

Direct and Indirect Speech in English and Arabic (A contrastive study)

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دراسة مقارنة بين الكلام المباشر وغير المباشر في اللغة الانكليزية والعربية

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المخلص:

يعتبر الكلام هو الوسيلة الاساسية للتخاطب والتي يتم بواسطتها فهم الناس بعضهم البعض الاخر. تهتم هذه الدراسة بتوضيح الكلام المباشر وغير المباشر وذلك بسبب صعوبة التمييز فيما بينهم من قبل متعلمي اللغة، لذا فان الدراسة تحاول التمييز بين اللغة الانكليزية واللغة العربية.

تختلف اللغة العربية عن اللغة الانكليزية باستخدام الضمائر الغائبة في الكلام الغير مباشر فقط بينما في اللغة الانكليزية تستخدم صيغة الضمير الغائب المفرد والذي يستخدم في الكلام الغير مباشر.

يحاول الباحث توضيح الكلام المباشر وغير المباشر في اللغة الانكليزية والعربية.

تحاول الدراسة عرض الفرضيات الاتية: الكلام الغير مباشر في اللغة الانكليزية والكلام المباشر في اللغة العربية يمكن التعبير عنه في الزمن الماضي، اما الكلام المباشر في اللغة الانكليزية يمكن التعبير عنه في (الزمن الماضي، المضارع، والمستقبل). بينما يتم التعبير عن الكلام المباشر في اللغة العربية في زمن المضارع فقط في حين ان الكلام الغير مباشر يعبر عنه في الزمن الماضي. اثبتت الدراسة صحت الفرضيات المذكورة.

الكلمات المفتاحية: اللغة، الكلام المباشر، الكلام الغير مباشر.

Abstract

Speech is a tool of communication and without speech, people cannot understand each other.

Thus, this study concerns to clarify the direct and indirect speech because it is difficult to be distinguished by foreign speakers. Thus, this study tries to differentiate between English and Arabic. Arabic differs from English in using the absent pronouns only in an indirect speech, while in English, the 3rd person singular pronouns are used in indirect speech. The researcher tries to clarify the direct and indirect speech in English and Arabic.

The study proposes the following hypotheses: the indirect speech in English and direct speech in Arabic can be expressed in past tense while the direct speech in English can be expressed in (past, present, and future) but indirect speech expressed in past tense only.

In Arabic, the direct speech can be expressed in present only whereas indirect speech can be expressed in past tense. The study proves the validity of these hypotheses.

key words: language, direct speech, indirect speech,

1-Introduction

Direct speech is defined as the reporting of what someone has said by quoting his / her words, as in " what is it " she asked and "There's a wasp on your back ", She said quietly.

While indirect speech is defined as the reporting of what someone said without using her / his exact words as in Lisa said she would come. If this statement is expressed in an indirect speech, the result would be Lisa said " I'll come " (Trask, 1993" 93).

This research aims to treat the difficulties that are faced the student who is involved in studying English as a foreign language.

This study is also confined to direct & indirect speech in modern standard English and Arabic. In addition to what mention above, this research explains the use of direct and indirect speech for learner. When foreign learner misuses the direct and indirect speech and using grammatical words correctly.

The researcher illustrates the meanings and structures in English, discusses the direct and indirect speech in Arabic. And concerns with a contrastive analysis of direct & indirect speech in English and Arabic. The study ends with conclusions and references.

1. Direct and indirect speech in English

1-1 Direct and indirect Statements:

To change a statement from the direct speech into indirect speech, the following changes are followed:

1-1-a Remove the Commas:

- He said, " Ann might ring today ".
- He said that Ann might ring (that day) (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 272)

1-1-b Change the pronoun from the first person or 2nd person to the 3rd person except when the speaker is reporting his own words such as:

I, me my, mine he (she) his (her) hers, him (her) his.

We, us our, ours they, them their, theirs.

You your, yours they, them their, theirs.

- I bring my book every day ; the book on the desk is mine (direct).
- He said that he brought his book every day ; the book on the desk was his. (indirect).
- She said that she brought her book every day ; the book on the desk was hers (indirect).
- We bring out books every day ; books on the desk are ours (direct).
- They said that they brought their books every day ; the books on the desk were theirs (indirect) (Eckersley, 1960: 362).

Changes in Verbs:

Present Simple Past Simple →

- He said: " New York is bigger than London ".
- He said that New York was bigger than London. (Murphy, 1985: 96)

Present Continuous Past Continuous →

- " I am learning English ".
- He said that he was learning English. (Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960: 362)

Present perfect Past Perfect →

- Professor Baker said, " I have lost my watch ".
- Professor Baker said that he had lost his watch. (Praninsksa, 1957: 95)

Past Simple Past Perfect →

- " The exhibition finished last week ", explained.
- Ann explained that exhibition had finished the preceding week. (Quirk et al., 1973: 384)

Future Tense Future in the Past →

- " I shall see her in London ".
- He said that he would see her in London. (Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960: 364)
- " We may go there late "
- She said they might go there later. (Parrott, 2000: 222)

Conditional Perfect Conditional →

- " If had my pen, I could write the answers "
- He said that if he had his pen, he could have written the answers. (Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960: 362)

Future Continuous Conditional →

- " I will be speaking in the interview ".
- He said that he would be speaking English in the interview. (Khraisat, 2013: 213)

1-1-d Use of " that " as a conjunction. This conjunction may be dropped. (Al- Bayati, 2011: 195)

The conjunction that is often dropped, especially after common reporting verbs (e.g. say, think) in informal speech.

- She said (that) she'd had enough.
- I think (that) you're probably right.

That cannot be dropped after certain verbs (e.g. reply, telegraph, shout) and it is not usually dropped after nouns.

- I replied that I did not intend to stand for election.
 - She shouted that she was busy.
- (Swan, 1996: 502).

1-1-e Use tell when you say who you are talking to:

- Kelly told me that you were sick. (not Kelly said me) tell somebody.

Use say when you can say something to somebody.

Ann said goodbye to me and left (not Ann said me good – bye). (Murphy and Smalzer, 2002:90)

1- 1 - if there is a change in time – reference, a modal auxiliary is back shifted from present tense forms to past tense forms even if there do not normally indicate past time in direct speech.

- " You may be able to answer this question " ; he told her.
- He told her that she might be able to answer that question.

If modal auxiliary in direct speech is already in the past tense form, then the same form remains in the indirect speech:

- " you shouldn't smoke in the bedroom " he told them
- He told them that they shouldn't smoke in the bedroom.

Most of the modal auxiliaries, in the direct speech, are already in the past tense form, then the same form remains in indirect speech:

- You must be hungry ; he said.
- He said that they must be hungry.

In its obligational sense, however, the past of "must" may be replaced by had to in indirect speech:

- " You must be in ten tonight " his parents told him.
 - His parents told him that he $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{must} \\ \text{had to} \end{array} \right.$ be in ten that night.
- (Greenbaum and Quirk, 1999: 301)

1-1-g The demonstrative pronouns are usually changed to " the "

- He said, " I brought his diamond ring for my wife ".
- He told me he had brought the diamond ring for his wife.
- **She heard the noise of breaking glass, so she went into the living room. She returned with two large rocks and said, " I found these on the floor under the window ".**
- She told me she had found the rocks on the floor under the window.

A place expression usually replaces the word " here ".

- She said " you can sit here ".

She said I could sit on the floor / beside her / in the big chair, and so on. (Pollock, 1982: 78)

1 – 2 Direct and Indirect Questions:

Questions that are reported using indirect speech are called indirect questions.

Thus, the principal types of questions in English are called: questions.

1. Question – word question or (wh – questions).
 2. Yes / No questions.
- (Sheeler, 1978: 73)

1-2-1 Indirect information questions or (wh – questions):

When we turn direct questions into indirect speech, the following changes are necessary.

Tenses, Pronouns and Possessive adjective, and adverbs of time and place are changed as in following statements.

The interrogative form of the verb changes to the affirmative form. The question mark (?) is therefore omitted in indirect questions:

- He said " Where does she live " ?
 - He asked where she lived.
- (Dixson, 1980: 49)

With affirmative verb questions, this change is obviously not necessary:

- " who lives next door " ? he said.
 - He asked who lived next door.
- (Thomson and Martinet, 1986: 277)
- Where will you be staying ?
 - They wanted to know where we be staying.
- (Shepherd et al, 1984: 90)

1-2-1-a The interrogative construction of the direct question is replaced by statement construction in the indirect question. So, (do, does, did) of the direct speech is not used in the indirect question.

1-2-1- b The verb that introduces the indirect question is asked (or some similar verb, e.g. enquired, wondered, wanted to know according to the shade of meaning to be expressed.

- " Why do they go to Paris so often " ?
- He asked me why they went to Paris so often.
- Why did you come here ?
- He asked me why I had come here.

(Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960:366)

1-2-2 Indirect Questions: yes / no questions:

We usually ask people to do things for us by making: Yes / No questions (This is because a Yes / No questions appears to leave people free to refuse). (Swan, 1996: 507)

In reporting Yes / No questions, the subordinators if and whether are used. There is no difference in meaning.

As usual, the subject comes before the verb in the clause and the verb tense is changed.

- The president asked, " Do you vote for me " ?
 - He asked if I had voted for him.
 - He asked whether I had voted for him.
 - He asked whether I had voted for him or not.
- (Pollock, 1982:81)
- Shall I go to meet your students ?
 - He asked if he should go to meet my students
- (Chatmajian, 2005: 343)
- " Are you ready yet " asked Joan.
 - Joan asked (me) whether I was ready yet.
- (Quick et al,1970: 788)
- Has Mary spent all the money ?
 - He asked if Mary had spent all the money.
- (Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960: 366)

1-3 Indirect Speech with Imperatives:

An imperative is a request or command. Imperatives are formed by using the base form of the verb with no subject expressed.

- Come here.
- Sit down.
- Listen to me.

Negative commands use don't.

- Don't sit down.
- Don't worry.
- Don't tell anyone.

An affirmative imperative is reported in Indirect Speech by using an infinitive (to + base form of the verb).

- Alan (speaker): " Call me tonight, Jim ".
 - Jim (reporter: Alan asked me to call him tonight.
- (Sheeler: 1978: 78)

When a direct command is turned into an indirect one, the following will be noticed:

1-3-a The verb used is not say (with to) but one like order, command, tell, ask, request, according to the shade of meaning intended.

1-3-b A direct object, representing the person ordered, is introduced.

1-3-c The imperative form of the verb in the direct command becomes the corresponding infinitive.

(Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960: 366)

1-3-d Imperatives that are requests use " ask " as the reporting verb. Commands use " tell ". Compare two sets of examples above.

1-3-e The word " please " is frequently omitted in the indirect imperative, but it can appear within the infinitive with negative requests the word " please " not is used within the infinitive.

- Please leave your shoes outside.
- He asked us to please leave our shoes outside.
- Please don't hang up yet.
- She asked me to please not hang up yet.

(Sheeler, 1978: 78)

- Go away:
- He ordered him to go away.
- Officer (the soldiers): Fire !
- The officer commanded the soldiers to fire.

(Eckersley and Eckersley, 1960: 368)

1- **4 Indirect Speech: Adverbials of time and place** adverbials of time include such words as: today, tomorrow, now, then, and such expressions as last year, in the morning, etc.

Adverbials of place are such words as here, there, and expressions such as the office, on the corner, etc.

When you report what someone else has said, you must use time and place words that are correct for the time when you are reporting and the place where you are reporting from. Let us take the following examples:

- Mr. Failor and Mr. Johnson are talking together in Mr. Johnson s home. it is Tuesday evening.
- Mr. Johnson: I hope you can have lunch with us tomorrow.
- Mr. Failor: I'd like to very much.
- Mr. Johnson: Why don't you come to my office first ?
- I want to meet Mr. White.Well go to lunch from there.
- Mr. Failor:All right. I'll meet you there at noon tomorrow.

Now it is 11:00 am.On Wednesday,the next day.

Mr. Johnson and Mr. White are talking.

- Mr. Johnson: Mr. Failor is coming for lunch. I'd like you to meet him and go to lunch with us.
- Mr. White: Fine. I'd like that.What time will we go ?
- Mr. Johnson: Mr. Failor said he'd meet us here at noon today.

Compare Mr. Failor direct speech, and Mr. Johnsons report of what he said:

- Mr. Failor (speaker): will meet you here at noon tomorrow
- Mr. Johnson (reporter): Mr. Failor said he'd meet us here at noon today.

Mr. Johnson had to change the adverb of place " there " to " here " because he was in his office when he reported the speech. Note also that it was necessary for him to change the time word " tomorrow " to " today "

(Sheeler, 1978: 78)

1- 5 Reporting Exclamations:

Exclamations become statement in indirect speech.

- " What a terrible day " !
- He said it was a terrible day.
- " What a beautiful car " !.
- He said I had a beautiful car.

Exclamations such as " Oh no " ! and " Ugh " ! are usually expressed by a sentence that explains the person's feelings.

- "Oh no " I have a run in my stocking.

She exclaimed with disgust that she had a run in her stocking.

Or

- She gave an exclamation of disgust and said that she had a run in her stocking.
- Familiar expressions such as the following are reported in statement form.
- He said " Thank you ". He thanked me.
- She said, " Good morning ". She greeted me.
- They shouted. " Congratulations " .
- They Congratulated me.'
- He said, " Okay ". He agreed with me
- He said,: Aw, come on ". He didn't believe me.
- She said, " You're kidding" .She didn't believe me.
- He said, " Really " ? he was surprised.

(Pollock, 1982: 86)

2-1 The name: It is one part of speech in Arabic. It may be expressed as:

2-1-1 The pronoun

2-1-1-a Pronouns of the speaker:

They are either separate like (I = a pronoun refers to the male and female speakers) or (we = a pronoun refers to the group of speakers) or connected pronouns like (تاء الفاعل المضمومة = T a pronoun in Arabic), (ألف الاثنين) = a pronoun refers to the two persons) and (نا = a pronoun refers to group of speakers).

- (فهمتما = understanding)
- (فهمنا = understanding)

(Elewi, 2012:15)

2-1-1-b The pronouns of addressee:

They are either separate pronouns like (أنتَ = you, a pronoun refers to the male addressee), (أنتِ = you, a pronoun refers to the female addressee), and (أنتما = a pronoun refers to the group of addressee) or connected pronoun like (تاء الفاعل المفتوحة) = T a pronoun in Arabic).

These two types of pronouns refer to the idea of direct speech because the speaker and the addressee are parts in direct speech. The speech renders from the speaker to the addressee and the last receives the speech directly without any retarding in the tense.

2-1-1- c Absent Pronouns:

They are either separate like (هو = a pronoun refers to male absent), (هي = a pronoun refers to female absent), (هما = a pronoun refers to two absent persons), (هن وهم = a pronoun refers to the group of absents) or connected pronouns like (الهاء = a pronoun refers to the male and the female absents).

According to the idea of direct and in direct speech in Arabic, the speech that contains absent pronouns is indirect speech because it is not addressed to recipients directly but with difference in time.

(Elewi, 2012:15)

2-2 The Verb is a word indicates the same meaning in conjunction with one's time.

The divisions of the verb are: the past tense, the present tense and the imperative tense.

The researcher will discuss the past tense only since the the paper is limited to it.

The past tense is evidencing the coupling happened before the time of one's time and grades. It has such features as:

A- Acceptance (تاء التأنيث الساكنة = the T pronoun in Arabic).

B- His originality building an conquest if not related thing or contacted by (تاء التثني الساكنة) = the T pronoun in Arabic).

Tense building on the (الضم = Annexation sign) if contacted by (واو الجماعة) = a pronoun refers to the group of persons).

Building on (السكون = Dormanty sign) if contacted by (ضمير رفع متحرك) = the conscience of the moving lift).

Like (تاء الفاعل) = the T pronoun in Arabic).

(Al- Rajehi, 1972: 102)

2-3 Direct and Indirect Speech in Antonomasia

2-3 Antonomasia

Antonomasia is one of the styles of figure of speech, that human speak with but he means another meaning that means the human will not reveal about his intention directly, if he leaves the declaration.

Conventionality, it is an expression released and intended to accurate meaning with an indication that does not prevent of initial meaning conation like "Zaid has long bandolier" it means that he is great and courage so it departs from declare this character, due to it connotes the ling of sword strap derived from the tall of sword holder also connotes the tall of the body reflect to the courage therefore, the intended meaning is the tall of the body even if he doesn't have a bandolier, through which is correct to say that it is intended the real meaning, thus we could realize that the difference between antonomasia and metaphor is the reality of initial meaning conation in antonomasia excluding the metaphor due to it contravenes that like.

" Allah Most Gracious and firmly established on throne of authority " and was told by the sense of ridicule.

(Al- Hashimy, n.d.: 288)

Antonomasia divided into three parts, they are:

- 1- Insinuation as language definition: the opposite of declaration. Conventionality: it is to release the speech and indicate to another meaning that can be understood from the context like " Taste this truly it is thou Mighty full of honor".
- 2- Antonomasia as language definition: it is indicated for another person indirectly conventionality: is who increased his instruments without insinuation like.
- 3- Allegory as language: is to indicate for a person that he is approaching to you covertly like to use your lip or eyebrow. Conventionality: is that who decreased his instruments with hidden ness in requisite without insinuation.

Antonomasia, it is the most fine types of Rhetoric and most accurate and more eloquence than the truth and declaration it enables the human of expression about too many things that he avoids to declare it openly

either as respecting to the spoken to or for vaguely of the audients or to impress his foe without gave him any chance to beat him or disdain the from hearing offensive words. (Al-Baset and et al, 1981: 364)

2-3-1 Moral Ameliorative

Paronomasia is the term that is discussed in this section.

It can be defined conventionally as follows it is to mention the speaker individual expression that has two meanings one of these meanings is easily understood from unintended and the other is deep and concealed and it is indicated by indication but it has been disguised by the simple meaning. So, the audience assume that the first time of the intended meaning but it is not like:" it is He who doth take your souls by night and hath knowledge of all that ye have done by day ".

(وهو الذي يتوفاكم بالليل ويعلم ما جرحتم بالنهار)

(Al – Hashimy, n. d.: 301)

A contrastive analysis of direct and indirect speech between English and Arabic

3-1 The Similarities:

We express about indirect speech in English in the past tense and also we express about direct speech in Arabic in the past tense.

- " I shall see her in London " (Direct Speech)
- He said that he would see her in London. (Indirect Speech)
- We were understanding. فهِمْنَا →

We notice in the previous examples that the indirect speech in both languages English and Arabic were in the past tense.

3-2 The differences:

Direct and Indirect speech in English	Direct and Indirect speech in Arabic
1- In the pronouns: We use the pronouns, the first person or the second person in direct speech, but in indirect speech we use the pronouns of the 3 rd person only. - " We may go there later " - She said they might go there.	1- In the pronouns: We use the pronouns of the speaker and the pronouns of the addressee in direct speech, but in indirect speech we use the pronouns of absent only. - ألف الاثنين (فهمنا = a pronoun refers to group of speak. - هو من قال فهمنا - (هو a pronoun refers to the male absent).
2- In the tense: we express direct speech in the (present, past, future) tense, but in indirect speech we express it in the past time only. - " I shall see her in London ". (future tense) (direct speech) - He said that he would see her in London. (past tense) (indirect speech). - " I wrote home every week ". (present tense) (direct speech) - He said that he would wrote home every week.(past tense) (indirect speech). - " I wrote a letter to my brother " .(past tense) (direct speech). - He had written a letter to his brother.(past tense) (indirect speech).	In the tense: We express direct speech in the present tense only, but in indirect speech we express it in the past time only.
3- We don't use it in English language.	3-We use indirect speech with Antonomasia which means human spoke which means another meaning through which the human will not reveal about his intention directly. - (أحب أحدكم أن يأكل لحم أخيه ميتاً) - " Would any of you like to eat the flesh of his dead brother ".

٤-1 Conclusions:

It is concluded that the indirect speech in English and the direct speech in Arabic can be expressed in the past tense.

In addition to that, the direct speech in English can be expressed in (past, present, future) tenses but in indirect speech can be expressed in the past tense only.

While, in Arabic the direct speech can be expressed in the present tense only but in the indirect speech can be expressed in the past tense only.

The overall results of the present study can be summarized as follows:

1. Similarities:

In English, the indirect speech can be expressed in the past tense while in Arabic, the direct speech can be expressed in the past tense.

2. Differences:

In English, the direct speech can be applicable in (present, past, future) tenses, but in indirect speech it is expressed in the past time only.

In Arabic, the direct speech can be expressed in the present tense only, but in indirect speech it is expressed about the past time only.

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