CHAPTER V
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CONCLUSION

One of the major problems in the learning of a second language is the interference caused by the structural differences between the native language (L1) and the second language (L2).

The contrastive analysis of English and Arabic grammatical systems carried out in this study reveals the following facts:

English and Arabic, though two different languages, share some common features in their structure. However, there are a lot of structural differences. These differences are the main source of difficulty in learning of English as a second language.

The contrastive analysis of English and Arabic construction types reveals that both the languages have almost the same types and subtypes of endocentric construction. They differ from each other in the use of markers or connectors and the arrangement of the lexical items in the utterances. Arabic uses the additive and alternative markers /wa/ and /?aw, ?am/ corresponding to English 'and' and 'or'. e.g.,
/waladun wa bintun/ 'boy and girl'

/sâgi:ran ?aw (?am) kabi:ran/ 'small or big'

Adjectives, in Arabic, are placed always after the nouns. The adjectives must be in full agreement with the nouns they qualify in number, gender and case. Whereas English attributes precede the heads (see p.38,39).

In Arabic if the noun is indefinite, i.e. the presence of the nunation /n/ at the end, the adjective must be indefinite and vice-versa, e.g.

/rajulum wasi:mun/ 'Smart man'
/ar-rajulu ı̲l-wasi:mu/ 'The smart man'

The order and attribute of the English genitive particle ('S) can be reversed and the particle 'of' can be used e.g.,

The tiger's eye = The eye of the tiger whereas Arabic has difference rules and environments for the genitive (see pp. 39-40).

The word order in English is 'SVO'. Whereas Arabic has a 'VSO' order. Arabic exocentric construction differs from that of English in the predicative type. Arabic predicative construction is suggested by the terms /musnad/ 'M' 'predicate' and /musnad-?ilayhi/ 'MI' 'subject'. The
subject is either a noun (substantive or expressed pronoun) or a pronoun implied in the verb; the predicate is a noun (substantive or adjective), a verb (or preposition with its genitive: an adverb) (see p. 45). Whereas English predicative construction is suggested by the terms topic (subject) and comment (predicate).

English distinguishes four types of sentence structure, viz. simple, complex, compound and compound-complex. Whereas Arabic distinguishes two types of sentence structure, viz. nominal (or Ø copula) and verbal. The nominal sentences consists of two parts: /mubtada?/ 'topic' and /xabar/ 'comment'. Verbal sentences consists of /fi:Eil/ 'verb', /fa:Eil/ 'agent', and /mafEul bihi:/ 'object' (see pp. 46, 47).

Arabic uses a non-verbal construction for some verbs in English, the most notable of which is 'have'. Arabic uses the preposition /li:/ 'to, for', or /Eindi:/ 'with, for 'have', e.g. /li:his:anun/ or /Eindi:his:anun/ 'I have a horse', /li:waladun/ 'I have a son'.

The analysis and contrast of English and Arabic phrase structure rules reveal that the VP constituent in Arabic precedes the VP constituents. Whereas in English it follows the NP constituents.
Articles in English and Arabic are mutually exclusive, that is, no more than one article can precede a noun phrase. The Arabic equivalent of English 'this' as a determiner is always followed by the definite article and therefore demonstratives are considered predeterminers in Arabic e.g.,

'This man' /ha:j a ar-rajulu/

Arabic differs from English by having only one definite article, that is, /?a l/ 'the'. There is no indefinite article in Arabic, but the presence of nunation at the end of the noun or adjective indicates the indefiniteness. e.g., /waladun/ 'a boy', /jami:lun/ 'a beautiful'. The definite noun or adjective loses its nunation when preceded by the definite article (see p.106). When the definite article prefixed to a word beginning with one of the sun letters, the /l-/ of the definite article is assimilated to the sound it is annexed to. (see p.109).

English noun show three gender distinction: masculine, feminine and neuter, and it has marginal significance in its structure. Whereas Arabic nouns, adjectives and also verbs are either masculine or feminine and their distribution is very significant.

Arabic noun, have a dual number besides singular and
plural which can pose a difficulty for the English speaker learning Arabic as a second language. Whereas English number is restricted to singular and plural.

Again Arabic nouns have two kinds of plural, viz. sound plural (masc. & fem.) and broken plural.

The broken plural of Arabic, which is made according to certain patterns, creates a lot of problems in the learning of Arabic as a second language.

English noun, are inflected for possessive (genitive) case. Whereas Arabic noun, are inflected for three cases: nom, acc. and gen.).

English auxiliary verbs are of two kinds, viz. primary and modal. While Arabic has only one auxiliary verb /ka:na/ 'he was'. The English copula 'am, is and are' are not expressed in Arabic. However, 'was' and 'were', are expressed by the perfect of the verb 'to be'.

The verb in both the languages with its inflection for tense, person, number, gender and mood is not simple, particularly verbs in Arabic undergo a number of morphophonemic changes and are derived from the three consonantal roots is a hard task for the English speakers.
English verbs have three tenses: present, past and future. Each of them has four forms, viz. indefinite, continuous, perfect and perfect continuous. Whereas Arabic verbs have two finite forms denoting complete and incomplete action (perfect and imperfect). Arabic verbs have no indefinite form. The root idea and its derivatives are arranged in dictionary under the heading of 3rd person marculine singular of a simple verb.

The contrast of English and Arabic transformations reveals that the passive transformation in Arabic is complex. The 'by' insertion rule of English does not apply to Arabic. The agent in Arabic passive transformation is deleted. Whereas in English it is indicated after the 'by' element.

Arabic distinguishes two types of passive transformations, viz. perfect and imperfect of trilateral and quadrilateral verbs (see pp. 148, 149).

The NP2 of Arabic active sentences functions as an object in the accusative case and as a deputy or representative of the doer in the passive sentences referring to the agent. (see pp. 151, 161).
English negative sentences are generated by applying the 'not' insertion rule. Whereas Arabic uses different negative particles, viz. /laya/ 'not to be' for nominal sentences, /lan/ 'will not', 'will never' and /lam/ 'did not' for the verbal sentences. (see pp.171,172).

English empatic sentences are generated by the application of Emp. insertion rule. Whereas Arabic distinguishes two kinds of empatic sentences, viz. verbal and logical. (see p.187).

English is more analytical than is Arabic. Thus, in English one needs three words to say 'I killed him'. In Arabic one word renders the whole sentence /qataltuhu/.

Thus, it has been observed that there are certain significant differences between the two languages at grammatical level. It is hoped that the analysis and results of the present work would be helpful for language teachers and in the preparation of text books of English for Arabic students and vice-versa.