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## Arabic and English conjunctions in selected literary texts: A pragmatic contrastive analysis

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### Abstract

The recent paper investigates the English and Arabic conjunctions from a pragmatic standpoint. In two selected books, notably Mahfouz's 'Palace of Desire' and Steinbeck's 'East of Eden,' the analysis reveals the pragmatic significance of these conjunctions. The paper's data are analyzed as far as Dijk's (1979) is concerned. The findings of the study are as follows: (1) Conjunctions in Arabic and English differ at every level. (2) Conjunctions in Arabic and English have pragmatic meanings. (3) Throughout both works, the word "and" is overused pragmatically in both Arabic and English languages. (4) Conjunctions are used in Arabic and English books in distinct ways.

**Keywords:** Conjunctions in English, conjunctions in Arabic, pragmatic conjunctions, functions of conjunctions, Arabic-English pragmatics

### Introduction

Connection is a significant problem when dealing with sentences as a model structure, and it is discussed more below. Relationships are established between sentences to provide a cohesive whole that conveys meaning. Authors and writers frequently use conjunctive wording to describe links between concepts or facts. Thus, conjunctions help people understand and appreciate the content of a particular text. Conjunctions come in various forms and can be used for a variety of purposes, including emphasis, persuasion, opinion, comparison, conclusion, cause and effect, illustration, contrast, addition, and sequencing, depending on how they connect the preceding and subsequent speech acts.

According to Dijk (1979), Conjunctions can trick us since they might convey a variety of purposes. This study aims to define conjunctions pragmatic functions of conjunctions in Arabic and English. It also seeks to determine the different pragmatic purposes of Arabic and English conjunctions and investigate the successful usage of pragmatic conjunctions in determining the writer's intended meaning. Identifying the pragmatic and semantic roles of Arabic and English conjunctions is another goal of the present investigation.

This study proposes the following hypothesis: firstly, Arabic and English conjunctions vary in degree in the fields of pragmatic functions. Secondly, conjunctions in Arabic and English serve pragmatic purposes and their semantic and lexical implications. Thirdly, additive conjunctions in Arabic writing are less frequent than English text. Fourthly, there are certain discrepancies between Arabic and English literature conjunctions regarding their pragmatic roles. The recent study is restricted to the English conjunctions (and, but, or, so, if) as employed in Dijk's model and their equivalents in Arabic (و، لكن، لذلك، أو، إذا) and to examinations of the pragmatic roles of the target conjunctions in John Steinbeck's and Najib Mahfouz's target novels. English instructors and students, researchers, and translators may find the current study valuable. Linguistically, it may provide insight to the individuals mentioned above by assisting them in comprehending the link between the kind of conjunction and its function in different contexts. This study attempts to answer the following research questions: (1) What are English conjunctions pragmatically? (2) What are the pragmatic meanings of Arabic conjunctions? (3) How are English conjunctions used pragmatically in the English novel? (4) How are Arabic conjunctions used pragmatically in the Arabic novel? (5) How are pragmatic conjunctions employed in Arabic and English literature in general and novels, in particular, are similar and different?

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### English Conjunctions: Pragmatic Viewpoint

These three types of conjunctions are a) coordinating conjunctions that join the major clauses to form a compound sentence; b) subordinate conjunctions that come at the beginning of a

subordinate phrase, such as ‘that, nonetheless, because, if, till, since, before, after, while, when’; and c) correlative conjunctions, that connect two grammatical parts of equal value, like ‘either...or, neither...nor, both, but; Linking adverbs, also known as conjunctive adverbs, are employed to link two distinct clauses or phrases. Conjunctive adverbs are widely employed to contrast and compare things, explain events sequence, or show cause and effect links. If it is used to link two sentences or phrases, it is called conjunction (Bardzokas, 2012) [8].

Austin (1962) [6] points out that gestures, winks, pointings, shruggings, frowns, and other expressions link words. Since the pragmatic usage of connecting particles is tightly tied to speaking acts, he questions whether (I admit) or (I conclude) are performatives (Austin, 1962) [6]. He also specifies certain focused or performative conjunction particles:

- ‘Still’ means “I insist that.”  
 ‘Therefore’ means “I conclude that.”  
 ‘Although’ means “I concede that.”

Austin’s point of view may lead to additional research into speech acts as well as their combinations. Dijk investigates the pragmatic function of conjunctions or performative verbs (1979). This could lead to a better understanding of Dijk’s point of view through the framework of speech act theory. The focus of speech act theory is on statements made in face-to-face situations. Essential pragmatic processes that are unnoticed include the aims of speaking activities (Zufferey, 2010) [54]. Consider the following example:

1. a- “Let’s go!”  
 b- “But, I’m not ready yet.” (Dijk, 1979, p.451)

Dijk is interested in the pragmatic role of conjunctions, which varies depending on the sort of conjunction and the context in which it appears. The multi-functionality of conjunctions leads to various interpretations of the entire text, each contributing to constructing a cohesive whole in the process.

The mentioned sentence reflects Heeman and Allen’s definition of conjunctions as “devices which are conjectured to give the hearer information about the discourse structure; they help the hearer understand the relationship between the present or new speech and what was previously said.” (Heeman & Allen, 1999) [32].

When it comes to establishing circumstances and showing meanings, context is critical. Given that “the parent who says to a child (your ears are filthy)” is providing the child with the knowledge that he/she should go and wash, the youngster will perceive that utterance as a command (James, 1980, p.120) [36].

### Arabic Conjunctions: Pragmatic Viewpoint

Al-Hadeed (2004) verifies that syndesis or “al-atf” means the presence of an article connecting two words or sentences. The latter performs the same function as the verb and are composed of the same element. For instance, ذهب علي ومحمد (Ali and Mohamed departed) may be broken down into two parts to make it easier to understand: ذهب علي, محمد. The usage of (waw و) eliminates the need to repeat the verb. Conjunctions have three roles, according to him. They are as follows: 1) Absolute resemblance in speech and meaning (waw و , fa-ف , thumma ثم , hatta حتى). 2)

Conditionally sharing the same speech and meaning (Aw او , Am ام). 3) Affirmation of the preceding or provision of the polar opposite (bal بل , lakin لكن , la ل) (Al-Hadeed, 2004). Syntactically, conjunctions may be detected in Arabic “Hurouf Al-Atf حروف العطف” (Abdul Hameed, 1980). Ibn Aqeel divides them into two groups based on their diverse linguistic applications: 1) The use of conjunctions (waw و , thumma ثم , faa ف , hatta حتى , am ام , aw او). 2) Particles of amendment (Bal بل , Lakin لكن , La ل). He asserts that each tool performs particular meanings and purposes in each conjunctions. Others, such as Carter (2004), assigned the idea (adawat أدوات) = tools to conjunctions. Many researchers have studied Arabic conjunctions syntactically and compared them with English ones, like Al Warraki and Hassanein’s study, which revealed that the Arabic conjunction of coordination (wa و) differs from the English conjunction of coordination (and) (Ibrahim *et al.*, 2000).

In context studies, Arabic pragmatics occurs since it is the flow of speech and how it is connected together (Al Samarraee, 2002). Context can be classified in two ways, according to Shadeed (2004): Al Maqaly and Al Haly (situational) (textual). The following examples explain how (wa و) is used and what it means in different situations.

12. "لَا تَأْخُذْهُ سِنَّةٌ وَلَا نَوْمٌ"  
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No slumber can seize Him, nor sleep” (Ali, 1987, p. 18). Something occurs before the other in this case. Because slumber precedes sleep, the context is in the order of what happens first.

### Methodology

The investigation compares and contrasts how conjunctions are used and function in Arabic and English books. The present study compares and determines the functions of conjunctions in Dijk’s (1979), namely English conjunctions in Steinbeck’s novel and Arabic conjunctions in Mahfouz’s novel. An important objective is to discover contrasts and similarities between two or more things via contrastive research (James, 1980) [36].

### Dijk’s (1979) Point of View

According to Dijk (1979), the semantic application of conjunctions are obvious in connecting ideas, while the pragmatic applications are discovered in linked speaking acts. Conjunctions, or connectives as Dijk (1979) names, provide the following pragmatic functions:

- a. (and’s) pragmatic roles include: For example: 1) statement, 2) continuation or addition, 3) Concessive, 4) contradiction or protest
- 1) “Yesterday we went to the movies and afterwards we went to the pub for a beer.”
  - 2) “Why didn’t Peter show up? And where were you that night?”
  - 3) “Harry has counted me out. And, I even hadn’t had a chance!” (Dijk, 1979, p. 450)

a. The pragmatic roles of (but) include: 1) contrastive 2) pragmatic, 3) protest (when a fundamental condition is not satisfied, 4) refusing the previous speech, 5) expressing surprise, 6) concatenating, for instances:

- 1) "Harry was ill, but he came to the meeting anyway."
- 2) a. "Let's go"  
b. "but I'm not ready yet."
- 3) a. "Can you tell me the time?"  
b. "but you have a watch yourself!"
- 4) "but you had your hair cut!"
- 5) "Yes, I'll buy a mink coat. But I must first ask my boss for a promotion." (Dijk, 1979, p. 451-52)

b. The Pragmatic role of (or) include: 1) A rhetorical question" check", 2) A rhetorical question "make sure", 3) A rhetorical question "correct", 4) explaining the first speech act, 5) politeness, for instances:

- 1) "Do you want a sandwich? Or aren't you hungry?"
- 2) "Give me a hand, will you? Or don't you want it fixed?"
- 3) "Don't you think Harry needs a vacation? Or, haven't you noticed how tired he looks these days?"
- 4) "Shut up! Or, don't you see I'm busy?"
- 5) "Could you lend me a hundred guilders? Or, are you short of cash yourself right now?"

There is a dearth of information about essential circumstances in the communication environment when utilizing (or) (Dijk, 1979, p. 452)

c. (so) has the following pragmatic roles: For example: 1) conclusion (based on the semantic connection cause/consequence), 2) claim, 3) indirect conclusion, and 4) ironic conclusion.

- 1) "I was sick, so I stayed in bed."
- 2) "John is sick. So let's start."
- 3) "a. I'm busy.  
b. So, you are not coming tonight?  
a. I'm sorry."
- 4) "a. Give me that hammer!  
b. So, you are in charge here?" (Dijk, 1979, p. 454)

d. The Pragmatic roles of (if) include: 1) Modal conditional for speech act, 2) ascertaining (advice), 3) ascertaining (compliment), rhetorically (advice), Rhetorically (advice, promise), for instances:

- 1) "If you're hungry, there is some ham in the fridge." and its feature may be (if...then).
- 2) "Take that one, if you want my advice."
- 3) "You look fine if I may say so."

Thus, to Dijk (1979), conjunctions are listed under "pragmatic connectives" and link two speech acts. He says: "conjunctions are a set of expressions from various categories which express relations between propositions or facts."

For contrastive analysis, these conjunctions in English may have certain equivalents in Arabic as follows:

- And (represents a synonym for the Arabic conjunction 'Wa' [و])
- But (represents a synonym for the Arabic conjunction 'Lākin' [لكن])
- Or (represents a synonym for the Arabic conjunction 'Aw' [أو])
- So (represents a synonym for the Arabic conjunction 'lidhālik' [لذلك])
- If (represents a synonym for the Arabic conjunction 'Idhā' [إذا])

A speech act refers to an utterance that has a communicative purpose. These conjunctions link the major speech act and the subordinate speech act. Dijk's primary notion is that they have many functions depending on the context, which might be used as a model for interpreting the data.

### The Analyses of English Conjunctions in Steinbeck's novel

#### 1. "You want to tell me something, and you're walking around it like a terrier around a bush."

In the example above, the conjunction (and) connects the first clause's 1 (representative) speech act "You want to tell me something" with the second clause's (representative) forthcoming speech act "you're wandering around it like a terrier around a bush". As a result, a conjunction (and) reveals (assertion).

#### 2. "I guess I am, and I'm years older too."

In the example above, the conjunction (and) joins the first clause's (representative) act of speech "I suppose I am" only with the second clause's (declarative) act of speech "I'm years older too". Thus, the conjunction (and) in this example denotes (addition or continuation).

#### 3. "If I asked you, would you do me one more kindness and maybe save my life."

The conjunction (and) links a first clause's (declarative) utterance "would you give me one more courtesy if I asked?" in the example above. With the arrival of a second sentence's (declarative) speech act (maybe save my life). In this statement, a conjunction (and) is used (concessive or conditional).

#### 4. "I only got it through my skin, and not much of it stuck."

The conjunction (and) joins a first clause's (declarative) speech act "I only got it through my skin" with a second clause's (declarative) act of speech "I only got it through my skin" in the example above (not much of it stuck). As a result, this conjunction (and) occurs (contradiction or protest).

#### 5. "I don't want to get out of bed, but I also don't want to stay there."

The conjunction (but) connects the first clause's (declarative) speech act "I don't want to get out of bed" with the second clause's (declarative) speech act "I don't want to stay in bed either" in the example above. The conjunction (but) is clearly visible (pragmatic contrastive).

#### 6. "I admired him at times, but I despised him the majority of the time."

In the example above, the conjunction (but) connects a first clause's (declarative) utterance "occasionally I admired him" with the next clause's (declarative) upcoming speech act "most of the time I hate him". In conclusion, the word (but) occurs in the sentence (protest).

#### 7. "I'm sure you would if you could come. But I'm against it."

The conjunction (but) connects the first clause's (declarative) speech act "I'm sure you'd come if you could" to the second clause's (declarative) upcoming speech act "I'm against it" in the example above. As a result, the

conjunction (but) functions as a data source (refusal or unacceptance of the previous speech act).

**8. - “Well, that’s how it is with me.”**

- **“But, how did you get hurt?”**

In the example above, the conjunction (but) links the first clause's (representative) speech act “well, that's how it is with me” to the second clause's (representative) imminent speech act “how did you get hurt”. As a result, the conjunction (but) is readily apparent (express surprise).

**9. “Maybe sometime. I’ll get what you have, but I haven’t got it now.”**

In the example above, the conjunction (but) connects the first phrase's (representative) speech act “maybe sometimes. I'll get what you have” and the approaching speaking act (declarative) in the second clause “I haven't got it now”. As a result, the conjunction (but) results in (concatenation).

**10. “Did you or didn’t you?”**

In the example above, the conjunction (or) connects the first clause's (representative) speech act “did you” with the second clause's (representative) coming speech act “didn't you”. The conjunction (or) emerges as a result (rhetorical inquiry "check").

**11. “Is that a joke, or do you mean it?”**

In the example above, the conjunction (or) connects the (representative) speech act “is that a joke” of the first clause with the (representative) coming speech act “do you mean it?”. As a result, (rhetorical inquiry "make sure") is generated by the conjunction (or).

**12. “Don’t you want to hear Adam? Or are you slipping into your cloud bath?”**

The connective (or) in this example provides a relationship between the (representative) speech act of the first sentence “don't you want to hear Adam?” as well as the (representative) speech act of the second clause. and the second clause's (representative) coming speech act “are you slipping into your cloud bath?”. The conjunction (or) appears as a result (rhetorical inquiry "right").

**13. “I’m not having any fun. Or anyway, I’m not having enough.”**

The conjunction (or) is used in the preceding example to link the first clause's (declarative) speech act “I'm not having any fun.” to the second clause's (representative) coming speech act “anyway, I'm not having enough”. As a result, the conjunction (or) can be seen (explanation for the first speech act).

**14. “Now you boys get away from it, or I’ll have to send you to school.”**

In this example, the conjunction (or) joins the (directive) speech act of the first clause “now you boys get away from it” with the (commissive) coming speech act of the second clause “I'll have to send you to school”. As a result, the conjunction (or) is demonstrated (politeness).

**15. “I don’t know, so what can I believe?”**

The conjunction (so) connects the first clause's (declarative) impending speech act “I don't know” with the second clause's (representative) upcoming speech act “I don't

know” in the example above “what can I believe”. Thus, the conjunction (as) exemplifies (conclusion).

**16. “I’m fixed, so I don’t have to live in a place like this.”**

In the example above, the conjunction (so) connects the (declarative) speech act “I'm fixed” of the first phrase with the (representative) coming speech act “I don't have to live on a place like this” of the second clause. As a result, (so) appears as a conjunction of (assertion).

**17. - “But if you’re going to farm, you’d better farm.”**

- **“So we’re going to buy more land.”**

The conjunction (so) links the first clause's 'declarative' speech act, "but if you're going to farm, you'd want the best farm," to the second clause's "declarative" speech act "we're going to buy more land." As a result, the conjunction (so) draws attention to itself (indirect conclusion).

**18. “You can’t go outside, so I want you boys to go to bed.”**

The conjunction (so) in the above example joins the (directive) speech act of the first clause “you can't go outside” with the (directive) coming speech act of the second clause “you can't go outside” “I want you boys to go to bed”. As a result, (so) appears as a conjunction of (ironic conclusion).

**19. “And I figured if I waited till the end, they wouldn’t expect me to run away.”**

The conjunction (if) in this example connects the first clause's (declarative) speech act “I figured” with the second clause's (declarative) upcoming speech act “I waited till the end, they wouldn't expect me to run away”. As a result, there is conjunction (if) of (modal or typical conditions).

**20. “I was thinking how nice it would be if you went to him and told him you’d done it.”**

In the example above, the first clause's (representative) speech act “I was thinking how nice it would be” is related to the second clause's (representative) coming speech act “you went to him and told him you'd done it”. As a result, (if) is reflective of (determining "advice").

**21. “Might have been good if I had looked into you.”**

In the preceding example, the conjunction (if) connects the (representative) speech act “Might have been good” of the first sentence with the (representative) coming speech act of the second clause “I had looked into you”. As a result, (if) is used to denote (determining "compliment").

**22. - “It’s strange to me and almost sinful here.**

- **“If you wanted a stone, you’d have to go a long way for it.”**

The (representative) speech act of the first clause " It's strange to me and almost sinful here " and the (declarative) coming speech act of the second clause " you wanted a stone, you'd have to go a long way for it " (if). As a result, the conditional (if) phrase has the meaning of (rhetorical advice).

**23. - “That’s what I have accepted.**

- **“If you accept that you won’t live!”**

The conjunction (if) links the first clause's (declarative) speech act "that's what I've accepted" to the second clause's

(representative) coming speech act "you accept that you won't live" in the example above. As a result, rhetorical promise is exemplified by the conjunction (if).

## 6. The Analyses of the Arabic Conjunctions in Mahfouz's Novel

All the translations of the following quotations into English are taken from Hutchins *et al.* (1991)

1. " طبعاً يا سيدي إنها صداقةُ العُمر وليست لهواً ولعباً." (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 13)

- "Of course, naturally, sir. It's a lifelong friendship and not something to be trifled with or taken lightly."

The Arabic conjunction (wa- و), in this example, links the first declarative speech act of a clause "طبعاً يا سيدي إنها صداقةُ العُمر" with the second declarative one in "وليست لهواً ولعباً". To conclude, the conjunction (wa- و) here shows the pragmatic function of assertion.

2. "لأن أحاديثها ودعابتها ظاهرة البراءة." (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 271)

- "Her conversation and little jokes are obviously innocent."

In the above example, the Arabic conjunction (و) connects the first declarative speech act in "لأن أحاديثها" to the second representative speech act in "دعابتها ظاهرة البراءة". As a result, the conjunction (wa و) in this quotation generates an addition or continuation.

3. " هاتوا سلماً، وأنا أقبضُ عليها." (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 33)

- "Fetch a ladder so I can grab it."

The above example reveals the Arabic conjunction (wa و) which is equivalent to the English one (and); it connects the first clause's directive speech act "هاتوا سلماً" with the second representative one "أنا أقبضُ عليها". So, the conjunction (wa, "و") in this example demonstrates the concessive or conditional pragmatic function.

4. "بعضُ الناس يُخلقون للسيادة، وبعضهم يُخلقون للعبودية." (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 42)

- "Some people are born to rule and others to serve."

The above example involves the Arabic conjunction (wa و), which is equivalent to the English (and); to connect the representative speech act of the first clause "بعضُ الناس يُخلقون" and the second representative one "وبعضهم يُخلقون" with the second representative one "للسيادة". So, the conjunction (wa, "و") here demonstrates a "contradiction or protest".

5. "إن الأزهريين يتعلمون كذلك بالمجان ويشغلون بالتدريس، ولكن أحداً لا يستطيع أن يحتقرَ علومهم." (Mahfouz, 2006, p.64)

- "The students who do their advanced training at al-Azhar Mosque don't pay tuition. They became teachers, and no one can despise their fields of learning."

The Arabic conjunction (lakin "لكن"), which is similar to the English (but), joins the first clause's declarative speech act in "إن الأزهريين يتعلمون كذلك بالمجان ويشغلون بالتدريس" with the second declarative speech act in "أحداً لا يستطيع أن يحتقرَ علومهم". Thus, the conjunction (lakin "لكن") in this quotation shows a "contrastive pragmatic" function.

6. " قيمٌ جليلةٌ بلا شك، ولكن أين البينة التي ترفعها إلى المنزلة اللائقة بها؟" (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 91)

- "NO doubt these are lofty values, but where are they respected as they should be?"

The Arabic conjunction (lakin "لكن"), which is equivalent to the English one (but), links the first clause's representative speech act "قيمٌ جليلةٌ بلا شك" with the second clause's declarative speech act "أين البينة التي ترفعها إلى المنزلة اللائقة بها؟".

As a conclusion, the conjunction here displays a "protest" as a pragmatic function.

7. " لا أستطيع أن أرفض لك رجاء، ولكن صداقتنا أعزُّ لدي من رجائك." (Mahfouz, 2006, p.11)

- "I would not be able to refuse a request from you, but our friendship is dearer to me than your request."

Like the English conjunction (but), the Arabic one (lakin "لكن") unites the first representative speech act of the first clause "لا أستطيع أن أرفض لك رجاء" with the declarative speech act of the second one "صداقتنا أعزُّ لدي من رجائك". Thus, the conjunction (lakin "لكن") reveals a refusal or unacceptance of the previous speech act.

8. " وتبئارك بسيدنا الحسين ولكن لم تهتز لك شعرة يوم ثبت لنا من تاريخه أن جثمانه غير ثاوٍ في ضريحه القريب." (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 89-90)

- "You seek the blessing of our master al-Husayn but are unruffled by the revelation that his remains may not repose in the nearby sepulchre."

The Arabic conjunction (lakin "لكن"), which resembles the English (but), unites the first clause's declarative speech act "وتبئارك بسيدنا الحسين" with the second clause's declarative speech act "لم تهتز لك شعرة يوم ثبت لنا من تاريخه أن جثمانه غير ثاوٍ في ضريحه القريب". So, the conjunction (lakin "لكن") here displays an "express surprise".

9. " لا ترمني في وجهي بالنهم، فقد اتسع لك حلمي حتى الآن، ولكن لكل شيء حد." (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 373)

- "Don't insult me to my face. I've been very lenient with you until now, but everything has a limit."

In this example, the Arabic conjunction (lakin "لكن") is an equivalent to the English (but). It connects the directive speech act of the first clause "لا ترمني في وجهي بالنهم، فقد اتسع لك" with the declarative speech act of the second clause "لكل شيء حد". Thus, the conjunction (lakin "لكن") shows a "concatenation" as a pragmatic function.

10. " أفي حاجة أنا أن أذكرك بأن العظمة شيء غير العمامة والطربوش أو الفقر والغنى؟" (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 199)

- "Do I need to remind you that true majesty is not determined by whether a person wears a turban or a fez and is poor or rich?"

The Arabic conjunction (aw, أو), which may be seen of as an equivalent to the English (or), connects the (representative) speech act of the first clause (أفي حاجة أنا أن أذكرك بأن العظمة شيء غير العمامة والطربوش) and the (representative) coming speech act of the second clause (الفقر والغنى). To conclude, a rhetorical question "check" is shown by the conjunction (aw, أو).

11. "أستطيع أن تؤكد عن يقين أنها لا تحبُّ هذا الشخص أو ذلك؟" (Mahfouz, 2006, p. 273)

- "Can you be sure that she doesn't love one person or another?"

The Arabic conjunction (aw, و), which is comparable to English (or), combines the (representative) speech act of the first sentence (أستطيع أن تؤكد عن يقين أنها لا تُحبُّ هذا الشخص) with the (representative) upcoming speech act of the second clause (ذلك). As a result, the conjunction (aw, و) re-emphasizes rhetorical query "be sure".

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12. - "تَقْصِدُ بَيْتَ السُّلْطَانَةِ؟  
- أو بيت أبي، أليس الوُدُّ مُتَّصِلاً؟"

(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 345)

- "You mean at the sultana's house?"

- Or my father's. Hasn't their affection continued?"

The Arabic conjunction (aw, أو), which can be compared to the English (or), is used to link the (representative) speech act of the first clause (تَقْصِدُ بَيْتَ السُّلْطَانَةِ؟) and the (representative) coming speech act of the second clause (بَيْتٌ) in this example. As a result, the rhetorical question "correct?" is presented via the conjunction (aw, أو).

13. "لم تَعُدِ السَّمَانَةُ مَوْضِعَ العَصْرِ أو على الأقل فالتحافة موضحة كذلك عند الكثيرات."

(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 44)

- "Plumpness is no longer in fashion nowadays, or at least, many think slimness as fashionable as plumpness."

The preceding example contains the Arabic conjunction (aw, أو), which may be regarded as an equivalent of the English (or), and it connects the declarative speech act of the first clause "لم تَعُدِ السَّمَانَةُ مَوْضِعَ العَصْرِ" and the representative speech act of the second clause "على الأقل فالتحافة موضحة كذلك عند الكثيرات". As a conclusion, the conjunction in this example indicates an "explanation" for the first speech act.

14. "أرجو أن لا ترميني بلهجة المتطوّل أو يدسّ أنفي في خاصّ شئونك."  
(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 268)

- "I hope you won't think I'm intruding or poking my nose into your personal affairs."

In this case, there is an Arabic conjunction (aw, أو) that can be compared to the English (or) since it connects the expressive speech act of the first sentence "أرجو أن لا ترميني بلهجة المتطوّل" with the representative coming speech act of the second clause "يدسّ أنفي في خاصّ شئونك". So, the conjunction (aw, أو), in this example, indicates "politeness".

15. "والحقُّ أنه غيرُ جديرٍ بالثقة لذلك لم أَلحَ عليه."  
(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 10)

- "And in truth he's not trustworthy. That's why I didn't insist on it."

The Arabic conjunction (aw, أو), in this example, links the declarative speech act of the first sentence "والحقُّ أنه غيرُ جديرٍ بالثقة" with the declarative speech act of the clause "لم أَلحَ عليه". This conjunction, as a result, may be considered as an equivalent to the English (so), it reveals a pragmatic function of a "conclusion".

16. "هي كما قُلْتُ لك، ولذلك يُنْذِرُ أن تجذبَ أحدًا من أولادِ الناسِ الطيبين."  
(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 62)

- "It's just as I said. For that reason, it rarely attracts students from good families.

The Arabic conjunction (lidhalik, "لذلك") in this example links the representative speech act of the first clause "هي كما قُلْتُ لك" and the "representative" speech act of the second clause "يُنْذِرُ أن تجذبَ أحدًا من أولادِ الناسِ الطيبين". Thus, the conjunction (lidhalik, "لذلك") shows "assertion".

17. "يا بختك! لذلك تَمضي الأيام - عيني عليك باردة - وانت من التغيّر في حصن!"

(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 47)

- "How lucky you are! That's why –and I don't envy you – no matter how many years pass, you're impervious to change."

The Arabic conjunction (lidhalik, "لذلك") in this quotation is comparable to the English (so), it connects the expressive speech act of the first sentence "يا بختك" with the second representative speech act "عيني عليك باردة - وانت من التغيّر في حصن!". Thus, the conjunction here denotes an "indirect conclusion".

18. "أكرر الشُّكر، يا سبت ام مريم.  
- لذلك كان أول ما قُلْتُ لياسين افندي، دعني اتأكد أولاً من موافقة والدك."

(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 176)

- "Mrs. Umm Maryam, I can only repeat my thanks.

- "For that reason, the first thing I told Yasin Effendi was: let me be sure your father agrees before anything else."

The Arabic conjunction (lidhalik, "لذلك"), which can be regarded as an equivalent to the English (so), is used to link the expressive speech act of the clause "أكرر الشُّكر، يا سبت ام مريم" and the declarative speech act of the second clause "كان أول ما قُلْتُ لياسين افندي، دعني اتأكد أولاً من موافقة والدك". So, the conjunction (lidhalik, "لذلك") shows an "ironic conclusion" clearly.

19. "قُلْتُ لِنَفْسِي إذا لم يحضر السيّد احمد كما وعدتني فلا هو ابني ولا انا أمه."  
(Mahfouz, 2006, p.299)

- "I told myself that if al-sayyid Ahmed didn't come as he promised, he's not my son and I'm not his mother."

The conjunction (Idha, "إذا") in this quotation combines the first "representative" speech act "قُلْتُ لِنَفْسِي" with the second "declarative" one "لم يحضر السيّد احمد كما وعدتني فلا هو ابني ولا انا أمه". As a result, the conjunction here denotes "modal or typical conditionals" for speech act.

20. "حَصَّصْ لِلْفِكْرِ إذا شِئتَ عموداً في الصفحة الأخيرة"  
(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 442)

- "If you want, you can devote a column on the back page to thought."

The Arabic conjunction (Idha, "إذا") in this quotation unites the representative speech act of the first clause "حَصَّصْ لِلْفِكْرِ" with the representative speech act of the second clause "شِئتَ". Thus, the conjunction (Idha, "إذا") has a pragmatic function of "ascertaining advice".

21. "على انه في وسعي دائماً أن أحملها على الإذعان لمشيئتي اذا أردت!"  
(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 276)

- "If I ever need to, I can always make her defer to me."

The first declarative speech act "على انه في وسعي دائماً أن أحملها" and the second declarative one "أردت" are linked by the Arabic conjunction (Idha, "إذا"), it is analogous to the English (if). As a result, it pragmatically represents a "ascertaining compliment".

22. "يا سيّد احمد لا تواجذني اذا صارحك بآنك تُبّر نقودك هذه الأيام بلا حساب."

(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 173)

- "Al-SAYYID AHMAD, please excuse me if I tell you frankly that you're spreading money recklessly these days." In this quotation, the Arabic conjunction (Idha, "إذا") is used to link the expressive speech act of the first clause "يا سيّد احمد لا تواجذني" and the declarative one in the second clause "صارحك بآنك تُبّر نقودك هذه الأيام بلا حساب". The conjunction (Idha, "إذا") in this example may be considered a "rhetorically advice" as far as Dijk's classification is concerned.

23. "ولن تسعدي انت اذا اتعبتني بوجع الدماغ."

(Mahfouz, 2006, p. 487)

- "You won't find any happiness by making me unhappy and giving me a headache." The Arabic conjunction (Idha, "إذا"), which is equivalent to the English (if), connects the (commissive) speech act of the first clause "ولن تسعدي انت" and the (representative) one the second clause "اتعبتني بوجع الدماغ". The conjunction (Idha, "إذا") is considered a "rhetorically promise" in Arabic according to Dijk's (1979) classification.

### Discussion of the Results

Conjunctions in Arabic and English provide pragmatic purposes and their semantic lexical meanings. The preposition (and) usage is comparable in both the Arabic and English books, where its pragmatic roles are found in large numbers with sophisticated functionality in both languages.

According to the data analysis findings, the usage of the words (but) in English and (lākin) in Arabic to indicate astonishment is extremely limited. It is only in one instance that some pragmatic functions of (lākin [لكن]) are found in Arabic, for example: concatenating, expressing surprise, refusing the previous speech act.

In addition, the Arabic pronoun (lākin [لكن]) is sometimes used in conjunction with additional pronouns such as (lākinnany, lākinnahu, lākinnaha...); however, they are not included in the current study.

When it comes to the pragmatic function of (or) in English (aw) in Arabic, the most common use is when deciding between two things. In both works, the other pragmatic functions are only sometimes employed.

Both works make use of the conjunction (so) in English and (lidhālik) in Arabic, which are both employed in different ways. It has the same meaning as the term (very) in English. There are just a few instances of the pragmatic roles of (so) listed in the model across the Arabic and English novels.

Because the conjunction (if) is most commonly used in English for "modal conditional or typical conditional" for speech acts, and other pragmatic functions are only used infrequently in the two novels, there are some variations in use of connectives in Arabic and English novels. "Modal conditional" or "typical conditional" is the most commonly employed pragmatic use of the connective (if) in English, whereas other functions are only used occasionally.

It is believed that the current study would be the first to analyze the pragmatic roles of conjunctions in novels written in both Arabic and English. The most significant contribution of this study is that it assists EFL learners and translators alike in overcoming the difficulties associated

with framing texts and deciphering the intended meanings hidden behind words.

### Conclusions

The recent study arrived at the following conclusions

#### A. The pragmatic roles of English conjunctions concerning the selected English novel are

The pragmatic roles of the conjunction (and) include assertion, addition or continuation, concessive or conditional, contradiction or protest.

The pragmatic roles of (but) include pragmatic contrastive, protest, concatenation.

The pragmatic roles of (or) include a rhetorical question (check), explaining the first speech act.

The pragmatic functions of (so) include a conclusion and assertion.

The pragmatic functions of (if) include: modal conditional or typical conditional for speech act.

#### B. The pragmatic roles of Arabic conjunctions concerning the selected Arabic novel are

The pragmatic roles of ([wa] و) include assertion, addition or continuation, concessive or conditional, contradiction or protest.

The pragmatic roles of ([lākin] لكن) include pragmatic contrastive, protest.

The pragmatic roles of ([aw] أو) include: explaining the first speech act.

The pragmatic roles of ([lidhālik] لذلك) include a conclusion.

The pragmatic roles of ([idhā] إذا) include: modal conditional or typical conditional for speech act.

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