

عنوان المحاضرة: مفاهيم أساسية عن آلية المقارنة

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جامعة الموصل

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القسم: الترجمة

Basics of Contrastive Mechanism

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What is Contrastive Grammar?

- ✓ **Contrastive grammar** is a part of the larger field of contrastive Linguistics.
- ✓ **Contrastive grammar** aims at pointing out similarities and differences between the grammars of two or more languages.
- ✓ **Backing to contrastive linguistics**, it is made up of two types: theoretical (general linguistics) and applied (practical and pedagogical objectives).
- ✓ **Applied contrastive linguistics** is also useful for those who are interested in translation.

How are the grammar of two languages contrasted?

The usual procedure used in contrastive analysis consists of three major stages:

A.Describing language (1),

B.Describing language (2), and

C.Contrasting the results.

Note:

- ✓ When contrasting the grammar of two languages, one should look for a fairly general frame to cover structures of both languages. This general framework is usually provided by the discipline of general linguistics.
- ✓ Contrasting the grammars (of two or more languages) normally requires that one should make use of higher levels of abstraction.

Practical example:

Perhaps Ali will attend the meeting

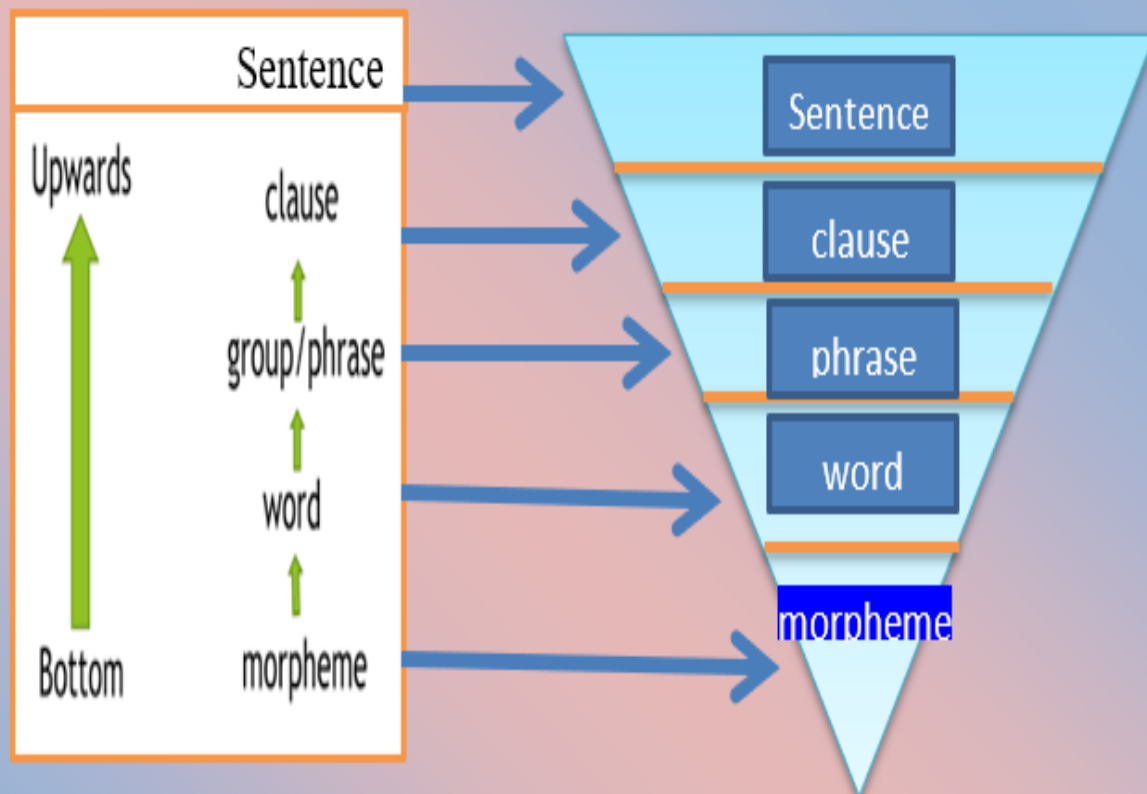
قد يحضر علي الاجتماع.

To make a comparison between the words 'قد' and 'perhaps', it can be stated that 'قد' is a particle, whereas 'perhaps' is an adverb (it is syntactically based comparison). However, if we consider their functions in modality (to express a certain degree of doubt), then the basis of comparison will be semantic.

Note: it can be said that both semantic and syntactic bases are used in contrastive analysis. They often complete each other.

The Sentence:

- ❖ Traditionally, grammarians divide the (linguistic) material into stretches of various sizes termed **units**.
- ❖ The largest form of these units is **the sentence**.
- ❖ The other units are: **the clause**, **the phrase**, **the word** and **the morpheme**. Consider the following figure:



Q) Do we have units larger than the sentence?

- ❖ In both English and Arabic, a sentence consists of one or more clauses; a clause consists of one or more phrases, and so on.
- ❖ The morpheme is the smallest unit. It is either free (i.e. can come alone [e.g.: book, boy, ...]) or bound (cannot come alone [e.g.: the 's' in books and boys]).

Practical example:

The boys are playing in the park.

يلعب الأولاد في الحديقة العامة

- The English and the Arabic sentences are two stretches, each of which is made up of one sentence (involving one clause).
- Both of them are of three phrases (i.e. the boys / are playing / in the park ... (يلعب / الأولاد / في الحديقة العامة).
- Compare (are playing ↔ يلعب) and (boys ↔ أولاد).