

# Shuwayya 'An Nafsi

شوية عن نفسي

Listening, Reading, and Expressing Yourself in Egyptian Arabic



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Matthew Aldrich



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## Introduction

Shuwayya 'An Nafsi (شُويَّة عن نفْسي šuwáyya 3an náfsi A Little About Myself) will be of tremendous help to independent language learners who want to develop their conversational skills and increase their Arabic vocabulary.

Very simply, *Shuwayya 'An Nafsi* presents the results of a survey given to 10 Egyptians. Each of the 30 sections in the book begins with a question from the survey followed by the 10 responses and a breakdown of the vocabulary and concludes with a page where you are encouraged to give your own answer to the question using newly learned words and phrases.

This book was designed in such a way that it can be an effective learning tool for **learners at all levels**:

For **beginners**, even the most basic words are found in the glossaries with their English translations. Even if you find the sentences challenging and cannot understand some of the underlying grammar at work, you will be able to pick up useful phrases while building your vocabulary. All of the materials appear in three forms: Arabic script, phonemic transcription (that is, pronunciation in the Latin alphabet), and English translation.

For more **advanced learners**, the texts appear again in the back of the book without voweling (tashkeel) or translations to provide a more challenging reading experience without distractions. Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) translations of the texts are also given for learners who are more proficient in MSA and can benefit from comparing the similarities and differences between it and Egyptian Colloquial Arabic (ECA).

The accompanying MP3s, free to download from <a href="www.lingualism.com/san">www.lingualism.com/san</a>, make up an invaluable part of the learning process, allowing you to hear and mimic native speakers' pronunciation, pitch, intonation, and rhythm.

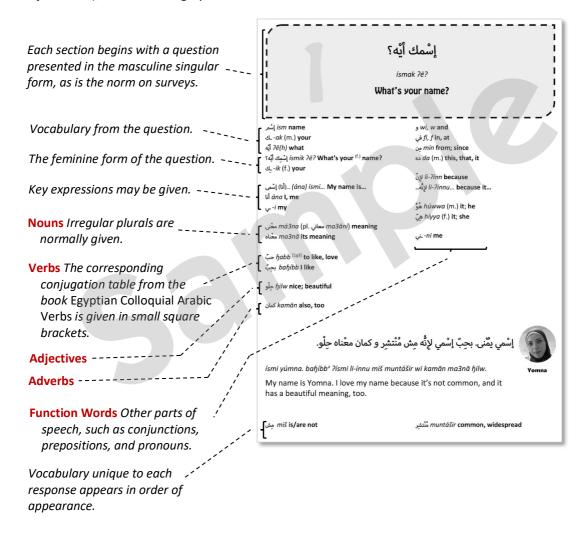
The author would like to thank all of the contributors for their participation in the *Shuwayya* 'An Nafsi project.

- Visit www.lingualism.com/san, where you can find:
- free accompanying audio to download or stream (at variable playback rates)
- a guide to the Lingualism orthographic (spelling and tashkeel) system
- links to accompanying materials (Anki flashcards, Premium Audio)



### How to Use This Book

The sections are numbered, but that does not mean you have to do them in order. Sections do not build on previous sections, and words and phrases found in each section are given even if they appear in other sections. That said, if you are a **beginner**, you will want to do sections 1-10 first, as these lay out even the most basic words (pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions), which are largely excluded from the other sections.



**Study the responses.** Listen to the MP3s and read the responses. Notice how words are used together. Making notes of (or highlighting) groups of words used together in meaningful chunks and memorizing them will help you to produce more natural, idiomatic language. (Note on MP3s: There is a three-second pause between each response—not enough time for you to repeat it, but this should give you time to pause the audio.)

**Give your own response.** At the end of each section, there is a page where you can practice using words and phrases you have learned. First, write out the question in the "arrow" box.

Then write your own personal response to the question. As you can see, there are places for two more responses. Whose? Be creative:

- Interview an Egyptian friend.
- Interview your teacher or a classmate.
- Use the questions to talk to Egyptians online on a language exchange website or chat room.
- Interview a friend or family member (in English!), and translate (or paraphrase) their answers in Egyptian Arabic.
- Imagine you are interviewing a celebrity or public figure. What might their answers be? Use what you know about them, find out more online (Wikipedia, etc.), or just be imaginative.
- Create your own fictional character from Egypt to answer the questions!



Try your best when answering, but don't worry about making mistakes. These are part of the learning process. The book *Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Vocabulary* (available from Lingualism) contains additional words and phrases you may want in order to write your responses. References to suggested sections of this book are given at the bottom of the page. You can also use other references, of course, such as a dictionary or native speakers. If you still cannot find the word you are looking for, go ahead and substitute it in your sentence with the Modern Standard Arabic word or even the English translation. Perhaps later, you will have an opportunity to improve your responses.

**Practice reading.** The questions and responses appear again in Appendix C, written without voweling or the distraction of the phonemic transcriptions, translations, and glossaries.

Practice reading them (with or without the audio).

#### **Abbreviations**

coll. collective noun

**f.** feminine

**lit.** literally

m. masculine

**pl.** plural



## **Pronunciation**

Egyptian Colloquial Arabic is a spoken dialect with no official status or rules of orthography. Egyptians tend to borrow spelling conventions from Modern Standard Arabic 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. (For a treatment of these sound changes, see the book *Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Verbs.*) Even if you are comfortable with Arabic script, it is advised that you pay close attention to the phonemic transcriptions 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:

			<u>examples</u>
b	ب	[b] as in <b>b</b> ed	bána بنی (build)
d	٤	[d] as in <b>d</b> og, but with the tongue touching the back of the upper teeth	dáras درس (study)
f	ف	[f] as in four	fāz فاز (win)
g	ج	[g] as in gas	gíri جِري (run)
h	٥	[h] as in <b>h</b> ouse	hágam هجم (attack)
k	ك	[k] as in <b>k</b> id	kal کل (eat)
1	J	[l] a light / as in love; but in the word الله	líbis لبِس (get dressed)
		[†] a dark, velarized I as in yell.	
m	م	[m] as in <b>m</b> oon	māt مات (die)
n	ن	[n] as in <b>n</b> ice	nísi نِسي (forget)
s	س ث	[s] as in <b>s</b> un	sāb ساب (leave)
š	ش	[ʃ] as in <b>sh</b> ow	šakk شكٌ (doubt)
t	ت	[t] as in tie, but with the tongue	taff نَّف (spit)
		touching the back of the upper teeth	
w	9	[w] as in <b>w</b> ord	(show) وَرَّى
y	ي	[j] as in <b>y</b> es	(he writes) پِکْتِب
Z	زذ	[z] as in <b>z</b> oo	zār زار (visit)
ž	5	[3] as in pleasure and beige; used in foreign borrowings and sometimes	žim جيم (gym)
		written $_{\overline{\varphi}}$ to distinguish it from $_{\overline{\varphi}}$ [g].	
v	ف	(پ) and [p] (ڤ sometimes spelled)	(7 Up) سڤن أپ seven ap
p	ب	appear in some 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 cara, or the Scottish pronunciation of tree	ráma رمی (throw)
Y	غ	[y] very similar to a guttural <i>r</i> as in the French Paris, or the German rot	(be absent) <b>غاب</b>
X	خ	[x] as in the German do <b>ch</b> , Spanish ro <b>j</b> o, or Scottish lo <b>ch</b>	xad خد (take)
q	ق	[q] like <b>k</b> but further back, almost in the throat, with the tongue touching the uvula	qād <b>قاد</b> (lead)
Ŋ	5	[ħ] like a strong, breathy <b>h</b> , as if you were trying to fog up a window	háfar حفر (dig)
3	3	[S] 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	(know) عِرِف 3írif
?	ء ق	[?] an unvoiced glottal stop, as [\$] above, but with a wispy, unvoiced sigh; or more simply put, like the constriction separating the vowels in uh-oh	?íbil قِبِل (accept) ?á3Ian <b>أَعْل</b> ن (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	[dˤ] e ض	emphatic <b>d</b>	(hit) ضرب dárab
Ş	sˁ] e) ص	mphatic <b>s</b>	(memorize) صمرٌّ şamm
t	t <sup>ç</sup> ] e ط	mphatic <b>t</b>	(fold) طُوی táwa
Z	zˁ] e ظ	mphatic <b>z</b>	(believe) ظنّ zann

### Vowels

а	1	[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 $\boldsymbol{h}$ or $\boldsymbol{3}$ (with the tongue lower than [æ]); usually [a] as in father (but shorter) when in the same word as $\boldsymbol{q}$ , $\boldsymbol{d}$ , $\boldsymbol{s}$ , $\boldsymbol{t}$ , $\boldsymbol{z}$ , or, in most cases, $\boldsymbol{r}$	examples kátab کتب (write) fjámla همْلی (I will fill) mabá3š مباعْش (he didn't sell) dárab ضرب (hit) yáṣab غصب (force)
ā	L	[æ:] / [a:] / [ɑ:] as with <b>a</b> above but longer	nām نام (sleep) gā3 جاع (get hungry) qād قاد (lead)
ē	ئِ	[e:] as in play (but without the glide to [j])	malēt ملیْت) (I filled)
ə		[ə] as in ticket. In ECA, <sup>a</sup> is inserted to avoid three adjacent consonants.	kúnt³ hína کُنْت هِنا (I was here)
i	<del>,</del>	[I] as in kid; [ε] as in bed when in the same syllable with ħ or 3; when in the same word as q, d, ε, t, or z, [i] with the tongue pulled back a bit	عِلِم 3ílim عِلِم (know) biyífjsib بِيحْسِب (he calculates) itzāhir اِتْظَاهِر (protest)
Ī	پ	[i:] as in ski; [ɛ:] and [ɨ:] as with i above (but longer)	biygīb بِيْجيب (he brings) biybī3 بِيْبيع (he sells) 3āqib عاقب (punish)
ō	ے	[o:] as with <b>o</b> above but longer	nōm نوْم (sleep)
u		[v] as in book; [o] as in know (but shorter and without the glide to [w]) when in the same syllable with $\boldsymbol{h}$ or $\boldsymbol{3}$	yúţlub يُطْلُب (he orders) inbā3u اِبْباعوا (they sold)
ū	9-	[u:] as in moon; [o:] as in know (but without the glide to [w]) when in the same syllable with $f$ or $f$	bitšūf بِتُّشُوف (you see) maba3ūš مباعوش (they didn't sell)



# إسْمك أيْه؟

ísmak ?ē?

#### What's your name?

ism name إسْمر

ak (m.) your- ك

*ʔē(h)* what أيْه

اِسْمِك أَيْه؟ ísmik ʔē? What's your (f.) name?

ik (f.) your- بك

اَّنا) إِسْمى) ... (ána) ísmi... **My name is...** 

ána I, me أنا

i my- ـي

ma3āni) **meaning** معنى

ma3nā its meaning معْناه

۾ ۾ fjabb [1g3] to like, love

bahíbb I like بحِبّ

hilw nice; beautiful حلْو

kamān also, too كمان

wi, w and و

fi, f in, at في

مِن min from; since

ده da (m.) this, that, it

li-ʔínn because لإنّ

.... li-ʔínnu... because it...

húwwa (m.) it; he هُوَّ

ھيّ híyya (f.) it; she

*ni* me- ـنى

# إِسْمي يمّْني. بحِبّ إِسْمي لإِنُّه مِش مُنْتشِر و كمان معْناه حِلْو.



Yon

ísmi yúmna. bafiíbb<sup>a</sup> ?ísmi li-ínnu miš muntášir wi kamān ma3nā filw.

My name is Yomna. I love my name because it's not common, and it has a beautiful meaning, too.

miš is/are not

muntášir common, widespread مُنْتشر

# أنا إسْمي مُحمّد. أكيد إنْتو عارْفين إنّ ده أشْهر إسْم في العالم.



ána ísmi muhámmad. akīd íntu 3arfīn inn³ da ášhar ism³ fi -l3ālam.

**Mohamed** 

My name is Mohamed. I'm sure you know that it's the most popular name in the world.

أكيد akīd for sure, undoubtedly أيْتو intu (pl.) you (guys) عارْفين 3arfīn (pl.) know(ing) ....ّ... ز inn... that... مشْهور mašhūr famous, well known غ أشهر ášhar (+ noun) the most famous \_\_ عالم 3ālam world غ إلى عالم fi -l3ālam in the world

## أنا إِسْمي دالْيا. و بحِبّ إِسْمي جِدّاً لإِنّ دالْيا هِيَّ إِسْم زهرة شكْلها و لونْها حلْو.



ána ísmi dálya. wi bafiíbb³ ?ísmi gíddan li-?ínn³ dálya híyya ism³ záhara šakláha w lúnha filw.

Dalia

My name is Dalia. I really love my name because it is the name of a flower with a beautiful shape and color.

جِدّاً gíddan really, a lot; very زهرة záhara flower شكْل šakl shape شُالوان .lōn (pl. لؤن الوان .lōn (pl. لؤن ہھا *-ha, -áha* (f.) its; her شکّلھا *šakláha* its shape *lúnha* its color

# أنا إسْمي أنْدْرو و الإسْم ده نادِر في مصْر و مِن صُغْري بِيْقولولي دورا علشان رجْلي صْغيرة.



ána ʔísmi ʔándru wi -lʔism³ da nādir fi maşr, wi min şúɣri biyʔulūli dōra 3alašān rígli şɣayyára.

Andrew

My name is Andrew. This name is rare in Egypt. And ever since I was a kid, people have called me Dora because my feet are small.\*

اهـــــ ده الـــــ ان الـــــ ده الـــــ ان الـــــ ده nādir rare, uncommon عنور maṣr (f.) Egypt معْن عنور suɣr childhood, youth; smallness قال ʔāl [1h1] to say, call

biyʔūlu they say, they call بِيْقُولُوا -li to me لي علشان -aalašān because برجُل rigl (f.) foot; leg يرجُل عرين عرين

# أنا إِسْمِي آيَة. و معْناه مُعْجِزِة أَوْ دليل زيّ الآيات في القُرآن.



ána ?ísmi ?āya. wi ma3nā mu3gíza ?aw dalīl zayy il?ayāt fi -lgur?ān.

Aya

My name is Aya, and it means miracle or attestation like the verses of the Ouran.

mu3gíza miracle مُعْجزة ំโ aw or dalīl sign, proof, evidence دليل زيّ zayy like, as, such as aya Quranic verse; (lit.) miracle, sign آية ilqurʔān the Quran القُرآن

# محْمود أُسامة، و معْنى إسْم محْمود هُوَّ الشَّخْص اللي بْيِمْدح في النّاس



Mahmoud

maḥmūd usāma, wi má3na ism³ maḥmūd húwwa -ššáxs ílli byímdaḥ fi -nnās kitīr.

Mahmoud Osama. Mahmoud means the person who praises people a lot.

ašxās) person أَشْخاص .saxs (pl اللي illi that, who; which مدح في [1s1] mádaḫ fi to praise بیمْدح فی biyímdaḫ fi he praises

nās people ناس kitīr often, a lot; many کتیر





ísmi rabāb mahmūd. rabāb yá3ni -ssahāb il?ábyad wi múmkin kamān yikūn ma3nā rabāba (āla musiqíyya).

Rabab

My name is Rabab Mahmoud. Rabab means white clouds, and it can also mean rebec (a musical instrument).

يَعْنى yá3ni means; that is... saḫāb (coll.) clouds سحاب ábyad white أَيْيَض مُمْكن múmkin (+ imperfect) may, might, could;

كان kān [1h1] to be; يكون yikūn is, be ربابة rabāba **rebec** (bowed string instrument) āla instrument آلَة

musiqíyya) موسيقي musīqi musical (f. موسيقي

possibly

# إِسْمي تامِر. الإِسْم تُرْكي الأَصْل و غالبِاً مُعْظم النَّاس على النَّت بِيِفْتِكْروني تُرْكي.



ísmi tāmir. il?ísm² túrki -l?aşl² w ɣāliban mú3zam innās 3ála -nnet biyiftikrūni túrki.

Tamer

My name is Tamer. The name is of Turkish origin, so most people on the Internet probably think that I'm Turkish.

\_\_ الأصْل \_\_ ilʔáṣl of \_\_ origin túrki Turkish يُركي ফāliban probably; usually غالباً شغظم \_\_ مُعْظم \_\_ على النّت 3ála -nnet on the Internet اِفْتكر iftákar [8s1] to think اِيفْتكُروا biyiftíkru they think

# إِسْمي شُروق و معْنى إِسْمي جايّ مِن شُروق الشّمْس و صُحابي بِيْنادوني شيرو.



ísmi šurū? wi má3na ísmi gayy³ min šurū? iššáms, wi şuḫābi biynadūni šīru. Shorouk

My name is Shorouk. The meaning of my name comes from *sunrise*, and my friends call me Shiro.

جايًّ *gayy* coming شُروق *šurūʔ* (sun)rise شمْس *šams* sun ماحِب $arsigma ar{a}eta ib$  (pl. مُحاب  $arsigma ueta ar{a}b$ ) friend نادی  $nar{a}da$  to call  $\dot{b}$   $\dot{b}$   $\dot{b}$   $\dot{b}$   $\dot{b}$   $\dot{b}$   $\dot{b}$ 

# إِسْمي فُؤاد و ده إِسْم قديم شُوَيَّة و معْناه القلْب. و اِتْسمَّيْت بيه تَيَمُّناً بِجِدّي الله يِرْحمُه.



ísmi fuʔād wi da ism³ ʔadīm šuwáyya wi ma3nā ilʔálb. w itsammēt bī tayammúnan bi-gíddi, allāh yirḫámu.

Fouad

My name is Fouad. This is a somewhat old name, and it means *heart*. I was named after my grandfather, God rest his soul.

قديم ?adīm old šuwáyya somewhat, a little شُويّة ?alb (pl. قلوب آوب) heart قلب itsámma bi- [5d] to be named/called إِنْسمّى بِـ بُن بِـ bi- with, by; in, at يه bī with it <sup>(m.)</sup>, by it اِيْسَمَّى نَيَمْناً بِد itsámma tayammúnan bi- to be named after يُدود (pl. جُدود gudūd) grandfather الله يرْحمُه allāh yirḫámu God rest his soul, R.I.P.

 <del>\</del>	 	 
·		
 		$\leq$
		_
		$\leq$
	 	$\leq$

Andrew's name: In recent years, it has become a minor trend in Egypt to give your child an English name. However, in the 1980s, when Andrew was born, it was quite rare. Andrew's father named him after a character in an American movie he had seen. Andrew's brother also has an English name, while his sister has a Greek name. Andrew's grandparents had trouble pronouncing his name at first and nicknamed him Dora. They told him it was because his feet were so small when he was little, although Andrew himself doesn't quite understand the connection between the nickname and small feet.

# 2

# إِنْتَ مْنينْ؟

ínta mnēn?

#### Where are you from?

inta (m.) you إنْتَ

minēn from where منيْن

? inti mnēn? Where are you (f.) from إِنْتَى مُنينْ؟

.... ána min... l'm from...; l come from...

ána I (am) أنا

min from من

maşr (f.) Egypt

ilqāhíra Cairo القاهرة

iskindiríyya Alexandria إسْكنْدرية

ilgīza Giza الجيزة

3āṣíma capital (city)

muḫáfza governorate, province

بلد bálad (pl. بلاد bilād) land, country

عيّ مُهرِ (pl. أَحْياء aḫyy (pl. أَحْياء

عايش 3āyiš living (f. عايشة 3áyša)

taḫdīdan specifically, to be precise تحْديداً

wi, w and و

*fi, f* in, at في

min from; since; than

مُوَّ húwwa (m.) it; he

هیً híyya (f.) it; she

أنا مِن مصْر، و تحْديداً مِن القاهِرة العاصِمة. و عِشْت أغْلب حَياتي في مُحافْظةْ الجيزة المُلاصْقة للْقاهرة.



Vomna

ána min maşr, wi tahdīdan min ilqāhíra, il3āşíma. wi 3išt áɣlab hayāti fi muháfzit ilqīza, ilmuláṣqa li-lqāhíra.

I'm from Egypt—from the capital, Cairo, to be precise. I've lived most of my life in Giza, which is adjacent to Cairo.

عاش 3āš <sup>[1h2]</sup> **to live** عِشْت *3išt I lived* غُلب حَياتي áɣlab Ŋayāti most of my life \_\_ (+ noun) most of \_\_ حَياة fjáya life مُلاصِق لِـ mulāṣiq li- adjacent to, bordering, attached to

# أَكُلْت أَيْه عَ الغدا إِمْبارِح؟

akált³ ?ē 3a -lyáda ?imbāriḫ?

What did you eat for lunch yesterday?

أكل ákal <sup>[i3]</sup> (also: کل kal) **to eat** بَّهُ ?ē(h) **what** غ 3a **for; on, at** غ نه yáda lunch إمْبارح imbāriḥ **yesterday** أبْبارح akálti ʔē 3a -lyáda ʔimbāriḥ?

What did you (f.) eat for lunch yesterday?

مشْوي mášwi grilled, roasted مصْري máṣri Egyptian

3ála for; on, at

الله أَدُلة مُلاه food أرزٌ ruzz (coll.) rice مسلطة sálaṭa salad; side dish فراخ firāx chicken فراخ láḫma meat; beef محاشي máḫši (pl. محشي maḫāši) stuffed vegetables مكروْنة makarōna pasta ماسة ṣálṣa sauce بانيْه banēh breaded chicken breast

# أكلْت إمْبارِح فِراخ بانَيْه و مكروْنة بِالصّلْصة و البصل و طبق سلطة ضخْمر.



akált imbārifi firāx banēh wi makarōna bi-şşálşa wi -lbáşal wi tába? sálata daxm.

Yomna

Yesterday, I ate breaded chicken breast, pasta with sauce, onions, and a large salad.

بصل báṣal (coll.) **onions** أطْباق đṭbāʔ) **plate, dish**  daxm huge, very large ضخْم

# 24

# بِتْقابِل أَصْحابك فينْ؟

bit?ābil aṣḫābak fēn?

#### Where do you meet your friends?

ييوت bēt (pl. بيون biyūt) house نادي nādi club نادي kafē café عضحاب عضاب saḫib (pl. صاحِب saḫāb) friend مكان amākin) place موّل mōl shopping mall غَمْواري šāri3 (pl. مُولِي šawāri3) street راح  $rar{a}eta^{[1h1]}$  to go (to) راح  $rar{a}eta^{[1h1]}$  to go (to) الله  $ittlpha eta^{[8s1]}$  (+ imperfect) to agree on/to خرج  $xlpha ag^{[1s3]}$  to go out; to exit iij iij to go out (of the house)  $itmlpha \check{s}\check{s}a^{[5d]}$  to go for a walk iij iij iij (also: اکم iij iij

3ādatan usually عادةً

ayy any أيّ

# عادةً بِنِتْقابِل في بيْت واحْدة فينا و ساعات بِنْروح في نادي أَوْ كافيْه.



3ādatan binit?ābil fi bēt wáhda fīna wi sa3āt binrūh fi nādi aw kafē.

We usually meet at one of our houses, and sometimes we go to the club or a café.

واحْدة wáḫda <sup>(f.)</sup> one (woman) واحِد فينا wāḫid fīna one of us (f. واحِد فينا wáḫda fīna)

sa3āt sometimes ساعات

# في القهْوَة. أيّ شابّ مصْري بِيْقدِّس القهْوَة و عارِف أهمِّيِّتها.



Mohamed

fi -lʔáhwa. ayy³ šabb³ máṣri biyqáddis ilʔáhwa wi 3ārif ahammiyyítha.

In the coffee house. Any young Egyptian man dedicates time to the coffee house and knows its importance.

?áhwa (traditional) coffee house عَهْوَة عارف 3ārif knowing ahammíyya importance أهمّية

## دایْماً بحِبٌ أَقَابِل صُحابي في كافیْه و بِنِتِّفِق نِتْقَابِل في مكان مُعینّ و نُخْرُج نروح أيّ موْل.



dáyman bahíbb aʔābil şuhābi fi kafē, wi binittífiʔ nitʔābil fi makān mu3áyyan wi núxrug nirūh ayy³ mōl.

Dalia

I always like to meet my friends at a café. Or we agree to meet in a specific place and then go to the mall.

دايمًاً dáyman always حَّ ۾ habb [1g3] (+ imperfect) **to like**  mu3áyyan specific, specified مُعينّ

# عادةً عنْدي في البيْت أَوْ بِنِنْزِل نِتْمشَّى في الشَّارِعِ أَوْ بِنرْوحِ أيّ موْل.



Androw

 $3\bar{a}$ datan  $3\dot{a}$ ndi fi -lbēt aw binínzil nitmášša fi -ššāri3 aw binrū $\hat{h}$  ayy $^{\flat}$  mōl.

Usually at my house. Or go out for a walk on the street or we go to whichever mall.

عنْدى 3ándi at my house; I have

# بقابِل أَصْحابي في الموْل. بِيْكون مكان مُناسِب إِنِّنا نِتْمشَّى و ناكُل و نِتْفرَّج على لِبْس.



baʔābil aṣḫābi fi -lmōl. biykūn makān munāsib innína nitmášša wi nākul wi nitfárrag 3ála libs.

Aya

I meet my friends at the mall. It's a good place for walking around, and we eat and look at clothes.

مُناسِب مُناسِب *munāsib* proper, appropriate, suitable itfárrag 3ála <sup>[5s2]</sup> to look at; to watch libs clothes لبْس

## في قهْوَة عنْدِنا في المدينة عشان مكان بِيْكون هادي و أَسْعار الطّلبات رخيصة.



fi ʔáhwa 3andína fi -lmadīna 3ašān makān biykūn hādi w as3ār iţţalabāt raxīṣa.

Mahmoud

At a local café in the city because it's a quiet location and the menu prices are low.

عندنا 3andína where l'm from (lit. at us, at our place); we have مدنة madīna (pl. مدُن múdun) city مادى hādi quiet, calm

يسعْر si3r (pl. أشعار as3ār) price طلب tálab order, item ordered رخيص raxīṣ cheap

# في البيْت أَوْ الكافيْه أَوْ النّادي بِنُقْعُد نِرْغي و نْجيب في سيرِةْ كُلّ النّاس.



fi -lbēt aw ilkafē aw innādi binúʔ3ud nírγi wi ngīb fi sīrit kull innās.

Rabab

At home, a café, or the club. We sit and chat and gossip about everyone.

قعد ho assim 7 assim 7 assim 7 assim 7 assim 7 assim <math>
ho assim 7 assim 8 assim 7 assim 8 assim 8

kull innās **everyone** (lit. all the people) كُلٌ النَّاس

# مكان المُقابْلة المِعْتاد هُوَّ القَهْوَة، مُعْظمْنا مِتْجوِّزين و بِيِبْقى صعْب نِبْعِد عن بيوتْنا كِتير.



makān ilmuʔábla -lmi3tād húwwa -lʔáhwa, mu3zámna mitgawwizīn wi biyíbʔa ṣa3b³ níb3id 3an biyútna kitīr.

Tamer

The usual meeting place is the coffee house. Most of us are married, and it's hard for us to go far from home very often.

مُقابُلَة muʔábla meeting, get-together, meet-up مِعْتاد mi3tād usual, habitual مُعْظَمْنا mu3zámna most of us مُتْجَوِّز mitgáwwiz married

بقی báʔa <sup>[1d1]</sup> to be; to become جa3b difficult, hard معْب bí3id 3an <sup>[1s5]</sup> to be away from کتیر kitīr often, a lot

# يا إمّا في الجامْعة و بعْد كِده نُخْرُج، أَوْ في بيْت حدّ مِنْهُم أَوْ عَ السَّارِعَ و نِتْمشّى.



ya-ímma fi -lgám3a wi ba3d³ kída núxrug, aw fi bēt ḫadd³ mínhum aw 3a ššāri3 wi nitmášša.

Shorouk

Either at the university and then we leave, or at someone's house or on the street and then we go for a walk.

يا إِمَّا... أَوْ... ya-imma... aw... either... or... gám3a university, college عدد کده ba3d² kída then, after that حدٌ مِنْهُم fjadd $^{\circ}$  mínhum one of them 3a on

# بقابِلْهُم في مهْرجانات قِصص مِصوّرة في مصْر أَوْ مُمْكِن نِتِّفِق نُخْرُج نِشوف فيلْم سينِما و ناكُل.



ba?abílhum fi mahraganāt qíşaş mişawwára fi maşr aw múmkin nittífi? núxrug nišūf fílm³ sínima wi nākul.

Fouad

I meet them at comic book conventions in Egypt. Or we might make plans to go out to see a movie and eat.

مهْرجان مهْرجان mahragān fair, festival قصص عرزية a(ṣṣa (pl. قصص a(ṣṣaṣ) story مصوّر miṣáwwar drawn, illustrated; photographed مصْر maṣr (f.) Egypt مُمْكِن múmkin (+ imperfect) may, might, could; possibly possibly فيلْم سينما film² sínima movie

\	

**⇒ Free time activities:** See Egyptian Colloquial Arabic Vocabulary (section 21)

# 30

# تِقْدر تِوْصِف شخْصِيِّتك بِأَيْه؟

tí?dar tíwşif šaxşiyyítak bi-?ē?

How would you describe your personality?

ناس nās people شُعْل šuɣl work, job حاجة ḫāga thing, something

حبّ ۾ habb [1g3] to like; (+ imperfect) to like to

igtimā3i sociable; social اِجْتِماعي

# أنا شخْصية هادْيَة، مُحِبَّة لِلنِّظام و الهُدوء و شِديدة المُلاحْظة لِلتَّفاصيل. حسّاسة جِدّاً و حالِمة.



Yomna

ána šaxşíyya hádya, muhíbba li-nnizām wi -lhudū? wi šadīda -lmuláhza li-ttafaşīl, hassāsa gíddan wi hālíma.

I am a quiet. I'm fond of order and tranquility. And [I'm] meticulous, very sensitive, and a dreamer.

هادي hādi quiet, calm (f. هادْيَة hádya) هادي hádya) هادي muḫíbb li- fond of مُحِبٌ لِـ nizām order, orderliness; organization هُدوء hudū? tranquility, calm شدوء šidīd intense, strong مُلاحْظة muláfiza observation, noticing تفْصيل tafsِīl (pl. تفْصيل tafaṣīl) detail حسّاس fjassās sensitive حالِمة fjālim dreamy, romantic (f. حالِمة hālíma)

# أنا شخْص مُنظّم جِدّاً. يَعْني أنا شخْص بْتاع أرْقام و مُعادْلات.



ána šaxṣ² munázzam gíddan. yá3ni ána šaxṣ² btā3 arqām wi mu3adlāt.

**Mohamed** 

I am a very organized person, you know, a numbers and calculations person.

شخْص šaxṣ (pl. أَشْخَاص āšxāṣ) person شظّمر munázҳam organized يَعْنى yá3ni that is; you know بِتاع bitā3 tending toward; belonging to أَرْقَام (pl. أَرْقَام arqām) number مُعادُلة mu3ádla calculation

## أَقْدر أَوْصِف شخْصِيِّتي بِإِنَّها شخْصية مرِحة و اِجْتِماعية و لكِن في نفْس الوَقْت جدَّية وَقْت الشُّغْل.



á?dar áwşif šaxşiyyíti bi-innáha šaxşíyya marífja w igtima3íyya wi lākin fi nafs ilwá?t, gaddíyya wa?t iššúɣl.

Dalia

I can describe my personality as cheerful and sociable, but at the same time serious while working.

مرح *máril*y **cheerful** في نفْس الوَقْت *fi nafs ilwá?t* at the same time 

# بقْدونِس. لِإِنَّ البقْدونِس بِتْلاقية في أَكْلات كِتير و أَنا كمان بحِبَّ أَكون مِشارك في أيَّ حاجة.



baʔdūnis, li-inn ilbaʔdūnis bitlaʔī f aklāt kitīr w ána kamān baḫíbb³ akūn mišārik fi ʔayy³ ḫāga.

**Andrew** 

Parsley, because you can find it in many dishes, and I too love to participate in everything.

بقْدونِس baʔdūnis parsley اقض lāʔa <sup>[3d]</sup> to find گلة åkla dish, food مشارك في *mišārik fi* participating in أَىِّ حاجة *ayy³ ḫāga* anything

## Appendix A: Numbers

- *wáḫda*) **one** واحْدة . *wāḫid* (f. واحِد
- itnēn **two** اثْنیْن
- # نلات talāta (تلات tálat) three
- غ *arbá3a* (أرْبعة أرْبعة غ *árba3*) **four**
- xámsa (خمس خمسة xámas) five
- sitt) six سِتَّ sítta سِتَّة
- sáb3a (سبعة sába3) **seven**
- مانيّة tamánya (تمانيّة táman) eight
- tísa3) nine تسعة ٩ تشعة
- غشر 3ášara (عشر 3ášar) ten

#### When modifying a noun:

- the number 1 follows the noun and agrees in gender.
- the number 2 can be followed a plural noun, but more commonly the dual suffix - $\bar{e}n$  is used instead of the number.
- the numbers 3-10 have shortened forms (shown in parentheses above) and are followed by plural nouns.
- hidāšar eleven جداشر
- itnāšar twelve إثناشر
- talattāšar thirteen تلتّاشر ۱۳
- اَدْیعْتاشر arba3tāšar fourteen
- مستاشر × xamastāšar fifteen

- sittāšar sixteen ستّاشر
- مبعْتاشر ۱۷ saba3tāšar seventeen
- tamantāšar eighteen تمانْتاشر
- tisa3tāšar nineteen بَسعْتاشر

- نې ۲۰ عشرين *3išrīn* twenty
- talatīn thirty تلاتین
- arbi3īn forty ارْبعین ۶۰
- xamsīn fifty خمْسين ، ه

- sittīn **sixty** ستّین
- sab3īn **seventy** سبْعين
- ۸۰ تمانین tamanīn eighty
- tis3īn ninety تِسْعِين ۹۰

Compund numbers (21, 75, etc.) are formed literally as "one and twenty", "five and seventy", etc. The number 1-9 in its full form (that is, not the shortened form) precedes و wi: خمْسة و سبْعين xámsa w sab3īn seventy-five.

### **Appendix B: Dates**

#### Days of the Week

الحدّ ilḫádd Sunday الحدّ الرِتْنيْن ilʔitnēn Monday التِّلدت ittalāt Tuesday التَّلات ilʔárba3 Wednesday الخميس *ilxamīs* Thursday الجُمْعة *ilgúm3a* Friday السّبْت *issábt* Saturday

#### Months of the Year

يَنايِر yanāyir January فِبْرايِر fibrāyir February مارِس māris March ابْريل ibrīl April يابْريل māyu May يونْية yúnyu (also: يونْية yúnya) June يوليو yúlyu (also: يولية yúlya) **July** مُعْسُطُس *ayústus* **August** مَبْتِمْبر *sibtímbir* **September** مُكْتوْبِر *uktōbir* **October** نوفِمْبرِ *nuvímbir* **November** ديسِمْبر *disímbir* **December** 

Egyptians also commonly refer to months by number.

#### **Years**

...(و)... alf tus3umíyya (wi)... 19\_ \_ ...(فينْ (و)... alfēn (wi)... 20\_ \_

The *wi* (shown above in parentheses) is present unless the following number is compound (21-29, 31-39, etc.), in other words a number which already contains *wi*.

### Appendix C: The Egyptian Arabic Texts

إسمك أيه؟ إسمك أيه؟

يمنى: إسمى يمنى. بحب إسمى لإنه مش منتشر و كمان معناه حلو.

محمد: أنا إسمي محمد. أكيد إنتو عارفين إن ده أشهر إسم في العالم.

**داليا:** أنا إسمى داليا. و بحب إسمى جدا لإن داليا هي إسم زهرة شكلها و لونها حلو.

أندرو: أنا إسمي أندرو و الإسم ده نادر في مصر و من صغري بيقولولي دورا علشان رجلي صغيرة.

آیه: أنا إسمى آیة. و معناه معجزة أو دلیل زي الآیات في القرآن.

محمود: محمود أسامة، و معنى إسم محمود هو الشخص اللي بيمدح في الناس كتير.

**رباب:** إسمي رباب محمود. رباب يعني السحاب الأبيض و ممكن كمان يكون معناه ربابة (آلة موسيقية).

تامر: إسمي تامر. الإسم تركي الأصل و غالبا معظم الناس على النت بيفتكروني تركي.

شروق: إسمى شروق و معنى إسمى جاى من شروق الشمس و صحابى بينادونى شيرو.

**فؤاد:** إسمي فؤاد و ده إسم قديم شوية و معناه القلب. و اتسميت بيه تيمنا بجدي الله يرحمه.

# Appendix D: Modern Standard Arabic Translations

ما اسمك؟ MSA

يمنى: اسمى يمنى. أحب اسمى لأنه ليس منتشرًا ومعناه جميل أيضًا.

محمد: أنا اسمى محمد، وأنتم تعرفون أنه أشهر اسم في العالم.

داليا: أنا اسمي داليا، وأحب اسمي لأن داليا هو اسم زهرة لها شكل ولون جميل.

أندرو: أنا اسمي أندرو وهذا الاسم نادر للغاية في مصر ومنذ أن كنت صغيرًا كانوا يطلقون عليّ دورا لأن قدميّ صغيرتان.

آيه: أنا اسمي آية، ومعنى اسمي المعجزة أوْ دليل مثل آيات القرأن الكريم.

محمود: محمود أسامة، ومعنى محمود هو الشخص الذي يمدح الأشخاص كثيرًا.

رباب: اسمى رباب محمود ورباب هو السحاب الابيض ويمكن أيضًا أن يكون معنى رباب آلة الربابة وهي آلة موسيقية.

تامر: اسمى تامر. اسمى تركي الأصل، ويعتقد أغلب الأشخاص على شبكة الإنترنت أني تركي.

شروق: اسمى شروق ويأتى معنى اسمى من شروق الشمس ويدعوني أصدقائي باسم شيرو.

**فؤاد:** اسمي فؤاد، وهو من الأسماء القديمة نسبيًا ومعناه القلب، وقد سميت به تيمنًا بجدي رحمه الله.