

## *Contrastive Study of English with Arabic in Imperative Sentence*

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### Abstract

The objectives of the research are to identify the differences and the similarities which can be found between imperative sentence in English and Arabic. The variable of this research is imperative sentence which is compared and contrasted to the English and Arabic language. In addition, in collecting the data, the writer uses library study and documentation technique. It is because the research was held in the library to find out the data from books, journals, and the other documents which are related to the research. Moreover, the writer also uses nothing technique and separating technique as the technique of analysis data. In describing the data, the writer also uses qualitative approach and descriptive analysis to interpret the data systematically and to find out the characteristic of imperative sentence in English and Arabic. Afterwards, to analyze the data the writer uses content analysis to analyze how far the data can describe and interpret the complete informations about the variable of the research in order to find out the similarities and the differences of imperative sentence in English and Arabic completely through contrastive analysis. Based on the result, imperative sentence in English and Arabic have the differences in several points such as the difference of the subject, the forms of the verb, the pattern, etc. However, there are also the similarities of imperative sentence in English and Arabic in general such as the similarity of the use 'you' as the subject, positive and negative imperative sentence as the form, etc.

**Keywords:** *Contrastive Analysis, Imperative Sentence, in English and Arabic*

### 1. Introduction

Grammar is the most basic element which learned by people to be master of any language. Without grammar, language does not exist. As Bastone states in Fengjuang, without grammar language would not be systematic. Therefore, the important guidelines are needed to how the words can be ordered and modified correctly.<sup>1</sup> In addition, grammar can also be called as the structure or the rule of a language which can describe what people do when they speak their language and it is not something that has to be found in books, written down or learnt by heart.<sup>2</sup> In other word, grammar does not only exist in written language but it can also be found in spoken language such as speaking and listening. Indeed, grammar is really important to be taught as the good way in teaching or learning a language because language always deals with grammatical structure.

Because of grammar as the important element of a language, it can be seen that both grammar and language have a good relationship. When we discuss about a language we will also discuss about grammar. Moreover, grammar is influenced by the language. Typically, the languages in the world have difference in their pattern. The differences can be influenced by ethnics, customs and also the regional of speech community in a country. Furthermore, the differences can also make a language has the uniqueness which distinguishes its language with another languages.

For instance, there are the similarities and the differences between imperative sentence in English and Arabic. In English, imperative sentence can be defined as a sentence which the function is to command or to order. As Murcia and Freeman state that imperatives are commands, also known as directives, which the function is to get someone to do something.<sup>3</sup> In other word, Imperative sentence does not always deal with a command or an order. In different functions, imperative sentence can deal with a suggestion, an advice, a prohibition, a direction and the others. Systematically, Imperative sentence is usually written without a subject as the statement "Open the door, Please!". It is because imperative sentence is commonly written without the subject but there is always hidden subject. However, the subject sometimes can be written in different function and it always refers to 'you' as the subject.

In Arabic, imperative sentence is usually called as *Fi'il Amr* (رَمَالَا عَف). *Fi'il Amr* is a kind of verbal sentence in Arabic because it uses a verb in forming a sentence. *Fi'il Amr* can also be defined as a kind of sentence which the function is to command or to order. In another function, it also has a function as a prohibition. In addition, imperative sentence in Arabic has one subject although there are fourteen subjects in Arabic. Moreover, the subject in Arabic imperative sentence also refers to 'you'. Then, the subject of you in Arabic can be classified into

two parts. The first is *anta* (انتنا) and the second is *anti* (انتنا). *Anta* is used to *mudzakkar* (the subject of you as male) and *Anti* is used to *muannats* (the subject of you as female). These are the following examples of imperative sentence in English and Arabic: Sit down, please!

Don't come here!

) اذهب! *Idzhab!* which means Go!

) لا تجلس هنا! *Laa tajlis hunaa!* which means Do not sit here!

The scope of the study is limited in verb, subject, the use of imperative sentence and the form of imperative sentence and deal with contrastive analysis of imperative sentence in English and Arabic language.

Related to the problem above, the objectives of this study is to describe the similarities and the differences between imperative sentence in English and Arabic based on the contrastive analysis study through analyzing and comparing the patterns of imperative sentences in both the languages.

The research finding would be helpful for the readers especially for the teachers and the students in grammar through knowing the similarities and the differences between imperative sentence in English and Arabic.

### Contrastive Analysis

Contrastive Analysis is one of analysis which can be used to find out the similarities and differences between two languages or more languages. Etymologically, the word contrastive analysis is formed from the word '*contrast*' that means comparing two things to show differences clearly and '*analysis*' that means as a detailed examination of something in order to understand more about it.<sup>1</sup> In other word, terminologically, contrastive analysis can be called as a research which focuses on the differences of something and explains it completely.

However, there are also some definitions about contrastive analysis. The first definition, contrastive analysis is an activity to compare the structure of two languages in order to get their differences.<sup>5</sup> The second definition, contrastive analysis is as a sub discipline of linguistics which deals with the comparison of two or more languages in order to get the differences and similarities that hold between them.<sup>2</sup> The last definition, contrastive analysis is also defined as systematic comparison of two or more languages which the function is to describe the similarities and the differences of the languages.<sup>3</sup>

As the definition mentioned above, it can be concluded that contrastive analysis is an analysis used to contrast between two languages or more languages which concerns to their differences and similarities.

### Imperative Sentence in English

Imperative sentence is a kind of sentence typically used to give a command or an order. In English, imperative sentence is usually written without the subject although all the sentences are normally written by present form. In other word, the verb in an English imperative uses the based form of the verb without ending or adding by *-e* or *-es* as identical to a second person of present tense form.<sup>4</sup>

Imperative sentence is also defined as the sentence which normally shows commands and orders but sometimes it can be used in several utterances such as request, advice, suggestion, etc. In addition, imperative sentence always uses the present form and it is usually written without any subject although the subject sometimes can be applied where in the subject always refers to you. In addition, imperative sentence in English uses the subject 'you' as the second person that can refer to male or female and singular or plural. Hence, the pattern or the form of imperative sentence in English can be described as follows:

#### V1 (Present Form) + Object/Complement

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<sup>1</sup> A S Hornby, *Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary of Current English: Eleventh Edition*, ..., p. 49.

*Pengajaran Analisis Kontrasif Bahasa*, (Bandung: Angkasa, 2009), p. 5.

<sup>2</sup> Jacek Fisiak (ed.), *Contrastive Linguistics and the Language Teacher*, ..., p. 1.

<sup>3</sup> Stigg Johansson, *Contrastive Linguistics and Corpora*. Retrieved January 3, 2016, from <http://www.hf.uio.no/forskning/prosjekter/sprik/docs/pdf/sj/johansson2.pdf>, p. 1.

<sup>4</sup> James R. Hurdford, *Grammar as Student's Guide*, (Cambridge: Cambridge University, 1994), p. 95.

The form of imperative sentence can be divided into two forms in general. The first is positive or affirmative imperative sentence which is used to show action which has to be done by someone as “Open the door!”. The second is **negative imperative sentence** negative imperative sentence asks someone to not to do something. In another function, it can also show about prohibition or warning and it often uses negative words such as *don't*, *don't be*, *must not*, *let's not*, and *no*.

There are also some another forms of imperative sentence in English , they are imperative sentence with a subject, imperative sentence with *do*, passive imperative with *get*, imperative sentence with the words *always* and *never*, imperative sentence with the word *let*, imperative sentence with the words *and* and *or* as an if-clause, and imperative sentence as question tag.

The use of imperative sentence in English is usually used to make commands or orders to someone to do something or not. In other functions, it has the function as request, invitation, etc. In addition, imperative sentence can be written by using declarative sentence form or interrogative sentence form which still has the function as an imperative sentence. For examples:

- Imperative : Help me, please!
- Declarative : I need some help.
- Interrogative : Can you give me a hand?

Therefore, imperative sentence can be conveyed in some various ways. It is not always conveyed by using imperative forms such as imperative sentence as a command, imperative sentence as a request, imperative sentence as an invitation, Imperative sentence as a suggestion, imperative sentence as advice and warning, imperative sentence as a prohibition, imperative sentence as a compulsion and imperative sentence as a direction and an instruction.

### Imperative Sentence in Arabic

*Fi'il amr* or imperative sentence in Arabic is a kind of verbal sentence which typically shows about commands or orders. Moreover, imperative sentence in Arabic has one subject which uses *you* as the subject. In English, the subject of *you* can refer to both male and female. Otherwise, the subject of *you* in Arabic is categorized into two parts. They are *anta* (تنتا) as the subject of *you* as male (*mudzakkar*) and *anti* (تنتا) as the subject of *you* as female (*muannats*).<sup>9</sup> Then, *anta* and *anti* will be divided as follows:

#### The subject you as male (*mudzakkar*)

One of you (male)	تنتا ( <i>anta</i> )
Two of you (male)	انتنتا ( <i>antumaa</i> )
All of you (male)	متنتا ( <i>antum</i> )

#### The subject you as female (*muannats*)

One of you (female)	تنتا ( <i>anti</i> )
Two of you (female)	انتنتا ( <i>antumaa</i> )
All of you (female)	انتنتن ( <i>antunna</i> )

In addition, in imperative sentence in Arabic or *fi'il amr*, both the subject of you as male (*mudzakkar*) and the subject of you as female (*muannats*) have different forms of the verb in imperative sentence. For examples:<sup>5</sup>

### The verb forms of imperative sentence in Arabic

Meaning	Verb	The subject of you
Sit down!	اجلس! ( <i>Ijlis!</i> )	تنتا ( <i>anta</i> ) You (m, 1p)
Sit down!	اجلسا! ( <i>Ijlisaa!</i> )	انتانتا ( <i>antumaa</i> ) You (m, 2p)
Sit down!	اجلسوا! ( <i>Ijlisuu!</i> )	مبنتتا ( <i>antum</i> ) You (m, > 2p)
Sit down!	اجلسي! ( <i>Ijlisii!</i> )	تنتا ( <i>anti</i> ) You (f, 1p)
Sit down!	اجلسا! ( <i>Ijlisaa!</i> )	انتانتا ( <i>antumaa</i> ) You (f, 2p)
Sit down!	اجلسن! ( <i>Ijlisna!</i> )	انتنتا ( <i>antunna</i> ) You (f, > 2p)

Considering the explanation above, it can be stated that *fi'il amr* or imperative sentence in Arabic has the pattern which can be drawn as follows:

#### V3 + Object/Complement

( ( الامر فاعل + به مفعول ) )

(*Fi'il amr + Maf'ulumbih*)

For examples:

1. ) اقرأ القرآن! (*Iqra' Al-Qur'an!* which means Read the Qur'an!).
2. ) انظر إلى الباب! (*Undzur ilal baabu!* which means Look at the door!).

In Arabic, there are also two types of imperative sentence in general. It is classified by determining its function. It can be used to give a command to someone to do something or used to ask someone to not to do something. Therefore, the form of imperative sentence can be differentiated as follows:

**Positive imperative sentence** is used to give a command or an order to the listener or someone to do something. It is also called as a simple imperative sentence in Arabic. Positive imperative means that it always shows the action which has to be done by the listener or someone as in *اسمع!* (*Isma'* which means Listen!)

**Negative sentence as a command** in Arabic is called as *fi'il nahi* (يمنل لعف). It is used to ask the listener or someone to not to do something. Therefore, negative imperative is often called as a sentence which shows about prohibition in Arabic and it is usually signaled by *لا* (*Laa*) as in *لا حزن!* (*Laa tahzan!* which means Do not be sad).

The last is **Imperative sentence with a subject** which means that imperative sentence or *fi'il amr* can also be written by using a subject. In addition, the subject is used to make it clear who is the subject spoken to as in *يا ايساه، انصري!* (*Yaa Aisyah, unsuriina!* which means

<sup>5</sup> Agus Purwanto, *Pintar Membaca Arab Gundul Dengan Metode Hikari*, (Bandung : PT Mizan Pustaka, 2010), p. 97.

Aisyah, help!).

In Arabic, there are also some the uses of imperative sentence. These are the uses of imperative sentence in Arabic. In Arabic, imperative sentence can show command which used by the speaker (*mutakallim*) to give a command to the listener (*mukhatab*) to do something. It is usually conveyed by using positive form of imperative sentence in Arabic as in *افتح! ال باب* (*iftah albaabu!* which means Open the door!). The use of imperative sentence in Arabic also can be used to give command as a prohibition. In addition, it is used by the speaker (*mutakallim*) to ask the listener (*mukhatab*) to not to do something. It is often called as *fi'il nahi* which shows about a prohibition in Arabic. It is usually preceded by the word *ال* (*laa*) which has the meaning as *don't*. Furthermore, imperative sentence as prohibition in Arabic always uses the prefixes of the verb form in *fi'il mudharik* as in *ال بعتت ال* (*Laa tazhab!* Do not go!)

## 2. Methodology

The type of the research is a content analysis. A content analysis is a kind of research which focuses on a content of written or printed information in the mass media. In addition, content analysis can also be called as an analysis systematically indicated to the message or the data which can be documented or not where in the data can be collected from books, newspaper, film, etc. <sup>6</sup>In similar definition, content analysis can be defined as a technique of coding symbol, emblem or message that is recorded systematically and then given interpretation. <sup>7</sup> In the conclusion, content analysis can be defined as an analysis which discusses the content of all documented or non documented materials such as newspapers, news radio and television commercials in order to get the detail information about the data or the message. Therefore, this research uses content analysis to find out the complete information about the contents of the data which are collected and interpreted.

This research is categorized as a qualitative research. The qualitative research can be defined as the research which used to find out the theory through collecting and describing the data or the concept in detail. <sup>8</sup> It is similar to David Williams in the book Moleong said that qualitative research is the collection of data at a scientific background, using the scientific method and carried out by people or researchers who interested. <sup>9</sup> Therefore, it can be mentioned that qualitative research is a research which makes a description related the content of the data both written and non-written materials to be more complete and more systematic without using numeral. In addition, this research is also called as a descriptive research or a descriptive analysis. It is because the research describes the characteristic of imperative sentence in English and Arabic language in order to find out the similarities and the differences between them. Moreover, in analyzing the similarities and the differences of imperative sentence in both the languages, this research uses a contrastive analysis or it is usually called as contrastive analysis study. That is why the writer uses the contrastive analysis study to contrast between English and Arabic imperative sentence. Based on the explanation above, there are some procedures which are done by the writer in doing this research which can be seen as follows:

1. Collecting data and detail information.
2. Identify problems.
3. Make comparison and contrastive between English and Arabic imperative sentence.
4. Analyzing contrastive between English and Arabic imperative sentence.

In collecting data, the writer uses library study. It means that the data will be collected from the library. Library study can be mentioned as a kind of research which is done or held in the library room which the aim is to find out the data and to analyze the data from books, journals, newspapers and another documents in the library. <sup>15</sup> Therefore, library study can be called as a research which takes the library as the place to find out and to collect the data which is related to the topic of the research.

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<sup>6</sup> Drs. H. Amiruddin Hadi and Drs. H. Haryono, *Metodologi Penelitian Pendidikan II*, (Bandung: CV Pustaka Setia,1998),p. 175.

<sup>7</sup> Abdurrahmat Fathori, *Metodologi Penelitian & Teknik Penyusunan Skripsi*, (Jakarta: Pt.Rineka Cipta,2006),p. 168.

<sup>8</sup> Dra. Nurul Zuriyah, M.Si, *metodologi penelitian sosial dan pendidikan: Teori dan Aplikasi*, (Jakarta: PT Bumi Aksara, 2007), p. 92.

<sup>9</sup> Nyoman Kutha Ratna, *Penelitian Sastra*, (Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar,2009), p. 160.

Furthermore, in this research, the writer also uses documentation technique. Documentation is written material such as books, essay, journal, google and the others. Therefore, documentation is used in this research to help the writer to examine the important records which are related to the object of the research. In addition, the writer also uses all of English and Arabic books to get authentic information in doing documentation about the research.

Related to the title of the research “Contrastive Analysis of Conditional Sentence in English and Arabic”, it can be defined that the research has one variable. The variable of this research is Imperative Sentence which is compared and contrasted to the English language and Arabic language. There are many techniques to collect and to analyze the data mentioned by Sudaryanto, they are: Recording technique, noting technique, separating technique, and transferring technique.<sup>16</sup> According to some kinds of the techniques, the writer would like to use noting technique and separating technique as the techniques of this research. The noting technique is a strategy which uses written documents such as books, notes, journals, etc. And the separating technique is a strategy used to separate the similarities and differences between English and Arabic imperative sentence. Furthermore, analysis is used as a technique which aims to describe and to interpret the meanings of data that have been collected. The writer will collect the data from many books on English grammar and Arabic grammar where in the available data mostly consists of documented materials such as books, journals, google, and the other source. Then, the writer identifies the data in order to find out the similarities and differences between English and Arabic imperative sentence.

### 3. Research Finding

#### The Dissimilarities of Imperative Sentence in English and Arabic

Imperative sentence in English and Arabic have the dissimilarities in several points. The dissimilarities can be seen as follows:

##### The dissimilarity of the imperative sentence pattern

##### The pattern of imperative sentence in English and Arabic

The Pattern of English Imperative Sentence	The Pattern of Arabic Imperative Sentence
V1 + Object/Complement	V3 + Object/Complement م ف عمل به + فعل الامر ( ) (Fi'il amr + Mafulumbih)

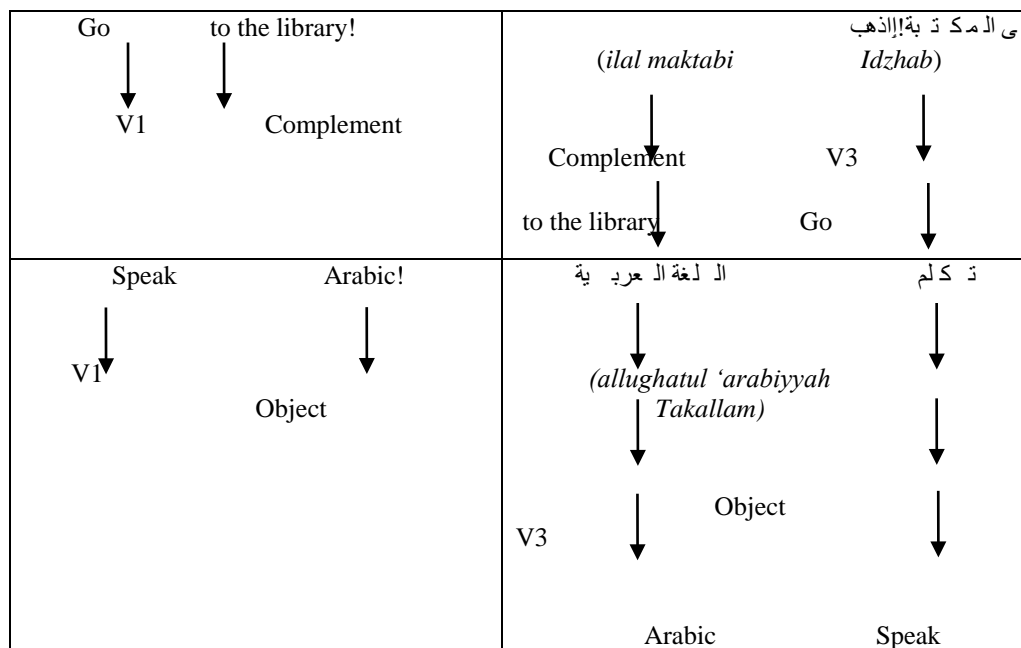
From the table above, it can be found that both imperative sentence in English and Arabic have dissimilarity in their pattern in forming the imperative sentence. Imperative sentence in English typically uses the form of the verb or usually called as Verb 1 (V1) as sit, write and drink which has the past form as sat, wrote and drank. It is significantly different in Arabic, Imperative sentence or *Fi'il Amr* typically uses the third form of the verb or usually called as Verb 3 (V3) as !س ل ج (Ijlis!), !ح ت ف ا (Iftah!) and !ب ت ك ا (Uktub!) which have the forms of the verb as س ل ج (Jalasa), ح ت ف (Fataha) and ب ت ك (Kataba). In addition, the use of pattern

<sup>15</sup> Prof. Sukardi, Ph.D, *Metodologi Penelitian Pendidikan: Kompetensi Dasar dan Praktiknya*, (Jakarta: Pt Bumi Aksara, 2008),p. 33.

*Contrastive Analysis of Adverb Between English and Indonesia* (Langsa: skripsi,2014), p. 45. between imperative sentence in English and Arabic can be drawn clearly as the sentences follows:

#### The use of English and Arabic imperative sentence pattern

In English	In Arabic



**The dissimilarity of the subject**

From the explanation above, it can be concluded that there is one form of the subject you in English because it can be used to both male and female while there are six forms of the subject you in Arabic because there are the classification of the subject based on gender and the number of the subject.

**The subject 'you' in English imperative sentence**

The use of the subject	The subject
You (male, 1 person)	You
You (male, 2 person)	
You (male, > 2 person)	
You (female, 1 person)	
You (female, 2 person)	
You (female, > 2 person)	

**The subject 'you' in Arabic imperative sentence**

The use of the subject	The subject
You (male, 1 person)	انت (Anta)
You (male, 2 person)	انتما (Antumaa)
You (male, > 2 person)	انتم (Antum)
You (female, 1 person)	انت (Anti)
You (female, 2 person)	انتما (Antumaa)
You (female, > 2 person)	انتن (Antunna)

**a. The dissimilarity of the verb form**

According to the explanation above, In English, there is only a form of the verb in imperative sentence because the subject of you can refer to both male and female. It is different in Arabic, there are six forms of the verb because there are six forms of the subject you which is classified based on gender and the number of the subject you. In addition, the dissimilarity of the verb between imperative sentence in English and Arabic can be seen as follows:

**The verb form of imperative sentence in English**

The form of the verb	The use of the subject	The subject
Study! Study! Study!	Male, 1 person Male, 2 person Male, > 2 person	You
Study! Study! Study!	Female, 1 person Female, 2 person Female, > 2 person	

### The verb form of imperative sentence in Arabic

The form of the verb	The use of the subject	The subject
(Udrus!) ادر Study!	Male, 1 person	(anta) انتنا
(Udrusaa!) ادر سا Study!	Male, 2 person	(antumaa) انتنا
(Udrusuu) ادر سو Study!	Male, > 2 person	(antum) انتنا
(Udrusii!) ادر سي Study!	Female, 1 person	(Anti) اذت
(Udrusaa!) ادر سا Study!	Female, 2 person	(Antumaa) اذتما
(Udrusna!) ادر سن Study!	Female, > 2 person	(Antunna) اذتن

In the conclusion, it can be stated that imperative sentence in English has a form of the verb because the subject of you in English can be used to both male and female. Meanwhile, imperative sentence in Arabic has six forms of the verb where in the six forms of the subject have different forms of the verb.

#### b. Dissimilarity of imperative sentence form

Imperative sentence in English and Arabic have the different form of imperative sentence because imperative sentence in English has more forms than Arabic. In addition, there are nine forms of English imperative sentence such as positive and negative imperative sentence, imperative sentence with a subject, imperative sentence with 'do', imperative with 'get' and the others. However, there are only three forms of imperative sentence in Arabic such as positive and negative sentence as a command and imperative sentence with a subject.

#### c. Dissimilarity of imperative sentence form

Imperative sentence in English and Arabic have the different use of imperative sentence because imperative sentence in English has more functions than Arabic. In other word, they are eight the uses of imperative sentence in English such as Imperative sentence as a command or an order, imperative sentence as a request, imperative sentence as an invitation, and the others. However, they are only two the uses of imperative sentence in Arabic such as imperative as a command or an order and a sentence of command as a prohibition.

### The Similarities of Imperative Sentence in English and Arabic

#### a. The similarity of the subject

Imperative sentence in English and Arabic have similar subject because English and Arabic imperative sentence generally always refer to the subject 'you'.

#### b. The similarity of the form

Imperative sentence in English and Arabic have similar form of imperative sentence because there are positive imperative, negative sentence as a command and imperative sentence with a subject in English and Arabic imperative sentence.

#### c. The similarity of the use of imperative sentence



Imperative sentence in English and Arabic have similar the use of imperative sentence because there are imperative sentence as commands and a sentence of command as a prohibition in English and Arabic imperative sentence.

#### 4. Conclusion

Based on the research questions of the research, it can be concluded that:

1. There are the dissimilarities between imperative sentence in English and Arabic. In addition, both imperative sentence in English and Arabic have the significant dissimilarities which can be found in several points. They are:
  - a. The Pattern of imperative sentence in English uses the first form of the verb (V1) and Arabic uses the third form of the verb (V3).
  - b. There is only one form of the subject 'you' in English imperative sentence and there are six form of the subject 'you' in Arabic imperative sentence.
  - c. There is only one form of the verb in English imperative sentence and there are six forms of the verb in Arabic imperative sentence.
  - d. English has more the form of imperative sentence than Arabic.
  - e. English has more the use of imperative sentence than Arabic.
2. There are the similarities between imperative sentence in English and Arabic. In other word, imperative sentence in English and Arabic do not only have the differences but they have also the similarities which can be found in several points. They are:
  - a. Both imperative sentence in English and Arabic commonly use or always refer to the subject 'you'.
  - b. There are positive imperative, negative sentence as a command and imperative sentence with a subject in English and Arabic imperative sentence form.
  - c. Both imperative sentence in English and Arabic commonly have the functions as a command and a prohibition.

#### Suggestion

In this opportunity, the writer would like to suggest the readers to have the capability of the languages. The capability of the languages is very important to have because it can be helpful in making a communication and a relationship in the social life. Moreover, there are many different languages which can be found in social environment. In other word, it would be better if we have the capability in many languages in order to we can communicate and interact with many peoples in different places who have different languages. For instance, there are many advantages in knowing the differences and the similarities of imperative sentence in English and Arabic. In addition, it can give us the important information and knowledge about grammar in English and Arabic. Indeed, it can also help us to be more knowledgeable in the languages. Therefore, the writer really would like to suggest the readers to be always interested in learning the languages and also to have the capability in many languages.

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