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Case and Embedding According to the Arabic Linguistic Term "fi maħal ʔiçraab: that serves a grammatical function": A Generative Approach

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Abstract

This paper addresses embedding and case in Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) through investigating the meaning and the distribution of the Arabic Linguistic term fi maħal ʔiçraab: "that serves a grammatical function". This term is concerned with the constituents that cannot carry morphological case for various reasons. MSA has a surface structure constraint (SSC) that requires every lexical word to carry a morphological case marker irrespective of its grammatical function. To satisfy this SSC, embedded clauses are assigned a hypothetical case according to this term fi maħal ʔiçraab: "that serves a grammatical function". Regarding the term fi maħal ʔiçraab: "that serves a grammatical function", Arab Grammarians have classified embedded clauses, in MSA, into two main types. The first type deals with embedded clauses that can carry the hypothetical case markers, whereas the second is concerned with embedded clauses that are not allowed to carry a hypothetical case. Based on Chomsky's Principles and Parameters and the Generative enterprise, the main objective of this paper is to explore the implications of this term for embedding with respect to the behavior of case assignment and parsing in MSA.

***Keywords*:** embedding, surface structure constraint (SSC), case theory, theta theory, principles and parameters (P&P), generative approach.

1.0. Introduction

This paper tackles embedding and case in MSA by examining the definition and the distribution of the Arabic linguistic term *fi maħal ʔiçraab* (henceforth, hypothetical case). It is organized as follows: The first section presents the introduction and the research questions. The second section deals with the theoretical background. The third section investigates the literature review. The fourth section analyzes embedded clauses in ME and MSA, and finally section five concludes.

1.1. Research Questions

This paper attempts to answer the following questions:

(1) How does case affect word order in different languages?
(2) How can we account for the different surface structure constraints in both Modern English and MSA?

2. Theoretical Framework

This paper is conducted within Chomsky's Principles and Parameters (P&P) and the generative enterprise (1980, 1981, 1986, and 1995). The main aim of this section is to highlight the main similarities and differences between ME and MSA with regard to case and thematic structure. This section is divided into two subsections: the first deals with Principles with regard to predication and argument structure in both ME and MSA. The second tackles Parameters with respect to word order and the case filter.

2.1. Principles, Predication (ʔisnaad) and Argument Structure

Chomsky (1980) states that the theory of Principles and Parameters (P&P) deals with the basic Principles that are found in all languages (p.66). Principles of predication, theta theory, and argument structure are found in all languages. This section provides evidence that the thematic/ semantic argument of predicates is the same in all languages. In Chomsky's theta theory, each predicate, verbal or non-verbal, has its own argument structure, i.e., the number of noun phrases required by the predicate to give a complete meaning underlying the sentence (Chomsky, 1981). In ME, the following sentences have the same meaning:

1- The girl fears cats. [verbal predicate]

2- The girl is afraid of cats. [non-verbal predicate]

The only difference between (1) and (2) lies in the type of the predicate. In (1), there is a transitive verb [fear], whereas in (2) there is a transitive predicative adjective [afraid]. Both predicates have the same argument structure: the external argument/ the subject [the girl] and the internal argument/ object [cats]. The object in (1) is directly assigned the accusative case by the verb. Since adjectives are not case assigners, [cats] in (2) receives the oblique case from the c-commanding "empty preposition" [of] (Chomsky, 1981, p.50). The MSA counterparts of (1) and (2) are found in (3) and (4) respectively:

3- ʔal-bent-u taxaafu ʔal-qitat-a [verbal predicate]
the girl-nom fear the cats-acc
"The girl fears cats."

4- ʔal-bent-u xaaʔifat-un min ʔal-qitat-i [non-verbal predicate]
the girl-nom afraid-nom of the cats-obl
"The girl is afraid of cats."

Both sentences in MSA have the same argument structure as their ME counterparts. The only difference is that ME has abstract case, while MSA has morphological case. Yet, both languages resort to empty prepositions to satisfy the case filter, which requires all nouns to carry case, covert or overt.

The term *ʔisnaad* in MSA means predication and a root clause must have a *musnad* "predicate", which can be verbal or non-verbal, and *mosnad ʔilaihi* "the subject" (Al Jurjani, n.d.). Both languages have the same predicates with the same argument structure. Thus, the semantic/ argument structure is the same in ME and MSA.

In brief, in P&P, principles define the basic structure and rules of language that are shared by languages all over the world. Predication and Theta theory are two of those principles.

2.2. Parameters, Case filter and word order

Parameters, unlike Principles, deal with the variations among languages (Chomsky, 1986, p.2). This section discusses the "pro-drop parameter" (Chomsky, 1981, p.161), and case tackling the differences between MSA and ME. MSA is a pro-drop language where the subject is a null category. English has the Extended Projection Principle (EPP) which requires every sentence to have a subject (Chomsky, 1982, p.10). The pro-drop parameter is found in languages that have rich inflectional morphology (Chomsky, 1981, p.241). MSA is a pro-drop language, whereas ME is not.

5- giʔna dˁaaħikaat
came-3rdfp laughing
"They came laughing."

The sentence in (5) has no noun phrases at all. This is due to the inflection on the verb which tells that the subject is third person, plural, and feminine. Some of these phi-features do not exist in ME due to its impoverished inflectional morphology (Sportiche et al., 2014, p. 224).

Another basic difference between ME and MSA has to do with case. English has abstract case with respect to nouns due to the fact that it has impoverished inflectional morphology (Haegeman, 1994). Only pronouns do carry case in English, as illustrated by the following contrast:

6- The boy helped the girl.
7- He/ *him helped her/ *she.

As a result of its poor inflectional morphology, English has a strict word order of Subject-Verb-Object (SVO). In contrast, MSA has a free word order due to its rich inflectional morphology as can be illustrated by the following paradigm:

8- a) kataba ʔal-walad-u ʔal-dasrs-a [VSO, the basic unmarked word order]
wrote-3rdms the boy-nom the lesson-acc
"The boy wrote the lesson."

b) ʔal-walad-u kataba ʔal-dasrs-a [SVO]
the boy-nom wrote-3rdms the lesson-acc
"The boy wrote the lesson."

c) kataba ʔal-dasrs-a ʔal-walad-u [VOS]
wrote-3rdms the lesson-acc the boy-nom
"The boy wrote the lesson."

d) ʔal-dasrs-a ʔal-walad-u kataba [OSV]
the lesson-acc the boy-nom wrote
"The boy wrote the lesson."

The presence of the morphological case-suffix identifies the grammatical function of the noun phrase irrespective of its position in the sentence. Thus, the subject *ʔal waladu* "the boy" carries the nominative case marker medially as in

(8a) and (8d), initially as in (8b), and finally as in (8c). However, case does not necessarily identify the grammatical function of the noun to which it is suffixed.

9- a) zaid-un ʔiʃtaraa ʔal-kitaab-a
zaid-nom bought the book-acc
"Zaid bought the book."

b) ʔinna zaid-an ʔiʃtaraa ʔal-kitaab-a
indeed zaid-acc bought the book-acc
"Indeed, zaid bought the book."

In (9a), the subject [zaid] carries the nominative case. However, in (9b) it carries the accusative case because it is preceded by the complementizer *ʔinna* "indeed", which obligatorily assigns the accusative case to the immediately following noun. The contrast in (9) signifies that case does not represent the grammatical function of the noun. Thematically, [Zaid] is the subject/ the external argument of the verb/ predicate [bought], whereas [the book] is its object/ internal argument.

In short, this subsection investigates the pro-drop parameter and the behaviour of case in both ME and MSA. MSA is a pro-drop language due to its rich inflectional morphology. Thus, a subject can be dropped in MSA. In contrast, ME has strict word order due to its poor inflectional morphology. Therefore, the EPP assures that a sentence must have a subject which can be syntactic or thematic. In MSA, every word must carry a morphological case marker regardless of its thematic role.

3. Literature review

This paper addresses the implication of the term *fi maħal ʔiçraab:* "that serves a grammatical function" for linguistic theory within Chomsky's generative enterprise. To the researcher's knowledge, the research point of this paper has not been tackled in previous studies. This paper explores the implications of this term for linguistic theory with respect to Case theory, theta theory, and argument structure in both ME and MSA. This section presents the technical terminologies, in both ME and MSA, which are used in the present paper.

In ME, Case theory according to Chomsky (1981) deals with the assignment of abstract case and its morphological realization. Its main concern is assigning case to "every noun with a phonetic matrix" p. (49). Chomsky (1995) explains

that Case theory deals with the investigation of the overt NPs. "The degree of morphological realization of abstract case varies parametrically from one language to another" (Heageman, 1994, p. 158). Chomsky (1995) explains that the Case Filter states that "every phonetically realized NP must be assigned (abstract) Case" (p.111). Regarding theta theory, it is a branch of generative grammar theory that deals with how thematic roles in sentence structures are assigned and interpreted. According to Chomsky (1981) Theta-Criterion states that "Each argument bears one and only one 0-role, and each 0-role is assigned to one and only one argument" (p.36). He adds that "An argument is assigned a 0-role by virtue of the 0-position that it or its trace occupies in LF" (p.36). It is important to mention the concepts of predication and argument structures. The predicate is the word that assigns the theta roles to its arguments. Brinton (2000) explains that a predicate places the arguments in relation to one another. Arguments are the noun phrases that are required by the predicate to give a complete proposition. They can be external arguments, i.e. subjects, or internal arguments, i.e. complements. Arguments are obligatory constituents, unlike adjuncts that are optional ones.

Before embarking on the analysis of the MSA data, the following technical terms used by AGs relevant to the topic of this paper need to be clarified. According to Sibawayh (1988), Ibn Yaaiish (n.d), Hassan (1975), and Al- Raghi (1998), a sentence is any utterance that is independent and meaningful, i.e., has a complete proposition. Peled (2009) states that "in written Arabic the type of sentence is determined by the sort of its predicate and the location of the predicative constituents (subject and predicate)" p. (4). In MSA, a sentence must include *mosnad* "the predicate" and *mosnad ʔilaihi* "the subject of the predicate". Al Jurjani (n.d.) has defined *ʔisnaad* "predication" as having at least two words that necessitate the presence of each other. Predicates in MSA can be verbal or non-verbal. There are two types of sentences in MSA, that are verbal sentences and nominal sentences. When the sentence starts with a verb it is verbal, whereas when it is nominal it starts with a noun. Therefore, in MSA, the type of the sentence is determined by the word order of its constituents. MSA has a very rich morphological system, since it has case markers that mark the word regardless of its position in the sentence. In MSA, there are two types of *ʔal ʔiçraab* "parsing with essential reference to case" that are *ʔal ʔism ʔal muçrab* "that is a word that can be inflected for case, i.e. carrying a morphological case marker", and *ʔal ʔism ʔal mabni* "a word that cannot be inflected for case, hence receives a hypothetical case (*fi maħal ʔiçraab).* Case is determined using the diacritics *dˤamma* [-u]*, fatħa* [-a]*, kasra* [-i] (Owens, 2006, p. 89). Not only does parsing go for single words, but also embedded clauses are parsed as being *fi maħal ʔiçraab ʔesm mofrad* "have a grammatical function

as a single word". AGs divide sentences into two types, those that can be assigned hypothetical case, and others that cannot.

4. Embedding in ME and MSA

This section analyzes the distribution of the term term *fi maħal ʔiçraab:* "that serves a grammatical function", with regard to embedded clauses, in MSA. It is divided into six subsections. The first presents embedding and theta theory in ME. The second deals with embedding and grammatical functions in MSA. The third investigates the effect of functional categories regarding case theory and theta theory. The fourth investigates the embedded clauses that can carry a hypothetical case in MSA. The fifth subsection presents two types of embedded clauses that are not allowed to carry a hypothetical case in MSA. Finally, the sixth section explores some problems with regard to embedding in MSA.

4.1. Embedding and Theta Theory in ME

An embedded clause can be an argument or an adjunct as clarified by the following underlined embedded clauses:

10- That she is always late bothers him.
11- She left because she was not feeling well.

The embedded clause in (10) is a clausal subject/ external argument of the transitive main predicate [bother]. The embedded clause in (11) is an adverbial clause, an adjunct. It is optional and its deletion will not affect the root clause [she left]. In sum, an embedded clause could be an argument of the main predicate as in (10) above, or an adjunct/ non-argument as in (11).

Thus, this section has shown that embedded clauses can be arguments (obligatory), or non-arguments (optional) of the main predicate, in ME.

4.2. Embedding and Grammatical Functions in MSA

This section investigates embedding with regard to Case Theory, in MSA. The term *fi maħal ʔiçraab:* "that serves a grammatical function" mostly refers to embedded clauses and pronouns as well. This paper is mainly concerned with embedded clauses. Arab grammarians (henceforth, AGs) like: Al Ghalyani (1912), Qbawa (1989), and Al Raghey (1998) state that the origin of parsing in MSA goes mainly to single words. Because they can carry a morphological case marker. The syntax of MSA has a surface structure constraint (SSC) that

requires every single lexical word carry a morphological case irrespective of its form or grammatical function, as illustrated by the following examples:

12- jaktub-u ʔal-walad-u ʔal-mudʒtahid-u ʔal-dars-a lajla-an
write the boy-nom the clever-nom the lesson-acc at night-acc
"The clever boy writes the lesson, at night."

13- tanawalat ʔal-bint-u ʔal-dʒamilat-u ʔal-futˁuur-a baakir-an
ate the girl-nom the pretty-nom the breakfast-acc early-acc
"The pretty girl ate the breakfast early."

The nominative case marker [-u] is assigned to the subjects [the boy] and [the girl] in (12) and (13) respectively. The accusative case marker [-a] is assigned to the objects [the lesson] and [the breakfast] in (12) and (13). The adjectives [clever] and [pretty] carry the nominative case as they modify a preceding noun that carries the nominative case. In contrast, the adverbs [at night] and [early] carry the accusative case assigned by the verb.

Embedded clauses are assigned a hypothetical case to satisfy the SSC. AGs divide embedded clauses into those that serve a grammatical function and those that do not. Thus, embedded clauses carry a hypothetical case marker in MSA as long as they can be replaced by a single word as illustrated by the following contrast:

14- a) ʔal-ħarakat-u xajrun min ʔal-guluus-i
movement- nom better than the sitting-obl
"Movement is better than sitting."

b) ʔan tataħarak-a xajr-un min ʔan taglis-a
to move better-nom than to sit
"To move is better than to sit."

The two nouns in (14a) [movement] and [sitting] carry the morphological nominative case and the oblique case respectively. In (14b), the corresponding clausal counterparts [to move] and [to sit] are hypothetically assumed to carry the same cases as their nominal counterparts. Thus, to parse the clausal subject [to move] in (14a), AGs say that it is an embedded clause that is *fi maħal rafç ʔal mubtadaʔ* "hypothetically carries the nominative case of the subject". Similarly, the embedded clause [to sit] is said to have the hypothetical oblique case assigned by the preposition.

To conclude, MSA has a SSC that necessitates that each word in the sentence must carry a morphological case marker. To satisfy this constraint in MSA, case is hypothetically assigned to embedded clauses depending on their grammatical functions.

4.3. Case Theory, Theta Theory and Functional Categories in MSA

Unlike ME, MSA has a rich system of functional categories that assign case to the immediately following constituent. Consider the following paradigm in which there is a one-clause sentence with various functional categories:

15- a) zaid-un saʕiid-un
zaid-nom happy-nom
"Zaid is happy."

b) zaid-un kaana saʕiid-an
zaid-nom was happy-acc
"Zaid was happy."

c) kaana zaid-un saʕiid-an
was zaid-nom happy-acc
"Zaid was happy."

d) ʔinna zaid-an kaana saʕiid-an
indeed zaid-acc was happy-acc
"Indeed, Zaid was happy."

e) *kaana zaid-un ʔinna saʕiid-an
*was zaid-nom indeed happy-acc

The simple clause in the above paradigm consists of two lexical categories, the subject [zaid] and the predicative adjective [happy]. According to the SSC, every lexical word must carry morphological case. The functional categories in the above paradigm are the complementizer *ʔinna* "indeed" and the linking verb *kaana* "was". Both assign the accusative case to the immediately following word. In (15b), the linking verb assigns the accusative case to the immediately following predicate *saʕiidan* "happy". In (15c), the linking verb moves outside the clause after assigning the accusative case to the predicate *saʕiidan* "happy". In (15d), both the subject and the predicate carry the accusative case. The case assigning complementizer *ʔinna* "indeed" assigns the accusative case to the immediately following subject and the linking verb *kaana* "was" assigns the accusative case to the following predicate. The ungrammaticality of (15e)

derives from the fact that the complementizer *ʔinna* "indeed", whose main function is to introduce a clausal complement, cannot occur inside the clause. Thematically, the simple sentence throughout the paradigm consists of a non-verbal predicate (predicative adjective) which requires one external argument the subject [zaid]. But the morphological cases which are carried by the subject and the predicate vary according to the functional categories in the sentence.

In conclusion, this section demonstrates that functional categories such as complementizers and linking verbs assign case to the immediately following nouns.

4.4. Embedded Clauses that can carry the Hypothetical Case Marker in MSA

AGs divide embedded clauses into those that can receive the hypothetical case (*fi maħal ʔiçraab*) and those that cannot. This subsection tackles those that are assigned a hypothetical case. The underlined clauses below all receive a hypothetical case:

16- ʔan tusaaçid-a ʔal-naas-a xajrun laka [subject, nominative case]
to help the people-acc good you-obl
"To help people is good for you."

17- qaala ʔinna-hu nadʒaħa [object, accusative case]
said that-he succeeded
"He said that he had succeeded."

18- raʔajt-u ʔal-walad-a jaqraʔ [depictive clause, accusative case]
saw-I the boy-acc reading
"I saw the boy reading."

(Al Raghey, 1998, p.336)

19- jaskun-u zaid-un fi madinat-in dʒawu-haa dʒamiil-un [adj. clause, oblique case]
live-3rdms zaid-nom in city-obl weather-its good-nom
"Zaid lives in a city that has a good weather."

(Al Raghey, 1998, p.338)

20- qabalt-u zaid-an jawma ħadar [complement in a construct state, oblique case]

met-1st ms zaid-acc day came-3rd ms
"I met Zaid the day he came."

(Al Raghey, 1998, p.340)

In (16), the clausal subject receives the hypothetical nominative case as it functions as the external argument/ subject of the main predicate *xajr-un* "good". In (17), the embedded clause carries the hypothetical accusative case assigned by the matrix verb *qaala* "said". In (18), the underlined verbal clause carries the hypothetical accusative case as it functions as a depictive clause. In (19), the embedded adjectival clause carries the hypothetical oblique case following the head noun it modifies. Finally, in (20) the underlined verbal clause is assigned the oblique case, as it functions as the complement in the construct state constituent (ʔidˤaafa), whose head is [day].

The above paradigm does not make a distinction between complements and adjuncts with respect to case assignment. In (16), (17), (19) and (20), the embedded clauses are arguments of the main predicate, i.e., they are obligatory. In (18) and (20) the embedded clauses are non-arguments. They are adjuncts as they can be deleted without affecting the structure of the main clause.

Thus, this section surveys the embedded clauses that receive a hypothetical case in MSA. They can function as subjects, objects, depictive predicates, adjectival clauses; complements in the construct state constituent.

4.5. Embedded clauses that are not allowed to carry a hypothetical Case in MSA

The domain of this paper is the analysis of the MSA embedded clauses that occur inside one sentence. According to AGs, the only relevant types that are not allowed to carry a hypothetical case are the root/ main clauses and relative clauses, both are underlined in (21) and (22) respectively:

21- <u>zaid-un qaaʔim-un</u>
zaid-nom standing-nom
"Zaid is standing."

22- qaraʔ-tu ʔal-kitaab-a ʔallaði <u>ʔiʃtara-hu ʔal-walad-u</u>
read-I the book-acc which bought-it the boy-nom
"I read the book which the boy bought."

The root/ main clause in (21) cannot receive a hypothetical case because it is the main clause and it is neither an argument nor an adjunct of another predicate. The relative clause in (22) does not receive a hypothetical either.

Only the relative pronoun (*ʔal ʔism ʔal mawsˁuul*) carries the hypothetical accusative case as its preceding head noun. That relative pronoun is considered a noun and as such must carry case to satisfy the SSC. Since it cannot be inflected for case due to its phonological structure, AGs parse it as carrying the hypothetical accusative case as it modifies the immediately preceding object. Therefore, the following relative clause in (22) cannot be parsed (*la maħal laha min ʔal ʔiçraab*). This raises an interesting question concerning headless and free relatives in MSA:

23- ʔallaði ʔiʃtara ʔal-bajt-a ʔal-kabiir-a jusaaçid-u ʔal-fuqaraaʔ-a
who bought the house-acc the big-acc help the poor-acc
"The one who bought the big house helps the poor."

24- ʔusaaçid-u man jusaaçidu-ni
help-I whoever help-me
"I help whoever helps me."

The underlined relative clauses in (23) and (24) receive no hypothetical case. Only the relative pronouns are allowed to carry the hypothetical case. In (23), the relative pronoun *ʔallaði* "the one who" carries the hypothetical nominative case, serving as the subject of the predicate phrase. The relative pronoun, *man* "whoever" in (24) carries the hypothetical accusative case, as it serves as the internal argument of the main predicate [help].

Interestingly, unlike a relative clause that cannot carry a hypothetical Case, an adjectival clause that modifies a head noun must have a hypothetical Case as presented in (25):

25- jaçiiʃ-u fi madinat-in dʒawu-haa dʒamiil-un
live in city-obl weather-its good-nom
"He lives in a city that has a good weather."

The embedded clause in (25) carries the oblique case as it modifies a prepositional object [city]. Here the SSC is satisfied as every noun or embedded clause carries case (morphologically/ hypothetically).

To summarize, this section deals with two types of clauses that cannot receive case: the root/main clause and the relative clause. Headed, headless and free relatives cannot receive hypothetical case. Only the relative pronoun/ complementizer heading them receives the hypothetical case. MSA has been shown to be a pro drop language, due to its rich inflectional morphology.

Relative pronouns are uninflected for case due to their phonological structure. Therefore, AGs assign them a hypothetical case depending on their grammatical functions in the sentence to satisfy the SSC.

4.6. Some Problems in Embedding in MSA

This section explores some problems in embedding in nominal sentences, in MSA. It is divided into two sub-sections, the first explains different types of sentences according to AGs. The second deals with different viewpoints of *ʔal Basʿra School* and *ʔal Kufa School* with regard to complex nominal sentences.

4.6.1.Different Types of Sentences in MSA

This section investigates different types of sentences in MSA. Arab grammarians have classified sentences into two main types; simple and complex sentences. This paper presents an analysis for the second type of sentences, which include embedded clauses. Based on the data provided by Ibn Geni (1952), Ibn Aqiil (1980), and Ibn Hisham (n.d), simple sentences are short and comprehensive. In MSA, simple sentences must contain at least two constituents (noun + noun), as presented in (26), or (verb + noun), as in (27).

26- zaid-un ʔaxuuk [simple nominal sentence]
zaid-nom brother-nom
"Zaid is your brother."

(Ibn Geni, 1952, p.17)

27- qaama moħammed [simple verbal sentence]
stood up- 3rdms mohammed-nom
"Mohammed stood up."

(Ibn Geni, 1952, p.17)

Moving to the second type, complex sentences, in MSA, are sentences that consist of more than one clause. According to Ibn Al Siraag (1996), a complex sentence, in MSA, is the nominal clause that begins with a noun and it is followed by an embedded clausal predicate. This clausal predicate can be a verbal clause, as presented in (28), or a nominal clause, as in (29).

28- zaid-un dʿarabta-hu [noun + verbal clausal predicate]
zaid-nom hit-1stms him
"I hit Zaid."

(Ibn Al Siraag, 1996, p.64)

29- zaid-un ʔabuu-hu montˁaliq-un [noun + nominal clausal predicate]

zaid-nom father-his-nom departing-nom

"Zaid's father is departing."

(Ibn Al Siraag, 1996, p.65)

Worth mentioning that Ibn Hisham (2000), and Hassan (1975) agree that a sentence is divided into three types. The first type is *ʔal gumlaa ʔal ʔasˁljaa* "the simple sentence", as presented in the previous section. It consists of *ʔal mosnad* "the predicate", and *ʔal mosnad ʔilaihi* "the subject". The second type is *ʔal gumlaa ʔal kubraa* "the complex sentence", that is the nominal clause that has an embedded clausal predicate, as presented in the previous paragraph. Moving to the third type, *ʔal gumlaa ʔal mabnjaa / ʔal sˁuɣraa* "the clausal predicate", it is the embedded clause that functions as the predicate of the complex sentence.

To sum up, AGs classified sentences into two main types, simple and complex ones. Simple sentences consist of only one clause, with a subject and a predicate. On the other hand, complex sentences consist of two clauses a matrix one and an embedded clausal predicate. Some AGs consider those embedded clausal predicates as a third type of sentences, in MSA. This paper focuses on the second type of sentences.

4.6.2 Simple versus Complex Sentences in ʔal Kufa and ʔal Basˁra Schools of Arabic Linguistic theory

This section presents two different approaches presented by *ʔal Basˁra School* and *ʔal Kufa School*, for the second type of sentences, i.e., complex sentences. According to the data presented by (Ibn Hisham, n.d, pp. 85-96), (Hassan, 1973, p. 73), (Al Suyouti, 1998, p. 511) and (Ibn Al Khabaz, 2002, p.121) there are two different viewpoints in considering complex sentences as simple or complex ones. *ʔal Basˁra* argues that the nominal sentence that has a verbal clausal predicate is a complex one. However, *ʔal Kufa* states that it is accepted to consider this type of sentences as a simple verbal sentence with a topicalized subject. This paper agrees with *ʔal Kufa's* approach.

30- a) çalj-un *jataħdaϴu ʔal firinsja*

ali-nom speak-3rdms French-acc

"Ali speaks French."

(Al Raghey, 1998, p.97)

b) [CP [NC [çalj-un [VC jataħdaϴu ʔal firinsja]]]]

According to *ʔal Basˁra School* sentence (30a), is a complex sentence that consists of a matrix clause including *ʔal mubtadaʔ* "the subject" and *ʔal xabar* "the predicate". That predicate in itself is another embedded verbal clause that they parse as: *gomla fiʕljah fi maħal rafʕ xabar* "a verbal clause that function as a predicate, it hypothetically carries the nominative case". This analysis is represented by the labelled bracketing, in (30b), in which there is a matrix clause and an embedded clause.

On the contrary, *ʔal Kufa School,* argue that sentence (30a) is a simple sentence in which the subject is topicalized, that is *ʔal faaʕil* "the subject" precedes its verb, leaving behind a resumptive pronoun that refers back to the topicalized subject. Thus, the word order of the sentence is SVO. Therefore, *ʔal Kufa School* considers the sentence, in (30a), as a simple sentence which includes a verbal predicate *jataħdaΘu* "speaks", that requires an external argument *çalj-un* "Ali" [the topicalized subject] and an internal argument *ʔal firinsja* "French" [the object].

Therefore, traditional Arabic linguistic schools like *ʔal Kufa* and *ʔal Basˁra* differ in their definition of a simple sentence. When the sentence starts with a subject followed by a verbal predicate *ʔal Basˁra* considers it as a complex sentence. For them, it consists of two clauses, a matrix one, and an embedded verbal clause that functions as a predicate. In contrast, *ʔal Kufa* considers this type of sentences as simple sentences with SVO word order.

5. Conclusion

This paper investigates the domain of the Arabic linguistic term *fi maħal ʔiçraab:* "that serves a grammatical function" within Chomsky's Principles and Parameters and the Generative enterprise. The SSC is shown to account for the behaviour of case in MSA. In contrast, ME must have the subject position filled by a syntactic or a thematic subject, according to the EPP. The sharp differences between ME and MSA in terms of word order and case are handled by the parameters. Languages with rich inflectional morphology like MSA can freely drop their subject and as a consequence have free word order. Case in universal grammar can be abstract as in ME or morphological as in MSA. Yet, both languages resort to empty prepositions to satisfy the case filter. The theory of parameters accounts for the differences between ME and MSA with respect to word order, case behaviour and surface structure constraints. Principles, in contrast, provide a unified analysis of predication and argument structure in both languages. This paper assures that due to the SSC, in MSA, embedded clauses are divided into those that can be assigned a hypothetical case and others that cannot.

List of Phonetic Symbols

A: Consonants[1]

Arabic consonant	Symbol	Phonological Description	Transcribed examples	Translation
أ	ʔ	voiced glottal stop	**ʔ**asad	lion
ب	b	voiced bilabial stop	**b**aa**b**	door
ت	t	voiceless dento-alveolar stop	tufaa**ħ**a	apple
ث	θ	voiceless interdental fricative	**θ**uʕbaan	snake
ج	g	voiced velar stop	**g**amal	camel
ج	dʒ	voiced post-alveolar fricative	**dʒ**ihaan	Gihan (proper name)
ح	ħ	devoiced pharyngeal fricative	**ħ**uut	whale
خ	x	voiceless velar fricative	**x**aruuf	sheep
د	d	voiced dento-alveolar stop	**d**ub	bear
ذ	ð	voiced interdental fricative	**ð**eʔb	wolf
ر	r	voiced alveo-palatal trill	**r**adʒul	man
ز	z	voiced alveolar fricative	**z**araafa	giraffe
س	s	voiceless alveolar fricative	**s**amaka	fish
ش	ʃ	voiceless alveo-palatal fricative	**ʃ**ariʕ	street
ص	sˤ	voiceless velarised alveolar fricative	**sˤ**uura	picture
ض	dˤ	voiced velarised dento-alveolar stop	**dˤ**ufd**ˤ**aʕ	frog
ط	tˤ	voiceless velarised dento-alveolar stop	**tˤ**aaʔir	bird
ظ	ðˤ	voiced velarised interdental fricative	**ðˤ**arf	envelope
ع	ʕ	voiced pharyngeal	**ʕ**ajn	eye

[1] This table is cited from (Shariq, 2015, p148).

		fricative		
غ	ɣ	voiced uvular fricative	**ɣ**iðaaʔ	food
ف	f	voiceless labio-dental fricative	**f**aʔr	mouse
ق	q	voiceless uvular stop	**q**alb	heart
ك	k	voiceless velar stop	**k**itaab	book
ل	l	voiced alveolar lateral	**l**amba	lamp
م	m	voiced bilabial nasal	**m**uuz	banana
ن	n	voiced alveolar nasal	**n**uur	light
ه	h	voiceless glottal fricative	**h**aram	pyramid
و	w	voiced labiovelar glide	**w**alad	boy
ي	j	voiced palatal glide	**j**ad	hand

B: Vowels

Symbol	Phonological description	Transcribed example	Translation
/a/	short central unrounded vowel	j**a**d	hand
/i/	short high front unrounded vowel	tˤaaʔ**i**r	Bird
/u/	short high back rounded vowel	d**u**b	bear
/e/	Short close-mid front unrounded vowel	b**e**nt	Girl
/aa/	long central unrounded vowel	kit**aa**b	book
/ii/	long high front unrounded vowel	saʕ**ii**d	happy
/uu/	long high back rounded vowel	m**uu**z	banana

Abbreviations

abbreviation	Connotation
ME	Modern English
MSA	Modern Standard Arabic
P&P	Principles and Parameters
SSC	Surface Structure Constraint
MP	The Minimalist Program
AGs	Arab Grammarians
Nom	Nominative case
Acc	Accusative case
Obl	Oblique case
SVO	Subject-Verb-Object
VSO	Verb-Subject-Object
VOS	Verb-Object-Subject
OSV	Object-Subject-Verb
3^{rd}ms	Third person, masculine, singular
3^{rd}fp	Third person, feminine, plural

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الإعراب والإدراج وفقا للمصطلح اللغوي "في محل إعراب" : المنهج التوليدي

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المستخلص:

يتناول هذا البحث الإدراج والإعراب في اللغة العربية الفصحى (MSA) من خلال دراسة معنى وتوزيع المصطلح اللغوي العربي "في محل إعراب". يتعلق هذا المصطلح بالعناصر التي لا يمكن أن تحمل حالة إعرابية ظاهرة لأسباب مختلفة. فاللغة العربية الفصحى تفرض"قيد نحوي سطحي" (SSC) بوجود علامة إعرابية على كل كلمة بالجملة بغض النظر عن وظيفتها النحوية. ومن أجل تلبية هذا القيد النحوي يتم تخصيص حالة إعراب افتراضية للجمل المدرجة وفقًا للمصطلح "في محل إعراب". وفيما يتعلق بالمصطلح " في محل إعراب" ، قام النحاه العرب بتصنيف الجمل المدرجة في اللغة العربية الفصحى إلى نوعين أساسيين. حيث يتناول النوع الأول الجمل المدرجة التي لها محل من الإعراب، في حين يتعلق النوع الثاني بالجمل المدرجة التي لا محل لها من الإعراب. واستناداً إلى نظرية المبادئ والمعايير (P&P) والمنهج التوليدي لتشومسكي، يتمثل الهدف الرئيسي من هذه الدراسة هو محاولة استكشاف آثار هذا المصطلح على الإدراج فيما يتعلق بالحالة الإعرابية والتحليل النحوي في اللغة العربية الفصحى.

الكلمات المفتاحية: *الإدراج، قيود البنية السطحية (SSC)، نظرية الحالة الإعرابية، نظرية ثيتا (theta)، نظرية المبادئ والمعايير (P&P)، المنهج التوليدي*