A Contrastive Study of English and Arabic Syntax

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Abstract

The aim of this study is to explore syntactic differences found between Standard and Libyan Arabic. Based on the differences, the study develops a conceptual hypothesis as to three aforementioned differences between Standard Arabic to Libyan Arabic. Participant observation and content analysis were used as the source of data collection; whereas, narrative analysis was used as the method of data analysis.

1. Introduction

Traditionally, the linguistic science has been classified into four branches as follows. In the present research, the focus is on syntax. The research is purely empirical in its nature.

- **Phonology (?al Sautiy@t): It discusses speech sounds.**
- **Morphology (atta9rif):   It discusses the form of the words.**
- **Syntax (annaHu):   It discusses the formation of sentence.**
- **Semantics (alma9ani):   It discusses the meaning of any linguistic units.**

In the present research, the focus is on morphology. More precisely, the present research goes into the depth of finding morphological inflections of different word classes in Arabic syntax. The syntax choosen for the research in the form of corpus is empirical in its nature. Therefore, it is also to mention here that the basic word order of Arabic syntax is though VSO, i.e. **verb**+**subject**+**object**, but the present research has used Arabic translation mostly on SVO pattern simply for the sake of finding exact equivalents of English constituents in Arabic. For instance, in the following

pair of sentences, the English meaning is the same, i.e. ***My father returned from Cairo***.

/raja9a ?abiy min ?al qAhirA/

/?abiy raja9a min ?al qAhirA/

Linguistically the first sentence above is on VSO pattern which is preferably used in day to day Arabic, whereas the second sentence which is equally correct and stylistically less used except in case of emphasis or focus of the agent or recipient. It is also worth mentioning that standard or classical ARABIC used in the Quran, the holy book of Islam, has almost 25 varieties used in the Arab world comprising 25 countries as shown in the following map. Therefore, it is imperative to emphasize here that Arabic used in the

present research can be viewed as standard Arabic. It is imperative to say here that **Arabic language** is a Semitic language with many varieties that diverge widely from one another — both from country to country and within a single country.Most western scholars distinguish two common varieties: the Classical Arabic of the Qur'an and early Islamic (7th to 9th centuries) literature, and **Modern Standard Arabic** (MSA), the standard language in use today. Classical Arabic is often believed to be the parent language of all the spoken varieties of Arabic. Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) is the literary standard across the Middle East and North Africa, and one of the official six languages of the United Nations. Most printed matter–including most books, newspapers, magazines, official documents, and reading primers for small children–is written in MSA.

The sociolinguistic situation of Arabic in modern times provides a prime example of the linguistic phenomenon of diglossia — the use of two distinct varieties of the same

language, usually in different social contexts. To be more precise, native speakers learn and use two substantially different language forms in different aspects of their lives. In the case of Arabic, the regionally prevalent variety is learned as a speaker's mother tongue and is used for nearly all everyday speaking situations throughout life, including most films and plays, and (rarely) in some literature. A second, quite different variety, Standard Arabic, is learned in school and is used for most printed material, TV news reporting and interviews, sermons and other formal situations. Educated Arabic-speakers are usually able to communicate in MSA in formal situations. This diglossic situation facilitates code-switching in which a speaker switches back and forth between the two varieties of the language, sometimes even within the same sentence.

In instances in which highly educated Arabic-speakers of different nationalities engage in conversation but find their dialects mutually unintelligible (e.g. a Moroccan speaking with a Lebanese), they are able to code switch into MSA for the sake of communication. The extent to which the local vernacular tends to interplay with the Standard variety in formal situations varies from country to country. But the present research in terms of its usage is more oriented towards Modern Standard Arabic.

1.2 Research Objective:

From the title of the thesis, one may easily infer at least two implications: first, the research is going to be a contrastive analysis of English and Arabic syntax. The logical sequence of the whole research is as follows:

<div align="center">

Corpus

+

Contrastive Analysis

</div>

1.3. Convention of Phonetic transcription

English	Examples		Arabic
?	/?an@ / I	/انا/	أ
A	/rajul / man.	/ رجل/	ا
A	/HiSAn / horse	/حصان/	اا
@	/?an@/ I.	/ انا /	آ
B	/b@b / door	/باب /	ب
T	/tUt/ berry	/توت /	ت
Th	/th@9lab / fox	/ثعلب /	ث
J	/jabal/ mountains	/جبال /	ج
H	/HadIqAh/ garden	/حديقة /	ح

X	/XarITA / map.	/ خريطة/	خ
D	/dAr / room.	/ دار/	د
Dh	/dhahab / gold.	/ ذهب/	ذ
R	/rabI9 / spring.	/ ربيع/	ر
Z	/zahra / flower.	/ زهرة/	ز
S	/sam@? / sky.	/ سماء/	س
sh	/sham9@/ candle.	/ شمعة/	ش
S	/SadIq / friend.	/ صديق/	ص
D	/Dau? / light.	/ ضوء/	ض
T	/Taiyr/ bird.	/ طائر/	ط
9	/9ain / eye.	/ عين/	ع
G	/gurfA / room.	/ غرفة/	غ
F	/faqat / only.	/ فقط/	ف
Q	/qarIb/ near.	/ قريب/	ق
K	/karIm/ generous.	/ كريم/	ك
L	/lail / night.	/ ليل/	ل
M	/mu9Alim/ teacher.	/ معلم/	م
N	/nahr / river.	/نهر/	ن
H	/h@tif / telephone.	/ هاتف/	ه
W	/waraqa / paper.	/ ورقة/	و
I	/b@rid / cold.	/ بارد/	
I	/sarIr / bed.	/سرير/	
U	/hua / he.	/ هو/	ؤ
U	/thUm / garlic.	/ ثوم/	وو
Y	/yad / hand.	/ يد/	ي

1.4. Convention of abbreviation

N   Noun
V   Verb
Sgm   singular masculine
Sgf   singular feminine
Dlm   dual masculine
Dlf   dual feminine
Plm   plural masculine
Plf   plural feminine
V1   first form of verb (i.e. unmarked present e.g. go)
V2   second form of verb (i.e. simple past e.g. went)
V3   third form of verb (i.e. past participle form e.g. gone)
V4   fourth form of verb (i.e. progressive form e.g. going)
V5   fifth form of verb (i.e. present marked e.g. goes)
V6   sixth form of verb (i.e. infinitive form e.g. to go)
~   This symbol means a pause in syllabification

This symbol is used after definite article /?al/ which assimilates to the second sound as in /?al`sabab/, we use assimilation symbol after /l/ because /l/ sound assimilates with the first sound of sabab and therefore we pronounce /assabab/ not /?al`sabab/. Like this all the following sounds assimilate with

/?al/ (t - ت , th- ث , d - د , dh- ذ , r- ر , z- ز , s- س , sh- ش , S-
ص , D - ض , T - ط , z- ظ , n- ن) and the other sounds do not
assimilate with /?al/.

4.1. Syntactic Difference

Compared to Standard Arabic, Libyan Arabic is not only different in terms of word order but also diminutive in terms of length as exemplified below.

4.1.1: Noun Phrase

A noun phrase (NP) is a contruction that typically has either a noun (N) or a pronoun (pro) as its central constituent. In other words, a noun or pronoun must be regarded as the" head" or most important element in the phrase. For example in the tree below the word *the* is a <u>determiner</u> (specifically an <u>article</u>) and the head is the word *cat*.

```
         NP
        /  \
      Det   N'
       |    |
      the   N
            |
           cat
```
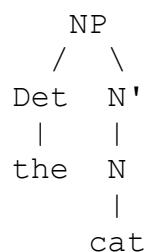
To be more precise, noun phrase is a syntactic unit which can act as a subject or an object. A sentence like : *A small party of Spanish adventurers managed to capture the Aztec capital*. A traditional view of sentence structure holds that the ***subject*** and the ***direct object*** of the sentence are the nouns *party* and *capital,* respectively. But this is not strictly correct. The true subject and object are the phrases *a small party of Spanish adventurers* and *the Aztec capital*. These are ***noun phrases***, and noun phrases are the only things that can act as subjects or objects in English sentences. A noun phrase may be identified in two different ways.

First, it must occupy one of only a few possible slots in a sentence structure. Second, it must have one of only a few possible types of internal structure. With only a couple of exceptions, an English noun phrase is always built up around a single **noun,** and that noun is the **head** of the noun phrase, the item which is chiefly responsible for the nature of that NP. In example above, *party* and *capital* are the heads of the two NPs. The first NP denotes a particular party, and the second a particular capital, and the other words in the NP serve only to provide further identification.

The most obvious exception is a noun phrase consisting of a **pronoun**. In the sentence *They managed to capture it,* the pronouns *they* and *it* make up complete NPs all by themselves, one serving as the subject, the other as the object. This is what a pronoun typically does: it makes up a noun phrase all by itself, and a pronominal NP is the most familiar kind of NP (in English) which is

not built around a head noun. For the present research, here we will explore the syntactic differences of English and Arabic NPs in terms of word order and inflection as follows.

English	Arabic
1. The linguist will analyze a sentence.	/ ?al lugawi: sawfa yuHalilu jumlatan/
2. They found a little boy in the car.	/wajadu waladan sagi:ran fi: ?al sayA~rati:/
3. My coat is quite Loose in the arm.	/dhi:rA9u mi9TAfi w@si9atun qAli:lan/
4. The boy took a very big bite.	/tann@wala ?al waladu luqmatan kabi:ratan jiddan/

1. The linguist will analyze a sentence.

PS Rules :

S ⇨ NP + VP
NP ⇨ Det + N
VP ⇨ V + NP
V ⇨ a.v + m.v
NP ⇨ Det + N
Det ⇨ the=?al , a= Ø
N ⇨ linguist=lugawi:
sentence=jumlatan
a.v ⇨ will=sawfa
m.v ⇨ analyze= yuHalilu
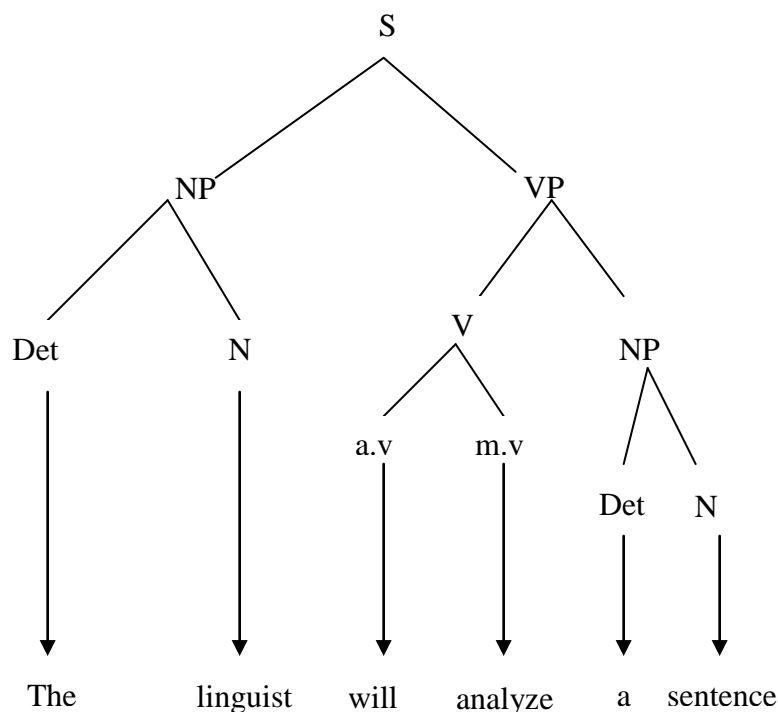
1. / ?al lugawi: sawfa yuHalilu jumlatan/

PS Rules :

S ⇨ NP + VP
NP ⇨ Det + N
VP ⇨ V + NP
V ⇨ a.v + m.v
NP ⇨ Det + N
Det ⇨ ?al , Ø
N ⇨ lugawi, jumlatan
a.v ⇨ sawfa
m.v ⇨ yuHalilu

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                    a.v   m.v   N
                                  Det

        ?al   lugawi: sawfa yuHalilu   Ø jumlatan
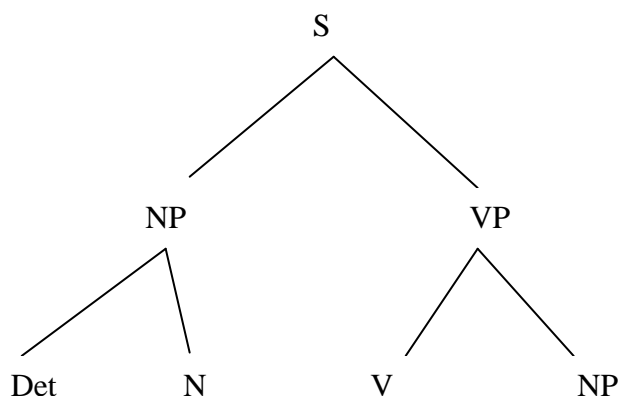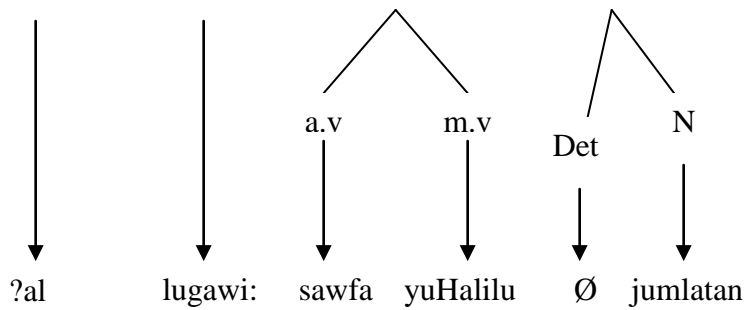
Contrastive Knowledge Base:
Based on the corpus above we find the uses of the English determiner has been substituted by "?al" before the subject but there is no equivalent of 'a' in Arabic at the place of determiner before object nouns. This explores an interesting fact that in Arabic we do not use indefinite article in isolation like English. In Arabic, we use indefinite article as a suffix marker which is called nunation (tanwin). For instance, one can see the use of 'tan' after 'jumla' which is the root word. The equivalents of other constituents are one-to-one.

2. They found a little boy in the car.
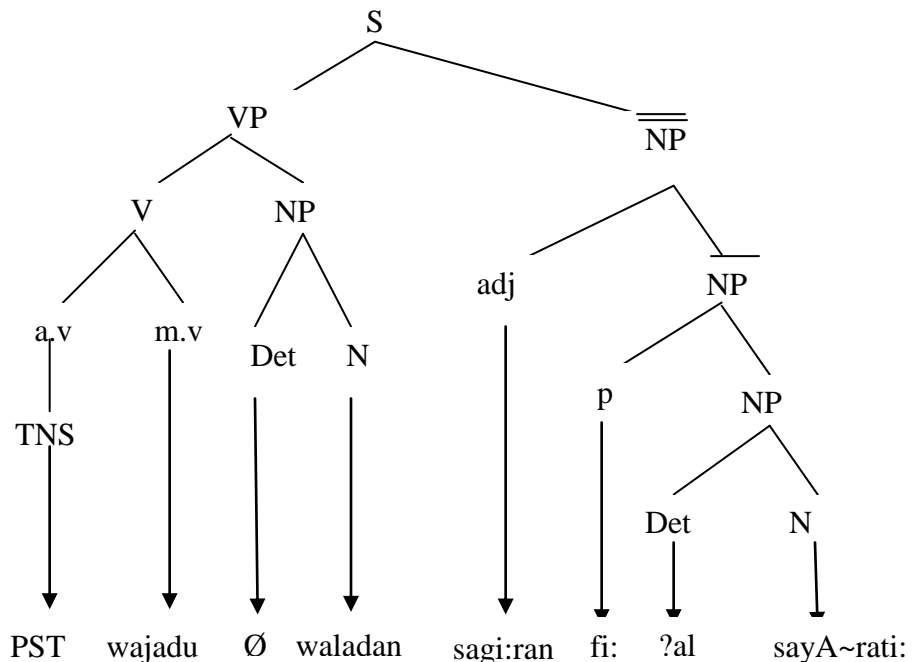
PS Rules :

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP = V + NP
V = a.v + m.v
NP = Det + NP
NP = NP + PP
NP = adj + N
PP = P+ NP
NP = Det + N
Det = Ø , a , the,?al
N = They=u, boy=waladan, car=sayA~rati:
A.v = TNS=PST
m.v = find=Wajad
adj = little=sagi:ran
P = In=fi:
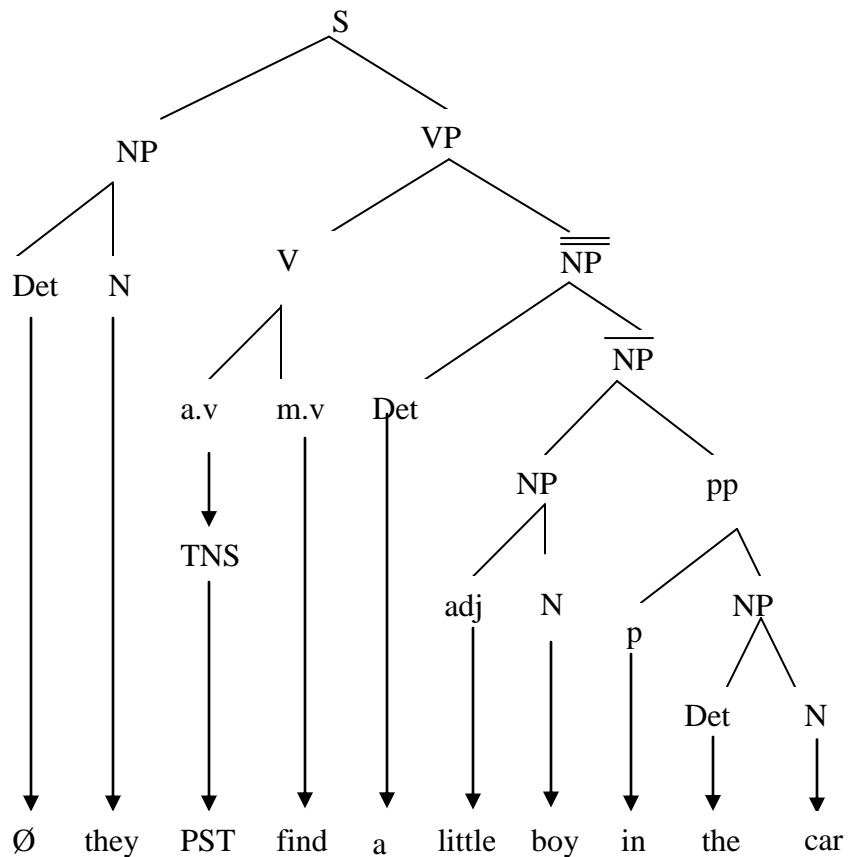
2./wajadu waladan sagi:ran fi: ?al sayA~rati:/

PS Rules :

S = VP + NP
VP= V + NP
V = a.v + m.v
NP=Det+ N
NP= adj+ NP
NP = P+ NP
NP = Det +N
A.v = TNS → PST
m.v = wajadu
Det = Ø , ?al
N = waladan , sayA~rati:
Adj = sagi:ran
P = fi:

S

VP — NP

V — NP — adj — NP

a.v — m.v — Det — N — p — NP

TNS — Det — N

PST   wajadu   Ø   waladan   sagi:ran   fi: ?al   sayA~rati:

Contrastive Knowledge Base:

Based on the corpus above we find that the first PS rule in English is S⇨NP+VP, whereas it becomes S⇨VP+NP in Arabic. This not only shows the word order of Arabic is VSO unlike SVO in English but it also explores an interesting fact that the subject of the sentence is inherent in the verb as a suffix marker. To be more precise, the suffix marker /u/ after the verb /wajad/ stands for "they". Another striking difference is the change in the word-order of AdjP. English AdjP "little boy" becomes "boy little" in Arabic, i.e. "waladan sagi:ran". One more difference in Arabic tree, one can see is the omission of indefinite article "a" which is used as nunation (tanwin) after *sagi:r* as *sagi:ran*.
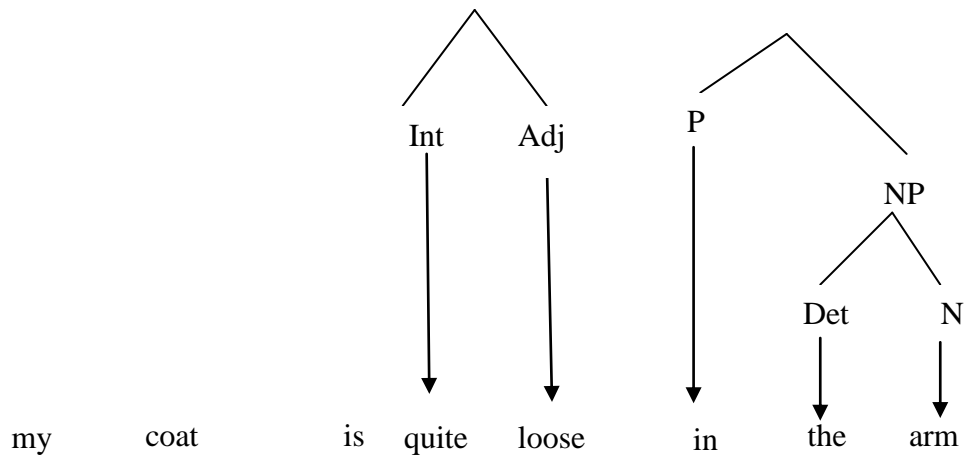
3. My coat is quite loose in the arm.

PS Rules :

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP =N + adjp
Adjp =adjp+pp
Adjp = int+ adj
pp = p + NP
NP = Det + N
Det = my , the
N = coat , arm
V = is
Adj=loose
Int=quite
P = in

S

NP — VP

Det — N — V — adjp

AdjP — PP

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Int   Adj   P

NP

Det   N

my   coat   is   quite   loose   in   the   arm
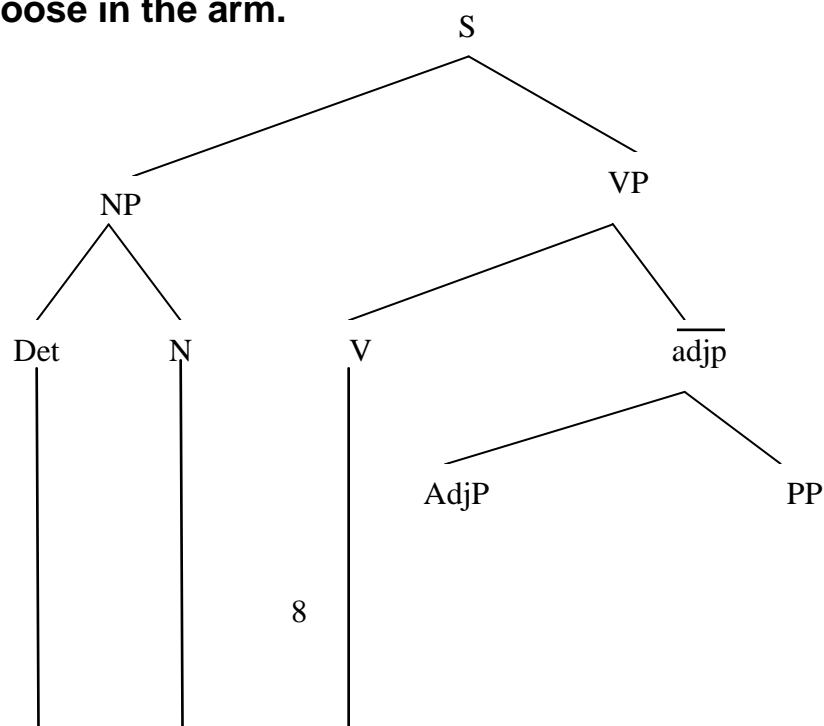
3. / dhi:rA9u mi9TAfi w@si9atun qAli:lan/   S

PS Rules :   NP   AdjP

S=NP+adjp
NP = N + NP   N   NP
Adjp = adj + Int
NP = Det + N   Det   N   Adj   Int
N =dhi:rA9u, mi9TAfi
adj=w@si9atun
Det = Ø
 Int=qAli:lan
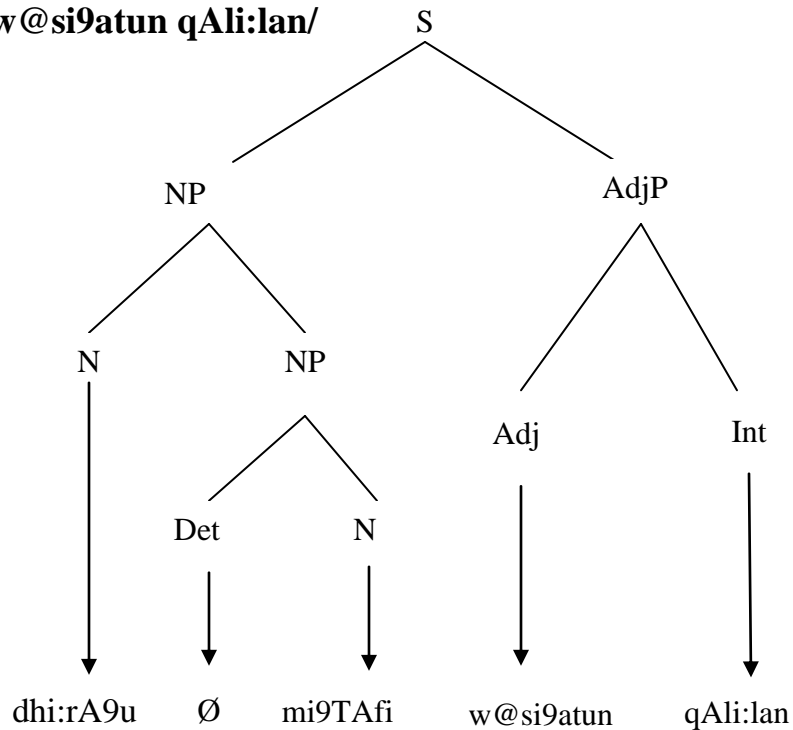
dhi:rA9u   Ø   mi9TAfi   w@si9atun   qAli:lan

Contrastive Knowledge Base:

If we look at the corpus above we notice that in English sentence the first PS rule is S→NP+VP, whereas Arabic sentence doesn't have VP rather it's just NP+AdjP. The adjective phrase in Arabic shows a change in word order as (adj+int), i.e. "w@si9atun+ qAli:lan". Another difference one can see that in English sentence it has preposition " P" _in_ whereas in Arabic there's no "P".

4. The boy took a very big bite.   S

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+NP
V=a.v.+m.v.
A.V=TNS , PST
m.v= take, tann@wala
NP=Det+NP
NP=Adj+N
Adj=Int+Adj
Det=The=?al,a
N=boy=waladu,bite=Luqmatan
adj=big= kabi:ratan
Int=very=jiddan

Tree (English):
S → NP [Det → The, N → boy] + VP [V [a.v. → TNS → PAST, m.v. → take], NP [Det → a, NP [Adj [Int → very, Adj → big], N → bite]]]
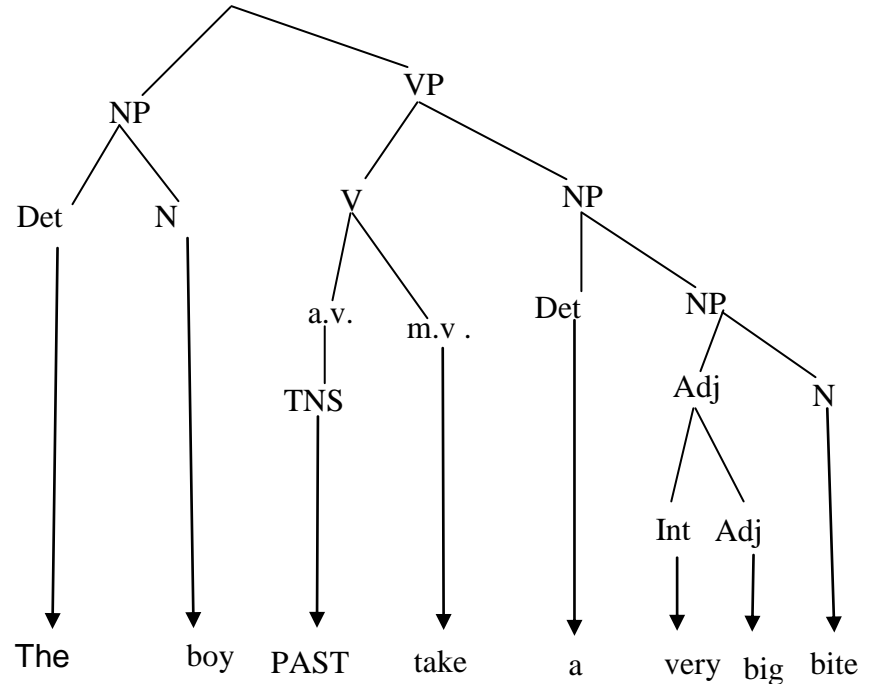
4./ tann@wala ?al waladu luqmatan kabi:ratan jiddan /

PS Rules :

S=VP+Adjp
VP=V+NP
adjp=N+Adjp
adjp=adj+Int
V=a.v+m.v
A.V=TNS , PST
M.V= tann@wala
Det=?al
N= waladu, lugmatan
Adj= kabi:ratan
Int=jiddan

Tree (Arabic):
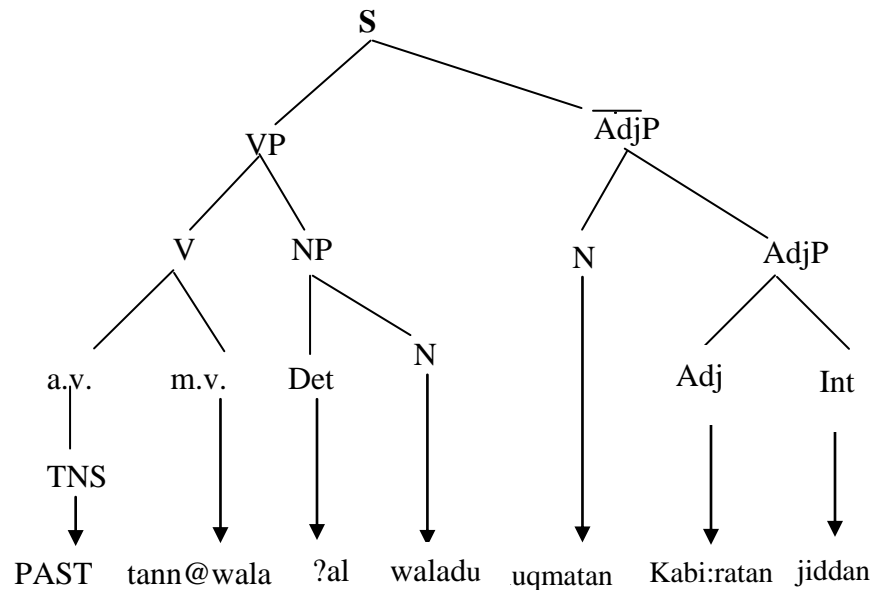S → VP [V [a.v. → TNS → PAST, m.v. → tann@wala], NP [Det → ?al, N → waladu]] + AdjP [N → uqmatan, AdjP [Adj → Kabi:ratan, Int → jiddan]]

Contrastive Knowledge Base:
If we look at the corpus above, we find that order of English and Arabic sentence is different. First of all we see that English sentence starts with NP subject 'The boy', whereas Arabic sentence starts with VP as verb 'tann@wala . Another difference between English and Arabic PS rule is that In English S=NP+VP whereas in Arabic this rule becomes S=VP+NP. Another difference of English and Arabic PS rule can be seen below.

      (a) NP=Adj+N→NP=N+Adj   (b) Adj=Int+Adj→Adj= Adj+Int

The above rule NP=Adj+N→NP=N+Adj says that Adjective in English comes before noun, whereas in Arabic it comes after the noun. The second rule above says that English AdjP=Int+Adj becomes Arabic AdjP as Adj+Int because the intensifier 'jiddan' has been used after kabi:ratan.

4.1.2: Adjective phrase

An adjective phrase (AdjP) has an adjective constituent as its head.

		Standard English	Standard Arabic
1		Sally is a clever.	/s@li: dhaki:yatun/
2		The little boy sat on the wall.	/ jalasa ?al waladu ?al sagi:ru 9al@ ?al ji:dari/
3		The story is extremely interesting.	/?al qissa mussalliyatun jiddan/
4		My coat is quite loose in the arm.	/ dhi:rA9u mi9TAfi w@si9atun qAli:lan/
5		It's a very good idea.	/innah@ fikratun rA?i9atun jiddan/

1. Sally is clever.

PS Rules :
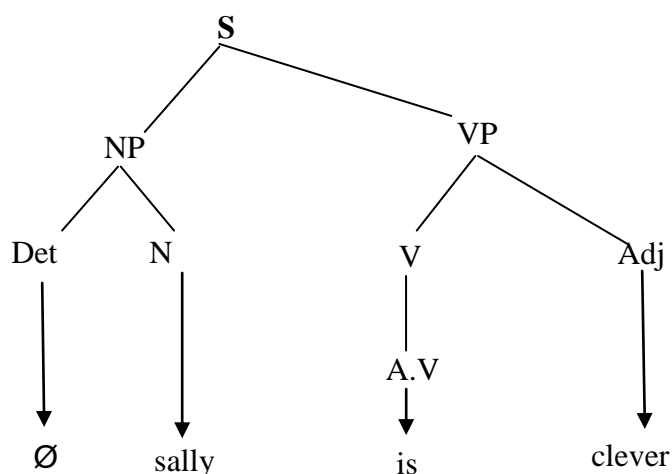
S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
Det= Ø , Ø
N= Sally
VP=V+Adj
V=A.V
A.V=is
Adj=clever= dhaki:yatun

1. S@li: dhaki:yatun

PS Rules :

S=NP+adjp
NP=Det+N
Adjp=V+Adj
Det= Ø-
N= s@li:
V= Ø
Adj= dhaki:yatun

se:

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It is noteworthy here that English tree diagram shows the a.v. (is) under VP, whereas there is no VP in Arabic tree diagram. This means that Arabic does not use a.v. especially for present tense. Another striking fact is the first Arabic PS rule which shows S→NP+AdjP unlike S→NP+VP.
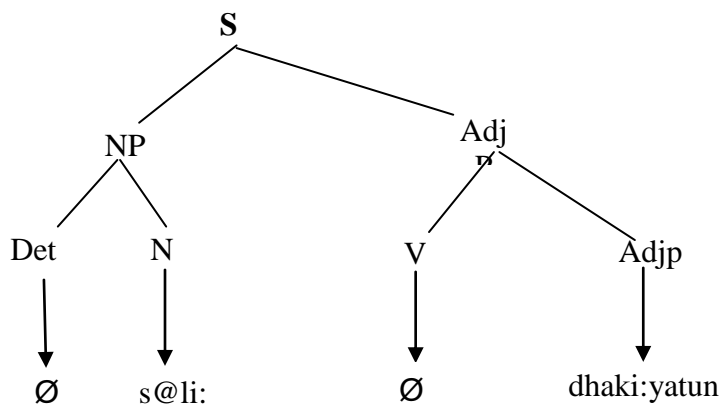
2. **The Little boy sat on the wall.**

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+NP
VP=V+P.P
Np=Adj+N
P.P=P+NP
Det=the=?al, the = ?al
Adj=little= Sagi:ru
N=boy = waladu , wall =jidari
A.V=TNS , PST
M.V=sit= jalasa
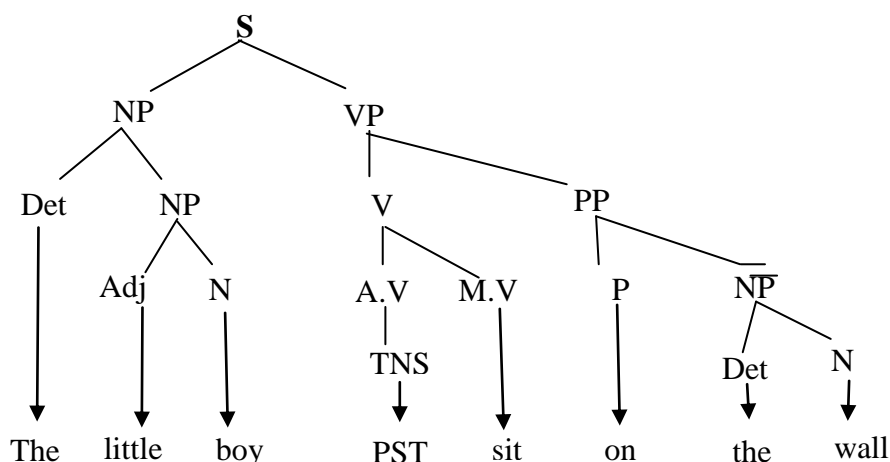
2. / ?al waladu ?al sagi:ru jalasa 9al@ ?al jidari/
or
/jalasa ?alwaladu ?al sagi:ru 9al@ ?al jidari/

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+NP
Np=N+NP
NP=Det+Adj
Det=?al, ?al,?al
N= waladu , jidari
Adj= sagi:ru
VP=V+PP
V=A.V+M.V
PP=P+NP
NP=Det+N
P=9al@
a.v=TNS , PAST
m.v= jalasa
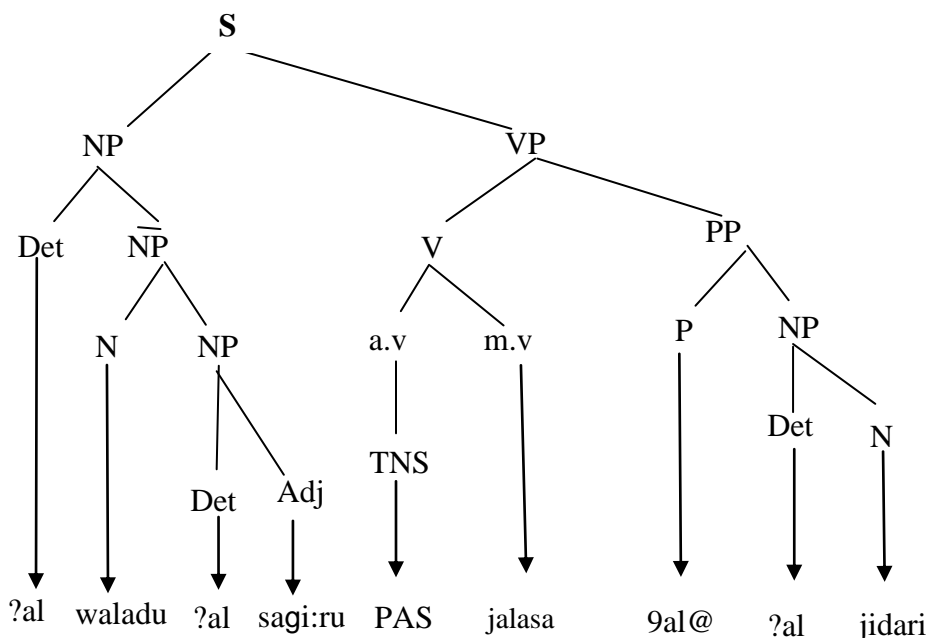
Contrastive Knowledge Base:
If we look above the syntactic trees of English and Arabic in terms of the differences of adjective phrase, we find that Arabic adjective phrase is not only different in its word order but also in terms of the usage of definite article (?al) which comes before noun (waladu) and adjective (sagi:ru). In

english the adjective (little) comes before noun (boy) but in Arabic it comes after the noun (waladu).

3. The story is extremely interesting.

PS Rules :

S= NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+Adjp
V=a.v
Adj P= Int + Adj
Det=The = ?al
N= Story= qissa
a.v=is=Ø
AdjP=Interesting = mussalliyatun
Int= extremely = jiddan

```
                        S
              /                    \
           NP                       VP
          /    \                   /    \
       Det      N               V        Adjp
        |       |               |        /    \
        |       |              a.v     Int     Adj
        |       |               |       |       |
        ↓       ↓               ↓       ↓       ↓
       the    story            is   extremely interesting
```
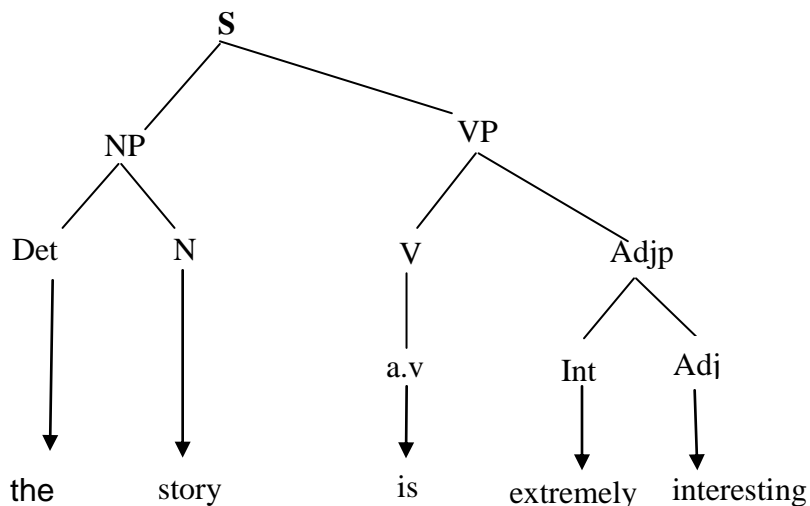
3. /?al qissa mussalliyatun jiddan/

PS Rules :

S=NP+AdjP
NP=Det+N
AdjP=Adj+int
Det=?al
N= qissa
Adj= mussalliyatun
Int= jiddan

```
                     S
            /                 \
          NP                   Adjp
         /    \               /      \
      Det      N           Adj        Int
       |       |            |          |
       ↓       ↓            ↓          ↓
      ?al    qissa    mussalliyatun  jiddan
```

Contrastive Knowledge Base:
It is noteworthy in the above tree diagrams that English Adjective Phrase consists of (Int+Adj), whereas in Arabic the order changes into (Adj+int). thus we can conclude that the natural word-order of AdjP with intensifier is (Adj+int).

3. My coat is quite loose in the arm.

PS Rules :

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP =V + adjp
Adjp =adj+pp
Adjp = int+ adj
pp = p + NP
NP = Det +N
Det = my , the
N = coat , arm
V = is
Adj=loose
Int=quite
P = in

```
                              S
                   ┌──────────┴──────────┐
                  NP                      VP
              ┌────┴────┐          ┌───────┴───────┐
             Det        N          V              adjp
              │         │          │          ┌────┴────┐
                                            AdjP        PP
                                          ┌──┴──┐     ┌──┴──┐
                                         Int   Adj    P     NP
                                                          ┌──┴──┐
                                                         Det    N
              │         │          │    │     │      │    │     │
             my        coat        is  quite loose  in   the   arm
```
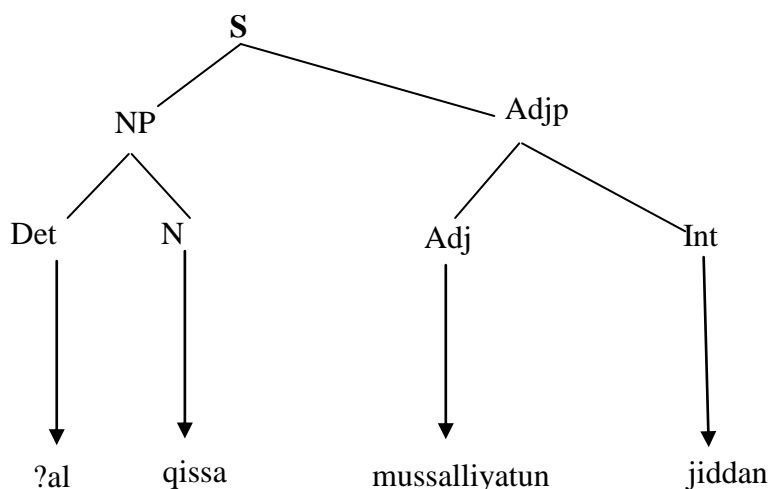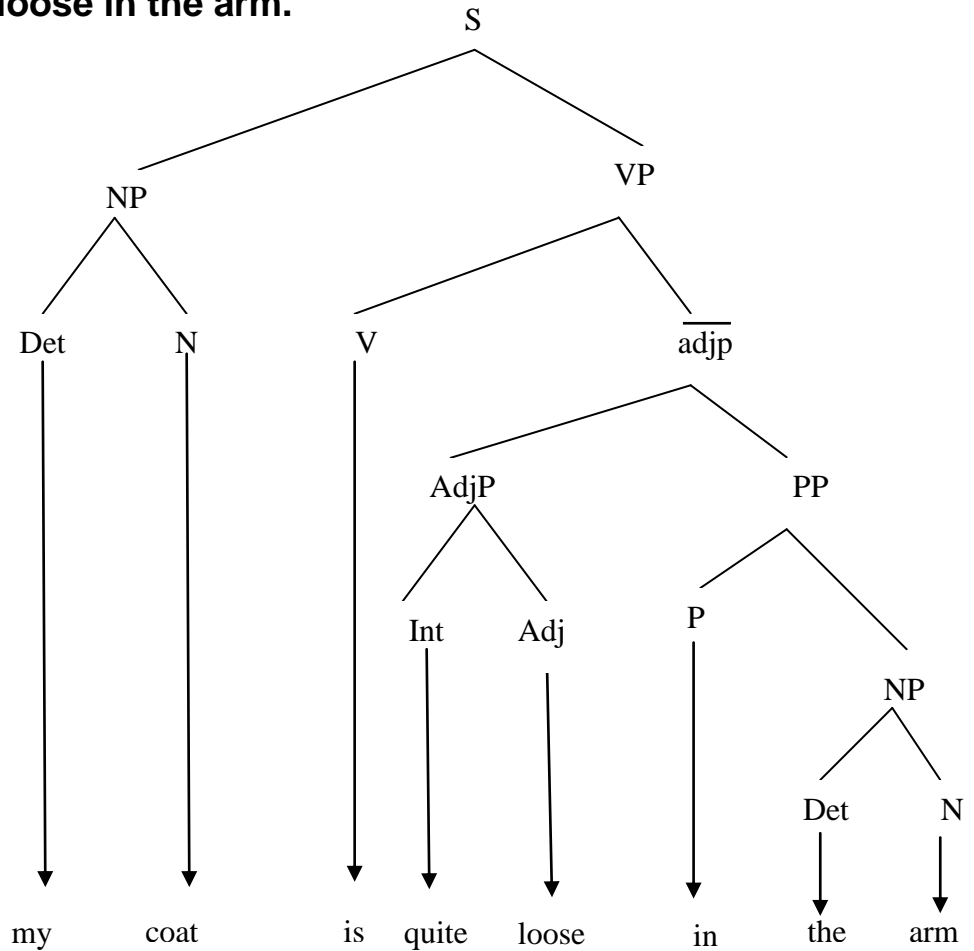
3. / dhi:rA9u mi9TAfi w@si9atun qAli:lan/

PS Rules :

S=NP+Adjp
NP = N + NP
Adjp=adjp + Int
NP = Det + N
N =dhi:rA9u, mi9TAfi,
adj=w@si9atun
Det = Ø
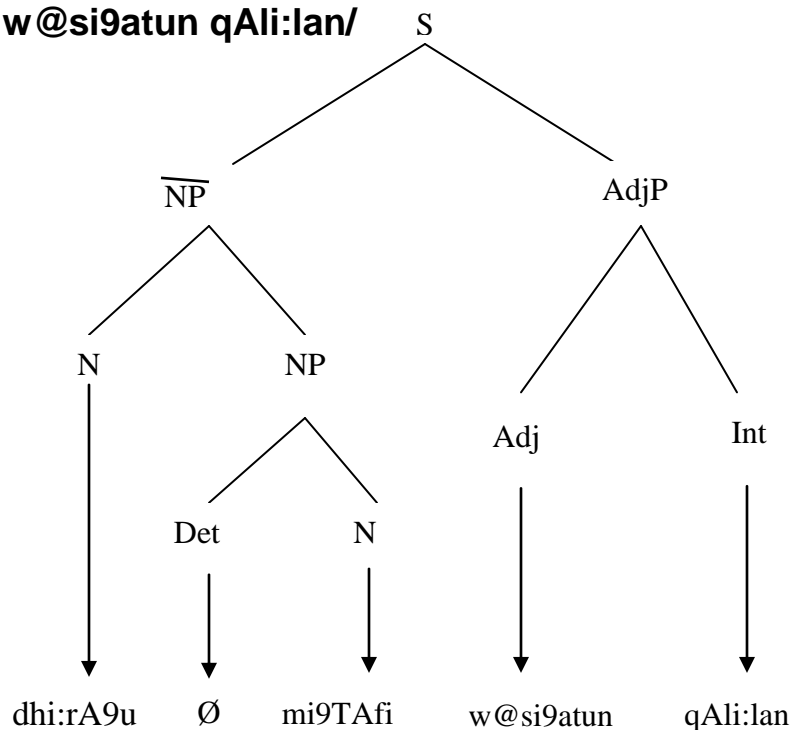
```
                            S
                 ┌──────────┴──────────┐
                NP                     AdjP
             ┌───┴───┐            ┌──────┴──────┐
             N       NP          Adj           Int
                  ┌───┴───┐
                 Det      N
             │    │       │       │            │
          dhi:rA9u Ø   mi9TAfi  w@si9atun    qAli:lan
```

14

If we look at the corpus above we notice that in English sentence the first PS rule is S→NP+VP, whereas Arabic sentence doesn't have VP rather it's just NP+AdjP. Unlke English, the adjective phrase in Arabic shows two changes. (1) The adjective 'w@si9atun' comes after the noun 'mi9TAf' and (2) the intensifier 'qAli:lan' comes after adjective 'w@si9atun'. Another difference one can see that in English sentence it has preposition " P" *in* whereas in Arabic there's no "P".

5. It is a very good idea.

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+NP
V=a.v
NP=Det+NP
NP=Adjp+N
Adjp=Int+Adj
a.v=is
Det= Ø, a
N=It=Innah@,
Idea=fikratun
Int=very,jiddan
Adj=good= rA?i9atun
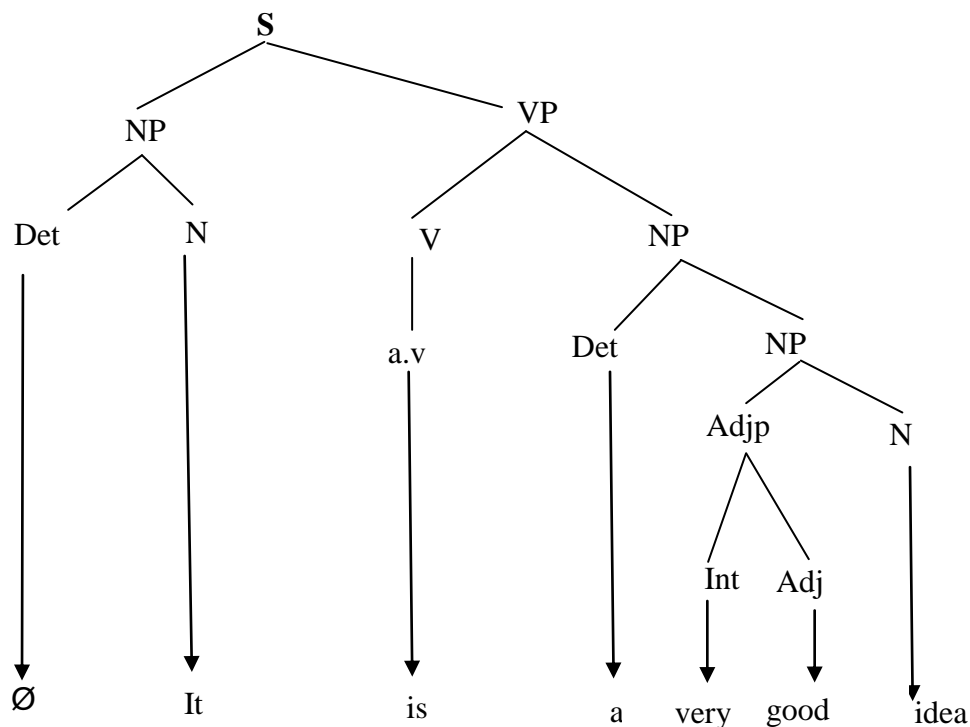
5. /innah@ fikratun rA?i9atun jiddan/

PS Rules :

S=NP+NP
NP=Det+N
NP=N+adjp
Adjp=Adj=Int
Det= Ø
N=h@, fikratun
Adj= rA?i9atun
Int=jiddan
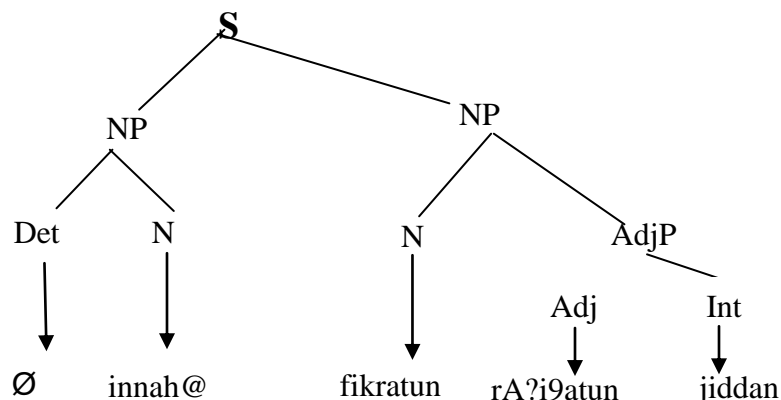
In English sentence above the subject pronoun "It" followed by the verb "is" is translated into Arabic as "innah@" which consists of the article "inna" and the pronoun "h@". "h@" refers here to a feminine noun because it refers to the word "Idea". If it refers to masculine noun i.e. door in "It is

a big door" then we use 'hu' as in /innahu b@bun KabIr /. Another difference is the change in the word-order of AdjP. In Arabic "good idea" becomes "idea good", i.e. "fikrAtun r@i9tun".

4.1.3 : Adverbial phrase

An adverb phrase (AdvP) typically has an adverb as its head and as its only constituent, e.g. *silently* and *outside*, as follows:

He did it *silently*. He stood for a long time *outside*.

For the present research we are going to analyse the following sentences from the perspective of adverbial phrase.

	Standard English	Standard Arabic
1	The man walked slowly.	/masha ?al^ rajulu bi: buT?in/
2	She spoke carefully yesterday.	/taHaddathat bi: hadharin ?amsi/
3	He left very suddenly.	/gaddara faj?tan/

1. The man walked slowly.
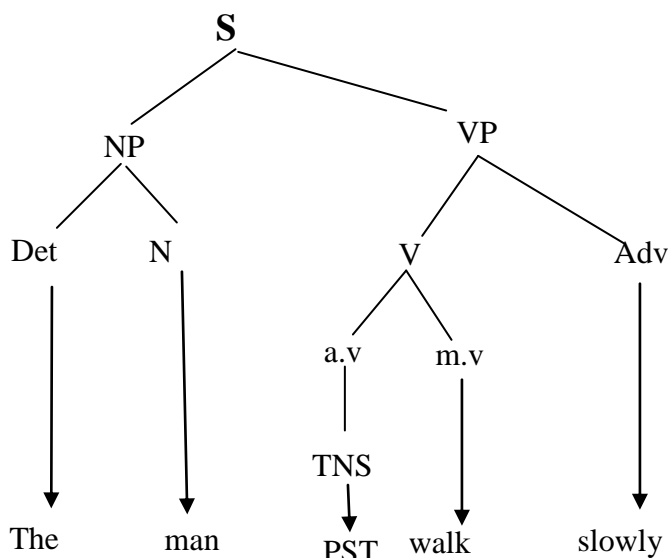
PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+Adv
V=a.v+m.v
Det= The = ?al
M.V= walk = masha
A.V=TNS=PAST
Adv=Slowly = buT?in
N=man=rajulu

1. /masha ?al^ rajulu bi: buT?in/

PS Rules :

S=VP+PP
VP=V+NP
V= masha
NP=Det+N
PP=P+Adv
Det=?al^
N=rajulu
p=bi:
Adv=buT?in

Cor   :

16
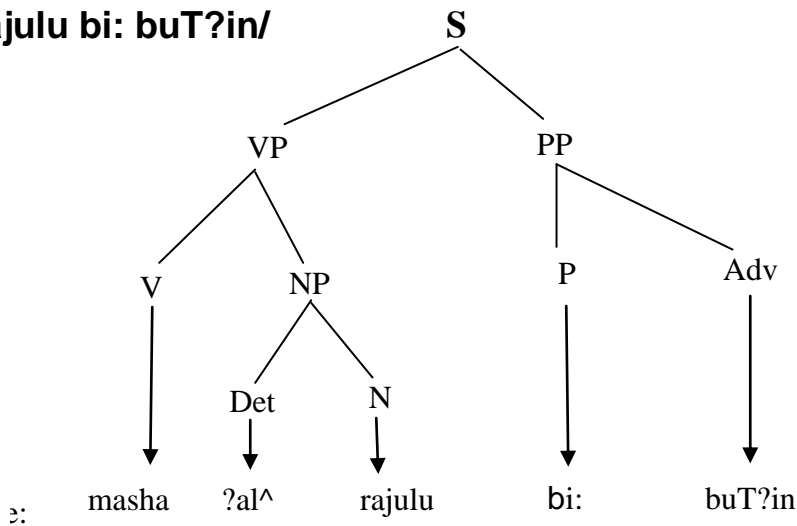
In English, sentence starts with NP+VP whereas in Arabic it starts with VP+PP. The sentence in Arabic starts with "VP" but the English sentence starts with "NP". Therefore, the verb "masha" in Arabic comes in the beginning of the sentence, whereas in English it comes before the "Adv" on the second part of the tree diagram. If we look at the English "AdvP", we find that its counterpart in Arabic has been split into two constituents, i.e. P+N as "bi:+buT?in". Here it noteworthy that "bi:buT?in" is also used as adverb of manner in Arabic but for syntactic analysis this adverb shows two constituents in which bi is used as preposition and as noun 'buT?in'.

2. She spoke carefully yesterday.

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+Advp
V=A.V+M.V
Advp=M.A+T.A.
Det= Ø
N=she=at
a.v=TNS=PST
M.V=speak=taHaddath
M.A=carefully=hadharin
T.A=yesterday=?amsi
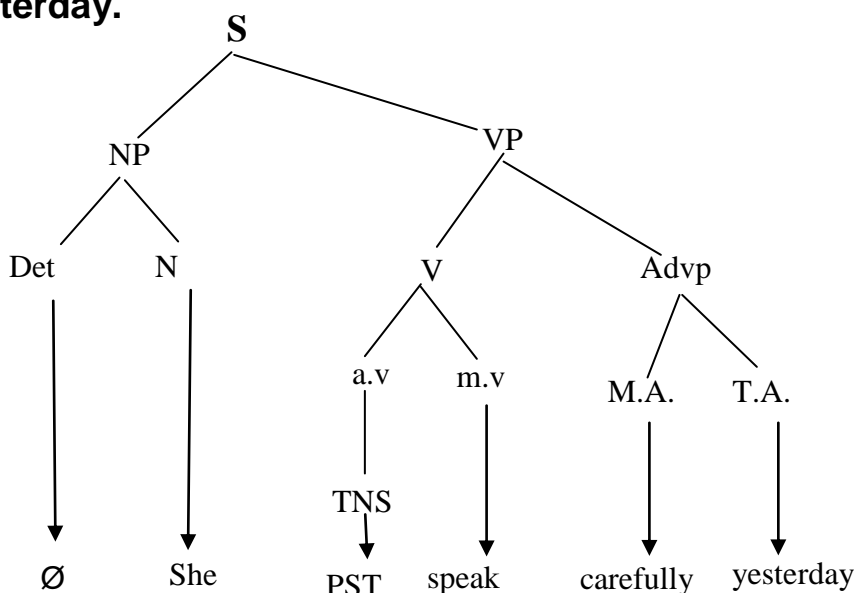
2. /taHaddathat bi: hadharin ʕamsi/

PS Rules :

S=VP+Advp
VP=V+N
Advp=P+advp
NP=PP+NP
V=a.v+m.v
Advp=N+adv
a.v=TNS , PAST
m.v=taHaddath
N=at, hadharin
P=bi:
Adv=?amsi

Contrastive Knowledge

17
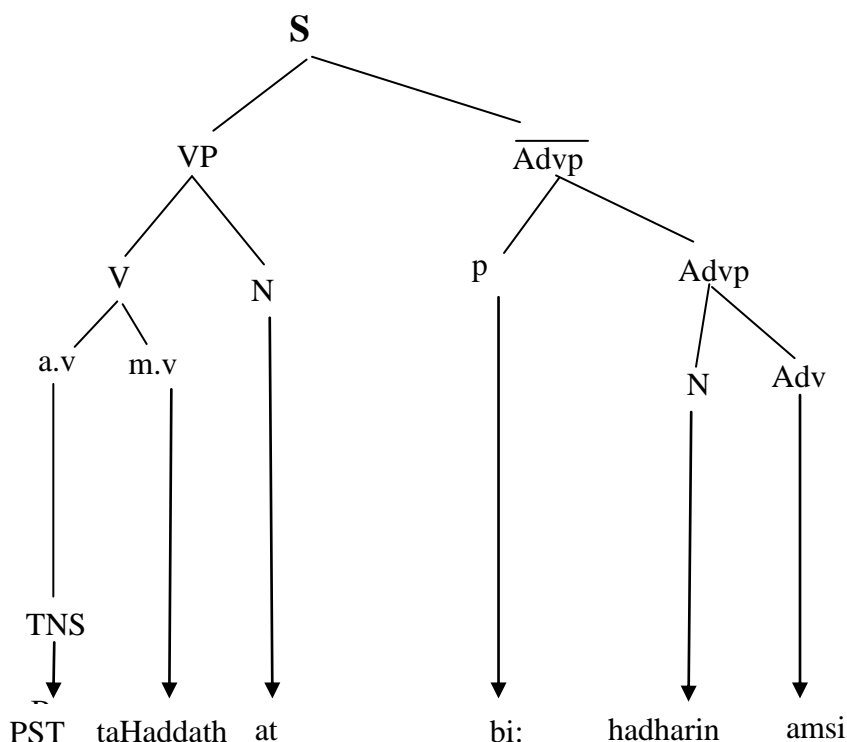
If we look at the above tree diagrams from the perspective of adverbial phrase, we find that English adverbial phrase consists of M.A. i.e. manner adverb followed by T.A. i.e. time adverb. On the other hand, Arabic adverb phrase starts with a projection bar above AdvP. Arabic AdvP is further divided into preposition+AdvP. This is further divided into N+Adv. Here it is interesting to see that Arabic needs an extra preposition 'bi' before the intensifier 'hadharin'. Another important fact is the intensifier 'hadharin' in Arabic is not adverb like English. It is used as noun.

3. He left very suddenly.

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+Advp
V=A.V+M.V
Advp=Int+Adv
AV=TNS , PST
M.V=Leave= gaddara
Int=very- Ø
Adv=suddenly=faj?tan
N=He
Det= Ø
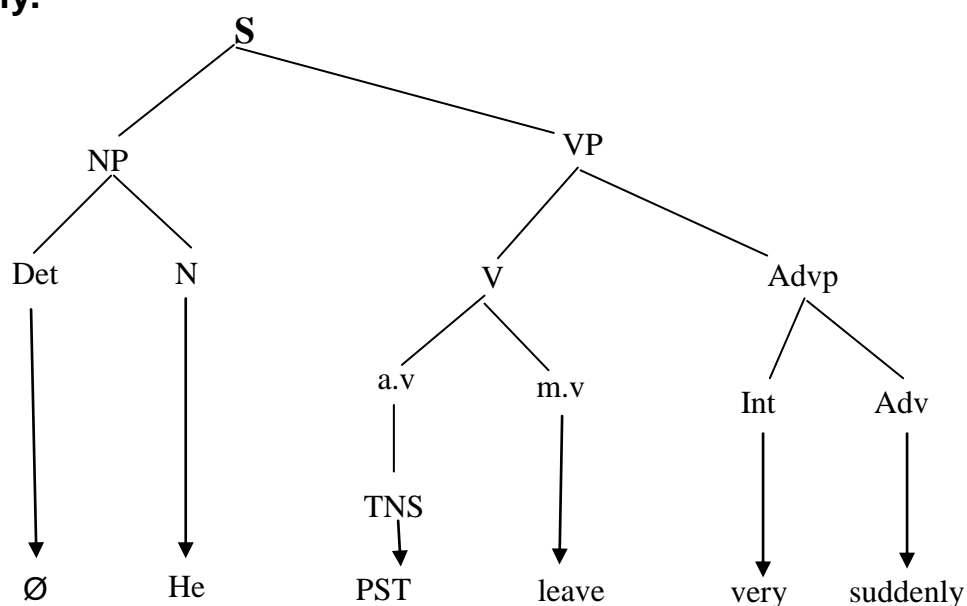
3./gaddara faj?tan/

PS Rules:
S=VP+NP
VP=V+Advp
NP=Det+N
Advp=Int+Adv
V= gaddara
Int= Ø
Adv= faj?tan
Det= Ø
N= Ø

18
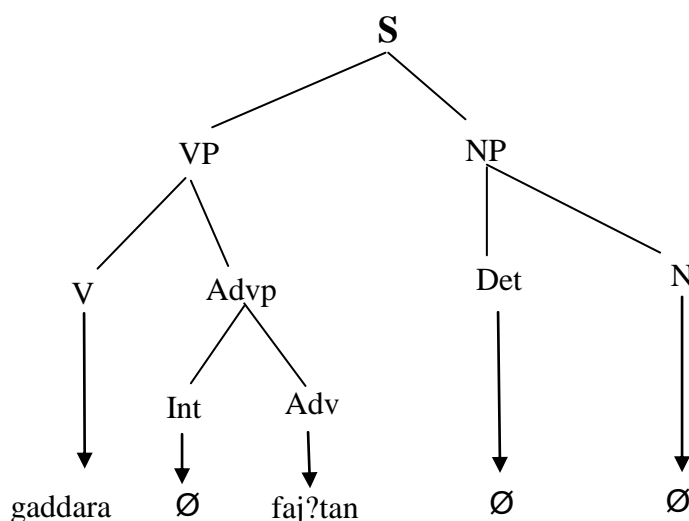
Contrastive Knowledge Base:
The above trees show that in Arabic the Advp is captured under verb phrase and the main adverb *suddenly* takes the effect of intensifier *very* as 'faj?tan'. So the place of intensifier is null.
The English sentence starts with NP+VP whereas in Arabic, the sentence starts with VP+NP. So the Arabic sentence begins with a verb "gaddara". The verb "gaddara" refers to male subject because of "a" but if we say "gaddarat" the last letter "t" for this word refers to female. Therefore, we do not need to use a pronoun in isolation. While in English sentence, it is necessary to use the pronoun in isolation.

4.1.4: Prepositional Phrase

Prepositional phrase consists of prepositions, e.g. in, to, at, over, etc, as its head constituent and the complement or object of that preposition, typically a noun phrase.

	Standard English	Standard Arabic
1	John will sing at the party.	/ sayuganni: jon fi: ?al Haflati /
2	They found a little boy in the car.	/ wajadu waladan sagi:ran fi: ?al sayy~Arati /

1. John will sing at the party.

PS Rules :

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP = V + NP
V = a.v + m.v
NP = p.p + NP
NP = Det + N
Det = Ø , the =?al
N = John =jon, party =,haflatI
A.V = will ,Sa
m.v = sing =yuganni:
p = at ,fi:

19
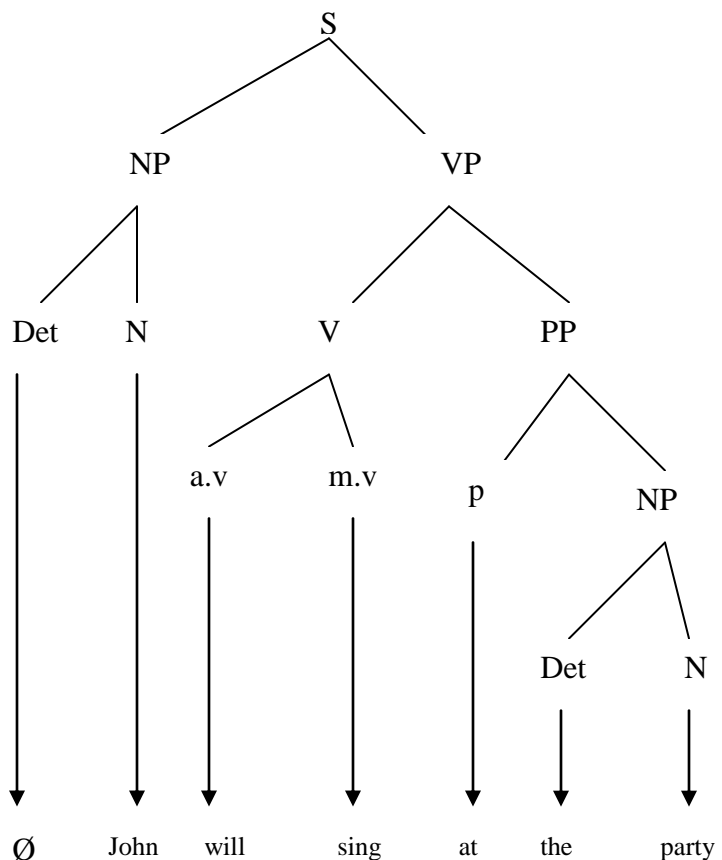
1. / sayuganni: jon fi: ?al Haflati /

PS Rules:

S = VP + PP
VP = V + NP
V = A.v + m.v
NP = Det + N
PP = P + NP
NP = Det + N
A.v = Tns- future=sa
m.v = yuganni:
Det = Ø = ?al
N =Jon, Haflati:
p = fi:

Tree diagram:

S
- VP
  - V
    - a.v → TNS → Future → sa
    - m.v → yuganni:
  - NP
    - Det → Ø
    - N → Jon
- PP
  - p → fi:
  - NP
    - Det → ?al
    - N → Haflati:
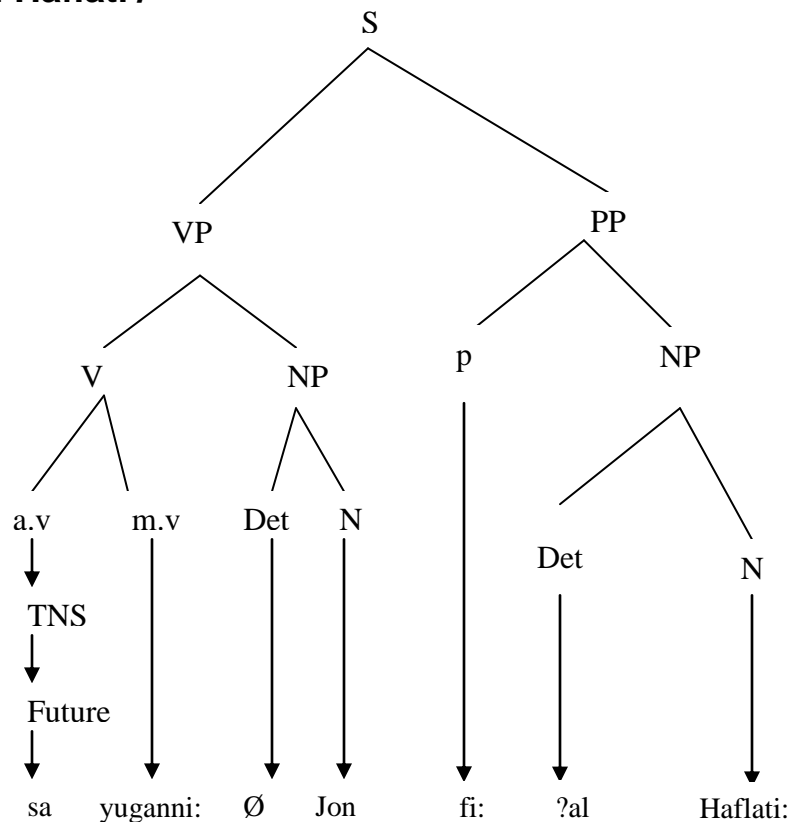
Contrastive Knowledge Base:

Based on the corpus above, we find that the Arabic tree diagram is different from English. In Arabic diagram, it starts with VP whereas in English it starts with NP. If we look at the above diagrams from the perspective of prepositional phrase, we find that there is no difference between English and Arabic word order of prepositional phrase.

2. They found a little boy in the car.

PS Rules :

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP = V + NP
V = a.v + m.v
NP = Det + NP
NP = NP + pp
NP = adj + N
pp = p+ NP
NP = Det + N
Det = Ø , a , the=?al
N = They , boy =waladan
car = sayy~Arati
a.v = TNS,PST
m.v = Find= wajadu
adj = Little =sagi:ran
p = In = fi:

Tree diagram:

S
- NP
  - Det
  - N
- VP
  - V
    - a.v → TNS
    - m.v
  - NP
    - Det
    - NP
      - NP
        - adj
        - N
      - pp
        - p
        - NP

20

							Det	N
Ø	they	PST	find	a	little	boy	in	the	car
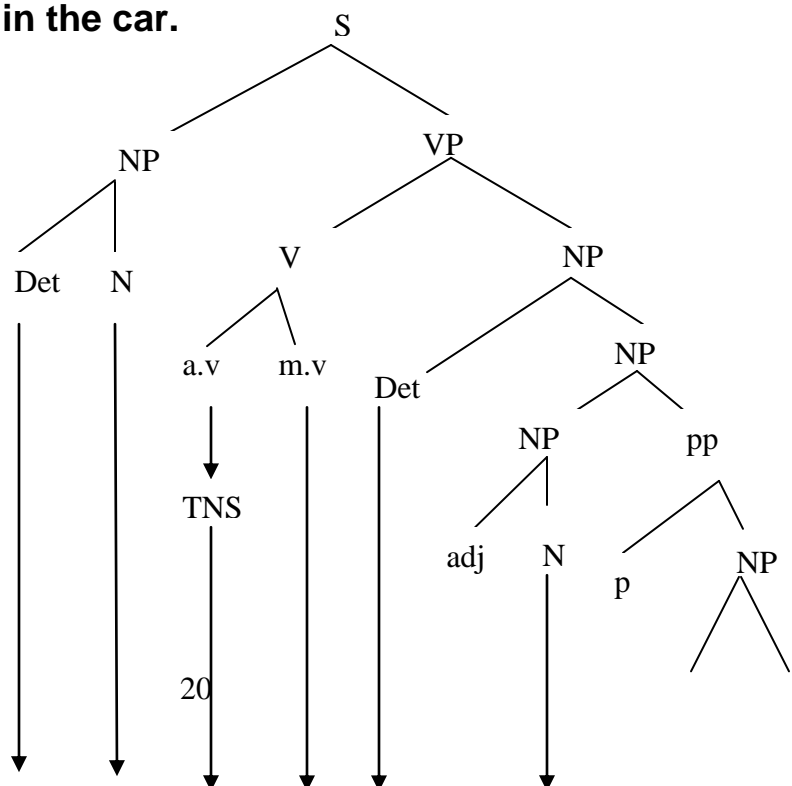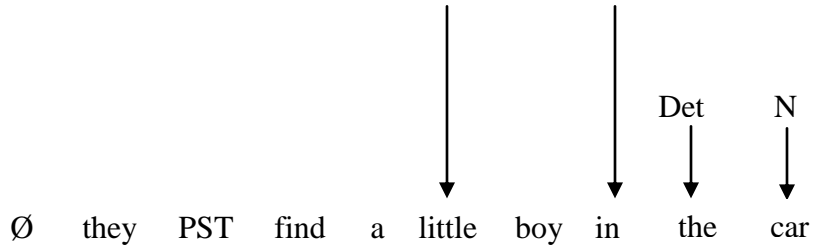
2. / wajadu waladan sagi:ran fi: ?al sayy~Arati /

PS Rules :

```
S = VP + Adjp
V = a.v + m.v
Adjp=adjp+PP
Adjp=P+adj
PP=P+NP
NP=Det+N
a.v=TNS=PST
m.v=wajadu
N=waladan,say~Arati
Adj=sagi:ran
P=fi:
Det=?al
```

Tree diagram:

S
- VP
  - a.v → TNS → PST
  - m.v → wajadu
- AdjP
  - AdjP
    - N → waladan
    - adj → sagi:ran
  - PP
    - P → fi:
    - NP
      - Det → ?al
      - N → sayy~Arati

Contrastive Knowledge Base:

Based on the corpus above we find that the first PS rule in English is S⇨NP+VP, whereas it becomes S⇨VP+NP in Arabic. This not only shows the word order of Arabic is VSO unlike SVO in English but it also explores an interesting fact that the subject of the sentence is inherent in the verb as a suffix marker. To be more precise, the suffix marker /u/ after the verb /wajad/ stands for "they". Another striking difference is the change in the word-order of AdjP. English AdjP "little boy" becomes "boy little" in Arabic, i.e. "waladan sagi:ran". One more difference in Arabic tree, one can see is the omission of indefinite article "a" which is shown as tanwin marker 'an' after 'walad'.

4.1.5: Verb Phrase

A verb phrase typically has a verb as its head.

	Standard English	Standard Arabic

1	Sally is clever.	/s@li: dhaki:yatun/
2	Mary was clever.	/ k@nat m@ri: dhaki:yatan/
3	I teach English. Now, I am teaching English. I have been teaching English for last two years.	/?an@ ?u9alimu ?alingliziya / /?an@ ?u9alimu ?alingliziya ?al@n/ /?an@ ?u9alimu ?alingliziya mundhu sanatain/
4	He has taught English. He taught English. He had taught English.	/ k@na qAd darrasa ?alingliziya/ /darrasa ?alingliziya/ / k@na qAd darrasa ?alingliziya/
5	The linguist will analyze a sentence. The linguist will be analyzing this sentence. The linguist will have analyzed this sentence by next week.	/ ?allugawi:u sa yuHallilu jumlatan/ / ?allugawi:u sayaDalu yuHallilu hadhihi ?aljumlata/ / ?allugawi:u sayakunu qAd anha taHli:l ?aljumlati fi: ?al?usbU9 ?al qAdim/

1. Sally is clever.

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
Det= Ø , Ø
N= Sally
VP=V+Adj
V=A.V
A.V=is
Adj=clever= dhaki:yatun/
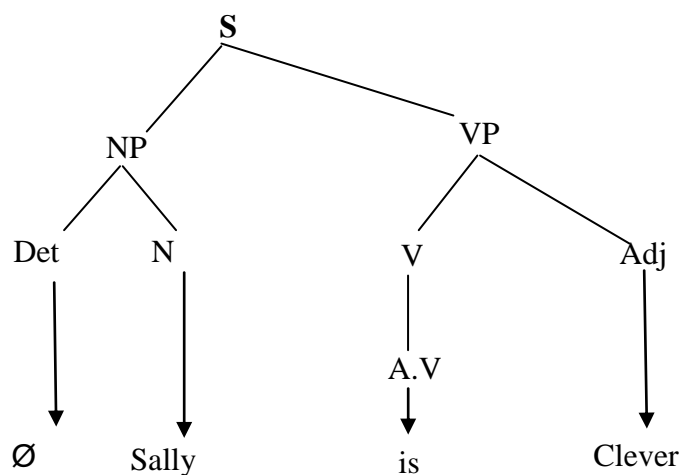
1. /S@li: dhaki:yatun/

PS Rules :

S=NP+AdjP
NP=Det+N
AdjP=V+Adj
Det= Ø-
N= S@li:
V= Ø
Adj= dhaki:yatun
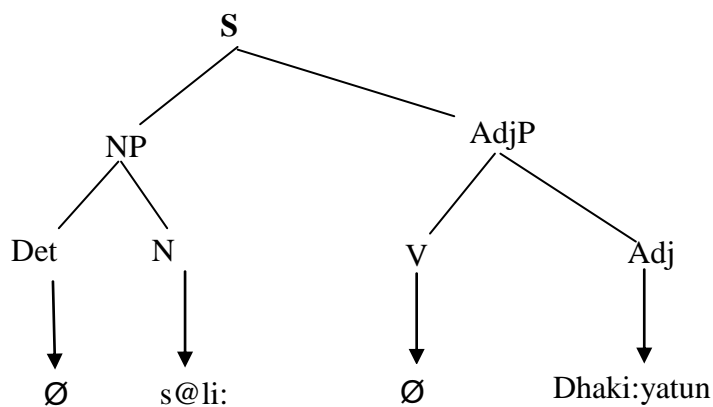
2. Mary was clever.

PS Rules :

S=NP+VP
NP=Det+N
VP=V+Adj
Det= Ø = Ø
N= mary
V=a.v
a.v=was
Adj=clever= dhaki:yatan

```
                          S
                 /                \
               NP                  VP
             /    \              /     \
           Det     N           V        Adj
            |      |           |         |
            ↓      ↓           ↓         ↓
            Ø     mary        a.v      Clever
                               |
                              was
```
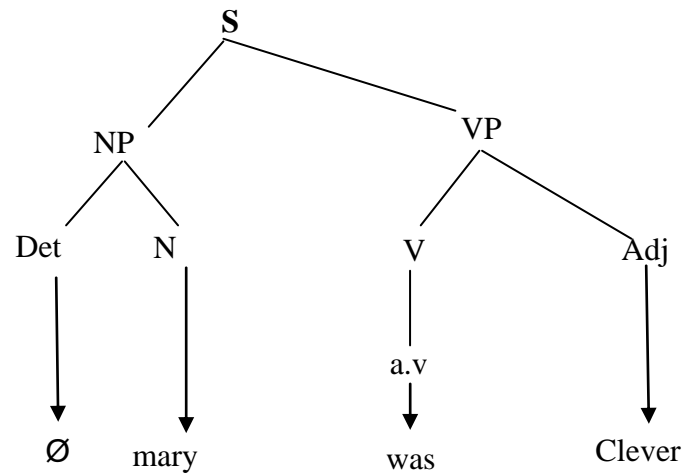
2. / k@nat m@ri dhaki:yatan /

PS Rules :

S=NP+AdjP
NP=Det+N
AdjP=V+Adj
Det= Ø
N= m@ri
V= k@nat
Adj= dhaki:yatan

```
                          S
                 /                \
               NP                 AdjP
             /    \              /      \
           Det     N           V         Adj
            |      |           |          |
            ↓      ↓           ↓          ↓
            Ø     m@ri       k@nat    dhaki:yatan
```

3. I teach English.

```
                       S
                /             \
              NP               VP
            /    \           /    \
          Det     N         V      NP
           |      |         |     /  \
           ↓      ↓         ↓   Det   N
           Ø      I       teach  |
                                 ↓
                                 Ø   English
```

23

3. /?an@ ?u9alimu ?alingliziya /
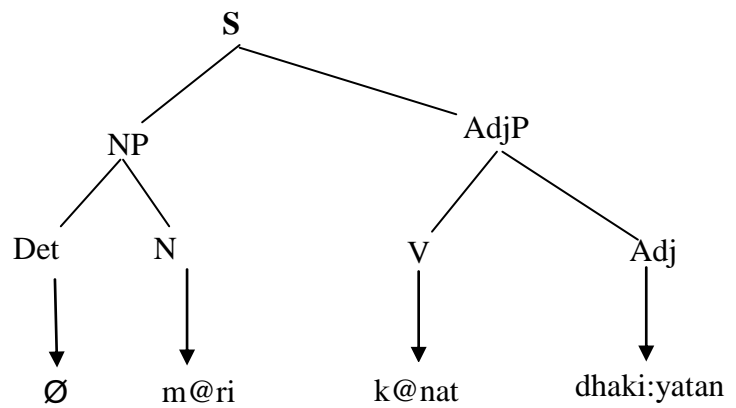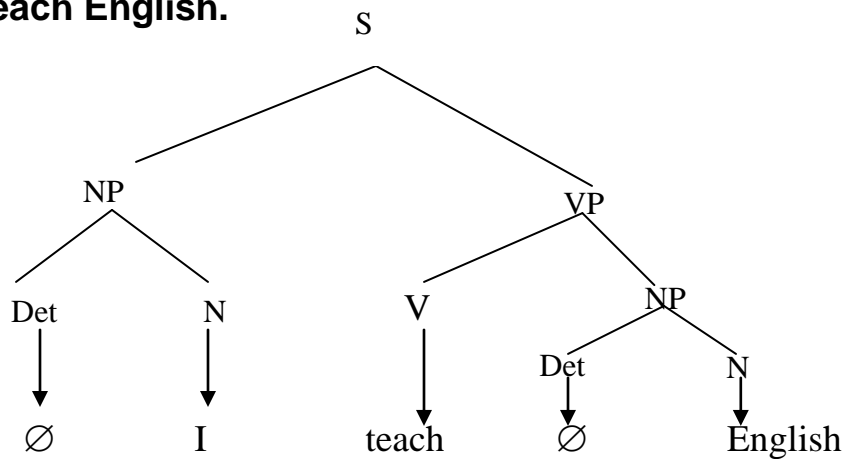
```
                          S
               ┌──────────┴──────────┐
              NP                     VP
          ┌────┴────┐          ┌──────┴──────┐
         Det        N          V            NP
          │         │          │         ┌───┴───┐
          ↓         ↓          ↓        Det      N
          ∅       ?an@     ?u9alimu      ↓       ↓
                                        ?al   ingliziya
```

4. He has taught English.
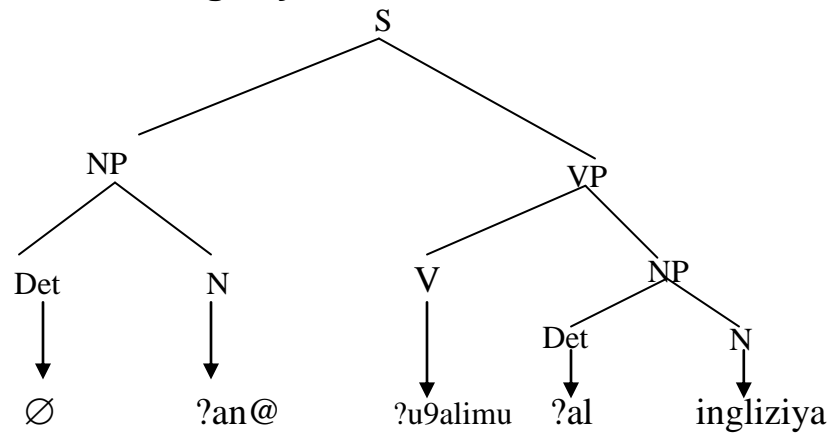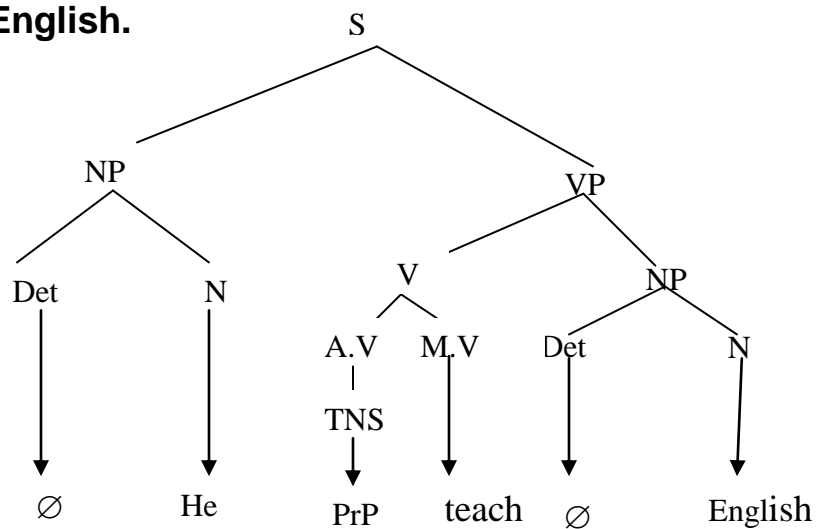
```
                              S
                   ┌──────────┴──────────┐
                  NP                      VP
             ┌─────┴─────┐         ┌───────┴───────┐
            Det          N         V              NP
             │           │      ┌──┴──┐        ┌───┴───┐
             │           │     A.V   M.V      Det      N
             │           │      │     │         │       │
             │           │     TNS    │         │       │
             ↓           ↓      ↓      ↓         ↓       ↓
             ∅          He     PrP   teach      ∅    English
```

4./K@na qAd darrasa ?alingliziya/

```
                          S
              ┌───────────┴───────────┐
             NP                        VP
         ┌────┴────┐           ┌────────┴────────┐
        Det        N           V                NP
         │         │        ┌──┴──┐          ┌───┴───┐
         │         │        P    m.v        Det      N
         ↓         ↓        ↓     ↓           ↓       ↓
         ∅       k@na     qAd  darrasa      ?al   ingliziya
```
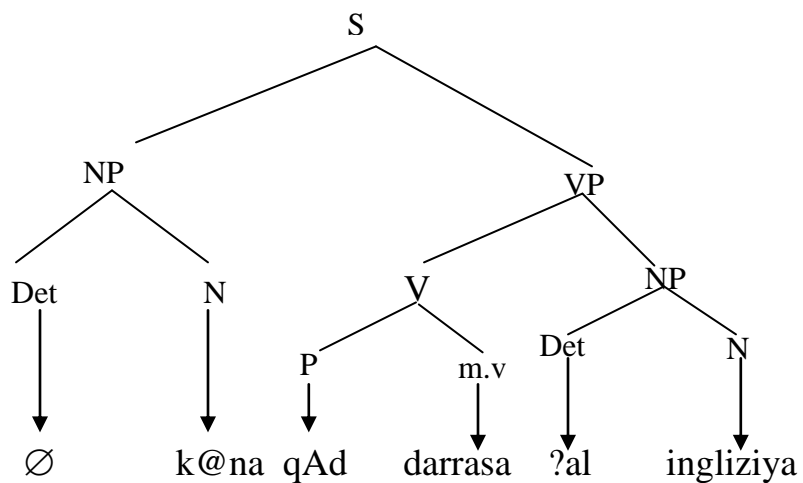
5. The linguist will analyze a sentence

PS Rules :

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP = V + NP
V = a.v + m.v
NP = Det + N
Det = the=?al,a
N =linguist=lugawi:u
sentence=jumlatan
a.v = will=sa
m.v = analyze=yuHallilu

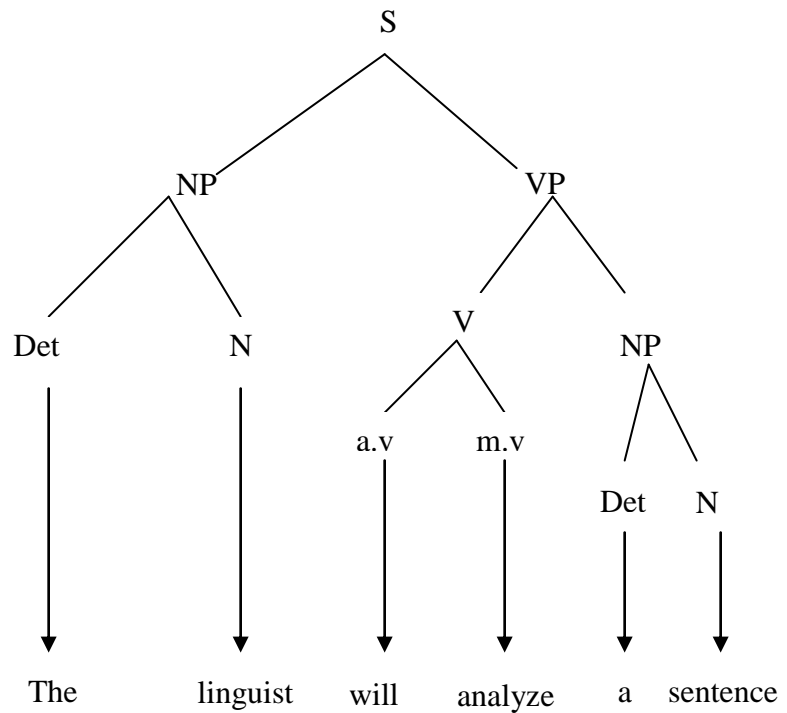```
                          S
               _____
              NP   VP
          ____|____   _____|_____
        Det   N   V   NP
         | | ___|___   _|__
         | | a.v   m.v   Det   N
         | | | | | |
         ↓   ↓   ↓   ↓   ↓   ↓
        The   linguist   will analyze   a sentence
```

**5. / ?allugawi:u sa yuHallilu  jumlatan/**

**PS Rules :**

S = NP + VP
NP = Det + N
VP =V + NP
V = a.v + m.v
NP = Det + N
Det = ?al
N = lugawi:u,jumlatan
a.v = sa
m.v = yuHallilu

```
                          S
               _____
              NP                       VP
          ____|____               _____|_____
        Det        N             V            NP
         |         |          ___|___        _|__
         |         |        a.v    m.v     Det   N
         |         |         |      |       |    |
         ↓         ↓         ↓      ↓       ↓    ↓
        ?al    lugawi:u     sa   yuHallil   ∅  jumlatan
                                    u
```

25
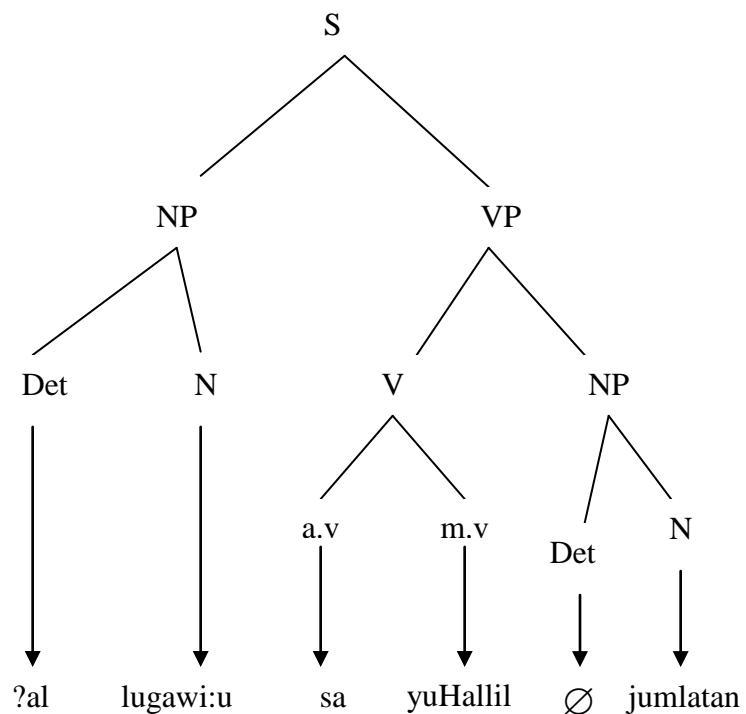
Contrastive Knowledge Base:

If we look at verb phrase in the English sentences above, we find that auxiliary verb is used in present, past, and future tenses, whereas there is no auxiliary in Arabic for present tense as in sentence 1 under Verb Phrase. On the other hand, we use the auxiliary verb k@nat in sentence 2 to denote past auxiliary marker for "was". As far as English simple present, present progressive, or present perfect continuous form is concerned, it takes V1/V5, is/am/are+V4, has/have +been + V4 respectively, whereas Arabic uses only one form of the tense for simple present, present progressive, and present perfect continuous.

As for simple past tense in English, it inflects in V2 form either in regular way, e.g. (played, asked, etc.) or irregular way, e.g. (went, taught, etc.) irrespective of gender and number agreement. On the other hand, Arabic verb inflects according to gender and number of the subject for example, (taught) becomes /darras@/ and /darrasat/; /daras@/ is used for singular and masculine subject, whereas /daras@t/ is used for singular feminine subject. To be more precise, /@/ suffix marker is used for singular masculine subject, whereas the suffix /@t/ is used for singular feminine subject. As far as English present perfect form is concerned it takes has/have+V3, whereas Arabic takes {qad+past form of the main verb}.

As far as English **past perfect** form is concerned it takes {had + V3}, whereas Arabic past perfect form takes {k@na+qad+ past form of the main verb}.
Based on the corpus above we find that the verb in the simple future tense takes {shall/will+V1}, whereas Arabic verb takes {sa/sawfa + V1}. As far as English future progressive form is concerned, it takes {will+be+V4}, whereas Arabic future progressive form takes {sa+yaDalu} before the main verb. As far as English future perfect form is concerned, it takes {shall/will+have+V3}, whereas Arabic future progressive form takes {sa+yakunu+qad} before the main verb. The following are some of the major findings that arose out of contrastive knowledge base.

- In Libyan Arabic, we don't use personal pronouns in isoloation,we use them as suffix , prefix or both of them after the verb such as endi, endak, endaha, endah, etc. here /i/, /ak /, /aha/, /ah/ stand respectively for I, you, she, and he as in sentences 1,2,12,13,14,18,43.
- As a part of syntactic differences, it is noteworthy that in standard Arabic we use past tense auxiliary marker /lakad/ as in sentence number15 whereas in Libyan Arabic we don't use such past tense auxiliary marker as in 15
- For passive structure, we usually put subject at the end of the sentence in Standard Arabic, whereas in Libyan Arabic we use the subject in the beginning of the sentence as in number 9.
- In Standard Arabic, the negative marker /l@/ comes before the verb, whereas in Libyan Arabic, the negative marker is used as prefix /m@/ and suffix /ish/ in the verb. (Make a tree diagram for this fact) as in sentences19,20,21,53
- Sometimes a sentence in SA is used as a word in LA, e.g. arju al m9dir@ can be used as one word as /m9lish/ as in sentences 43, 47, 49.

- It is noteworthy that we don't use faqat or its equivalent in LA as in sentence…but sometimes its equivalent /bas/ is used in LA before the main verb unlike SA as in sentences 19, 20...
- Due to the omission of many syntactic components, Libyan Arabic is shorter in length as in sentence…we do use k?ana in SA but we omit this component in LA as in sentences 22,23,24,26.
- In SA, time adverb usually comes initially in a sentence as in 51, whereas in LA, it comes in the beginning.
- Unlike SA, we do not use the expression /assA9A/ for o'clock in LA as in sentence 52…
- It is interesting to see that SA is more explicit in terms of using its syntactic components, whereas LA not only differs in terms of word order but also in terms of occurring in clusters as in sentence 46 ,49.
- In LA we don't use the equivalent of the pronoun 'it' as in sentence 54.

Conclusion

In the light of the above mentioned analysis discussed above, the research concludes that Libyan Arabic differs at lexical, phonological and syntactic levels.

As a future research, one needs to look into the following recommendations to work further for the linguistic differences between Standard and Libyan Arabic.

- Differentiating the morphological inflections of all the word classes
- Differentiating the case inflection in Standard and Libyan Arabic.
- Differentiating the lexical differences at length
- Differentiating the syntactic order of Standard Arabic with more dialects of Libyan Arabic.
- Differentiating the phonological differences at length.

In the light of the contrastive knowledge base discussed under chapter 2 above, the research explores several striking facts. Here it is desirable to mention those striking facts in a nutshell which are relevant to the present research only.

1. Indefinite article "a" in English changes into definite article "?al" in Arabic and "?al" is used before the subject and object nouns in sentence.

2. Usually, the word order of Arabic sentence is VSO unlike SVO in English. When VSO pattern is used the subject of the sentence is morphologically inherent in the verb as a suffix marker. To be more precise, the suffix marker /u/ after the verb /wajd/ stands for "they" as in the 2nd sentence under noun phrase above.

3. The word-order of AdjP shows a remarkable change in terms of word order. For example, English AdjP "a little boy" becomes "boy little" in Arabic, i.e. "waladan sagi:ran". we find that adjective in English comes before noun; whereas in Arabic it comes after the noun it qualifies and inflects for gender, number, and article as in the 4th sentence under noun phrase. At the same time, there is hardly any use of intensifier in Arabic, e.g. 'very' in the 4th sentence under Noun Phrase does not have its equivalent but its sense is captured just by the adjective 'kabi:ratan' which stands for 'big' giveing the meaning of 'very big'. The same instance can be seen in the 5th sentence under adjective phrase.

4. In English the subject pronoun "It" followed by the verb "Is" is translated into Arabic as "Innah@" which consists of the article "Inna" and the pronoun "h@". "h@" refers here to a feminine noun because it refers to the word "Idea" , if it refers to masculine noun i.e. "It is a big door" / Innahu b@bun KabIr /. Another difference is the change in the word-order of AdjP. In Arabic "good idea" becomes "idea good", i.e. "fikratun rA?i9atun".

5. Sometimes, adverb in Arabic requires preposition to express the meaning of English adverb. For example, "slowly" is split into two constituents, i.e. P+N as "bi:+buT?in". Here it noteworthy that "bi:buT?in" is also used as adverb of manner in Arabic but for syntactic analysis this adverb shows two constituents in which bi is used as preposition and as noun 'buT?in' as in the 1st sentence under Adverbial Phrase.

6. It is also important to mention here that in Arabic the corresponding equivalents of English adverbs of manner are not adverbs of manner in true sense because Arabic grammar classifies such words under /**H@l**/ rather than adverb of manner. One can also find that English adverbs of manner may come initially, medially, or finally in a sentence, whereas Arabic adverb of manner usually comes after the verb. Another striking fact we find here that in Arabic the equivalent adverb of manner is written and pronounced differently. In writing, for instance, we write /baTian, jayidan, muta~rd~edidan, muri~batan, gADiban, sirran/ that is **noun/adjective**+/**an**/, but in speech, /**an**/ is not pronounced when it comes at the end of the sentence.

7. There is no difference between English and Arabic word order of prepositional phrase. We also find that many English prepositions in Arabic take the form of adverb, for example, *under* in Arabic is used as adverb of place. Similarly, *behind*, *among,* and *beside* are not prepositions rather adverb of place in Arabic.

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8. If we look at verb phrase in English sentence, we find that auxiliary verb is used in present, past, and future tenses, whereas there is no auxiliary in Arabic for present tense as in sentence 1 under Verb Phrase. On the other hand, we use the auxiliary verb k@nat in sentence 2 to denote past auxiliary marker for "was". As far as English simple present, present progressive, or present perfect continuous form is concerned, it takes V1/V5, is/am/are+V4, has/have +been + V4 respectively, whereas Arabic uses only one form of the tense for simple present, present progressive, and present perfect continuous.

9. As for simple past tense in English, it inflects in V2 form either in regular way, e.g. (played, asked, etc.) or irregular way, e.g. (went, taught, etc.) irrespective of gender and number agreement. On the other hand, Arabic verb inflects according to gender and number of the subject for example, (taught) becomes /darras@/ and /darrasat/; /daras@/ is used for singular and masculine subject, whereas /daras@t/ is used for singular feminine subject. To be more precise, /@/ suffix marker is used for singular masculine subject, whereas the suffix /@t/ is used for singular feminine subject. As far as English present perfect form is concerned it takes has/have+V3, whereas Arabic takes {qad+past form of the main verb}.

10. As far as English **past perfect** form is concerned it takes {had + V3}, whereas Arabic past perfect form takes {k@na+qad+ past form of the main verb}.

11. As for future tense in English, we find that the verb in the simple future tense takes {shall/will+V1}, whereas Arabic verb takes {sa/sawfa + V1}. As far as English future progressive form is concerned, it takes {will+be+V4}, whereas Arabic future progressive form takes {sa+yaDalu} before the main verb. As far as English future perfect form is concerned, it takes {shall/will+have+V3}, whereas Arabic future progressive form takes {sa+yakunu+qad} before the main verb.

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