

A Pragmatic Study of Speech Acts of Warning in English and Arabic

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Chapter One

1.1 The Speech Acts of warning in English

1.2 Warning : Concept and Nature :

Warning means telling someone about something bad, dangerous or unpleasant that is likely to occur in the future (Austin,1962:150). So the hearer account that what should be done in a /addressee should take into his particular situation in order to avoid certain punishment or possible danger . Moreover, warning is a statement or an event that indicates a possible or impending danger, problem or other unpleasant and undesirable action. For example :

1- I warn you about thunderstorms.

2- I warn you about the danger of smoking.

3- Study hard, otherwise you will fail in your exams.

4- Watch out ! the enemy maybe near.

5- Be careful , you may fall down.

6- They warned that it will be stormy tomorrow.

It seems that the above examples express danger, potential harm, or risk. It's worth noting that the speaker in the above sentences, believes (sincerity conditions) that something bad, dangerous, or unpleasant might possibly happen so that he directly and indirectly asks the addressee to do what is necessary to avoid the consequences of the act.

Warning can be classified by many linguists and language philosophers into a number of categories. According to Austin's classification of illocutionary "forces (1962:152). The speech acts of warning belong to the category of

along with advising, urging, claiming, voting, and appointing 'Exercitives which he defines as performatives. An exercitive speech act is the exercising of powers, rights or influence. Further, it involves the giving of a decision in How To Do "favour of or against a certain course of action. In his work , Austin states that speech acts of warning are formed by "Things With Words different structures (explicit and implicit warning). Consider the following examples :

- active) /6- I warn you that there is a bull in the field.(explicit warning
passive)/7-You are warned that the bull is about to charge.(explicit warning
8- There is a bull in the field. (implicit warning)
9- The bull is dangerous.(implicit warning)
10- It's going to charge.(implicit warning)

It seems that simply by uttering the speech acts of warning, one can perform various acts. They are : locutionary act (uttering the words), illocutionary act (S warns H against doing something), and perlocutionary act (H avoids that thing or event or be cautious about it).

Searle (1975:71) deals with the speech act of warning as a member of directive illocutionary acts which further include :command, request, etc. In such a way, the speaker warns somebody against bad or dangerous or her avoid doing such an action. He (/unpleasant action in order to make him Ibid) adds that the speech acts of warning are assigned to the category of assertive in the sense when it commits the addressee to the truth of a proposition in the world. For example:

- active) /11- I warn you to give up smoking.(Directive explicit warning
12- You are warned to give up smoking.(Directive explicit warning\passive)
13- I warn you that smoking damages your health.(Assertive explicit warning)
14-Smoking is a main cause of lung cancer.(Assertive implicit warning)

Leech (1983:205-208) also classifies the speech act of warning under the directive and assertive category. He notes that :

Whatever the syntactic construction of illocutionary meanings simultaneously " both assertive (warning H that something will happen if) and directive (warning H to do something about it) that is we must regard "warn" as a verb notably noting a (Ibid) ."single compound speech act

Accordingly, the speech act of warning has two illocutionary points : in the assertive use , it denotes committing the addressee to certain truth of the proposition expressed in the world, while in the directive use, it directs the addressee to do something. Further, the speaker warns the addressee that P her that it is a warning, /(Proposition) has both the function of informing him her to direct him to do something in order /and also the function of warning him to avoid unhappy consequences of the act warned against. For example:

15- He warned us to be careful. (Directive warning)

16- He warned us that the journey might be dangerous.(Assertive warning)

A quick glance at the above examples, reveals that the utterance (15) is a directive warning in the sense that the speaker wants the addressee to do something (to be careful), whereas utterance (16) is an assertive warning because it commits the addressee to a certain truth of a proposition that is the journey might be dangerous.

Bach and Harnish (1979: 44-55) classify the speech act of warning as a class of advisories (subcategory of directives). In this sense, the speech act of warning depends upon the expressed attitude that the speaker expresses his intention, belief or desire to imply that doing something to avoid certain consequences is beneficiary to his addressee. In the same respect and according to the expressed attitude, the addressee can take into account the speaker's expressed attitude as a reason to avoid the action warned of. For example in the sentence: There is a snake in the hole, the speaker expresses his attitude: if the hearer does not avoid herself./ she may hurt himself/the dangerous act, he

1.3Warning: Speech Act Verbs :

Wierzbicka (1987: 177) highlights verbs of warning. She states that the verb “warn” is the most commonly used to express explicit speech acts of warning. can be reflected among other things in a wide range of syntactic ” Warn“ patterns which can be used to give warnings. It also can be combined with some prepositions, as in :

17- I warn you against false assumptions.

18- She warned him to quite.

19- The director warned him that he might be fired.

20- The doctor warned me about the danger of smoking.

21- The old man warned the children of playing in streets.

22- I warn you to be away from the beach.

Vanderveken (1994: 197) offers a semantic description to the English directive speech act verbs including speech acts verbs of warning. These verbs are :

(A) *warn* : to warn someone to do something is to suggest that the addressee do she does not /her if he/it, while presupposing that it would be unpleasant for him do it. (Preparatory condition). For instance : I warn you not to go out because it will rain soon (Ibid.).

(B) *Caution* : To caution is to warn the addressee to take care of something in order to expound the possible unhappy consequences of the thing warned against. It is commonly used as a noun. For example:

Caution! Reduce speed. There is a cross-road (Vanderveken,1994: 198).

her prepared for a / (C) *Alert* : To alert is to warn the addressee to make him specific action against an imminent potential danger such as the possibility of attacking (Ibid.).

(D) *Alarm* : To alarm is to warn against a serious action in the face of an immediate danger, such as fire, avalanche ,etc.

E) *Beware* is the common used speech act verb in English. For example:
Beware of the snake . Beware of eating too much (Ibid.).

1.4 Pragmatic features of warning :

1.4.1 Warning: illocutionary and perlocutionary act :

As it is clear in the literature of this study, Austin (1962:118) states that the distinction between illocutionary and perlocutionary act is a distinction between things done in performing a locutionary act and things done by performing a locutionary act. The act of warning can be both illocutionary and perlocutionary act. It is illocutionary i when it brings out understanding the meaning and of the force of illocution (Austin, 1962:116).

It also can be perlocutionary act when it achieves consequential effects upon the feelings, thoughts or actions of the addressee or other persons in the immediate context of the utterance. Austin claims that :

“The perlocutionary act may be either the achievement of a perlocutionary object , e.g. convince, persuade and warn), or the production of a perlocutionary sequel. Thus, the act of warning may have the perlocutionary object of alerting and may achieve its perlocutionary sequel of alarming. What is the perlocutionary object of one illocution may be the sequel of another. Thus, warning may produce the sequel of whose object is to deter, may produce the ”detering and saying “Don’t

sequel of alerting or even alarming”

Austin(Ibid.: 118)

For example, the utterance : *There is a snake in the garden*, has the illocutionary force of warning somebody about a dangerous thing and it also her./achieves its sequel of alarming or frightening him

Robinson(2003:97) shows that if the utterance of warning does not achieve the perlocutionary effect, it cannot be a speech act of warning. He says :

“If my warning doesn’t warn you, if you refuse to be warned by my warning, I didn’t warn you at all!”

1.4.2 The Overlapping of Warning with Advising :

The speech act of warning is characterized by overlapping with other speech acts like advice. To advise something or a course of action , is to motivate the addressee to do a specific intended action presupposing that it would be good her to do it .For example: /and beneficiary for him

23 – a) I advise you to read this book .(Explicit performative)

b) Read this book. (Implicit performative)

24 –a) I advise you to give up smoking . (Explicit performative)

b) Give up smoking. (Implicit performative)

25 –a) I advised you that you should sleep earlier. (Explicit performative)

b) You should sleep earlier. (Implicit performative)

It is worth noting that the speaker, in the above sentences, commits his her./addressee directly and indirectly , to do what is good and useful for him

Searle points out the relationship between warning and advise. He notes:

“ Warning is like advising , rather than request. It is not , I think , necessarily an attempt to get you to
(Searle,1969: 67).” take an evasive action... .

Searle (Ibid.) shows that warning and advice are greatly overlapped that they her to do /both tell the addressee a truth of a proposition and to direct him something about it. But we can say that they are different in the sense that to warn is like advice except the additional presupposition is to the effect that what is advised is good for the person who has been advised. So, when warning is

about something beneficiary to the addressee , it overlaps with advice. Consider the following example :

26 - I warn you to be away from the beach.

27 - I warn you not to drink alcohol.

28 - Avoid playing in the street.

(The action warned against above, is beneficiary to the addressee, therefore, the speech act of warning is overlapped with advice)

Vanderveken (1994:197) shows that both warning and advice belong to the category of directives and assertives in which the illocutionary force of the speech act of warning and advice is actually the speaker's desire to direct the addressee to a course of action more favorable to him

is an ambiguous word which may be regarded as an " " He argues that "warn assertive and directive:

" In an assertive use, one can warn that P where the proposition is a future to the time of utterance as in the case of a prediction

(propositional content condition), but where there is the additional presumption both it somehow bodies badly for the addressee and that there is still some possibility of avoiding the misfortune (with appropriate action on the addressee's part) which belong to the systematic presence of the directive. Thus, to warn the hearer that P is to assert P with the directive she do something about it" (/purpose of suggesting that he Vanderveken,1994: 174).

Accordingly, the performance of the speech act of advice is sometimes accompanied with the sense of warning, For example: "I advise you to give up IF of warning)/smoking" (Assertive advice

Hinkle (1997: 5) concludes that the speech act of warning and advice are related to each other. He states that performing advice is a complex speech acts that should be performed with caution especially when the speaker is reasonably certain that the addressee is likely to do what is being advised.

It is worth noting that one should not forget the role of context in recognizing the speech act of warning, advise and threat. Let's consider the following example : (Don't go near the stove) , in this example one may ask whether this utterance is a warning, an order, a request or perhaps any instance of speech acts. A part from the context, it is impossible to recognize the type of speech act. But once the context is supplied, the answer is typically quite evident.

Consider the following cases:

- a) If you touch the stove, you will burn yourself, so don't go near the stove. It is clear that the speaker warns the addressee not to touch the stove since herself(warning) ./ she will burn himself/ she touches it, he/if he
- b) The player who avoids touching the stove usually wins the game, so don't touch the stove. It is also noted that the speaker advises the hearer that avoid her to win the game (beneficiary act to the /touching the stove , will make him addressee) . (advice)
- c) I cannot take another one of your casseroles. If you want to live don't touch the stove. Here, it seems that the speaker expresses the illocutionary force of threat since he states that if the addressee touches the stove , he may die. (threat)

1.4.3 The Overlapping of Warning with Threat:

In his semantic analysis of English performative verbs, Vanderveken clarifies the concept of threat. He says : (1994:183)

“To threat ,is to commit oneself to doing something to someone with perlocutionary intention of intimidating the addressee and with the presupposition that it is bad and unpleasant for him”.

Warning may have an additional illocutionary force of threat when the speaker takes on the responsibilities for bringing about the disadvantages. In performing the act of warning , the speaker believes that the effect of the action specified is advantageous to the hearer whereas, when the speaker performs the act she believes that the effect of that action is disadvantageous /of threat, he to the hearer. Consider the following statements :

- 29) If you don't bring my books, you'll be punished. (Threat)
- 30) If you don't give up smoking, you'll damage your health. (Warning)
- 31) I'll hit you . (Threat)
- 32) Do you want me to hit you? (Threat)

Evans(2005:19) differentiates between warning and threat in terms of the speaker's control of the unhappy consequences that are likely to take place. If these consequences are controlled by the speaker himself , the act is a threat, but it's a warning when the speaker is out of controlling these consequences. is a " If my brothers see you with me, I'll kill you "For instance the utterance : threatening act because the punishment is determined or controlled by the If my brothers see you with me, they will "speaker while if the speaker said:

, it's a speech act of warning since the punishment is controlled by "kill you others.

Al-Sulaiman (1997: 113-114) highlights the overlapping between warning and threatening. He explains that a speech act of threatening, especially a conditional one, overlaps with warning when the disadvantageous action would not be achieved if the hearer performed what is really directly and indirectly requested of him. For example:

33- I am going to kill you if you don't return my car.

(direct conditional threat = warning) .

Thus, one can summarize the difference between warning and threatening speech act by the following points:

- i) The speech act of warning belongs to the directive and assertive category whereas threatening is a commissive speech acts.
- ii) Opposed with warning, threatening cannot be used performatively. One can say " I warn you" , but it is infelicitous to say " I threat you" .
- iii) Threats refer to a future course of action performed by the speaker X to the addressee Y which is regarded as bad for him/her. For instance : "I have wild beasts, and I will throw you to them if you don't change your attitudes" while in warning, on the other hand , the speaker predicates a future event or course of action that is likely to occur if the hearer does not heed it.
- iv) The illocutionary force of threatening is to influence the addressee's behaviours in a specific way. For example if the utterance " I'll hit you " is said by a threatening voice , then the speaker's purpose is not to make the addressee know what is going to happen to him/ her , but to make him do something that would make the speaker forgo his intended action. Thus, the illocutionary purpose of threat is formulated as : I say this because I want to cause you to do something.

1.4.4 Warning as impositive and non- impositive act:

In performing a speech act of warning, the speaker in fact commits the addressee to avoid doing something or a course of action. This is in fact done with the assumption that it is a beneficiary to the addressee and addresser. In order to make this point clear, Haverkate (1984: 23) classifies speech acts into two main categories: impositive and non- impositive. He describes the former as a speech act performed by the speaker in order to influence the intentional her do something primarily for the /behaviours of the addressee making him benefit of the speaker, whereas the latter which is the most relevant for the purpose of this study, indicates that the benefit of performing speech act belongs to the addressee as it is prevailing in acts , like advice,

recommendation, permission, offering and inviting. It is worth mentioning that the speech act of warning is attached to both impositive and non- impositive acts , as it is shown in the following examples:

34- Avoid playing near my house, you may damage my trees.

(impositive- imperative- IF of warning)

35-Don't drive too fast, you may cause an accident.

(non- impositive- negative imperative- IF of warning)

36- Study hard, otherwise you might fail.

(non-impositive- imperative- IF of warning)

37-If you don't bring my money, you will be dismissed.

(impositive – conditional statement – IF of warning)

83- Be careful , you may break your leg.

(non –impositive – imperative – IF of warning).

1.5 Pragmalinguistic Strategies of Warning :

The speech act of warning can be realized with a wide range of linguistic forms, such as imperatives, declaratives, conditional statements and so on. Thus, the survey of pragmalinguistic strategies of warning realization conducted in this section will be limited to those expected to appear in the data analysis of this study.

1.5.1 Imperative Based Realization of Warning :

Imperatives are a kind of directives that embody an effect on the part of the hearer towards /speaker to get the hearer do something; that is to direct him achieving certain goal, generally a speaker's goal. Structurally, Lyons (1977: 746) clarifies that imperative utterances cannot be used in the past tense to achieve a certain goal, but instead, they can be performed only in the present and future tense. He notes :

“ It is very important to realize that commands and requests of their nature are necessarily restricted with respect to the semantic distinctions that are grammaticalized in many languages in the category of tense and person” .

Cruse(2006:84-85) argues that the components of the successful imperative utterance are:

“ a) It is an expression of the desirability of some state of affairs, b) the belief that this state of affairs does not currently hold, c) the belief that the addressee is capable of bringing about the desirable state of affairs, and d) the desire that the addressee should bring about that state of affairs.

Allan (1986: 224- 225) shows that the imperative sentences can express the illocutionary force of other speech acts. For example :

- 1- Directives, such as command or order (e.g. stand up , go home).
- 2- Permission : (e.g. come in)
- 3- Wish : (Have a nice trip)
- 4- Warning : (e.g. Stay away from the stove)
- 5- Invitation : (e.g. Have another piece of chicken)
- 6- Supplication : (e.g. Let me go, please)

It is certainly no exaggeration to say that most if not all languages have at least one strategy for identifying imperatives ,i.e. construction dedicated to the expression of directive speech acts, i.e. order , request, warn, advice, instruction, wish ...etc.(Davies, 1986: 30).Consider the following examples:

39- Beware of the dog.(warning)

40- Sleep early.(advice)

41- Open the door, would you, please? (request)

42- Have a nice trip.(wish)

Accordingly, the illocutionary force of warning in English can be expressed via imperative utterances, as in the following examples:

43-Watch out .

44- Pay attention .

45- Avoid swimming in cold water.

46- Be careful .

47- Stay away from it.

Imperative constructions can also perform the illocutionary force of warning by appealing to a phrase of justification after the imperative ,for instance :

48- Be careful. You may fall down.

49- Watch out. The enemy may be here.

50- Avoid smoking. It damages your health.

51-Don't eat too much. You may have corpulence.

52- Beware of these holes. There are many snakes.

Thomas (1995:104) shows that a speech act of warning can often take the form of imperative, for instance : Macbeth, Macbeth, beware Macduff, or the form of negative imperative, for example : Don't lean out of the train window – danger of decapitation .

A hypothetical imperative is another linguistic strategy for performing the illocutionary force of warning speech acts. There are some formulas of hypothetical imperatives used for this purpose. These are :

might..... base form of a verb :/ you will+ else+a) Imperative verb

Avoid drinking beer , else you will be punished.

mightbase form of a verb :/ you will+ / otherwise+b) Imperative verb

Study hard, otherwise, you'll fail in your exams.

mightbase form /c) Negative imperative(prohibition) + otherwise you will of a verb:

Don't push so hard on the window, otherwise you will break it.

1.5.2 Declarative Based Realization of Warning :

Searle (1979: 18) describes declarative utterances in the sense of performativity that they may be infelicitous if one or more condition (felicity conditions) is violated. (see:2.4)

According to Leech (1983:180), declarative sentences are considered a kind of social and official statement which is uttered in the appropriate context. He writes:

“ a declarative is rather like a statement, it is an outward and audible sign that an abstract (psychological, social or spiritual) action is being performed. In formally opening a bridge, for example, one can make it open in the sense that it is henceforth permissible to use the bridge, any physical action accompanying the declaration such as cutting a ribbon, is simply ceremonial and sacramental, like the speech act itself” .

Allan(1986: 206) believes that there is a correspondence between the declarative sentence and its illocutionary force. In other words, the declarative sentence is used to perform a wide range of speech acts as in the following sentences:

53- I warn you against telling lies. (warning)

54- I advise you to go with him. (advice)

55- I order you go out. (command)

56- I am really sorry. (acknowledgement)

Cruse(2006: 337) explains that declarative sentences are primarily and most frequently used to perform any class of speech acts :

“ A declarative sentence form has been regarded as in some sense, the basic sentence form and it is easy to go from this to regarding it as a neutral form from which all others are derived. It is therefore not surprising that it has a wide . Consider the following examples: ’’range of applicability... .

57- I'll be there at 7o'clock . (promise)

58- The earth is flat.(assertive)

59- You are a hesitant person. (criticizing)

60- It's cold here .(request to close the door)

Like other speech acts, warning can be expressed in the form of declarative sentences. Let's consider the following examples:

61-I think that the next exam will be so difficult.

62-There are a lot of pickpockets in that city.

63-Driving too fast is dangerous.

64- It might be bad to play in the street.

Thomas (1995:103-104) points out that a speech act of warning can be "performed by declarative sentences. Warning expressed by this form is called . It relates to situations where the speaker can do nothing "Situational Warning to avoid the event itself and it includes situations in which it is possible to take steps to avoid some of the worst consequences of the event, e.g. :

65- She wouldn't take a groom with her, although I warned her that the fog would come down later.

Cruse (2006: 42) also notes that declarative sentences can indicate extra illocutionary force through implicature, e.g. : there is ice on the road. This statement can be uttered as a warning.

1.5.3Conditional Statement Based Realization of Warning:

/ Structurally, conditional sentences consist of two parts: the subordinate dependent “if clause” and the main “will clause”. The dependent “if clause” usually indicates a real or possible situation that can take place in the present or in the future, and the main “will clause” expresses the result of the condition. Conditional statements are sometimes called real conditions because it is used for real or possible situations which happen if a certain condition is met. Conditional sentences are frequently used to express warning, e.g. (if you smoke, you will damage your health), advice, e.g.(if you take this medicine, you’ll feel better soon), threat, e.g. (if you do that again, I’ll kill you).

According to Searle (1969: 67), the speech act of warning is formulated by a conditional statement. It comes to be known as hypothetical warning (if you don’t do X , then Y will occur) and vice versa, e.g.:

66- If you don’t behave well , you’ll be punished.

67- If you don’t study hard, you’ll fail.

68 -If you smoke, you’ll damage your health.

69-If you go on coming late, you will be dismissed.

Searle(Ibid) states that the purpose behind the use of conditional (hypothetical warning) is to influence the action, belief and attitude of the addressee(perlocutionary effect).In this sense, the speaker who performs the act her imagine the possibility / her addressee making him/of warning , warns his and the consequence of Y. of X

Halliday (1973: 97) adopts the same view that speech acts of warning are inherently conditional. Quirk *et al.*(1985: 1088) believes that a wide range of warnings is realized hypothetically by using the if conditional clause and the happy performance of performing such a kind of warning is dependent on the proper interpretation on the part of the addressee of that act warned against .

Consider the following examples:

70 -If you don’t reduce speed, you will cause an accident.

71 - If you press this button, the bomb will explode.

her / It is worth noting that the speaker in the utterances above warns his she does not /addressee indirectly that something unpleasant might occur, if he avoid the act warned of. It also seems that the speaker is not certain that the addressee will interpret the utterance performed as an act of warning .

Evans (2005: 97) sets a taxonomic representation of conditional statements including their defining terms and features depending upon the effect of such statements on the addressee. For example in the case of giving a speech act of

warning the effect on the listener is stronger than in advice. According to Evans (Ibid) the conditional statement depends upon the speaker's control of the consequences of speech acts. According to him, the speech act of inducement is stronger than advice because in an inducement the speaker controls the consequent event, whereas in an advice he does not. As for conditional warning, it is an act that its consequences are determined or controlled not by the speaker but by others. Consider the following examples:

72-If my brothers see you with me, they will kill you. (speech act of warning because the punishment is controlled by others).

73-If my brothers see you with me, I'll kill you.(speech act of threat because herself)./the punishment is controlled by the speaker him

1.6Felicity conditions of warning :

In order to determine a specific utterance as a certain kind of speech acts, and to distinguish it from other related and overlapped kinds of speech act, there should be appropriate conditions for performing speech acts successfully. Searle (1969:66) suggests the following felicity conditions as constituting the successful execution of warning.

Table (4): Searle's Felicity Conditions for Warning

Propositional content	Warning is a future event or state, etc. E is predicted of hearer H.
Preparatory	1- S thinks E will occur and it is not in H's interest. 2- S thinks it is not obvious to H that E will occur.
Sincerity	S believes E is not in H's best interest. S believes H is able to avoid E.
Essential	The uttering of words counts as an undertaking to the effect that E is not in H's best interest.

Fraser (1975:164) presents some felicity conditions for the speech act of warning to be performed felicitously. They are listed below :

- wants to convey a proposition P ./ 1- S intends
knows that: a) P is unfavorable to H ,/ 2- S believes
b) it is likely to occur in the future and

c) has disadvantages sequel to H.

3- S intends to tell H that P is harmful and must be avoided before disadvantageous effects take place.

In what follows, we offer a set of examples in an attempt to apply the felicity rules to the speech act of warning :

1- There are a lot of thieves in this city.

a) The Propositional Content Condition

her addressee about something dangerous that is / The speaker warns his likely to occur in the future , i.e. the theft.

b) The Preparatory Content Condition :

The speaker believes that the act warned against is not in the hearer's interest and it is not obvious for him that it will occur.

c) Sincerity Condition:

The speaker believes that the event is not in the hearer's best interest.

d) Essential Rules:

The speaker's utterance is counted as an attempt to make his addressee avoid that act warned against.

2- Beware of driving too fast.

a) Propositional Content Condition :

The speaker expresses the proposition of his utterance that his addressee should not drive too fast because it is dangerous.

b) Preparatory Content Condition

The speaker believes that driving too fast is not good for his addressee.

c) Sincerity Rules :

The speaker expresses his intention to make his addressee avoid something dangerous.

d) Essential Condition: The uttering of the utterance counts as an undertaking to the effect that E is not in H's best interest.

Chapter Two

2.1 Speech Acts of Warning in Arabic

2.2.1 The Concept of Warning :

The speech acts of warning in Arabic have been investigated by Arab lexicographers, grammarians and rhetoricians. The lexicographer, Al-Jawhary (1984: 626) defines the concept of warning as a linguistic act used to make the addressee fear of something bad, dangerous or unpleasant action in order to avoid it. He (Ibid) notes that :

" التحذير هو الحذر ، والحذر هو التحرز ... وقد حذرت الشيء أحذره ، ورجلٌ حذرٌ ، أي متيقظ .
والتحذير التخويف " .

Ibn Mandhur (2005: 175-176) and Al-Farahidi (1982: 312) state that :

" والتحذير هو الخيفة ، ورجل حذر متيقظ شديد الحذر والفرع وحاذر متأهب ... والتحذير التخويف " .

Az-zabidi (1976: 564) - says that :

" التحذير هو الاحتراز ، وفسره قومٌ بالاستعداد والتأهب ، والقوم الذين يحذرون ، أي : يخوفون ...
التحذير هو التخويف " .

Arab grammarians are also concerned with the speech act of warning. They show that warning is type of performative used to perform the speaker's desire to achieve a certain goal. They define it as an act to draw the hearer's attention to something unpleasant, dangerous or bad in order to avoid it or to be aware of it. (Al- Makkudi,2002: 230)

As-sammara'i (2007: 70) states the that speech acts of warning include three elements. They are :

- A) The Warner المحذر (the speaker) who performs the speech act of warning .
 - B) The warned person المحذر (the addressee) who is warned against something.
 - C) The action warned against المحذر منه (usually bad, unpleasant and dangerous).
- Generally speaking, the speech act of warning is usually directed to the addressee. But sometimes as As-sammara'i explains the act of warning seems to be directed to the speaker himself, but its implication is actually directed to the addressee, as in إياي والإهمال . However, it is possible to direct the warning to the absent person as in the famous saying:

" إذا بلغ الرجل الستين فأياه وأيا الشواب " (If the man is over sixty, he should not marry the young women), the speaker in this sentence warns that one should avoid marriage from young women if he is over sixty (Al-Makkudi, 2002: 230).

Pragmatically speaking, Arab grammarians usually deal with the act of warning contrasting it with the speech act of urging. They identify these two acts under the category of directive performatives. Consider the following example:

1- النار ، النار

Beware of the fire ! (speech act of warning)

2- الشجاعة و الكرم

Commit yourself to courage and generosity .(speech act of urging).

2.2.2 Types of Warning in Arabic :

Arab grammarians show that the speech act of warning is divided into two types : Explicit and Implicit Warning .

2.2.2.1 Explicit Warning :

Explicit warning is usually performed by using the following linguistic constructions:

“ for example : A- احذر The performative verb of warning ”.

3- أحذرك من القيادة بسرعة فائقة I warn you not to drive too fast.

4- أحذرك من المجيء متأخراً I warn you of coming late.

5- أحذرك من الغيبة I warn you against scandal.

6- I warn you against fire. أحذرك من النار

: Arab grammarians state that explicit warning can B- Using the particle *إيا* and its attached pronouns as *إياكم* also be performed by using the particle *إياك*. The particle *إياك* is often followed by the conjunction *و* and then the act warned of. For example: (من)

7- إياك والكذب Beware of lying.

8- إياكم والغيبة Beware of backbiting.

9- إياك وأصحاب السوء Beware of the wicked companions.

10- إياك من النفاق Beware of hypocrisy.

11- إياكم والحسد Beware of envy.

is a general warning *إياك* It is worth saying that the warning performed by since it expresses the speech act of warning about something regardless of the

she warns somebody about / , he إياك والكسل event. For example , if one says something general, not in the immediate environment, but it is a warning that continues to other times.

C- Repeating the thing warned of (المحذر منه) :

Explicit warning can also be performed by mentioning only the act warned of (المحذر منه) or repeating it in a certain context if the speaker wants to emphasize the directive act. e.g. :

12- The fire, the fire

13- The lion, the lion .

The speaker in such a case tends to omit the speech act verb of warning. It is worth mentioning that this verb should be omitted when the speaker has no enough time to mention it. In addition to that, the idea that repeating thing warned of has great impact in intensifying the meaning of the sentence; and this depends upon the context in which there is certainly something very dangerous such as the sequel of fire and lion or impending danger as when someone warns his addressee by simply shouting “*Car!*”. But the speech act verb is used when the addressee is in a normal situation and there is enough time to mention it. (As-sammara’i, 2007-170)

2.2.2.2 Implicit warning

Arab rhetoricians have also investigated the speech act of warning in a way which seems different from that of grammarians. Rhetoricians are concerned with the concept of warning as being conveyed implicitly or indirectly more than explicitly. They consider implicit warning the most common one since it is used a lot in the Glorious Qur’an. They stress that the illocutionary force of warning can be expressed by different speech acts, such as prohibition, interrogative, imperative, or even declarative sentences and sometimes it can be understood or interpreted from its context. The following section shows how warning is exemplified implicitly:

2.3 Warning Realized by Other Speech Acts:

2.3.1 Warning Realized by Prohibition:

The speech act of prohibition is the opposition of imperative. It is performed to make the addressee avoid doing something. The Arab grammarians view the concept of prohibition as the negative imperative. For example, the utterance *Don’t go*, is the negative imperative of *Go*.

There is no doubt that when the speaker asks the addressee not to do something, he performs extra illocutionary forces. Thus, the illocutionary forces

of an utterance are multiple depending upon the context in which the utterance appears. Accordingly, the prohibition utterance has a lot of illocutionary forces (As-sammara'i, 2007-170)

What interests us in this study, is the illocutionary force of warning. Sibawaihi (1966:253-254) points out that the speech act of prohibition carries an illocutionary force of warning. He says:

”وأما النهي ، فهو التحذير ، كقوله : الأسد،الأسد ، والجدار، الجدار ، والصبي الصبي ، وإنما نهيه أن يقرب الجدار المائل ، أو يقرب الأسد ، وإن شاء أظهر هذه الأشياء ما أضمر الفعل ، فقال:..... وأحذر الجدار ، ولا تقرب الأسد“.

“As for prohibition, it is a warning, for instance: “The lion the lion, The wall the wall, *The child, the child*; it is to prohibit him (the addressee) not to approach the italic wall or the lion. But these things can be expressed explicitly by using the performative verb, such as : Beware of the leaning wall, and Do not approach the lion,.....”. (My translation).

As for rhetoricians, they agree with Sibawaihi that speech acts of prohibition can serve the illocutionary force of warning. The following blessed Qur’anic verses make it clear.

١- { يَا أَيُّهَا النَّاسُ كُلُوا مِمَّا فِي الْأَرْضِ حَلَالًا طَيِّبًا وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطَوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ } البقرة ١٦٨

(O mankind ! Eat of that which is lawful and good on the earth, and follow not the footsteps of Shaitan(Satan). Verily, he is to you an open enemy) (Al-Hilali and Khan, 1996:47)

According to the rhetoricians, the prohibition utterance in the above blessed) verse (لا تتبعوا directs people not to obey the devil. Furthermore, it serves the

meaning of warning. Ar-razi (2000: 73) says:

” احذر أن تتعداه إلى ما يدعوك إليه الشيطان ؛ لأنه عدو مبين و متظاهر “
209) states that (Almighty) Allah warns people not to follow and obey the devil. He says:

” الواجب على العاقل أن يأخذ حذره من هذا العدو الذي أبان عداوته منذ زمن آدم ،
فقد أمر الله تعالى بالحدز منه ، فقال عز وجل (وَلَا تَتَّبِعُوا خُطَوَاتِ الشَّيْطَانِ إِنَّهُ لَكُمْ عَدُوٌّ مُبِينٌ) ،
وهذا غاية في التحذير “.

“The rationalist must beware of this enemy who has shown his enmity since the time of Adam. Almighty Allah ordered his slaves to beware of him (Ash-shytan), He Almighty says: (And follow not the footsteps of shaitan (Satan). Verily, he is to you an open enemy). And this is the greatest warning”. (My translation)

٢- {لَا تَجْعَلْ مَعَ اللَّهِ إِلَهًا آخَرَ فَتَقْعُدَ مَذْمُومًا مَّخْذُولًا} الإسراء ٢٢

(Set not up with Allah any other ilāh (god), (O man) ! (This verse is addressed to the Prophet Muhammad (P.B.U.H.), but its implication is general to all mankind), or you will sit down reprov'd, forsaken (in the Hell- fire) (Al-Hilali and Khan,1996: 403).

denotes the illocutionary

The utterance of prohibition act of warning

that (Almighty) Allah warns people from the dangerous act which is infidelity , Sayed Qutub (N.D.: 88) says that:

" في الآية النهي عن الشرك والتحذير من عاقبته "

Al-Āmidī (1967: 174) stresses the fact that the illocutionary force of warning can be expressed by speech acts of prohibition, as in :

٣- {فَلَا تَمُوتُنَّ إِلَّا وَأَنتُمْ مُسْلِمُونَ} البقرة ١٣٢.

(...Then die not except in the faith of Islām (as Muslims- Islamic Monotheism)(Hilali and Khan,1996:38).

It is worth noting that the three Qur'anic verses above are similar to Austin's class of exercitives or Searle's class of directives.

2.3.2 Warning Realized by Interrogatives :

As previously explained in chapter two that interrogative utterance is a speech act that requires understanding something, it's also worth referring that the speech act of interrogative serves other illocutionary acts.

One of the illocutionary acts of interrogative utterances that is relevant to the present study, is that of warning. Sibawiahi (1966:343) claims that one may ask her /a question not to acquire an answer from the addressee, but to warn him don't you fear? about something. For example :

Badawi (1978: 163) tells that the illocutionary act of an utterance can particularly, be interpreted by inference since it will have its effect on the part of the addressee. He says that :

” وإذا كان الوصول إلى المعنى المقصود بالاستدلال العقلي ، فإن تأثيره في نفس المتلقي يكون عظيماً ؛ لذا فإن القرآن الكريم يعتمد أسلوب الاستفهام ليدل على التحذير ويتم هذا عن طريق تجسيد الحدث أمام العباد ليتدبروا تلك الأحداث والمواقف، ويحذروها “.

“ And if the intended meaning is arrived at by inference, then its effects on the addressee will be great; therefore, the Glorious Qur'an depends upon the interrogative style to denote a speech act of warning. This is

people to consider their often achieved by embodying the events for disadvantages and beware of them”.

The following Glorious verses explain this matter :

١- { أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِأَصْحَابِ الْفِيلِ } الْفِيلِ ١

(Have you O Muhammad (PBH) not seen how your Lord dealt with the owners of the Elephant? Did He not make their plot go astray?(Al-Hilali and Khan,1996:886).

{ أَلَمْ تَرَ كَيْفَ فَعَلَ رَبُّكَ بِعَادٍ } الْفَجْرِ ٦

(Saw you (O Muhammad) (PBH) not how your Lord dealt with ‘Ād (people).(Hilali and Khan,1996:870

٢- { يَوْمَ نَقُولُ لِجَهَنَّمَ هَلِ امْتَلَأْتَ وَتَقُولُ هَلْ مِنْ مَزِيدٍ } ق ٣٠

(On the Day when We will say to Hell: Are you filled?” It will say “ Are there any more (to come)?” (Hilali and Khan,1996: 741).

2.3.3 Warning Realized by Imperative

First of all, it is worth saying that the Glorious Qur’an contains so much speech acts of imperative. The speech act of imperative in the Glorious Qur’an can be realized by different forms. In this section we will shed light on speech acts of imperative that denote the illocutionary force of warning. The following Qur’anic verses are speech acts of imperative with the illocutionary force of snawee, 1982:245): ‘warning (Al-

١- { يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا إِنْ جَاءَكُمْ فَاسِقٌ بِنَبَأٍ فَتَبَيَّنُوا أَنْ تُصِيبُوا قَوْمًا بِجَهَالَةٍ فَتُصْبِحُوا عَلَىٰ مَا فَعَلْتُمْ نَادِمِينَ } الْحَجَرَات ٦

(O you have believed ! If a fasiq (liar – evil person) comes to you with any news, verify it, lest you should harm people in ignorance, and afterwards you become regretful for what you have done (Al-Hilali and Khan,1996:736)

٢- { فَلْيَحْذَرِ الَّذِينَ يُخَالِفُونَ عَنْ أَمْرِهِ أَنْ تُصِيبَهُمْ فِتْنَةٌ أَوْ يُصِيبَهُمْ عَذَابٌ أَلِيمٌ } النور ٦٣

(Beware, lest some fitnah (disbelief, trial,affliction, earthquake, killing, overpowered by a tyrant) should befall them or a painful torment on them) (Hilali and Khan,1996:512).

٣- { يَا أَيُّهَا الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا اجْتَنِبُوا كَثِيرًا مِّنَ الظَّنِّ إِنَّ بَعْضَ الظَّنِّ إِثْمٌ } الْحَجَرَات ١٢

(O you who believed! Avoid much suspicion ; indeed some suspicions are sins) (Hilali and Khan,1996: 737).

٤- { وَإِذَا رَأَيْتَهُمْ تُعْجِبُكَ أَجْسَامُهُمْ وَإِنْ يَقُولُوا تَسْمَعُ لِقَوْلِهِمْ كَأَنَّهُمْ خِشْبٌ مُّسَدَّدَةٌ يَحْسَبُونَ كُلَّ صَيْحَةٍ عَلَيْهِمْ هُمُ الْعَدُوُّ فَاحْذَرْهُمْ إِنَّهُمْ أَنَّى يُؤْفَكُونَ } الْمَنَافِقُونَ ٤

(And when you look at them, their bodies please you; and when they speak, you listen to their words. They are blocks of wood propped up. They think that

every cry is against them. They are the enemies, so beware of them. May Allah curse them! How are they denying (or deviating from) the Right Path? (Hilali and Khan,1996: 798).

2.3.4 Warning Realized by Declarative Sentences:

Declarative sentences are basically used to provide information to the hearer, but it is worth noting that they can also be used to achieve certain illocutionary forces such as: warning, threatening, prohibition, order and etc. The following Qur'anic verses listed below have the form of declarative sentences and can fulfill the illocutionary force of warning:

١- { وَاللَّهُ لَا يُحِبُّ كُلَّ مُخْتَالٍ فَخُورٍ } الحديد ٢٣

(And Allah likes not prideful boasters) (Hilali and Khan,1996:779)

٢- { وَأَنَّ الْمُسْرِفِينَ هُمْ أَصْحَابُ النَّارِ } غافر ٤٣

(And *Al-Musrifun* (i.e. polytheists and transgressors of Allah's set limit), they shall be the dwellers of Fire!) (Hilali and Khan,1996:672).

٣ { أَفَلَمْ يَسِيرُوا فِي الْأَرْضِ فَيَنْظُرُوا كَيْفَ كَانَ عَاقِبَةُ الَّذِينَ مِنْ قَبْلِهِمْ دَمَّرَ اللَّهُ عَلَيْهِمْ وَلِلْكَافِرِينَ أَمْثَالُهَا } محمد ١٠

(Have they not travelled through the earth and seen what was the end of those before them? Allah destroyed them completely, and a similar (fate awaits) the disbelievers) (Hilali and Khan,1996: 725).

٤ { مَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَنْهُ فَإِنَّهُ يَحْمِلُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ وِزْرًا } طه ١٠٠

(Whoever turns away from it (this Qur'an- i.e. does not believe in it, nor acts on its orders), verily, they will bear a heavy burden (of sins) on the Day of Resurrection).(Hilali and Khan,1996: 456).

2.3.5

Warning by Realized Conditional Sentences : Arab grammarians show that conditional sentences can be classified under the category of directive speech act. For instance: if one said to you “if you don't come earlier, you'll be dismissed”, he warns you indirectly that in case you don't do X , then Y will occur. This point is corresponding with Searl's account.(As-sammara'i(2007:161).

Structurally, conditional sentences consist of two related clauses. The first clause is known as “the verb clause” while the other is “the result clause”. This type of sentences can be constatives and performatives. They are constatives since they describe something or give a certain fact, as in the following sentences:

- 1- من تشجع أشجع (whosever you encourage, I'll encourage)
- 2- أينما تذهب أذهب (wherever you go, I'll go)

Conditional sentences can also be a kind of performatives. They can perform certain illocutionary acts. What concerns us in this section is the speech act of warning conveyed by conditional sentences. Consider the following examples:

١- {وَمَنْ أَعْرَضَ عَنْ ذِكْرِي فَإِنَّ لَهُ مَعِيشَةً ضَنْكًا وَنَحْشُرُهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ أَعْمَى} طه ١٢٤

1- (But whosoever turn away from My Reminder (i.e. neither believes in this

Qur'an nor acts on its teachings), verily, for him is a life of hardship, and we shall raise him up blind on the day of Resurrection) (Al-Hilali and Khan,1996: 459).

٢٤- {وَمَنْ يَكْفُرْ بِالْإِيمَانِ فَقَدْ حَبِطَ عَمَلُهُ وَهُوَ فِي الْآخِرَةِ مِنَ الْخَاسِرِينَ} المائدة ٥

(And whosoever disbelieves in faith (i.e. in the oneness of Allah and in all the other Articles of Faith, i.e. His (Allah's Angels, His Holy Books, His Messengers, the Day of Resurrection and Al-Qadar (Divine preordainments), then fruitless is his work and in the Hereafter he will be among the losers) (Al-Hilali and Khan,1996:163).

3.1 Conclusion

1- This research sheds light on the concept of warning including : types, classifications, pragmalinguistic features of warning in English and Arabic.

2-The illocutionary force of warning in English and Arabic is realized by different forms.

3-As we have already said speech acts of warning fall within the category of directives since the speaker wants to direct his/her addressee towards a course of action by revealing its negative value and disadvantageous consequences.

4- There is a coincidence between sentence type and the illocutionary force.

5 - The speech act of warning is overlapped with other speech acts like advice and threatening.

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