

CultureTalk Egypt Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
Impressions on the Sound of the Egyptian Dialect

**Egyptian Arabic transcript :**

نجله: واحدة امريكية كانت بتقولي المصريين وهم بينكلموا، يقال عنهم، يقال، إن هم بيغنوا.  
سهام: بيغنوا.  
نجله: بيغنوا باللهجة بتاعتهم يعني.  
سهام: وآيه يعني يغنوا....  
نجله: معرفش... هي لهجة خفيفه يعني... لهجة يعني...  
سهام: ممكن تكون محبوبه سهله  
نجله: والدليل على ذلك الأغاني، الأغاني... شوفي الأغاني إلي هي المصريه، يعني لو عملت على الدش مثلاً، وعملت  
حصر كده، كم الأغاني إلي متغناه باللهجة المصريه...  
سهام: حتى من العرب نفسهم...  
نجله: حتى من العرب نفسهم.  
سهام: من العرب نفسهم...  
أمل: يمكن مش عشان هي موسيقيه أو هي يعني...  
نجله: هي مش خفيفه سهله التعامل...  
أمل: ممكن تكون سهله على العربي إلي هو متعود يسمعها لأنها لغة إعلام بالدرجة الأولى، أفلام وأغاني، ويعني في  
قصدي الإعلام المصري يعني.  
سهام: وعلى فكرة في عندك حق... اللغة هي وسيلة للتوصيل فاللغة، اللهجة المصرية أي حد ممكن يفهمها لكن ممكن  
تحكي مع أي حد، تقويله فسرك كلام، يعني في كلام إنتي بتحكي مع واحد عربي مع وحده عربيه تلاقي كلام إنتي  
مش فهماه. لكن اللغة العربية... اللهجة المصريه بسيطه جدا وسلسله جدا...  
أمل: إنتي بتقولي سهله وأي حد ممكن يفهمها عشان آيه؟ عشان هي في الأول مفهومه يعني...  
سهام: عشان هي سهله..  
أمل: لأ لأ مش عشان كده... أمال آيه عشان هي أولا يعني الإعلام المصري والسينما المصريه متقدمه بشكل كبير  
أكبر من أي الدول العربية...  
سهام: مصر أخذت الرياده فترة إن هي عاصمة الثقافة العربية...  
أمل: بالزبط، بيسمعوا مصر على طول عشان كده بيفهموا، لكن مش بيفهموا لأن هي سهله...  
نجله: ممكن تكون سهله...  
أمل: لأ، مفيش حد يفهم حدا وهو مش عارف... لازم يكون سمعها...

**English translation:**

**Naglaa:** An American was saying to me [that] Egyptians, while speaking, they [Americans] say about them, they say, that they are singing.

**Seham:** Singing...

**Naglaa:** Singing in their own dialect, I mean ....

**Seham:** And what does it mean [that] they sing?

**Naglaa:** I do not know ... it is a light dialect, I mean, a dialect, I mean ....

**Seham:** It might be like, easy ....

**Naglaa:** And the evidence for that is the songs ... see the songs that are Egyptian. I mean, if I went through [channels] on the satellite [broadcast network] for example, and I worked on a survey as such, how many songs are sung in the Egyptian dialect ....

**Seham:** Even from the Arabs [who aren't Egyptian] themselves.

**Naglaa:** Even from the Arabs themselves.

**Seham:** From the Arabs themselves.

**Amal:** Maybe it is not because it is musical or, I mean ....

**Naglaa:** It is light and easygoing.

**Amal:** Maybe it is easy for the Arabs who are used to hearing it, because it is the foremost language of media, movies and songs, and, I mean, the Egyptian media, I mean.

**Seham:** And, by the way, you are right ... the language is the mean of communication. The Egyptian dialect can be understood by any one, but you may speak to someone, tell him, explain what you are saying; I mean there is speech you speak with one Arab [man] or one Arab [woman] [and] find that you do not understand what they say. But the Arabic language ... the Egyptian dialect is simple and smooth.

**Amal:** You are saying it is easy and everybody can understand it – Because of what? Is it because it is understood from the start I mean ....

S: Because it is easy.

**Amal:** No, no, not because of that. Because it is first ... I mean the Egyptian media and Egyptian cinema are advanced, more than [in] any of the Arab countries.

**Seham:** Egypt took the leadership for a long period of time as the capital of Arab culture.

**Amal:** Exactly, they hear Egyptian all the time ... that is why they understand it, but they do not understand it because it is easy.

**Naglaa:** It might be easy ....

**Amal:** No, there is no one who understands someone, and he does not know ... he must have had heard it ....

**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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