Todo:

- \frenchspacing
- Add title in filename and in document

Transcripts of Syrian Arabic dialogue videos from *Al-Kitaab fii taᶜallum al-ᶜarabiyya,* Part 1 (3d ed.)

This repository contains transcripts of video dialogues from the Arabic textbook *Al-Kitaab fii taᶜallum al-ᶜarabiyya*, Part 1, Third edition. Currently, only the longer dialogues in Damascene (*shaamiyy*) Arabic from chapters 1–8 are included. Transcripts for dialogues in chapter 9–15 will be added this spring. Transcripts for   texts may be added in the future. Transcripts were written in markdown and then converted to pdf via pandoc. Both the markdown files and the pdfs are included in this repository. The videos are available at http://alkitabtextbook.com.

Background

Al-Kitaab includes videos with dialogues in Syrian and Egyptian Arabic. The authors have done a very good job in creating dialogues that feel authentic and are communicatively relevant while being restricted by the grammar and vocabulary of the book. The pedagogical idea behind the inclusion of the videos in the book is for students to improve their listening comprehension of spoken material, and therefore no text is provided. I, however, find a written text to be useful for detailed discussion of the dialogue in the classroom in that it makes it possible to point at things, look at several places in the text simultaneously, and go through the material slowly and methodically without having to pause and play. You can still use them to practice listening comprehension, by using the procedure explained below.

Orthography

The transcripts are written with Arabic script. I have tried to follow the orthographic practices of *Al-Kitaab*, which follows Standard Arabic orthography, even when I think it is at odds with orthographic practices of written Syrian Arabic (e.g. the 3ms enclitic pronoun is here   as in the book rather the conventional .(Dialectal phonology is reflected in the spelling some words (e.g. (but not in others (e.g. .(

Teaching procedure

To be added.

Generating pdfs

If you want to generate pdfs from the markdown (`.md`) files your yourself you need to have pandoc, the Lateef font, and a standard LaTeX distribution installed on your computer. All these are free (beer and freedom). `cd` into the folder containing the markdown files and run the following command:

```
pandoc ⟨inputfile⟩.md --pdf-engine=xelatex -o ⟨outputfile⟩.pdf
```