Forms, Uses and Structure of Conditionals in Standard Arabic and Colloquial Jordanian Arabic: A Contrastive Study

By

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A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in the Department of English Language and Literature, Yarmouk University, Irbid, Jordan.

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2015
Abstract


The objective of this study is investigating and analyzing the conditionals in Standard Arabic and Colloquial Jordanian Arabic. It is concerned with studying the forms, structure and uses of the conditional sentences. To achieve the purpose of the study, the researcher examined many examples on conditionals in SA that were collected from media and books. The study also examines 70 statements that express conditionality in CJA, all of the 70 statements were collected by self-observation in daily life, from YouTube, and from the conversations in the social networks (chats). All of the examples, in both varieties, were classified according to the mood and tense of the protasis and the apodosis and according to the use indicated by each statement. The study shows that the mother of the conditional particles in SA is the particle "إن" “?in”, and the most commonly used particle that introduces conditional sentences in CJA is the particle "إذا" “?iða". In addition, the study argues that SA and CJA share two forms of conditionals, namely, standard and non-standard forms. However, the study focuses on the standard form of the conditional sentences, which has three components: a conditional particle, a protasis, and an apodosis. Moreover, it discusses that the standard form of conditionals, in both varieties, may have four types. The study also investigates
seven uses that are indicated by the conditional sentences in SA, and it also studies twelve uses of conditionals in CJA.

Key Words: Conditionals, structure, Colloquial Jordanian Arabic, Uses.