Index to Foundation Arabic

Note about transliteration

This course teaches you Egyptian spoken Arabic. The Arabic words are transliterated so that you can read them even if you don't know the Arabic script. To show some sounds that don't exist in English we've had to use some extra symbols:

- c This represents the sound called *cain*. It's like a deep 'aah' sound, that comes from the stomach rather than the throat.

 This shows that a 'q' sound has been omitted. It's like the sound a Cockney makes when s/he says 'butter,' leaving out the 'tt': 'bu'er.'
- D, S, T, Z We use these capital letters to represent the back versions of these sounds. Arabic distinguishes between pairs of sounds such as the English 's' of 'sorry' and the 's' of 'silly'. The 's' of 'sorry' is said at the back of the mouth, while the 's' of 'silly' is said at the front. In English these don't represent separate letters but in Arabic they do, and in this track listing we show them by using the capital letters.
- H We use this capital letter to represent the breathy version of the 'h' sound. Arabic distinguishes between the 'h' sound as in the English 'hotel' and a breathier version, a little like the sound made when you're breathing on glasses to clean them. In Arabic these are separate letters.

Bonus words

The following sets of words will enable you to expand what you can say by varying slightly the structures you already know. Substitute similar words to create many more new sentences and questions.

Numbers

Null	iners		
	waaHid	29	tisca w- ^c ishreen
2	itnayn		(nine and twenty)
3	talata	30	talateen
4	arb ^c a	31	waaHid w-talateen
5	khamsa		(one and thirty)
6	sitta	36	sitta w-talateen
7	sab ^c a		(six and thirty)
8	tamanya	40	arba ^c een
9	tis ^c a	41	waaHid w-arba ^c een
10	^c ashra		(one and forty)
	hid ^c ashar	45	khamsa w-arba ^c een
12	itn ^c ashar		(five and forty)
13	talat ^c ashar	50	khamseen
14	arb ^c at ^c ashar	60	sitteen
15	khamast ^c ashar	70	saba ^c een
16	sitt ^c ashar	80	tamaneen
17	saba ^c t ^c ashar	90	tis ^c een
18	tamant ^c ashar	100	mia
19	tis ^c t ^c ashar	1000	elf
20	^c ishreen		
21	waaHid w- ^c ishreen		
	(one and twenty)		

Days of the week

il-Had Sunday il-itnayn Monday it-talaat Tuesday il-arb^ca Wednesday il-khamees Thursday il-gum^ca Friday is-sabt Saturday

Months of the year

yanaayir January
febraayir February
maaris March
abreel April
maayo May
yoonyo June
yoolyo July
aghusTus August
sebtembir September
oktobir October
nofembir November
deesembir December

Words for describing position

fee in

cala on/on top of
taHt under
foh above
wara behind

bayn between
ganb next to
udaam opposite/in front of
Hawalayn around

Question words

fayn? where?
eh? what?
imta? when?
meen? who?
izzay? how?
leh? why?
kaam? how many?
bikaam? how much?

Other useful verbs

(present/past)
yinzil/nizil get off/go down
(root = n-z-l)
yilbis/libis wear/put on
(root = n-z-l)
yudkhul/dakhal enter/go in
(root = d-kh-l)
yuTlub/Talab ask for (root = T-l-b)
ya^cmil/^camal do/make
(root = ^c-m-l)
yidfa^c/dafa^c pay (root = d-f-^c)
yishtiri/ishtara buy (root = g-b-l)

Common Arabic signs

دورات المياه	toilets
دخول	entry
خروج	exit
ممنوع الدخول	no entry
الشرطة	police
سيّارة الإسعاف	ambulance
مستشفى	hospital
تذاكر	tickets
استعلامات	information