CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

ARABIC PROSE COMPOSITION

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

ARABIC PROSE COMPOSITION

by

T. H. WEIR, B.D., M.R.A.S.
Lecturer in Arabic in the University of Glasgow.

Cambridge :
at the University Press
1910

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781316626085

© Cambridge University Press 1910

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1910
First paperback edition 2016

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 978-1-316-62608-5 Paperback

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

TO

PAST AND PRESENT

STUDENTS OF ARABIC

IN

THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

CONTENTS

		PAGE
I.	Preliminary Exercises	1
II.	Easier Proses	25
III.	Easier Newspaper Extracts	46
IV.	Advanced Prose	57
	Glossary	115

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

PREFACE

THE exercises contained in the following pages are intended to carry the student of Arabic on from the rudiments of the Language to what may be considered advanced prose.

The Preliminary Exercises (Part I) are to be used during the study of the grammar and syntax. References have been added at the foot of the page to the late Mr Thornton's useful abridgement of Wright's *Arabic Grammar* edited by Mr R. A. Nicholson, M.A., for the Cambridge University Press; but as the ground covered in each exercise is indicated in the heading, the student may use any grammar to which he is accustomed. Indeed, a progressive grammar of Classical Arabic, on the principle of the late Professor Davidson's *Elementary Hebrew Grammar*, is still a *desideratum*.

The Proses in Part II have been selected for the most part from Vols. I and II of the admirable *Majāni'l-Adab* published by the Jesuit Fathers in Beyrout, but also from other sources; and those in Part III from the weekly edition of the famous Cairo newspaper *Al-Muaiyad*, edited by the Sheikh Ali Yusuf; whilst those in Part IV consist of extracts from the *Times*, from Lord Cromer's *Modern Egypt*, and other sources, which were reproduced in an Arabic version in the columns of the *Muaiyad*. To each of the first sixteen of these there has been added a "literal version," which should be carefully compared with the original and then translated into Arabic. In the case of the remainder, as in the earlier parts, footnotes have been considered sufficient.

There is nothing incongruous in attempting to combine in one volume the classical and the modern Arabic. Every Egyptian newspaper reflects in some measure the language of the Koran and of the ancient poets, just as an English

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
978-1-316-62608-5 — Arabic Prose Composition
T. H. Weir
Frontmatter
More Information

journal does that of the Bible and of Shakespear, and the reader who is not familiar with these misses much of the pith and marrow of the composition. Moreover, whatever may be said of some products of the Syrian and Egyptian press, the *Muaiyad* is distinguished for the excellent Arabic in which its articles are composed.

In Parts I, II and III of the present work any considerations of style have been sacrificed to the desire to make the English reflect the required Arabic expression as closely as possible. In this way the student will become more familiar with the Arabic idiom, and it will be a good exercise for him to turn this Arabic-English into King's English. As a general rule it may be said that the most difficult passage can be most easily rendered into Arabic by first of all re-writing it in the simple Saxon-English of the Bible, particularly of the Old Testament.

In the glossary the vowel-points have been omitted in cases where they can easily be supplied, and, generally, it has been left to the student to make forms for himself, rather than that they should be given him ready made. If a word is not given in the glossary, it is for this reason, or because it is not required. It is necessary to warn the beginner that the Arabic words given in the glossary are the equivalents of the English only in the particular sense in which the latter happen to occur in the text.

My best thanks are due to the Rev. Professor James Robertson, D.D., LL.D. and to Mr Alexander S. Fulton for their kindness in reading the proof-sheets of the whole book: to the Messrs Macmillan for their permission to reprint the passages from Lord Cromer's *Modern Egypt*; and to the readers and compositors of the Cambridge University Press for the extreme care and accuracy with which the work of printing has been done.

T. H. WEIR.

GLASGOW UNIVERSITY, 1910.

© in this web service Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org