

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم





شبكة المعلومات الجامعية التوثيق الالكتروني والميكرو فيلم



جامعة عين شمس

التوثيق الإلكتروني والميكرو فيلم

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Identity across Cultures: A Contrastive Study of Selected English and Arabic Children's Short Stories

M.A. Thesis

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Dedication

To

My Family and the memory of my beloved uncle, Ibrahim Hagag, May his soul
rest in peace.

Abstract

This study is an attempt to point out the similarities and differences of lexical categories used in the selected English and Arabic children's short stories. The selected texts for this study are *حكايات شعبية من مصر / hika:ja:t faʕbijah min masʕr / Folk Tales from Egypt* (2012) written in Arabic by Amany Hassan Al-Ashmawy and, in contrast, *A Very Crazy Christmas* (2011) written by Abby Klein. Based on the theory of Short and Leech (1981), these lexical categories were analyzed adopting the approach of Dualism through online text analysis software, Sketch Engine. The study also aims at clarifying the semiotic resources and how they associate with the principle of Bucholtz and Hall (2005). This study finally aims at clarifying how the semiotic resources reflect the identity, cultural values and traditions of the characters affecting the children's perception directly and indirectly. The results show that both English and Arabic short stories consist of colloquial words which reflect part of a society. Abstract nouns are used in both of them to clarify the rational side which completes the artistic image of the stories. The writers use concrete nouns to give the diagnostic description of the place and people to highlight the interpersonal conflict. Both of the writers use various connotations to manifest the bedrock of Egyptian and American identities. On the other hand, proper nouns in Arabic short stories reflect the personality of the character. However, there is no relation between the names and their characters in English short story. Arabic short stories rely on simple descriptive adjectives more than evaluative adjectives. However, the English short story depends on evaluative adjectives to create an empathetic connection between the child and the characters.

Keywords: Identity, Short stories, Lexical categories, Lexical features, Dualism Approach, semiotic resources, denotation, connotation.

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List of Arabic Phonetic Transcription

Arabic Consonants	IPA Symbol	IPA Description
ب	/b/	Voiced Bilabial Plosive
ت	/t/	Voiceless Alveolar Plosive
ط	/tʰ/	Voiceless Velarized Alveolar Plosive
ض	/dʁ/	Voiced Velarized Alveolar Plosive
د	/d/	Voiced Alveolar Plosive
ك	/k/	Voiceless Velar Plosive
ق	/q/	Voiceless Uvular Plosive
ء	/ʔ/	Voiceless Glottal Plosive
م	/m/	Voiced Bilabial Nasal
ن	/n/	Voiced Alveolar Nasal
ر	/r/	Voiced Alveolar Trill
ف	/f/	Voiceless Labiodental Fricative
ث	/θ/	Voiceless Dental Fricative
ذ	/ð/	Voiced Dental Fricative
س	/s/	Voiceless Alveolar Fricative
ز	/z/	Voiced Alveolar Fricative
ش	/ʃ/	Voiceless Postalveolar Fricative
ج	/ʒ/	Voiced Postalveolar Fricative
خ	/x/	Voiceless Velar Fricative
غ	/ɣ/	Voiced Velar Fricative

ح	/h/	Voiceless Pharyngeal Fricative
ع	/ʕ/	Voiced Pharyngeal Fricative
هـ	/h/	Voiceless Glottal Fricative
ل	/l/	Voiced Alveolar Lateral Approximant
ظ	/zʕ/	Voiced Velarized Alveolar Fricative
ص	/sʕ/	Voiceless Velarized Alveolar Fricative
و	/w/	Voiced Bilabial Semi-Vowel
ي	/j/	Voiced Postalveolar Semi-Vowel
Arabic long vowels		
ا	/a:/	Open Front Vowel
ي	/i:/	Closed Tense Front Vowel
و	/u:/	Closed Rounded Back Vowel
Arabic short vowels		
َ	/a/	Open Front Vowel
ِ	/i/	Closed Tense Front Vowel
ُ	/u/	

Full IPA Chart : <https://www.internationalphoneticassociation.org/content/full-ipa-chart>