

THE LANGUAGE & CULTURE WEEKLY

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CURRENT NEWS 03 MAY 2012

DLSNEO HIGHLIGHT

ACTFL PROFICIENCY GUIDELINES 2012 – ARABIC ANNOTATIONS & SAMPLES

(ACTFL)

DLNSEO's Language Flagship program and The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) are pleased to announce the online publication of Arabic annotations and samples for speaking, writing, listening, and reading to accompany the *ACTFL Proficiency Guidelines 2012*. The annotations to the Guidelines for Arabic and the samples that exemplify the descriptions of the levels can be found at

Ambassador of Tanzania on IU campus today

(Indiana Daily Student)

IU will welcome Mwanaidi Sinare Maajar, the United Republic of Tanzania's ambassador to the United States, to campus today. The Swahili, Turkish and Chinese Language Flagship programs in the College of Arts and Sciences are sponsoring her visit to IU.

Liberty ROTC cadets commission

(Liberty Champion)...Omar Adams



As a Force Support Officer, Morrissey could hold a number of jobs on base, but she is currently

studying Swahili for the Department of Defense. "I will also be travelling to Kenya for eight weeks for the second summer in a row through a Department of Defense program run by DLNSEO called Project GO," Morrissey said. "Project GO is a program that enables ROTC students to study critical languages for the Air Force."

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Culture shock a matter of course at West Point

(Associated Press)...Samantha Henry The men and women in crisp U.S. military uniforms walked in close formation through the bustling, traffic-choked streets, passing women in full Muslim hijab, sari-clad Indian mothers pushing strollers, worshippers heading to an Egyptian Coptic church, and small shops with signs in Arabic, Hindi, Korean and a dozen other languages. It wasn't a tour of duty overseas, but a field trip to Jersey City, just 60 miles down the Hudson River from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

<u>US Army Selects Voci(TM) to Prototype</u> <u>Automated Language Recognition System</u>

(Market Watch)...Press Release
Voci(TM) Technologies Inc. announced today that it has been selected by the United States Army to develop a prototype system to perform language identification of six target languages in real time, and in a single pass. The languages include Arabic, English, Farsi, Iraqi Arabic, Pashto, and Urdu. The Voci system will be a pre-processor for automatic translation of the target languages into English. It will accurately identify the language spoken for automated translation systems to be correctly configured to decode the speech. Fast identification and translation of languages is becoming a critical component of the US Army Warfighter program.

STUDIES

The Bilingual Brain Is Sharper and More Focused, Study Says

(Wall Street Journal)...Robert Lee Hotz

The ability to speak two languages can make bilingual people better able to pay attention than

Hola - Hello Por Favor - Please Bienvenido - Welcome Gracias - Thanks

those who can only speak one language, a new study suggests.

INTERNATIONAL

<u>India's tribal people fast becoming lost for words</u>

(Sydney Morning Herald)

The subcontinent is losing languages faster than any nation on earth. There is a battle going on in Totopara, a quiet war to keep alive a language. The village takes its name as the home of the Toto people. Ethnically distinct from their neighbors, the Toto have lived in the area beyond all memory and storytelling. "We have been here for hundreds

of years ... this is our homeland," village elder Ashok Toto tells the *Herald*.

Google Translate Has More than 200 Million Active Users

(PC World)...Jeff Bertolucci Google's decade-long efforts to automate the tricky business of translating languages appear to be paying off. The search giant today announced that its Google Translate service has more than 200 million active monthly users, and that mobile usage is quadrupling year over year. Google Translate has global appeal, and 92 percent of its traffic comes from outside the U.S.