

Egyptian Arabic transcript:

أنا ديلي اربع شهور في مدينة دمياط بشتغل...
المرأة: بشتغل آيه؟

الشابك بشتغل مع واحد في معرض مابولياه، أوض نوم أطفال، وحاجات زي الفردانيات، سراير والحاجات دي.
وهناك العيشة في دمياط، مستوى الحاجات، الأسعار إلی هناك، يعتبر أعلى من مستوى الأسعار في المحافظات
الثانية، لأن هي مدينة سياحية، فيها راس البر، وناس تيجي تتسبح فيها. وتبقى فرص فيها برضوا للغلاء في المعيشة
هناك، وهناك برضوا في حاجات أعلى من مستواها، زي مثلا سعر الحجر هناك فيه سعرها متوسط... أكمل ولا
بلاش، الحجر، الحجر، أنا بقول الحجر...

المرأة: في دمياط بقولوا الأوضه.

الشاب: الحجرة، في إلی هي مستواها متوسط تبدأ من 4500 جنيه، وإلي هي سعرها عالي تبدأ حوالي 10-12 الآف
جنيه.

المرأة: وكل العرايس بتروح بتجيب جهازها من دمياطز
الشاب: في عرايس بتروح، وفي إلی هي التجار برضوا زي بتوع بور سعيد، وبتوع القاهرة، وبتوع صحاح، بتوع
الأقصر، كل المحافظات بتزل دمايط، بتوخذ منها، بتتسوق منها. وفي القاهرة حتى يعني كويسه، منطقة أسمها
المنصرة، المنصرة دي مشهورة جدا في القاهرة بالموبيليا.

المرأة: ويبصنعوا من دمياط...

الشابك ياخذوا الحاجات من دمياط وإلي هي الموبيليا وبيبعوها في القاهرة. داه يعتبر سياحة برضوا، يعني اسعار
برضوا بحيث أنهم ياخذوا أرخص من دمياط وبيبعوا أعلى آيه في القاهرة، وهناك برضوا في دمياط السبورماركت
هناك متوفر جدا. حاجات (...). كلها متوفرة للسياحة.

English translation:

Man: I have been in Damietta City for four months ... working there.

Woman: What are you doing?

Man: .I work with someone in furniture display ... sleeping rooms for children ... and
things separate like ... beds ... and things like this ... and there ... living in Damietta is

....
The price of living ... in Damietta is considered higher than the prices in any other city in
Egypt, because it is a touristic city ... it has Ras el Bar, and a lot of people go to tour in
it....and it also has opportunities for ... expensiveness ... living there ... and there also
are things ... are higher than its rate ... like ... for example ... the price of a room there
... there is a medium price ... and there ... should I continue or not?..

Woman: Continue

Man: The room, the room ... I am saying.

Uda¹ ... that's what you mean ... in Damietta you say "uda"?

Man: No, hujra.²...

Woman: Hujra?

Man: Yes, a room ... there is a medium rate which begins from ... 4500 L.E,³ and the one that has a higher rate...[that] begins from...approximately about 12,000 or 10,000 L.E.

Woman: And all the brides bring their bridal furniture from Damietta?

Man: There are brides that go there ... like the ones from Port Said and the ones from Cairo. I mean, etc. ... the ones from Sohaj ... the ones from Luxor ... all the governorates⁴ go to Damietta ... they take from it ... they shop from it ... and there in Cairo ... there is a place that's good an area called Al manasrah, and Almanasrah is very famous about furniture.

Woman: and they manufacture from Damietta?

Man: They take things from Damietta, which is furniture, and they sell it in Cairo with touristy prices [relatively high prices], prices in which they can buy for less in Damietta and sell higher in Cairo. Also, in Damietta there are many supermarkets, and many things are provided for tourism [purposes].

¹ A Turkish word used to mean room, but he used the standard word for it in the video.

² A standard word for "room."

³ Egyptian pound

⁴ Places in Egypt are divided into governorates. Governorates are divided into cities. Most people use the two words interchangeably to mean the city.

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.

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