السنة اللي فاتت.**
ilmaṭār itbána (i)ssána -lli fātīt. The airport was built last year.

- In the phonemic transcription, an initial vowel in parentheses means that it could be elided in relaxed speech (*itbána -ssána*) but was pronounced more carefully by the native speaker on the audio as *itbána ʔissána* without eliding the vowel.

اتَّجَاهْ *ittigāh* NOUN

direction **مِشِي فِي الْإِتَّجَاهِ الْغلط.** *míši fi -lʔittigāh ilḡalaṭ.* He went in the wrong direction.

- When a plural form is not listed for a noun, you can assume that it is regular. For non-human nouns, as this one, the regular plural ending is **ات** *-āt*: **اتِّجَاهَات** *ittigahāt* (directions)
- The letter **ه** *h* is usually silent at the end of a word, but when it is pronounced, we will put a sukuun (◌) over it for you.

اتَّجَوْزْ *itgáwwiz* VERB (**يَتَّجَوْزْ** *yitgáwwiz*)

marry, get married **هَيَّتَجَوْزُ الصَّيْفَ**
hayitgáwwiz iṣṣēf da. He will get married this summer.

أَتَحْرَكَ *itḥárrak* VERB (يَتَحَرَّكُ *yitḥárrak*)

move. القردود يَتَحَرَّكُوا بِسُرْعَةٍ. *ilḥurūd biyitḥárráku bi-súr3a*. Monkeys move fast.

- You may notice that the preceding and following pages contain many verbs beginning with **أَتَ** *it-*. This is a common pattern for verbs, which we designate as measures V, VI, and VII. You can learn more about verb measures (patterns) in our book *Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Verbs*.

أَتَحْكُمُ *itḥákkim* VERB (يَتَحَكَّمُ *yitḥákkim*)

control. يَتَحَكَّمُ فِي مَشَاعِرِهِ. *biyitḥákkim fi mašá3ru*. He controlled his emotions.

- Sukuun** (ْ) is written above a consonant to show that it is not followed by a vowel sound: **أَتَحْكُمُ** *itḥákkim*.

أَتَخَانِقُ *itxāni?* VERB (يَتَخَانِقُ *yitxāni?*)

fight. الصِّبْيَان يَتَخَانِقُوا. *iṣṣubyān biyitxán?u*. The boys are fighting.

أَتَخْرُجُ *itxárrag* VERB (يَتَخَرَّجُ *yitxárrag*)

graduate. هِيَ هَتَتَخَرَّجُ قَرِيبَ مِنَ الْكَلِّيَّةِ. *híyya hatitxárrag ḥuráyyib min ilkullíyya*. She will soon graduate from college.

أَتَدْرِبُ *itdárrib* VERB (يَتَدَرَّبُ *yitdárrib*)

practice. يَتَدَرَّبُ عَلَى الْبَيَانُو كُلِّ أُسْبُوعٍ. *biyitdárrib 3ála -lbiyānu kull⁹ ḥusbū3*. He practices the piano every week.

هوَّ أَتَدْرِبُ قَبْلَ الْمُبَارَاةِ. *exercise*

húwwa -tdárrab ḥabl ilmubarā. He exercised before the game.

يَتَدَشِّشُ *itdāšdiš* VERB (أَتَدَشِّشُ *yitdāšdiš*)

crash. الطَّيَّارَةُ أَتَدَشِّشَتْ. *itṭayyāra (i)tdašdišit*. The plane crashed.

أَتَرَعِشُ *itrá3aš* VERB (يَتَرَعِشُ *yitri3iš*)

shake. كَانَ يَتَرَعِشُ عِشَانُ الْجَوِّ بَرْدًا. *kān biyitri3iš 3ašān ilgáww⁹ bard*. He was shaking because the weather is cold.

- When fatha (َ a) is adjacent to consonants pronounced in the back of the mouth and throat (☞ See note for ص p. 74), it is pronounced as in the English word **f**ather. It is not always possible to predict alif's pronunciation in a word, so it is best to mimic what you hear in the audio.

أَتَسَلِّقُ *itsállaq* VERB (يَتَسَلِّقُ *yitsállaq*)

climb. يَحِبُّ يَتَسَلِّقُ جِبَالَ. *biyḥjibb⁹ yitsállaq gibāl*. He likes to climb mountains.

أَتَسَوِّقُ *itsáwwa?* VERB (يَتَسَوِّقُ *yitsáwwa?*)

go shopping. رَاحَتْ تَتَسَوِّقُ. *rāḥit titsáwwa?* She went shopping.

أَتَشَاكِلُ *itšākil* VERB (يَتَشَاكِلُ *yitšākil*)

fight. الصِّبْيَان يَتَشَاكِلُوا. *iṣṣubyān biyitšāklū*. The boys are fighting.

isolated

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لون *lōn* NOUN (PLURAL: ألوان *ʔalwān*)

color. أيُّه لونُك المفضل؟ *ʔē lōnak ilmufáqḏal?* What is your favorite color?

لون *lāwwin* VERB (يلون *yilāwwin*)

color. العيال لونوا الصورة. *il3iyāl lawwīnu -ḡṣūra*. The children colored the pictures.

ليسته *lista* NOUN

المدرس عنده لسته بأسماء التلاميذ. *ilmudárris 3āndu lista bi-ḡasāmi -ttalamiz*. The teacher has a list with the name of students.

ليل *lēl* NOUN

nighttime

هي بالليل *bi-llēl* ADVERB at night

مبتنامش كويس بالليل. *híyya ma-bitnámš kwáyyis bi-llēl*. She doesn't sleep well at night.

ليلة *lēla* NOUN (PLURAL: ليالي *layāli*)

night. أنا بحلم بك كل ليلة. *ḡāna báḡlam bīk kull lēla*. I dream of you every night.

ليه *lī(h)* PSEUDO-VERB

have. الورد ده ليه ريحة حلوة. *ilwárdḡ da lī riḡa ḡlwa*. Those flowers have a nice smell.

I	ليا <i>líyya</i>	WE	لينا <i>līna</i>
YOU M.	ليك <i>līk</i>	YOU PL.	ليكو <i>līku</i>
YOU F.	ليكي <i>līki</i>		
HE	ليه <i>lī</i>	THEY	ليهم <i>līhum</i>
SHE	ليها <i>līha</i>		

- A more common way to express 'have' is the construction عنده *3āndu* (p. 90). ليه *lī* is used mainly 1) if the subject is inanimate (as in the example sentence); 2) if the object is a family member, body part, or characteristic.

ليه *lē* ADVERB

why. ليه عملت كده؟ *lē 3amáltḡ kida?* Why did you do that?

م

isolated
initial
medial
final

Miim is the twenty-fourth letter of the Arabic alphabet. It is pronounced m (as in the English word man). Phonemic transcription: *m*

ا ب ت ث ج ح خ د ذ ر ز س ش ص ض ط ظ ع غ ف ق ك ل م ن ه و ي

ما عدا *ma 3áda* PARTICLE

كُلُّ الضُّيُوفِ مَشِيُوا مَا عَدَا أُخْتِي. *kull idquyūf míšyu ma 3áda ʔúxti*. All the guests have left except my sister.

مات *māt* VERB (يَمُوتُ *yimūt*)

دَيَّ الْكَلْبُ مَاتَ إِزَايْ؟ *ikkálb māt ʔizzāy?* How did the dog die?

مادة *mádda* NOUN (PLURAL: مَوَادِّ *mawádd*)

الْعُلُومُ وَ التَّارِيخُ كَانُوا مَوَادِّي *ilʔulūm w ittarīx kānu mawáddi -Imufaqqālīn fi -Imadrása*. Science and history were my favorite subjects in school.

ماشي *māši* ADVERB

ماشي، هاجي بكرة! *okay, all right māši, hāgi búkra!* Okay, I will come tomorrow!

ماضي *māḍi* ADJECTIVE

إِنْسِي الْمَاضِي! *ínsa -lmāḍi!*
Forget the past!

ماما *māma* NOUN (NO PLURAL), FEMININE

ماما، عَايْزَانِي أَسَاعِدْكِ فِي الْمَطْبَخِ؟ *māma, 3ayzāni ʔasá3dik fi -lmátbax?*
Mom, do you want me to help you in the kitchen?
الْوَلَدُ الصَّغِيرُ بَاسَ *ilwálad iṣṣuyáyyar bās mām̄tu*.
The little boy kissed his mom.

- If a feminine noun ends in **ة**, it is treated as if it were spelled **ة**, which becomes **ت** *-it-*, before a pronoun suffix: مامته *mām̄te* → مامتي *mām̄ti* (See note for رُتْبَة *rútba* p. 57.)

ماءية *máyya* NOUN (NO PLURAL)

مُمْكِنُ تَدِينِي شَوِيَّةَ مَائِيَّة، لَوْ *water*
مُمْكِنُ تَدِينِي شَوِيَّةَ مَائِيَّة، لَوْ *múmkīn tiddīni šwayyit*

máyya, law samáħt? Could you give me some water, please?

مايو *māyu* NOUN (NO PLURAL)

May شهر يونيو بعد مايو. *šahr° yúnyu ba3d° māyu*. The month of June is after May.

مباراة *mubarā* NOUN (PLURAL: **مباريات** *mubarayāt*)

game, match هما كسبوا المباراة. *húmma kísbu -lmubarā*. They won the game.

- You may notice that a lot of words in Arabic begin with **م** *ma-*, **مِ** *mi*, and **مُ** *mu-*. These prefixes are used to create various word forms equivalent to the suffixes -ing, -er, -ed, etc. in English.

مبسوط *mabsūt* ADJECTIVE

happy, glad مبسوط إنك حبيت هديتك. *mabsūt ?innak ħabbēt hidiyyítak*. I'm happy that you liked your gift.

مبلول *mablūl* ADJECTIVE

wet شعري مبلول. *šá3ri mablūl*. My hair is wet.

مبنى *mábna* NOUN (PLURAL: **مباني** *mabāni*)

building المبنى جديد. *ilmábna gidīd*. The building is new.

متأخر *mit?áxxar* ADVERB

late وصل الشغل متأخر. *wáṣal iššúy° mit?áxxar*. He arrived late at work.

متأكد *mit?ákkid* ADJECTIVE

certain, sure متأكد إن ده الصبح، بصيت. *mit?ákkid ?inn° da (i)ššúbħ*, في الساعة.

baṣṣēt fi -ssā3a. I am certain it is morning. I looked at the clock.

متحف *máħhaf* NOUN (PLURAL: **متاحف** *matāħjif*)

museum التلاميذ ممكن يزوروا المتحف.

ittalamīz múmkin yizūru.

(i) *lmáħhaf bi-balāš*. Students can visit the museum for free.

متحمس *mutaħámmis* ADJECTIVE

excited متحمس للشغل الجديد.

mutaħámmis li-ššuy°l iggidīd. I am excited about (lit. to) this new job.

- Notice the preposition used after this adjective. Prepositions do not always translate directly between Arabic and English.

مترتب *mitráttib* ADJECTIVE

tidy, organized شوف البيت مترتب.

إزاي! *šuf ilbēt mitráttib ?izzāy!* Look how tidy the house is!

مترو *mítru* NOUN (PLURAL: **متروها** *mitruhāt*)

subway هاخد المترو. *hāxud ilmítru*.

I'll take the subway.

متساوي *mutasāwi* ADJECTIVE (متساوية)

mutasāwya

equal المربع ليه جوانب متساوية.

ilmurábba3 lī gawānib mutasāwya. A square has equal sides.

متعادل *mit3ādīl* ADJECTIVE

even كل واحد كسب اللعبة مرتين، يبقى.

kull° wāħid kīsib illi3ba marritēn, yīb°a kullúhum mit3adlīn.

English-Arabic Index

This index is to help you locate Arabic entries in the dictionary. Keep in mind that words in English often have more than one meaning and are sometimes used as different parts of speech. For example, the English word 'age' can be a noun (how old one is) as well as a verb (to get older). If an English word has multiple page number references, you may need to look up each and examine its part of speech, usage in context (through the example sentences), and other grammatical information to find the right word and use it correctly. Although having a full English-Arabic side to the dictionary would be convenient, we have avoided this for two main reasons. It would mean repeating the same information several times in different places in the dictionary, tripling its size and doubling its cost. Also, there is value in taking time to get to know new words and understand how a word in English may have more than one meaning and thus a number of translations in Arabic. Spending this extra time examining entries to find the right one is an effective learning tool. And this is the goal of a learner's dictionary.

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