

Investigating the Functionality of Coordination: A Syntactic Contrastive Study

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التحقيق في وظيفة أدوات الربط: دراسة نحوية مقارنة

الملخص

تحاول هذه الدراسة استكشاف التحليل النحوي لحروف العطف في اللغتين الانكليزية والعربية. وكذلك تحاول هذه الدراسة التركيز على استخدام أدوات الربط وحروف الجر في كلتا اللغتين من وجهة النظر النحوية. وتركز هذه الدراسة على بيان وظيفة أدوات الربط وحروف العطف في اللغتين الانكليزية والعربية. أدوات الربط هي عناصر التي تربط العبارات او أجزاء من العبارات مع بعضها البعض. أداة الربط هي كلمة تستخدم لربط تعبيرين او أكثر مع بعضها البعض. أدوات الربط الاساسية هو ربط الكلمات بواسطة أدوات العطف. أدوات الربط الثانوية تستخدم في ربط الوحدات الغير متكافئة. الكلمات الرئيسية: أدوات العطف، ادوات الربط الثانوية، النحو، الدراسة المقارنة، الربط، حروف العطف.

Abstract

The present research attempts to explore a syntactic analysis of coordination in English and Arabic languages. It tries to examine the usage and the meaning of coordinators in both languages from a syntactic point of view. This study focuses on showing the form and the function of coordination and subordination conjunctions in both English and Arabic languages. Conjunctions are items that combine (parts) clauses with each other. They are words which are used to associate two or more expressions simultaneously. Coordination refers to the linking of words by means of coordinating conjunctions. Subordination is used where the units being linked are not equivalent.

Key Words: Coordination, Subordination, Syntax, Contrastive, Conjunct, conjunctive.

1. Introduction

Coordination conjunction refers to join units that have the same status in the sentence, such as two clauses, two noun phrases, or two adjectives. The principal items are few pairs such as (**neither... nor**). The conjunction has different meanings such as (**and**) for addition and sequence, (**or**) means the expression for alternatives and (**but**) concerns for contrast. (Crystal, 2003:213). A coordinate structure results when two constituents of the same category are joined with a conjunction such as (**and**) or (**or**). For example, (**Caley bought a book and a CD yesterday**)(Fromkin et al, 2007:149). A coordinator is a conjunction used in coordination, such as (**and**) or (**or**) (Crystal, 2003: 460).

Pure coordinators (**and, or, but**) are served the function to join words together but they are differ in some respects, for example, (**John was tired and happy together**)(Quirk & Greenbaum, 1973:254 & Radford, 2004: 330). Coordinating conjunctions are used to conjoin strings of simple sentences. For example: (**Ahmed arrived early and Sara was quarter an hour late, but Ali did not even show up**) (Tallerman, 2005:77).

Subordinating conjunctions such as:(**because, although, it, that... etc**) are used to introduce subordinate clauses or to join a subordinate clauses to main clauses. This is called subordinator or subordinative conjunction or qualifying conjunction (Hartman et al, 1972 s.v. subordinating conjunction. Subordinating conjunction refers to the linking of main clauses and subordinating clauses, the latter is introduced by a subordinating conjunction such as:(**after, although, because, before, since, when ...etc**). For example: (**before you ran a spell-check, save your document**) (Parker, Riley,2012:134).

Subordinator is a conjunction used in subordination such as (**since, become and so on**)(Crystal, 2003:469). The pure subordinators are (**for**) and (**to**) that, for example, (**they were anxious for senator megabucks to keep his cool**)(Quirk, Greenbaum, 1973:254). Subordinating conjunction is used to join two clauses and subordinate indicates that the clauses do not have the same synthetic status. Subordinate clauses are synthetically dependent on the matrix or main clauses. Subordinate clauses are embedded within another clauses(Talleman, 2005: 77).

2. Overview of Conjunction

We usually have only an intuitive sense of what the word coordination means. Importance of studying of the coordination concept and consequently coordination mechanism is important from contemporary advancements in meaning business movement from managements by business functions to knowledge management by business process. Coordination is an interdisciplinary issue, and ordinary, a communication problem(Kral, 2007: 2). Quirk et al (1985: 918) state that:

"new conjunctions emerged because first appears in Chaucer but for remained the normal way of expressing cause until the early 17th century. By the 17th century, however, highly sophisticated and carefully crafted sentences following a charity of Latin models (Crystal, 2003: 70). Coordination and subordination are special cases of two types of syntactic arrangement traditionally known as Parataxis (equal arrangement) and Hypotaxis (underneath arrangement)".

3. Types of Conjunctions

Conjunction is a type of word whose main function is to connect words or other constructions (Crystal, 1992: s.v conjunctions & Radford, 2004: 330). There are two types of conjunctions in which can be joined clauses or parts of clauses together (Crystal, 2003: 213). They are:

3.1 Coordination Conjunction

It refers to the linking of words by means of coordinating conjunctions (Hartmann&Stork, 1972: 54). It is the linking of linguistic units which are usually of equivalent syntactic status, such as a series of clauses, or a series of nouns. It is also called coordinating.

Coordinating is a sort of recursion according to which groups like sentence, noun phrase, verb phrase, and prepositional phrase may be expanded as a pair of such phrases joining by a coordinating conjunction such as: **(and)** or **(or)** such as: **(I said it and I believe it)** (Hudson, 2000: 92).

It is the connection of linguistic **units** which have the same grammatical structures ,e.g., two noun phrases **(the house and the school)**(Crystal, 2003: 460). It involves the linking of units such as: **"he tired hard, but he failed"** (Quirk & Greenbaum, 1973:254). Grammarians mention that syndetic and asyndetic are types of coordination.(Quirk et al, 1985: 918).

3.1.1 Syndetic Coordination

It is expressed by explicit signals of coordination **(and, or, but)**, for example, **(slowly and stealthily, he crept towards his victim)**. In this sentence, syndetic coordination used (and) as explicit marker. Syndetic coordination is the more usual form. So, coordination is with a coordinator present (Quirk et al, 1985: 918).

3.1.2 Asyndetic Coordination

Asyndetic coordination is not explicit marked. For example, **(slowly, stealthily, he crept towards his victim)**, in this sentence, asyndetic coordination with and omitted. Asyndetic coordination is usually stylistically marked. It is used for dramatic intensification or to suggest an open-ended list. For example, **(Mrs Varley sold sweets, chocolate, toffee, apples anything a child could desire)**. In asyndetic coordination, the conjoins are generally separated by a tone-unit boundary in speech, or by a punctuation stop in writing. In the spoken form, the conjoins are typically

marked by a parallelism in the tone of the nucleons; for example, (**Slowly, STEALTHily...**) (Quirk et al, 1985:918).

3.2 Subordination Conjunction

Subordination is used where the units being linked are not equivalent (Crystal, 1992: 45, v.s: subordination). It is the connection between a dependent and an independent grammatical structure. For example, (**he sat down because he was tired**). The clause he was tired is considered as subordinate clause connected to the main clause by means of the subordinating conjunctions because (Hartmann & Stork, 1972:58, v.s: subordination).

Subordination is the dependence of one grammatical unit upon another, as in subordinate clause: e.g. (**they left after the show ended**) (Crystal, 2003: 469). Subordination involves the linking of units, one of the units is subordinated to the other such as: (**although he tried hard, he failed**) (ibid).

4. The Meaning of English Coordinators

4.1 (And) means a connection between the contents of clauses, the event in the second clause is a consequence of the event in the first. For example, (**he heard an explosion and he phoned the police**). The second clause is a consequence on the first. For example, the disliked John and that's not surprising and the second clause is a pure addition to the first (**he has long hair and wears jeans**) (Quirk & Greenbaum 1973:257).

4.2 (Or) conveys the alternative meaning that if one of the individual conjoins true, then the whole sentence is true e.g. (**you can sleep on the couch in the lounge or you can go to a hotel**) (Quirk et al, 1985: 932).

4.3 (But) indicates contrast that what is said in the second conjoin is unexpected what is said in the first conjoin for example, (**John is tired but happy together**) or the contrast is restatement in affirmative terms of what has been said or implied negatively in the first conjoin such as (**john is poor, but he is happy**) (Quirk& Greenbaum, 1973: 259).

4.4 (Either...or, both... and &neither....nor) are considered three correlative pairs;(Either...or), where (**either**) anticipates the alternative introduced by (**or**). (**Both...and**)where (**both**) anticipates the addition introduced by (**and**). (**Neither...nor**) where (**neither**) negates the first clause and anticipates the additional negation introduced by (**nor**). For example:

He	has	either	long hair	Or	wears	jeans.
		both		And		
		neither		Nor		

(Quirk,Greenbaum,1973: 259).

5. Conjunction in Arabic Language

Linguistically, conjunction is a system that is used in the sense of harmonious(Al-muradi,2008:1003). In term, conjunction is attached mediate between the subject and the one followed by conjunction(Al-Ansari, 761A.H: 317).

5.1Conjunction Particles

Coordinate conjunctions are several letters that was counted by grammarians as ten (**and, F, then, or, no, rather, but, or, either, even**). These particles collected all in insertion the second to analysis the first(Ibn Jinni, 392A.H: 91).

Some of conjunction particles require socialization in pronunciation and meaning either absolute as (**or, F, then, even**) or restricted as (**or, um**) with condition must not require stoppage. And what requires socialization in pronunciation without meaning, either being fix what later does not breaks then before as (**but**) in plural(**but**) with Sebawaih that does not contrary as (**no**) in plural(Al-Ansari, 761A.H:317).

5.2 Meanings of Conjunction Particles

1.(And) is absolute plural as (**Mohammad and Zaid had attended**). So, this refers that (**Mohammad had attended before Zaid**) or (**Zaid had attended before Mohammad**) or may that both of them had attended together(Al-Hamdani, 1980:187). And specified among conjunction letters that conjunct by it which that not enough to mention what before conjunction letter, for example, (**Zaid and Omer had quarreled**) and if we say (**Zaid had quarreled**) is not enough(Al-Hamdani, 1980 :227).

2. (F) is for progression and sequence which refers to make what after conjunction letter is late upon what before conjunction letter and linked to it(Al-Samaraei, 2007:201). As Allah Almighty said: (**Who created and proportioned**) and as (**Mohammad came then Zaid**) so the coming of Zaid was after coming of Mohammad, about the progression means that what after conjunction letter follow what before conjunction letter without delay or near period. And that what makes it different from (**then**), and (**F**) letter also comes with different meaning is cause like Allah Almighty said: (**So Moses struck him and [unintentionally] killed him**) (Ibid).

3.(Then) refers to sequence and lax (Al-Ansari, 761A.H:326). It means here a period of time as (**Mohammad attended then Ali**). It means that Mohammad attended first then Ali did after a period of time also as Allah Almighty said: (**And of his signs is that he created you from dust; then, suddenly you were human beings dispersing [throughout the earth]**). And some of the grammarians see that does not mean by lax

is period of time only but also mean both dimension and contrast whether in time, qualities ... etc. So, this means dimension generally (Al-Samaraeei, 2007: 209).

4.(Or) is for one of two things (Ibn Jinni, 392A.H:217). So, it covers many meanings:

A. Suspicion as (**Zaid or Omer did**) and as Allah Almighty said: (**They said,"We have remained a day or part of a day**).

B. Choosing when it comes after request as (**take book or copybook**).

C. Permissibility as (**Sit down with scientists or writers**).

D. Partition as (**name or act or letter**).

E. Opacity as (**I talked to Mohammad or Saeed**).

F. Speculation as (**I will visit Mohammad today or stay**).

5. (Not) means negation and does not work unless some conditions:

A. It must be proceeded by request as (**Mohammad attended not Khaled**) or command as (**honor Khaled not Saeed**) or specification as (**would you like to honor Mohammad not Saeed**).

B. Not associated with conjunct and if it is conducted became extra in order to confirm the negation as (**Mohammad did not come nor Saeed**)(Al-Samaraeei, 2007: 229).

C. Contrary to what before and after it as (**Hind attended not child**)(Al-Ansari, 761A.H: 98).

6.(Rather) is a speculation letter that inter on singular and plural. If it inters to singular the conjunction by condition that proceeded by request or style request as (**Mohammad came rather Khaled**) or (**honor Mohammad rather Khaled**) or if it comes after phrase will be as a general speculation and they are two types as a revocation and this is the first type as (**Or do they say, "In him is madness?"**).

Rather, he brought them the truth) and the second type as a leaving to move without revocation as **(and with us is a record which speaks with truth; and they will not be wronged but their hearts are covered with confusion over this).**

7.(But) is a conjunct that follows by condition that proceeded by negation or inhibition and makes the conjunction is singular as **(Mohammad did not come but Khaled)** and if come a phrase after it so it is not a conjunction but is starting character used for being aware as **(Khaled did not come but came Mohammad)**(Al-Samaraceei, 2007: 223).

8.(Or) has two types:- connected and separated. So the connected is equal to Hamza the settlement or Hamza requires by it or as requires any like Allah Almighty said:**(it is all the same for them whether you warm them or do not warm them).** The separated type was shown by grammarians as **(rather)** meaning and Hamza like **(Zaid did or Omer)** so the meaning is rather Omer(Al-Muradi, 2008:1003).

9.(Either) means or in news, permissibility and choosing, so it is repeated like**(stand either Zaid or Omer), (eat either dates or fish)**(Ibn Jinni, 392A.H: 95).

10.(Even) means end like **(the students succeed even lazy)** and **(people die even the prophets)** and what is after conjunction letter must be a part of what is before it like:-**(I eat the fish even a head)** so, the head is the part of fish (Al-Samaraceei, 2007: 211).

5.3 Before and After Conjunction or Structure of Conjunction

- 1.Apparent with apparent as **(Zaid and Omer did).**
- 2.Pronoun with pronoun as **(I saw him and he).**
- 3.Apparent with pronoun as **(I saw him with Zaid).**
- 4.Pronoun with apparent as **(Zaid and you did).**

If the pronoun is linked does not conjunct it unless confirm it as Allah Almighty said: **(O Adam, dwell, you and your wife, in Paradise)**(Ibn Jinni, 392A.H: 95).

5.4 Conjunction on Pronunciation and Meaning

Originally, it must conjunct on pronunciation as **(Khaled and Saeed came)**. It is rare to conjunct on meaning which is called by grammarians conjunctions on place and imagination as **(Mohammad is not writer and not poet)** also as Allah Almighty said:**(Indeed, those who believed and those who were Jews or Christians)**(Al-Samaraseei,2007: 229).

5.5 Conjunction's Divisions

Conjunction has many divisions:

- 1.Conjunct something on different and it is original as **(I saw Saeed and Ali)**.
- 2.Conjunct something on synonym as **(this is integrity and promise)**.
- 3.Conjunct the public on especial as Allah Almighty said: **(And we have certainly given you, [O Mohammad], seven of the often repeated [verses] and the great Qur'an)**.So, the holy Qur'an conjunct the public on especial is seven of the often repeated verses.
- 4.Conjunct the especial on public as Allah Almighty said: **(Whoever is an enemy to Allah and His angles and His messengers and Gabriel and Michael)**. So, Gabriel and Michael especial conjunct on public are the angles because of more concern (Al-Samaraseei,2007:231).
- 5.Conjunct something on itself to increase the benefit as Allah Almighty said: **(We will worship your God and the God of your fathers, Abrahem and Ismael)**. So, his father's God is the same God for him.

6. Conjunction qualities on each other and the described is one as (**I passed a man jurist, poet and writer**).

7. Conjunction the name on verb and oppositely but originally that conjunction the name on the name as (**He is clever and careful**) and the verb on the verb as (**He forward and then back down**) (Al-Samaracei, 2007 : 231).

5.6 Delete the Conjunction Letter

Some grammarians licensed to delete conjunction letter if it is indicated by the evidence as (**I bought a bread and meat and dates**) (Al-Taei, 672A.H:284)(Al-Samaracei, 2007:233).

5.7 Delete One of the Sympathizes

It may delete the first part before conjunction letter and keep the second part after conjunction letter if indicated by the evidence as Allah Almighty said: (**So we said, "Strike with your staff the stone." And there gushed forth from it twelve springs**) hit and blow up so the first word was deleted to refer to what after (Al-Taei, 672: 284 & Al-Samaracei, 2007: 1032).

6. Coordination in Contrast

Items which signal conjunction are called coordinators or coordinating conjunctions, such as (**and, or, and either... or**) (Crystal, 1992: coordinators). In English coordinating conjunctions consist of eight structure words. They are (**and, but, for, nor, not, so, or, yet**). These conjunctions connect grammatical equivalent forms or classes or position classes or structure words or grammatical structure or sentences, for example, (**George is powerful but clumsy**) (Stageberg, 1981: 284).

In Arabic, Conjunction is a system that may be used in the sense of harmonious. Arab grammarians say that coordinating conjunctions consist of ten structure letters and words. They are: (**and, F, then, or, no, rather, but the light, or, either, even**).

These conjunctions connect grammatical equivalent forms or classes or position classes or structure words or grammatical structure or sentences, for example, (**Zaid and Omer had quarreled**) (Al-Hamdani, 1980 :225-228).

Conclusion

The study concludes that coordination refers to the linking of words by means of coordinating conjunctions. Subordination is used where the units being linked are not equivalent. Also it concludes that both languages use coordinating conjunctions to join words or phrases together to form larger phrases such as: (**naughty but nice**) (**Zaid and Omer quarreled**) or join whole sentences together to form new sentences e.g.,(**Harriet is English but she speaks Russian**) (- **the students succeed even lazy**). Coordinating conjunctions is a type of function words (Radford, 2009: 134).

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