Phonology in Generative Grammar

Michael Kenstowicz
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Underlying Shape</th>
<th>/dars/</th>
<th>/ʔakl/</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Noun</td>
<td>dars</td>
<td>ʔakil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘your masc. N’</td>
<td>dars-ak</td>
<td>ʔakl-ak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘our N’</td>
<td>dars-na</td>
<td>ʔakil-na</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>‘lesson’</td>
<td>‘food’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The precise phonetic realization of the epenthetic vowel varies with context; here, abstracting away from this variation, it is transcribed uniformly as /u/. (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; [ŋ, y] are pharyngeals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stops</th>
<th>t, t</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ʔ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Fricatives     | b, d, @
|                | s, ʃ, ʃ |
|                | s, x, h |
|                | z, ʒ, y |
| Nasals         | m, n  |
| Liquids        | l, r  |
| Glides         | w, y  |
(3) /Sa/w/ → /SWi/  ‘barking’ /Sa/y/ → /zU/  ‘washing’
/dalw/ → /dU/  ‘pail’ /bary/ → /bari/  ‘sharpening’
/žarw/ → /žaru/  ‘puppy’ /bany/ → /bani/  ‘building’
/hamew/ → /hamu/  ‘cold sores’ /ramy/ → /rami/  ‘throwing’
/Šafw/ → /Šafu/  ‘pardon’ /hašy/ → /haš/  ‘stuffing’
/Šabw/ → /Šabu/  ‘basement’ /pazi/ → /azi/  ‘hurting’
/nafy/ → /nafi/  ‘denying’ /raty/ → /inati/  ‘seaming’
/žaky/ → /žaki/  ‘talking’
/hawl/ → /xayl/  ‘horses’ /dawr/ → /tum/  ‘turn’
/yaqt/ → /eya/  ‘other than’ /laam/ → /blam/  ‘blame’
/xawf/ → /mawz/  ‘fear’ ‘bananas’ /žayš/  ‘army’
/bayt/ → /šayb/  ‘home’ /šawd/ → /leading’
/layk/ → ‘look’

/hafar-l-nah/ → hafarilna  ‘he dug for us’
/kan-l-nah/ → kanilna  ‘he was for us’
/himil/ → /šimil/  ‘load’ /akifl/ → /akif/  ‘lock’
/nasile/ → /nasil/  ‘polygeny’ /akil/ → /akil/  ‘food’
/šfkrl/ → /šikil/  ‘shape’ /nisir/ → /nisir/  ‘eagle’
/žafir/ → /hašfir/  ‘digging’ /žibr/ → /hibir/  ‘ink’
/zikir/ → /zikir/  ‘souvenir’ /nimr/ → ‘tiger’
/farm/ → /farim/  ‘chopping’ /šism/ → /šisim/  ‘name’
/šatm/ → /šatim/  ‘darkness’ /šikm/ → /šikim/  ‘ruling’
/firn/ → /firin/  ‘oven’ /šamn/ → /šamin/  ‘peace’
/dafn/ → /dafin/  ‘burial’ /hušš/ → /husin/  ‘fortress’
/šib/ → /šib/  ‘son’ /rikn/ → /rakin/  ‘nook’
/hilm/ → ‘dream’
/nasf/ → /nasif/  ‘detonation’ /ražifl/ → ražif/  ‘trembling’
/natf/ → /natif/  ‘plucking’ /šakif/ → /šakif/  ‘leaning to’
/balf/ → /barf/  ‘bluffing’ /šarf/ →  ‘letter’

/nasž/ → /nasž/  ‘weaving’ /šas-š/ → /šasif/  ‘he didn’t measure’

/žažž/ → /žažž/  ‘booking’ /fils/  ‘small coin’
/talž/ → ‘snow’ /širs/  ‘wedding’ /marž/  ‘meadow’
/rarmz/ → ‘symbol’ /pins/  ‘humans’ /šinž/  ‘wantonness’
/nafš/ → ‘self’ /šafs/  ‘furniture’ /šabs/  ‘prison’
/l-šids/ → /Jerusalem/ /nakž/  ‘poking’ /šats/  ‘cutting off’
/kalkb/ → ‘dog’ /žild/  ‘weather’ /darb/  ‘road’
/fark/ → ‘rubbing’ /šamd/  ‘praise’ /šint/  ‘girl’
/hank/ → ‘jaw’ /šizb/  ‘lying’ /šizk/  ‘win’
/šust/ → ‘fee’ /šust/  ‘combing’ /šažd/  ‘glory’
/xasũb/ → ‘fertile’ /šabũ/  ‘turning’ /šaũb/  ‘bloodletting’
/sakt/ → ‘silence’ /šakd/  ‘running’ /šabd/  ‘slave’
/labt/ → ‘kicking’
/šabk/ → /šabk/  ‘weaving’ /fatk/ → /fatik/  ‘eradicating’
/nadb/ → /nadib/  ‘wailing’ /rikb/ → /rikib/  ‘riding’