

THE ELEMENTS OF SIMPLE SENTENCES IN NEWSPAPERS BETWEEN ARABIC AND CHINESE LANGUAGES: SYNTACTIC COMPARISON

Gao Ran¹

¹Master Student and International Student
Supervisor: Dr. Nazri Atoh
Faculty of Languages and Communication, Sultan Idris Education University, 35900, Perak, Malaysia
Tel: 60-172273608
Email: 515886933@qq.com

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Abstract: *This study compares the elements of simple sentences in newspapers between Arabic and Chinese languages. This study introduces the basic knowledge of Arabic and Chinese languages, as well as the purpose and significance of this study. This study introduces the basic knowledge of classification of sentences in Arabic and Chinese and the definition of simple sentence. In addition, it also introduces the elements of simple sentences of Arabic and Chinese languages. On the basis of doing syntactic comparison and the study of previous theses and reading the Arabic and Chinese grammar books, the researcher found three similarities and three differences of the elements of simple sentences between Arabic and Chinese languages. It analyzes the detailed explanations the problems of confusing knowledge points, and also the typical example sentences from newspapers. By the way, not all the example sentences from newspapers, because the newspaper article has its special style, not all the author's example sentences can be found in the newspaper, especially grammatical phenomena that are rarely used. So some examples are from grammar books and the remaining examples are written by the author herself. The study finds similarity of the elements of simple sentences between Arabic and Chinese languages that the most of the simple sentence elements in Arabic and Chinese can be omitted. The second similarity is that only one verb can constitute a complete and meaningful sentence. The third similarity is that both Arabic and Chinese sentences can begin with a noun or verb. On the other hand, the first difference of the elements of simple sentences between Arabic and Chinese languages is that the difference between an Arabic verb which is a element of a simple sentence and a Chinese verb which is exists as a word. The second difference is that the Arabic transitive verbs can have one or two or three objects in the same sentence, however the Chinese transitive verbs can only have one or two objects in the same sentence, that means there can be up to three objects simultaneously in a complete and meaningful Arabic sentence, but there can be up to two objects simultaneously in a complete and meaningful Chinese sentence. The third difference is that a transitive verb can take object and without the object in Chinese Language, on the contrary, a transitive verb must have object and it can't done without the object in Arabic Language.*

Keywords: *Elements of Simple Sentences, Chinese And Arabic, Newspapers, Comparative Grammatical*

Introduction

The Arabic language is the mother tongue of the Arab nation, mainly used in West Asia and North Africa. The Arabic is the official language of nineteen Arab countries and four international organizations, it's also one of the six official languages of the United States, at the same time, Arabic is the religious language of Muslims throughout the world.

The Chinese language is the language of the Chinese Han nationality, which comprises over 90% of the total population of China, as well as being the common social language of all nationalities of China. It is also, with its long history, one of the most developed and wide-spread languages of the world.

Arabic and Chinese respectively belong to two different major languages—Semitic language and Sino-Tibetan language. There is a great deal of grammatical differences between the two languages. Whether for Arabic-speaking students who learning Chinese or Chinese-speaking students who learning Arabic, comparing the similarities and the differences of the Arabic and Chinese grammar can promote students' understanding of grammar and better grasp Arabic or Chinese languages.

The study is based on Egypt's Pyramid newspaper and China's People's Daily newspaper. It selects the sports news of the two newspapers in December 2017 and excerpts the sentences from it used as the example sentences for analysis. Through comparative analysis of example sentences, the elements of simple sentences between Arabic and Chinese languages are elaborated.

There are few grammar books about Chinese sentences or the elements of sentences, most grammar books are about the whole Chinese grammar. And for Chinese students, most of the Arabic grammar books are written in Chinese, and only main terminologies in both Chinese and Arabic languages.

In this thesis, the researcher used three research methods, there are inductive approaches, contrastive method and contrastive method.

Literature Review

There are some studies that dealt with this study, the writer collected it and summarized the main ideas to expand the writer's knowledge and share it with others who need it in the future. On the other hand, the writer compared between this study and previous studies, the writer benefited from the existing information in previous studies and use the knowledge to better complete this study.

Basma Ossama Sarwat Ahmed wrote the study (2016) “汉语和阿拉伯语状语结构的比较研究” (A comparative study of Chinese and Arabic adverbials). This essay aim is research the similarities and differences between the Chinese and Arabic adverbials. Farah Mohammed Abdul Rahman wrote the study (1997) "الجملة العربية البسيطة وتدرسيها للناطقين بلغات أخرى" (Simple Arabic sentences and its study for the non-Arabic speakers). This study aims at highlighting the importance of the simple sentences in teaching Arabic grammar to the non-

Arabic speakers. Then, Dr. Naima Saadia (2011) in the study "الجملة في الدراسات اللغوية" (the sentences in language studies), this study attempts to approach the concept of sentence in general and the concept of language. The Article lu jianming (1993) entitled "汉语句子的特点" (Chinese sentence characteristics), this article compared Chinese languages with other languages to get some Chinese sentence features. There is also an article by wu biyu (2003) entitled "汉语句子的研究概述" (Summary search in Chinese sentence). The researcher said it is difficult to know the Chinese sentence because of its limit. Due to the lack of signs of shapes in the Chinese sentence, causing some problems while searching the Chinese sentence, it brings obstacles to search in Chinese grammar. Nasir Bin Ibrahim Al-Rajeh (1999), "تحليل تقابلي في نظام الجملة بين اللغة العربية واللغة الإنجليزية" (A Comparative Analysis in the Sentence System between Arabic and English). The researcher spoke about the elements of Arabic sentence in the linguistic system.

Elements of simple sentences in Arabic and Chinese languages

Definition of Simple Sentences

The simple sentence in this study refers to a complete meaningful sentence consist of only the basic sentence elements and no other non-basic sentence elements. For example, in Arabic, the basic sentence elements of nominal sentences are subject and predicate. In addition, there are no other basic sentence elements.

Elements of Simple Sentences in Arabic

Arabic sentences are divided into two types: nominal sentences and verbal sentences. The sentence elements of the nominal sentence are only the subject and predicate, so the subject and predicate are the sentence elements of nominal sentence in Arabic. The basic sentence elements of verbal sentences are verbs and subjects. There is another sentence element—object, which is classified into sentence element of the simple sentence in this study. There are two reasons: First, the object is frequently used, it is a very common sentence element; the second, the basic sentence elements in Chinese also include objects, therefore, it is possible to compare the grammar of Arabic and Chinese objects.

Elements of the nominal sentences:

- (1) The subject: It is the nominative noun placed at the beginning of the sentence.
- (2) The predicate: It is what completes the meaning of the subject.

Elements of the verbal sentences:

- (1) The verb: words that indicates a specific action at a given time.
- (2) The subject: It is the nominative nouns after the verb indicates who did the act.
- (3) The object: It is the objective nouns that received the action.

Elements of Simple Sentences in Chinese

The classification of Chinese sentences is more complicated than the classification of Arabic sentences, but usually we divide it into two kinds of sentences: the subject-predicate (S-P) sentences and the non-subject-predicate (Non-S-P) sentence. No matter how the Chinese sentence is classified, its basic sentence elements are only six—subject, predicate, object, attributive, adverbial adjuncts, and complements.

The Six Elements of the Chinese Simple Sentences

- (1) The subject: most Chinese sentences are composed of two sections—the subject section and the predicate section. The main word in the subject section is named the subject. The subject is the theme of a statement or a description or illustration. It can also be a topic.
- (2) The predicate: the predicate serves to state, describe or illustrate the subject, telling who or what the subject is, what it does or how is it.
- (3) The object: the object is a sentence element following the predicate verb indicating the target or result of an action the place where the action reaches, or the instrument with which the action is done.
- (4) The attributive: A word or phrase which modifies or restricts the subject or object is called an attributive and the word modified by the attributive is called the head word. In other words, the attributive is the premodifier showing the property, quality, category, place, time or scope of what is denoted by the head word.
- (5) The adverbial adjuncts: a word or phrase modifying or restricting the predicate is called an adverbial adjunct and the word it modifies is the head word. In other words, the adverbial adjunct is the premodifying element denoting the time, place, degree, scope, aspect, affirmation or negation, repetition, activeness or passiveness, target, reason, etc. of the head word.
- (6) The complements: a word or phrase attached to a verb or adjective predicate to complete the meaning is called a complement. Complements are modifying elements to show the duration, quantity, result, degree, direction or possibility of an action; or to illustrate the state, number, degree of a thing.

The Similarities of The Elements of Simple Sentences in Arabic and Chinese languages *The Most of The Simple Sentence Elements in Arabic And Chinese Can Be Omitted.*

The basic elements in the Arabic nominal sentence can be omitted, there are three types to omit the subject: The first is that usually omit the subject from titles such as titles of books, stories, newspapers, etc. The second is that omit the subject if the predicate is the word that root of its verbal subject. The third is that omit the subject if evidenced by evidence.

For example:

"على المكتب."

("On the desk.")

((p29 ، 1973 ، Dr. Fowar Naama ، 《Summary of Arabic Grammar》))

This sentence omits the subject "الكتاب" (The book) because the subject evidenced by evidence, it is to answer the question asked by others:

"أين الكتاب؟" ("Where is the book?"). The original sentence is "الكتاب على المكتب." ("The book is on the desk".)

There are three types to omit the predicate:

The first is that omit the predicate if the subject after "لولا" (without). The second is that omit the predicate if the subject in the sworn sentence clearly. . The third is that omit it if the subject and the accompanying letter "الواو" are connected. For example:

"لولا الطبيب ما شفي المريض".

(Without a doctor, the patient will not be cured.)

(p34 ، 1973 ، Dr. Fowar Naama ، 《Summary of Arabic Grammar》)

This sentence omits the predicate "موجود"(existing existent) because the subject after "لولا"(without). The original sentence is "لولا الطبيب موجود ما شفي المريض." ("If there is no doctor, the patient will not be cured".)

The basic elements in the Arabic verbal sentence can be omitted. There is a situation that you can omit verbs and subjects with only objects:

If the context of the speech is clear.

For example:

"عليا". (لمن يسأل: "من قابلت؟")

(Someone asked: "Who did you meet with?" The answer: "Ali.")

(p68 ، 1973 ، Dr. Fowar Naama ، 《Summary of Arabic Grammar》)

This sentence omits the verb and subject "قابلت" (I met) because the context of the speech is clear. The original sentence is "قابلت عليا." ("I met with Ali".)

The basic elements in the Chinese simple sentence can be omitted if the context of the speech is clear.

For example:

“支持学校通过创建青少年体育俱乐部， 打造学校特色体育项目”。

(Supports schools to build youth sports clubs in order to develop school-specific sports programs.)

(《Strengthen Reserve Talent Cultivation of Competitive Sports》 , The People's Daily newspaper, 2017-12-08)

The sentence omits the subject “《指导意见》”(《The instructions》) because the context of the speech is clear. The original sentence is

“《指导意见》支持学校通过创建青少年条件俱乐部， 打造学校特色体育项目”。 (《The instructions》 supports schools to build youth sports clubs in order to develop school-specific sports programs.)

Only One Verb Can Constitute A Complete and Meaningful Sentence In Arabic And Chinese Languages.

In Arabic, if you want only one verb to be able to form a complete and meaningful sentence, the sentence formed by this verb must be an imperative sentence, but the imperative sentence only expresses the command. At the same time, only use the exclamation mark at the end of the sentence.

For example:

"اذهب!"

(go!)

This sentence is a complete and meaningful sentence consisting of only one imperative verb "اذهب"(go).

In Chinese, if you want a verb to be able to form a complete and meaningful sentence, the sentence formed by this verb must be an imperative sentence, but the imperative sentence can express imperative, commands, requests, advice, etc. Can use the the period or exclamation mark at the end of the sentence.

For example:

“走” !

(go!)

This sentence is a complete and meaning sentence consisting of only one verb “走” 。
(go.)

4.3 Both Arabic and Chinese sentences can begin with a noun or verb.

The Arabic sentences begin with a noun or verb:

For example:

"واصل فريق الأهلي انتصاراته ببطولة الدوري الممتاز لكرة القدم".

(The team Ahly continued their victories in the Premier League football championship.)

(«The Ahli team win the match vs alasuti team and go to second level of champions» , The Pyramid newspaper,2017-12-07)

This sentence begins with the verb "واصل"(continue).

"عبد العزيز يناقش استعدادات حفل تكريم قدامى اللاعبين".

(Abdul Aziz discusses preparations for a party for retired athletes.)

(«Abdul Aziz discusses preparations for a party for retired athletes» , The Pyramid newspaper,2017-12-07)

This sentence begins with the noun "عبد العزيز"(Abdul Aziz).

The Chinese sentences begin with a noun or verb:

For example:

“需要我们的运动员付出很大的努力” 。

(Need our athletes to work hard.)

(«Although there is a gap, without losing confidence» , The People’s Daily newspaper, 2017-12-27)

This sentence begins with the verb “需要”(Need).

“中国联通成为北京冬奥会和冬残奥会官方合作伙伴” 。

(The China Unicom Becomes Official Partner of Beijing Winter Olympics and Winter Paralympics.)

(《The China Unicom Becomes Official Partner of Beijing Winter Olympics and Winter Paralympics》, The People's Daily newspaper, 2017-12-27)

This sentence begins with the noun “中国联通” (The China Unicom).

The Differences of The Elements of Simple Sentences in Arabic and Chinese languages.
The Difference Between an Arabic Verb Which Is the Element of a Simple Sentence and A Chinese Verb Which Is Exists as A Word.

The biggest difference between Arabic verbs and Chinese verbs is that in Chinese languages there is no strict morphological, the form of a verb remains unchanged under all circumstance. Differences in person, gender, number or time do not require changes in the form of a verb; while the morphological changes of Arabic verbs are common, its form is affected by grammatical persons, tenses, numbers, and genders.

Taking the Arabic verb "كتب" (write) as an example, the following are the various forms after its morphological change:

The past tense

	The first person	The second person		The third person	
		Female	Male	Female	Male
Singular	كَتَبْتُ	كَتَبْتِ	كَتَبْتَ	كَتَبَتْ	كَتَبَ
Double	كَتَبْنَا	كَتَبْتُمَا	كَتَبْتُمَا	كَتَبْتَا	كَتَبَا
Plural		كَتَبْتُنَّ	كَتَبْتُمْ	كَتَبْنَ	كَتَبُوا

The present tense

	The first person	The second person		The third person	
		Female	Male	Female	Male
Singular	أَكْتُبُ	تَكْتُبِينَ	تَكْتُبُ	تَكْتُبُ	يَكْتُبُ
Double	نَكْتُبُ	تَكْتُبَانِ	تَكْتُبَانِ	تَكْتُبَانِ	يَكْتُبَانِ
Plural		تَكْتُبْنَ	تَكْتُبُونَ	يَكْتُبْنَ	يَكْتُبُونَ

The imperative tense

	The second person for female	The second person for male
Singular	اُكْتُبِي	اُكْتُبْ
Double	اُكْتُبَا	اُكْتُبَا
Plural	اُكْتُبْنَ	اُكْتُبُوا

The Chinese verb "写"(write) does not have any morphological changes and is not affected by any other factors.

For example:

"وقد قامت لجنة الحكام مؤخرا بإشراك الحكم الخامس من أجل القضاء على الأخطاء".

(The Referees' Committee recently implemented the fifth provision to eliminate errors.)

(《The football catch asking: out of service》, The Pyramid newspaper, 2017-12-11)

The verb in this sentence is "قامت" (implemented), it is a past-tense verb and a third-person for female verb and it's also a singular form.

"يقومون الطلاب الأعزاء بالحفلة الكبيرة الآن لاحتفال بالتخرج".

(Dear students are holding a party to celebrate graduation.)

The verb in this sentence is "يقومون" (holding), it is a present-tense verb and a third-person for male verb and it's also a plural form.

“有人预估最终成绩很可能会大跌眼镜”。

“Some people predict that the final score is likely to be disappointing.”

(《Preparing for the Olympic Games focuses on seeking truth from facts》, The People's Daily newspaper, 2017-12-11)

The verb in this sentence is “预估” (predict), although the subject is “有人” (some people), the morphological of the verb remains unchanged.

“我和她预估最终成绩很可能会打破记录”。

(She and I predict that the final score is likely to break the record.)

The verb in this sentence is “预估” (predict), although the subject is “我和她” (She and I), the morphological of the verb remains unchanged.

The Arabic Transitive Verbs Can Have One or Two or Three Objects in The Same Sentence, However The Chinese Transitive Verbs Can Only Have One Or Two Objects In The Same Sentence.

That means there can be up to three objects simultaneously in a complete and meaningful Arabic sentence, but there can be up to two objects simultaneously in a complete and meaningful Chinese sentence.

For example:

"أنبأت كريمًا أخاه ناجحًا".

(I told Krimar that his brother was a successful person.)

The transitive verb in this sentence is "أنبأت" (told) and it has three objects. The first object is "كريمًا" (Krimar), the second object is "أخاه" (his brother), the third object is "ناجحًا" (successful person).

“中国老师教我们汉语”。

(The Chinese teacher teaches us Chinese language.)

(《A Practical Chinese Grammar For Foreigners》, Li Dejin and Cheng Meizhen, 2008, p251)

The transitive verb in this sentence is”教“ (teaches) and it has two objects. The first object is”我们“ (us), the second object is”汉语“ (Chinese language). Some transitive verbs take two objects, which are called double objects. The first one, mostly a personal noun or pronoun, is called an indirect object. And the second one, mostly a noun or phrase of non-personal reference, is named the direct object. In this sentence”我们“ (us) is the indirect object and”汉语“ (Chinese language) is the direct object.

A transitive verb can take object and without the object in Chinese language, on the contrary, a transitive verb must have object and it can't done without the object in Arabic language.

For example:

"طلب النادي الأهلي بشكل رسمي حضور ٦٠ ألف متفرج لمباراة الفريق الأول لكرة أمام أتلتيكو مدريد الإسباني التي ستقام ٣٠ ديسمبر الحالي ضمن مبادرة «السلام ضد الإرهاب» بدعم من المستشار تركي الشيخ".

(The Aihaili Club officially requested 60 thousand audiences to watch the first football match will be held in Atletico Madrid Spain on December 30th this year. This match advocated "peace against terrorism" with the support of counselor Turki.)

(《The team Ahli request 60,000 person to support him during the match vs Atletici madred supported by arab tower》, The Pyramid newspaper, 2017-12-13)

The transitive verb in this sentence is "طلب" (requested) and the object is "حضور"

"٦٠ ألف متفرج" (60 thousands audiences). If this sentence only has the transitive verb "طلب"(requested) but no object "٦٠ ألف متفرج"(60 thousands of audiences), the sentence is wrong and it is meaningless.

“上千场次的大众冰雪活动将在全国十余个省市自治区举行”。

(Thousands of People's ice and snow activities will be held in more than a dozen provinces, cities and autonomous regions across the country.)

(《Let's go, to play the snow and ice》, The People's Daily newspaper, 2017-12-15)

In this sentence the transitive verb “举行” (held) has no object, but the sentence is still meaningful and complete.

“根据协议内容，建成后的基地，除了保证国家和重庆市运动队专业训练，还将定期举办国际和国内全项目轮滑锦标赛及相关群众赛事”。

(According to the contents of the agreement, after the base is completed, in addition to guaranteeing professional training for the national and Chongqing province's sports teams, will also hold regular international and domestic all-round roller skating championships and the people's competition.)

(《The nation's first national-level roller skating training base settled in Chongqing》, The People's Daily newspaper, 2017-12-15)

In this sentence the transitive verb “举办” (hold) has its object “轮滑锦标赛及相关群众赛事” (roller skating championships and the people's competition.). The most important thing is that the transitive verb “举办” and the transitive verb “举行” (hold) (the transitive verb in the previous example sentence) are synonymous, but the former has no object and the latter has its object.

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