

Contrastive Analysis

Exam Sample

Answer from I to IV

I. Translate the following into Arabic, maintaining the **neutral** and **euphemistic** distinction in each case: (10 points)

- "air-sickness bag" - "vomit bag"
- "sanitary landfill" - "garbage dump"
- "pre-owned vehicles" - "used cars"
- "the big C" - "cancer".
- "sanitation worker" - "garbage man"
- "Where can I powder my nose?" - "Where can I find a toilet?"
- "adult movie" – "pornographic movie"
- "economical with the truth" – "a liar"
- "downsizing" – "sacking employees"
- "passed away" - "has become food for worms"

II. Translate the following sentences between English and Arabic. Based on your translation, **mention one difference** – morphological, lexical, or grammatical - between the two languages **in each case**. (10 points)

- You don't know **the Andersons**, do you?
- Have you seen **the Alps**.
- A child** needs love.
- This girl and this boy are very smart.
- Is there **a post office** near here?

- هذا كتاب شيق مفيد جدًا. (f)
- أنهت الباحثة رسالتها للماجستير. (g)
- قرأت ثلاث روايات وثلاثة دواوين شعر. (h)
- مشفتهاش. (i)
- آلة حاسبة. (j)

III. What is the semantic relation between each two of the following: (5 points)

- cat – animal
- hot – cold
- crown – king

- d) يد - إنسان
e) ضخم - هائل

IV. What kind of **semantic change** is involved in each of the following: (5 points)

- a) The Arabic word "فاجر" (*faajir*) used to mean "shameless" but has come to mean "fantastic".
b) The Arabic word مآتم (*ma'tam*) used to mean "any gathering of people", but it has come to mean "a gathering in a funeral".
c) The word "bully" used to mean a pretty woman; now it means one who is habitually cruel.
d) The word "deer" originally meant "any four-legged beast," but now specifically means "an animal of the family *Cervidae* - a quite large animal with four legs that eats grass and leaves."
e) The word "Kleenex" originally referred to "a special soft facial tissue brand," but later came to mean "any kind of tissue."

Answer either V or VI

V. Calculate the **implicature** in this exchange. (10 points)

- a) Which **maxim** of the **CP** is violated and what does the violation imply?
b) **Translate** the exchange into Arabic, maintaining its pragmatic effects.



VI. Identify a **presupposition** or an **entailment** in each of the following as required in the **brackets**. (10 points)

- a) "محا الموت أسباب العداوة بيننا" - أكتافوس مخاطبا كليوباترا (presupposition)
b) "اجتازت خمسة اختبارات وحصلت فيها جميعا على امتياز" (entailment)
c) She didn't realize that he was ill. (presupposition)
d) At least three students solved the problem. (entailment)
e) Alex likes books and movies. (entailment)

Sincerest wishes
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