

## Translating the Implicit Meaning of Speech Act of Insisting from English into Arabic

Asst. Prof. Dr. Anfal Qubais Sa'eed Al-Fahadi

University of Mosul

Asst. Lect. Owrass Ahmed Issa AL-Jubouri

Ministry of Education / Kirkuk Education Directorate

ترجمة المعنى الضمني لفعل الكلام الاصرار من الانكليزية الى العربية

الاستاذ المساعد الدكتور: أنفال قبائس سعيد الفهادي

جامعة الموصل / كلية الآداب

المدرس المساعد: اوراس احمد عيسى الجبوري

وزارة التربية / مديرية تربية كركوك

Email. Owrassaa@gmail.com

### المستخلص

يهدف هذا البحث لتوضيح المعنى الكامن لفعل الكلام الاصرار واستخدامه في اللغة الانكليزية والعربية وكذلك ترجمة هذا الفعل، على الرغم من اختلاف التركيبة البنوية والثقافية لكلا اللغتين وكيفية تطبيق شروط التحقيق والقواعد الدلالية لتحديد قوة الافعال المتضمنة القول. تلعب الافعال الكلامية دوراً ملحوظ في محادثاتنا اليومية، حيث أننا نستخدمها بشكل يومي ومتكرر في أحاديثنا اليومية، وهذا يدل ان احاديثنا اليومية عبارة عن شبكة كبيرة من الافعال الكلامية. هناك الكثير من الافعال الكلامية التي لم يتم دراستها وتحليلها بشكل منتظم لحد الآن، ويعتبر فعل الاصرار أحد هذه الافعال. يحاول هذا البحث تسليط الضوء على نظرية الافعال الكلامية بوجه العموم، وعلى فعل الكلام "الاصرار" بشكل الخصوص. يتألف هذا البحث من ثمانية أجزاء موزعة كالتالي: حيث يمثل الجزء الاول مقدمة عن نظرية الافعال الكلامية، بينما خصص الجزء الثاني لتصنيف اوستن وسييرل للأفعال الكلامية، في حين يحاول القسم الثالث تسليط بعض الاضواء على المعنى الكامن للفعل الكلامي، بينما يتناول القسم الرابع مفهوم شروط تحقيق الافعال الكلامية، اما الجزء الخامس يستعرض مفهوم فعل الاصرار، في حين يتناول القسم السادس شروط تحقيق فعل الاصرار، بينما يمثل الجزء السابع الجزء العملي لهذا البحث، اما الجزء الثامن والاخير فقد خصص لمناقشة النتائج. يمكننا ان نستنتج في الاخير وبكل تأكيد ان مثل هذا الموضوع سيكون محل فائدة للباحثين والعلماء الذين يعملون ضمن التخصصات التالية مثل التداولية، وعلم الدلالة والاسلوبية.

### Abstract

This paper aims to describe the implicit meaning of speech act of insisting and its using in both languages English and Arabic and how to translate this verb from English into Arabic since there are many differences in cultural and structural of both languages. Speech acts play an important role in our daily conversations, we use speech act verbs every day and in every dialogue, this means that our daily conversations can be considered as a large network of speech acts. There are many speech act verbs have not yet investigated and analyzed in systematically way, insist one of these verbs.

This research tries to shed some lights on the speech act theory in general and on the implicit meaning of the English speech act of insisting in particular. This research consists of eight parts. Part one is an

introductory about the speech act theory; part two is assigned for the classification of speech act; part three sheds light on the implicit performatives; part four dwells on the concept of the felicity conditions; part five exhibits the concept of insist; part six is assigned for the felicity conditions of insist; part seven represents the practical part of this research; part eight is assigned for findings of this research and their discussion.

In the final of this abstract, we can conclude that such topic will certainly be useful for researchers and scholars working within the following fields of pragmatics, semantics and stylistics.

#### Key words:

- 1- Felicity conditions
- 2-Implicit performative
- 3- Speech act of insisting
- 4- Speech act theory

#### Abbreviations

| Abbreviated Form | Full Form                              |
|------------------|--|
| A                | Act                                    |
| E                | Event                                  |
| FCs              | Felicity Conditions                    |
| F                | Force                                  |
| H                | Hearer                                 |
| IAs              | Illocutionary Acts                     |
| IFIDs            | Illocutionary Force Indicating Devices |
| LAs              | Locutionary Acts                       |
| PAs              | Perlocutionary Acts                    |
| P                | Proposition                            |
| Pef.Cl           | Performative Clause                    |
| Pro.Cl           | Propositional Clause                   |
| SAT              | Speech Act Theory                      |
| SL               | Source Language                        |
| S                | Speaker                                |
| TL               | Target Language                        |

#### 1. Introduction:

Speech acts play an important role in our daily conversations since they are linked to human behavior. Insistence is one of the most constant verbs that we use it in our daily conversations. Some of the meaning of insistence is a deep meaning such as "has to, must, put its foot down,...etc.

The term speech act derived from a philosophy work (initiated in the 1930s by Wittgenstein), which is made to present logical rules which would display the relationship between the utterance and the speaker's behaviour (S), hearer(H), the acts (A) and the events (E) experienced by them in the interpersonal communication (R.T. Bell, 1991:173).

The concept of speech act is introduced by J.L. Austin in a series of lectures in (1955), later, these lectures are published by his students as "**How To Do Things With Words**" in this book, Austin shows how we can do things via utterance. Austin and other scholars introduced many explanations about speech act.

Austin(1962) clarified speech act as an actions refer to the act which is achieved by the utterances for example "*he insists that he saw a ghost*", it means that, the speaker intends on future act called insisting (F.R. Usman, 2017:14).

Searle which is considered one of the most contributed person in the speech act theory(SAT), refers that any utterance which is introduced by the speaker is a speech act (J.R. Searle, 1971).

Searle in his book **An Essay in the Philosophy of Language** recognized between (propositional content and illocutionary force). According to Searle the propositional content (P) is expressed with a specific illocutionary force while (F) refers to a variable taking illocutionary Force Indicating Devices (IFIDs). Illocutionary forces are realized in the syntax of natural languages in different ways, e.g. mood, word order, intonation contour and stress among others. The purpose of illocutionary logic is to study the entire range of possible illocutionary force however these may be realized in actual natural language. While propositional

content studies the properties of all truth functions (e.g. conjunction, material implication and negation). (J. R. Seale and D. Vanderveken, 1985:8)

G. Finch (2000; 150) mentioned that the speech act is the differentiate between doing things and saying things, that means to recognize between taking action about something and simply taking over it.

G. Yule (1996: 48) mentioned that the speech act is the actions that achieved through utterances, and not all these utterances containing a correct grammatical structure.

Any producing of utterances must contain one of three related acted

**1- Locutionary Act (LA):** It is the structure of utterance that contain a grammatical constituents. For instance:  
"Shoot here"

**2- Illocutionary Act(IA):** It relates to the an act performed by utterance or the function of the utterance.  
He insists me to shoot here.

**3- Perlocutionary Act(PA):** It is the effect that the speaker to have on the hearer's action, thoughts and feelings.

He said to me "Shoot here"

Illocutionary act can be achieved in several ways such as, word order, intonation, stress,...etc. Therefore, we will find the focus is on the illocutionary act (S.C. Levinson, 1983: 236).

## **2. Classification of Speech Acts**

Austin and Searle have been introduced a different classification of speech acts, Austin(1962: 151) introduced five classes including the following:

**1-Verdictative:** it is the acts that referring to the authority or power of someone (e.g. judge). For instance:  
I convict you of stealing the car

**2-Exercitives:**It is the exercise of power or rights. For instance:  
I sentence you five years in prison.

**3-Commissive:**It relates the speaker's commitments. For instance:  
I promise to help you.

**4-Behabitives:**It relates to the behavior and attitude of the person. For instance:  
I thank you for your present.

**5-Expositives:**It involves with arguments and conversations. For instance:  
I insisted imperiously on paying.

Searle(1979:8) introduced five classes of illocutionary acts as the following:

**1-Assertives:** It relates to the speaker's commitments. For instance:  
I swear to do that.

**2-Directives:**It is the speaker's attempt to get hearer intention to do a specific thing. For instance:  
He insisted on this privilege.

**3-Commissive:**to commit speaker to some future act. for instance:  
I will help you

**4-Expressive:**It expresses the psychological state specified in the sincerity condition about a state of affairs specified in the propositional content. For instance:

He is really sorry.

**5-Declaration:**It is about the correspondence between the propositional content and reality. For instance  
I pronounce you wife and husband.

## **3.The Implicit Performatives:**

Austin(1962) startes talking about the notion of implicit performatives which it means talking about a specific thing and means another thing.

The nature of the implicit meaning becomes general and is indicated by factors such as grammatical mood, modal verbs, intonation, tone of the voice, connectives, adverbs as well as extra-linguistic features. For instance: Keep doing!, do resemble " I insist you to continue in doing this thing". It is an implicit meaning by using the imperative mood( AL-Sulaimaan, 1997: 8)

According to AL-Fahhadi(2001: 8) shows that the implicit performatives lack a saying verb, but nonetheless assume the presence of one. For example: "Beware of the dog!. It means, I warn you to beware of the dog.

## **4.The concept of the Felicity conditions**

Austin(1962: 14) defines the term of the felicity conditions as " a criteria that should be satisfied if a speech act is to carry out its objective.

For Searle(1969) the term of felicity conditions is a satisfied conditions for the speech act to achieve a specific purpose. In order to achieve these conditions must met in correct and successful way.

According to Al-Sulaimaan(1997: 26) and D. Crystal(2008:188), felicity conditions is a group of factors must be satisfied if the speech act perform its purpose.

To G.Yule(1996), it is a sufficient conditions are used with a speech act if it achieves its purpose.

## 5-The Concept of "Insist"

The website of ([www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com)) introduced many different definitions of the verb "insist" as the following:

1\_ to be emphatic, confirm or obstinate in some cases of demand, intention, desire,...etc. For example:

They insist on paying.

2\_ to maintain or affirm positively. For example:

He insists that he saw the snake.

3\_ to put emphasis in assertion. For example:

He insists on the justice.

4\_ to dwell with affirmation or earnestness. For example:

He insists on this point.

Wierzbicka(1987) suggests that "insistence" can be used in different ways, we will talk about two ways that can be referring either to an action or to a belief. She puts a group of verbs in a list, and these verbs are similar to "insist" such as "stress, point out, note, remind, ...etc. She shows that there are two different types of the verb "insist" can be named as "**insist1** and **insist2**". **Insist1** means that the person who wants somebody to do something. For instance: I insist that the student attend the class.

With regard to "**insist2**", she emphasizes that the type of "insist" can be said that the strength, firmness and earnestness of the verb insist. She lists a group of verbs have a link with the verb "**insist2**" such as (stress, assert, maintain,...etc). For instance: I stress on the freedom of movement.

## 6.The Felicity Conditions of Insisting:

Searle(1969 :56) introduces a number of conditions for directive verbs. The verb "insist" is one of the directive verbs. Can list these conditions as the following:

### 1-The Propositional Content Conditions:

- a. The speaker utters the proposition of his utterance.
- b. The speaker predicates a future act by himself or by the hearer.

### 2-The Preparatory Conditions:

- a. The speaker believe in doing something and tries to achieve it, or cause the hearer to do it.
- b. The speaker is aware of the insistence to his position and has no intention of giving in to this insistence.

### 3-The Sincerity Conditions:

The speaker intends to insist in doing something, despite of others' objection.

### 4-The Essential Conditions:

The speaker's utterance considers as an attempt to insist in doing something, in spite of others' opposition.

### 5-The Wrap-Up Conditions:

The structure of the sentence in question allows making a speech act of insisting, if all the previous conditions are correctly met.

## 7.The Analysis of the Speech Act of Insisting:

### The SL Text:

(1)The E.U. puts its foot down on the rule of law.  
(The New York Times: 2020)

### The TL Texts:

١.الاتحاد الاوروبي يضع قدماً على حكم القانون.

- ٢.الاتحاد الاوروبي يضرب القانون بعرض الحائط.
- ٣.الاتحاد الاوروبي يضع قدمه على سيادة القانون.
- ٤.يضع الاتحاد الاوروبي سيطرته على سيادة القانون.
- ٥.الاتحاد الاوروبي يضع قدمه على سيادة القانون.
- ٦.الاتحاد الاوروبي يسيطر على سيادة القانون.
- ٧.الاتحاد الاوروبي يضع قدمه على سيادة القانون.
- ٨.يعارض الاتحاد الاوروبي على دور القانون.
- ٩.يضع الاتحاد الاوروبي على سيادة القانون.
- ١٠.يعارض الاتحاد الاوروبي على دور القانون.
- ١١.الاتحاد الاوروبي يتمسك بتطبيق القانون.
- ١٢.للاتحاد الاوروبي دور في تطبيق القانون.

#### Discussion:

In this scrutiny, we can notice that five out twelve have been translated semantically, while the rest of them have been translated communicatively. Translators in 1,3,5,7 and 9 have translated the phrasal verb "put its foot down" into "يضع قدمه على". Translators in 4 and 6 have translated the aforementioned phrasal verb into "يضع سيطرته، يسيطر". Translators in 2,8 and 10 have translated the aforementioned phrasal verb into "يعارض". Translator in 11 has translated the previous phrasal verb into "يتمسك". The translator in 12 have translated the previous phrasal verb into "دور". The researcher believes that most of translators have deviated the meaning of this phrasal verb. The researcher finds that the verb "يتمسك" is the closest equivalent to the verb "يصر". The speech act of insisting is expressed by uttering implicit meaning of insistence which is the phrasal verb "puts its foot down". For further details, see the following table.

#### Establishing the Status of the Speech Act of Insisting:

##### 1-The Propositional Content Conditions:

- a. The E.U expresses the proposition of its insistence by puts its foot on the law.
- b. It predicates a future action to be achieved by itself.

##### 2-The Preparatory Conditions:

- a. The E.U in putting its foot on the law and attempts to carry it out.
- b. It is aware of the insistence of its position by itself, and has no intention.

##### 3-The Sincerity Conditions:

The E.U intends to insist in putting its foot on the law, in spite of other's oppositions.

##### 4-The Essential Conditions:

The E.U 's utterance counts as a determination to insist in enforcement of the law, regardless of the objection.

##### 5-The Wrap-Up Conditions:

One can say, since all conditions are correctly met, the utterance in questions is regarded a genuine speech act of insisting.

#### The Analysis of SL and TL of the Text (1):

| Title           |          | SL<br>English | TL<br>Arabic |
|-----------------|----------|---------------|--------------|
| Structure of SA | Pro.Cl   | +             | All          |
|                 | Pef.Cl   |               |              |
|                 | Verbless |               |              |
| Voice           | Passive  |               |              |
|                 | Active   | +             | All          |
|                 | Verbless |               |              |

|                    |               |   |                                  |
|--------------------|---------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Tense/Time         | Past          |   |                                  |
|                    | Present       | + | All                              |
|                    | Future        |   |                                  |
|                    | Tenseless     |   |                                  |
| Type of SA         | Directive     |   |                                  |
|                    | Assertive     | + |                                  |
| Type of Insistence | Implicit      | + | All                              |
|                    | Explicit      |   |                                  |
| Translation        | Semantic      |   | All except 2,4,6,8, 10,11 and 12 |
|                    | Communicative |   | 2,4,6,8,10,11 and 12             |

The proposed rendering: يصير الاتحاد الاوروبي على القوانين

### The SL Text:

(12) I swear to God, I am innocent of these charges. Kavanaugh to the committee of hearing.  
(Washington Post: 2018)

### The TL Texts:

- ١- أقسم بالله، أنا بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٢- أقسم بالله، أنا بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٣- أقسم بالله أنني بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو الى لجنة الاستماع.
- ٤- أقسم بالله أنني بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٥- أقسم بالله أنا بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٦- أقسم بالله أنني بريء من هذه التهم. هذا ما قاله كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٧- أقسم بأنني بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٨- أقسم بالله أنا بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ٩- أقسم لكم انني بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ١٠- أقسم بأنني بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ١١- أقسم بالله أنني بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.
- ١٢- أقسم انني بريء من هذه الاتهامات. كافانو للجنة الاستماع.

### Discussion:

By looking clearly at this analysis, one can notice that all samples have h into "أقسم". The researcher believes that the verb "أقسم" is one types that referring to the insistence "الاصرار". The speech act of insisting is expressed by uttering implicit meaning of insistence which is the verb "swear" which is utilized to refer to the illocutionary force. For further details, see the following table.

### Establishing the Status of the Speech Act of Insisting:

#### 1-The Propositional Content Conditions:

- a. The speaker utters the proposition of his insistence by swearing on his innocence.
- b. The speaker predicates a future action by himself.

#### 2-The Preparatory Conditions:

- a. The speaker believes in the notion of swearing that he is innocent and tries to carry it out.
- b. He is aware of the insistence to his position, and has no intention of giving in to this insistence.

#### 3-The Sincerity Conditions:

He intends to insist in swearing about his innocence, in spite of others' objection.

#### 4-The Essential Conditions:

His utterance counts as an attempts to insist on his innocence, regardless of opponents' objections.

#### 5-The Wrap-Up Conditions:

Since all the aforementioned conditions are successfully met, one can say the structure of the utterance under discussion allows making a speech act of insisting.

## The Analysis of SL and TL of the Text(2):

| Title              |               | SL<br>English | TL<br>Arabic |
|--------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| Structure of SA    | Pro.Cl        | +             | All          |
|                    | Pef.Cl        |               |              |
|                    | Verbless      |               |              |
| Voice              | Passive       |               |              |
|                    | Active        | +             | All          |
|                    | Verbless      |               |              |
| Tense/Time         | Past          |               |              |
|                    | Present       | +             | All          |
|                    | Future        |               |              |
|                    | Tensless      |               |              |
| Type of SA         | Directive     | +             | All          |
|                    | Assertive     |               |              |
| Type of Insistence | Implicit      | +             | All          |
|                    | Explicit      |               |              |
| Translation        | Semantic      |               | All          |
|                    | Communicative |               |              |

The proposed rendering: أقسم بالله، أنا بريء من هذه التهم. كافانو للجنة الاستماع:

### The SL Text:

(3) Iran stresses sovereignty over trio of Persian Gulf islands at UNSCO.

Pars Today (2020)

### The TL Texts:

١. أكدت إيران هيمنتها على جزر الخليج العربي الثلاثة لمكتب التنسيق التابع للأمم المتحدة.
٢. إيران تؤكد سلطتها على الجزر الفارسية الثلاثة طم الصغرى، طم الكبرى وابوموسى.
٣. إيران تؤكد سيادتها على جزر الخليج العربي الثلاث في اليونسكو.
٤. إيران تؤكد سيادتها على الجزر الثلاثية في الخليج العربي في اليونسكو.
٥. إيران تؤكد سيادتها على جزر الخليج العربي في مكتب التنسيق التابع للأمم المتحدة.
٦. تؤكد إيران لليونسكو بأنها هيمنت على ثلاث جهات من الخليج العربي.
٧. تؤكد إيران سيادتها على الخليج العربي الثلاث في مكتب منسق الامم المتحدة.
٨. تؤكد إيران على سيادتها الكاملة على جزر الخليج العربي الثلاث في مكتب منسق الأمم المتحدة.
٩. إيران تؤكد احقيتها بالسيطرة على جزر الخليج العربي الثلاث في اليونسكو.
١٠. No rendering.
١١. تؤكد إيران سيادتها على الجزر الثلاث في الخليج الفارسي في مكتب الأمم المتحدة.
١٢. تدفع إيران بجهودها لأقناع اليونسكو بسيادتها على طول الجزر الثلاث في الخليج العربي.

## Establishing the Status of the Speech Act of Insisting:

### 1-The Propositional Content Conditions:

- Iran expresses the proposition of its insistence by stressing that has a right to dominate over three islands.
- It predicates a future action to be performed by itself.

### 2-The Preparatory Conditions:

- Iran believes in stressing on the International community that it has a right to sovereignize over three islands and tries to do it.
- It is aware of the insistence to its position and has no intention of giving in.

### 3-The Sincerity Conditions:

Iran intends to insist in stressing to dominate over trio islands, regardless of Arabs objection.

### 4-The Essential Conditions:

Iran's utterance counts as a determination to insist in stressing to sovereignize over three islands, despite of the UAE's objections.

### 5-The Wrap-Up Conditions:

Since all the aforementioned conditions are correctly and successfully met, one can conclude that the structure of the utterance is regarded a genuine speech act of insisting.

#### The Analysis of SL and TL of the Text(3)

| Title           |           | SA<br>English | TL<br>Arabic   |
|-----------------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| Structure of SA | Pro. CL   | +             | All            |
|                 | Pef. CL   |               |                |
|                 | Verbless  |               |                |
| Voice           | Passive   |               |                |
|                 | Active    | +             | All            |
|                 | Verbless  |               |                |
| Tense           | Past      |               | 1,9            |
|                 | Present   | +             | All except 1,9 |
|                 | Future    |               |                |
|                 | Tenseless |               |                |
| Type of SA      | Implicit  | +             | All            |
|                 | Explicit  |               |                |
| Translation     | Semantic  | +             | All            |



تشدد ايران لدى اليونسكو على سيادتها على مجموعة الجزر الثلاث في الخليج العربي: The proposed rendering:

## 8. Findings and Discussion:

In this research can be found that the speech act verb of insisting has been analyzed with reference to some news channels and newspapers. The selected data are taken from these news channels and newspapers; these data have been analyzed by adopting Searle's model of speech act analysis (1969). It can be noticed that all of the analyzed samples have a propositional clause, also can be noticed that the type of SA in the given data is "implicit". With regard to the sentences of both languages were all active voice. It can be noticed also, all the translation into Arabic were a semantic translation, and the tense in the TL text was rendered as the same tense in the SL text.

The purpose of this research is to show the exact meaning of verbs which have a link with the verb "insist". So, the verb "aver" means "to assert the truth, to affirm with confidence". Also can be noticed that all the translators rendered this verb "أكد", that means, it has a deep meaning of "insistence". The verb "assert" means, "to state positively". Can be noticed that all the translators translated it as "يؤكد", this means, it has a deep meaning of "insistence". The verb "stress" means "to apply force, to emphasize". Can be noticed that there are different translations, some translation was rendered as "شددت" and "اكدت" which means, it has a deep meaning of "insistence".

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