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١.   Introduction

In linguistics, a **binomial pair** or **binomial** is a sequence of two or more words or phrases belonging to the same syntactic category, having some semantic relationship and joined by some syntactic devices such as '**and**' or '**or**'. Examples in English include: '**life and death**, '**cease and desist**', '**directly or   indirectly**', etc.Danet (١٩٨٥:٢٣٣) points out that "the legal register is striking for its use of elaborate parallel structures". She adds that "binomials expressions are a special case of parallelism". Furthermore, Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:١٢٣) writes "in legal English, binomials are ٤-٥ times more common than in other texts and they are style markers in law language".The present study falls into two parts. The first part aims at describing the features of legal language as being a distinctive language. The legal language is shown in terms of certain syntactic and semantic aspects, particularly those which exist in **binomial** expressions. The second part investigates the data collected from English and Arabic legal documentary texts. Some samples are syntactically and semantically analyzed and discussed on the basis of their distribution.The corpus relied on in this paper consist of two hundred binomial expressions (one hundred for each language) collected from thirty English legal documents and thirty Arabic ones. Those documents are selected from "The Lectric Law Library", (www.lectl.aw.com) and some Arabic texts were taken from (The Law of Trading-Baghdad, ١٩٨٣).It is noted that quite a large number of samples consists of long and complex sentences, hence, it is only the part or clause in which the relevant binomial appears is used in the examples. In addition, "trinomials" (the occurrence of three connected expressions) are excluded from the present study .

٢.   Legal Language

Legal language is a specialized language of legal structures and vocabularies .Its distinctiveness may be seen in a number of characteristics that differentiate it from the language of ordinary use. But, there is no universal language of law that would be comprehensible to all languages.

Tiersma (١٩٩٩:٥١-٧) describes legal language as 'sublanguage' which has its own specialized grammar, a limited subject matter, contains syntactic and semantic restrictions and allows 'deviant' rules of grammar which are not acceptable in the standard language.Hiltunen (١٩٩٠:٨٤) points out that adjectives in legal English are fairly scarce because they are often imprecise and vague, nouns tend to be abstract rather than concrete because they frequently do not refer to physical objects, and verbs are selected from a fairly small number of lexical sets. Danet (١٩٨٥:٢٨١) adds that the syntactic features of legal language are: nominalization, passives (for sentences to be more formal), conditionals, negatives, impersonality (typically written in the third person), prepositional phrases, sentence length and complexity, binomials and unique determiners like: '**such**' and '**said**', as in: 'the said property' Legal language must be judged by how effectively it communicates the rights and obligations conferred by a constitution. The main views of legal English are said to

be its wordiness and excessive use of archaic words and constructions (Cao,٢٠٠٧:٢٠). Unlike literary language, Crystal and Davy (١٩٦٩:٢٠٥) state that "written legal documents should be precise, expressive and can have no other interpretations apart from the ones stated. They also add that legal documents are characterized by brevity, economy and neatness. Such neatness and clarity are intended to prevent fraud, additions, omissions or alterations in the text. Furthermore, they describe legal ones as formulaic, predictable and almost mathematic. On the other hand, the same characteristics distinguished in English legal texts are recognized in Arabic legal ones, and being Muslims, the Glorious Quran and the traditions of the Prophet Mohammad (صلى الله عليه وسلم) (peace be upon him) constitute the basis of legal knowledge.   Since binomial expressions are an integral part of both the English and Arabic legal language, this phenomenon has been studied considerably.

٣.   **Binomials in Legal English**

'**Binomials**' or '**binomial expressions**' as so called by (Gustafsson, ١٩٧٥) are also termed '**doublets**' (Mayoral Asensio, ٢٠٠٣) and (Garner, ٢٠٠١), '**doublings**' (Mellinkoff, ١٩٦٣), '**couplets**' (Johnstone, ١٩٨٣) and '**joined lexical pairs**' (Bakir, ١٩٩٩). In the present study, the term 'binomial' is adapted since it is thought to be more adequate and satisfactory to describe such expressions. In the Norman period, binomials re-emerge. So numbers of collocations of two sometimes even three, more or less synonymous words that can be found in modern legal documents stem from this time for some of the French words became equivalents of the original expressions and were used simultaneously in pairs. Some linguists (Malkiel, ١٩٥٩; Mellinkoff, ١٩٦٣ and Hiltunen,١٩٩٠) agree that a certain amount of the binomials developed into technical terms, so it may not be easy to convey their meanings by a single word. Moreover, they acquired a new character through borrowings and settled in legal English as one of its typical features (Hiltunen,١٩٩٠:٢٦). On the other hand, Mellinkoff, (١٩٦٣:١٩٠) argues that the proliferation of binomials has been attributed to the fact that lawyers, at a certain time in the history of English were paid according to the number of pages they wrote, which resulted in the considerable use of superfluous words.Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:٧٤-٥) defines 'binomial expressions' as "sequences of two words belong to the same form class, which are syntactically coordinate and semantically related[1]". She (Ibid.) claims that binomials are typically a pair of nouns that functions as an adverbial and occurs in the rhematic part of the sentence, like '**goods and materials**', '**engage or participate**', '**generally and specifically**', '**reliable and responsible**', etc.There is a common use of such collocations in which synonyms or near synonyms are combined in pair doublets. Such words can be either nouns, verbs, adjectives, or even prepositions (Alcaraz and Brain, ٢٠٠٢:٩). The following examples show the above elements respectively: '**terms and conditions**', '**made and signed**', '**true and correct**', '**by and between**'.

٣,١ **Classification of Binomials in English**

Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:٩) distinguishes between irreversible binomials, if the order is fixed, and reversible ones, if it is not. Another distinction is made between formulaic and unformulaic binomials, the difference defined as the former are permanent and fixed combinations in the language, while the latter are temporary but fill the semantic and syntactic requirements. Malkiel (١٩٥٩), Mellinkoff (١٩٦٣) and

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Gustafsson (١٩٧٥) classify binomials according to the semantic relationship of their elements. To Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:١٣٣), binomials can be classified as (a) synonymous (**last will and testament**), (b) antonymous ([be present] **in person or by proxy**) or (c) complementary (**shoot and kill**). Malkiel (١٩٥٩) classifies them as (a) near synonyms (**null and void**), (b) complementary (**assault and battery**), (c) opposite (**assets**

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(١)   Malkiel's article (١٩٥٩) on binomials exhibits some examples of binomial expressions connected by what he terms "zero link", like: '**up down**'. Such binomials are not seen in the English or Arabic data, hence, they are excluded from this study.

and liabilities) (d) subdivision (**months and years**) or (e) consequence (**shot and killed**). Mellinkoff (١٩٦٣) uses the terms (a) worthless doubling (**force and effect**) and (b) useful doubling (**full faith and credit**).

٣,٢ The Syntactic Aspects of Binomials in Legal English

In this paper, the syntactic aspects of binomials are analyzed in terms of 'syntactic category'. A syntactic category is a set of words and/or phrases in a language which share a significant number of common characteristics (Bickford and Daly, ٢٠٠٤:٢).The classification is based on similar structure and sameness of distribution (the structural relationships between these elements and other items in a larger grammatical structure), and not on meaning: word-level syntactic category that serves as heads of phrasal syntactic categories are nouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, determiners, etc. (Ibid.). Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:١٣) points out that the syntactic character of binomials is largely discussed in two terms: (١) coordination and paratactic constructions and (٢) intensification. She (Ibid.) adds that the frequent use of binomials as a figure of speech can be expressed by two coordinated elements, e.g., '**sanity and reason**'. She also defines the other category (i.e., intensification) as to include pairs of words requiring to have a '**modifier-modifier**' relation where two different non-synonymous words are combined, one of the words modifying the other, e.g., '**nice and early**' and '**good and ready**'. As mentioned before, Hiltunen (١٩٩٠:٨٤) indicates legal English is nearly void of any adjectives and if any adjectival items are present, they mostly constitute an element of affixed phrase or collocation or technical term. Thus, adjectives like '**general**, **statutory and elective**' collocate with '**power and rights**'; '**real and personal**' with '**property**' and '**necessary**' with '**fees**', '**costs**' and '**disbursement**'.In legal English, 'nouns' and 'verbs' form the majority of binomial expressions, though 'adverbs', 'prepositions', and 'pronouns' can be found yet very rare. The following samples (and all other selected ones) are taken from the "The Lectric Law Library", (www.lectl.aw.com):

(١)   WHEREAS, Tenant desires to lease the Premises from Landlord on the **terms and conditions** as herein contained ....
(٢)   It is possible to **transfer and convey** the following issues and ……
(٣)   These rules should be hold **jointly and severely** in order to maintain …
(٤)   THIS LEASE AGREEMENT made......... **by and between** --------------------- **(hereinafter referred to as "Landlord") and**..............
(٥)   … and if any such child(ren) has pre-deceased me, **his or her** share shall pass…

(٦)

٣,٣ The Semantic Aspects of Binomials in Legal English

The semantic relationships, Finch (٢٠٠٠:١٨٠) defines, study how words contact with each other within the linguistic system on the basis of their sense. He categorizes the semantic relationships into: synonymy, antonymy, polysmy, hyponymy, metonymy, and incompatibility. Yule (١٩٨٥:١٢٠-٢) adds homophony and collocation to this .In legal English, the semantic parallelism is prominent as well as the syntactic. Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:١٥) comments on this stating that the two parts of a binomial must be semantically related; it cannot be a coordinate combination of any two words. Thus, the relation of 'A' and 'B' is either the 'same' (**field or area**), 'B' is the variation of 'A' (**losses and gains**) or 'A' and 'B' are mutually complementary (**food and drink**). It is also possible that 'A' is a subdivision of 'B' (**dollars and cents**) and vice versa.In terms of semantic structure and relationship, the types of binomials that appear in the legal English documents selected for data analysis are mostly: synonyms, antonyms and complementary.Though Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:٨٥) shows different subcategories for each of the semantic relations that this paper is concerned with, only those which appear in the legal documentary texts, the English and Arabic, will be shed light on. This is to avoid any misunderstanding when examples are not available.

٣,٣,١ Synonymous Binomials

Synonyms are two or more forms with very closely related meanings, which are often, but not always, intersubstitutable in sentences (Yule, ١٩٨٥:١١٨). Synonyms of such a type are very rare in language and are referred to as 'absolute' or 'total' synonyms. Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:٧٩) says that the difference in meaning may be so slight as to require expertise of the reader. She adds that synonymous binomials seem to emphasize the mutual semantic ground of the paired words, as: '**true and correct**' and '**full and perfect**'. A large number of this semantic category includes examples of 'near synonyms', where the two forms share sameness in meaning, but are not interchangeable in all contexts. These are like: '**cab-taxi**', '**answer-reply**', '**broad-wide**'.
English is particularly rich of synonymous expressions which are mainly borrowings from a variety of languages. '**Royal**, **regal**, and **kingly**, for example, are synonymous terms which have derived from French, Latin, and Anglo –Saxon respectively (Finch, ٢٠٠٠:١٨٤). He (Ibid.) states that many synonyms also differ in their 'collocational range', that is, the words with which they can co-occur. '**Powerful**, **mighty**, and **strong**' look interchangeable but they will not all occur with 'tea, ocean , and language' , and where they do occur the meaning is likely to be different in each case: '**powerful language**', for example, has a different meaning from '**strong language**'.
Concerning binomials, synonymy appears the most interesting. English contracts and agreements are found rich of synonyms. These can be seen as: '**accepts and agrees**', '**terms and conditions**', '**power and authority**', '**fees and expenses**', etc:
(٧)   Employer hereby employs employer as -------------- at the above- mentioned

premises, and employee hereby **accepts and agrees** to such employment.

(٨)   Employee is willing to be employed, and employer is willing to employ employee, on the **terms and conditions** …

(٩)   Corporation is …………..in good standing under the laws of the State of and has the corporate **power and authority** to carry ………….

(١٠) Each of the parties hereto shall pay its ………….., including the **fees and expenses** of …………

(١١)

٣,٣,٢ **Antonymous Binomials**

Antonym pairs all express opposite or incompatible meanings. An example is the pair '**rich-poor**', where a person whose categories cannot be both '**rich**' and '**poor**' in the same way at the same time. Theoretical research has focused upon semantic logically based classifications of antonyms. Among analyzed antonym classes, there is, for example, a subset termed: '**opposites**', which includes pairs like '**dead-alive**', '**married-unmarried**'. These are semantic opposites that exhaust the scale they refer to in that it is impossible to be married and unmarried at the same time (Leech ١٩٧٧ and Cruse١٩٨٦). True 'antonyms' like '**happy-sad**', on the other hand, are not mutually exclusive (it is possible to be neither happy nor sad) and unlike opposites, they are **gradable**. The most disputed category is called '**multiple incompatibles**' (Lyons ١٩٧٧). It includes, for example, the closed set of the season of the year, in which **winter** is incompatible with **summer**, **fall and spring**.According to Yule (١٩٨٥:١١٨), antonyms are usually divided into two main types: '**gradable**' and '**non-gradable**'. 'Gradable antonyms', such as the pair (**big-small**), can be used in comparative constructions like (bigger than-smaller than). Also the negative of one member of the gradable pair does not necessarily imply the other. With 'non-gradable antonyms', also called **complementary pairs**, comparative constructions are not normally used (the expressions deader or more dead sound strange), and the negative of one member does imply the other (Ibid.:١١٩).

Finch (٢٠٠٠:١٥١) mentions '**relational antonyms**', which are different from gradable ones in that they are not susceptible to degrees of opposition. However, unlike complementary antonyms - the opposition between the terms is absolute. '**Alive and dead**' , '**married and single**' , have an 'either/ or' relationship; it is possible to say, for example, that '**husband**' is the opposite of '**wife**', but not to be a wife does not mean that the person is a husband. Yule(١٩٨٥:١١٨-٩) shows another subcategory of antonyms including pairs like: '**tie-untie**', '**pack-unpack**', '**dress-undress**', etc. The word 'untie' does not mean 'not tie'. Actually, it means 'do the reverse of tie'. Such pairs are called '**reversives**'. In Gustafsson's view (١٩٧٥:٧٦:٨٥), semantic opposition is classified in terms of the below mentioned subcategories which are clarified by some samples from the corpus collected for this study:

a.   **Morphological opposition**: where a negative morpheme ('dis-, in-, un- counter- and -less') is applied to show the opposition, like: '**directly/indirectly**':

(١٢) during the term of this agreement, contractor, shall not, **directly or indirectly**, either as a contractor, client, consultant, .……....engage or participate in any business…Gustafsson (Ibid.) adds that it is possible to find binomial words in which opposition is achieved in terms of syntactic means (e.g. the active is opposed to the passive voice), as: '**arriving or expected to arrive**' and '**leaving or expected to leave**' and (the affirmative or the negative), as: '**whether or not**' . Such binomials are rare in legal documents. These are the samples found in the data:

(١٣) …there is substituted – (a) **arriving or expected to arrive** …   (b) **leaving or expected to leave** …

(١٤) …or to come into Contractor's possession in any other way and **whether or not** they contain or constitute trade secrets …

b. **Animate opposition**: this is described in terms of componential analysis (±Human): as '**person or body**', '**person or organization**', '**player and club**', etc. :

(١٥) The Registrar General for England and Wales or…may supply information contained in any register of deaths kept by him – (d) to a **person or body** specified, or of a description specified, …

(١٦) **The Player and the Club** recognize and agree that …

c. **Sex**: the features (±Male) and (±Female) are used to denote this class. One example (**his or her**) is found:

(١٧) …, and if any such children has pre-deceased me, **his or her** share shall pass to **his or her** surviving children.

d. **Direction**: this feature is very clear in deictic expressions and binomials are typically featured by location, movement or change, as: '**entering or leaving**'. Further, it can be applied to prepositional binomials, like: '**before or after**', '**heretofore or hereafter**', '**to or from**,' etc. :

(١٨) … and to gather information about freight **entering or leaving** the United Kingdom…

(١٩) … and agree that no other understandings or agreements, whether **heretofore or hereafter** made, shall be valid …

e. **Reciprocity**: this category includes activities that are opposite. Such require one thing to be done at one time, the other takes place sooner or later:

(٢٠) … to **sell or purchase** a business…

(٢١) No player shall participate in any exhibition game **with or against** any team which, during …

٣,٣,٣ Complementary Binomials

Binomials which are neither identical nor opposite are described by Gustafsson (Ibid:٩٨) as complementary since it is difficult to determine the relation holds between the parts of such expressions. She defines this relation as one member lacking a feature which is present in the other. Moreover, semantic connections are

realized between the two parts.

a. **Sequence**: is the case when two actions take place simultaneously or chronologically. The following examples are found in the English legal texts:

(٢٢) Contractor **agrees and promises** not to engage in any…
(٢٣) Seller **warrants and represents** the financial operating history…

b. **Logical Order:** legal texts are written with explicit terms as to avoid loopholes and evasions. Gustafsson (Ibid:١٠٠) points out that legal proceedings contain binomials in which the order of the procedure is given step by step:

(٢٤) The services contractor agrees to perform are **create and implement…**

(٢٥) … the parties, hereto, after first being duly sworn, **…. agree and certify**…

c. **Complement:** the two parts of binomial form an integral unit. Binomials belong to this type can be replaced by a single word. The data under investigation include such examples:

(٢٦) This agreement (including… and all **documents and papers** delivered by seller…).
(٢٧) The consultant agrees that … will not be revealed by any **firms or organizations.**

d. **Results**: the action expressed by the first part of the binomial results in the action expressed by the second. The following example is taken from the data:

(٢٨) And nothing in this subsection shall prejudice any power of search or   any power to **seize and obtain** property…

e. **Specificity:** these pairs show more specificity on one of the members. The second part may be added for more explicitness:

(٢٩) …, he shall have been continuously **unable or unwilling** or have failed to …
(٣٠) Either party may cancel this agreement on thirty (٣٠) days notice to other party in writing by **certified** mail or **personal** delivery.

f. **Attitude**: is the case in which the first part seems general and unbiased and the second one is added to denote either a negative or positive quality that displays the speaker's attitude towards the subject matter, (Ibid.):

(٣١) …, the first party and ----------, the second party, on behalf of themselves …. **jointly and severely** enter into …
(٣٢) Employer shall devote all of his time … and skill **solely and exclusively** to the business…

٤. **Binomials in Legal Arabic**

Though such expressions are of great importance in the Arabic language of law,

Arabic semantic books (cf, the references mentioned in the study) use binomial expressions without giving a grammatically technical definition of the concept. Hence, a 'binomial' is realized in Arabic through the use of combinations of two (less frequently three or more) lexical items coordinated with 'و ' (and) and/or 'أو' (or), like: مباشر أو غير مباشر (directly or indirectly), الليل والنهار (day and night), الحياة والموت (life and death), حقيقي وصحيح (true and correct), etc.

Unlike English binomials, like '**aid and abet**' or '**ways and means**', Johnstone (١٩٨٣:١) states that couplets (as she uses the term) in Arabic are the result of a still-productive semantic strategy, many are nonce forms. Arabic binomials lend themselves to semantic analysis in a way English binomials do not, i.e., the term 'beck' of (**beck and call**) means nothing at all by itself. In Arabic, each part of the following binomial expression can be used separately: التأييد والمساعدة (the aid and the help). She adds that "newly-created couplets involve terms which modify each other, while older, more frozen couplets involve nearly or completely synonymous terms".

Arabic linguists distinguish some similar semantic relations as those distinguished in English: الترادف 'synonymy', التضاد 'antonymy', الاشتمال أو التضمن علاقة الجزء 'hyponymy', بالكل 'part-whole relation' and التنافر 'incompatibility', (٦٨١ :١٩٨٢،عمر; ١٩٨٥،الداية).

As far as this paper is concerned, binomial expressions in Arabic legal documentary texts are mainly recognized semantically as synonymous, antonymous and complementary. The Arabic samples are taken from "The Lectric Law Library", (www.lectl.aw.com) and "The Law of Trading-Baghdad", (١٩٨٣).

٤,١ Classification of Binomials in Arabic

The phenomenon of binomial expressions has not been studied by Arab linguists. They tend to combine lexical coordinated pairs where such pairs can be collocated on the basis of some semantic and syntactic relations.

It is noted that the distinction of English binomials into **reversible** and **irreversible** which is given by Gustafsson (١٩٧٥: ٩) can well match the Arabic binomials. Thus, irreversible Arabic binomial where the order is fixed are like: الشروط والمواصفات (conditions and specifications), مباشر أو غير مباشر (direct or indirect) and من والى (from and to). Reversible binomials can change their order. Thus, تلف أو ضرر (spoilage or damage) is also found as ضرر أو تلف (damage or spoilage). Other examples are: التجهيزات والآلات (equipments and machines), تنبيه أو إنذار (warning or alerting) and الماء والكهرباء (water and electricity).

Johnstone (١٩٨٣) refers to the above mentioned classes using the terms **frozen** and **unfrozen** couplets.Semantically, Arabic binomials can follow the classification of English ones which is given by Gustafsson (١٩٧٥). The semantic relations that hold between Arabic binomials are ones of synonymous as: تام وكامل (full and perfect), antonymous: قبل أو بعد (before or after) and complementary:مراجعة وتقييم (reviewing and evaluating).

٤,٢ The Syntactic Aspects of Binomials in Legal Arabic

Most Arabic binomials (those collected for the corpus analysis) consist of 'nouns': التلف أو الضرر (spoilage and damage), السلطة والصلاحية (power and authority), 'verbs': منع أو أعاق (endorse or disable) or prepositions: يصون ويحفظ (keep and maintain), من والى (from and to) داخل وخارج (inside and outside). It is also noted that in most cases , adjectives are used to modify nouns like الشروط العامة والأولوية (general and prior terms), الضمانات الشرعية والقانونية (legal and lawful securities).

(۳۳)   ... تكون المستندات المذكوره بالبند الثاني من الشروط **العامة والأولوية** التالية...

(۳٤)   ... باع واسقط وتنازل بموجب العقد وبكافة الضمانات **الشرعية والقانونية**...

Few examples of noun binomials are used in prepositional phrases, like: **باجر أو بدون اجر** (with or without wages) or in accusatives of specification (التمييز), like: **عدا ونقدا** (payment and in cash) as in :

(۳٥)   إذا عمل الطرف الثاني لدى آي جهة سواء **باجر أو بدون اجر** ...

(۳٦)   تم هذا البيع لقاء ثمن قدره ------- قبضه أطراف الطرف الأول **عدا ونقدا**...

Binomials in which adjectives, like: **مباشر أو غير مباشر** (direct or indirect), adverbs: **كليا أو جزئيا** (totally or partially) and prepositions as the above examples are used are not many in Arabic. Such categories are also few in most languages.

Though noun binomials predominate, it is possible (but rare) to find binomials involving whole phrases. Only one example in the data is found :

(۳۷)   **الخسارة الناجمة عن السرقة أو النقص الذي يتعذر تفسيره** (the loss resulted from the robbery or the uninterruptable shortage)

Moreover, noun binomials are sometimes attached to possessive pronouns. The possession may involve both terms or only one of them . Examples are: **انجازها وتسليمها** (its performance and supplement), **رضاء المتعاقدين وقبولهم** (contractors complacence and their acceptance).

Negative binomial constructions are rarely found in the Arabic documents. In the corpus, there is only the binomial **موقوفة ولا محكرة** (neither in mortmain nor monopoly) in which the negative particle **لا** (nor) precedes the second part of the binomial:

(۳۸)   يقر المتعاقدون بأن العقارات المذكورة خالية من كافة الحقوق العينية ....وإنها ليست **موقوفة ولا محكرة.**

٤,۳ The Semantic Aspects of Binomials in Legal Arabic

عمر (۱۹۸۲:۷۸) states that the semantic field includes groups of lexical items sharing some specific meanings. To understand the meaning of a lexical item, other neighboring items should be studied semantically. He (Ibid.: ۸۰) refers to Lyons' statement that the meaning of a word is a result of its relations to other words in the lexical field.

On this ground, the semantic relations in Arabic include: synonymy, antonymy, hyponymy, metonymy, incompatibility, collocation, homonymy and polysemy, (جبل, ۱۹۹۷؛ الداية, ۱۹۸۵؛ عمر, ۱۹۸۲).

In this study, binomial expressions in Arabic legal texts are investigated in the synonymy, antonymy and complementary categories.

٤,۳,۱ Synonymous Binomials

جبل (۱۹۹۷:۲٦٤) and هادي (۲۰۱۱) classify Arabic synonyms into two main classes: **الترادف المطلق** (absolute synonymy) and **شبه الترادف** (near synonymy). They describe the first class as including synonyms that are closely related in meaning. Such synonyms are interchangeable in most linguistic contexts. Near-synonyms, on the other hand, hold some degree of similarity but show no interchangeability in all linguistic contexts. عمر (۱۹۸۲:۲۱٥-۳۱) adds other types of synonymy, like **التقارب الدلالي** (semantic relation), **الاستلزام** (entailment) and **التعبير المماثل** (paraphrase). The synonymous binomials collected from the Arabic legal documents are analyzed

in terms of absolute synonymy and near synonymy since the other types involve semantic analysis of entire sentences.

Absolute synonyms are rare in the Arabic language. Omer (Ibid.) argues that linguists do not agree whether certain lexical items are absolute or near synonyms. He says that 'ماما' and 'أُم' are absolute synonyms in the sense that one replaces the other in most contexts. In the corpus of this study, the adjective binomial تام أو كامل (full and perfect) is an absolute synonym:

(٣٩)   ... ولن تكون الشركة ملزمة بالإعادة بشكل **تام أو كامل** ...On

the other hand, legal Arabic is rich of 'near synonymous binomials', like: الأنظمة والقوانين (rules and regulations) or منع أو أعاق (endorse or disable), as in:

(٤٠)   ... وباقي حقوق الامتياز المبينة **بالانظمة والقوانين** ...

(٤١)   إذا لم يتقيد المؤمن له أومن ينوب عنه بشرط الشركة أو إذا **منع أو أعاق** الشركة...

٤,٣,٢ Antonymous Binomials

In Arabic, antonymy is termed **"التضاد"** or **"التقابل"** or **"التخالف"**, (عمر, ١٩٨٢ and جبل,١٩٩٧). Following the same sub-classification of English antonymous binomials, the Arabic data show some samples; most are 'noun + noun' or adjective + adjective category:

a.   **Morphological opposition**: which is represented by the negative morpheme بدون in بدون أو بأجر (with or without wages), as in (٣٣) above, لم in سواء لحق أو لم يلحق **(whether or not)** and غير in مباشر أو غير مباشر (direct or indirect):

(٤٢)   ... على المستشار أن يقوم بدفع غرامة مالية... سواء **لحق** به ضرر مادي من جرائه **أو لم يلحق** ...

(٤٣)   لا تعوض الشركة المؤمن له بما يتعلق ب ... (٦) أية خسارة أو تلف أو ضرر ناجم بشكل **مباشر أو غير مباشر** ....

b.   **Direction**: where opposite binomials mostly occur as prepositional phrases, like: من و إلى (from and to), قبل أو بعد (before or after) and also as nouns: الدخول أو الخروج(entering or leaving):

(٤٤)   لا تعوض الشركة المؤمن له بما يتعلق ب ......(ج) الخسارة الناجمة ....التي يتعرض لها الأشخاص أو بالتهديد بالعنف و**الدخول أو الخروج** بالقوة من المكان

(٤٥)   للطرف الأول الحق في أي وقت من الأوقات **قبل أو بعد** البدء ....

(٤٦)   .... كما يتحمل تكاليف نقلهم **من وإلى** العمل وتهيئة الإعاشة الخاصة به

c.   **Reciprocity**: in this category, an activity is shown by the binomial antonym يعزل ويعيين (to expel and assign):

(٤٧)   للأغلبية المشار إليها بالبند السابق إصدار قرار .... **يعزل ويعيين** أخر محله دون إبداء أسباب.

Animate and sex opposition, though commonly used in legal Arabic, are not found in the data investigated.

٤,٣,٣ Complementary Binomials

Arabic semantic books (cf references of this study) do not realize 'complementation' as a separate semantic relation. They generally refer to the semantic

complementation when describing نظرية الرصف (the Collocational Theory).

As in English, complementary binomials in Arabic include pairs of lexical items which are semantically connected and syntactically paralleled. The following are some examples taken from the Arabic legal documents:

a.   **Sequence**: **تنفيذ واتمام** (execution and implementation): **Sequence**

(٤٨)   على الطرف الثاني طوال مدة **تنفيذ** **واتمام** الاعمال ...

b.   **Logical order**: **مراجعة وتقييم** (reviewing and evaluating):

(٤٩)   يتقاضى المستشار بدل أتعاب ... وعن **مراجعة وتقييم** اعمال ...

c.   **Complement**: **التغييرات أو الإضافات** (amendments or additions):

(٥٠)   يحق لصاحب العمل إجراء تعديل...... ولا تؤثر هذه **التغييرات أو الإضافات** على ....

d.   **Result : فحصة و إثباته** (tested and approved):

(٥١)   .... ما لم يكن من النوع الذي تم **فحصة و إثباته** من قبل ....

e.   **Specificity**: **المواد او المنتجات** (materials or products):

.... التي تتوفر فيها تلك **المواد او المنتجات** بشكل مطابق للموصفات.

٥. Result Analysis and Discussion
٥،١ The Syntactic Analysis
English legal sentences are characterized as complex constructions. This complexity is the result of heavy modification, embedded clauses, unusual order and inserting words or phrases in places where they, in common speech, do not appear.
Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:٣٣) claims that binomials may occur in any part of a sentence ("the final position is the most appropriate") and belong to any part of speech.

Syntactic Categories	No. of EBs	%	No. of ABs	%	No. of EBs & ABs
Nouns	٤٦	٤٦ %	٦٨	٦٨٪	١١٤
Verbs	١٣	١٣ %	٨	٨٪	٢١
Adjectives	٢٧	٢٧٪	١٧	١٧٪	٤٤
Adverbs	٧	٧ %	١	١٪	٨
Prepositions	٦	٦ %	٦	٦٪	١٢
Pronouns	١	١٪	٠	٠٪	١
Total	١٠٠	١٠٠٪	١٠٠	١٠٠٪	٢٠٠

Table (١) Distribution of English and Arabic   Binomials in the Syntactic Categories

The data of this paper show that English and Arabic binomial[2] pairs may occur as nouns, verbs, adjectives (as noun modifiers), adverbs (very rare) and prepositions. They also show that pronouns appear in English texts only. The following table displays the syntactic classes of English and Arabic binomials in legal documents:

Expectedly, the noun class forms the majority of binomials in English and Arabic. This is due to the fact that nominalization is a distinctive feature

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(٢)   The abbreviations EBs and ABs are used in the tables to stand for English and Arabic binomials respectively.

almost in all languages. Accordingly, English nominal binomials are (٤٦٪) and Arabic ones are (٦٨٪). It is also noted that (٥٠٪) of those in English and (٤٣,٣٢٪) in Arabic are plural nouns. In general, plurality is common in legal texts that show formality of style. Moreover, the noun category in Arabic includes (٥,٩٧٪) binomials in the accusative case. Such accusatives have not been seen in the English data.

Though adjectives are found as noun modifiers, paired adjectives are accounted for as to separate them from nouns. The English corpus include (٢٧٪) adjectives and in Arabic they are (١٧٪). This is related to the fact that the members of this category are few in both languages.

The verb category in both English and Arabic legal documents, shows less frequency than nouns. Although verbs are widely used in legal texts, they are not found as binomials. They have scored (١٣٪) in English and (less frequent) (٨٪) in Arabic.

The data also include other classes: prepositions, adverbs and pronouns which are few in both languages. In English and Arabic, prepositions have scored (٦٪). Only in English the adverb binomials appear (٧٪). Binomials as adverbs in Arabic are realized as prepositions or prepositional phrases and so they are categorized. Another category is found in legal English texts; that is 'pronoun' (possessive), though not scoring a significant percentage (١٪) in the data of this study. In Arabic documents, possessive pronouns are found attached to nouns and, hence, they are not classified in this category.

Binomial expressions connected with 'and' have scored (٥٢٪) in English and (٥٤٪) in Arabic and those connected with 'or' are (٤٨٪) in English and (٤٦٪) in Arabic. This gives no importance to the type or form of conjunctions that binomials are conjoined by. The use of either in legal texts is a stylistic matter.

٥,٢ The Semantic Analysis

Semantically, English and Arabic binomials are investigated where synonymous, antonymous and complementary relations hold between the two parts. It is found out that complementary category forms the majority of English binomials (٤٨٪) and Arabic binomials (٤٤٪) as the data reveal. Synonymous binomials have scored (٣١٪) in English and (٣٠٪) in Arabic and antonymous pairs are (٢١٪) in English and (٢٦٪) in Arabic. This slight difference in scoring proves that the two languages are coincidental in using the semantic categories of binomials. The following table shows these results:

Semantic Categories	No. of EBs	%	No. of ABs	%	No. of EBs &ABs
Synonymy	٣١	٣١٪	٣٠	٣٠٪	٦١
Antonymy	٢١	٢١٪	٢٦	٢٦٪	٤٧
complementary	٤٨	٤٨٪	٤٤	٤٤٪	٩٢
Total	١٠٠	١٠٠٪	١٠٠	١٠٠٪	٢٠٠

Antonymy Subcategories	No. of EBs	%	No. of ABs	%
Reciprocity	١٣	٦١,٩٠٤	١٨	٦٩,٢٣١
Morphological	٢	٩,٥٢٣	٤	١٥,٣٨٤
Sex	١	٤,٧٦١	٠	٠
Animate	٢		٠	٠

Table (٢) Distribution of English and Arabic Binomials in the Semantic Categories

English, like Arabic, includes a large number of closely related pairs, sharing 'sameness' in meaning, but though, uninterchangeable in some linguistic contexts. Hence, absolute synonymous binomials are rare in the two languages; thus, two samples (٦,٤٥) in English and only one (٣,٨٤) in Arabic. All other English pairs (٩٣,٥٤) and Arabic ones (٩٦,١٥) are near synonyms. These results are in this table:

Synonymous Subcategories	No. of EBs	%	No. of ABs	%
Absolute	٢	٦,٤٥١	١	٣,٣٣٣
Near	٢٩	٩٣,٥٤٨	٢٩	٩٦,٩٩٩
total	٣١	١٠٠٪	٣٠	١٠٠٪

Table (٣) Occurrence of synonymous Binomials in English and Arabic Legal Texts

Legal documentary texts exhibit contrast through the use of antonymous binomials. Different subcategories of antonymy have been found in English and Arabic texts, specifically those which are classified by Gustafsson (١٩٧٥:٧٦-٨٥) (see Sec.٣,٣,٢).

In analyzing the data of this paper, only those which appear in either texts have been considered. The following table shows the occurrence of the subcategories of antonymous binomials in legal English and Arabic:

		٩,٥٢٣		
Directional	٣	١٤,٢٨٥	٤	١٥,٣٨٤
Total	٢١	١٠٠٪	٢٦	١٠٠٪

Table (٤) Occurrence of Antonymous Binomials in English and Arabic Legal Texts

As achieved in the above results, binomials falling in the reciprocity category have scored the majority of the antonymous binomials, both in English and Arabic. This is a attributed to the limited number of items that form each of the other subcategories. The table shows that sex and animate have not been seen in the Arabic documents. It is worth mentioning that most antonymous binomials (English (٦٢٪) and Arabic (٧٦٪) are connected by the conjunction 'or' rather than 'and'. This emphasizes the contrast between the two parts of binomial antonyms.

The remaining analysis is devoted to binomials belonging to complementary relations. Following Gustafsson (Ibid.:٩٨) in her sub-classification of this category, the table below reveals the results obtained through the survey:

Table (٥): Occurrence of Complementary Binomials in English and Arabic

Complementary Subcategories	No. of EBs	%	No. of ABs	%
Sequence	٣	٦,٢٥٠	١	٢,٢٧٢
Logical Order	٤	٨,٣٣٣	٥	١١,٣٦٣
Complement	١٤	٢٩,١٦٦	١٥	٣٤,٠٩٠
Result	٢	٤,١٦٦	٢	٤,٥٤٥
Specificity	٢٣	٤٧,٩١٦	٢١	٤٧,٧٢٧
Attitude	٢	٤,١٦٦	٠	٠
Total	٤٨	١٠٠٪	٤٤	١٠٠٪

Legal Texts

As apparent, complementary binomials show the highest occurrence among the other semantic categories. In table (٥), 'specificity' has scored the majority of other complementary binomials (٤٧,٩١٪ in English and ٤٧,٧٢٪ in Arabic). This can be related to Crystal and Davy's statement (١٩٦٩:٢٠٥) that "legal language show explicit interpretations and is void of any ambiguous terms or expressions". Also, there is some significant occurrence of binomials denoting complements (٢٩,١٦ in English and ٣٤,٠٩ in Arabic). This pinpoints the fact that legal documents are well-constructed with highly considerable amount of integral units.

٦. Conclusions

In the light of the results obtained from this study, the following conclusions are drawn:

١. Binomial expressions are common and widely used in English and Arabic legal documentary texts. But, whereas English binomials are used as frozen pairs, like: "**aid and abet**" or "**ways and means**", Arabic binomials are the result of a still-productive semantic category. In other words, Arabic as opposite to English is an inflectional language; the latter is derivational.

٢.   The phenomenon under investigation, i.e., 'binomial' has not been studied in Arabic; hence, such expressions are realized through the use of combinations of two (or more) lexical items joined with 'and' or 'or'. Consequently, categorizations on both levels: syntactic and semantic are based on English categories (those given by Gustafsson (١٩٧٥)) as to point out the similarities and differences between the two languages.

٣.   Generally speaking, the similarity between the two languages is clearly discovered and shown in the data analysis. Moreover, there is a wide range of resemblances (syntactically and semantically) between the forms of binomial that are employed in legal English and their Arabic counterparts.

٤.   The syntactic analysis of binomials reveals that both, English and Arabic pairs, can mainly occur as nouns. This is due to nominalization which is expected to be a universal feature if applied to other languages. The other classes i.e., verbs, adjectives, prepositions, etc., appear (less frequently) in both legal documents , though the selected data show no pronouns in Arabic; whereas an example (**his or her**) is found in English. This is because possessives in Arabic are mainly annexed to nouns. In addition, only in English, adverb binomials appear, like: **jointly and severely**. In Arabic, there is a tendency to use prepositional phrases as adverbials.

٥.   Semantically, binomials, in both legal languages, are found synonymous, antonymous and complementary. Each of these relations that hold between the two parts of a binomial is further subcategorized.

The analysis of the English and Arabic samples shows that binomials belonging to complementary category have occurred more frequent than the other two categories. It also proves that absolute synonymous binomials are very rare in both languages.

٦.   Antonymous binomials appear in both languages, though some types like 'sex' and 'animate' are not seen in the Arabic documents. The highest occurrence in both languages, is achieved by the reciprocity binomials.

٧.   In classifying complementary binomials, the scores registered for all types are approximately equal for both languages. In Arabic, the 'attitude' category is not found and as the results show, complement binomials in legal English and Arabic have scored the highest.

In conclusion, it is necessary to state that the analysis was carried out on a limited sample of legal texts; thus, it was difficult to find examples of all subcategories of the semantic relations intended to be studied in this paper.

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