

# Palestinian Arabic Conventional Orthography Guidelines

## - Technical Report

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**Abstract** This technical report describes a general template for Conventional Orthography for Dialectal Arabic creation regardless of dialect and specific details and guidelines for Palestinian Arabic creation. The technical report serves two purposes: defining the general and specific Conventional Orthography for Dialectal Arabic information as well as being the base for a Palestinian CODA.

The technical report describes the variations generated by Palestinian Arabic speakers and the sub-dialects of the Palestinian Arabic, and sets guidelines on how to deal with these variations. It also describes the structure of a word and states the clitics and affixes associated with the base word. Moreover, it adds clitics and affixes which are specific to the Palestinian Arabic. the technical report also provides a list of exceptional list that has words with its variations and which variation to be used as the CODA form.

**Keywords** Palestinian Arabic, Conventional Orthography for Dialectal Arabic, Dialectal Arabic

## 1. Introduction

In this technical report we provide guidelines, and examples to provide a conventional orthography for dialectal Arabic (CODA) [1] words, especially Palestinian dialectal [2] words.

There are different scenarios for using CODA:

- a. to directly write in to it (such as when creating lexicon entries or morphology analysis examples)
- b. to correct spontaneously written Arabic text to CODA
- c. or to map Arabizi (Arabic written in Roman script) to CODA

Each of these scenarios has its own restrictions, which should be specified in additional guidelines. But as a general principle, correct CODA spelling should be typo-free and may use punctuation marks in a way consistent with MSA's use of punctuation marks. CODA has been implemented for the Tunisian dialect [3] and Algerian [4] dialect.

## 2. Basic Phonology-to-Orthography Map

This section specifies the mapping of phonemes to graphemes (letters and diacritics). These map rules are generic and apply to all dialects. These rules can be used to write words "phonetically". The morphology and lexicon based exceptions to these general rules within CODA will be specified in later sections.

## 2.1. Consonantal Phonemes

### 2.1.1. Consonants

The following consonants phonemes are mapped to consonants graphemes as is done in MSA:

/b,t,v,j,H,x,d,\*r,z,s,\$,S,D,T,Z,E,g,f,q,k,l,m,n,h,w,y/

=> (b,t,v,j,H,x,d,\*r,z,s,\$,S, D,T,Z,E,g,f,q,k,l,m,n,h,w,y)

=> (ي,و,ه,ن,م,ل,ك,ق,ف,غ,ع,ظ,ط,ض,ص,ش,س,ز,ر,ذ,د,خ,ج,ث,ت,ب)

**Emphasis** (تقحيم) Emphatic spread can confuse the choice of a phoneme, e.g. ص/س or ط/ت; in such cases, we consider the non-emphatic form as the default. Exceptions discussed later in this document can overwrite this choice. Some dialects have additional emphatic phonemes that are written (e.g., the /b/ in bAbA ‘daddy’).

**Allophones** Allophonic version of these consonants should not be made explicit in writing, e.g., جمب may be pronounced /jamb/ but not written as جمب.

### 2.1.2. Shadda

The Shadda diacritic replaces the second letter in a repeated letter sequence:

e.g., /kallam/ => (kal~am) (كـلم)

### 2.1.3. Hamza Spelling

The glottal stop consonant (Hamza) is mapped to different Hamza graphemes determined by the vowel context as is done in MSA (details omitted here):

/'/ => (>, <, |, &, {}, ' ) (أ, إ, آ, ئ, ؤ, ئ, ء)

e.g., /fu'a:d/ => (fu&Ad) (فـؤـاد)

/'a:nis/ => (|nis) (أـنـس)

## 2.2. Vocalic Phonemes

### 2.2.1. Vowels

The vowels are mapped as follows:

/a,i,u/ => (a, u, i) (ا, ا, -و)

/a:, i:, u:, e:, o:/ => (aA, iy, uw, ay, aw) (أـ, إـ, عـ, يـ, ئـ, وـ)

/aw, ay/ => (aw, ay) (أـوـ, أـيـ)

This is the same as MSA with the exception of /e:/ and /o:/ which do not appear in MSA. CODA conflates /aw/ and /o:/, as well as /ay/ and /e:/.

**Allophones** As in MSA, emphatic versions of the vowels are allophonic variants (not written).

**Vowel Length** Some dialects (unlike MSA) allow vowels to shorten phonetically in different contexts. Vowel allophones involving shortening are written phonemically, i.e., phonetically shortened long vowels are still written long. The reverse is assumed to not happen (short vowels that are lengthened phonetically).

### 2.2.2. Sukun

The sukun symbol marks the absence of a vowel after a consonant. (In fully diacritized writing it can be ignored as it can be inserted automatically).

### 2.2.3. Hamzat Wasl (Temporary Hamza)

Vowels at the beginning of words result in word-initial glottal stop pronunciation. This is a phonetic phenomenon and does not reflect the presence of a real word-initial Hamza (همزة قطع). This phenomenon appears in MSA and all dialects, although with different distributions. To determine if the word starts with a real Hamza phoneme or a temporary Hamza, add the clitic “w” و or “b” ب before it: real Hamza (همزة وصل) disappears, temporary Hamza (همزة قطع) remains.

e.g., from Egyptian Arabic

|                              |                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| /aktib/ (أكتب) => (Aakrib)   | /baktib/ NOT /bi'aktib/ (بأكتب)       |
| /ilfikr/ (الفكر) => (Alfikr) | /wilfikr/ NOT /wi'ilfikr/ (وال الفكر) |
| 'aHla:m/ (أحلام) => (>aHlAm) | /wi'aHla:m/ NOT /wiHla:m/ (وأحلام)    |

Compare the behavior between MSA and Egyptian on some Egyptian words:

| Egyptian same as MSA |     |     |     | Egyptian different from MSA |       |         |      |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----------------------------|-------|---------|------|
| Correct              | اسم | اين | اين | انكتاب                      | انتكس | ابراهيم | اعزب |
| Incorrect            | اسم | اين | اين | إنكتاب                      | إنتكس | إبراهيم | أعزب |

Table 1 comparison between MSA and Egyptation for same words.

### 2.2.4. Epenthesis and Elision

الكسر لمنع (Phonetic epenthesis) is adding a short vowel (schwa) to break up consonant clusters (النقاء السكاكين/السوakan). Phonetic elision is deleting short unstressed vowels in certain contexts.

These two phenomena will not be written when resulting from interaction between the base word and its clitics or the word and other words; the specifics pronunciation of each dialect determines the rules of adding/deleting them. E.g.,  
أبن بلادي /ibn bla:di/ => [ib.nib.la:.di].

## 2.3. Suboptimal Spelling

In addition to avoiding typographical errors, the following very common sub-optimal spelling choices must be avoided:

- a. Alif Maqsura/Ya (ي / ی ): spell final ي correctly: ي for /a:/ and ي for /i:/, /e:/, /ay/ and /y/
- b. Alif-Hamza forms (اً) must be spelled with the Hamza or Madda, and not be confused with bare Alif (ا). The Alif Wasla (for Hamzat Wasl) (اً) will be written in CODA as bare Alif.

## 2.4. Foreign Phonemes

### 2.4.1. Consonants

For commonly used foreign consonants (in foreign words), use the following:

|               |
|---------------|
| /g/, /ڙ/, → ج |
| /p/ → ب       |
| /v/ → ف       |
| /č/ → ڦ       |

### 2.4.2. Vowels

For foreign vowels, map them to the closest Arabic vowel. If a long vowel reading is possible, prefer it over a short vowel reading (e.g., "Mirage" ميراج not مراج). Foreign words ending with long vowels will be rendered with an extra silent (h) word finally:

e.g., [mayo:] => /ma:yo:/ => (mAyawh) (مايوه) ‘swimsuit’

## 2.5. Palestinian Arabic Phonology Observations and Pronunciation Rules

### 2.5.1. Sub-dialectal variations

There are a number of variations within Palestinian Arabic. We consider the Urban dialect (مدنی), the unmarked base dialect. Accent variations from it will not be written. Below is a table of some of these cases:

| MSA | PAL-Urban(مدنی) | PAL-Rural(فلحی) | PAL-Bedouin | PAL-Druze |
|-----|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------|
| /q/ | /'/             | /k/             | /g/         | /q/       |
| /k/ | /k/             | /č/             | /k/         | /k/       |

Table 2 examples of accent variations in PAL.

### 2.5.2. Phonotactic Vowel Shortening and Stress

PAL expresses regular stress (specify details); adding affixes may cause stress movement.

In some cases one long vowel allowed per word; Long vowel receives stress; unstressed long vowels shorten (phonotactic). However, Some Palestinian Arabic speakers keep the first long vowel of a word without shortening it, others shorten it. For example:

/\$a:ku:\$/ [شکوش] and /\$aku:\$/ [شکوش]

Long vowels shorten in word final positions unless they are followed by some morpheme (which may simply realize as nil): /za:r+u:/ [za:ru] but /za:r+u:+h/ [zaru:]

### 2.5.3. Epenthesis

All words ending with CC clusters (that are not geminates) allow for a CiC epenthesized pronunciation: /kalb/ and /kalib/; /Darb/ and /Darib/; /katabt/ and /katabit/; We will consider the non-epenthetic version the base and use it in CODA.

Consonant clusters across words are broken up with an epenthetic vowel (الكسر لمنع التقاء السواكن). The vowel can be /i/ or /u/ in round contexts. E.g., /ibn/+bla:d/ => /ib-nib-la:d/. The epenthetic vowel will not be written.

### 2.5.4. Vowel Allophones that are not written.

- (a) The short vowel /i/ has two allophones [i] and [e].
- (b) The short vowel /u/ has two allophones [u] and [o].
- (c) All vowels have emphatic forms.

### 2.5.5. ??? Reference to other Levantine dialects?

## 3. Word Structure

CODA, like MSA orthography, is a morphophonemic writing system with some exceptions. To be able to explain and apply this system, we must understand the structure of the words we are writing. The first step to write a word is to decompose it into its components:

- 1) Pronunciation – how is the word pronounced?
- 2) Meaning – what does it mean?
- 3) Morphology – what are the basic units the make it up?

In terms of morphology, we break up the word into:

- 1) **Clitics**: proclitics (prefixing) and enclitics (suffixing). Clitics, which are all *optional* to word formation, include all the particles (ضمائر النصب والجر المتصلة) and object/possessive pronouns.
- 2) **Base Word**, which can be further broken into
  - a) **Affixes**: *obligatory* prefixes and suffixes include all affixes other than clitics, e.g. ا+، ار+، ات+، ة+، etc.
  - b) **Stem**, which can be further broken into
    - i) **Root**
    - ii) **Pattern**

It is important that the meaning and the morphology be consistent. All affixes and clitics are provided in Appendix A.

Example (MSA):

|                      |                          |                  |             |                  |
|----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|
| <b>Pronunciation</b> | /wasayaktubu:naha:/      |                  |             |                  |
| <b>Meaning</b>       | 'and they will write it' |                  |             |                  |
| <b>Morphology</b>    | <b>Proclitics</b>        | <b>Base Word</b> |             | <b>Enclitics</b> |
|                      | wa+ sa+                  | yaktubu:n        |             | +ha:             |
|                      |                          | <b>Prefixes</b>  | <b>Stem</b> | <b>Suffixes</b>  |
|                      |                          | ya-              | aktub       | -u:na            |
|                      |                          |                  | <b>Root</b> | <b>Pattern</b>   |
|                      |                          | k.t.b            | a12u3       |                  |

Table 3 Word structure.

The rest of this document will refer to these levels of representing the structure of a word. First we discuss the spelling of Base Words independently of clitics. Then we discuss the addition of clitics. The list of clitics and affixes needs to be specified for each dialect, although some general principles will be followed across all dialects (details below).

## 4. Base Word Spelling

For spelling of the base word, we start with the lexical exceptions, which override any other set of decisions. Then we discuss the rules for spelling the word using its components (affixes, stem, root and pattern).

### 4.1. Lexical Exceptions

Some words are spelled in a particular *ad hoc* way. A list is provided in Appendix B. The appendix should not include clitics. It is only for Base Word spelling.

**General Thoughts on Exceptional Spelling Choices** The exception list should be easy to remember by CODA users. As such, in selecting the exceptional spelling, the CODA designers will try to obey as many of the basic phonology-orthography rules and affix spelling as possible. The option of using an exceptional spelling from the CODA of another dialect is encouraged if the pronunciation is similar. Considering Google counts is also encouraged. However, consistency in spelling related words (same POS, same class of phenomena) is preferred over pure statistics.

e.g., /intu/ => (Aintuw) (أَنْتُو) NOT (AintuwA) (أَنْتُوَا)  
 /barduh/ => (barDuh) (بَرْدُوهُهُ) NOT (barDuw) (بَرْدُوهُ)

### 4.2. Affix Spelling

Appendix A specifies the list of affixes and clitics. The list should be updated for each dialect. As with other dialect specific decisions, we try to follow some general principles that carry across different dialects as much as possible. Most affixes are spelled as pronounced. The following are some exceptional affix rules that are dialect independent:

- Ta Marbuta is a particular affix that is usually associated with the feminine singular inflection of a noun. The test for whether a word ends in Ta Marbuta is whether the ending changes from some vowel to /t/ (or /it/) in the context of an Idafa construction: e.g., say~Arap mnY /sayya:rit muna/ as opposed to samA falasTiyn /sama falasTi:n/:
  - Ta marbuta is always ة and never ئ at the end of the word. Inside a word (after clitics) it may be ة or ئ. The spelling of Ta Marbuta is not affected by pronunciation:
  - عَرَبِيَّةٌ سَمِيرَةٌ جَدِيدَةٌ in EGY /Earabiyyit sami:ra jidi:da/

- سیارتی // سیارتا
- معلمته 'his teacher/boss'
- معلماه 'she taught him' شایفه 'she is seeing' the gerund deverbal form using the active participle
- In Levantine there are different pronunciations of Ta Marbuta, we only write the version with +ap and consider the rest accent variants. For example the word معلمه can be written as: معلمي or معلمه
- Plural affixes of verb subjects (+/u:/, +/tu:/) are spelled with a silent Alif in word final spelling: ، توأ کتبوا / کتبوا / کتبوا ها / کتبوا ها
- This should not be confused with the 3rd masculine singular clitic /uh/ which is written as ه.
- Feminine affixes (+/i:/ and +/ti:/) are spelled with extra ي+ reflecting the underlying long vowel. کتبتي / نكتي
- Nunation in adverbial constructions should be spelled using the nunciation diacritics. عملياً، فعلاً، غصب

### 4.3. Stem Root Spelling

#### 4.3.1. Root Consonants

If a word's root is a cognate of an MSA root, then the root radicals are written using the corresponding MSA root radicals. This is \*\*only\*\* allowed for the **following** subset of root radicals:

| MSA/CODA orthography | Pronunciation variants | Correct                 | Incorrect               |
|----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| ق                    | ء اك                   | طريق<br>برتقان<br>قال   | طريء<br>برتنان<br>كال   |
| اف                   | تش                     | كيف حالك                | تشيف حالتش              |
| ث                    | س ت ط                  | كثير<br>ام كلثوم<br>ثور | كتير<br>ام كلسوم<br>طور |
| ذ                    | د ز ظ                  | كذب<br>ذل               | كدب<br>زل               |
| ض/د                  | ظ ز د                  | ضابط                    | ظابط                    |
| ظ/ز                  | ض ز ذ                  | ظل                      | ضل                      |
| ص/س                  | س ص                    | صاقع                    | ساقع                    |
| ط/ت                  | ت ط                    | اللطف<br>فستان          | النف<br>فسطان           |

Table 4 letters' variations in PAL

Words like كـك are not written as كـك although there is an etymological link to MSA. This is because this transformation is limited in its applicability compared to the more systematic mappings observed for the phonological cases listed in Table 1.

Some words will have part of the stem written according to the default and part according to the above rule: e.g., بـرتـآن not بـرتـقـان or بـرتـآن

Some words will have two letters changing and may be hard to recognize especially if they involve multiple readings depending on the semantics of the word: e.g., ثـقـيل can be pronounced /t'i:l/ 'heavy' or /sa'i:l/ 'annoying [metaphorically heavy]' (note that the two words have different diacritizations).

### 4.3.2. Disappearing Hamza

Hamzas are only written when pronounced. Many words without the Hamza sounds have cognates in MSA that have Hamzas. These Hamzas are not written. Some examples:

|           |      |      |     |       |      |        |
|-----------|------|------|-----|-------|------|--------|
| Correct   | هوا  | سما  | بیر | مایل  | راس  | ولاد   |
| Incorrect | هواء | سماء | بئر | مائـل | رأسـ | أولادـ |

Table 5 Examples of correct and incorrect Hamaz writings.

One exception to Hamza spelling is the case of an MSA Hamza written as Alif-Hamza-Above that turned into an /a:/ at the end of a word in the dialect. CODA will write the final letter as Alif not Alif Maqsura. This can be thought of as an extension to the rule about root-influenced spelling of final /a:/ which in MSA covers only w/y root radicals.

(بَدَى، يَبْدِى) NOT (badaY, yibdaY)  
/bada, yibda/ => (badA, yibdA) (بَدَا، يَبْدَا)  
(ابْتَدَى) NOT (AibtadaY)  
/ibtada /=> (AibtabadA) (ابْتَدَا)  
(فَرِى) NOT (qaraY)  
/'ara/ => (qarA) (فَرَا)

### 4.3.3. Initial Hamza

Hamzas that appear at the beginning of a word are always dropped, and replaced with a bare Alif. This decision was made since dropping the Hamaza will not, in most cases, create ambiguity. For example:

اخذ (Ax\*) => /'x\*/  
احمد (AHmd) => /'Hmd/

#### **4.3.4. Alif Maqsura (Type 1 - Root based)**

A word final /a,a:/ vowel is spelled as *ሬ* Y if the word has a root radical *ሬ* y that changed to /a/. Final root radicals other than y that turn into /a,a:/ (Such as w) are written with Alif !. This rule is the same in MSA.

## 4.4. Stem Pattern Spelling

#### 4.4.1. Pattern Consonants

Follow the same rules of spellings as MSA.

|           |       |        |               |
|-----------|-------|--------|---------------|
| Correct   | نفترض | استعطا | ازدھر         |
| Incorrect | نفترض | اصطعطا | ازتھر (اقتعل) |

Table 6 Examples of correct and incorrect pattern spellings

#### **4.4.2. Vowels**

The general rule is to preserve long vowels even if they shorten in different contexts.

- كاتب /ka:tib/
  - كاتبين /katbi:n/ **كتبين**
  - كاتبينهما /katbinha/ **كتبنها**
  - تقولها /tqu:lh/a/ 'you say it' **تقألاها**
  - تقول لها /tqulha/ 'you tell her' **تقألها**

Some patterns that have two long vowels in MSA and only one in EGY will be written in their MSA form since EGY phonology disallows multiple long vowels and will force the shortening of the first of the two long vowels anyway in a manner similar to what happens in EGY after the cliticization mentioned above:

- فاعول قانون NOT قانون
  - مفاعل مهانين NOT مهنين

It is also important to avoid making short vowels long in context where the long vowel cannot appear and has not pattern-based evidence. A common case is the conjugation of hollow verbs (same rule as in MSA spelling):

- قلت NOT قوله

#### 4.4.3. Alif Maqsura (Type 2 – Pattern based)

Some Alif Maqsuras are pattern of the pattern in MSA. If the pronunciation remains the same in the dialect, we use the Alif Maqsura. For words that end with /a:,a/ and whose pattern in MSA had a Hamza, the CODA spelling preserves the Alif (and not the Hamza).

- فعلٰ قتلى NOT قتلا
- فعلا حمرا NOT حمرة

#### 4.4.4. Putting the Base Word Together

When integrating the components of the base word (root, pattern, affixes) to compose it, we apply the general rules discussed above. In particular, the Shadda rule may be needed when a suffix starts with the same consonant as the end of the stem: e.g., jan~an+nA => jan~an~A not jan~annA (which is a different word that we discuss in the next section).

### 5. Clitic Spelling

#### 5.1. Clitic Forms

The forms of the clitics in a dialect should be specified in Appendix A (including morphotactics). Many clitics are the same as in MSA and other dialects. But there are some unique clitics in some dialects that are not shared. Some linguistic clitics are not written as clitics in CODA.

##### 5.1.1. Basic Clitic Rules

- We follow MSA morphophonemic writing as in writing +ال always as +ال regardless if the stem starts with a sun/moon letter and regardless of any reduced pronunciations:
  - i. القراءة /il'amar/
  - ii. الشمس /i\$\$ams/
  - iii. الجبال /ijba:l/
- All single letter particles are cliticized (attached) while multi-letter clitics are not attached. The only exception is the definite article +ال
  - iv. البيت /بـالـطـوـلـ/ عـالـيـيـتـ
  - v. بـ+ـتـكـتـبـ = بـنـكـتـبـ
  - vi. حـ+ـامـشـيـ = حـامـشـيـ
  - vii. كـتـبـ+ـشـ = مـاـ كـتـبـشـ
- Pronominal enclitics (ضمائر النصب والجر المتصلة)
  - viii. بـيـتـكـمـ
  - ix. شـافـوكـواـ NOT شـافـوكـوـ
- Dialectal clitics

##### 5.1.2. Linguistic clitics that are not written attached

- mA of Negation. Always add a space between it and word even though the -\$ is cliticized.
  - i. ماـ كـتـبـشـ ، مـكـتـبـشـ NOT // ماـ كـتـبـشـ
  - ii. مـشـرـيشـ ، مـاـشـرـيشـ NOT
- Indirect object pronouns (+ال pronoun) is also separated
  - iii. قـلـ لـهـ NOT قـلـلـهـ

iv. قلت لك NOT فلتاك

- Any particles longer than one letter. The only exception is Al.  
رجيمشي NOT رح يمشي v.

## 5.2. Spelling Interactions as a result of Cliticization

### 5.2.1. No Change

The default rule is that cliticization does not change the spelling of the base word.

/bilmaka:tib/ => /bi+Al+makAtib/ => (biAlmakAtib) (بالمكتب)

ب+اكتب // بكتب NOT even if pronounced as such;

Consistent with this rule is the disabling of the Shadda rule across base-word-clitic boundaries (except for +ya):

(bArik+kum) (باركُم) (wAH\$iyin+nA) (واحشيننا) (jan~an+nA) (جنتنا)  
but (Ealy+~a) (علَيْ)

### 5.2.2. Clitic Changes

Exceptional to the above rule are changes in spelling specific clitics

- The definite article Al loses its Alif after the preposition l+  
ل+البيت = للبيت
- Some pronominal clitics have different allomorphic forms. Examples:

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| PRON_2FS /ik/    | => /ik/, /ki/, /ki:/, /iki:/   |
| 1. /\$Afik/      | => (\$Afik) (شايف)             |
| 2. /\$Afu:ki/    | => (\$Afuwkiy) (شافوكي)        |
| 3. /\$Afuki:\$/  | => (\$Afuwkiy\$) (شافوكيش)     |
| 4. /\$uftiki:\$/ | => (\$uftikiy\$) (شُفْتِيكِيش) |

|                 |                            |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| PRON_3MS /o/    | => /o/, /:/, /ho/          |
| 5. /\$a:fo/     | => (\$Afuh) (شافه)         |
| 6. /\$afu:/     | => (\$Afuwh) (شافوه)       |
| 7. /\$afo:\$/   | => (\$Afhuw\$) (شافووش)    |
| 8. /\$afuho:\$/ | => (\$Afuhuwh\$) (شافوهوش) |

### 5.2.3. Base Word Changes

Exceptional to the above rule are changes in spelling specific to base word endings

- Ta Marbuta changes to t or A before an enclitic:
  - معلمة+هم // معلماتهم
- The Alif of the subject ending wA is dropped before an enclitic:
  - كتبوا+ش // كتبوش
  - كتبوا+ها // كتبوها
- Alif Maqsura is turned into Alif or Ya depending on the word
  - حكى+هم // حكاهم
  - على+هم // عليهم

## 6. Examples

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Raw sentence | لبست الفستان وراحت جري عالكسر وشافها الأمير وحبها وركضو سو وفجأة دكت الساعة طنعش وجراء<br>وصارت ترمح وترمح ووكلعت بيوجها عالدرج سنديلا راحت عاليبيت واتمنت لو اتو الساعة ما دكتش على الطعنعش، |
|--------------|---|

|            |  |
|------------|--|
|            | بس شو تسوی بحظها المعتر مثل حظ هاظا الشعب الامیر حط فردة البابوج علی مخدة يمكن لونها زرفة او خضراء،<br>المهم صار ينادي بالصوت علی كل البنات عشان يكيسن البابوج، كل البنات كاسوا البابوج إلا سندريلا.   |
| Buckwalter | lbst AlfsTAn wrAHt jry EAlkSr w\$Afha Al>myr wHbhA wrkDw sw wfj>p dkt AlsAEp TnE\$ wjrAy wSArt trmH w trmH ww~Et bbwjhA EAldrj sndrylA rAHt EAlbyt wAtmnt lw Anw AlsAEp mA dkt\$ EIY AITnE\$, bs \$w tswy bHZhA AlmEtr mvl HZ hAZA Al\$Eb Al>myr HT frdp AlbAbwj EIY mxdp ymkn lwnhA zrkp >w xDrp, Almhsm SAr ynAdy bAlSwt EIY kl AlbnAt E\$An yqysn AlbAbwH, kl AlbnAt kAswA AlbAbwj <lA sndrylA.   |
| CODA       | لبت <b>الفستان</b> وراحت جري <b>على قصر</b> وشافها الامير وحبها وركضوا <b>سو</b> وفجأة <b>دققت الساعة</b> اطعنـش وجرـاي وصارـت تـرـمـح و تـرـمـح ووـقـعـتـ بـبـوـجـهـاـ عـالـدـرـجـ سـنـدـرـيـلاـ رـاحـتـ عـالـبـيـتـ وـاتـنـتـ لـوـ اـنـهـ السـاعـةـ ماـ دـقـقـشـ عـلـىـ الـاطـعـنـشـ،ـ بـسـ شـوـ تـسـوـيـ بـحـظـهاـ المـعـتـرـ مـثـلـ حـظـ هـاـ الشـعـبـ الـامـيـرـ حـطـ فـرـدـةـ الـبـابـوـجـ عـلـىـ مـخـدـةـ يـمـكـنـ لـوـنـهـاـ زـرـفـةـ اوـ خـضـرـاءـ،ـ المـهـمـ صـارـ يـنـادـيـ بـالـصـوـتـ عـلـیـ كـلـ الـبـنـاتـ عـشـانـ يـكـيـسـنـ الـبـابـوـجـ،ـ كـلـ الـبـنـاتـ كـاسـوـاـ الـبـابـوـجـ إـلـاـ سـنـدـرـيـلاـ. |
| Buckwalter | lbst AlfstAn wrAHt jry EAlqSr w\$Afha AlAmyr wHbhA wrkDwA swA wfj>p dqt AlsAEp ATnE\$ wjrAy wSArt trmH w trmH wwqEt bbwjhA EAldrj sndrylA rAHt EAlbyt wAtmnt lw Anh AlsAEp mA dqt\$ EIY AITnE\$, bs \$w tswy bHZhA AlmEtr mvl HZ hA*A Al\$Eb AlAmyr HT frdp AlbAbwj EIY mxdp ymkn lwnhA zrqp Aw xDrp, Almhsm SAr ynAdy bAlSwt EIY kl AlbnAt E\$An yqysn AlbAbwj, kl AlbnAt qAswA AlbAbwj A1A sndrylA.  |
| English    | She wore the dress and started running towards the castle then the prince saw her and fell in love with her, then they ran together and suddenly the clock pointed to twelve so she started running and running and she dropped her shoe on the stairs Cinderella went home and wished that the clock did not reach twelve but what she can do with her bad luck as this people's luck the prince put the shoe on a pillow maybe its color was blue or green however he started shouting for all the girls to try the shoe, all the girls tried the shoe except for Cinderella.  |

Table 7 Example 1: Using PAL-CODA guidelines

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Raw sentence | انا حاسس انو بيوم عرسي امي راح تقلي خذ الزباله معك وانت طالع                                       |
| Buckwalter   | >nA HAss Anw bywm Ersy >my rAH tqly xd AlzbAlp mEk wAnt TAlE                                       |
| CODA         | انا حاسس انه بيوم عرسي امي راح تقول لي خذ الزباله معك وانت طالع                                    |
| Buckwalter   | AnA HAss Anh bywm Ersy Amy rH tqwl ly x* AlzbAlp mEk wAnt TAlE                                     |
| English      | I feel that on my wedding day my mother would say to me take the garbage with you when you go out. |

Table 8 Example 2: Using PAL-CODA guidelines

## 7. List of Basic Morphemes and POS Tags

| Morpheme                 | Morpheme | Citicization<br>Allomorph | POS  | gloss             | Example           | Notes |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------|---------------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------|--|--|--|
| <b>Proclitics</b>        |          |                           |  |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| الـ                      | Al       |                           | DET  |                   | Al+ktAb           |       |  |  |  |
| وـ                       | w        |                           | CONJ   | And               | AsmE w+Afhm       |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | SUB_CONJ                                     | While             | jA' w+hw ybtsm    |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | PREP   | with              | AstwY AHmd w+Ely  |       |  |  |  |
| فـ                       | f        |                           | CONJ   | And, so           | jA' AHmd f+Ely    |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | CONNEX_PART                                  | And, so           |                   |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | RC_PART                                      | So, then          |                   |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | SUB_CONJ                                     | So, that          | lA thml f+trsb    |       |  |  |  |
| ـبـ                      | b        |                           | PROG_PART                                    |                   | b+yElb            | PAL   |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | PREP   | By, with          | bi+yAdy           |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـ                      | ka       |                           | PREP   | like              | ka+ AlzhrA        |       |  |  |  |
| ـسـ                      | sa       |                           | FUT_PART                                     | will              | sa+yElm           |       |  |  |  |
| ـلـ                      | li       |                           | PREP   | To, for           | hA*A l+Ely        |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | EMPHATIC_PART                                | Will<br>certainly | Aryd l+AnsY *krhA |       |  |  |  |
|                          |          |                           | RC_PART                                      | So, then          |                   |       |  |  |  |
| <b>Enclitics</b>         |          |                           |  |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| <b>Nominal Enclitics</b> |          |                           |  |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـيـ                      | yi       |                           | POSS_PRON_1S                                 |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـنـا                     | nA       |                           | POSS_PRON_1P                                 |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـا                     | ka       |                           | POSS_PRON_2MS                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـيـ                    | ki       |                           | POSS_PRON_2FS                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـيـ                    | ky       |                           | POSS_PRON_2FS                                |                   |                   | PAL   |  |  |  |
| ـكـمـاـ                  | kmA      |                           | POSS_PRON_2D                                 |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـمـ                    | km       |                           | POSS_PRON_2MP                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـوـ                    | kw       |                           | POSS_PRON_2MP                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـكـنـ                    | kn       |                           | POSS_PRON_2FP                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـهـ                      | h        |                           | POSS_PRON_3MS                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـهـاـ                    | hA       |                           | POSS_PRON_3FS                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـهـمـاـ                  | hmA      |                           | POSS_PRON_3D                                 |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـهـمـ                    | Hm       |                           | POSS_PRON_3MP                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـهـنـ                    | hn       |                           | POSS_PRON_3FP                                |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| <b>Verbal Enclitics</b>  |          |                           |  |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـنـيـ                    | ny       |                           | PVSUFF_DO:1S<br>IVSUFF_DO:1S<br>CVSUFF_DO:1S |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |
| ـنـاـ                    | nA       |                           | PVSUFF_DO:1P                                 |                   |                   |       |  |  |  |

|     |     |  |   |  |  |     |
|-----|-----|--|---|--|--|-----|
|     |     |  | IVSUFF_DO:1P<br>CVSUFF_DO:1P                    |  |  |     |
| گ   | ka  |  | PVSUFF_DO:2MS<br>IVSUFF_DO:2MS                  |  |  |     |
| ک   | ki  |  | PVSUFF_DO:2FS<br>IVSUFF_DO:2FS                  |  |  |     |
| کي  | ky  |  | PVSUFF_DO:2FS<br>IVSUFF_DO:2FS                  |  |  | PAL |
| کما | kmA |  | PVSUFF_DO:2D<br>IVSUFF_DO:2D                    |  |  |     |
| کم  | km  |  | PVSUFF_DO:2MP<br>IVSUFF_DO:2MP                  |  |  |     |
| کو  | kw  |  | PVSUFF_DO:2MP<br>IVSUFF_DO:2MP                  |  |  | PAL |
| کن  | kn  |  | PVSUFF_DO:2FP<br>IVSUFF_DO:2FP                  |  |  |     |
| ه   | h   |  | PVSUFF_DO:3MS<br>IVSUFF_DO:3MS<br>CVSUFF_DO:3MS |  |  |     |
| ها  | hA  |  | PVSUFF_DO:3FS<br>IVSUFF_DO:3FS<br>CVSUFF_DO:3FS |  |  |     |
| هما | hmA |  | PVSUFF_DO:3D<br>IVSUFF_DO:3D<br>CVSUFF_DO:3D    |  |  |     |
| هم  | Hm  |  | PVSUFF_DO:3MP<br>IVSUFF_DO:3MP<br>CVSUFF_DO:3MP |  |  |     |
| هن  | hn  |  | PVSUFF_DO:3FP<br>IVSUFF_DO:3FP<br>CVSUFF_DO:3FP |  |  |     |

### Prefixes

|    |    |  |       |     |            |  |
|----|----|--|-------|-----|------------|--|
| ا  | Aa |  | IV1S  | I   | Aa+Drub    |  |
|    |    |  | IV1S  | I   | +kul       |  |
| ن  | n  |  | IV1P  | we  | n+HAwil    |  |
| ني | ni |  | IV1P  | we  | ni+tEal~am |  |
| نو | nu |  | IV1P  | we  | nu+Drub    |  |
| نا | na |  | IV1P  | we  | na+ETiy    |  |
| ت  | t  |  | IV2MS | you |            |  |
| تي | ti |  | IV2MS | you |            |  |
| تو | tu |  | IV2MS | you |            |  |
| تا | ta |  | IV2MS | you |            |  |
| ت  | t  |  | IV2FS | you |            |  |
| تي | ti |  | IV2FS | you |            |  |
| تو | tu |  | IV2FS | you |            |  |
| تا | ta |  | IV2FS | you |            |  |
| ت  | t  |  | IV2P  | you |            |  |
| تي | ti |  | IV2P  | you |            |  |
| تو | tu |  | IV2P  | you |            |  |



|                               |        |     |                  |             |   |
|-------------------------------|--------|-----|------------------|-------------|---|
|                               |        |     |                  |             | (we<br>drove<br>others<br>crazy)<br>with<br>jan~annaA<br>(he drove<br>us crazy) |
| تِيٰ                          | tiy    |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2FS  | you         |   |
| أَتَيْتِيٰ                    | aytiy  |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2FS  | you         |   |
| أَيْ                          | ~iy    |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2FS  | you         |   |
| ت                             | t      |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2MS  | you         |   |
| أَيْت                         | ayt    |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2MS  | you         |   |
| ـ                             | ~      |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2MS  | you         |   |
| ثُوا                          | tuwA   |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2P   | you         |   |
| أَتَيْثُوا                    | aytuwA |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2P   | you         |   |
| وَـ                           | ~uwA   |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:2P   | you         |   |
| أَتَ                          | at     |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:3FS  | it/they/she |   |
| مسنتر )                       | (null) |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:3MS  | he/it       |   |
| ـوا                           | uwA    |     | PVSUFF_SUBJ:3P   | they        |   |
| Verbal Suffixes with IV verbs |        |     |                  |             |   |
| يِـ                           | iy     |     | IVSUFF_SUBJ:2FS  | you         | t+HAwl+iy   |
| ـوا                           | uwA    | uw+ | IVSUFF_SUBJ:P    | we          | t+HAwl+uwA  |
| Verbal Suffixes with CV verbs |        |     |                  |             |   |
| مسنتر )                       | (null) |     | CVSUFF_SUBJ:2M S | you         | saj~il+(null)   |
| يِـ                           | iy     |     | CVSUFF_SUBJ:2FS  | you         | saj~l+iy  |
| ـوا                           | uwA    | uw+ | CVSUFF_SUBJ:2P   | they        | saj~l+uwA   |

Table 9 Clitics and prefixes

## 8. Exceptional Spelling Choices

This section includes words with exceptional spelling, as well as common words whose CODA spelling follows the rules but not in a necessarily obvious way.

The appendix should not include clitics. It is only for Base Word spelling.

**General Thoughts on Exceptional Spelling Choices:** The exception list should be easy to remember by CODA users. As such, in selecting the exceptional spelling, the CODA designers will try to obey as many of the basic

phonology-orthography rules and affix spelling as possible. The option of using an exceptional spelling from the CODA of another dialect is encouraged if the pronunciation is similar. Considering Google counts is also encouraged. However, consistency in spelling related words (same POS, same class of phenomena) is preferred over pure statistics.

|                        | CODA                   | Non-CODA Variants                       | English           | Example   |
|------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| Subject Pronouns       | انا<br>مانيش           | منيش                                    | I                 |   |
| positive/negative      | احنا<br>ماحناش         | نحنا - احنا<br>محناش                    | we                |   |
|                        | انت - مانتاش           | انتا - إنتا<br>منتاش                    | you [2ms]         |   |
|                        | انتي<br>مانتيش         | انت - إنت<br>منتيش                      | you [2fs]         |   |
|                        | antu<br>مانتوش         | انتوا - إنتوا - إنتو<br>منتوش           | you [2p]          |   |
|                        | هو<br>ماهواش-<br>ماهوش | هوه - هوة - هوا - هوتا<br>مهواش<br>مهوش | he, it [3ms]      |   |
|                        | هي<br>ماهيش            | هيه - هوة - هييا- هيتا<br>مهيش          | She, it [3fs]     |   |
|                        | هم<br>ماهشاش           | همه - همة - هما-همي<br>مهيش             | they [3p]         |   |
| Demonstrative Pronouns | هذا                    | هاظا-هادا- هاذ-هاض-هاضا                 | this, that [3ms]  |   |
|                        | هذه                    | ظهور-هضهو                               | This, that [3ms]  |   |
|                        | هاذى                   | هاظي-هادي-هاضي                          | this, that [3fs]  |   |
|                        | هاي                    |   | this, that [3fs]  |   |
|                        | هذول                   | هدول-هظول-هضول                          | these, those [3p] |   |
|                        | هذولاك                 | هدولاك-هظولاك-هضولاك                    | these, those [3p] |   |
|                        | هيني                   | هابني-هيوني                             | Here I am         |   |
|                        | هيو                    | هيه-هبيتو-هيتنا                         | There he/it is    |   |
|                        | هيبى                   | هيتها-هبيتها                            | There she/it is   |   |
|                        | هينا                   | هابينا-هيتنا-هبوتانا                    | Here we are       |   |
|                        | هيكو                   | هيكوا-هيكم                              | There you are     |   |
|                        | هبيهم                  | هبيومه-هبيوتهم-هيتهم                    | There they are    |   |
| Relative Pronouns      | اللي                   | الي - الي - اللي                        | who, which, whom  | The Alif-Lam is treated as a definite article in cliticization:<br>باللي - عالي - للي       |
|                        | يا اللي                | يللي - ياللي - يللي - ياللي             | who, which, whom  | /yalli/ can be one of two things, a variant of illi or ya+ill. They are spelled differently |
|                        | تاع<br>تع              |   | of                |   |
| Interrogatives         | وين                    |   | where             |   |

|                               |                               |   |                          |                                       |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|                               | من وين                        | من  | where                    |                                       |
|                               | مين                           | من  | who                      |                                       |
|                               | ايش<br>شو                     | ايش- اش   | what                     |                                       |
|                               | ليه<br>ليش                    | لية   | why                      |                                       |
|                               | امته - امته - امته -<br>وينتا | امته - امته - امته -<br>امته - امته - ايمتى -<br>امتن - امتن    | when                     |                                       |
|                               | اني                           | اني-اني   | which                    |                                       |
|                               | انو                           | انو-انه-انوه  | which                    |                                       |
|                               | انهه                          | انهه-أنوهي-انهه   | which                    |                                       |
| Location expressions          | هان                           | هانا  | here                     |                                       |
|                               | هون                           | هونا  |                          |                                       |
|                               | هناك                          | هيناك<br>هناكا  | there                    |                                       |
|                               | برا                           | بره - بره   | outside, outside of      | كان بيستاني برا البيت                 |
|                               | جوا                           | جوه - جوه   | inside, inside of        | كان بيستى جوا البيت                   |
|                               | دغري                          | دغري - دوغري - دوغري  | straightforward          |                                       |
| Existential vs<br>Location Fi | في                            | في  | In[prep]                 |                                       |
|                               | فيه                           | في - في   | there is, in [prep] + it | two readings!                         |
|                               | فش-مفتش                       | مفتش - مافيش - ما فيش -<br>ما فيهش - ما فيهش - مفتش             | there is not             | only existential                      |
|                               | ما فيوش                       | ما فيهوش - مفديوش   | not in it                | only prep                             |
|                               |                               |   |                          |                                       |
| Time expressions              | هسا                           | هسي-هس-هس-هساع  | now                      |                                       |
|                               | هلاقيت                        | هأيتي-هالقيت  |                          |                                       |
|                               | حالين                         | الجين-الجين   |                          |                                       |
|                               | هلق                           | هلا-هلا   |                          |                                       |
|                               | امبارح                        | إمبراح  | yesterday                |                                       |
|                               | بكرة                          | بكره - بکرا   | tomorrow                 |                                       |
| Conjunctions                  | برضه - برضك                   | برضو - بردو - برده -<br>بردك                                    | also                     |                                       |
|                               | بس                            | باس   | only, enough, just       |                                       |
|                               | كمان                          | كمانا - كمانه   | also                     |                                       |
|                               | عشان<br>مشان                  | علشان<br>منشان  | in order to              |                                       |
|                               | والا                          | والا - ولا - والا - ولا   | or (in questions)        | هذا حرام ولا حلال؟....ولا<br>شو رأيك؟ |
| Negation particles            | مش                            | موش   | not                      |                                       |
|                               |                               |   |                          |                                       |
| Yes/ no                       | أيوه                          | أيوه - أيوة - أيوا - أيوة - أيوا<br>- أيوأ - أيون - أيوأ - أيون | yes, indeed              |                                       |
|                               | لا                            | لأا   | no                       |                                       |

|                | لا  | ل   | not, neither, nor   | No Hamza  |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|
| Verb particles |   |   | will  |   |
|                | رح  | راح   | will  | a separate particle   |
|                | +ب  | +ب  | progressive particle  |   |
| Other          | نيالكو<br>نياله<br>زي<br>هيك<br>ابصر<br>معلش<br>يا الله | نيالكم-نيالكوا<br>نيالو<br>زي<br>هایك-هیکا<br>أبصر<br>يللا - يلله | how lucky [2mp]<br>How luck [3ms]<br>like<br>like that<br>I Don't know, not known<br>never mind | ابصر شو عمل؟<br>شو صار مع احمد؟ ابصر!<br>yalla (hurry up): do not confuse with “ يا ” الله (oh, my god/godness) |
|                | إن شاء الله   | ان شاء الله - انشالله - انشالله -                                 | in God's will   |   |
|                | يا الله   | يا الله   | oh God  |   |
|                | لو  | لو  | hello (on phone)  |   |
|                | اوكيه   | أوكى - اوكيه - اوكي   | OK  |   |
|                | أوك   | اوك   | O.K.  | EGY young people talk- pronounced like 'oak' not o-kay  |
|                | طيب   | طب  | OK, so  |   |
|                | لسه   | لسة - لسا- إسا  | still   |   |
|                | حد - حدش<br>حدا-حداش                                    | حاد<br>حادا   | somebody, someone,<br>nobody  |   |
| Numbers        | صفر   |   | 0   |   |
|                | نص  |   | ½   |   |
|                | واحد  |   | 1   |   |
|                | اثنين   | إثنين - اتنين - تنين  | 2   |   |
|                | ثلاثة   | ثلاثة   | 3   | ثلاثة شباب راحوا السوق  |
|                | ثلاث  | ثلاث  | 3   | ثلاث حاجات  |
|                | اربعة   | أربعة - اربعه - أربعه   | 4   |   |
|                | اربع  | أربع  | 4   |   |
|                | خمسة  | خمسه  | 5   |   |
|                | خمس   |   | 6   |   |
|                | ستة   | سته   | 6   |   |
|                | سنت   |   | 6   |   |
|                | سبعة  | سبعه  | 7   |   |
|                | سبع   |   | 7   |   |
|                | ثمنية   | ثمانية - تمنيه - تمنيه - تمانيه                                   | 8   |   |
|                | ثمن   | ثمن   | 8   |   |
|                | تسعة  | تسعه  | 9   |   |



|                   |               |                   |                   |                  |
|-------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                   | السبت         |                   | Saturday          |                  |
| Exceptional Verbs | أخذ           | خذ - اخذ - خد اخذ | took [3ms]        | Hamza appears    |
|                   | يأخذ<br>يورخذ | يأخذ - يأخذ يورخذ | take [3ms]        | Hamza disappears |
|                   | أكل           | كل - اكل          | ate [3ms]         | Hamza appears    |
|                   | يأكل<br>يوركل | يأكل              | eat [3ms]         | Hamza disappears |
|                   | كانت          |                   | was [3fs]         |                  |
|                   | اجا           | اجه-أجا           | came [3ms]        |                  |
|                   | اجت           | اجات-أجت          | came [3fs]        |                  |
|                   | اجوا          | اجو - أجوا        | came [3p]         |                  |
|                   | احببت         | احببت             | came [2ms]        |                  |
|                   | احببتي        | احببتي            | came [2fs]        |                  |
|                   | اجيتو-اجيتووا |                   | came [2p]         |                  |
|                   | احببت         | احببت             | came [1s]         |                  |
|                   | اجينا         | اجينا             | came [1p]         |                  |
|                   | ما جوش        | مجوش - ماجوش      | did not come [3p] |                  |
|                   | اعطى<br>انطى  | اعطى              | gave [3ms]        |                  |
|                   | يعطى<br>ينطى  |                   | give [3ms]        |                  |
|                   | بدکو          | بدکم-بدکوا        | Want [2mp]        |                  |
|                   | بده           | بدو بدا           | Want [3ms]        |                  |
|                   | بدک           | بدکي              | Want [2fs]        |                  |
| Special Words     | خالو          | خاله - خالوا      | Uncle             |                  |
|                   | عمو           | عموا - عمه        | Uncle             |                  |
|                   | جدو<br>سیدو   | جده - جدوا        | grandfather       |                  |
|                   | خاله          |                   | uncle + his       |                  |
|                   | عمه           |                   | uncle + his       |                  |
|                   | جده<br>سیده   |                   | grandfather + his |                  |

Table 10 Exceptional spelling choices

## References

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