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The study examines the ellipted forms of verb in standard English and standard Arabic. It deals with the syntactic construction in which the verb is ellipted and the reasons of ellipsis. Comparing verbal ellipses in English and Arabic leads to the following similarities and differences;

(a) In both languages, the force of the sentence would be weakened if the ellited part is mentioned.

(b) In both languages, ellipsis should not lead to ambiguity and misunderstanding.

(c) In both languages, ellipsis is conditioned by recoverability.

(d) In English, the source of information is the preceding verbal group which is presupposed by the elliptical verbal group. The ellipted part is recoverable from the parallel verbs.

In Arabic, there are three clearly mentioned sources of information: verbal and circumstantial evidence such as ‹preposition›

(e) In English the verb of the second pattern is ellipted and another word/s called ‹Counter› likes «do, will, and too» will be added to the second pattern(Quirk and Greenbaum,1973: 251). In Arabic, a word is ellipted but nothing takes its place.

addresser intends to persuade the addressee to fear Allah, to abide by the teachings of Islam which call for faith, righteousness and charity. This function is executed through vivacious repetitive forms of the abstract nouns.

This can also be clearly seen in the letter by the addresser to his son Imam Hassan when the former was on his death bed:

الله الله في الأيتام، والله الله في الجيران، والله الله في الصلاة، والله الله في بيت ربكم، والله الله في الجهاد

(27) Allah (and) keep Allah in view in the matter of orphans... (Fear) Allah (and) keep Allah in view in the matter of your neighbors... (Fear) Allah (and) keep Allah in view in the matter of Quran... (Fear) Allah (and) keep Allah in view in the matter of prayer... (Fear) Allah (and) keep Allah in view in the matter of Jihad.

Again, various verb phrases are ellipted in a discourse which revolves on the idea of fearing Allah and piety. The verbs, which have the graphic realization of «أوصيكم» are understood from the same repetitive nouns which all refer to Allah.

5. Conclusion

idate the expression of request or invocation .As such, this function is expressed via verbal nouns with a perfection and precision unequalled by the verb phrase.

6-Persuasion

This function is realized in:

فيا أيها الناس فيما استحفظكم من كتابه

(24) So remember Allah, O People, about what he has asked you in his book to take care of.

عباد الله ، الله الله في أعز الانفس عليكم

(25) O creatures of Allah! Fear Allah, Allah, in the matter of your own selves which are the most beloved and dear to you.

العمل العمل ، ثم النهاية النهاية أستقامة ا ستقامة ثم الصبر الصبر والورع الورع

(26) Action! Action! Then look at the end the end, and remain stead fast stead fast. Therefore, exercise endurance, endurance, and piety, piety. In all these imperative sentence the verb phrases are obligatorily elided. These verbs are اتقوا « fear-you-pl»; راقبوا «remember-you-pl» ; راعوا « comply-with-you-pl»; احسنو «do-good-you-pl» ؛ and اصلحوا «reform-you-pl» respectively . The second person plural masculine subject pronominals are suffixed to the verbs. The verbs are recoverable from the existing accusative abstract nouns. The

cal phenomena are recoverable from the linguistic context. That is, tense is perfect, the doer of the action refers to Al-Mighty Allah and the receivers of the action are human beings. What remains then is the action. The action is best realized through the verbal noun, i.e. cognate accusative. This is because the verbal noun necessitates constancy and assiduity. The addresser neither concerns himself with the agent nor with the tense. Rather, he is concerned lucidly with the action. By omitting the verb phrase, the action is then given due to emphasis.

6-Invocation

In the example:

اللهم سقيا منك مجيبه مروية ... اللهم سقيا منك تعشب بها نجادنا

(23) O my Allah! Give rain from Thee with which our high lands get covered with green herbage. One can realize that the obligatory ellipsis of the verb phrase in the imperative sentence اسقنا «give-rain-us» explicates the function of invocation. The addresser beseeches Allah to pour out rain because of the draught, aridity and a want of rain. The verb phrase is recoverable from the non- omitted verbal nouns, «سقيا» «giving/pouring rain». It is unanimously agreed upon by semanticists and rhetoricians that verbal nouns consol-

واختبارا مبينا و تمحيصا بليغا

(22) They deformed their morality by forsaking good sense and thus got severe trial, harsh testimony, affliction and painful judgment.

Three verb phrases are ellipted in the first example. They are يقول «says-he» يغفل ، « overlooks-he» and يطمع « covets-he». They are recoverable from the existing three accusative verbal nouns: قولاً « Saying « غفلة ،» overlooking « , and طمعاً «coveting «

The use of rhetorical questions along with the ellipsis of the verb phrases has a forceful style of expressing reprimand and rebuke. The addresser reproaches ignorant and greedy people and impeaches their impiety.

As regards the second example, four verb phrases are elided obligatorily. They are: ابتلاهم «tries-he-them»; امتحنهم « tests-he-them»; اختبرهم «examines-he-them» ; محصهم «judges-he-them» respectively. These verb phrases are recoverable from the non-omitted cognate accusatives: ابتلاء» trail»; امتحاناً «testing» ; اختباراً»examining» and تمحيصاً «judging « respectively.

The morphology of these verbs involves tense, the agent, the action and the receiver of the action. All these grammati-

4-Specification

This function is realized in the following example:

وعندنا أهل البيت أبواب الحكم وضياء الأمر

(20) We, the family of the Prophet Mohammed, possess the keys of wisdom and the lights of prudence

This example involves the omission of the verb أعني « mean-I» because the word» أهل«people/family» is in the accusative case and stands for the direct object of the ellipted transitive verb أعني «mean-I». Such ellipsis draws the attention to the specified noun phraseأهل البيت (people of the house) (Family of the Prophet: Ali, Fatima, Hassan, and Hussein) (142).

If the verb had been mentioned, the noun phrase would have not been at a focus.

5-Reproach

The vp is ellipted obligatorily in the following example:

قولاً بغير علم وغفلة

من غير ورع و طمعا في غير حق

(21) Will there be saying without action, overlooking without piety and coveting things not right?!

و شوهوا بإعفاء الشعور محاسن خلقهم ، ابت ء عظيما ، وامتحانا شديدا

of the accusative verbal noun صمدا «enduring». Arab grammarians and rhetoricians assert that the expression of a command or an instruction is better expressed via verbal nouns than through verbs. This is because the expression of such a function is nurtured strongly through verbal noun: the force of which is extolled by pragmaticians and rhetoricians verbatim.

3-Proclamation

The verb phrase of saying is optionally ellipted in the following example:

ما يريد عثمان إلا أن يجعلني حملاً ناضجا بالغرب : أقبل وأدبر

(19) Othoman just "wants – he" to make me like the water - drawing camel so that I may go forward and backward with the bucket.

The omission of the intransitive verb يقول «says-he» in the second clause is recoverable from the linguistic context which presupposes the verb of saying. The interpretation of the elided vp depends on the mentioning of the verbs يريد «wants-he» and جعل «makes-he» where both insinuate the proclamation of the message which entails belittling of the person by instructing him to follow orders.

فعلى من اكذب أ على الله ؟ فانا أول من آمن به ؟ أم على نبية

(17) Against whom I lie? Whether against Allah? But I am who believed in him. Whether against his Prophet?

In the first example, the intransitive verb أكذب "lie-I" along with its first person singular masculine pronoun «I» is ellipted in the second and the third interrogative clauses since it is recoverable from the first interrogative clause where it is mentioned first.

The impetus behind the omission of the verb phrase is to drag the addressee›s attention to the prepositional phrase على (to Allah) and not to any other clausal components. This is done to foster the act of denial and/or refusal. The addresser refuses to commit the sin of lying to Allah for whatever the cost may be since a man of faith like him holds lying in abhorrence.

2-Instruction

This function is obviously illustrated in:

فصمدا صمدا حتى ينجلي لكم عمود الحق

(18) Keep one enduring till the right of Truth drowns upon you.

The verb phrase اصمدوا «endure-you pl» is obligatorily ellipted, and is reiterated from the two repetitive forms

or indirect sequential constructions. The recoverability is achieved by the already known meaning as shown in the following example.

(فقلنا اضرب بعصاك الحجر فانفجرت منه اثنتا عشرة عيناً) البقرة 60

(16)We said « Strike the rock with thy staff « Then gushed forth

There from twelve spring) Al – Baqarah : 60 (The verses were translated according to «The Holy Quran ;English translation of meanings and Commentary « by Abdullah Yusuf Ali 24)

Arabic grammarians contend that the ellipsis of the lexical verb is rare if compared to the ellipsis of the subject and the direct object. Nevertheless, it can be elided alone with its subject. (Al-Sammar›i, 2007: 150)

The verb can also be elided either obligatory or optionally. The former is syntactically motivated while the latter is rhetorically/pragmatically motivated, The VP is ellipted in different places to fulfill the following functions (Hassan, 1994), (Al-Sammar'I, 2007):

1- Refusal

The verb along with its implied subject is ellipted in the following interrogative clauses to express denial.

the listener/reader that "Ahmed suffers from heart disease"

The omission is not done haphazardly. Arab grammarians have put rules for ellipsis, for what can and cannot be omitted in an utterance in a particular context, otherwise unintelligibility or ambiguity will often loom indistinctly. Arab grammarians warm against using ellipsis unless it is necessary and or understood. (Al-Zarkashi, 2004: 10). Arab grammarians divide ellipted forms of verbs into:

4.2.1 Ellipsis of verb without Substitution .

In this kind , the case of the noun followed the ellipted verb (nominative , accusative, ablative) is still recognizable on the construction . Consider the following example ;

(15) (لا يذوقون فيها برداً ولا شراباً) النبأ 24

« Nothing cool shall they taste"

Therein, nor any drink « An-Nabaa :24 (The verse translated according to « The Holy Quran: English translation of meanings and commentary « by Abdullah Yusuf Ali 1883)

The noun, شرابا "drink" has accusative case " النصب" because it is the object of the ellipted verb " يذوقون" "taste" which includes the main verb and the subject.

4.2.2 Ellipsis of verb with substitution

This kind of ellipsis is used with the verb in direct

fers to the elliptical part in order to make his purpose clear that means when some words have been omitted, the pattern of the entire sentence leads thinking to infer what the missing words are (Hammuda, 1996: 102).

4.1 Evidences of the elliptical phrase in the Arabic language:

4.1.1 Verbal evidence

For instance; verse 30 of chapter Al-Nahl in the holy Quran

" وقيل للذين أتقوا ماذا أنزل ربكم قالوا خيرا"

(12)"To the righteous when it is said what is it that your lord has revealed? They say "All that is good". The assumed ellipted word is انزل "he has revealed" after the verb "say".

4.1.2 Preposition evidence There must be a " preposition" in the Arabic text to denote that the verb has been omitted, for instance: verse 61 chapter Hud;

(13) "والى ثمود اخاهم صالحا"

"To the Thamod people Salih, one of their own brethren". The preposition "to" refers to the verb "send".

4.1.3 The ellipted word/words must be familiar to the listener/reader, for instance : (14) "أحمد عنده ُقلب" . It is obvious to

3.4 Ellipsis of verb Plus Object

The verb and its object can be ellipted in the verb phrase of the second clause.

(11) Mary will clean the room today and Jory (will clean the room) tomorrow.

4-Ellipted Forms of Verb in Arabic

Al- Zarkashi (2004: 115) states that ellipsis is dropping a part of the speech or all of it for a cause , originally with all different types of ellipsis.

Al-Samrra`i (2007: 75) states that there are many ellipted forms in Arabic that show the achievement of ellipsis with all parts of speech. Hassan (1994: 201) states that the ellipsis is a deletion of an element form the surface structure of the language.

Ellipsis in Arabic may discussed by Arab rhetoricians within either brevity or omission in its broadest sense, Obligatory and optional. Hammuda (1996: 139) states that ellipsis is used for rhetorical and stylistic purposes. Arabs are highly interested in brevity which mostly involves the omission of superfluous linguistic items.

He also states that there should be a reference for the ellipted part, the speaker/writer should leave evidence that re-

The lexical verb is that type of verbal ellipsis in which the obligatory verb of the verbal group is omitted as in,

(7) Is she eating? Yes, she is.

3.2 Ellipsis of verb including Auxiliary

The second type of verbal ellipsis refers to the operator ellipsis which involves the omission of the first part of predication that includes both the auxiliary verb and the verb. Consider the following example:

(8) Jack has played football and Tom (has played) tennis.

It is also possible to omit the subject in the second clause if the two clauses have the same subject as in the following example :

(9) They might or might not have objected .

The full forms of this sentence are; They might or they might not have objected.

3.3 Ellipsis of Verb Plus Subject Complement

In English both the verb and subject complement can be ellipted with the possibility of even ellipting the subject. Quirk and Green Baum (1973:262) provide the following example to show this idea:

(10) John was the winner in 1971 and Bob (was the winner) in 1970.

sons:

1- Avoiding redundancy of forms unnecessary or boring.

2- production of speech rhetoric.

3- for the reason of economy.

4- achievement of cohesion.

5- for mitigation, the frequent use requires the deletion to overcome the difficulty of speech.

3- Elliped Forms of Verb in English

Verbal ellipsis refers to ellipsis within the verbal group, including the omission of the lexical verb, the auxiliary verb, the whole predicate and verb plus direct object.

Technically, it is defined as a verbal group whose structure does not fully express its systematic feature, for example,

(5) Have you been swimming? Yes, I have

(6) What have you been doing? swimming (Halliday and Hasan, 1976: 167)

The two verbal groups in the answers (yes I have) in (5) and(swimming) in (6), are both the instance of verbal ellipsis. Both stand for (have been swimming) and there is no possibility of filling out with any other items.

In English language there are four types of verbal ellipsis :

3.1 Ellipsis of lexical verb

The elliptical information appears previously. or can be inferred from the context of the sentence. The verb (love) will needlessly repeat, so when it left away, the sentence can still be understood that Jory also loves zucchini.

In the elliptical construction the omitting verb must be parallel with the first one, in other words the elliptical verbs must be exactly the same for example:

(3) We like Iraqi cuisine, Ahmed prefers Italian Cuisine. Such sentence is not parallel, the verb in the second clause is not identical to the first clause, therefore we cannot omit the verb in the second pattern.

Ellipsis is commonly utilized in English and Arabic language. It has function and importance in both languages, the basic function of ellipsis is to create cohesion by leaving out, under definite rules. Quirk (1973: 251) states that ellipsis is used to avoid repetition and focus attention on what new, for example:

(4) Has jack been crying? No, laughing.

As to the importance of the ellipsis, it must be said that in the past scholars had already recognized the importance of ellipsis and has investigated this linguistic phenomenon. Ellipsis is still used in languages for the following rea-

understanding can be achieved without word repetition" (Quirk, Sidney, leech and Savartivk, 1985: 892).

They also state that words are ellipted only if they are uniquely recoverable, there is no uncertainty as to what words are to be supplied and it is feasible to add the recovered words to the sentence (Quirk, Sidney, leech and Savartivk, 1985: 536). Hartman and Strok (1972: 99) emphasize the fact that the missing words must be understood or necessary to make the construction grammatically complete. The forms, which do not occur in a given sentence and they are understood from the meaning of the sentence, refer to ellipsis which is a device of abbreviating and shorting the message (Leech and Savartvik, 1999: 116). Accordingly, the ellipted forms must be recoverable from the context which is important to avoid misunderstanding and miss communication. Yet, these forms are not mere repetition of the same form given in preceding part of a sentence. Consider the following example;

(1) John preferred to email John, to tweet

It is obvious to the reader/ listener that the verb (prefer) is omitted form the second clause.

(2) Susan loves zucchini, and Jory does too.

lipsis. The third one is about the ellipted forms of verbs in English. The fourth section is about ellipted forms of verbs in Arabic. Finally, there is the conclusion.

2- Literature Review

Ellipsis may be discussed according to numerous linguistic viewpoints. Halliday and Hassan (1976: 142,144) define ellipsis as substitution by zero. They refer to it as something understood where understood is used in the special sense of "going without saying ". An item is ellipted if its structure does not express all the features that have gone into its set-up. Ellipsis is considered as a device by which cohesion is achieved (Halliday and Hassan, 1976:196).

Ellipsis is an omission of a part of the structure, which is recoverable form a scrutiny of the context (Crystal, 1985:158). The use of ellipsis would be for reasons of economy and emphasis or style (Crystal, 1985: 159).

Syntactically, Ellipsis is a Syntactic phenomenon not a morphological one (Robert and Dressler, 1981:49). Also they state that ellipsis is omitting some of the surface expressions .In connected discourse ,sentences can be influenced by the structure of neighboring sentences (Robert and Dressler, 1981: 131). Also it refers to words which are omitted " where

1-Introduction

The concept of contrastive study was first introduced by Charles Fries in (1952), and fully described by Robert Lado in his book "Linguistics across cultures" in 1957. Halliday and Hassan (1976:196) state that ellipsis is used to achieve cohesion by leaving out words originally occur in the preceding discourse. Ellipsis is a linguistic phenomenon utilized in languages. It is different from one language to another. It is based on leaving out a part of the sentence construction or more since the elliptical part can be recoverable from the context. It is still significant in written and spoken form. Ellipsis takes place in construction for the sake of good style, cohesion, economy and rhetoric.

This paper is an attempt to shed a light on verbal ellipsis in English and Arabic. Also it conducts a contrastive study of the cross-syntactic forms of elliptical verb which are supposed to be different in these languages. The study in hand aims to analyze the ellipsis forms of verb in both languages to infer the differences and similarities between the two languages. The present study falls into three sections and an introduction. The second section deals with the nature of el-

ملخص البحث

الدراسة الحالية عبارة عن أحد أشكال الحذف وهو الأفعال المحذوفة باللغتين الإنجليزية والعربية. الحذف ظاهرة لغوية نحوية موجودة في جميع اللغات. يتم استخدام **Ellipsis** لتجنب العناصر المتكررة غير الضرورية أو المملة ولتحقيق اقتصاد أكثر ملاءمة للبيان. لإجراء مقارنة بين اللغة الإنجليزية والعربية، يُفترض أن:

١. يتم ترميز المعنى بأشكال معينة من أشكال الأفعال الناقصة التي قد تكون متشابهة في كلتا اللغتين.

٢. تظهر كلتا اللغتين اختلافات في أشكال الأفعال الناقصة.

الهدف من هذه الدراسة هو فحص شكل علامات الحذف في اللغة الإنجليزية والعربية على الرغم من وجود العديد من الأشكال الأخرى للحذف في كلتا اللغتين. كما أنه يتعامل مع التركيبات النحوية المتقاطعة التي من المفترض أن تكون مختلفة في كلتا اللغتين. خلصت الدراسة إلى أن الحذف مهم في كلتا اللغتين. اللغة الإنجليزية لها أربعة أشكال من الفعل الناقص: الفعل المعجمي ، والفعل المعجمي والفعل المساعد ، والفعل والموضوع المكمل ، والفعل والموضوع المباشر. من ناحية أخرى ، فإن اللغة العربية لها شكلين بيضاويين من الفعل وكلا الشكلين يحدثان مع الفعل المعجمي.

الكلمات الرئيسية: القطع الناقص؛ استمارة؛ الفعل؛ تقابل [عامة] عربي؛ إنجليزي

Abstract

The present study is about one of the forms of ellipsis, which is the ellipted verbs in English and Arabic. Ellipsis is a syntactic linguistic phenomenon that exists in all languages. Ellipsis is used to avoid repeated elements unnecessary or boring and to achieve a more appropriate economy of statement. To make a comparison between English and Arabic it is hypothesized that:

1. Meaning is encoded by certain forms of ellipted forms of verbs which might be similar in both languages.

2. Both languages show differences in ellipted forms of verbs.

The aim of this study is to examine the form of verb ellipsis in English and Arabic though there are many other forms of ellipsis in both languages. Also it deals with the cross-syntactic constructions which are supposed to be different in both languages. The study concludes that ellipsis is significant in both languages. English has four forms of ellipted verb: the lexical verb, the lexical verb and auxiliary verb, the verb and subject complement, and the verb and direct object. On the other hand, Arabic has two ellipted forms of verb and both forms occur with lexical verb.

Keywords: Ellipsis; Form; Verb; Contrastive; Arabic;

A Contrastive Study of Ellipsis in English and Arabic: The Case of Ellipted Forms of Verb

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