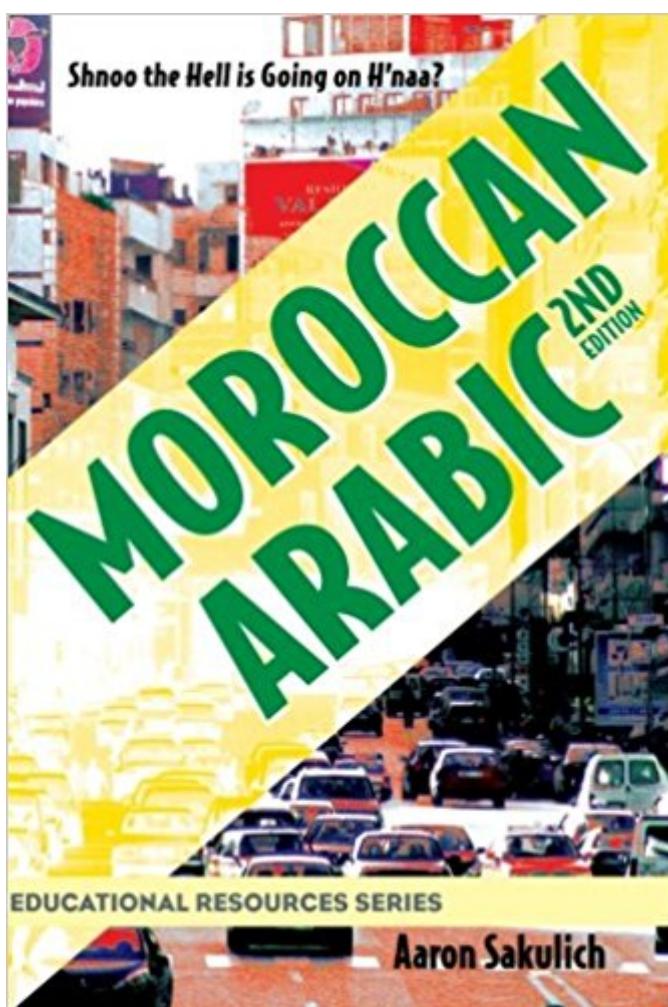


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# **Moroccan Arabic: Shnoo The Hell Is Going On H'naa? A Practical Guide To Learning Moroccan Darija - The Arabic Dialect Of Morocco (2nd Edition) (Educational Resources)**





## Synopsis

For everyone going to Morocco, any age + skill level: language students to casual visitors and everyone in between. Clear and easy pronunciation system, on-the-street utility and low price. All book sales go to support Moroccan-USA NGO for more community and education-based materials, activities and exchange. Produced by an all-volunteer bi-national team of experts - your chance to move beyond tourist phrasebooks and corporate textbooks. Best of all, and unlike the others, everything is provided side-by-side in English, transliteration, and Arabic. And it uses a simple real-word transliteration system that is simply written the way things sound without the use of exotic linguistic symbols. Finally a straight-forward and easy to use primer for learning Moroccan Arabic, now improved in this 2nd edition. It incorporates reader suggestions and features more details on the transliteration system, additional words, new word lists, and the text has been completely revised and re-edited. Practical and witty, it's basically the equivalent of a VCR repair manual, just a bare-bones list of how to do the important things: here's the present tense, here's the future tense, etc, etc. In other words, it's a reference book with simple examples, none of the filler, and a few youthful surprises. It's just the kind of cheat-sheet everyone craves. Useful to everyone with an interest in contemporary Morocco: travelers, tourists, backpackers, students, diplomats, business people, academics, artists, Peace Corp volunteers, Fulbright Scholars and student grantees, etc. Moroccan Arabic was written by a dogged student of the language (and a natural teacher) and it was edited by a native speaker and equally wonderful teacher. Praise for Moroccan Arabic from students, scholars and travelers on both side of the Atlantic: "Fills a gaping hole in Moroccan Arabic instruction. Based on the first-hand immersion experiences of a native English-speaker who navigated Moroccan culture and language for a year... and as a researcher in Morocco myself, I found it handy." --Nabil Khan, Fulbright Student Grantee "I love the sense of humor woven throughout - it's an enjoyable read. A great example of collaboration." --Edwin Bodensiek, Dir. of Outreach and Public Relation, CIES - Fulbright, Washington, DC "A great resource. I wish had this book when I was traveling and researching in Morocco." --Dr Jennifer A Roberson, Professor of Islamic Art, Sonoma State University, California "Written by a born teacher. This book enhances effective language instruction and builds a collection of everyday conversation resources for Anglo-American students and scholars." --Dr Khalid Amine, UniversitÃ© Abdelmalek Essaadi and President, ICPS - Tangier Many people contributed to making this book a reality - and by agreement of all those involved, the proceeds from the sale of this book go to support the publishing program at the International Centre for Performance Studies (ICPS) - Tangier, Morocco. Initial research for the book was conducted during a Fulbright graduate student grant. The ongoing project (encourage

more people to learn Darija, provide improved study materials, and provide a funding stream for more Morocco-themed books) is sustained by the generosity of numerous all-volunteer partners - kindly lend your assistance by sending an email to collaborative.media@ymail.com

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"The first edition of Moroccan Arabic was a much-needed delight, a lively and engaging introduction to the language, as authoritative as a traditional textbook but much more accessible and entertaining. With the growing international interest in North Africa, this second edition, combining the work of U.S. and Moroccan scholars, is especially welcome." --Marvin Carlson, Distinguished Professor of Theatre, Comparative Literature and Middle Eastern Studies, The City University of New York --via email to Collaborative Media International, April 2011 "I love the sense of humor woven throughout - it's an enjoyable read. A great example of collaboration." --Edwin Bodensiek, Director of Outreach and Public Relation, CIES - Fulbright, Washington, DC --via email to Collaborative Media International "A must-have, low-cost, high-utility manual for navigating the at-times confusing, yet crucially important events unfolding in North Africa and the Middle East today. [And supports a worthy Morocco-based academic NGO] that pulls together a remarkable gathering of scholars and artists from around the world each year at its annual conference held at the breathtakingly beautiful historic Kasbah Museum of Tangier." -- Fawzia Afzal Khan, Professor, Montclair State University --via email to Collaborative Media International, April 2011

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to overcome the difficulties of learning Moroccan Arabic. Far from being an ordinary dry text-book, Shnoo the Hell Is Going on H'naa playfully combines the features of professional linguistics with lively real world sensibilities. Packed with conversational examples, extensive explanations and comprehensive glossaries, render this book a faithful companion on your travels to the other side of the Atlantic." --Rajae Khaloufi, Editor and Translator, Fahd School of Translation, Tangier, Morocco

Love it!

Well not really...but it sure helped a lot. I've used it as a study guide to learn phrases and the grammar of Moroccan Arabic (Darija). I was only in Maghrib for 3 weeks but I'm sure had I been there longer and read the book cover to cover while there I would have made much more use of it. I brought it with me many times and when there was confusion with what I was trying to say it helped me to get my point across (i.e., M'femtsh: I don't understand/ Andak...?: Do you have?, etc.) It also aided in my acceptance with the Moroccan people (which is not hard as they are a very hospitable people) as they got a kick out of seeing me desperately trying to explain myself while pointing to a phrase in the book. Here in the states, every Moroccan that has seen the cover of this book has had a nice laugh [Snhoo the Hell is Going on H'naa? ("snhoo" and 'h'naa' are Darija for "what" and 'here' respectively)]. All in all, if you are going to Morocco or are trying to impress a Moroccan, this book is a must have.

This book can help to learn the basics. However, there are just some problems when it comes to the pronunciation. In the intro, the author goes into a whole spiel about how the other books will show things like an upside down "e" in the pronunciation guide and says that he didn't do that because he doesn't know how such a thing would sound. Great! Except then he uses the number "3" in the middle of the letters A LOT for pronunciation. For example, you might see the pronunciation as a3ka (not a real word in the book, but I don't have the book in front of me right now to give an actual example). I think it's really stupid to complain about upside down letters or umlauts or what have you from other authors and then constantly insert the number 3! He doesn't know how and upside down "e" sounds? Fair enough. But I don't know how a "3" sounds when used as a letter! I would have an easier time figuring out the pronunciations from the formats that he denounces in the intro. I know this sounds extremely negative, and yet I'm giving it 3 stars rather than 1. But the use of 3 as a letter was my main and probably only gripe. The other words that use only letters for pronunciation help, and you can still learn enough from this book.

I first got this book bcoz I got a grant to study derija in Morocco. I like that the book was written by a Fulbright language-study grantee -he knows the little nuggets that help most. It clearly explains in detail all the most important stuff: all the different types of nouns,adjectives and verbs, plus it covers the Nisba, question words, money,telling time, conjunctions, prepositions and also has tons of useful words and phrases organized by subject. And since it's lightweight,easy to use and cheap, I decided to get a second copy for friends and family to use when they visit.

This is not for the casual tourist. It is an excellent review for any student of Moroccan Arabic who already has some proficiency but needs to have a thorough brush-up on grammar and other language aspects before another trip to Morocco. It is written with great clarity and some humor by a thoughtful observer of the language. I will keep it as a very valuable reference.

It's a very great book. I love it so much! And I am not surprised that many my colleagues have added their highly recommendations. I also wanted to add that I like that the book is produced by a Morocco/USA community-based NGO and proceeds go to produce more Morocco-themed works on drama, literature, academics, etc

I bought this book from a fellow researcher while doing work in Morocco, and it was one of the best investments I made in learning Derija. The transliteration system is designed for English speakers so you can dive right in from the first page. As others have said, it's witty and succinct, and it's easy to find what you are looking for when you need it. The best part is a list of useful everyday adjectives and verbs in the back--that's just the kind of vocabulary-building it's hard to do on your own in casual conversation. Not your only resource if you are learning Derija for the first time or if you have no background in Arabic, but great as an easy-to-carry backup in case you need a quick refresher on grammar points while traveling.

I love it

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