

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

عاطف: مهنة جميلة جداً، بحسب إن انتا بتعلم طفل كتكوينه أصلاً لا يدرك معنى التعليم، أو لا يدرك قيمة صعوبة اللغة، ولكن إنت بتحببوا فيها. وتعليم اللغة يعتمد على حبها أولاً، ثم على غرس قيمة إنها سهلة. الإنسان تعود إن هي سهلة حيقدر يتعلم السهل، لكن لو إحنا قلنا له إن هي صعبه صعبه يحصل نوع من التعقيد ونوع من عدم القدرة على تعلم هذه اللغة. أولاً هناك حاجات كثيرة جداً تساعد في تعليم اللغة العربية، أول حاجة منها حب المعلم للمادة نفسها. ثاني حاجة القدرة على توصيل المعلومة بصورة سهلة جداً ومبسطة جداً تتناسب مع عقلية الطفل الصغيرة لا تتناسب مع عقلية شخص كبير يدرك معنى التعليم. أيضاً المنهج نفسه إني بيدرس لا بد يكون يعتمد على التدرج وليس على الصعوبة أو على المفاجئة لبعض الكلمات، أو بمعنى أصح هناك بعد أحياناً بين المنهج والتلميذ والمعلم.

English translation:

Aatef: It's a very beautiful profession, because you teach a child, originally, in his formation [formative years], [who] doesn't realize the meaning of education or doesn't understand the value, the difficulty of a language. But you convince him to love it. And teaching the language depends on loving it first, then on planting [the idea] that it's easy. If a person gets used to thinking it's easy, it will be easy; but if we tell him it's hard, hard, a kind of complexity will occur, and a sort of inability to learn this language.

First, there are so many things that help teach Arabic language. The first thing is the love of the teacher for the language itself. The second thing is the ability to deliver information in a very easy way, and a very simplified way that fits with the limited mentality of a child and doesn't fit with the mentality of an adult who realizes the meaning of education. Also, the course itself that is being taught ... it has to be gradual, not difficult or surprising, by using some words or a difficult meaning. There is, sometimes, distance between the course and the student and the teacher.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use every day. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.