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Abstract:

This paper proposes a model for translating Standard Arabic imperfect verbs into English based on their contextual references. It starts with a brief introduction to tense and aspect in English and Arabic. Then, it shows the study aim and technique. After that, it provides an analysis of the study results by discussing the various translations of Arabic imperfect verbs in the translations of two novels written by Naguib Mahfouz, namely Autumn Quail and Wedding Song. The study compares the translations with the original texts to highlight the different English renderings of the Arabic imperfect verbs. A corpus of 430 sentences was randomly chosen from the two novels, 215 sentences from each novel. The structures in which Arabic imperfect verbs occur are classified into ten classes. For each class, the various English translations are provided with a count of the examples representing them in the corpus and their percentages. Then, the contextual reference of each translation is explained and commented on.

Keywords:

Translation, Standard Arabic, Imperfect Verbs, English, Naguib Mahfouz, Autumn Quail, Wedding Song

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