

Phonology in Generative Grammar

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Exercises

6.1 Lebanese Arabic (*Haddad 1984*)

In this dialect of Arabic syllables take the shapes CV, CVC, CVV, CVVC, and CVCC. This exercise concerns the construction of CVCC syllables. CVCC underlies a well-populated nominal template. In some cases the stem surfaces directly; in others an epenthetic vowel is inserted in a prepausal or preconsonantal context. The result is paradigms like the following.

(1)	underlying shape	/dars/	/?akl/
	Noun	dars	?akil
	'your masc. N'	dars-ak	?akl-ak
	'our N'	dars-na	?akil-na
		'lesson'	'food'

The precise phonetic realization of the epenthetic vowel varies with context; here, abstracting away from this variation, it is transcribed uniformly as /i/. (3) presents underlying representations for numerous Lebanese Arabic words. If no additional form is cited, then the phonetic representation is the same as the underlying one. In the other cases epenthesis has applied. Develop an analysis to account for the epenthetic vowel. Which aspects of your analysis are the product of UG; which are language-particular? No examples of the following underlying sequences could be found: /CVyw/, /CVln/, /CVlr/, /CVnm/, /CVrl/, /CVfb/. What pronunciation does your analysis assign to these unattested cases? The Lebanese Arabic consonant inventory is given in (2); [t,d,s,z] are pharyngealized; [h,f] are pharyngeals.

(2)	stops	t, t̪	k	?
	b	d, d̪		
	fricatives	f	s, s̪ ſ ſ̪	x h
			z, z̪ ū ū̪	v f
	nasals	m	n	
	liquids	l, r		
	glides	w	y	

(3)	/fawy/ → fawi	'barking'	/žaly/ → žali	'washing'
	/dalw/ → dalu	'pail'	/bary/ → bari	'sharpening'
	/žarw/ → žaru	'puppy'	/bany/ → bani	'building'
	/hamw/ → ħamu	'cold sores'	/ramy/ → rami	'throwing'
	/fafw/ → ħafu	'pardon'	/ħašy/ → ħaši	'stuffing'
	/?abw/ → ?abu	'basement'	/?azy/ → ?azi	'hurting'
	/nafy/ → nafi	'denying'	/raty/ → rati	'seaming'
	/ħaky/ → ħaki	'talking'		
	/hawl/ 'around'	/xayl/ 'horses'	/dawr/ 'turn'	
	/ħayr/ 'other than'	/ħayn/ 'eye'	/lawm/ 'blame'	
	/xawf/ 'fear'	/mawz/ 'bananas'	/ħayš/ 'army'	
	/bayt/ 'home'	/ħayb/ 'shame'	/?awd/ 'leading'	
	/layk/ 'look'			
	/hafar-l-na/ → hafarilna	'he dug for us'		
	/kan-l-na/ → kanilna	'he was for us'		
	/ħiml/ → ħimil	'load'	/?ifl/ → ?ifil	'lock'
	/nasl/ → nasil	'progeny'	/pakl/ → ?akil	'food'
	/šikl/ → šikil	'shape'	/nisr/ → nisir	'eagle'
	/ħafr/ → ħafir	'digging'	/ħibr/ → ħibir	'ink'
	/zikr/ → zikir	'souvenir'	/nimr/	'tiger'
	/farm/ → farim	'chopping'	/?ism/ → ?isim	'name'
	/ħatm/ → ħatim	'darkness'	/hikm/ → hikim	'ruling'
	/firn/ → firin	'oven'	/?amn/ → ?amin	'peace'
	/dafn/ → dafin	'burial'	/ħušn/ → hušin	'fortress'
	/?ibn/ → ?ibin	'son'	/rikn/ → rikin	'nook'
	/ħilm/	'dream'		
	/nasf/ → nasif	'detonation'	/ražf/ → ražif	'trembling'
	/natf/ → natif	'plucking'	/ħakf/ → ħakif	'leaning to'
	/balf/	'bluffing'	/ħarf/	'letter'
	/nasž/ → nasiž	'weaving'	/?as-š/ → ?asiš	'he didn't measure'
	/ħažz/ → ħažiz	'booking'	/fils/	'small coin'
	/talž/ 'snow'	/firs/ 'wedding'	/marž/ 'meadow'	
	/ramz/ 'symbol'	/?ins/ 'humans'	/ħinž/ 'wantonness'	
	/nafs/ 'self'	/ħafs/ 'furniture'	/ħabs/ 'prison'	
	/-?ids/ 'Jerusalem'	/nakz/ 'poking'	/?aṭš/ 'cutting off'	
	/kalb/ 'dog'	/žild/ 'weather'	/darb/ 'road'	
	/fark/ 'rubbing'	/ħamd/ 'praise'	/bint/ 'girl'	
	/ħank/ 'jaw'	/kizb/ 'lying'	/wizk/ 'win'	
	/?ust/ 'fee'	/mušč/ 'comb'	/mažd/ 'glory'	
	/xaşb/ 'fertile'	/lift/ 'turnip'	/safk/ 'bloodletting'	
	/sakt/ 'silence'	/rakd/ 'running'	/ħabd/ 'slave'	
	/labt/ 'kicking'			
	/ħabk/ → ħabik	'weaving'	/fatk/ → fatik	'eradicating'
	/nadb/ → nadib	'wailing'	/rikb/ → rikib	'riding'