

Egyptian Colloquial Arabic (ECA)

The Egyptian Colloquial Arabic programme (ECA) aims to provide students with the skills to interact in the spoken form of Arabic used in Cairo. The ECA levels present and revise the essential grammar and morphology of ECA and activities are directed toward developing the skills and strategies for effective communication in the Egyptian culture. Structures and vocabulary are presented in the context of situations in which they are naturally used.

Elementary Courses (ECA)

ECA Level 01

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

A beginners' level. This level provides the essential grammatical structures and vocabulary for "survival" purposes in Cairo. Thus, students acquire and practice the language for personal introductions, shopping, taking taxis, asking directions, eating in restaurants, flat hunting and making simple requests for services. The Arabic script is introduced for recognition purposes. A. Structure

1. The definite article.
2. Noun - adjective agreement.
3. Nominal sentences.
4. idafa.
5. Pronouns: independent, attached, demonstrative.
6. Possession (ع and ما ع)
7. Interrogatives.
8. Prepositions and directions.
9. Colours and description.
10. Numbers: cardinal, ordinal, counting.

il baqqal/ il matʿam / ilfunduq/ shakluh eh/ shaklaha eh/ active and passive participles vocab only.

A. Morphology

1. Masculine and feminine colours and adjectives.

B. Phonetic Rules of ECA

C. Writing

Introduction of the alphabet (for recognition only).

ECA Level 02

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

An elementary level. Students in this level acquire and practice the language for communicating domestic needs and for social interaction. It provides revision of the grammar of nominal sentences and focuses on the simple verbal tenses (subjunctive, present, future). Students learn the language for making polite requests for services and repairs, making appointments, hotel reservations and similar arrangements. The Arabic script is revised and students may read simple words and sentences.

I. Structure

1. Revision of ECA 1
 2. Introduction roots
 3. Conjugation of subjunctive of type 1 verbs.
 4. Bi-verbs:
 - a) Presentation of tense as present and present continuous.
 - b) Negation.
 - c) Bi-verb + subjunctive.
 - d) Bi-verb + prep. ma.
 5. Is-shaqqa fiha w mafihash
 6. Future tense making future plans.
 7. Imperative
 8. Bitāḡ
- ### II. Morphology
1. The comparative and superlative.

2. Conjugation of subjunctive, bi-verb , ha-verb and imperatives.

3. Introduction to type 3 pattern.

III. Script

The alphabet should be introduced at the end of level 1. It should be practised and developed via the reading and writing of individual words rather than texts.

***** More conversation

ECA Level 03

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

A post elementary level. This level revises the essential verbal tenses and focuses on the past tenses. It also presents more complex structures that rely on the manipulation of more than one tense, and using conjunctive particles and relative clauses. Participants learn how to engage in conversation of a more abstract nature, such as enquiring and exchanging information on customs and traditions, relating personal experience, making polite complaints, offering apologies and advice and expressing opinions on topics of current general interest. The students may also read short narrative passages in Arabic

I. Structure

1. Revision of tenses introduced in level 2.
2. The future (ha-verb):
 - a) Negation.
 - b) ha-verb + subjunctive. ha-verb + prep.
- ma. 3. Imperative
4. kan:
 - i) kan + fiḥ baqa fiḥ.
 - ii) kan + εand /maε.
 - iii) kan + modals.
 - iv) kan conjugation.
 - v) kan + bi+verb
 - vi) kan + active participle.

5. The past tense (all roots and negation).

II. Morphology

1. conjugations of the above tenses

III. Script

Reading should concentrate on texts in Arabic, although transliterated texts are still presented.

***** more conversation

ECA Level 04

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

An intermediate level. This level revises all tenses, and focuses on the complex structure of the sentence using variety of conjunctions and connectors. Participants learn how to relate personal experience in a more lively fashion. Students get extensive practice on the language of polite argument and narration of personal experience and opinion. Students may read short newspaper articles and adverts in Arabic.

I. Structure

1. Revision.
2. Time particles.(saʿit ma, lighayit ma, qabl ma baʿd ma, ʿumri ma).
3. Introduction of illi.
4. khalli.
5. lissa.

II. Morphology

1. Introduce types 7,2 & 5.
2. Active participle details

III. Script

Students should be reading passages in script at this point and writing in Arabic as well.

IV. Conversation

Conversation sessions should start at this level. Topics of conversation should be introduced beforehand, the students be given time to think them over before they are actually discussed in class.

ECA Level 05

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

A post intermediate level. The course aims at developing the accuracy in manipulating the structures presented in previous levels and encourage the use of longer, more complex sentences using a variety of conjunctions and connectors. Participants learn how to relate personal experience in a more lively fashion, how to agree and disagree in argument and state opposing ideas, express interests and enquire and exchange information on different issues. Most of the materials are presented in Arabic.

I. Structure

1. Revision of all tenses and negation.
2. Revision of time particles.
3. Revision of phonetics.
4. Revise more complex structures that rely on more than one tense.
5. Introduce conditional (possible) and introduce impossible case.

II. Morphology

1. Revise verb types 7, 2 & 5. Introduce verb types 3 & 6.

III. Script

Students should be reading passages in script and writing in Arabic as well.

IV. Conversation

Students should be able to converse in Arabic at this level. Students should be given topics to discuss in class. Debates on current issues, lectures and role-plays.

ECA Level 06

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

An advanced level. The course aims to develop proficiency in communication with good accuracy in manipulating complex structures. It is topically oriented and encourages conversation on issues such as environment, traffic, education etc. Students are exposed to recordings from the radio and television and poetry

I. Structure

1. Revision of conditionals.
 2. Introduce reported speech.
 3. Imperative revision of khalli
 4. Introduce (iyyak, balash, uwḡa).
 5. Uses of the root f k r (fakir - fakkar - iftikir).
 6. kan + ha-verb-----> kan + past.
 7. Connectors:
 - i) talama.
 - ii) ḡala ma -----> kan.
 - iii) ḡala ma -----> ha + verb.
 - iv) ḡala bal ma.
 - v) ya ma.
 - vi) lola.
 8. Uses of baqa.
 9. Introduce baqa , baqalak qadd eh qadd eh
- ### II. Morphology
1. Revise types: (7, 2, 5, 3, 6).
 2. Introduce types (8, 10).
 3. masdars as pattern

III. Script

Texts should be presented in Arabic only, although there are occasionally students who have acquired this level of speaking without having acquired the Arabic script.

IV. Reading

Poetry and plays in ECA exist and should be used at this level. Conversation:

Students should be encouraged to bring in their own topics, and express their points of view in Arabic.

ECA Level 07

Duration	32 hours
Course only:	\$ 260

An advanced level. Students acquire increased proficiency in the language of discourse on topics of current issues. The aim is also to develop the awareness and sensitivity to different modes of informal to formal interaction. They also listen to recordings from the Arabic radio and watch Egyptian films.

This course concentrates on developing skills.

I. Structure

Very little formal structure needs to be introduced at this level.

This course mainly concentrates on conversation, listening to authentic material, watching films, and discussing topics, debates, plays, songs and different activities to encourage students to talk.