



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECT

The comparative study of conjunctions in English and Kurdish Language

at Salahaddin University College of
Education- English Department

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Certification

We certify that this study was prepared by students (Ledwan Yahya and Zanayar Abdullah) under our supervision at the College of Education/ Salahaddin University- Erbil in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor in English Language.

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Conjunctions are crucial linguistic elements that facilitate coherence and organization in discourse by linking words, phrases, or clauses. This comparative study delves into the usage patterns and cross-linguistic variations of conjunctions in English and Kurdish, shedding light on how these conjunctions contribute to the structure and meaning of sentences in both languages.

Utilizing corpus analysis and linguistic inquiry, this research identifies similarities and differences in conjunction usage between English and Kurdish. It explores conjunctions such as "and," "but," "or," and others, examining their syntactic roles and semantic functions in diverse linguistic contexts.

The study also delves into cultural and pragmatic factors that influence conjunction usage in English and Kurdish discourse. It considers how cultural norms, rhetorical strategies, and communicative goals impact the selection and deployment of conjunctions, particularly in written and spoken communication.

By providing a comprehensive analysis of conjunctions in English and Kurdish, this study enhances our understanding of cross-linguistic variations in conjunction usage and their implications for language processing, discourse coherence, and intercultural communication.

Key word: Comparative, linking, usage.

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Chapter One

Introduction

1.1 Introduction

The study of conjunctions plays a pivotal role in understanding the syntactic structure of languages. This research aims to explore and compare the usage of conjunctions in English and Kurdish, shedding light on the similarities and differences in how these languages establish connections between words, phrases, and clauses. By delving into the nuanced ways conjunctions function in each language, this investigation seeks to contribute valuable insights to the broader field of linguistics, offering a cross-linguistic perspective on the role and patterns of conjunctions in English and Kurdish.

1.2 Research Aim

The aim of the study to show the conjunction's comparison between English and kurdish language.

1.3 Research question

- *What are conjunction in English Language?
- *What are the conjunction in Kurdsh Language?
- *What are similarities and differences of counjunctions in English and Kurdish Language?

1.4 The limitation of the study

this study is limited to study conjunctions syntactically to find out the similarities and difference between English and Kurdish Language.

Chapter Two

Conjunctions in English

2.1 What is Conjunction?

A conjunction is a term or phrase that joins clauses, sentences, phrases, and other words. The word **and** is a commonly used example of a conjunction.

Here are two examples of how we can use a conjunction like and in both a simple and complex way:

- The flower is yellow **and** white. (connects two adjectives)
- The flower is yellow, **and** it has a particular smell. (connects two sentences)

Conjunctions are useful in writing and speech to connect related ideas together, and they help us make our sentences shorter, less repetitive, or less confusing. Some of the most commonly used words are conjunctions. Let's take a look at some examples and how we would use them in sentences.

The following list contains some of the most commonly used conjunctions:

((and, but, or, so, because, however, after, since, during, than, unless, that, while))
(Webster, 2024).

2.2 Types of Conjunction?

2.2.1 Coordinating conjunctions

When joining two words, phrases, or independent sentences that are grammatically equal, this kind of conjunction is utilised. There are seven coordinating conjunctions in English, and you can remember them using the mnemonic device FANBOYS: **for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.**

A conjunction of this type is placed between the items that it links together.

Words

Coordinating conjunctions can join two **nouns, verbs, adjectives, or other types of word.**

- The data was gathered through questionnaires **and** interviews.
- I don't like to run **or** swim.
- He was clever **but** lazy.

Phrases

They can also join different types of phrases.

- The dog wagged his tail **and** panted excitedly
-
- The results were undeniably intriguing **yet** ultimately inconclusive.
- She usually studies in the library **or** at a cafe.

Independent clauses

Independent clauses

A set of words with at least one subject and one verb is called a clause. An independent clause is capable of supporting a complete idea and functioning as a sentence on its own.

- Today Jane Austen is one of the most widely read English novelists, **but** she achieved little fame during her lifetime.

In the sentence above, the coordinating conjunction but creates a relationship between two independent clauses. Therefore, you place a comma before but. Notice that the two clauses also work as sentences on their own.

- Today Jane Austen is one of the most widely read English novelists. She achieved little fame during her lifetime.

Punctuating coordinating conjunctions

Avoid using commas when combining two words or sentences with coordinating conjunctions.

- **You should study and work.**

In these examples, the conjunction joins two words or phrases that are connected to a single verb, so you shouldn't place a comma before **and**.

When joining two independent clauses, however, use a comma before the conjunction.

Data was gathered through questionnaires and selected respondents participated in interviews.	Data was gathered through questionnaires, and selected respondents participated in interviews.
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In these examples, the clauses before and after the conjunction could both stand as full sentences on their own, so a comma is required (Luo, A. 2023).

2.2.2 Subordinating conjunctions

Words like **since, until, while, although, because,** and **if** fall within this category of conjunctions.

A dependent clause is introduced by a subordinating conjunction. A dependent clause, sometimes referred to as a subordinate clause, is a set of words that, unlike an independent clause, consists of a subject and a verb but is unable to function as a complete sentence by itself. A dependent clause needs to always be coupled to an independent clause because it cannot express a complete notion on its own.

- Because I woke up late this morning. I went to school without eating breakfast.
- Because I woke up late this morning, I went to school without eating breakfast.
- I went to school without eating breakfast **because** I woke up late this morning.

I woke up late this morning is an independent clause, but the subordinating conjunction because turns it into a dependent clause: Because I woke up late this morning does not finish a complete thought. It must be joined to an independent clause to form a grammatically correct sentence.

The subordinating conjunction defines the relationship between the clauses. The table below shows some common subordinating conjunctions and the relationships they express, but note that this is not a complete list.

Cause and effect	because, since, as
Time	when, before, after, once, until, whenever, since, while
Place	where, wherever
Condition	if, unless, in case
Contrast	although, though, whereas

Punctuating subordinating conjunctions

When a subordinating conjunction follows an independent clause, a comma is often not necessary. In general, when the dependent clause contains essential information about the independent clause, don't use a comma.

She will receive a major bonus, if she succeeds in closing the corporate partnership deal.	She will receive a major bonus if she succeeds in closing the corporate partnership deal.
John's friends snuck into his apartment to set up a surprise party, while he was at work.	John's friends snuck into his apartment to set up a surprise party while he was at work.

However, when the subordinating conjunction comes at the beginning of the sentence, use a comma at the end of the dependent clause.

If she succeeds in closing the corporate partnership deal she will receive a major bonus.	If she succeeds in closing the corporate partnership deal, she will receive a major bonus.
While John was at work his friends snuck into his apartment to set up a surprise party.	While John was at work, his friends snuck into his apartment to set up a surprise party

(Luo, A. 2023).

2.2.3 Correlative conjunctions

This kind of conjunction joins grammatically equal parts of a sentence and is always used in pairs.. Common pairs include either ... or, neither ... nor, not only ... but also, and both ... and. In most cases, no comma should be used between the two elements.

- Her book on the Vietnam War drew **not only** from interviews with other survivors **but also** from her own experiences in the conflict.

Correlative conjunctions must use parallel structure, which means the two elements should take the same grammatical form.

- She planned to collect data by **either** using an online survey **or** phone interviews.
- She planned to collect data by **either** using an online survey **or** conducting phone interview (Luo, A. 2023).

2.3 Simple, Compound, and Phrasal Conjunctions

Many conjunctions are just one word, such as and, but, so, and either. These are simple conjunctions.

Other conjunctions are compound conjunctions, so called because they consist of two or more words combined to form one word, such as nevertheless, therefore, thereafter, wherever, however, and whenever. A third category of conjunctions, phrasal conjunctions, occur as complete phrases; they include in other words, that is, even if, as such, and to this end. Notice the use of all three of these types of conjunctions in the following examples.

I am going, so you will too. (simple)—

I am going; therefore, you will too. (compound) I am going; as such, you will too.

1. He went to college but he returned soon.

2. Work hard or you will fail.

3. Although the weather is cold, everybody is out.

4. Ali wanted to play football tonight; however, his injury kept him on sidelines (M, Justice, 2022).

2.4 The Function of conjunction

Without a conjunction, life would be a series of short, simple and very frustrating sentences. I like cooking. I like eating. I don't like washing dishes afterwards. Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, or clauses together to form different kinds of sentences. It is very important what the different groupings of words are, so that we can join them together properly and knowledgeably.

A phrase is a collection of words that may have nouns or verbal, but it does not have a subject doing a verb. The following are examples of phrases:

- leaving behind the dog
- smashing into a fence

A clause is a collection of words that has a subject that is actively doing a verb. The following are examples of clauses:

- since she laughs at diffident men
- I despise individuals of low character

If the clause could stand by itself, and form a complete sentence with punctuation, we call the clause an independent clause. Like the second clause above.

If you are unsure whether a group of words is a clause or phrase, break down the words into the parts of speech to help you decide. If there is a subject and a verb with a predicate, it is a clause. If there is a noun but no verb or a verb but no noun and does not have a predicate, it is a phrase. Always keep in mind that sometimes phrases are built into clauses (Raj, T, 2018).

2.5 the Rules of conjunction

Here are the important rules of conjunctions and some conjunction word examples that you must know about:

1. We use **and, as well as, both...and, not only...but** also to clearly emphasize the link between two things.
2. We use **so...as** and **as.....as** to show a comparison between two things, people etc
3. **Although, though** are followed by **yet or comma(,)**
4. Pairs such as **no sooner...than, hardly...when, scarcely..** when should be used in the correct form
5. **Lest is either followed by should or the first form of the verb.** Since, lest is a negative word it should not be used with not, never

6. **Until** is **time-oriented** and **unless** is **action-oriented** and they are negative words and hence, should not be used with no, not, never etc.
 7. In **affirmative sentences**, the phrases **doubt** and **doubtful** are followed by **if** or **whether** whereas in **negative sentences**, the phrases **doubt** and **doubtful** are followed by **that**.
 8. The connectors **not only...but also** must be placed before the parts are joined.
 9. **Between** is followed by **and** **from** is followed by **to**
 10. **Neither of** means none of the two; **none of** is used for more than two;
 11. **Either of** means **one of** the two; when more than two are concerned, **one of** is used.
 12. After **rather/other**, the subordinating conjunctions should be used.
- (Hj, W, 2023).

Chapter Three

Conjunctions in Kurdish

3.1 What is conjunction?

A conjunction is a term that connects words, phrases, and sentences. Each of them uses for lots of different purposes.

Example 1:

كاروان و كارزان هاتن.

Karwan **and** Karzan came.

In this example,

the conjunction (و) connected two words which are كاروان and كارزان.

Example 2:

پیاوی به جهرگ و خویندکاری زیره کم خوشدهوی.

I love a brave man **and** a clever student.

Here the conjunction (و) connects two noun phrases which are پیاوی به جهرگ and خویندکاری زیره کم.

Example 3:

سهرمای زستان زه ما که بههار هات.

The cold of winter disappeared **when** spring came.

Here we have another conjunction which is که and it connects two sentences that are سهرمای زستان هات and بههار هات.

There is no types of conjunctions in Kurdish language but the most important conjunction are:

که، و، تا، یان، زه، ئهگینا، ئهوجا، یا بهلام، یاخود، کهچی، کو، جگه، بیجگه، لهگهه، زهک،
زهوهک، مهگهر، له دواییدا، لهپاشدا، چونکه، لهبهر ئهوهی، ئهوسا، ههتا، ئینجا

They will be used for different purposes according to the words, phrases and the sentence (مستهفا، 2011).

3.2 Functions of the conjunction.

Using conjunctions while speaking is everyone's daily activity when they speak, without conjunction the speech won't be perfect and we have to convey every words, phrases, clauses and sentences without a link between them and it's wrong.

کاروان کارزان هاتن.
Karwan Karzan came.

پیاوی به جهرگ قوتابی زیرهکم خوشدوی.
I Love a brave man clever student.

سهرمای زستان زه ما بههار هات.
The cold of winter disappeared when spring came.

If you look at any of them, you will see that there is something missing in any one of them especially Kurdish natives feels that obviously.

The words that will be connects to each other by a conjunction, they'll create a noun phrase and will have all the functions of the Noun in Kurdish Language just like

(بکه، نیهاد، بهرکار، تهواوکهری بهیاریده، تهواوکهری کاری ناتهواو، دیارزه‌ری ناو، جیگری بکه).

Example 1:

کاروان و کارزان هاتن.
Karwan **and** Karzan came.

Example 2:

کاروان و کارزان زیره‌کن.
Karwan **and** Karzan are clever.

In both two examples the noun phrase **کاروان و کارزان** are subject in English language but in Kurdish subject is two things the first one is **بکه** which is a noun or pronoun that does an action, and the second one is **نیهاد** which is a noun or pronoun that is described.

Example 3:

مامۆستا و قوتابیه‌کانم بینی.
I saw the teacher **and** students.

The noun phrase **مامۆستا و قوتابیه‌کان** is **بهرکار** in English it's object.

Example 4:

كهیوان و كارزان كوژران.

Kaywan **and** Karwan was killed.

Here we don't have a subject in the sentence and the noun phrase of **كهیوان و كارزان** will be **جیگری بکەر** in English the sentence is passive but **كهیوان و كارزان** is an object (عومەر).

3.3 Rules of conjunction.

We have some important rules to how to use the conjunctions in Kurdish:

1/ We use **و، یان، یا، یاخود**

to connect every words, phrases and sentences.

2/While connecting sentences, words, phrases If we have repeated words in them we have to remove the repeated ones.

Example:

ئاری هات دابان هات نالی هات.

Ari came Daban came Nali came.

We will change it into:

ئاری و دابان و نالی هاتن.

Ari, Daban and Nali came.

3/ We use

بهلام، له بهر ئه وهی، چونکه، زهک، یان... یان، زه... زه، ئه گینا، ئینجا، ئه وجا

only to connect sentences.

Also we use comma before them, but if they are pairs we use comma before the second conjunction.

Examples:

له خه لکی ببوره، **بهلام** له خۆت مه بوره.

یان وه ره له گه لمان، **یان** برۆ بو بازار.

زه نان ده خوات، **زه** ده خه ویت.

کاره کهت جیبه جی بکه، **ئه گینا** دواده که ویت.

وازه کانت بخوینه، **ئینجا** بچۆ بو خویندنگه.

سیوه کهم بو هه لبگره، **زهک** هه ناره که.

عومه ر(2017).

Chapter four

Comparison Conjunctions between Kurdish and English language

4 Comparison.

similarities and differences	Kurdish	English
1/ Definitions	A conjunction is a term that connects words, phrases, and sentences. each of them uses for lots of different purposes.	A conjunction is a term or phrase that joins clauses, sentences, phrases, and other words.
2/ Types	No formal types.	We have three types (coordinating, subordinating and correlative conjunctions)

similarities and differences	Kurdish	English
3/ Function	<p>without conjunction the speech won't be perfect and we have to convey every words, phrases, clauses and sentences without a link between them and it's wrong.</p>	<p>Conjunctions are words that link other words, phrases, or clauses together to form different kinds of sentences.</p>
4/ rules	<p>We have some important rules to how to use the conjunctions in Kurdish:</p>	<p>Here are the important rules of conjunctions and some conjunction word examples that you must know about:</p>

<p>similarities and differences</p>	<p>Kurdish</p>	<p>English</p>
<p>4/ rules</p>	<p>1/ We use و، یان، یا، یاخود to connect every words, phrases and sentences.</p> <p>2/While connecting sentences. words, phrases If we have repeated words in them we have to remove the repeated ones. Example:</p> <p>ئاری هات دابان هات نالی هات. Ari came Daban came Nali came.</p> <p>We will change it into: ئاری و دابان و نالی هاتن. Ari, Daban and Nali came.</p>	<p>1/ We use and, as well as, both...and, not only...but also to clearly emphasize the link between two things.</p> <p>2/ We use so...as and as.....as to show a comparison between two things, people etc</p> <p>3/ Although, though are followed by yet or comma(,)</p> <p>4/ Pairs such as no sooner...than, hardly...when, scarcely.. when should be used in the correct form.</p>

**similarities and
differences**

Kurdish

English

4/ rules

3/ We use بهلام، له بهر ئه وهی، چونکه، زهک، یان... یان، زه... زه، ئه گینا، ئینجا، ئه و جا only to connect sentences.
Also we use comma before them, but if they are pairs we use comma before the second conjunction.

Examples:
له خه لکی ببوره، بهلام له خۆت مه بوره.
یان وه ره له گه لمان، یان برۆ بو.
بازار
زه نان ده خوات، زه ده خه ویت.
کاره کهت جیه جی بکه، ئه گینا.
دواده که ویت
وازه کانت بخوینه، ئینجا بچۆ.
بو خویندنگه

6. Until is time-oriented and unless is action-oriented and they are negative words and hence, should not be used with no, not, never etc.
7. In affirmative sentences, the phrases doubt and doubtful are followed by if or whether whereas in negative sentences, the phrases doubt and doubtful are followed by that.
8. The connectors not only...but also must be placed before the parts are joined.
9. Between is followed by and from is followed by to.

Chapter five

5.1 Conclusion

In conclusion, the comparison of conjunctions in Kurdish and English languages reveals both similarities and differences in their usage, types, and functions. Despite these distinctions, both languages rely on conjunctions to facilitate effective communication and convey meaning. By understanding the role of conjunctions in each language, we can enhance our language skills and appreciate the unique characteristics of Kurdish and English. So whether you're speaking Kurdish or English, mastering conjunctions is essential for expressing ideas clearly and connecting with others.

5.2 Recommendations

If you're interested in exploring more about conjunctions in Kurdish and English languages, I recommend checking out linguistic resources and language learning platforms. They often provide detailed explanations, examples, and exercises to improve your understanding and usage of conjunctions. Additionally, you can connect with language communities or find language exchange partners to practice and enhance your skills. Keep up the great work in your language learning journey!

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