

**Levantine Arabic transcript:**

هبة: إيش هياي الدبكة العربية؟  
سارة: أنو هياي حركة معينة وبيعلموها مجموعة ممكن يكون في بيناتهم شخص أو ما يكون في شخص حسب ما بنوع الدبكة أنو في دبكات كثير في ناس ما بيعرفو يعني كلياتهم.  
هبة: هادي الدبكة بيعلموها عشان الأعراس؟  
سارة: أه.. أه.. كثير.. مهوا كمان في ناس بيحبوا وفي ناس لأ بس إلا تلاقي يعني لازم يحطوا إشي فبيدبكوا على طول.. أنو.  
هبة: الشباب ولا الشباب والصبايا؟  
سارة: برضو حسب، وحسب العرس، ممكن اذا كان مختلط ممكن إنوا يرقصوا مع بعض، حتى لو كان مش مختلط ممكن بالإخير أنو هيك لم بيعرفوا بعض كثير.

**English translation:**

Heba: what is the Arab *dabke*?<sup>1</sup>

Sarah: It's a certain movement which is done by a group. There might be a person in their midst or not, depending on the type of *dabke*, because there are many types of *dabke*, and there are people who, I mean, don't know all types of *dabke*.

Heba: Do they dance the *dabke* at weddings?

Sarah: Yes, yes, but some people like it and some don't. So there must be music, and you would find that people start dancing.

Heba: Young men or men and women?

Sarah: It also depends; if it is mixed, they may dance together. And even if it's not mixed, perhaps at the end [of the dance] if they know each other very well ....

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<sup>1</sup> *Dabke* is an Arabic word for a certain Arab dance. It's very popular in most Arab countries, but with slight differences.

**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 everyday. 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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