



**A Syntactic Study of Negation in Selected  
English and Arabic Short Stories**

**Derived Research**

**Faten Waleed Jawad**

**Asst .Prof. Nadya Khairy Muhamed Said**

**[faten.waleed1207b@ircoedu.uobaghdad.ed](mailto:faten.waleed1207b@ircoedu.uobaghdad.ed)**

**[nadya\\_khiere@yahoo.com](mailto:nadya_khiere@yahoo.com)**

**University of Baghdad / College of Education /  
Ibn – Rush / for Human Sciences  
Department of English**

Negation is a linguistic concept which is found in every language in the world. It differs from one language to another particularly in the syntactic means that express it. However, this difference is the main concern in this research which investigates the concept of negation syntactically in selected English and Arabic short stories by determining the occurrences of negators depending on their types in these short stories.

To gain the aims of the present research, two short stories are selected. English short story has been analyzed syntactically based on Quirk et al. (1992) and Downing (2015) classifications. The Arabic one has been analyzed syntactically depending on Al Samaraie (2017) and Mamun (2020) classifications.

Results of analysis have shown the occurrences of negators in these short stories concerning their syntactic perspective by numbers and rates. The main conclusions have revealed that: frequencies of particles of negation are lower in English short story than in the Arabic one; words / nouns of negation are more frequently repeated in English short story under analysis compared to the Arabic one; adverbs of negation are more used in English short story than in the Arabic one under analysis. Finally, the occurrence of verbs of negation in English short story under analysis is low comparing them into the Arabic one.

**Key Words:** *Negators, Particles, Short Story, Verbs, Adverbs.*

## المستخلص

النفي هو مفهوم لغوي موجود في كل لغة في العالم. وهو يختلف من لغة إلى أخرى خاصة في الوسائل النحوية التي تعبر عنه. ومع ذلك ، فإن هذا الاختلاف هو الشاغل الرئيسي في هذا البحث الذي يتناول مفهوم النفي نحويًا في قصص قصيرة إنجليزية وعربية مختارة من خلال تحديد تكرارات النفي اعتمادًا على أنواعها في هذه القصص القصيرة. لتحقيق أهداف البحث الحالي ، تم اختيار قصتين قصيرتين. تم تحليل القصة القصيرة الإنجليزية بناءً على تصنيف كويرك وآخرون (1992) وتصنيف داوونينج (2015). تم تحليل القصة العربية نحويًا اعتمادًا على تصنيفي السامرائي (2017) ومأمون (2020). أظهرت نتائج التحليل تكرارات ادوات النفي في هذه القصص القصيرة نسبةً إلى منظورها النحوي بالأرقام والمعدلات. وقد كشفت الاستنتاجات الرئيسية أن: تكرارات ادوات النفي أقل في القصة القصيرة الإنجليزية منها في العربية. تتكرر كلمات / أسماء النفي بشكل أكبر في القصة القصيرة الإنجليزية مقارنةً بالقصة القصيرة العربية ؛ تستخدم ظروف النفي في القصة القصيرة الإنجليزية أكثر من القصة القصيرة العربية. أخيرًا ، فإن تكرارات أفعال النفي في القصة القصيرة الإنجليزية منخفضة مقارنةً بالقصة القصيرة العربية. الكلمات المفتاحية: النفي ، ادوات النفي ، القصة القصيرة ، الأفعال ، الظروف.

## Introduction

Negation is a complex operation which exists in every language. Each language has affirmative and their opposite negative expressions. That is, negation is the reverse of affirmation. Each language can express negation depending on many ways. Generally, an affirmative expression can be negated by using the particles of negation. This enables humans to communicate about things that are not happening as well as things that they do not need to be happened (Gleason, 2001).

Negation is expressed in languages all over the world. According to the variety of the syntactic negators in which it is conveyed, it provides many differences as well as similarities across languages. Negation is a process which needs a syntactic analysis to reflect the contradiction of some or all the sentences' constituents (Crystal, 2008).

This research investigates negation under the umbrella of syntax in selected English and Arabic short stories. The researchers choose an English short story and an Arabic one to fulfill this study. The English short story "The Swimmer (1964)" is written by the American writer (John Cheever) and the Arabic short story "Suwar Qadeima" (1962) is written by the Arabic writer (Najeib Mahfoudh). These short stories are literary fiction.

## Literature Review

### The Term 'Negation' in English

Leech (2006, p66) illustrates that the standard way of expressing negation in English is the inserting of *not* or *-n't* (the contracted form of 'not') next to the operator. For instance:

1. I am feeling tired. (Positive)
2. I am not feeling tired. (Negative)

Greenbaum & Nelson (2002, p17) explain that if the sentence contains an auxiliary verb, it can be negated by adding *not* or *n't* after the auxiliary verb:

3. Nancy has been working here for over a year. (Positive)

4. Nancy has not been working here for over a year. (Negative)

5. Dan is paying for the meal. (Positive)

6. Dan isn't paying for the meal. (Negative)

According to Quirk et al.(1973, p183) and van der Wouden (2002, p179) negation is a grammatical term that has many ways to express it. That is, verbs can form negation as in: avoid smoking, adverbs as in: I never went to London before, prepositions as in: we can manage it without her help, determiners as in: neither of us went to the concert, words as in: nobody can go across that road, etc.

### A Syntactic Perspective of Negation in English

There are several syntactic tools 'negators' of expressing negation. Crystal (1994,p205) states that not is a particle of negation, he illustrates that n't represents only a portion of an auxiliary verb or a modal verb and cannot be a portion of a lexical verb. N't represents a portion of the initial modal or the initial auxiliary verb. So, it cannot be removed from the initial auxiliary as in:

7. \*Do they n't sleeps?

8. \*Bill must have n't been at college.

9. Bill mustn't have been at college.

The first two examples above include some mistakes which are: n't cannot be removed from the verb and it should be a portion of the initial modal or the initial auxiliary (Veselovská, 2009,p58).

According to Downing (2015, p23) there are words which convey negation like nobody, no one, none and nothing:

10. He has nothing to say.

Such words are treated by Quirk et al. (1992, p332) as nouns, particularly as pronouns, that carry a negative meaning.

Quirk et al. (1985) explain that never is one of the common negative words which appears widely in standard English, never is a time adverb which occurs as an answer to a question by 'when'.

11. I have never seen him.

Downing (2015, p213) and Quirk et al. (1992, p438) point out that no can occur as an adverb of negation particularly when it is used as a negative answer of a previous question: is she leaving? No. It is treated as a negative adverb too when it precedes a comparative adjective: she is no better than him. There are other negative adverbs with certain negative meanings: rarely and seldom (mean not often); hardly and scarcely (mean almost ...not / no); little and few (mean not much or not many); only (means no more / other than) barely (means only just). They indicate that these adverbs are considered as words of negation because: they precede non assertive forms; their tag questions are positive; they result in subject operator inversion when occurring before a subject:

12. I seldom get any sleep. (precede a non assertive form)

13. I can hardly speak, can you? (a positive tag question)

14. Only two of us had any experience of sailing. (precede a non assertive form)

15. Few changes in government have ever taken so many people by surprise. (precede a non assertive form)

16. Rarely does crime pay so well as Mr. Benn seems to think. (subject operator inversion)

17. Little need I dwell upon the joy of that reunion. (subject operator inversion)

Quirk et al. (1985,p271) mention that there are negative prepositions like off, away from and out of. Their alternative forms can be formed by adding not to the positive form of the preposition:

18. Jonny is away from London (Jonny is not at London)

19. The librarians were off the library (The librarians were not in the library)

20. She is out of the college (she is not in the college)

Quirk et al. (1992,p332) also point out that a negative meaning can be also carried by verbs like: deny, forget:

21. He denies I ever told him.

22. I forgot to ask for any change.

Negation can also be carried by determiners like neither as in: neither man seemed satisfy of what to say. It is worth mentioning that neither can be a pronoun of negation as in:

23. There were two members, but neither would attend the meeting.

No can be a determiner of negation too when it precedes a noun as in: she has no idea about it ( ibid., p132). Conjunctions like (neither... nor) can be also employed to convey a negative meaning, they typically carry a reference of duality:

24. Hilary was neither shocked nor surprised by the news.

(ibid.,1973,p111).

## The Term Negation in Arabic

The linguistic meaning of the word “نفي” “negate” in Arabic dictionaries covers the meanings of deportation, disqualification, dismissal. For instance, it is mentioned in the dictionary of “language dimensions” that “negate” implies the disqualification and dismissal of something out of another thing (Al Razzei, 1999,p456).

Aljawharie (1990,p251) points out that “negate” means “dismiss” as in the poet’s saying:

25. فَأَصْبَحَ جَارُكُمْ قَتِيلًا وَنَافِيًا

So your neighbor became dead and dismissed.

Here, “نافية” means “dismissed”.

He adds that when one says “هذا ينافي ذلك” “this is negating with that”, the speaker implies that “this is contrasted with that”:

26. نُفِيَ الرَّجُلُ عَنْ مَوْطِنِهِ

The man was dismissed from his homeland.

27. تَنَافَتْ الْأِرَاءُ

The opinions have been contrasted.

Al Bayatei (2003,p237) describes “negation” as one of the syntactic concepts in Arabic that can be expressed by many particles. Negative particle controls the entire syntactic construction of the negated sentence. However, the speaker uses “negation” when he/she want to convey a contrastive idea of what is wheeling in the listener’s mind.

## A Syntactic Perspective of Negation in Arabic

Linguists have studied negation syntactically depending on particular classifications of the ways in which negation is achieved. Certain syntactic particles are used to convey negative meanings. Linguists like (Mamun, 2020; Al Samaraie, 2017 and Nahass et al, 1994) have investigated negation based on the type of the negators that convey it.

To begin with, Al Samaraie (2017,p240); Yaqut (1984,p236); Al malqie (1980,p380) and Al Ansarrie (2007,p٢٥٥) indicate that there are certain negative particles of negation including: the negative La “لا” of gender; the negative la “لا”; lata “لات”; lam “لم”; Lama “لما”; Lan “لأن”; ma “ما” and “أن” as in the following examples respectively:

28. لَا رَجُلٌ فِي الْقَاعَةِ

No man in the hall.

29. { أَوَالَيْكَ لَا خَلْقَ لَهُمْ فِي الْآخِرَةِ وَلَا يُكَلِّمُهُمُ اللَّهُ يَوْمَ الْقِيَامَةِ } (Al -i- Imran or The family of Imran:77)

{they shall have no portion in the Hereafter: Nor will Allah [Deign to] speak to them or look at them on the Day of Judgment}

30. { وَلَا تَحِينَ مَنَاصِدَ } (Sad:3)

{when there was no longer time for being saved}

31. لَمْ يَحْضُرْ مُحَمَّدٌ

Mohammed did not attend.

32. لَمَّا يَحْضُرُ أَحْمَدُ

Ahmed did not come yet.

33. { يَا مُوسَى لَنْ نُؤْمِنَ لَكَ حَتَّى نَرَى اللَّهَ جَهْرَةً } (Al Baqara: 55):

{O Moses! We shall never believe in thee until we see Allah manifestly} (ibid.,p224).

34. مَا نَدِمَ مَنْ أَسْتَشَارَ

Who consulted, did not regret.

35. { وَلِيَحْلِفْنَ أَنْ أَرَدْنَا إِلَّا الْحُسْنَى } (Al Tauba or The Repentance:107)

{They will indeed swear that their intention is nothing but good}

Al Samaraie (2017,p268) clarifies that some adverbs occur with negation such as “qatt” “قط” and “awadh” “عوض” and “أبد” “Abad”:

36. مَا رَأَيْتُهُ قَطُّ

I have never seen him.

37. لَا أَفْعَلُهُ عَوْضًا

I never do it.

38. { وَلَا يَتَمَنَّوْنَهُ أَبَدًا بِمَا قَدَّمْت أَيْدِيهِمْ } (Al Jumua:7)

{But never will they express their desire [for Death], because of the deeds} their hands have sent on before them }

Mamun (2020,p62) indicates that nouns of negation include: “haram” “حرام”, “baraa” “براء”, “adam” “عدم”, “muafa” “معافى” in addition to “ghair” “غير”:

39. { وَحَرَامٌ عَلَى قَرْيَةٍ أَهْلَكْنَاهَا أَنَّهُمْ لَا يَرْجِعُونَ } (Al anbiyaa :95)

{But there is a ban on any population which We have destroyed: that they shall not return }

40. { وَأَذَّ قَالَ أَبُو آدِيمٍ لِأَبِيهِ وَقَوْمِهِ أَنِّي بَرَاءٌ مِمَّا تَعْبُدُونَ } (Al Zukhruf:26)

{Behold! Abraham said to his father and his people: "I do indeed clear myself of what ye worship }

41. أُحْزِنْتَنِي عَدَمَ حَضُورِكَ

It saddened me not to attend.

42. {كُلُّ أُمَّتِي مُعَافَى إِلَّا الْمُجَاهِرِينَ } (A prophet's saying)

{All my people have no sin but the candid ones }

Nahla (1999,p24) and Alsamaraie (2013, p268) point out that the meaning of negation is carried out intuitively by the noun “ghair” “غير” as in (Al -i- Imran or The Family of Imran:21):

43. { وَيَقْتُلُونَ النَّبِيِّينَ بِغَيْرِ حَقِّ }

{and in defiance of right, slay the prophets }

There are several verbs that are used only to express negation or their common use is to convey negation. Laysa “لَيْسَ” as Mamun (2020,p63) indicates is one of the widely used negative verbs of nominal sentences, it occurs initially with the subject and predicate, it takes a nominative subject and an accusative predicate:

44. لَيْسَ زَيْدٌ وَاقِعًا

Zaid is not standing.

Mamun (2020,p64) mentions some other verbs of negation including: “zala” “زال”, “manaa” “منع”, “khafa” “خاف”, “aba” “أبى”, “tawala” “تولى” and “tabadal” “تبدل”:

45. زَالَ زَيْدٌ حَاضِرًا

Zaid is no longer attending.

46. { وَمَنْ أَظْلَمُ مِمَّنْ مَنَعَ مَسَاجِدَ اللَّهِ أَنْ يُذَكَّرَ فِيهَا اسْمُهُ } (Al Baqara:114)

{And who is more unjust than he who forbids that in places for the worship of Allah }

47. { قَالَا رَبَّنَا إِنَّا نَخَافُ أَنْ يُفْرِطَ عَلَيْنَا أَوْ أَنْ يَطْغَى } (TaHa:45)

{They [Moses and Aaron] said: "Our Lord! We fear lest he hasten with insolence against us, or lest he transgress all bounds }

48. أَبَى زَيْدٌ أَنْ يَأْتِي

Zaid refused to come.

49. { ثُمَّ تَوَلَّيْتُمْ إِلَّا قَلِيلًا مِّنْكُمْ وَأَنْتُمْ مُّعْرِضُونَ } (AlBaqara:83)

{Then did ye turn back, except a few among you, and you backslide }.

50. تَبَدَّلَتْ أَخْلَاقُ الْقَوْمِ إِلَّا خَالِدًا

Peoples' morals have been changed except Khaled.

## Methodology

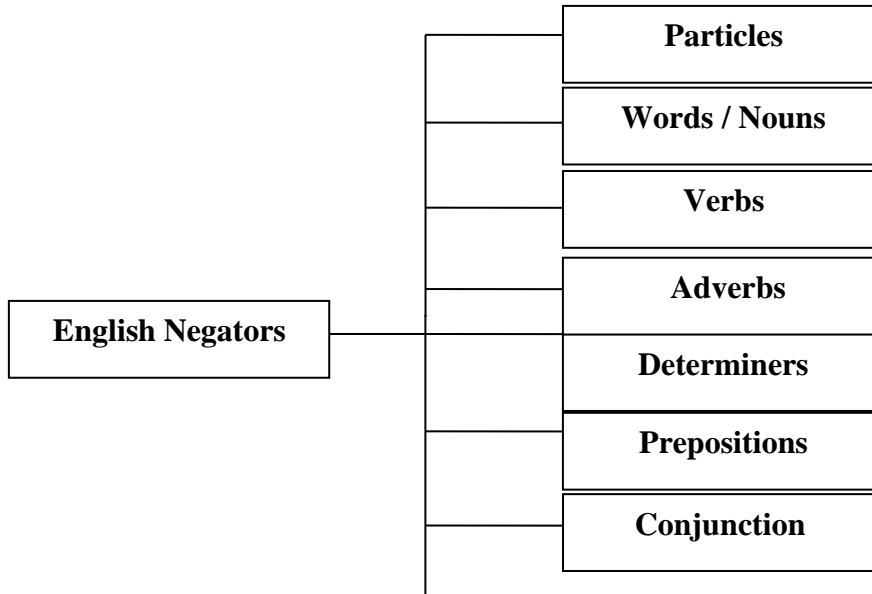
The present research is qualitative in nature. Frey et al.(1999,p3) clarifies that researchers typically use qualitative analysis when they manipulate their data by explanations and meanings rather than providing frequencies of the data variables.

Creswell (2009,p23); Quinn et al. (2002,p2) point out that qualitative research design provides detailed and rich results that arrive at a well understanding of the data; they are typically explained in a narrative way that lead to deeply observations of a particular concept.

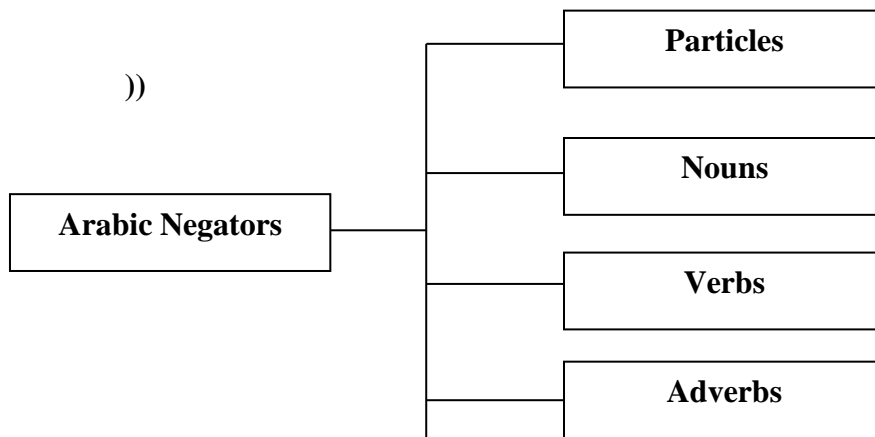
## The Eclectic Model of Analysis

The data in the present study are analyzed syntactically depending on an eclectic model. Several reasons have led to eclecticism of the model including: the branching of the notion of negation in both English and Arabic languages; no certain model can cover all the studied aspects and provide a complementary analysis. The eclectic syntactic model of negation in English depends on Quirk et al. (1992) and Downing (2015) classifications of negation tools (negators). The eclectic syntactic model of negation in Arabic is based upon the classifications of negation tools (negators) that are provided by both Al Samaraie (2017) and Mamun (2020). Generally, figure (1) shows the eclectic syntactic model of negation which represents English negators: particles of negation, words / nouns of negation, verbs of negation, adverbs of negation, determiners of negation, prepositions of negation and conjunctions of negation. Figure (2) reflects the

eclectic syntactic model of Arabic negation and shows the Arabic negators: particles of negation, nouns of negation, verbs of negation and adverbs of negation.



**Figure (1) The Eclectic Syntactic Model of Negation in English (Quirk et al. (1992); Downing (2015))**



**Figure (2) The Eclectic Syntactic Model of Negation in Arabic (Al Samaraie (2017) ; Mamun (2020))**

**Data Analysis**  
The analysis of the data is basically expressed by table (1). The table comprises the number of the pages in which the negators are included, the text, the negator and the type of negators. Page numbers are mentioned in the table for accuracy.

**Table (1) The Syntax of Negation in “The Swimmer”(1964)**

No.	Text	Negator	Type of Negator
1.	“His life was <u>not</u> confining”. (p.1)	Not	Particle
2.	“The delight he took in this observation could <u>not</u> be explained by its suggestion of escape”.(p.1)	Not	Particle
3.	“He was <u>not</u> a practical joker <u>nor</u> was he a fool”. (p.2)	Not , nor	Particle, conjunction
4.	“He had an inexplicable contempt for men who did <u>not</u> hurl themselves into pools”.(p.2)	Not	Particle

5.	"It was <u>not</u> a serviceable stroke for long distances". (p.2)	Not	Particle
6.	"He would have liked to swim <u>without</u> trunks, but this was <u>not</u> possible, considering his project". (p.2)	Without, not	Preposition, particle
7.	"He <u>never</u> used the ladder".(p.2)	Never	Adverb
8.	"He <u>did not</u> want to mystify or seem rude to the Grahams <u>nor</u> did he have the time to linger there".(p.3)	Not, nor	Particle, conjunction
9.	"she <u>wasn't</u> quite sure who it was".(p.3)	Not	Particle
10.	"When Lucinda said that you <u>couldn't</u> come I thought I'd die". (p.3)	Not	Particle
11.	"He stood by the bar for a moment, anxious <u>not</u> to get stuck in any conversation that would delay his voyage". (p.3)	Not	Particle
12.	"When he seemed about to be surrounded he dove in and swam close to the side to <u>avoid</u> colliding with Rusty's raft". (p.4)	Avoid	Verb
13.	"He <u>did not</u> want to be seen on the road in his bathing trunks but there was <u>no</u> traffic". (p.4)	Not, no	Particle, determiner
14.	"All the doors and windows of the big house were open but there were <u>no</u> signs of life; <u>not</u> even a dog barked".(p.4)	No, not	Determiner, particle
15.	"The Levys had <u>only</u> recently left". (p.4)	Only	Adverb
16.	" <u>No one</u> ever drained his pool". (p.5)	No one	Word / noun / pronoun
17.	"It seemed <u>only</u> a week or so ago".(p.5)	Only	Adverb
18.	"Was his memory <u>failing</u> or had he so disciplined it in the repression of unpleasant facts".(p.5)	Failing	Verb
19.	"He had <u>no</u> dignity or humor to bring to the situation". (p.6)	No	Determiner
20.	"He had signed <u>nothing</u> , vowed <u>nothing</u> , pledged <u>nothing</u> , <u>not</u> even to himself".(p.6)	Nothing, nothing, nothing, not	Word / noun / pronoun, particle
21.	"He could <u>not</u> go back, he could <u>not</u> even recall with any clearness the green water at the Westerhazys".(p.6)	Not, not	Particle, particle
22.	"From here he had <u>only</u> a short walk to the Recreation Center at the edge of the village of Lancaster".(p.6)	Only	Adverb
23.	"This was <u>merely</u> a stagnant bend in the Lucinda River".(p.7)	Merely	Adverb
24.	"He dove, scowling with distaste, into the chlorine and had to swim with his head above water to <u>avoid</u> collisions".(p.7)	Avoid	Verb
25.	"Hey, you, you <u>without</u> the identification disk, get outa the water".(p.7)	Without	Preposition
26.	"He did, but they had <u>no</u> way of pursuing him".(p.7)	No	Determiner
27.	"The woods were <u>not</u> cleared and the footing was treacherous and difficult".(p.7)	Not	Particle
28.	"They were zealous reformers but they were <u>not</u> Communists".(p.7)	Not	Particle

29.	<i>"Their nakedness was a detail in their uncompromising zeal for reform and he stepped politely <u>out of</u> his trunks before he went through the opening in the hedge". (p.7)</i>	Out of	Preposition
30.	<i>"The Hallorans, for reasons that had <u>never</u> been explained to him, did <u>not</u> wear bathing suits". (p.7)</i>	Never, not	Adverb, particle
31.	<i>"Mr. Halloran was taking beech leaves <u>out of</u> the water with a scoop". (p.7)</i>	Out of	Preposition
32.	<i>"<u>No</u> explanations were in order". (p.7)</i>	No	Determiner
33.	<i>"They seemed <u>not</u> surprised". (p.7)</i>	Not	Particle
34.	<i>"It had <u>no</u> filter or pump". (p.7)</i>	No	Determiner
35.	<i>"I <u>didn't</u> know one could" exclaimed Mrs. Halloran. (p.8)</i>	Not	Particle
36.	<i>"As he was pulling himself <u>out of</u> the water he heard Mrs. Halloran say, "We've been terribly sorry to hear about all your misfortunes, Neddy." (p.8)</i>	Out of	Preposition
37.	<i>"I <u>don't</u> know what you mean". (p.8)</i>	Not	Particle
38.	<i>"I <u>don't</u> recall having sold the house". (p.8)</i>	Not	Particle
39.	<i>"The worst of it was the cold in his bones and the feeling that he might <u>never</u> be warm again". (p.8)</i>	Never	Adverb
40.	<i>"They had built a house for their <u>only</u> daughter". (p.8)</i>	Only	Adverb
41.	<i>"<u>Not</u> really, I did stop to see your parents". (p.8)</i>	Not	Particle
42.	<i>"There <u>hasn't</u> been anything in this house to drink since Eric's operation". (p.9)</i>	Not	Particle
43.	<i>"Had his gift for concealing painful facts let him <u>forget</u> that he had sold his house?" (p.9)</i>	forget	Verb
44.	<i>"Neddy thought, would the roving hand, bed-checking one's gifts at 3 a.m., make of a belly with <u>no</u> navel, <u>no</u> link to birth, this breach in the succession?" (p.9)</i>	No, no	Determiner, determiner
45.	<i>"Well, I'll get wet," "he said, still feeling that he had <u>no</u> freedom of choice about his means of travel". (p.9)</i>	No	Determiner
46.	<i>"They did <u>not</u> belong to Neddy's set". (p.9)</i>	Not	Particle
47.	<i>"They were <u>not</u> even on Lucinda's Christmas-card list". (p.9)</i>	Not	Particle
48.	<i>"<u>No one</u> was swimming and the twilight, reflected on the water of the pool, had a wintry gleam". (p.9)</i>	No one	Word / noun / pronoun
49.	<i>"When Grace Biswanger saw him she came toward him, <u>not</u> affectionately as he had every right to expect, but bellicosely". (p.10)</i>	Not	Particle
50.	<i>"She could <u>not</u> deal him a social blow". (p.10)</i>	Not	Particle
51.	<i>"There was <u>no</u> question about this".</i>	No, not	Determiner
	<i>"He did <u>not</u> flinch". (p.10)</i>	Not	Particle
52.	<i>"You <u>don't</u> seem to pay much attention to invitations". (p.10)</i>	Not	Particle
53.	<i>"They went for broke overnight <u>nothing</u> but income". (p.10)</i>	Nothing	Word / noun / pronoun
54.	<i>"He <u>couldn't</u> remember". (p.10)</i>	Not	Particle



55.	"He stepped through the gate of the wall that surrounded her pool with <u>nothing</u> so considered as self-confidence". (p.10)	Nothing	Word / noun / pronoun
56.	"She was there, her hair the color of brass, but her figure, at the edge of the lighted, cerulean water, excited in him <u>no</u> profound memories". (p.10)	No	Determiner
57.	"I won't give you another cent". (p.11)	Not	Particle
58.	"I could but I won't". (p.11)	Not	Particle
59.	"I'm <u>not</u> alone". (p.11)	Not	Particle
60.	"He could <u>not</u> understand the rudeness of the caterer's barkeep or the rudeness of a mistress who had come to him on her knees". (p.11)	Not	Particle
61.	"He did <u>not</u> dive but went down the steps into the icy water". (p.11)	Not	Particle
62.	"As they usually did on Sunday, to <u>regret</u> all their invitations and stay at home". (p.12)	Regret	Verb

Table (2) The Syntax of Negation in "Suwar Qadeima" (1962) صور قديمة

No.	Text	Negator	Type of Negator
1.	"لا تنطق ولا توحى بشيء ولا تكاد تُرى" "It does not say anything, does not suggest anything, and is hardly seen". (p.191)	La لا, La لا, La لا	Particle, particle, particle
2.	"كَمْ من معالمٍ فيها أنطوت الى غير رجعة" "How many landmarks went forever". (p.191)	Ghair غير	Noun
3.	"لا أحد بينهم تربطه اليوم به علاقة" "None of them to whom he has a relationship today". (p.192)	La لا	Particle
4.	"ولا هذا الفتى المثير" "Nor is this amazing boy". (p.192)	La لا	Particle
5.	"مرّ بوجهين لا معنى لهما" "He passed by two meaningless faces". (p.192)	La لا	Particle
6.	"حادثٌ لا يُنسى وترائي ضحيته في الصورة براق العينين" "An unforgettable accident, in which the victim is seen brightly in the photo". (p.192)	La لا	Particle
7.	"جرت العينان على الوجوه واحداً بعد الآخر فلم ينطق وجه" "The eyes ran over the faces one after the other, but no face spoke". (p.192)	Lam لم	Particle
8.	"ليس من السهل نسيانه" "It is not easy to forget it". (p.192)	Laysa ليس	Verb
9.	"لم يذكر من أسبابها شيئاً على الاطلاق" "None of its causes was mentioned at all". (p.192)	Lam لم	Particle
10.	"لم تنقطع علاقته به الا منذ عشرة أعوام" "His relationship with him was not severed until ten years ago". (p.192)	Lam لم	Particle

11.	"يا له من معجزة سواء في طفرته الجنونية أو في تفاهته التي لا يشك هو فيها" "What a miracle he was, whether in his crazy change or in his banality that he had no doubts about". (p.193)	لا La	Particle
12.	"أنّ الطريف حقاً ليس أشخاصهم ولكن دلالتهم الاجتماعية" "That the funny thing really isn't their personality but their social significance". (p.193)	ليس Laysa	Verb
13.	"دوائر لا عد لها من الازهار والخضرة والجداول" "Countless circles of flowers and greenery and streams" (p.193)	لا La	Particle
14.	"لم تخل من دهشة حذرة واستطلاع" "It was not without wary amazement and exploration". (p.193)	لم Lam	Particle
15.	"وأن كنا لم نلتق منذ أفتراقنا" "And that we had not met since our separation ".(p.194)	لم Lam	Particle
16.	"لست من رأيك" "I am not of your opinion " (p.194)	ليس Laysa	Verb
17.	"لن أنشر كلمة عنك قبل الرجوع اليك" "I will not publish a word about you before returning to you".(p.194)	لن Lan	Particle
18.	"لم يعترض وأن لم يبدو متحمساً" "He did not object and did not seem enthusiastic ".(p.194)	لم Lam , Lam	Particle, Particle
19.	"لم يعلن وجهه عن شيء" "His face did not reveal anything".(p.194)	لم Lam	Particle
20.	"كان بالامس مليونيراً بلا جدال" "Yesterday he was an undisputed millionaire ". (p.194)	لا La	Particle
21.	"لا اكاد اغادر العزبة الا فيما ندر" "I can hardly leave the garden except when I rarely do ". (p.194)	لا La	Particle
22.	"يوذ لو يمضي عمره في حدودها لا يجاوزها" "He would like to spend his life within its limits not exceeding it". (p.195)	لا La	Particle
23.	"لا أجد صعوبة في التعامل معهم" "I don't find it difficult to deal with them". (p.195)	لا La	Particle
24.	"لا أدري عنهم شيئاً" "I do not know anything about them". (p.195)	لا La	Particle
25.	"لا ينقصني شيء" "لا ينقصني شيء"	لا La	Particle

	"I am missing nothing". (p.195)		
٢٦.	"تسائل بحاجبيه "حقاً" ولم ينبس" "Really" he questioned with his eyebrows and did not speak". (p.196)	Lam لم	Particle
27.	"اليوم لا يعلم بأسمه أحد خارج دائرة القضاء" "Today, no one knows his name outside the judicial department" (p.196)	La لا	Particle
28.	"لا شأن لعملي بالصحافة" "My work has nothing to do with journalism". (p.197)	La لا	Particle
29.	"الشهرة لا تعني شيئاً للقاضي" "Fame means nothing to the judge". (p.197)	La لا	Particle
30.	"مذنبون لا يجوز التشهير بهم" "Sinners may not be defamed". (p.197)	La لا	Particle
31.	"لا تخش النشر" "Don't be afraid to post". (p.197)	La لا	Particle
32.	"لم يبق من الاولاد الا طنين يفتح باب الحجرة" "Nothing was left of the children, except a tone opening the room door". (p.197)	Lam لم	Particle
33.	"لا أعرف للقلق معنى" "I do not know the meaning of anxiety". (p.198)	La لا	Particle
34.	"الحق أن صفاءك غير عادي" "The truth is that your serenity is extraordinary". (p.198)	Ghair غير	Noun
35.	"أبي أن يزيد كلمة واحدة" "He refuses to add one word". (p.198)	Aba أبي	Verb
36.	"ظننتُ الخير لا يهز الصوفي" "I thought the news did not shake the ascetic person". (p.199)	La لا	Particle
37.	"لا أدري الان عنه شيئاً" "I do not know anything about him now".(p.199)	La لا	Particle
38.	حتى "لم يتذكره الرجل ولم يقتنع بدعواه" أطلعه على الصورة القديمة" "The man did not remember him and was not convinced of his claim until he showed him the old photo".(p.199)	Lam لم , Lam لم	Particle, Particle
39.	"لا أعرف أحداً في هذه الصورة" "I don't know anyone in this photo".(p.199)	La لا	Particle
40.	"لكن الوزير لا يقبض نصف هذا القدر"	La لا	Particle

	"But the minister does not get half of that amount". (p.200)		
41.	"ابتسم حسين ولم يجب" "Hussein smiled and did not answer".(p.200)	Lam لم	Particle
42.	"لا يوجد عمل في بلادنا يستحق هذا القدر من المال" "There is no work in our country that is worth this much money".(p.200)	La لا	Particle
43.	"لم يجد صعوبة في الاتفاق على مقابلة مع جاره القديم" "He had no difficulty agreeing to a meeting with his old neighbor".(p.200)	Lam لم	Particle
44.	"الشركة ليست بالمكان المناسب للمقابلة" "The company is not the place to be for an interview".(p.200)	Laysa ليس	Verb
45.	"أنه لا يحتفظ منه الا بالعود النحيل والوجه الشاحب" "It does not preserve it except with a thin and pale face. "(p.200)	La لا	Particle
46.	"لا تتلائم بحال مع هذه الفيلا المثيرة" "in no way it is suitable with this exciting villa ".(p.200)	La لا	Particle
47.	"ايام الشلن تقترضه بشتى الحيل ولا ترده ولا بالطبل البلدي" "The Coins' days, you borrow it with various tricks and do not return it, nor with the municipal drum".(p.200)	La لا, La لا	Particle, particle
48.	"لم يفرق بيننا" "It did not separate us. (p.200)"	Lam لم	Particle
49.	"حتى التهنية الواجبة لم أتلقها منك في حينها" "Even the due congratulations I didn't receive from you at their time. "(p.201)	Lam لم	Particle
50.	"ارتبك حسين قليلا" "Hussein was a little confused". (p.201)	Qaleil قليل	Adverb
51.	"لن يشفع لي عذر" "There will be no excuse for me. "(p.201)	Lan لن	Particle
52.	"نسيا في حديث الذكريات الحاضر وقتاً غير قصير" "They forgot in the conversation of present memories for a not short time". (p.201)	Ghair غير	Noun
53.	"لم تكن الصورة لتتم حتى يتأكد من هذه النقطة"	Lam لم	Particle

	<i>"The image would not have been completed until this point was confirmed". (p.201)</i>		
54.	"هي جالسة وراء الطاولة لا يبدو منها سوى وجهها وعنقها" <i>"She is sitting behind the table, only her face and neck are visible". (p.202)</i>	لا La	Particle
55.	"وجهها أكبر من سنه بعشر سنوات على الأقل" <i>"Her face is at least ten years older than her age". (p.202)</i>	أقل Aqal	Noun

## Results of the Analysis

### The Syntax of Negation in English Short Story "The Swimmer" and Arabic Short Story "Suwar Qadeima" "صور قديمة"

Table (3) Types of Negators in English and Arabic Short Stories

TYPES OF NEGATORS	THE SWIMMER	%	SUWAR QADEIMA صور قديمة	%
Particle	37	51.389	50	83.334
Word/ noun	5	6.945	4	6.667
verb	5	6.945	5	8.333
Adverb	7	9.722	1	1.666
Determiner	11	15.277	Null	Null
Preposition	5	6.945	Null	Null
Conjunction	2	2.777	Null	Null
Total	72	100	60	100

The above statistical table shows that 'particles' are the most widely used negators in English short story "The Swimmer". Particles shape (37) occurrences from the whole number of negators which is (72); they constitute (51.389%). Determiners represent the second most used negators; they form (11) occurrences from the whole number of negators which is (72); and read (15.277%). Adverbs shape (7) occurrences from the whole number of negators and read (9.722%). Each of words / nouns, verbs and prepositions represent only (5) occurrences from the whole number of negators which is (72) : each one of them read (6.945%). Conjunctions constitute the lowest occurrence from the whole number of negators, they form (2) occurrences from the whole number of negators and read (2.777%). The table also shows that 'particles' occupy the outstanding place among negators in Arabic short story under analysis. Particles constitute (50) occurrences from the total number of negators which is (60). They read (83.334%). Nouns shape (4) occurrences from the whole number of negators which is (60) and read (6.667%). Verbs form (5) occurrences from the total number of negators with the rate of (8.333%). Adverbs form only (1) occurrence from the whole number of negator ; this represents the lowest occurrence of negators in Arabic short story under study with a rate of (1.666%). Finally, Determiners, prepositions and conjunction score null in Arabic short story under analysis.

## Conclusions

The following conclusions are drawn from this study:

1. Particles are the most common negators in both English and Arabic short stories under analysis. Frequencies of particles are lower in English short story than in the Arabic one since they are represented in English only by 'not and its contracted form 'n't' while many particles of negation are found in Arabic included 'the negative la of gender لا, the negative la لا, lam لَمْ, lata لَات, lan لَنْ, lama لَمَّا, ma ما, in اِنَّ'.

1.2. It is noticeable that Arabic particles of negation have varying frequencies in the short story under analysis. That is, 'the negative la لا and lam لَمْ' are the most repeated particles; 'lan لَنْ, lama لَمَّا, ma ما, in اِنَّ' are lower used while 'the negative la of gender لا, lata لَات' have no occurrences.

2. Adverbs of negation are extensively used in English short story than in the Arabic one under analysis since their number in English language is wider than their number in the Arabic language.
3. Words / nouns of negation provide appropriate alternatives for particles of negation in English. They are more frequently repeated in English short story under analysis compared to the Arabic one. This is due to their excessiveness in English comparing them to Arabic.
4. The occurrence of verbs of negation in English short story under analysis is low comparing them into the Arabic one. This is due to the fact that their number in English language is already very few.
5. As a matter of fact, Arabic language does not represent 'prepositions', 'determiners' and 'conjunctions' as tools of negation. These tools of negation are represented in English language i.e., they score 'null' in Arabic short story under study.

### References

- Al Samaraie, F. (2017). *Grammar Meanings*. Beirut: Ibn Katheer Press.
- Alanssarie, I. (2013). *Grammatical Purposes in Explaining Millennium Evidences*. Beirut: National Library Press.
- Albayatie, S. (2003). *Arabic Grammar Rules Based on Systems Theory*. Jordan: Wael Press.
- Aljarjanie, A. (1991). *Miraculous Signs*. Beirut: Muphem Press.
- Aljawharie, A. (1990). *Crown of Arabic language*. Amman: Millions Scientific Press.
- Almalqie, A. (1980). *Paving Buildings in Explaining The Letters of Meanings. The Publication of Science*. Damascus: Damascus Scientific Press.
- Alrazie, A. (1999). *A Dictionary of Language Standards*. Beirut: Aljeil Press.
- Cheever, J. (1964). *The swimmer*. New York: The New Yorker Press. Retrieved from <https://travellerlevin.pixnet.net/blog/post/201558278>.
- Creswell, J. W. (2009). *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Method Approaches*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- Crystal, D. (1994). *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of The English Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- ..... (2008). *A Dictionary of Linguistics and Phonetics*. (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Downing, A. (2015) *English Grammar: A University Course*. (3<sup>rd</sup> ed.). New York: American University Press.
- Frey, L., Botan C., & Kreps G. (1999). *Investigating Communication: An introduction to Research Methods*. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Gleason, J. B. (2001). *The Development of languages*. London: Longman Press.
- Greenbaum, S. & Nelson, G. (2002). *An Introduction to English Grammar*. London: Longman Press.
- Leech, G. (2006). *A Glossary of English Grammar*. Edinburgh :Edinburgh University Press.
- Mahfudh, N. (1962). *Suwar Qadeima*. Cairo: Al Sheruq Press. Retrieved from <https://www.noor-book.com-pdf>.
- Mamun, N. (2020). *The Place of Negation And Its Effect on The Difference of Jurists And Fundamentalists*. Cairo: National Library Press.
- Nahass, M., Mukhtar, A., & Hamassa, M. (1994). *The Basic Grammar*. Cairo: Arabic Science Press.
- Nahla, M. (1999). *Definition and Denial Between The Connotation and The Form*. Cairo: Zahraa Al Sharq Library Press.
- Quinn, M. & Cochran, M. (2002). *A Guide to Using Qualitative Research Methodology*. London: Longman Press.
- Quirk, R., Greenbaum, S., Leech, G. & Svartvik, J. (1973). *A University Grammar of English*. London: Longman Press.
- ..... (1985). *Comprehensive Grammar of The English Language*. London: Longman Press.
- ..... (1992). *A Grammar of Contemporary English*. Singapore: Longman Press.
- Van Der, W. (2002) *Negative Contexts: Collocation, Polarity and Multiple Negation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Veselovská, L. (2009). *A Course in English Syntax*. Olomouc: Palackého University Press.
- Yaqut, A. (1984). *Actual and Literal Transducers: A Comparative Analytical Study*. Beirut: Knowledge Press