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#### Sentence boundaries and type shifts in literary translation from English to Arabic: A case study of Anton Chekhov's "Miserv"

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#### Abstract:

Sentence boundaries in Arabic are determined by the completion of the meaning of the sentence, while in English they are typically indicated by capital letters and punctuation marks. The present study investigates how sentence types and boundaries change when translating from English to Arabic. The researcher compares and analyses the English short story "Misery" by Anton Chekhov and its Arabic version "الشقاء". This short story is chosen by the researcher because it belongs to contemporary literature. The chosen examples of analyzed phenomena (sentence boundaries and type shifts) are clear and straightforward ones found in the short story. By investigating the application of Frankenberg-Garcia's criteria for shifts of sentence boundaries and punctuation marks during translation, the researcher highlights the transfer and change of sentence boundaries during translation. The current study aims to reveal the similarities and differences between English and Arabic punctuation usage, in spite of the fact that Arabic punctuation rules are borrowed from the West. The main conclusion is that the English and Arabic systems use punctuation marks similarly in many cases. Due to these similarities, translators can clearly and simply transfer the meaning from English to Arabic, in most cases, despite their different origins. Sentence joining and splitting techniques can be studied further for application in the genres of international agreements and news articles.

Keywords: Punctuation marks, Frankenberg-Garcia's punctuation Criteria, Sentence Boundaries, Sentence Splitting and Joining, Sentence Type.

## الملخص:

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عادة ما يتم تمييز حدود الجمل في اللغة الإنجليزية باستخدام علامات الترقيم والأحرف الكبيرة؛ بينما يعتمد ذلك في اللغة العربية على إكتمال معنى الجمل. وتتتاول الدراسة الحالية التغييرات في حدود الجمل، ونمطها أثناء الترجمة من الإنجليزية إلى العربية. وتقوم الباحثة بتحليل ومقارنة قصة قصيرة باللغة الإنجليزية لأنطون تشيخوف – بعنوان " Misery" – وترجمتها إلى العربية – بعنوان "الشقاء". ولقد تم اختيار هذه القصة القصيرة لوضوح هذه الظواهر في تراكبيها اللغوية السلسة وانتماء هذه القصبة القصيرة للأدب الحديث. وتظهر الباحثة عملية نقل وتغبير حدود الجملة أثناء الترجمة (من خلال تحرى تطبيق معايير فرانكنبيرج جارسيا Frankenberg-Garcia ) حول تغييرات حدود الجملة، وعلامات الترقيم أثناء الترجمة. وتهدف هذه الدراسة إلى: إبراز مدى تشابه أو اختلاف استخدام علامات الترقيم في اللغة العربية عن اللغة الإنجليزية؛ على الرغم من حقيقة أن علامات الترقيم وقواعد استخدامها في اللغة العربية مستعارة من الغرب. والنتيجة الرئيسية في هذا البحث هي أن: "هناك تشابها في استخدام علامات الترقيم - في حالات عدة - بين اللغتين الإنجليزية والعربية". وبالنسبة للمترجمين: فإن هذا التشابه بين النظامين اللذين لهما أصول مختلفة يتيح عملية نقل الرسالة بسهولة ووضوح. ويمكن إجراء المزيد من الدراسات؛ لدراسة انطباق عملية تقسيم الجملة، أو دمجها على المقالات الإخبارية أو الاتفاقيات الدولية.

التغييرات فى حدود الجمل ونمطها أثناء الترجمة الأدبية من الإنجليزية إلى

قسم اللغات والترجمة ، كلية العلوم الإنسانية والإجتماعية، جامعة الحدود الشمالية

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الكلمات المفتاحية: علامات الترقيم، معابير الترقيم الخاصة بفرانكنبيرج جارسيا، حدود الجملة، تقسيم الجملة ودمجها، نمط الجملة.

## 1. Introduction:

"Translation" is recognized as a challenging field. As a process, it cannot be deemed successful until the translated content is totally cohesive. Sentences that are closely related exhibit cohesion. Texts, on the other hand, are considered cohesive when their sentences make sense to the reader by connecting related ideas or breaking up long sentences into more meaningful phrases (Atasoy, 2010).

Currently, there is a growing trend in translation research to investigate specific subjects and relate them to real-world domains. Translation universals, computer tool proficiency, creativity growth are a few examples (Bason & Roger, 2016; Hatim, 2012). The political aspect of literary translation (Niranjana, 1995), application of cognitive studies, the development of localization, cultural translation (Dewi, 2018), and the translation of irony (Giménez, 2022) are some recent developments in the field of literary translation, which is the focus of this study.

Many linguists discussed the idea of translation universals. According to Baker (2018), universals of translation should be sought during the progress in the translation process. Therefore, the present research is concerned with normalization as a universal of translation sought during the translation process in addition to explicitation and simplification universals.

In the present study, the researcher compares the short story "Misery" with its Arabic translation, in relation to sentence boundaries and their significance in producing cohesion in translated texts. It also reflects the syntactic, stylistic, and pragmatic changes as well as sentence type shifts necessary for achieving cohesion. The performed comparison aims to highlight significant syntactic, stylistic, and pragmatic changes that result in changes in sentence type from English to Arabic during translation, as well as to investigate the phenomenon of sentence boundary shifts during the translation process and explain why translators split and join sentences. The conventional concept of an English "sentence" is that it is a collection of words linked syntactically and semantically to produce meaning. Typically, the sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a full stop and a

space to separate it from the sentence that comes after (Duck & McMahan, 2018). In Arabic, the main concern of a sentence is the complete meaning supported by the use of punctuation marks.

The researcher undertakes the research by investigating the application of Frankenberg-Garcia's (2019) criteria regarding the transfer and change of sentence boundaries during translation. Frankenberg-Garcia, also referred to as Garcia, discusses the standards used in the translation of sentences when they are split, joined, or even when they are translated while maintaining the original punctuation and word order. According to Garcia, sentence splitting is accomplished by either adding hard punctuation - such as question marks, full stops, exclamation marks, and ellipses - or replacing soft punctuation - such as commas, colons, semicolons, and dashes - with hard ones. On the other hand, sentence joining is achieved by replacing hard punctuation with soft punctuation and removing the hard punctuation marks (Quirk et al., 1985). Additional methods for joining or splitting sentences are covered in-depth in the present study.

Many linguists are currently focusing their attention on investigating how sentences are organized in translated texts compared to their original sources. Researchers like Garcia (2014) have observed that while some translators try to maintain the same boundaries and structure of the original texts (source text ST), the rules of the target text (TT) can make it difficult for them to do so and force them to adapt sentence structure and type to comply with target language (TL) rules. Concerning translators, sentence splitting or joining can be used to change the kind and structure of a sentence during the translation process (Blum-Kulka, 1986; Stilman, 2010).

# **1.1. Research questions:**

The research questions underlying this paper capitalize on Garcia's (2019) techniques of sentence splitting (dividing one long sentence in the source language (SL) into two or more short sentences in the target language (TL)), and sentence joining (joining two or more sentences in SL into one long complex sentence in TL), as well as the application of the qualitative and quantitative methods in analysis. To this end, the current paper aims to answer two interrelated research questions:

Q1: Do Garcia's criteria for sentence boundaries shift during the translation process apply to the Arabic translated texts (are they universal criteria)?

Q2: Does sentence splitting or sentence joining enhance explicitation of messages in translated texts and require syntactic and sentence type changes?

# 1.2.Objective of the study

The purpose of the study is to highlight how Garcia's (2019) criteria are applied while translating literary English texts into Arabic, reflecting the resulted syntactic and sentence-type changes. When a sentence is joined, split, or even translated while maintaining its original form, the researcher checks the original sentence boundaries to identify any changes that have been made during translation. In addition, the research reflects how sentence joining or splitting changed the syntactic structure of sentences in the target text.

### **1.3.** Importance of the study

The present study investigates changes in sentence structure and boundaries between a literary English text and its Arabic translation. The research is novel because it highlights significant changes that take place during the translation process, as Garcia (2019) noticed in the comparison with other languages, to determine how comparable these changes are to those in Arabic. In other words, the originality of the research depends on pointing out sentence boundaries in the English text (the source text) and the resemblance or difference of these sentence boundaries to the target text. The study also emphasizes how, despite punctuation marks and their rules are borrowed in Arabic from European nations a century ago, Arabic punctuation rules may differ from English punctuation ones. The research reveals, in addition, how diverse syntactic, stylistic, or pragmatic changes that occur during the translation process as well as explicitation are accomplished through changes in sentence boundaries and types. This is a topic that is rarely dealt with.

The analyzed data that are studied included the English short story "Misery," written in 1886 by the famous Russian author "Anton Chekhov", as well as its Arabic translation. In summary, the short story is about Iona Potapov who is a sledge driver. Approximately in the late 19th century, the story takes place in St. Petersburg during winter. Iona lost his son not too long ago. Iona wants to tell people about what happened to him since he feels alone in his sorrow. He tries to start a conversation with a few strangers because he wants someone to hear his story, but these strangers ignore him. Iona tries to discuss his loss with his passengers and other people he meets throughout the day. Iona tries many times to talk to someone about his grief, but he never finds anyone. Iona, finally, chooses to speak to his mare about his grief. The researcher specifically selected this short story because, in addition to the straightforward style of the source text, it is evident that the source and target texts have distinct sentence boundaries. The obvious syntactic, stylistic, or pragmatic changes of the Arabic version that can be addressed in contrast to the original sentence type of the English text provide a third reason.

### 2. Literature review

### 2.1. Sentence boundaries:

Languages and registers differ from one another in relation to sentence boundaries because of their unique qualities in usage and application (Mulvey, 2016). Scholars state that translated texts are usually longer than their original English texts because translators tend to preserve, to a great extent, the source text grammatical structure, form, and sentence organization (Haussamen, 1994; Lauchman, 2010). Haegeman & Hill's (2013) observation of splitting long sentences into smaller ones is discussed in their conducted research. Regarding the potential of translators to split long sentences, Haegeman & Hill (2013: 127) state that tendencv among translators "the towards sententialization (i.e., sentence splitting) is much stronger than the opposite tendency towards combining them."

Fabricius-Hansen (1999) undertakes a study on sentence splitting in the English and Norwegian translations of Lorenz's German work Das Sogennante Böse. According to the analysis, the German text contains more complex syntactic patterns than the other texts. Punctuation is mostly used to identify shifts in sentence boundaries. In terms of Arabic, texts written at the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century reflected the use of punctuation, where Ahmad Zaki-Pasha was the first person to write in Arabic using punctuation marks (Meylievna, 2022). At that time, the translation movement in the Arab world led the Arabs to use punctuation marks. Arabs did not adhere strictly to punctuation rules when writing in Arabic. Punctuation, for them, is a concept that has been recently introduced to the Arabs' culture from Europe. In fact, the message and the Arabic sentence formation principles were their main concern.

### 2.2. Factors affecting sentence boundaries

Longer and more complicated sentence patterns can be used in certain languages but not in others (Huddlestone & Pullum, 2002). Fabricius-Hansen (1999) provides an explanation for this gap by mentioning that the syntactic and structural rules of some languages, some pragmatic factors, and the stylistic traits of authors and translators are reasons for such differences. In other words, these kinds of elements can influence how sentences are joined or split during translation.

The cognitive difficulties of translation are the second factor that can influence sentence boundaries (Mulvey, 2016). Due to their interpretation of the meaning included in the source text, translators typically change the source text structure while translating it into the target text. These changes are reflected in their translation in comparison to the source language.

The perspective of translation theories is a third factor (Prasoon, 2015). Similar guidelines and rules are applied by translators when translating literature, according to Toury (1995: 95), "regardless of the translator's identity, language, genre, period, and the like." Researchers that have adopted Baker's (2018) methodology to study the norms of translating literature suggest common patterns in translation.

Al-Momani & Fareh (2022) assert that there are many different kinds of sentences. 'Simple sentence' is the first type. It is composed of a single, independent clause with a complete idea. A 'compound sentence' is the second kind; it is made up of two independent clauses joined by a semicolon or a coordinate conjunction (for, and, nor, but, or, still, so). 'complex sentences,' which have a minimum of one independent and a minimum of one dependent clause, are the third category. The 'compound-complex' sentence is the last category; it has one dependent clause and, at least, two independent clauses.

## 2.3. Translation universals

The common linguistic elements of translated texts that remain constant across language systems and source text languages are known as universals of translation. Malmkjaer (2012) discusses in his book titled "The linguistics encyclopedia" universals in translation. He groups them into the following categories: avoiding source text repeats; simplification; normalization; discourse transfer; unique arrangement of lexical words; and, finally, explicitation, which seems to be the most controversial idea. Explicitation, as a universal of translation, is discussed by Blum and Kulka (1986). They mention that explicitation requires that the relationship between phrases should be made explicit, an idea which is emphasized by Baker (2018). According to Baker (2018), the second translation universal "normalization" refers to the process by which translators can join or break vague phrases in target texts to transfer their syntactic structure and produce coherent and comprehensible texts. Normalization is sentences and messages that can occasionally be made more apparent by splitting long constructions into smaller ones or by joining shorter ones together using coordinate and conjunctions. subordinate In other words. normalization is manifested through sentence boundaries and types. A third translation universal is simplification which is defined as "the tendency to simplify the language used in translation" (Baker, 2018: 181). According to Vanderauwera (1985) splitting long and difficult statements into shorter and simpler ones is one way to simplification.

# 2.4.Coordination and subordination as cohesive ties in translation

# 2.4.1. Coordination and Subordination in English

When two clauses in a phrase are presented as new information, they are typically equal both syntactically and semantically. This is known as coordination in English, and it is used to represent

related ideas that are equal. In other words, "the relationship between the clauses is paratactic", (Quirk et al., 1985: 918). Ideas that are unequal are expressed through subordination. In subordination, there is one clause that is given more weight in the discourse than the other. Usually, the main clause carries new information (more weight), while the subordinate clause is presented as given or known information (ibid). In this case, hypotaxis applies; there is a hierarchical hypotactic link between the superordinate clause and the subordinate clause or clauses. It is generally believed that using subordination, as opposed to coordination, will improving greatly help in the maturity, sophistication, interest, and effectiveness of one's writing. English writing textbooks make this tendency quite evident (Pavlovic, 2018).

# 2.4.2. Coordination and Subordination in Arabic

According to Clive Holes (1995:215), an Arabic compound sentence is composed of "multiple simple sentences joined by a single conjunctive particle." These conjunctive particles include wa, fa, Oumma,?aw,?am, bal, and la:kin. In Arabic, the *wa* is the most widely used linking device". Words, phrases, clauses, and sentences are joined with it. Contrary to the English 'and', and regardless of the number of items stated, the Arabic wa is repeated before each coordinated item. However, the Arabic wa has many uses as a particle, each of which serves a distinct purpose. It can function as an adverb or a coordinator. It could be employed to convey oaths or support, in addition to other ways of usage. On the contrary, "a complex sentence is one in which a clause that, when removed, would leave a free-standing simple sentence in one or more of the non-verbal slots (subject, object, adverb, or adjective) in such simple sentence", (ibid: 215). As a fact, "Arabic is a language that prefers coordination to subordination, according to numerous claims made by Arab and non-Arab scholars", (ibid: 217).

# 2.5. Defining sentence boundaries

It is crucial to define a 'sentence' since the current research addresses sentence boundaries and the following grammatical changes. A sentence, according to Quirk et al. (1985), is a grammatical unit that contains one or more clauses. In an elliptical structure, a single word can be thought of as a single phrase. 'Sure' is one example. According to Quirk et al. (1985), an English sentence typically has a capital letter at the beginning and a hard punctuation mark at the end, followed by a space, another capital letter, or no words at all.

According to Quirk et al., titles or shortened words that are followed by a full stop do not count as full sentences (1985). For instance, the word "Mr." is part of a sentence and is followed by a full stop, but it cannot be considered as a stand-alone sentence. Reporting verbs like "tell," "say," and "suggest," when followed by words, are regarded as a single sentence in reported speech. For instance, even though there is a full stop and a capital letter after "O.K.," in the sentence - 'It's O.K.' Mona replied to the girl - the sentence is seen as one long sentence.

# 2.6. Previous studies on sentence structure and boundaries

Research, conducted with a variety of viewpoints on sentence structure and boundaries, is numerous. In her study on sentence boundaries, Frankenberg-Garcia (2016) explains how loan words influence sentences, and studies the impact of loan words on the translated text. Many scholars attempt to explain sentence boundaries bv comparing the total number of sentences in translated texts to those in source texts. Research on the factors contributing to coherence in texts in student translations is performed by Kunilovskaya (2013). According to Kunilovskaya's findings, sentence splitting is efficient for coordinated sentences but is challenging for subordinated structures, which require careful attention while working with them and their corresponding ones. Kunilovskaya also highlights that, in addition to splitting sentences at that point, poor interpretation of semantic relations in ST might result in nonsense language and improper informative structures in newly generated split sentences. Moreover, Kunilovskaya lists other situations in which sentence splitting is not appropriate for pragmatic reasons.

AlQinai's (2015) research is distinct in that it focuses on punctuation marks. AlQinai performs research on punctuation usage in Arabic and English. Even though Arabic borrowed punctuation from European languages through translation, AlQinai points out that while certain punctuation marks, such as the full stop and comma, are shared by both languages, their usage in Arabic differs from that in English. Another study that differs from AlQinai's, in nature, is that of Mascarell et al. (2016). They statistically discuss sentence boundaries in machine translations. They observe that most of the time, machine translation systems translate texts without taking context into account. Frankenberg-Garcia (2019) focuses on the characteristics that set translated texts apart from untranslated ones as well as the changes translators make while translating from the source text (ST) to the target text (TT). The main finding of the research is that translators have a strong tendency to maintain ST sentence boundaries. Moreover, the study highlights that shifts in sentence boundaries are associated with certain pragmatic considerations or explicitation goals.

Research on translation by Al-Huraithi (2021) highlights the significance of punctuation marks in translation and their function in the translated text. Al-Huraithi discovers that the use of punctuation in Arabic needs to be given more attention than it does in English. Borodinas & Bareikienė's (2021) research investigates a similar subject in a different genre. They attempt to discover which syntactic devices and punctuation marks are most frequently used in advertising slogans. They emphasize that punctuation is occasionally employed as a stylistic feature and that writers of advertising slogans do not always adhere to the norms of grammar. Al-Momani & Fareh (2022) discuss certain syntactic features of sentences in political speeches written in Arabic and English. They show that political speeches given in Arabic are somewhat shorter than those given in English. They emphasize how the syntactic elements of sentences can vary to serve a variety of purposes inside the text.

In the present study, the researcher investigates how sentence boundaries might change to improve explicitness while translating literary works (a short story) from English to Arabic. According to what Garcia (2019) pointed out, the researcher highlights the relationship between sentences in terms of changes in sentence boundaries during translation and the various syntactic, stylistic, and pragmatic elements that can result in changes in sentence types.

# 3. Methodology

By analyzing the short story "Misery" and its translated counterpart "الشقاء," the study investigates changes in sentence boundaries after translation by applying Garcia's strategies of sentence preservation, sentence splitting, or sentence joining. These strategies deal with the splitting of a single long sentence into several shorter sentences or the joining of several phrases to make a single long complex or compound sentence, as well as having similar structures in the source and target languages. Garcia (2019) refers these changes to numerous factors, primarily practical ones. The current study emphasizes the fact that sentence preservation is a key factor that translators typically aim for. Sentence boundaries can change because of a variety of pragmatic, stylistic, or syntactic reasons. The two texts are carefully investigated to select the relevant data for analysis. Sentence types in both texts are electronically computed and compared according to Al-Momani & Fareh's (2022) classification.

# 4. Data collection

The English short story "Misery" by Anton Chekhov and its Arabic translation are the texts that are being analyzed. The reader finds this short story easy to follow due to its common vocabulary and straightforward writing style, which is one reason why the researcher selected it for analysis. The English short story "Misery" also belongs to contemporary literature. The number of linguistic differences between the English and Arabic sentences caught the researcher's attention during the initial reading of the short story, which is the last but certainly not the least reason why this data set is chosen for analysis. Abou Baker Yousef, a competent translator from Egypt who is fond of Anton Chekhov's writings, translated the Arabic version.

# 5. Data analysis

The researcher compares the English text to its Arabic counterpart in the study, investigating the types and boundaries of sentences in both languages. Sentence splitting and joining phenomena that are applied to the translated text which differs slightly from the source text, are highlighted by the researcher. The researcher mentions the resulted syntactic, stylistic, or pragmatic changes in the target text and provides an explanation for why sentences are joined or split during translation. The analysis is performed applying both the qualitative and quantitative methods.

To represent the frequencies of the various sentence types, the researcher uses the following table. Then, based on sentence boundaries denoted by a full stop, question mark, or exclamation mark setting the end of the sentence or thought in both texts, the researcher compares the frequency of their occurrence and repetition in the English text to their frequency and repetition in the translated Arabic version. The researcher counts sentences manually in both texts "Misery" and "الشقاء". Then, the number of sentences is inserted into an excel sheet (an Excel software) and uses formulas to obtain calculations, percentage, and figures of the number of occurrence of sentences and their types. Next, the researcher classifies and groups sentences into four categories: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences, in accordance with Al-Momani & Fareh's (2022) classification. There is also a description of the frequency of each type of sentences in the two texts.

Sentence type	Number of	Number of	
	occurrences in	occurrences in	
	English and their	Arabic and their	
	percentage	percentage	
1- Simple sentence	83 with	57 with	
	48.5%	44.2%	
2- Compound sentence	37 with	19 with	
	21.6%	14.8%	
3- Complex sentence	26 with	20 with	
	15.2%	15.5%	
4- Compound-complex	25 with	33 with	
sentence	14.7%	25.5%	
Total	171 with	129 with	
	100%	100%	

Table (1)	Sentence	types in ]	English :	and Arabic
	Bununu	types m	L'IIZIISII (	and Arabic

Number of

Number of

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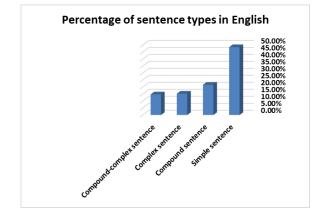
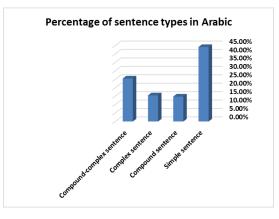


Figure (1) Percentage of sentence types in English



#### Figure (2) Percentage of sentence types in Arabic

The Above table and statistics reflect that most sentences in the English text are of the simple type. Simple sentences appear often in both English and Arabic texts. In comparing them to other Arabic sentence forms in the Arabic text, their percentage is also high.

There are 57 instances of simple sentence types in Arabic, accounting for 44.2% of all sentence types that occurred in the text. Compound-complex sentences account for 25.5% of all sentence types in Arabic, making it the second most common type. With a percentage of 14.8%, compound sentences have the least percentage of sentence types in the Arabic text. The percentage of complex sentences in the Arabic text is 15.5%, which is very similar to the percentage in the English text.

### **5.1.** Sentence preservation

# 5.1.1. Sentence preservation for syntactic reasons

The researcher notices that there is a tendency of the translator to apply sentence

preservation of the source text as much as he can while translation. Sentence preservation is the aim of many translators while performing their translation task unless the structure of the target text requires other than that (Garcia, 2019). This phenomenon is clear in the following example:

"It is a long time since Iona and his nag have budged."

(Paragraph: 2, Sentence: 1)

- "لم يتحرك ايونا وفرسه من مكانهما منذ وقت طويل." (فقرة: ٢ ، جملة: ١)

In the above example, the English sentence is translated as exactly as the source sentence in relation to punctuation marks and the syntactic structure of the sentence. Both sentences ended with a full stop indicating the end of the current description. The translator transfers the source text sentence boundary at the exact place in Arabic where the sentence ends to convey the same effect of the source text on the target reader. Full-stops in English and Arabic are usually placed at the end of a complete meaning, or a paragraph. Therefore, the current English example expresses a complete meaning and a simple sentence structure and describes an image that is exactly transferred and completed the meaning in the Arabic version.

# 5.1.2. Sentence preservation for stylistic reasons:

1- "Iona Potapov, the sledge-driver, is all white like a ghost."

(Paragraph: 1, Sentence: 2)

- "والحوذى (أيونا بوتابوف) أبيض تماما كالشبح."

(فقرة: ١ ، جملة: ٢)

The translator, in the Arabic text, maintains the simple type of sentences in the English text as well as the same punctuation marks. For stylistic reasons, the translator transfers the image in English "white like a ghost" the same in Arabic as English "white like a ghost" the same in Arabic as . The image tells how the people in this city are cruel and ruthless, with no hearts like ghosts.

# 2- "<u>She is probably lost in thought. Anyone</u> who has been torn away from the plough, from ......"

(Paragraph: 1, Sentence: 6)

- "وهي على الأرجح مستغرقة في التفكير؛ فمن انتزع من المحراث

من المشاهد الريفية المألوفة..."

(فقرة: ١ ، جملة: ٦)

The translator maintains the simple structure of the English sentence in Arabic and joins it to the following sentence, with a semicolon, as an explanation for the deep thought. For stylistic purposes, the translator chooses to translate "lost in thought" as "مستغرقة في التفكير" to reflect that there is a serious matter that makes Iona, the hero, and his horse think deeply.

# 5.1.3. Sentence preservation for pragmatic reasons:

"He sits on the box without stirring, bent as double as the living body can be bent." (Paragraph: 1, Sentence: 3)

# - "انحنى متقوسا، بقدر ما يستطيع الجسد الحي أن يتقوس وهو جالس على المقعد بلا حراك." (فقرة: ١ ، جملة: ٣)

The translator maintains the simple type of sentences while starting the Arabic sentence with a verb phrase in addition to using the same punctuation marks in English. For pragmatic reasons, the translator starts the sentence in Arabic with the verb phrase "انحنى متقوسا", then he goes on explaining how Iona is bent. The translator probably prefers to start with the description first, then, he explains the description in detail to make the idea clear to the reader and the concept of "bent" clear.

# 5.2. Sentence splitting and joining

# 5.2.1. Sentence splitting

Frankenberg-Garcia (2019) highlights that there are six categories that are developed to account for different types of sentence splitting. These are described below and most of them apply to the Arabic translated sentences.

### A- *Hard Punctuation Inserted* (For stylistic and syntactic reasons)

This category accounts for sentence splitting by inserting a full-stop, question mark, exclamation mark, or ellipses where there was no previous punctuation mark. Then, the next word is capitalized (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle: "You don't know how to drive! <u>Keep to the</u> <u>right,"</u> says the officer angrily." (Paragraph: 4, Sentence: 1)

– "ويقول العسكرى بانزعاج: أنت لا تجيد القيادة! الزم يمينك!"

(فقرة: ٣، الجملة الأخيرة)

In the current example, the translator changes the arrangement of the actual words of the officer. In English, the writer starts with the actual words then mentions who said them. In Arabic, the translator starts with the officer then mentions his actual words. For a stylistic and syntactic reason, the translator does this. As for the type of sentences in the translation, the translator uses successive simple sentences, like the English text. The translator also inserts a hard punctuation mark (exclamation mark!) in Arabic after the phrase

"الزم يمينك", though its English counterpart has a comma. This difference is due to the syntactic order of actual words in the text in the English and Arabic systems.

**B.** Soft to Hard Punctuation

# **B.1.** Soft to Hard Punctuation (for syntactic reasons)

It is a process of sentence splitting by changing commas, colons, semi-colons, or dashes into full-stops, question marks, exclamation marks or ellipses, followed by a capitalized word (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"It has found a hiding-place in such <u>an</u> <u>insignificant shell that</u> one would not have found it with a candle by daylight".

(Paragraph: 11, Last sentence).

The current example reflects that the translator inserts a semi-colon after 'صدفة ضئيلة' because the meaning is complete at this stage. The translator adds extra description after inserting the semi-colon. The complex sentence in English is transferred into one compound Arabic sentence. Therefore, the long English sentence is split into two related Arabic sentences separated with a semi-colon and ended with a full-stop to give a full image like the English one. It is also clear that there is no capitalization in Arabic that distinguishes the beginning of new sentences. Hence, the full stop, at the end of the sentence, is enough for setting sentence boundaries (Woods, 2006).

# **B.2.** Soft to Hard Punctuation (for stylistic reasons)

"<u>A coachman driving a carriage swears at him;</u> <u>a pedestrian crossing the</u> road and brushing the horse's nose with his shoulder looks at him angrily and shakes the snow off his sleeve." (Paragraph: 4, Sentence: 1).

- "ويسبَّه حوذى عربة الحنطور، ويحدق أحد المارة بغضب وكان يعبر الطريق فاصطدمت كتفه بعنق الفرس وينفض الثلج عن كمه..."

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(فقرة: ٣ ، جملة: ١)
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The simple and compound English sentences are translated as two independent sentences in Arabic (a simple sentence followed by a compound sentence). The two sentences in English are separated with a semi-colon as a continuation to the description, while in Arabic the comma is used for that purpose. For a stylistic reason, the translator splits the simple and compound sentences in English into two sentences separated with a comma and coordinated with

(الواو) because the subject of the verb (الواو) referring to 'Iona' and the description continues for the same person 'Iona', the hero.

# C. Capitalization

This category of sentence splitting is characterized by changing the beginning of words with lower-case letters after exclamation marks, question marks, full-stops or ellipses into words beginning with capital letters (Garcia, 2019).

This norm does not apply to Arabic because there is no capitalization in Arabic that distinguishes the beginning of new sentences. Hence, a full stop is enough for setting sentence boundaries.

# **D.** Minus Coordination

In this category of sentence splitting, the coordinate conjunction is removed leading to the

existence of an independent sentence instead of a coordinated clause (Garcia, 2019).

This norm does not apply to the current Arabic translation because sentences that are already coordinated in the English text are also coordinated in the Arabic translation since the Arabic rules accept coordinated sentences with any type of complexity.

### E. Minus Subordination

Sentence splitting in this category is performed by changing a subordinate clause into an independent sentence. This is performed through the deletion of a subordinate conjunction. The process can be also done using subject–verb construction instead of a gerund (Garcia, 2019).

This norm does not apply to the current Arabic translation because sentences that are already subordinate in Arabic, in general, are few and in the current translation are rare.

### F. Major Reformulation

### F.1. Major Reformulation (For syntactic reasons)

This category accounts for sentence splitting by reformulating the source-text sentence completely. The translator translates one English sentence into two separate sentences (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"Where are you shoving, you devil?' Iona immediately hears shouts from the dark mass shifting to and fro before him. "Where the devil are you going? Keep to the r-right!" (Paragraph:4, Last sentence)

– " ما إن يمضي ايونا بالزحافة حتى يسمع صيحات من الحشد المظلم المتحرك جيئة وذهاباً: إلى أين تندفع أيها الأحمق! أي شيطان ألقى بك؟ الزم يمينك!"

(فقرة: ٣، جملة قبل الأخيرة)

Major reformulation occurs when the translator reformulates the reported speech starting with the sentence:

وما إن يمضي ايونا بالزحافة حتى يسمع صيحات من " followed by the "الحشد المظلم المتحرك جيئة وذهابا إلى أين تندفع أيها !" actual words of the people "الأحمق ! أي شيطان ألقى بك؟ الزم يمينك natural order of reported speech in Arabic; the descriptive sentence is followed by the actual words of the speaker. Therefore, such syntactic changes are natural for having a genuine Arabic style.

F.2. Major Reformulation (For stylistic reasons)

"<u>In token of assent</u> Iona gives a tug at the reins which sends cakes of snow flying from the horse's back and shoulders."

(Paragraph: 3, Sentence: 1)

- "ويشد أيونا اللجام؛ علامة الموافقة؛ فتتساقط إثر ذلك طبقات الثلج من على ظهر الفرس ومن على كتفيه..."

(فقرة: ٣، جملة: ٢)

The translator translates the long descriptive complex English sentence "In token of assent Iona gives a tug at the reins which sends cakes of snow flying from the horse's back and shoulders" into one long compound-complex sentence with a parenthetical phrase preceded and followed by a semi-colon for explaining the meaning of Iona's behavior. The semi-colon is not used in English, but it is used in the Arabic sentence to make it well-organized and to reflect the meaning of Iona's behavior in words.

For a stylistic reason, the translator splits the long sentence in English using the main simple sentence "ويشد ايونا اللجام" followed by the parenthetical phrase "علامة الموافقة" to explain why the sledge behaves like this. The translator does that to attract the attention of the reader to the new action Iona takes, then, the translator explains what is meant by this action. The description of snow and its layers reflects the cold weather around Iona and his mare which is like the cold feelings Iona encounters from the people around him who are coming back and forth in the street.

# **F.3.** *Major Reformulation (For pragmatic reasons)*

"The sledge-driver cranes his neck <u>again, rises</u> <u>in his seat, and</u> with heavy grace swings his whip."

(Paragraph: 6, Sentence: 1)

- "ويمد الحوذي عنقه من جديد، وينهض قليلا ويلّوح بالسوط بحركة رشيقة متثاقلة ....

(فقرة: ٥، جملة: ١)

In the current example, the compound sentence in English is translated as simple and coordinated sentences, separated with a comma, as two different pieces of information while in English the comma is used for a coordination purpose. For a pragmatic reason, the translator translates the coordinated phrase in English into the same coordinated phrase in Arabic. The translator chooses "ينهض قليلا" as a translation for "rises in his seat" to show how Iona reacts to others slowly. Iona, the sledge, did not 'stand up' but 'rises' which equals in meaning "ينهض قليلا". The choice of words with impressive denotation in Arabic is made on purpose to let the reader sympathize with the hero and his horse.

The results of sentence splitting processes indicate that there is a similarity, to a great extent, to the criteria mentioned by Garcia concerning the performance of the English and Portuguese translators to the Arab ones. Most of Frankenberg-Garcia's translation criteria about the rules for sentence splitting while translating English to Portuguese apply to the translation from English to Arabic.

# 5.2.2. Sentence joining

# A. Hard Punctuation Deleted

In this category, the translator deletes an exclamation mark, full-stop, question mark or uses ellipses between two sentences and starts the first word in the second sentence with a lower-case letter (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"But now the shades of evening are falling on the town. The pale light of the street lamps changes to a vivid color, and the bustle of the street grows noisier."

(Paragraph: 2, Sentence: 2+3)

- "وها هو ظلام المساء يهبط على المدينة، ويتراجع شحوب أضواء المصابيح مفسحاً مكانه للألوان الحية، وتعلو ضوضاء الشارع.)"

(فقرة: ٢، الجملة قبل الأخيرة والأخيرة)

The translator merges the two independent English sentences (simple and compound sentences) into a long compoundcomplex sentence separated with a comma. He deletes the hard punctuation mark and uses instead a comma plus a coordinate conjunction which is

(الواو). The current principle is used frequently during the translation process from English to Arabic. This technique resembles Frankenberg-Garcia's above-mentioned criteria.

# **B.** Hard to Soft Punctuation

This category describes sentence joining by changing exclamation marks, full-stops, question marks or ellipses into colons, commas, semicolons, or dashes. The new sentence is rewritten with the first word in it has a lower-case letter (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"<u>They came out of the yard before dinnertime</u> and not a single fare yet. But now the shades of evening are falling on the town."

(Paragraph:2, Sentence:2)

- "كانا قد خرجا من الدار قبل الغداء ولكنهما لم يستفتحا حتى

# الآن، وها هو ظلام المساء يهبط على المدينة...."

(فقرة: ٢، جملة: ٢)

The translator in translating the second sentence, which is an independent sentence, joins it to the first one using a comma in Arabic and the

conjunction (الواو) and the demonstrative (ها) in

addition to the pronoun (هو) to form a compound-simple sentence. He makes them one long coordinated sentence. The function of the comma as a punctuation mark is being an interrupter which, when being deleted, does not affect the transfer of the main idea Interrupters are usually used to introduce extra information. They may indicate an example, an extra comment or a contrast (Woods, 2006).

In the current example, the comma, as an interrupter, adds additional description and meaning to the portrayed image. It makes the reader sympathize with Iona and his horse, and the bad weather they work at which is like Iona's grief that is great and deep.

# C. Minus Capitalisation

In this category, the translator changes capital letters at the beginning of sentences after full-stops, question marks, exclamation marks, or ellipses into words with lower-case letters (Garcia, 2019). In Arabic, new sentences are usually distinguished by being preceded by a full stop. In many cases in Arabic, new sentences are distinguished by a preceded semi-colon and probably a conjunction such as (الواو) أو (الفاء), (Ibrahim, 2013). The following example reflects that principle: "She is probably lost in thought. Anyone who

<u>She is probably lost in thought. Anyone who</u> <u>has been torn away from the plough,</u> from the familiar gray landscapes, and cast into this slough, full of monstrous lights, of unceasing uproar and hurrying people, is bound to think."

(Paragrapg:1, Sentence: 6)

- "وهى على الأرجح مستغرقة في التفكير ؛ فمن أنتزع من المحراث من المشاهد الريفية المألوفة وألقي به هذا في هذه الدوامة المليئة بالأضواء الخرافية والصخب المتواصل والناس الراكضين لا يمكن إلا أن يفكر ."

(فقرة: ١، جملة: ٥)

In the translated text, the translator joins the simple English sentences together with the following compound sentence to make them one long compound-complex sentence. The full stop, at the end of the first sentence in English is substituted by a semi-colon in Arabic to indicate that there are other things to be added related to this first sentence. Therefore, the translator uses 'فمن' in 'الفاء' to indicate that what is following is an explanation and continuation for previous description. Hence, the minus capitalization phenomenon applies to the current example.

# **D.** Plus Coordination

### **D.1.** *Plus Coordination (For syntactic reasons)*

In this category, the translator inserts a coordinate conjunction to link three independent sentences together and make them one coordinated sentence (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"If a regular snowdrift fell on him it seems as though even then he would not think it necessary to shake it off. . . <u>His little mare is</u> <u>white and motionless too</u>. Her stillness, the angularity of her lines, and the stick-like straightness of her legs make her look like a halfpenny gingerbread horse.'' (Paragraph:1, Sentence: 5+6)
- " ويبدو أنه لو سقط عليه كوم كامل من الثلج فربما ما وجد ضرورة لنفضه وفرسه أيضاً بيضاء تقف بلا حراك وتبدو بوقفتها الجامدة وعدم تناسق بدنها وقوائمها المستقيمة كالعصي حتى عن قرب أشبه بحصان الحلوى الرخيص..."

(فقرة: ١، جملة: ٥)

The use of coordinated sentences in translation from a foreign language, especially English, into Arabic is a known technique for translators. In the current example, the three independent sentences in the English example "If a regular snowdrift fell on him it seems as though even then he would not think it necessary to shake it off.... His little mare is white and motionless too" are joined together with the coordinate conjunction (الواو) in the Arabic translated sentence Coordination is . "وفرسه أيضا بيضاء نقف بلا حراك" applied to make the two entities (the sledge 'Iona' and his mare) suffer from the same feelings and this reflects the strong bond between them. This is a foreshadowing for future actions where Iona, at the end, will tell his mare about his grief and the death of his son. Therefore, the chosen coordinate conjunction reflects the similarity between the sledge and his mare (equal status in behaviors) which is the main function of coordination. The translator joins complex and simple sentences in English as one compound-complex sentence in Arabic which leads to the disappearance of fullstops of the two separate sentences in English when translated into Arabic.

For a syntactic reason, the translator joins the phrase "his little mare" to the previous sentence using the coordinate conjunction (الواو) and the attached personal pronoun (الهاء) in (فرسه) to continue description and reflects the full image clearly to the reader.

**D.2.** Plus Coordination (For stylistic reasons)

"The sledge-driver clicks to the horse, cranes his neck like a swan, rises in his seat, and more from habit <u>than necessity brandishes his whip.</u> <u>The mare cranes her</u> neck, too, crooks her stick-like legs, and hesitatingly sets off..." (Paragraph: 3, Sentence: 2+3)

 - "...ويطقطق الحوذى بشفتيه ويمد عنقه كالبجعة وينهض قليلا ويلوح بالسوط بحكم العادة أكثر مما هو بدافع الحاجة وتمد الفرس أيضا عنقها، وتعوج سيقانها وتتحرك من مكانها بتردد..."
(فقرة: ٣٠ جملة: ٢+ ٣)

In comparing the Arabic translation to the English text, the translator translates and joins two separate compound sentences in English into one long compound sentence including the description of the sledge and his horse. For a stylistic reason, the translator probably joins the two sentences together to reflect how Iona, the hero, is close to his horse, and they both behave in the same way.

D.3. *Plus Coordination (For pragmatic reasons)* "Anyone who has been <u>torn away from the</u> <u>plough, from the familiar gray landscapes, and</u> <u>cast into this slough, full of monstrous lights, of</u> <u>unceasing uproar and hurrying people, is</u> <u>bound to think."</u>

(Paragraph: 1, Sentence: 5)

- "فمن انتزع من المحراث من المشاهد الريفية المألوفة وألقى به هنا في هذه الدوامة المليئة بالأضواء الخرافية والصخب المتواصل والناس الراكضين لا يمكن إلا أن يفكر ." (فقرة: 1، جملة: ٥)

In comparing the structure of the current example in English and Arabic, it is found that the compound-complex sentence in English is translated as successive coordinated sentences in Arabic, and the parenthetical phrase in English disappeared in Arabic while the translator maintains the final full-stop in Arabic. For a pragmatic reason, the translator translates "familiar gray landscapes" into "الأضواء الخرافية" to reflect

how Iona and his horse used to live and how cold and dry is the life they live now.

### E. Plus Subordination

This category describes joining sentences by subordination. It is performed by adding a subordinate conjunction, or using gerunds instead of subject-verb constructions, for making the sentence that was previously an independent sentence a part of another sentence (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"If a regular snowdrift fell on him it seems as though even then he would not think it necessary to shake it off . . . His little mare is white and motionless too. <u>Her stillness</u>, the angularity of her lines, and the stick-like straightness of her legs make her look like a halfpenny gingerbread horse."

(Paragraph: 1, Sentence: 4+5)

- "ويبدو أنه لو سقط عليه كوم كامل من الثلج فربما ما وجد ضرورة لنفضه وفرسه أيضا بيضاء تقف بلا حراك وتبدو بوقفتها الجامدة وعدم تناسق بدنها وقوائمها المستقيمة كالعصي حتى عن قرب أشبه بحصان الحلوى الرخيص..." (فقرة: ١، جملة: ٥)

Subordination is an applied procedure in the Arabic translation of the English text. The Arabic translation "و تبدو بوقفتها الجامدة" is a subordination to the preceding compound sentence

بوقفتها" in 'الواو' ."وفرسه أيضا بيضاء تقف بلا حراك"

resumes description of the shape of Iona's mare by having this phrase and the whole sentence as a subordinate to the preceding sentence to form a compound complex sentence. Subordination is used in this sentence to continue the description of Iona and his horse and to make the picture vivid and clear to the reader.

### F. Major Reformulation

It is a category where two source-text sentences are reformulated completely by making the translation rendered as a single sentence (Garcia, 2019). The following example reflects that principle:

"<u>He sits on the box without stirring, bent as</u> <u>double as the living body can be bent</u>."

(Paragraph: 1, Sentence:3)

 – " انحنى متقوسا، بقدر ما يستطيع الجسد الحى أن يتقوس وهو جالس على المقعد بلا حراك". (فقرة: ١، جملة: ٣)

Major Reformulation is a characteristic of translated Arabic texts where the translator reformulates the structure of successive sentences, merging them together to get a new compound sentence that carries the same message of the original English sentences. In the current example, the internal parts of the English sentences (subordinate and major sentences) are reordered in the Arabic version and became one long compound sentence.

## 6. Discussion

According to the performed analysis, the researcher emphasizes that the chosen text and its translation reflect both sentence splitting and sentence joining, as well as the phenomenon of maintaining sentence structure of the source text throughout the translation. Sentence preservation is mainly observed in the data investigated above. It is repeated frequently in the text, even though literary writings can be flexible when it comes to sentence structures during the translation process from one language to another, as stated by Malmkjaer (2010) and others. Sentence preservation undoubtedly reflects the translator's cleverness in expressing the same idea and highlights the presence of common syntactic elements, shared by most languages, that are reflected in the translation process. These common features (universals) help translators to maintain sentence boundaries to the greatest possible extent. This information answers the first question of the study, which is: "Do Garcia's criteria for sentence boundaries shift during the translation process apply to the Arabic translated texts (are they universal criteria)?"

Sentence splitting and joining are evident translation phenomena according to the data that is currently available. These processes have to do with a few syntactic characteristics of the language, a few semantic elements, and the discourse flow through sentences. Sometimes, splitting or joining sentences is used to make words clearer, to continue describing something, or to logically join one sentence to the next in a sequential manner. Sometimes these adjustments and changes necessitate changing the structure of sentences. To make the language flow naturally, there is a probability to link or split sentences. This result answers the second question of the study: "Does sentence splitting or sentence joining enhance explicitation of messages in translated texts and require syntactic and sentence type changes?"

The findings of the current study are in line previous literature regarding sentence with boundaries (sentence splitting and sentence joining), where there are some stylistic and pragmatic factors as well as syntactic rules that lead to changes translators do while translation from the source text to the target text (Borodinas & Barwikiené, 2021; Frankenberg-Garcia, 2019). The study also highlights the important role of punctuation marks as is the case with Al-Huraithi (2021) and the changes of sentence types while translation (Al-Momani & Fareh, 2022). It differs from AlQinai (2015) in that the use of punctuation marks in Arabic is similar, to some extent, to that of English. Although there are some differences regarding punctuation, but there are universal criteria that both English and Arabic share in relation to the use of punctuation marks. The research also differs in the reached findings from Malmkjaer (2010) and Haegeman (2013) in that literature is like any genre accepts direct transfer of the source message which is opposite to their point of view about literature. They say that literature has flexibility in syntactic structures more than other genres.

The researcher notices during performing the analysis that the translator ignores inserting some punctuation marks and the splitting of compound-complex sentences, which will not lead to prejudice to the content and meaning of sentences. For example, in sentence splitting (soft to hard punctuation –for stylistic reasons) the translator could have used a full-stop instead of using a comma after the sentence " حوذي عربة الحنطور "

ويسبه He probably does that because he wants to have the description going on without interruption. There are other examples that support such a point of view. Another example is found in the major reformulation part in splitting sentences where the translator should have used a full-stop after "جديد" since it is a full image, then starts the following description as a separate image. The translator probably did that to attract

the attention of the reader to what he (the translator) is saying and to let the reader enjoy reading and following the successive images and description.

### 7. Conclusion

The current study deals with sentence boundaries during the translation process from English to Arabic; a topic that is dealt with from various aspects. The chosen data for analysis reflects the application of some of Garcia's setting principles in sentence boundaries exemplified in sentence joining and sentence splitting. It also reflects that although punctuation marks are borrowed from European countries last century, they are used, sometimes, differently according to the syntactic rules of the formation of Arabic sentences.

Sentence preservation is a characteristic of translation, particularly when translating from English to Arabic. Translators typically maintain the same lexical item order and structure in source text sentences and their target ones. One notable aspect of the translated text under analysis is coordination in translation.

The results of sentence splitting processes indicate that there is a similarity to a great extend to the criteria mentioned by Garcia concerning the performance of the English and Portuguese translators to the Arab ones. Most of Frankenberg-Garcia's translation criteria about the rules for sentence splitting while translating English to Portuguese apply to the translation from English to Arabic.

The performed analysis indicates that using subordination in English in place of coordination can greatly improve the maturity, sophistication, interest, and effectiveness of one's writing. It also helps with the flow of the sentences. English Literary writings make this point of view quite evident.

The analyzed data clearly shows that Arabic, as previously stated and often asserted by scholars, Arab and non-Arab, is a language that prefers coordination at the expense of subordination. As a result, there are certain distinctions between Arabic and English in terms of sentence structure, cohesive devices, and punctuation rules.

To determine whether Garcia's features regarding sentence boundaries are applicable and

universal, future study can concentrate on comparing source and target texts in different languages and various genres. Garcia's features can be applied to numerous genres, such as news articles and international agreements.

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