**Linking Adverbials in the Writings of Kurdish Private School Students in Comparison to Native Speakers**

**Abstract**

This study is extracted from an MA thesis entitled “Linking Adverbials in the Writing of Private School Students in Erbil City”. It investigates the way private school students in Erbil city use linking adverbials in their essays in comparison to native speakers. The study consists of two corpora, a native corpus and a learner corpus. The learner corpus is comprised of 80 essays written by 11th–year students from four private schools in Erbil city and the native corpus is comprised of 20 essays written by American native speakers extracted from the Michigan Corpus of Upper-Level Student Papers (MICUSP) (2009). The study specifically attempts to discover which linking adverbial categories and which individual linking adverbials are overused or underused, and in which positions in the sentence. The results showed that private school students explicitly overused enumeration/addition, and summation categories while underused contrast/concession category. For individual linking adverbials, the results indicated that learners overused some linking adverbials such as *in conclusion*, also, *first(ly),* *second(ly),* etc. In contrast, they underused *rather*, *still*, *though*, *that is*, etc. the results also demonstrated that learners preferred to place linking adverbials in initial position.

**Keywords: Linking adverbials, native speakers, and private school students.**

**1. Introduction**

Halliday and Hassan (1976) consider cohesion to be a significant textual factor to write well-constructed texts. One way to achieve cohesion and coherence in a piece of writing is through the proper use of linking adverbials. Linking Adverbials (LAs hereafter) along with coordinating conjunctions and subordinating conjunctions play a significant role in establishing cohesion in the text (Celce-Murcia and Larson-Freeman, 1999). Thus, understanding the use of these adverbials is very important for second-language learners. Learners of English face difficulties in using LAs properly such as overuse, underuse, or misuse of these adverbials. Many researchers have reported those problems mentioned above which face EFL (English as a foreign language) learners in using LAs with different mother tongue backgrounds (e.g. Granger and Tyson,1996; Chen,2006; Xu and Liu,2012; Park, 2013; AL Sharif, 2017, etc.). This study investigates LA use by private school students in Erbil city in comparison to native speakers in terms of frequency of use and sentence positions. According to the researcher’s knowledge, it is the first study that is conducted in this area on private school students in Erbil city. It tries to answer these questions:

1. What are the differences between private school students and native speakers in using LA categories?
2. Which linking adverbials are overused or underused by private school students in Erbil city?
3. What are the differences between private school students and native speakers in preferring LA positions?

**2. Linking Adverbials**

Oshima and Hogue (1997) defined linking adverbials as words or phrases which link ideas among sentences or clauses. Biber et al. (1999) argue that ‘their primary function is to state the speaker/writer’s perception of the relationship between two units of discourse’ (p.875). Linking adverbials are peripheral in the clause structure, Quirk et al (1985). This means that they are outside the clause construction.

Linking adverbials (LAs) have been termed differently by scholars. However, all scholars agree on their connective role and their contribution to textual coherence. Quirk et al. (1985) name them *conjuncts*; Halliday (2004) calls them *conjunctive**adjuncts*; Huddleston and Pullum (2002) label them as *connective adjuncts*; Celce-Murcia and Larsen-Freeman (1999) call them *conjunctive adverbials***.** In this study, Biber et al.’s label, linking adverbials, is used as the model of the study. The suitability of the term resides in the combination of the two words linking and adverbial, which shows the primary function of this category: its connective role in the text and its behaviour as an adverbial in a sentence.

**2.1. Semantic Categories of Linking Adverbials**

Linking adverbials can express various relationships among units of discourse. They are classified into different semantic categories and each LA can be put under one of these categories and some of them can be put under more than one category.

Grammarians have provided different semantic classifications of LAs. Quirk et al (1985) classify LAs into seven major categories: *Listing*, *summative*, *appositional*, *resultive*, *inferential*, *contrastive*, and *transitional*. Halliday and Hassan (1976) have only four main categories: *additive, adversative, causal*, and*temporal*. Celce-Murcia and Larson Freeman (1999), and Liu (2008) have also classified them into *additive, adversative, causal*, and *sequential* categories. Carter and McCarthy (2006) have classified them into *additive, meta-textual, contrastive, concessive, resultative, time, listing, summative,* and *inference.* This study follows Biber et al’s (1999) classification that classifies linking adverbials into six categories: *enumeration/addition, result/inference, contrast/concession, apposition, summation*, and *transition.*

**Table 1 Biber et al’s classification of linking adverbials**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| LA category | Examples |
| Enumeration/addition | First, second, moreover, more,  what’s more, in addition, etc. |
| Result/inference | So, therefore, thus, as a result, hence, consequently, etc. |
| Contrast/concession | Yet, however, instead, rather, still, on the contrary, in contrast, etc. |
| Summation | To sum up, in conclusion, to conclude, in summary, etc. |
| Apposition | For example, that is, in other words, that is to say, e.g., etc |
| Transition | Now, by the way, meanwhile, incidentally, meantime, etc. |

**2.2. Positions of Linking Adverbials**

LAs can occur in different positions in a sentence. That is to say, they are comparatively free to occupy initial, medial, or final positions. Biber et al. (1999) argue that the most frequently occurring place for linking adverbials is initial in both conversation and academic prose. Similarly, Larsen-Freeman and Celce-Murcia (1999) state that ‘placement in the sentence-initial position makes them most salient’ P. 536. Thus, Biber et al (1999) consider initial position as the unmarked position, and Quirk et al. (1985) consider initial position as the normal position for linking adverbials. They also argue that many conjuncts are almost restricted to this position such as *so, (what is) more, hence, yet, still, besides, else.*

The second common position for linking adverbials in academic prose is medial while final position is the least common position (Biber et al. 1999; Larsen-Freeman and Celce-Murcia, 1999). Several LAs can normally occur medially such as *however, nevertheless, also, in other words, on the contrary, thus, therefore,* etc. (Quirk et al., 1985). In final position, we can find LAs such as *in other words, anyhow, anyway, though, then.*

**3. Literature Review**

Studies on the use of linking adverbials in EFL learners have occupied a large space in corpus linguistics. Since 1990s researchers (e.g. Crewe, 1990; Field and Yip, 1992; Milton and Tsang, 1993; Granger and Tyson, 1996; Altenberg and Tapper, 1996, etc.) have compared the use of LAs by EFL learners with different L1 backgrounds to native speakers of English under more general terms such as connectors, conjunctions, and logical connectors. These researchers have primarily investigated issues of overuse, underuse, and misuse of LAs by EFL learners. For example, Field and Yip (1992) compare Cantonese writers with native speakers in using conjunctions as cohesive devices in their writings. The results showed that Cantonese writers used a significantly higher frequency of cohesive devices, among them conjunctive adverbials, in their English writing than their native-speaker counterparts. The study reveals that the sentence-initial position is the most common position for all L2 writers.

Recently, in the last ten years, many studies (e.g. Xu and Liu, 2012; Park, 2013; Mudhhi and Hussein, 2014; Ahmad and Wey, 2020, etc.) have investigated LAs in EFL learners’ writings from different levels of education. These researchers have used more specific terms such as conjuncts, conjunctive adverbials, and linking adverbials. Xu and Liu (2012), for example, have investigated the differences in using conjuncts (i.e. LAs) between Chinese EFL learners and native speakers**.** The results of their study demonstrated that Chinese students overuse and inappropriately use conjuncts. They used a small set of conjuncts compared to native speakers. They preferred the initial position while native speakers preferred the medial position. Park (2013) also reports similar results. He examined Korean university students’ use of conjunctive adverbials in argumentative essays with different proficiency levels. The researcher found out that Korean students overused conjunctive adverbials, especially sequential and additive categories. Ahmad and Wey (2020) investigated the use of linking adverbials by pre-university Malaysian students in argumentative essays and compared them to argumentative essays written by British students. The results of their study demonstrated that Malaysian learners used a small set of LAs, overused additive and sequential adverbials, and underused adversative adverbials.

Although many researchers have studied LAs use by learners of English with various L1 backgrounds, there are only a few studies that have investigated Kurdish learners’ uses of LAs. One of these studies is Habbas and Mirza’s (2011) study. They tested students’ ability in identifying and using conjuncts. They found that most students are weak at identifying conjuncts and use a small set of familiar conjuncts. Regarding the categories, enumeration/ addition category was the most used type by students. Another study is Aziz and Nuri’s (2021) study. They investigated the use of conjunctive adverbials by Kurdish university students. They discovered that Kurdish learners overused CAs and they tended to use more sequential and additive CAs than causals and adversatives. Additionally, they highly relied on initial positions rather than medial and final ones.

The current study, therefore, intends to present more information about Kurdish EFL learners’ uses of LAs. It investigates LAs in the writings of 11-year students in private schools in Erbil city in comparison to professional native speakers.

**4. Data and Analysis Procedures**

**4.1. Learner Corpus**

For this study, 100 essays were randomly collected from 11th-year students in four private schools in Erbil city whose language of instruction is English. The number of essays was then reduced to 80 because some of them were identical. The schools are *The Private Nilufer Girls’ Secondary school*; *Ishik Secondary School which is a boys’ school*; *Cambridge International School-Capital,* a co-educational school having grades from 1-12; and *Classical School of the Medes,* a co-educational school having grades from 1-12. Most of the essays are argumentative with some exploratory and descriptive ones. Some essays have been written at home and some others in class. The essays were relatively short ranging between 118 to 576 words. The total number of words in the essays is 23035 words.

**4.2. Native Corpus**

As Leech (1998) argues, ‘the goal of foreign language learning is to approximate closer and closer to the performance of native speakers. Therefore, learners’ writings should be compared with native speakers to evaluate the level of their writing appropriateness. But which native speakers are appropriate to be used as models for learners? Leech (1998) argues that not all native speakers are appropriate models for learners to imitate. Ishikawa (2013) proposes native speaker teachers, instructors, and professional business persons as a model of native speakers’ essay writing. Thus, in this study highly educated students’ essays, i.e. undergraduate and graduate students, rather than native high school students have been chosen to compare with 11th-year students in private schools in Erbil city.

The Michigan Corpus of Upper-Level Student Papers (MICUSP) (2009) which is a sub-corpus of the Michigan Corpora has been used in this study. This Corpus is a collection of 829 A-grade papers from a range of disciplines across four academic divisions (Humanities and Arts, Social Sciences, Biological and Health Sciences, Physical Sciences) of the University of Michigan (U-S) in the United States. MICUSP has been created by a group of researchers and students at the English Language Institute, University of Michigan. The texts have been collected between 2002-2009.

For the purpose of comparison with private school students, the researcher of this study extracted only 20 essays from MICUSP because they are longer than the essays written by private school students (PSS). The essays are from different disciplines such as English, Linguistics, psychology, education, sociology, philosophy, history and classical studies, and economics. They are written by graduate and final-year undergraduate students which are all Native American speakers. The total number of words in the native speakers’ corpus of this study is 23785 words. Table 2 below shows the overall information about the data of this study.

**Table 2 Summary of the data of this study**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Native speakers (NS) | Private School Students (PSS) |
| Number of essays | 20 | 80 |
| number of words | 23785 | 23035 |
| Mean words per essay | 1167 | 287 |

**4.3. Data Analysis Procedures**

All LAs have been identified manually in the corpora. All the occurrences of the items which function as linking adverbials have been checked clearly in order to assure whether they are functioning as LAs or not because they can also have other functions such as an adjective or an adverb, etc. Only when the item has a connective role and is peripheral to the clause structure, that is, the omission of it does not affect the grammatical structure of the clause has been kept as data for this study.

Other occurrences, for instance, the occurrences of *so*, and *still* in the following

examples have been excluded.

So, let’s go home. (Interjection)

This man is so funny. (adverb)

Still waters run deep. (adjective)

Is it still raining? (adverb)

After extracting all tokens of LAs in the corpora, they were put under the six semantic categories proposed by Biber, et al. (1999) which are: Enumeration/ addition, summation, result/inference, contrast/concession, apposition, and transition. And it was taken into consideration that some LAs could have more than one semantic function such as *then* that can be used for enumeration/ addition and for result/inference as follows:

First, turn the lights on; *then*, go inside the building. (Enumeration and addition)

If it is locked, *then* we’ll need the key. (Result/inference)

Then each LA position was identified to find out the preferred position by private school students and native speakers and identify the similarities and distinctions between the two groups.

After identifying all LAs in the two corpora and counting the frequency of the occurrence of each LA, a log-likelihood (henceforth, LL) test was utilised to determine whether the frequency differences between the learner corpus and the native corpus have reached statistical significance or not. The log-likelihood calculator which was utilised in the current study is available at <http://ucrel.lancs.ac.uk/llwizard.html>. The results of LL enable us to make inferences about the differences in the frequency between the two corpora. That is, it tells us whether the differences are by chance or significant. According to Rayson (2003) cited by Dutra et al. (2019), when the result of the LL is greater than 3.8 and smaller than 6.6, there is less than a 5% probability for the result to be by chance, expressed by p>0.05. When the LL result is 6.63, it means that the probability of the result to by chance is less than 1% and we can be 99% sure that the difference between the two corpora is not random. The higher the LL result, the more significant is the difference between two frequency scores. As follows:

* 95th percentile; 5% level; p < 0.05; critical value = 3.84
* 99th percentile; 1% level; p < 0.01; critical value = 6.63
* 99.9th percentile; 0.1% level; p < 0.001; critical value = 10.83
* 99.99th percentile; 0.01% level; p < 0.0001; critical value = 15.1

**5. Results and discussion**

**5.1. Comparison of LA Categories in the two corpora**

Regarding answering the first question of the study, the results of the data analysis showed that private school students overused enumeration/addition, and summation categories while underused contrast/concession category relative to native speakers. Table 3 shows that private school students overuse summation category most frequently, with the log-likelihood value of 24.34 +, then enumeration/addition category, with the log-likelihood value of 6.43+. The results of the log-likelihood test also show that contrast/concession category is underused by learners relative to native speakers at a level that is statistically significant, with the log-likelihood value of 6.17-.The frequency usage of the other categories, namely, apposition, result/inference, and transition, between the two groups has not reached statistical significance. The frequency of apposition LAs is nearly the same between the two groups, 17 to 18, with the log-likelihood value of 0.01-. Transition category was slightly underused by learners, with the log-likelihood value of 3.80-. Result/inference category was slightly overused, with the log-likelihood value of1.37+.

**Table 3 Comparison of LA categories in the two corpora**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| LA Categories | Learner corpus | Native Corpus | LL Value |
| Enumeration and addition | 112 | 80 | 6.43 + |
| Result/inference | 67 | 56 | 1.37 + |
| Contrast/concession | 49 | 79 | 6.17 - |
| Summation | 22 | 1 | 24.34 + |
| Apposition | 17 | 18 | 0.01 - |
| Transition | 1 | 6 | 3.80 - |
| Total | 268 | 240 | 2.57 + |

Many previous studies confirm that there is a tendency among learners of English with different levels of education to overuse linking adverbials of enumeration/addition and underuse LAs of contrast/concession, although they have used different categorizations. One of these studies is Chen’s (2006) study who found that Taiwanese advanced learners overused additive (in the current study, addition and apposition) and temporal (in the current study, enumeration, and summation) linking adverbials and underused adversative (in the current study, contrast/concession) linking adverbials compared to native speakers. Granger & Tyson (1996) also found that French and German learners overuse connectors which perform functions such as giving examples and adding points to the argument and underused connectors of contrast. Mudhhi and Hussein (2014) reported overuse of additive and causal (result/inference) categories and underuse of adversative and temporal categories by Kuwaiti students. Sebzavari et al. (2016) found the same results as Mudhhi and Hussein (2014) among Iranian EFL writers. Ahmad and Wey (2020) found that Malaysian students overused additive, sequential (in the current study, enumeration and summation) and causal LAs while underused adversative category.

Thus, the results of the current study are in line with previous studies which report that learners of English usually overuse linking adverbials of summation, enumeration/addition, and result/inference categories while underuse linking adverbials of contrast/concession category. These results show a drastic difference between native and non-native groups in terms of their preference for using LAs, and it also shows organizational and structural differences in their writings. Non-native students frequently depend on those LAs which are used to list, add, and enumerate ideas to organize their writings, while native writers depend more on those LAs which develop their argumentation logically (Park, 2013). Granger and Tyson (1996) observed a similar tendency as they stated ‘learners use most frequently those connectors which add to, exemplify, or emphases a point, rather than those which change the direction of the argument or take the argument logically forward’ (p.20).

**5.2. Overused and Underused LAs**

For answering the second question of this study about overused and underused LAs by private school students, table 4 presents a detailed clarification.

**Table 4 overused and underused LAs**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| LAs (Category) | LC | % | NC | % | LL |
| In conclusion (summation) | 10 | 0.04 | 0 | 0.00+ | 14.19 |
| Also (enumeration/addition) | 73 | 0.32 | 45 | 0.19+ | 7.64 |
| Second(ly)(enumeration/addition | 4 | 0.02 | 0 | 0.00+ | 5.67 |
| As a result (result/inference) | 4 | 0.02 | 0 | 0.00+ | 5.67 |
| First (ly) (enumeration/addition) | 7 | 0.03 | 1 | 0.00+ | 5.23 |
| First of all(enumeration/addition) | 3 | 0.01 | 0 | 0.00+ | 4.26 |
| After all (contrast/concession) | 3 | 0.01 | 0 | 0.00+ | 4.26 |
| So (result/inference) | 32 | 0.14 | 19 | 0.08+ | 3.78 |
| Rather (contrast/concession) | 2 | 0.01 | 11 | 0.05 - | 6.57 |
| Next (enumeration/addition) | 0 | 0.00 | 4 | 0.02 - | 5.42 |
| That is (appositional) | 0 | 0.00 | 3 | 0.01- | 4.06 |
| Though (contrast/concession) | 0 | 0.00 | 3 | 0.01- | 4.26 |
| Now (transitional) | 1 | 0.00 | 6 | 0.03- | 3.80 |
| As well (enumeration/addition) | 1 | 0.00 | 6 | 0.03- | 3.80 |

As can be seen from the table above, private school students overused 8 LAs significantly. The most overused LA is *in conclusion* (LL 14.19, p>0.001) which is from the summation category. Four significantly overused LAs are from enumeration/addition category: *also* (LL 7.64, p>0.01), *second(ly* (LL 5.67, p>0.05), *first(ly* (LL 5.23, P>0.05), and *first of all* (LL 4.26, p>0.05). Two others are from result/inference category: *as a result* (LL 5.67, P> 0.05), and *so* (LL 3.78, P> 0.05); and one is from contrast/concession category which is *after all* (LL 4.26, P> 0.05). This coincides with the previous findings that private school students overuse LAs of summation, enumeration/addition, and result/inference.

Other studies have reported the overuse of those LAs. For instance, two of the most overused LAs by Malaysian students in Ahmad and Wey’s (2020) study were *in conclusion* and *so;* Liu (2013) reported overuse of *so* by Chinese college students. Nakayama (2021) observed overuse of *second(ly),* *first(ly),* *so*, and *first of all* among Japanese EFL learners. Zhang (2014) observed overuse of *in conclusion* among Chinese learners. Ishikawa (2011) discovered overuse of *also* among Asian learners.

The table also indicates that private school students underused 6 LAs to a level that is statistically significant. The most highly underused LA is *rather* (LL 6.57, P>0.01) which belongs to contrast/concession category. LA *though* (LL 4.26, P> 0.05) was another significantly underused linking adverbial which also belongs to contrast/concession category. Two other underused linking adverbials which are *next* (LL 5.42, P>0.05) and *as well* (LL 3.80, P>0.05), belong to enumeration/addition category. One LA is from appositional category which is *that is* (LL 4.06, P>0.05). Another one is *now* (LL 3.80, P>0.05) from transitional category.

The underuse of those linking adverbials in this study is in agreement with some other studies. Ishikawa (2011), for instance, reported underuse of *rather* among Asian learners. Gunes (2017) discovered the underuse of *though* among Turkish advanced learners. Ahmad and Wey (2020) found underuse of *rather*, *as well*, and *that is* by Kuwaiti students relative to native speakers. Park (2003) reported underuse of *rather* among Korean EFL learners. Nakayama (2021) observed the underuse of *though* and *rather* among Indonesian students*.*

**5.3. Positions of Linking Adverbials**

For answering the third question of the study, table 5 shows the comparison of the three sentence positions of linking adverbials by category between learner corpus and native corpus. As the table indicates, there is not a significant difference between the two corpora in the distribution of LAs among the three positions. The initial position occupies %65.2 and %62.5 of LAs in the learner and native corpora, respectively. The medial position occupies %32.4 and %33.3 of LAs and the final position occupies only %2.2 and %4.1 of LAs in learner and native corpora, respectively.

As table 5 shows, both groups used LAs most frequently in the initial position, followed by medial and final positions. This finding is in line with Celce- Murcia & Larson-Freeman’s (1999) argument in which they claim that sentence-initial position is the most salient position for LAs followed by medial and final positions; and Biber et al.’s (1999) findings that initial position could be seen as the unmarked position for LAs with medial position the second most common position in academic writing, leaving final position the least frequent one.

**Table 5 Comparison of LAs positions in the two corpora**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Learner Corpus | | | Native Corpus | | |
| LA category | Initial | Medial | final | initial | medial | final |
| Enumeration/addition | 35 | 72 | 5 | 28 | 46 | 6 |
| Result/inference | 64 | 2 | 1 | 44 | 12 | 0 |
| Contrast/concession | 43 | 5 | 1 | 58 | 17 | 4 |
| Summation | 22 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Apposition | 12 | 5 | 0 | 18 | 0 | 0 |
| Transition | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 5 | 0 |
| Total | 177 | 84 | 7 | 150 | 80 | 10 |
| Percentage | %65.2 | %32.4 | %2.2 | %62.5 | %33.3 | %4.1 |

As the table indicates, there is not a significant difference between the two corpora in the distribution of LAs among the three positions. Initial position occupies %65.2 and %62.5 of LAs in the learner and native corpora, respectively. Medial position occupies %32.4 and %33.3 of LAs and final position occupies only %2.2 and %4.1 of LAs in learner and native corpora, respectively.

The table also shows that the position of LAs depends on their category. Although the initial position is the most common place for LAs in general, enumeration/addition category was used more frequently in medial position by both groups. LAs of this category occurred 72 to 46 times in medial position in learner and native corpora, respectively while they occurred 35 to 28 times in initial position. This finding results from the great frequency of LA ‘also’ which is the most frequent LA in the two corpora as shown in table 5 and is more commonly used in medial position (Celce-Murcia &Larsen-Freeman,1999). Therefore, if enumeration/addition category is excluded from the table, it can be seen that native speakers have used 34 LAs in medial position while private school students have used only 12 LAs in this position. This indicates that private school students rarely use LAs in medial position, except for ‘also’. It could be, therefore, argued that private school students prefer sentence-initial positions for LAs. This means that they are not well aware of the flexibility of LA-positioning in sentence structure. This preference for the sentence-initial position in using LAs by learners of English has been observed by previous studies from various L1 backgrounds (e.g. Lee, 2004; Park, 2013; Zhang, 2000; Granger and Tyson, 1996; Aziz and Nuri 2021, etc.).

Zhang (2000) attributes Chinese learners’ preference for placing LAs in sentence-initial positions to L1 transfer, but since learners from different L1 backgrounds share the same problem, it seems that it is a developmental problem. That is, until learners develop their proficiency, they tend to place LAs mainly in initial position.

**6. Conclusions**

This study explored frequency differences in LAs use between Kurdish private school students and native speakers. The results indicated that private school students frequently overuse LAs of enumeration/addition, and summation while underuse LAs of contrast/concession. For individual linking adverbials, the results indicated that the most overused linking adverbial was *in* *conclusion*, followed by *also, second(ly), as a result, first(ly), first of all, after all,* and *so.* In contrast, the most underused linking adverbial was *rather*, followed by *next*, *that is*, *though*, *now,* and *as well*. The study also discovered that both groups have a tendency to place LAs in sentence-initial position, but this tendency is higher among private school students. However, both groups prefer to place some LAs in medial position such as *also.*

In the light of these findings, some pedagogical instructions are needed. Students need to be taught to distinguish individual LAs semantically. They should be exposed to authentic texts to be instructed properly about the authentic uses of LAs. And teachers can use corpus-based research as a teaching tool that helps them to better identify students’ errors and sources of errors.

**7. Suggestions for further research**

Further research is suggested on the way Kurdish EFL learners use LAs. This study could be replicated with learners from different levels. A study could be conducted on specific LAs or the reasons behind choosing certain LAs by Kurdish EFL learners. A study could be conducted on La use by Kurdish EFL learners in spoken language.

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**بەکار‌هێنانی لێکدەرەکان لە نوسینی قوتابیانی قوتابخانە تایبەتەکان بەراورد بە قسەکەرە ڕەسەنەکان**

**پوختە**

ئەم توێژینەوەیە لە شێوازی بەکارهێنانی لێکدەرەکان(Linking Adverbials)ی زمانی ئینگلیزی دەکۆڵێتەوە لە وتارەکانی خوێندکارانی قوتابخانە تایبەتەکان لە شاری هەولێر بەراورد بە قسەکەرە ڕەسەنەکان. داتای توێژینەوەکە پێکدێت لە (٨٠)وتار کە لەلایەن قوتابیانی پۆلی یانزەی ئامادەیی نوسراوە لە چوار قوتابخانەی تایبەت لە شاری هەولێر وە (٢٠) وتار کە لەلایەن قسەکەرە ڕەسەنە ئەمریکیەکان نوسراوە کە لە کۆرپۆسی میشیگان وەرگیراوە. توێژینەوەکە بەشێوەیەکی دیاریکراو هەوڵدەدات کە پیشانی بدات کام جۆری لێکدەرەکان وە کام لێکدەر بەتایبەتی زیاد یان کەم بەکاردێت لەلایەن قوتابیانی قوتابخانە تایبەتەکان.ئەنجامەکانی توێژینەوەکە دەریان خست کە قوتابیانی قوتابخانە تایبەتەکان ئەو لێکدەرانە زیاد بەکاردێنن کە بۆ مەبەستی ڕیزبەندیکردن و زیادکردنی بیرۆکە بەکاردێن وە هەروەها ئەوانەی بۆ کۆتاییهێنان بە وتار بەکاردێن بەڵام ئەو لێکدەرانە کەم بەکاردێنن کە بۆمەبەستی دەربڕینی جیاوازی و دژیەکی بەکاردێن. وە بەشێوەیەکی تایبەت هەندێک لێکدەر زیاد بەکاردێنن وەکو(in conclusion, also, first )بەڵام هەندێک لێکدەر کەم بەکاردێنن وەکو(rather, still, though ). ئەنجامەکان هەروەها دەریشیانخست کە قوتابیانی قوتابخانە تایبەتەکان زیاتر لێکدەرەکان لەسەرەتای ڕستەدا بەکاردێنن.

**وشە گرنگەکان: لێکدەرەکان، قسەکەرە ڕەسەنەکان، کە قوتابیانی قوتابخانە تایبەتەکان**

**ادوات الربط فى مقالات طلاب المدارس الخاصة مقارنة بالمتحدثين الاصليين**

**مـلـخص**

تبحث هذه الدراسة عن الطريقة التي يستخدم بها طلاب المدارس الخاصة في مدينة أربيل ادوات الربط (Linking adverbials )في مقالاتهم مقارنة بالمتحدثين الأصليين. تتكون الدراسة من 80 مقالة كتبها طلاب الصف 11 من أربع مدارس خاصة في مدينة أربيل و 20 مقالة من مجموعة ميشيغان لأوراق الطلاب من المستوى الأعلى (MICUSP) (2009) كتبها متحدثون أمريكيون أصليون. تحاول الدراسة على وجه التحديد اكتشاف أي فئة من ادوات الربط واي ادوات الربط بشكل خاص تم الإفراط في استخدامها أو لايستخدم بشكل كاف، وفي أي مواضع في الجملة. وأظهرت النتائج أن طلاب المدارس الخاصة بالغوا في استخدام ادوات الربط التى تستخدم للاضافة واختتام المقالة بينما لم يستخدموا الادوات التى تستخدم للتعبير عن فكرتين متضادتين او متقابلتين بشكل كاف. ‌اما بالنسبة لاداوات الربط التی تستخدم بشكل فردي ، أشارت النتائج إلى أن طلاب المدارس الخاصة أفرطوا في استخدام بعض ادوات الربط مثل ( in conclusion, also , first إلخ ). في المقابل ، لم يستخدموا بشكل كاف ادوات الربط مثل ( rather still , though )0كما أظهرت النتائج أيضا أن طلاب المدارس الخاصة يفضلون وضع اداوات الربط في بداية الجملة 0

كلمات المفتاحية :- ادوات الربط ، متحدثون الاصليون ، طلاب المدارس الخاصة