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The Translation of Active Participles and Hyperbolic Patterns into English

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Abstract: This paper reports on the findings of a survey that explores the translation of active participles and hyperbolic patterns from Arabic into English. The participants of the study were B.A senior students at the University of Jordan majoring in English language and literature. The data were collected through a researcher–developed survey of 60 items divided into 30 target sentences and 30 fillers. The findings suggest that the students' translations were determined by several factors including the existence of equivalents for the hyperbolic patterns in English, having the knowledge about the availability of such equivalents, the belief that a word's class must be maintained in the target language in addition to the extent to which students understand hyperboles in Arabic. Moreover, the findings show that the students rendered hyperbolic patterns as nominal, adjectival or verbal depending on the semantic features of the target word and on the availability of the same notion with the same syntactic class in the target language.

ترجمة اسم الفاعل وصيغة المبالغة للانجليزية

ملخص: تقدم هذه الدراسة نتائج استبيان يهدف لإيضاح كيفية ترجمة طلاب من الجامعة الأردنية من تخصص اللغة الإنجليزية وآدابها في درجة البكالوريوس لاسم الفاعل وصيغة المبالغة من العربية للإنجليزية. أما جمل الاستبيان فهي من إعداد الباحثين حيث بلغ عددها ستون جملة ،ثلاثون منها تحوي أمثلة على اسم الفاعل وصيغة المبالغة وثلاثون لا علاقة لها بموضوع البحث. وتشير نتائج البحث إلى أن ترجمة الطلبة قد تأثرت بالعديد من العوامل ، من ضمنها وجود نظير لصيغة المبالغة بالإنجليزية ومعرفة الطلبة بوجود هذا النظير في العربية والاعتقاد بأنه ينبغي الحفاظ على أقسام الكلام (اسم وفعل وصفة وظرف) عند الترجمة بالإضافة إلى مدى فهم الطالب لمعنى صيغة المبالغة بالعربية. كما وتشير النتائج إلى أن الطلبة قد ترجموا صيغ المبالغة إلى أسماء وصفات وأفعال معتمدين في اختيارهم على الميزات الدلالية للكلمة المستهدفة وعلى توافر نفس المفهوم مع نفس الفئة النحوية في اللغة المستهدفة.

1. Introduction

Arabic and English belong to two different language groups; Arabic a Semitic and English an Indo-European. Therefore, it is sometimes very hard to translate one language into the other because the morphology, syntax and semantics of the two languages are different. An adjective in one language, for instance, is rendered as a verb in the other, and vice versa. In this paper, the derivative *Sighat l-mubalagha*, a hyperbolic pattern that has certain metric patterns, will be shown to have certain morphological structures, with subsequent semantic sense that does not have an equivalent in English and hence its difficulty for translators.

Derivational morphology which is concerned with the structure and formation of words, has been a controversial linguistic component in terms of its cognitive role and its neural implications for the brain systems strengthening language functions (Marslen-Wilson & Tyler, 2007; Tyler, Stamatakis, Post, Randall, & Wilson, 2005; Vannest, Polk,& Lewis, 2005). In essence, different morphologies will be cognitively processed differently in the brain. In this study we will shed light on two languages and study the implications of the differences in their morphologies on translation.

English and Arabic morphologies differ in several respects. First, though many English words have no morphological structure (e.g., car, table), there is no morphologically simple words in Arabic. Most words in Arabic carry a bundle of features such as syntactic category, person, gender, number, voice, case, definiteness, information about the clitic etc. (Habash 2004, Smrž 2007, Al-Tantawy et al. 2010) Arabic is a derivational language because most of the words are derived from the root by applying certain patterns (Darwish 2002). The tri-consonantal roots generate around 85% of the language's words (De Roeck and Al-Fares 2000) In terms of form, roots are exclusively made up of consonants (e.g., *ktb* writing), whereas word patterns are primarily composed of vowels (e.g., f***a***ʕ***a***l; f***aa***ʕ***i***l). A second difference between the morphologies of the two languages is that morphemes in English are affixed linearly one after the other, whereas in Arabic, a root like *ktb* 'writing' is interspersed with a word pattern (e.g., *faʕil*, indicates active perfective) such that they surface in a discontinuous nonlinear manner, e.g. *katab* 'write' (Boudelaa and Marslen-Wilson 2005). Causative, for example, are constructed differently in the two languages: whereas English causatives are mainly lexical or

syntactic, Arabic relies solely on morphological procedures, where a root is expressed through a causative word pattern *faʕʕala* to generate forms like *kattab* 'cause to write', and *ʕallama* 'cause to learn' (Ibid).

This paper will present a brief illustration of translating of two of these Arabic patterns (hyperbolic patterns and active participles) and focus on their translations into English. The expressions used here are ones that conform to the most famous patterns of hyperboles and active participle. Since hyperbolic patterns/meters do not exist in English it is expected that translating such a derivative would cause much trouble to English Foreign Learners (EFL). Therefore, we will discuss the potential sources of difficulty and linguistic problems faced by Arab EFL students in translating hyperbolic expressions. We also illustrate the types of errors learners commit in this regard. These types include avoiding the translation of the hyperbole altogether, using an alternative lexeme that might not give the intensity of meaning, changing the syntactic structure, and erroneously adding agentive morphemes. The paper also presents the potential substitutions of hyperbolic expressions; namely, a verb, a verb and an adverb, a noun, an adjective, and adjective plus an intensifier.

This paper proceeds as follows: section 2 discusses the active participle and hyperbole in Arabic, how they are derived and their relation to other derivatives. Methodology is presented in section 3. Results are shown in section 4 followed by discussion in section 5. The paper concludes with offering some pedagogical implications and insights in translating hyperbolic expressions from Arabic into English.

2. Patterns in Arabic

2.1 The Active Participle *(ism l-fa3il)*

Hassan (1980:238) defines the AP in Arabic as a noun; "a derived noun which denotes an absolute temporary action as well as its agent", whereas Al-Andalusia (1990:70) defines it as an adjective; "the adjective denoting an agent, corresponding in masculinity and femininity to the imperfect of its verb, and having its meaning or that of the perfect". In the same vein, Halwani (1993) pinpoints that the similarity between the AP and the imperfect verb is morphologically significant despite the fact that they are semantically slightly different: the imperfective denotes the renewal

of the event or action while AP indicates the relation of a quality to its agent, rather than the renewal of the action.

Based on the fact that the verb indicates occurrence, change and renewal, any transformation or derivation from the verb causes it to obtain additional senses. Thus, the active participle is derived or transformed from the verb to bear additional semantic senses such as the agent and aspect of the verb.

2.2 Hyperbole in Arabic *(Sighat l-mubalagha)*

Hyperbole, called *'Sighat l-mubaalagha'* in Arabic, roughly means the intensity and condensation of meaning. It mainly exaggerates the meaning of the present participle. It is inflected as nouns thus bears the NOM, ACC or GEN case markers. It denotes the 'event', 'state', or 'state of change'.

As-samirra'i (1981:46), like almost all Arab traditional linguists, states that *Sighat l-mubalagha* is a derivative of the verb that has a certain purpose that cannot be expressed by the verb itself. For example, *qaʔim* 'standing' refers first to the event of standing and second to the change of state. Therefore, *standing* is not always associated with the stander. It also denotes an agent of standing. Ibn Hisham (1965) adds that *Sighat l-mubalagha* is formed from the verb but it derivative of *ism l-fa3il.*

Saleh (2005) summarizes the Hyperbolic meanings in Arabic as: a) expressing the extreme meaning of an attribute, b) exceeding the limit of the attribute in terms of place or time, and c) penetration, ability, addition, exaggeration and exceeding limits.

In general, *Sighat l-mubaalagha* suggests the speaker is not satisfied by a certain degree of the attribute and so they go beyond the desired end or goal and add more to it.

In terms of derivation, HPs are derived from the active participle according to five meters which indicate abundance and exaggeration of the event:

(1) a. **faʕʕaal** such as *ʔakkaal* 'eats a lot'
b. **mifʕaal** such as *minHaar* 'slaughters (animals) a lot'
c. **faʕuul** such as *ghafuur* ' very forgiving'
d. **faʕeel** such as *sameeʕ* 'all-hearing'

e. **faʕel** such as *Hathir* 'very careful'[1] (Al-Hamlawi 1982:78)

Therefore, forming the active participle from any of these patterns turns it into what is known as a hyperbolic pattern (henceforth HP), which is a noun derived from the trilateral intransitive or transitive verb to indicate the active participle and to emphasize, strengthen and exaggerate the meaning as well (Yacoub 1996:128).

Traditional Arab linguists defined HPs slightly differently but these definitions all express the same idea. Sībawayh, for instance, sees HPs as a synonym to overdoing. Ibn Jinni (1985:266), on the other hand, thinks that an HP is an increase in meaning which requires the addition of a morpheme to the stem. Thus, the previous definitions suggest that traditional linguists view HPs as adding an excessive meaning to an attribute or overacting of an event. Consequently, HPs are derived to denote abundance, exaggeration and emphasis of the event. Compare (2a) to (2b)

(2) a. Zaid Darib-un Amr-an
Zaid-NOM hit-PART-NOM Amr-ACC
'Zaid will hit Omar'

(2) b. Zaid Daruub-un Amr-an
Zaid-NOM hit-HYPER-NOM Amr-ACC
'Zaid always hits Omar'

Whereas (2.a) shows that the event takes place only once, (2.b) denotes that the event takes place repeatedly. Therefore, the pattern *faʕuul* adds a sense to *faaʕil* since it indicates the repetition of the event. Similarly, a pattern like *raaHim* 'forgiving' shows that the event takes place once, while the HP pattern *raHeem* 'forgiving a lot' indicates overacting and the recurrence of the event.

[1] Throughout the examples in the paper, the following abbreviations will be used: ACC: accusative, ASP: aspect, HYPER: hyperbolic, IMPF: imperfect, IND: indicative, NOM: nominative, PART: active participle, PRF: perfective. For phonemes, D: voiced alveolar velarized stop, T: voiceless alveolar velarized stop, x: voiceless velar fricative, ʔ: glottal stop, ʕ: voiceless pharyngeal approximant, S: voiceless alveolar-pharyngeal fricative, H: voiceless pharyngeal fricative, Dj: voiced post-alveolar affricate.

The examiner of these HPs finds out that they designate a lot of meanings in a single lexeme. This is some sort of terseness which is a characteristic of rhetorics. Thus, hyperbole is one form of rhetorics (Saleh 2005).

2.3 Rules for deriving hyperbolic patterns

The following are some of the rules for deriving *Sighat l-mubalagha* (HPs):

a) The derivation of HPs must denote the meaning of multiplicity, abundance or plenty.

b) HP is derived only from trilateral verbs that denote variability and gradability because it indicates intensifying the meaning, increasing it, repetition or exaggeration. For instance, one cannot say *mawwat* 'die repeatedly, or die a lot' because *maata* 'die' occurs once and does not accept variability, plurality or gradability (Nahr 1998:84-85). Also it is impossible to say *qattalu zaidin* 'The killer of Zaid many times' because it takes place only once, and the event does not indicate repetition, but it is possible to say *qattalu n-naasi* 'The killer of people many times' because one can kill more than once (As-suyuti 1991). Put differently, *qattalu zaidin* has an end and thus it is telic. Therefore, it cannot happen repeatedly and the phrase is anomalous. By contrast, *qattalu n-naasi* does not indicate an end and thus it is atelic. Therefore, the phrase is correct. The quality of telicity in these two examples is decided by the boundedness of the internal argument.

c) HPs are licensed by hearing; hence, it is not possible to derive an HP from each and every verb (Nahr 1998: 84-85).

d) HPs are only derived from the roots of trilateral transitive verbs (the pattern *faʕʕal* is an exception and thus can be derived from the transitive and intransitive verbs due to its high frequency and the dire need for it (Nahr 1998: 84-85). For example, in the Quran, *maʃʃaʔ* 'walks a lot' is derived from an intransitive verb.

2.4 The relation between hyperbolic patterns and other derivations

The issue of occurrence and continuity in verbs and nouns is closely related to *Sighat l-mubalagha* or HPs. Since nouns do not show tense, they are more permanent and persistent than verbs which are bound by tense. For this reason, describing an event using nouns is considered to be stronger than using verbs. For example, the phrase

(3) a. huwa muTTaliʕ
he reader-HYPR
'he is updated/ he is a big reader'

is stronger than

(3) b. huwa ya-TTaliʕ
he IMPF:3sm-read
'he updates (himself)/ he reads' (As-samirraʔi 1981:14)

In addition, verbs indicate renewal and occurrence, so it is not possible to replace nouns with verbs or vice versa. To describe somebody or something using the active participle (AP) is more persistent and permanent than describing it by using a verb. The AP also denotes the event itself, its occurrence and its agent simultaneously (Ibn Hisham 1963: 248). Bearing in mind that the occurrence is the opposite of persistence, saying:

(4) Zaid-un yu-sriʕ-u fi naql
Zaid-NOM ASP:IMPF-picks up the pace-IND
inbringing l-axbar
the-news
'Zaid rushes when bringing news'

is less permanent and persistent than saying:

(5) Zaid-un musriʕ-un fi naql l-ʔaxbar
Zaid-NOM fast:AP-NOM in bringing the-news
'Zaid is fast when bringing news'

Grammarians consider HPs as one form of the APs since they are derived from them to express exaggeration and abundance of the event (Saleh 2005:25). Therefore, *Sighat l-mubalagha* (HP), after examination, are likely to be similar to quasi-adjective *Sifa mushabbaha* because the repetition and abundance of an event make it as persistent and permanent as a stable attribute (Al-anTaki 1998:295). So, the AP falls in the middle between a verb which indicates renewal and a quasi-adjective *Sifa mushabbaha* which indicates persistence and permanence. As a result, the exaggeration of an AP raises it to the level of the quasi-adjective *Sifa mushabbaha*

which denotes multiplicity and abundance of the event, hence making it a stable and permanent attribute (Ibn Hisham 1963: 278).

3. Methodology

3.1 Subjects

Twenty Arabic-speaking Jordanian students participated in this study: 18 female and 2 male students. The age range for the subjects was 20-22. The subjects' LI is Jordanian Spoken Arabic. However, they are exposed to Standard Arabic through the different Arabic programs and news on TV, radio and internet and they have studied Standard Arabic for more than 15 years. All subjects were 4th year (senior) students. Most of them had taken at least 45 credit hours in English courses. In addition, they are required to take a course or two in *'Translation'* as an obligatory requirement for obtaining a B.A. degree in English language and literature at the University of Jordan.

Before being admitted to the university, all subjects had received at least 8 years of formal instruction in English (from grade 5 until the 2nd secondary grade) at a rate of five 45 minute lessons per week. Some had started learning English as early as grade 1.

The subjects volunteered to take the survey and therefore they were not offered any kind of compensation for completing it. Before starting, the subjects were told that their responses would be kept confidential.

3.2 Data collection

The data were elicited through a written task of 60 items divided into 30 target sentences and 30 fillers. The 60 items represent 30 pairs that almost have the same structure and diction. However, all items were presented in a randomized order. The target items included 15 sentences representing active participle (*ism l-fa3il*) and 15 hyperboles (*Sighat l-mubaalagha*). In order to have full control over all other variables, 10 pairs of the target sentences are exactly similar except the target word (*ism l-fa3il* vs *Sighat l-mubaalagha*). The other 5 pairs do not share the same structure, but they share the root of the target word (e.g *qaatil* 'killer' vs *qattal* 'used to killing'). In order to make sure that the subjects were naïve about the

aim of the study, the fillers were also introduced as 15 pair sentences that have the same structure and diction except for one word that belongs to a certain class category. Some of these fillers were different only in the preposition used in both sentence, some in the conjunction, while others in a synonym.
The subjects were given about 50 minutes to complete the task. All target hyperboles were chosen carefully so that the subjects can recognize the intensity and abundance of the intended meaning. Therefore, the study only used words that conform to the standard *Sighat l-mubaalagha* patterns and those that are commonly used in media. To see all the items, the reader is referred to the 'Appendix'.

3.3 The Study Questions
The study aims at answering the following questions:
a. How is the nominal present participle *ism l-fa3il* (AP) and *Sighat l-mubalagha* (HP) translated in English?
b. To what extent could the subjects see the difference between *ism l-fa3il* and *Sighat l-mubaalagha*?
c. What lexical or grammatical techniques do the subjects use to express the semantic features denoted by *Sighat l-mubaalagha*?
d. What are the factors that determine the choice of one translation or the other?

4. Results and Analysis
This section displays the findings of the study followed by an analysis of the data. The items of the survey representing the Arabic AP and HP are sorted into four classes related to the different English classes into which they are translated. We will see that the choice of a certain English syntactic class or another depends on various factors among which are the availability of a certain syntactic category for the target AP or HP in English, the subjects' knowledge of this availability and their understanding of *ʔism l-faaʕil* (AP) or *Sighat l-mubalagha* (HP) in Arabic.

To have a general view of the subjects' responses, The AP and HP classes that are translated into different English classes are presented in Table (1) with the number of examples representing them in the survey.

Figure (1) English Syntactic Classes into which Arabic AP and HP are translated into English:

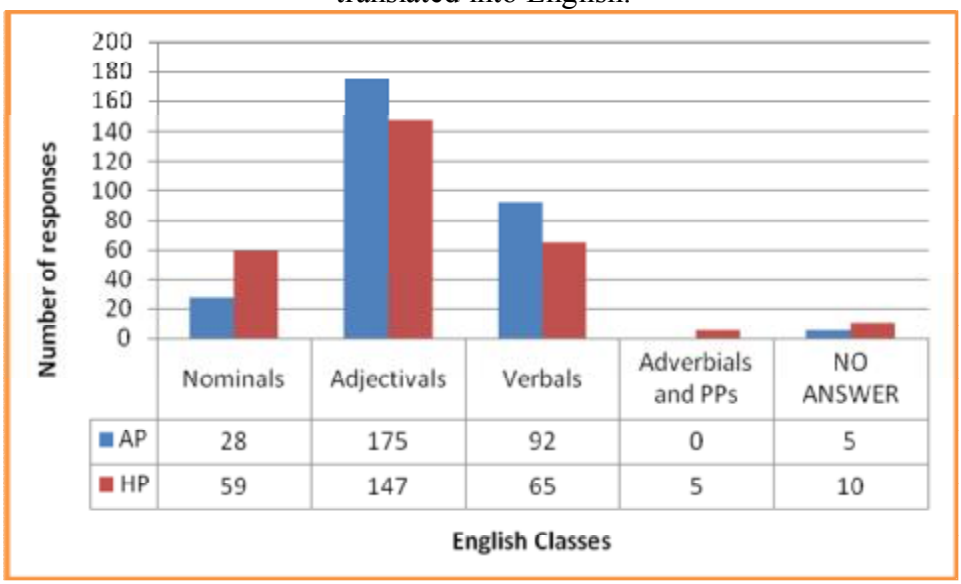

Figure (1) reveals that APs and HPs were mostly translated as adjectives with APs having a higher percentage. After that comes the translation of these phrases as verbs; again APs have higher percentage of verbs than HPs (% 31 vs % 22). On the other hand, although the APs and HPs are considered as nominals by many Arab linguists (Assuyuti 1967, Ibn Jinni 1956, Sibawayh 1999, inter alia), they were least translated as nouns into English. A closer look at the data reveals that almost all nominals for both APs and HPs were either a single noun (e.g supporter, killer) or an NP consisting mainly of Determiner, an adjective and a noun (e.g a fasting man, a smiley guy). There were some 'don't' know 'responses made by some of the participants.

In order to find out whether the differences between the APs and HPs for each category were significant or not, a *t*-test was conducted. The results were as follows:

Table (2) Standard Error and *P*-Value for the differences between APs and HPs

Category	AP	HP	Std Err	*P*-value
Nominals	28	59	0.029	0.0003
Adjectivals	175	147	0.040	0.0219
Verbals	92	65	0.036	0.0121
Adv & PPs	0	5	0.008	0.1008
No answer	5	10	0.013	0.1911

The table shows that the nominal category was significant at ($\alpha \leq .05$). In other words, the subjects thought of HPs as nominals more than APs. Moreover, the adjectival and verbal categories were also significant but to a lesser degree and in an opposite direction; the subjects saw the APs more adjective-like and verb-like than HPs. These results are in congruence with the analyses of traditional Arab linguists (e.g Sibawayh 1999, Ibn Aqeel 1990, Al-Hamlawi 1982, Assamairraʔi 1981, Assuyuti 1967, Al-Mubarrad, 1966, Ibn Jinni 1956) which deduced that HPs indicate more permanence than APs since they refer to a repeated or overacted event and thus carry nominal features. By contrast, APs were translated as adjectives and verbs since they denote a change of state which is a property of verbs and adjectives.

5. Discussion

5.1 Translating Arabic APs and HPs into English nominals

Nouns and nominals in Arabic refer to any content word that has an independent meaning and does not denote tense or aspect. They include concrete objects or abstract nouns such as dignity, generosity, fear, and hope (Zuhdi and Abu Zaid 2010:13).Table (3) lists the subjects' responses for each AP and its correspondent HP (HPs in bold) that were translated as nouns or noun phrases.

Table (3), APs and HPs that are rendered as English Nouns and their numbers

AP/HP	Meaning(s)	Translations as Nouns
makir	*deceiving)*	0
Makk	***very deceiving/***	**0**
naSir	*supportive)*	supporter (1)
naSSa	***very supportive/***	**0**
Saʔim	*on fast*	faster (3)
Saww	***be always on***	**was a fasting man (3) was a fasting type**
DaHik	*laughing*	0
miDHak	***always laughing/***	**a funny guy (6) a happy guy (3) laughing guy (4) a humorous person (2)**
Lamiʕ	*shining/ bright*	0
lamma	***very bright***	**brightness (1)**
muiʕTi	*giving*	giver (6) a giving person (11)
mi3Ta	***gives a lot***	**a giving person (9) a giver (3) is always a**
ʕalim	*knowledgeable*	0
ʕallam	**omniscient**	**0**
Djahil	*ignorant*	0
djahul	***extremely***	**0**
Tamiʕ	*greedy*	0
Tamm	***very greedy***	**0**
maniʕ	*preventer*	0
manna	***prevents a lot/***	**Preventer (1)**
bassim	*smiling*	0
bassa	***smiles a lot/***	**0**
Ghafir	*Forgiving*	Forgiver (4)
ghaffa	***(forgives a lot***	**Forgiver (5)**
Hassid	*envious/ jealous*	0
Hassu	***very envious/***	**0**
xaʔif	*Afraid*	0
Xaww	***very scared/***	**0**
qatil	*(killer)*	killer (3)
qattal	***(kills a lot/ always kills)***	**killer (10) murderer (1)**

As mentioned before, many Arab linguists consider adjectives as nominals because of the nominal inflections that appear on adjectives. Still, most students did not see them as nominals in their translations. Otherwise, the translation of APs and HPs as nouns would have been the highest. On the contrary, it was the least. A more careful look at the previous tables reveals that HPs were noticeably seen as more nominals than APs since the subjects recorded 59 HPs but only 28 APs. The *t*-test in Table (2) also shows that this difference is significant. This may indicate that the subjects consider HPs as nouns since the overdoing of an event and the exaggeration makes the attribute permanent and permanence is a feature that is generally linked to nouns, and thus they were translated as nouns. Translating HPs as nouns more than APs reveals that the subjects could figure out the difference between the two patterns, but they did not know how to put it in English. Therefore, They used nouns as equivalents for HPs since nouns denote the meaning of permanence. However, the question is that if HPs denote permanence and hence must be associated with nouns, why weren't all the subjects' HP translations as nominal? We believe that not all HPs were translated as nouns because the subjects were ignorant of the difference between the two categories in Arabic. Therefore, they saw the AP and its equivalent HP as expressing the same concept and since the AP denotes a quality, the equivalent HP was translated as an adjective as well. Second, APs are the unmarked form of the agentive participle and thus more commonly used than their marked equivalent HPs. As a result, when the subjects could not figure out how to translate the marked agentive participle HP, translated them as adjectives since APs at least convey the agentive sense of the word. This accounts for almost the non-existence of nominal translation for *ʕallam* 'omniscent', *djahul* 'extremely ignorant', *Tammaʕ* 'very greedy', *makkar* 'very deceiving', *naSSAr* 'very supportive', *lammaʕ* 'very bright', *mannaʕ* 'very preventer', *bassam* 'always smiling', *xawwaf* 'very scared' and *Hasud* 'very envious'. From our intuitions as native speakers of Arabic, at least *Tammaʕ* 'very greedy', *makkar* 'very deceiving', *lammaʕ* 'very bright', and *mannaʕ* 'very preventer', are commonly used in the sense of APs. This, in fact, supports Al-Hamlawi (1982) who set forth that HPs can be used in the sense of APs and sometimes the HP is more commonly used that its AP counterpart. Finally, some students could

see that HPs denote noun properties. Therefore, they erroneously formed nouns by adding the agentive suffix *-er* because the suffix *-er* is commonly used to form agentive nouns.

5.2 Translating Arabic APs and HPs into English adjectivals

Adjectivals are "words or phrases that modify nouns" Dial (1998: 1). They mainly include adjectives, adjectival prepositional phrases, participial phrases, and relative clauses. In Arabic, adjectives agree with their modified nouns in: case (nominative, accusative or genitive), definiteness (definite or indefinite) gender (masculine or feminine) and number (singular or plural). For this reason, traditional Arab grammarians did not categorize adjectives as a class on their own. Rather, they classified speech into nouns (nouns and adjectives), verbs, and particles (almost all functional elements).

Adjectival clauses in English appear either before the nouns they modify, after it, or after a linking verb such as *be, seem, feel* (Canada 2001b:1). Since adjectives in Arabic can only be post-modifiers, the subjects' adjectival responses in our study appeared mainly after nouns or after linking verbs. Table (4) below summarizes the subjects' responses for each target item that were translated as adjectives (HPs in bold):

Table (4), APs and HPs that are rendered as English Adjectives and their numbers

AP/HP	Meaning(s)	Translations as Adjectives
makir	*deceiving*	cunning (10) deceiving (9) smart (1)
Makkar	***very deceiving/***	**cunning (10) deceiving (6) extremely cunning (1)**
naSir	*(supportive)*	supportive(17)
naSSar	***very supportive/***	**supportive (10) very supportive (3) always supportive (1)**
Saʔim	*(on fast)*	0
Sawwam	***be always on***	**0**
DaHik)	*(laughing*	laughing (17) happy (3)
miDHak	***always***	**happier (2)**
Lamiʕ	*shining/ bright*	bright (14) shining (6)
lammaʕ	***very bright***	**bright (10) brilliant (2) distinguished (2)**
miʕTi	*giving*	generous (2)
miʕTaʔ	***gives a lot***	**very giving (2) is always generous (1)**
ʕalim	*knowledgeable)*	knowledgeable (17) omniscient (1)
ʕ**allam**	***omniscient***	**knowledgeable (12) omniscient (2)**

Djahil	*ignorant*	ignorant (19) stupid (1)
djahul	***extremely ignorant***	**ignorant (15) so ignorant (1) very ignorant (2)**
Tamiʕ	*greedy*	greedy (17)
Tammaʕ	***very greedy***	**greedy (16) so greedy (1) very greedy (1)**
maniʕ	*preventer*	0
mannaʕ	***prevents a lot/***	**0**
bassim	*HPiling*	0
bassam	***smiles a lot/***	**has a smiley face (15)**
Ghafir	*forgiving*	0
ghaffar	***forgives a lot***	**0**
Hassid	*envious/*	envious (18) jealous (2)
Hassud	***very (envious/***	**envious (18) jealous (2)**
xaʔif	*afraid*	afraid of (17) scared (2) frightened (1)
Xawwaf	***very cared/ always scared***	**so afraid of (1) fearful (1) scared (2) very scared (1)**
qatil	*killer*	fatal (1)
qattal	***kills a lot/***	**0**

It is very obvious from the table that only APs and HPs that have equivalent adjectives in English were rendered as adjectives. This accounts for the zero adjective translations for *Saʔim/ Sawwam* 'be on fast', *maniʕ/ mannaʕ* 'preventing' and *ghafir/ghaffar* 'forgiving' which do not have equivalent adjectives in English. More importantly, some subjects were able to see the difference between APs and HPs. Therefore, some used intensifiers such as *so* and *very* to indicate the difference, others resorted to using adverbs of frequency to indicate the habitual aspect of the event. Furthermore, the fact that some used different lexemes to differentiate between APs and HPs such as 'distinguished' for *lammaʕ*, but not for *lamiʕ*, and 'very giving' for *mi3Taʔ* but not for *muʕTin* also suggests that these subjects were aware of the difference between APs and HPs. To see if such differences in translation were significant, a *t*-test was carried out:

Table (5) HPs translations as adjectives

HPs	number	Str Err	*P*-value
Translated as APs	101	0.0583	<0.0001
Translated as adjectives with intensifiers, adverbs of frequency or different lexemes	46		

Since P< 0.0001, the subjects were aware of the fact that HPs need to be translated differently from APs. On the other hand, since in some cases the difference between APs and HPs was not noticed by the subjects, this may indicate that they were either ignorant of the difference between the two types of phrases or they more concerned with the sense of the trilateral root of the word rather than with the other semantic senses that are added by the morphological infixes triggered by the HP meters/patterns.

5.3 Translating Arabic APs and HPs into English Verbals

Verbs are content words that have independent meaning and thus understood out of context. They are related to time, aspect and tense. They refer to events, movement, or change. They can be past, present or future (Zuhdi and Abu Zaid 2010:16). Arabic APs are sometimes translated as English verbs because they denote a habitual aspect while HPs are translated as verbs because they refer to the progressive aspect. Accordingly, when translated as verbs, most of the subjects' AP and HP responses were either simple present or present progressive and past progressive. Table (5) below shows the APs and HPs that were translated as verbs, the tense and number of occurrences (HPs in bold).

Table (6) APs and HPs that are rendered as English verbs and their numbers

AP/HP	Meaning(s)	Translations as Verbs
makir	*deceiving*	0
Makkar	***very deceiving/***	**0**
naSSir	*supportive*	support (2)
naSSar	***very supportive/***	**encourage (1)**
Saʔim	*fasting*	was fasting (17)
Sawwam	***be always***	**used to fast a lot (3) was always fasting**
DaHik	*laughing*	0

miDHak	***always***	**he is always laughing (2)**
Lamiʕ	*shining/ bright*	0
lammaʕ	***very bright***	**0**
miʕTi	*giving*	0
miʕTa?	***gives a lot***	**give …. generously (1)**
ʕalim	*knowledgeable*	knows (1)
ʕallam	***omniscient***	**knows (6)**
Djahil	*ignorant*	0
djahul	***extremely***	**0**
Tamiʕ	*greedy*	want (2) think of (1)
Tammaʕ	***very greedy***	**want (2)**
maniʕ	*preventer*	prevents (14) stops (5) decreases (1)
mannaʕ	***prevents a lot/***	**prevents (13) stops (5) decreases (1)**
bassim	*smiling*	was smiling (18)
bassam	***smiles a lot/***	**always smiling/smiles a lot (3)**
Ghafir	*forgiver*	forgive (15)
ghaffar	***forgives a lot***	**forgive (14)**
Hassid	*envious/ jealous*	0
Hassud	***very envious/***	**0**
xa?if	*afraid*	0
Xawwaf	***very scared/***	**used to fear(3)**
qatil	*killer*	kill (15) destroy (1)
qattal	***kills a lot/***	**kill (7)**

It is noted that there are some APs and HPs that did not accept being translated as verbs at all such as *Hassid/ Hassud* 'envious'. On the other hand, some HPs were translated as verbs while their AP equivalents were not. There was a third group of APs & HPs that were translated as verbs. The three categories are summarized in Table (7).

Table (7) Categorization of the target words according to their translations as verbs

Gr.		APs and HPs	Meaning	No. of occurrences
1	None of APs and HPs translated as verbs	makkir/ makkar lamiʕ/ lammaʕ djahil / djahul Hassid/ Hassud	*deceiving* *bright* *ignorant* *envious*	0 0 0 0
2	Only HPs translated as verbs	miDhak muʕti xawwaf	*always laughs* *gives a lot* *used to fear*	2 1 3
3	Both APs and HPs translated as verbs	naSSir/ **naSSar** Saʔim **Sawwam** ʕalim **ʕallam** Tamiʕ **Tammaʕ** maniʕ **mannaʕ** bassim **bassam** ghafir **ghaffar** qatil **qattal**	*support* *always supports* *on a fast* *always on a fast* *knowledgeable* *omniscient* *greedy* *very greedy* *blocks* *always blocks* *smiles* *always smiling* *forgives* *always forgives* *kills* *kills a lot*	2 1 17 7 1 6 3 2 20 19 18 3 15 14 16 7

None of the target APs and HPs in group (1) has a verb counterpart in English. Therefore, none was translated as a verb. The targets in group (2) were translated as verbs only when HPs because the recurrence of the event can be expressed by an adverb of frequency plus a verb or by a semi modal like *used to* and a verb. This indicates that students who translated HPs as verbs plus adverbs of frequency know that there is a difference between these patterns and APs. By contrast, the targets in group (3) have more than one equivalent derivative in English. As a result, some of the APs and HPs were rendered as verbs but to a lesser degree. A closer look at the group (3) shows that some figures are consistent: either

both APs and HPs are high or both are low. The high ones (*maniʕ, mannaʕ* 'prevent', *ghafir/ ghaffar* 'forgive' and *qatil /qattal* 'kill') do have equivalent verbs in English. The low ones (*naSSir/ naSSar* 'supporter', *Tamiʕ/ Tammaʕ* 'greedy') do not have verbal equivalents in English. On the other hand, there is a subgroup that has incongruent numbers. Obviously, the APs *Saʔim* 'on fast', *bassim* 'smiling', and *qatil* 'killer' have way higher verbal translations than their HP equivalents. Perhaps it is like this because these have equivalent verbs in English but the concept of overdoing these events, exaggerating them or doing them repeatedly is not the norm. Therefore, the HPs were not that high. Finally, *ʕallam* 'omniscient' had noticeably higher HP verbal translations than its AP equivalent *ʕalim* 'knowledgeable'. The reason behind that is the existence of the word *knowledgeable* in English which matches the AP *ʕalim*, therefore, it was translated more as an adjective. By contrast, the HP *ʕallam* does not have an English equivalent. The new semantic feature generated by the HP infix carries the sense of overacting or exaggeration which can be better rendered as a verb.

According to the results and analyses presented above, it seems that the best way to translate a certain pattern or meter from Arabic into English, or any other languages, is to find out first if that pattern/word has an equivalent with the same syntactic and semantic features in the Target language (TL). Otherwise, the semantic features involved in that pattern/word must be taken into account and thus must determine the best category for it in TL. For instance, the HPs *miDhak* 'always laughs', *naSSar* 'always supports' do not have adjectival counterparts in English; they indicate a habitual aspect. Therefore, these are more likely to fit in the verb category in English.

5. Conclusion

This paper is an attempt to analyze of the translations of the Arabic AP and HP forms based on a study that was conducted on a group of senior students at the University of Jordan. According to the results of the study, the Arabic AP and HP forms can be translated into English nominals, adjectivals, and verbals. The choice between these three categories is determined by several factors, among which is the availability of an equivalent noun or adjective in the TL, the subjects' knowledge of this availability and their understanding of the difference between (AP) and (HP) in Arabic. In some cases,

subjects could not see a semantic difference between *ism l-fa3il* and *Sighat l-mubaalagha*. Even such a difference between *ism l-fa3il* and *Sighat l-mubaalagha* is not marked in the English lexicon. Furthermore, since the translation of *Sighat l-mubaalagha* as *ism faʕil,* does not indeed cause much damage, many EFL learners do not feel that it is important to show such a difference in translation especially when these hyperbolic expressions are missing in the target language.

In addition, a good number of the Arabic APs and most HPs have no equivalent English with the same syntactic class. This may suggest that the semantic fields expressed in these two unrelated languages are different.

6. Pedagogical implications

EFL learners need to deeply understand the morphology and syntax of Arabic. Thus, they learn that any addition in the morphological structure indicates an addition in semantics (Ibn Jinni 1985). In addition, they need to translate according to the availability of certain categories and collocations in the TL. Therefore an Arabic noun is translated into a noun only when English has an equivalent noun. Otherwise, such a noun may be translated as a verb or an adjective depending of the availability of those derivatives and the semantic features it carries. They have to bear in mind that what is expressed as a verb in one language, for instance, may be expressed by another category in the other language. In addition, what can be expressed in one word in one language may take two or more words in other languages. For example, most of the 'get/become +adjective' compounds in English are rendered as one word in Arabic (e.g. 'become extinct' is equivalent to 'yanqariD' in Arabic).

Finally, it might be useful to introduce APs and HPs in some English translation courses and teach students how to differentiate between them. Such a comparison may be very helpful because it teaches students about English and Arabic morphologies. It also teaches them how to deal with lexemes and expressions that exist in one language, but not in the other.

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