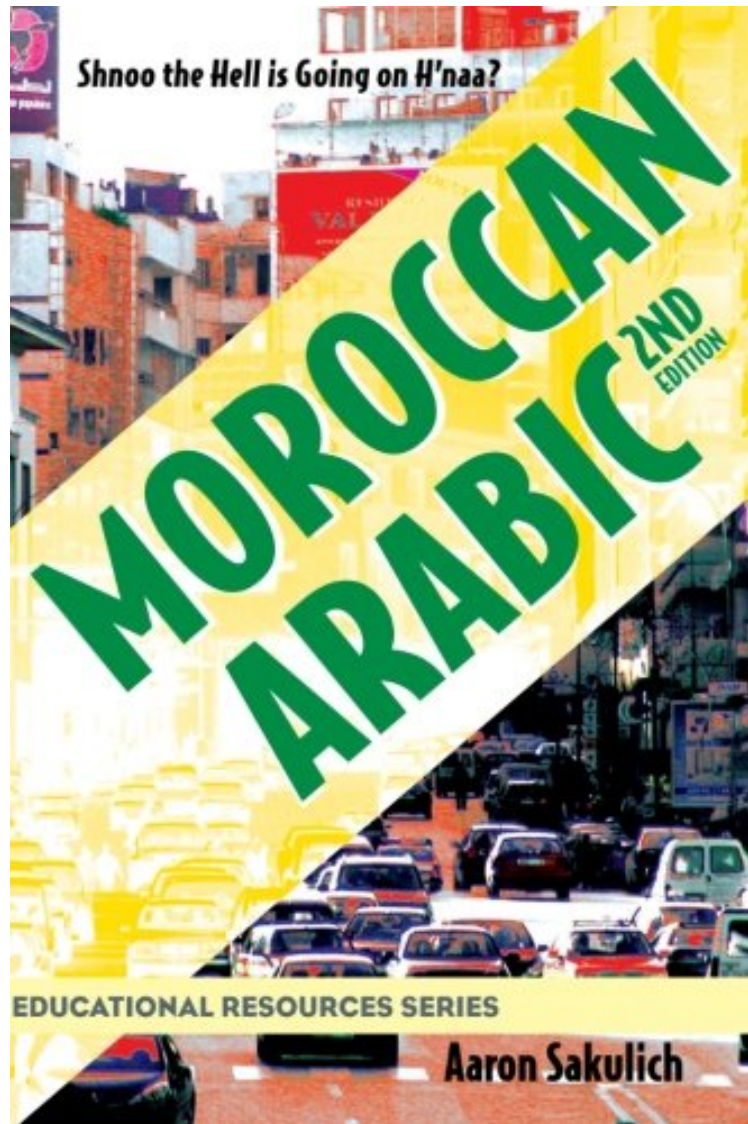


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Moroccan Arabic: Shnoo the Hell is Going On H'naa? A Practical Guide to Learning Moroccan Darija - the Arabic Dialect of Morocco (2nd edition) (Educational Resources)

Aaron Sakulich

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Aaron Sakulich : 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) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 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):

10 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Learning with humorBy Richard SakulichHaving also traveled to Morocco, I am aware of the difficulty and subtlety of the language. One of the great points of this book is the humor that is spread throughout both in the theatrical asides and the choice of words and phrases as examples. Language texts are universally dry and often boring but the author has managed to lighten up a difficult subject and thus make it easier to absorb.11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. This book saved my life while in Morocco...By EvanWell 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.6 of 6 people found the following review helpful. okay but there are better books out thereBy Edward F.The cover of this book hypes it, but all the hypes are connected to the Moroccan center that published it or have connections o the author or the producer. One of the two reviews online at the time I am writing this was written by someone with the author's same last name, which may be a coincidence, but I doubt it. I was caught by the hype and bought the book. It's not a terrible book, but it really needs some work. It's definitely not worth the asking price. The author starts by noting his issues with other books out there for Moroccan Arabic, and in that regard, he's unfortunately right, although I like the Harrell book anyway, despite some of its sample sentences like "I gave the rifle to the judge." Sakulich shows several transliteration schemes (systems of writing the Arabic words using Roman letters and other symbols) for Arabic and then notes that he's come up with his own based upon how he hears the language. He provides no explanation of it. So we are left with having to guess how to pronounce such words as bghreet, msleem, and fhm. He is also inconsistent, noting bghreet and bgheet as the same word. In bghreet, there is no "r" pronounced, but in Maghreb, the 'r' is pronounced, and his system doesn't differentiate this. Is it "mm-sleem" or "musleem"? The choice of topics feels incredibly hit or miss, and he even admits this a bit in various lists he provides. The book is praised for its humor, which I found sort of sophomoric, such as the author's quote on the back cover (It's a good book, I guess.)On a happier note, his explanations are pretty spot on, even if they gloss over the complexities of the language. It is a good starting point, but you'd need a phrase book (the Lonely Planet one is great) to supplement it, as this book gives no explanation of greetings, common expressions, etc.The introduction notes that the readership can email with suggestions for an upcoming edition. The book is a good start, but needs revising. I hope the next version is more consistent and professional, and maybe then it would justify the price.

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, Universit 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

"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 From the Publisher Many people contributed to making Moroccan Arabic 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 ICPS-Tangier) is sustained by the generosity of numerous all-volunteer partners - kindly lend your assistance by sending an email to collaborative.media@ymail.com Moroccan Arabic covers the following topics: Introduction and transliteration system Nouns: independent pronouns; object pronouns; possessive pronouns; demonstrative pronouns Adjectives: comparative; superlative; verbs from adjectives The Nisba Verbs: past and present tense - verb stem formation: regular, Type I irregular, Type II irregular, Type III irregular; Negating Verbs; Multiple Verb Use; The Imperative Tense; The Future Tense; The Past Progressive / Past Habitual Tense; The Past Perfect; The Present Perfect Progressive; The Future Perfect / Future Perfect Continuous; The Conditional Tense; The Passive Voice; The Causative Case; Verb Participles; Irregular Verbs - to be, to be present, to have, to have ever, to need, to please, to remain, to want Question Words Talking About Money Telling Time Conjunctions Prepositions Appendices: Word Lists by Subject - Food and related, At the Doctor's Office, Body Parts, Religious Terminology, Political Terminology, 'Naughty' words, Environment / Places, The States, Jobs and Work, Colors and Shopping, Clothing, Family, Animals, Musical Instruments; 50 Verbs; Miscellaneous Adjectives; Conjunctions / Timing; Miscellaneous Idioms and Proverbs; Being Friendly; Religious Idioms Praise for Moroccan Arabic from travelers, language students, scholars and Fulbrighters 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 Scholar to Morocco "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, Professor, Universit Abdelmalek Essaadi and President, International Centre for Performance Studies (ICPS) - Tangier "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 "I am so excited about this book! Congrats to the writer, editors, and publisher. Mabrook!" -- Sarah Dohrmann, Writer, Fulbright Scholar to Morocco "A wonderful resource for learning this rich variation of Darija - this guide provides English speakers with the tools necessary 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 From the Author Moroccan Arabic is a very, very variable language. The pronunciation of many words differs somewhat from city to city and region to region. Some of the words I used every day in Fes got me nowhere in Casablanca, and our editor (from Tangier) swears she's never even heard some of the words my friend from Rabat spelled out for me. Although some words vary from place to place, the grammar is constant. After the 1st edition of this book came out, several people complained that I didn't do enough to represent these variations. To be blunt, trying to do that would be

crazy. Rather than try to address thousands of variations in accents and exact vocabulary, this book is put together to provide a foundation for starting out in Morocco. As you get settled in to your region, you can elaborate and tailor things to suit your situation. If you use a word from this book, and people don't understand, try another one. I make no pretenses that the book is all comprehensive, but it's the book I'd have wanted to learn from when I was getting started. And sure, you could come to Morocco and get along all right in French, Spanish or English, but if you put some effort into learning and using Moroccan Arabic, your time in the land of couscous will be inestimably sweeter. Trust me. I went through learning the language and living there just like you are now. Despite the valiant efforts of editors on three continents, there are probably some mistakes to be found here. If you find something, or have a suggestion, send us an email! A third edition will reflect your sense of volunteerism and collaboration.