Genitive Constructions in English and Arabic: A Contrastive Study

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Abstract:

This paper offers a contrastive analysis of the genitive constructions in English and Standard Arabic. It aims at showing the similarities and differences between the two languages in such constructions from the morphological, syntactic and semantic perspectives. It starts with a definition of the term genitive and the various parts in a genitive construction. Then, a brief discussion of the traditional classification of genitive constructions is provided. After that, genitive constructions are dealt with from a morphological perspective. Furthermore, the syntactic structure of genitive phrases is contrasted in both languages. In addition, a semantic classification of genitive constructions in both languages will be provided. Finally, a summary of the convergences and divergences of genitive constructions in the two languages is given in the conclusion.

Keywords:

Genitive Constructions, Standard Arabic, English, Morphology, Syntax, Semantics.

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