

A Cognitive Approach to Interdiscursivity: A Case of a Literary Discourse

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Abstract

The research aims at investigating the mechanisms which lie behind interdiscursivity, the force that prompts language users to choose it in communication and the effects it can achieve on the basis of Sperber & Wilson's Relevance Theory.

This is an attempt to show the situational, social, and mental dimensions of the role of nterdiscursivity using a number of Relevance Theory concepts, including ostensive behaviour, cognitive environments and implicatures treating interdiscursivity as an ostensive or marked form of communication.

Keywords: Interdiscursivity, Relevance theory, Ostensive behavior, Implicature, Cognitive environments



1. Introduction

Interdiscursivity refers to the mixing of diverse genres, discourses, or styles associated with institutional and social meanings in a single text. The major concerns of this approach are how literary texts are formed through *interdiscursivity* and what aesthetic as well as social significance are achieved through this text-forming scheme. This is a very important notion in that it allows us to understand more specifically the textuality of hegemony, or in other words, the discursive processes by means of which subjects are produced and the common sense maintained.

2. Review of the Related Literature

The concept of interdiscursivity can be traced back to Bhakti's dialogized "heteroglossia" (Bakhtin, 1981, 1986). For Bakhtin, utterances in language are always dialogized and changing which results in what he calls "hybridization"—the mixture of different utterances within a single piece of language. Bakhtin describes this complex mixture of utterances as heteroglossia. What Bakhtin holds in terms of the concept of dialogized heteroglossia indicates the issue of interdiscursivity. He is more concerned with the language in specific social situations. Kristeva (1986) introduces Bakhtin's theory into France and coined the phrase "Constitutive intertextuality". For him (1986), 'Constitutive intertextuality' implies "the insertion of history (society) into a text and of this text into history" (p. 39). Fairclough (1992) defines 'Constitutive intertextuality' basically as the mixing configuration of discourse conventions such as genres, activity types, and styles associated with different types of discourse (p. 84). As a special kind of intertextuality, interdiscursivity is related to the whole language system involved in a text. In order to emphasize that the focus is on discourse conventions rather than other texts as constitutive, Fairclough (1992, 2003, 2010) uses the new term 'interdiscursivity' to replace "constitutive intertextuality". He (2010) thinks that 'interdiscursivity' is more than a stylistic phenomenon; rather, it has important implications for social practice. Thus, 'interdiscursivity' is central to an understanding of the process of social change. As Allen (2000) suggests that 'interdiscursivity' is a term by no means exclusively related to the study of literary works or to written communication in general.

The major concerns of the stylistic approach are how literary texts are formed through interdiscursivity and what aesthetic as well as social significances are achieved through this text-forming scheme. Bakhtin (1981, 1986) explores the reasons for genre mixing by examining the artistic and ideological resonances of literary and non-literary styles in a text. For him, poetry is formal and stylistic difference from the context-influenced style of non-poetic language indicates a thinking and behavioral pattern that is free from the dangerous contamination of ordinary life. He further emphasizes that novel is a pluralistic discourse. It intentionally mixes many different genres which are widely separated in time and social space. This conscious genre hybridization is a major device for creating artistic language-images in the novel (Bakhtin, 1981, pp. 358-366). However, to Bakhtin, this genre hybridization is not an easy process; it implies friction and struggle. Toward the end of the 20th century, there have appeared quite a few broad studies on interdiscursivity in photographs and films. For example, Collins (1989) and Hutcheon (1989) have explored the political dimensions of postmodern texts by focusing specifically on the ideological



significance of genre combination in films. Knee (1994), however, takes genre compounding or hybridizing in films as a means of weaving together the plots. But the most detailed exploration of interdiscursivity is found in Bradford (1997), where he applies his theory of 'double pattern' to the analysis of genre mixing and/or genre switching in poetry, novel, and drama. For him, the interdiscursive feature of poetry is the main factor that gives rise to the tension between the two poles of the "double pattern". He (1997) ascribes this kind of interdiscursivity to the political and social disorders at that time. This mode of interdiscursivity, however, is more clearly shown in Shakespeare's dramas. He (1997) even thinks that this genre mixing in Shakespeare's dramas maps the distinction between the European civilization and the savages of the new world. For him (1997), the novel is an all-inclusive framework of genres and linguistic styles.

3. The Objective of the Study

The research aims at studying the mechanisms which lie behind *interdiscursivity*, the force that prompts language users to choose it in communication and the effects it can achieve on the basis of Sperber & Wilson's Relevance Theory.

4. The Statement of the Problem

The existing researches still have a lot of limitations, and more efforts are needed to further explore the complexities of interdiscursivity. In the first place, neither of the above-mentioned approaches is comprehensive enough since they never touch upon the cognitive factors lying behind the functioning of interdiscursivity. This undesirable situation shows that in interdiscursivity studies what actually lacks is an applicable theoretical framework which is based upon the cognitive, social, and cultural dimensions of language use. Consequently, the future study should attempt to generate an encompassing theoretical framework, and investigate interdiscursivity in more details. Such analyses from the stylistic approach focus on the surface level and fail to reveal in depth the operating process of interdiscursivity, for they do not take the dynamics of communication and the cognitive elements into consideration. Furthermore, no satisfactory theoretical model for the understanding of interdiscursivity has been offered in the stylistic approach.

5. The Significance of the Study

The functioning of interdiscursivity as a special kind of linguistic phenomenon is closely related to the cognitive, social, and cultural factors of language use. An interdiscursive text, with its elements rooted in particular institutions, is not individual and idiosyncratic; but part of a shared cultural world. However, as mentioned above, the previous studies of interdiscursivity are rather incomplete, the have left the cognitive facet intact and they have never fully unveiled the specific motivations lying behind the choices of interdiscursivity. In view of this limitation, the pragmatic perspective is conducted in this study in order to reveal the underlying force that drives language users to choose interdiscursivity and provide a systematic and coherent analysis for this linguistic phenomenon in a literary discourse.

6. The Model of the Study

Relevance Theory (hereafter RT) is a means of describing interactions by adopting the asocial notion of *relevance* as the driving force incommunication. In doing so, RT acts as a potentially neutral starting point for discussion social verbal behaviour. Relevance and its



notion of ostensive behaviour will be used to posit *markedness*, a marked ostensive form. 6.1 Relevance Theory

RT is a theory of communication which was originally proposed by Sperber and Wilson (1986-1995) (hereafter S&W). According to S&W, communication occurs within the interactants mutual cognitive environment. In RT, cognitive environments are considered the most accessible context, and are taken to mean the psychological constructs containing actors assumptions about the world in (S&W, 1986, 15). However, S&W (1982) do not equate mutual cognitive environments with the more traditional concept of the mutual knowledge. They reiterate the dilemma of how to compute an infinite set of propositions (S knows that P, A knows that P, S knows that A knows that P an infinitum) in a finite length of time (p. 63). Mutual cognitive environments are posited as a solution to this problem with an individual choosing from contexts, pertinent to the interaction, and bringing these to the communicative space (S&W, 1986, 39). The mutual cognitive environment is then the most immediately accessible context at the time of the utterance. It is not pre-existing or given, but chosen and shaped as an interaction begins (S&W, 1982, 7); (Pilkington, 1991, 54). This environment is." (Nicolle, 1999, 677), "guide" (Yus Ramos, 1998, 317), or methods of "special help" (Wilson then developed more fully throughout the interaction. The initial context is constructed from the immediately preceding utterances (S&W, 1982, 76), and is then expanded by information from, not only previous utterances, but also the interactants' encyclopaedic memory and the present physical environment (S&W, 1982, 703). Thus context, in S&W's terms, is quite dynamic and changing rather than a "monolithic entity" that every person adopts with the initiation of an interaction (Yus Ramos, 1998, 307). Interactants do not begin with a stable notion of each other, but use language to construct and reconstruct the mutual cognitive environment. According to S &W's model communication is said to occur when information becomes relevant to the mutual cognitive environment of the interactants.Information relevance is achieved through *ostension*, which is the act of highlighting information to create a perceptible effect on this context (S&W, 1986, 49). Ostensive behaviour contains the presumption of relevance, a perceptible effect in an addressee's cognitive environment. Firstly, it attracts an addressee's attention, flagging the relevance of an utterance: and secondly, it makes an addressee aware that a speaker intended an addressee to notice (S&W, 1986, 15). Ostensive behaviour uses stimulus to direct the relevance of an event. This stimulus may be nonverbal such as movement and gesture, or linguistically realized in the form of an utterance. Both are forms of marked behavior which direct an addressee to notice a piece of information by flagging its relevance. Ostensive stimuli are agents which highlight the importance of certain information for a particular situation - in RT terms the relevance of input for the addressee's cognitive environment.



Ostensive Behaviour makes manifest an intention to make something manifest carries the presumption of relevance

Ostensive Stimulus direct the addressee to relevance

Non-Verbal Event movement and gesture noise

Verbal Eventutterance

Most of S&W's examples of ostension come from the nonverbal rather than the linguistic branch. For instance, they describe two characters, Mary and Peter, who are sitting on apark bench. Peter leans back, changing Mary's view to reveal two people walking towards themone is unknown, but the other is William, a dreadful bore. The latter of these two people has more impact on Mary's cognitive environment because he is known to her. She thus presumes that Peter's act of leaning back is ostensive, as it intends to attract her attention, making relevant William's approach. This action makes manifest Peter's intention to make manifest William's presence (S&W, 1986, 48). Although leaning back may be considered uninformative behaviour in some circumstances, such as merely becoming comfortable, Peter's action is regarded as ostensive due to its signpost guiding function in highlighting the importance of relevant information. S&W (1995) provide many nonverbal examples of this sort, which are relatively unproblematic, but interestingly say little about linguistic ostension. For S&W (1995) ostensive linguistic stimuli exist merely on the utterance level.

An ostensive stimulus makes information relevant to the interactants. This relevance is achieved through *contextual effects* on the interactants' mutual cognitive environment. Contextual effects must either reinforce an old assumption, derive a new one or eliminate an old assumption (S&W, 1986, 121; Wilson and Sperber, 1986, 381), and communication cannot occur without these effects.

The combination of this linguistic and contextual information allows the retrieval of explicatures to occur through a process of disambiguation (matching linguistic forms to semantic representations), referent assignment (matching nouns to entities) and meaning enrichment (semantic representations needing more information). Explicature retrieval is then followed by are solution of the propositional attitude, the basic Speech Act mode of saying, telling or asking. Finally communication is achieved through the last step - a process of inference, involving the construction of implicatures purely from the contextual information needed to properly understand an utterance: (S&W, 1986, 182-202). At every stage the principle of relevance is at play, as it requires that "the hearer should choose the solution [explicature/ implicature] involving the least effort, and should abandon this solution only if it fails to yield an interpretation consistent with the principle of relevance" (S&W, 1986, 185).



1. Explicature Process (Linguistic decoding and contextual input)

Disambiguation

Reference Assignment

Enrichment

- 2. Recovering of a Propositional Attitude (Basic Speech Acts asking, saying, telling)
- 3. Implicature Process (Contextual input)

Previous Utterances

Physical Environment

Encyclopaedic Memory

This process can be exemplified in the following example:

Biologist, Penelope rushes from her bedroom into the lounge room of their share housewhere her fellow biologist and flatmate Tim is sitting. She utters:

The jar is empty. Do you know where my flower is?

The first step in making sense of Penelope's utterance is to construct an explicature by retrieving semantic forms for the words. The word "flower" in the spoken form is ambiguous meaning either ground up wheat used for cooking (flour) or the seed bearing part of a plant (flower). The context of the previous utterance, "The jar is empty", does not help disambiguate this sentence, as both "flour" and a "flower" may be kept in a jar. However the fact that Penelope has come from her room and not the kitchen, which would be expected if she were looking for "flour", allows Tim to assign the latter meaning to this word. More work is needed on the phrase "my flower". The genitive in this case is not clear. "My flower" can mean a flower owned by Penelope or a new type of flower propagated by Penelope. Tim must enrich this form with contextual cues. For instance, he knows that Penelope is a biologist, so it is likely that the flower that she is referring to is one she has bred herself. If the previous utterance had been "The vase is empty", the 'owned' meaning might have been more relevant. Tim also needs to perform reference assignment with the word "you", giving it the real world referent of himself. In this process of disambiguation and enrichment the rest of these forms also receive semantic representation, such as "empty" meaning a container lacking filling. The basic Speech Act form of "asking" is then retrieved to yield the propositional form: I am asking whether you know where my flower is. However this is not the whole meaning of the utterance. It continues to direct relevance to implied meanings or the retrieval of implicatures. Implicatures may be determined by asking why an utterance: has been made. In this case Tim may recover similar scenarios from his encyclopaedic memory, regarding other instances where he has borrowed her species of flower to show to his biology class without consulting her first.

Ostension is described as the way information is communicated. It is the act of highlighting information to make it relevant, and to attract an addressee's attention to the information. Thus, ostensive behaviour may be considered as marked behaviour. However in terms of verbal ostension, S&W (1997) consider the *utterance* to be the only verbal entity which carries relevance. Wilson (1998) suggests that "every ostensive stimulus creates a presumption of optimal relevance, and it would take at least some argument to show that



every bit of An utterance: creates its own individual presumption of relevance, rather than contributing to satisfying the presumption of relevance carried by the whole utterance" (p.60). We propose that this ordering is pragmatically interpreted in terms of relevance: the higher ordered entailments are assumed to be the most relevant, to contain the point of the utterance." (S&W, (1995). S&W (1995) seem to be proposing that elements below the utterance level can actas a signpost or guide, highlighting the relevant aspects of an utterance: in the form of ordered entailments. In a sense S&W (1995) do discuss linguistic features in terms of their contribution to ostension.

The relevance theoretic approach to implicature was developed by S&W (1995) as part of a broader attempt to shift pragmatics into a cognitive framework. The relevance theorists define implicature: "... propositions which are not developments of the logical form, but rather are constructed according to a combination of contextual information and the proposition expressed by the utterance. They are totally context-dependent and not straight forwardly deducible from the utterance..." (p. 494). They have thus done much to show that a variety of different pragmatic processes are involved in developing what is encoded by An utterance: into the propositions that are actually communicated. An implicature, on the other hand, is defined as "any other propositional form communicated by an utterance; its content consists of wholly pragmatically inferred matter" (Carston, 2000: 10). They do note, however, that the conceptual content of implicatures must be wholly inferred (Carston, 2000, 2001; S&W 2002), and to be inferred they must be intended by a speaker, and be understood by a hearer as intended (S&W 2002).

7. The Research Questions

This study addresses the following research questions:

- 1) What roles does culture play upon the 'identity' of a writer as an evidence in his/ her linguistic choices in his/ her literary discourse?
- 2) What are the strategies used by an Arab writer employing his linguistic repertoire to highlight interdiscursivity of his utterances in a literary discourse?
- 3) What roles do the categories of the linguistic features; such as lexical items, syntactic structures and speech acts play in highlighting interdiscursivity in a literary discourse?

8. The Research Hypotheses

This study is based on the following research hypotheses:

- 1) Culture plays an effective role upon the 'identity' of a writer as an evidence in his/ her linguistic choices in his/ her literary discourse.
- 2) A variety of strategies are used by an Arab writer employing his linguistic repertoire to highlight interdiscursivity in a literary discourse.
- 3) The categories of the linguistic features; such as lexical items, syntactic structures and speech acts play an essential role in highlighting interdiscursivity in a literary discourse.

9. Methodology

9.1 Data Collection

The data of this study is selected texts taken from the novel of Abdurrahman AL-Muneif, an Arab novelist, *Muden AL-melh*.It is a political fiction in which Munif takes the readers to the



heart of desert in order to make them know more about the Arab culture. Thevalley, Wadi al-Uyoun, in which the main events have taken place, is destroyed by bulldozers and heavy machinery as American engineers transform the oasis into an oil field. Munif entertains the readers and at the same time tells them a great deal about how painful the oil era has been to Arab societies. oil money has produced two cities side by side, one for the American expatriates and their elite Arab counterparts, the other for the poor, displaced Arab laborers. Munif writes convincingly about the two cultures that clash there. He captures the confusion and, in the end, the sadness wrought by the sudden change. The Bedouin laborers, earning more money than they ever dreamed possible, are told to sell their camels, which they do reluctantly. The last link to the freedom they knew as desert wanderers is gone. "Cities of Salt," is a timely and intelligent novel. It is an epic contemporary Arabic novel. It reminds the readers how rich the Arab world is in literature and how little of it they know.

9.2 Data Analysis

The data of the study is analyzed, as shown in Table 1, according to S&W's Relevance Theory (RT) for the sake of studying the linguistic phenomenon, *interdiscursivity*.

Table 1. Data analysis

No.	Ostensive Stimulus	Ostensive contributors	Ostensive Behaviour	Pragmatic meaning/
				Implicature
1	كان (متعب الهذال) مصمما على	A lexicon:	• interdiscursivity :	The novelist intends to
	ان يخرج العصملية و ان يطلق	"the gun العصملية "	Reference to culture	draw the attention of
	بضع رصاصات انه يفعل ذلك بعد	An utterance:	•Use of a standard	the reader to one of the
	مجيء كل ولد.	يفعل ذلك بعد مجيء كل ولد	variety	common habits of
	Miteb al-Hathalis	He uses a gun and		Arabs which is using a
	determined toget out the	shoots whenever he has		gun and shooting
	gun and shot because he	a new born boy.		whenever they have a
	used to do soafterthe			new born boy.
	delivery of every child.			
2	بدأ ابن راشد محرجا ، اذ لا يستطيع	A phrase:	• interdiscursivity :	Drawing the attention
	ان يدافع عنهم كما فعل في البداية	قيم الضيافة	Reference to culture	of the reader to the
	كما لا يستطع ان ينكر لقيم الضيافة.	the values of hospitality.	•Use of a standard	hospitality of the
	Ibn Rashid was		variety	Bedouins which is one
	embarrassed because he			of their common
	cannot defend the			customs.
	foreigners as he did in the			
	beginning, and simultanclly			
	he could not ignore the			
	values of hospitality.			
3	اذا كان البدو ، و وادي العيون	An utterance:	• interdiscursivity :	Spotting light on the
	بشكل خاص، لا يعرفون البكاء و لا		=	identity of the
	يحبونه ويستغربون كيف يبكون			Bedouins that they are
	الناس او لماذا	او لماذا	variety	emotionless and very



4	If the Bedouins, and the people of the Valley, Wadi al-Uyoun, in particular, do not know and do not like crying and they wonder how people cry or why. اليوم هو يوم القيامة. يقولون: اذا مشي الحديد على الحديد ؟ اليوم مشي الحديد يمشي على الحديد. Today is the Judgment Day. They say: If metal walks over the metal? Today I saw the metal walking over the metal.		•Use of a standard	harsh affected by their own environment. Referring to the identity of the Bedouins that they believe in the existence of the day of judgment and its indications.
5	هذه العفاريتمثل رحى الطاحون نظل ندور و ندور دون ان تتعب و دون ان يدير ها احد. These goblins like a millstone going around without being tired and run by itself.		 interdiscursivity: Reference to culture Use of a standard variety 	Referring to the identity of the Bedouins that they believe in goblins and to one of the common devices used by them which is millstone.
6	اهل الوادي لا يتركون الانسان يحارب وحده ،انهم يحاربون معه حتى النهاية ، و بعد ان تنتهي الحرب يسألون لماذا حاربوا" The valley, Wadi al-Uyoun, people do not leave a man fighting alone, they fight with him until the end, and when the war ends they ask why they have fought.	An utterance: انهم يحاربون معه حتى النهاية ، و بعد ان تنتهي الحرب		Attracting the attention to the identity of the Bedouins that they are very cooperative, they tend to help people whether they know them or not.
8	كانت من عادة الامير الخروج الى القنص في مثل هذا الوقت من السنة. It was the habit of the Prince that he goes to the desert at this time of the year.	An utterance: عادة الامير الخروج الى القنص It was the habit of the Prince that he goes to the desert at this time of the year. An utterance:	• interdiscursivity : Reference to culture • Use of a standard variety • interdiscursivity :	Drawing the attention to the Bedouins's custom. Attracting the attention



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	"by our swords we occupied this land span by span."	by our swords we occupied this land span by span.	•Use of a dialect variety	to the identity of the Bedouins that they are very brave.
9	أي واحد يخلق مشاكل ما له عندنا الا دواء واحد: هذا السيف For anyone, who is troublesome, we have only one medicine: this sword.	ما له عندنا الا دواء واحد: هذا	•Use of a dialect	Drawing the attention to the Bedouins's culture.
10	ان اكوب يشرب " بول ابليس" أي انه يشرب الخمر. Akwab drinks"the urine of the devil," which means that hedrinks alcohol.	ان اكوب يشرب " بول ابليس"	•Use of a dialect	Attracting the attention to Bedouins's culture.
11	وادي العيون قريب, رمية عصى. The valley, Wadi al-Uyoun, is as close as the distance of the casting of a stick.	A phrase: رمیة عصی casting of a stick.	 interdiscursivity: Reference to culture/ cliche Use of a dialect variety 	Directing the attention to the Bedouins's culture.
12	اعطت المريضة اعشاب المرة حضرتها بنفسها. She just gave the patient commiphora molmol, which she has prepared herself.	An utterance: اعشاب المرة، حضرتها بنفسها The commiphora molmolwhich she has prepared herself.	•Use of a standard	Drawing the attention to the Bedouins's culture.
13	نعيم لماذا صوته منخفض هكذا و يشبه صوت النساء ؟ why is Naeim's voice is as low as women's ?"	An utterance: نعيم لماذا صوته منخفض هكنا و يشبه صوت النساء " Daham why is Naeim's voice as low is as women's?	interdiscursivity:Reference to cultureUse of a standard variety	Spotting light on the Bedouins's culture.
14	في السنة عيدين و اليوم هو الثالث. there are two festivals in a year and today is the third.	An utterance: في السنة عيدين. There are two festivals in a year.	interdiscursivity:Reference to cultureUse of a dialect variety	Drawing the attention to the culture of Muslims.
15	لماذا تخاصم ابوك مع ابن راشد، و ين هو الحين!. why your father had	An utterance: لماذا تخاصم ابوك مع ابن راشد، و ين هو الحين!.	• interdiscursivity : Reference to culture • Use of a standard	Attracting the attention to the Bedouins's culture.



	quarreled with Iben arachnid, and where he is now.	why your father had quarreled with Ibnarachnid, and where he is now.	variety embedded by a dialect variety.	
16	المبارك ما بقى له الا الكي. و اذا الكي ما افاده يكون مدبوس. What has remained for Almubarik is only ironing. If ironing does not benefit, he must be under the effect of magic.	An utterance: اذا الكي ما افاده يكون مدبوس.	•Use of a dialect variety	Directing the attention of the reader to the Bedouins's culture.
17	قال ما قاله، بصوت مناد _, اقوى من صوت المؤذن. He said what he said with a caller voice, stronger than the voice of the prayer caller.	A phrase: صوت المؤذن The voice of the prayer caller.	interdiscursivity:Reference to cultureUse of a standard variety	Attracting the attention to Bedouins's culture.
18	الياكم و خضراء الدمن. مثل ابليس له عين واحدة، عين خضراء، و هذه هي التي نهى عنها الرسول" هي التي نهى عنها الرسول" "Beware of the woman whose appearance is beautiful but her ancestry is bad. She is like the devil that has one eye, green eye, and she is accepted by the Prophet."	ایاکم و خضراء الدمن. مثل ابلیس له عین واحدة، عین خضراء، و هذه هي التي نهی	•Use of a standard	Drawing the attention to Bedouins's culture that they know about the prophet's sayings.
19	خبل لكن قلبه طيب. Dementiabuthis heartis kind.	An utterance: خبل. لکن قلبه طیب. Dementiabuthis heartis kind.	 interdiscursivity: Reference to culture Use of sarcasm. Use of a dialect variety 	The novelist intends to make the reader get to know the Bedouins's culture.
20	من هو اللي وراء الطوشة و الله لافرق لحمه على تلال حران كلها. who is behind such a mess, I 'll cut his flesh into pieces and distribute it to the hills of Harran.	An utterance: الا فرق لحمه على تلال حران کلها. الا l'll cut his flesh into pieces and distribute it to the hills of Harran.		Making the reader get to know the Bedouins's culture.
21	الحق العيار لباب الدار. الامير قريب, لكن ما منه فائدة.	An utterance: الحق العيار لباب الدار	• interdiscursivity : Reference to culture/	Drawing the attention to the identity of the



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	is not far, since people who are in an upper place turned to be in a lower place, and those who are viilain control the nobles.	This is a sign of the judgment day, and this time is not far, since people who are in an upper place turned to be in a lower place, and those who are viilain control the nobles.		
28	هل هم رجال حقیقیون أم عفاریت؟ Are they men or goblins?	An utterance: هل هم رجال حقیقیون أم عفاریت؟ Are they men or goblins?	 interdiscursivity: Reference to culture Use of a standard variety Use of a rhetorical question. 	The novelist raises such a type of question to draw the attention of the reader to the Bedouins's culturethat they believe in goblins.
29	كل بني ادم اخرته خرقة. The end of all human beings (when they die) is (to be covered by) a rag.	An utterance: کل بنی ادم اخرته خرقة. The end of all human beings is a rag.	 interdiscursivity: Reference culture/ a fact Use of a dialect variety 	Spotting light on the Bedouins's culture.
30	قال الامير :- حنا احرص منكم على الاخلاق و الدين. The prince said: "We are more concerned with morality and religion than you."	حنا احرص منكم على	•Use of a standard	Attracting the attention to the identity of the Bedouins that they are more concerned with morality and religion.
31	عليه توكلت و اليه انيب. " We trust and rely on Him."	An utterance: عليه توكلت و اليه انيب We trust and rely on Him.	interdiscursivity:Reference to religionUse of a standard variety	Drawing the attention to the identity of the Bedouins that they are Muslim, they believe, trust and rely on God.
32	الدين معاملة. لكن التجّار لا يعرفون إلا المال إهذا هو دينهم. religion is treatment, but traders know nothing except money! This is their religion.	An utterance: الدين معاملة لكن التجّار لا المال إهذا هو يعرفون إلا المال إهذا هو دينهم. religion is treatment, but traders know nothing except money!. This is their religion.	 interdiscursivity: Reference to religion Use of a standard variety 	Making the reader get to know the Bedouins's culture.
33	التجار لا يعرفون الحلال ولا يخافون من الحرام. The traders they do not know what is accepted and they are not afraid of doing	An utterance: لا يعرفون الحلال ولا يخافون	interdiscursivity:Reference to religionUse of a standard variety	Drawing the attention to the reader to the identity of the Bedouins.



	what is forbidden.	not afraid of doing what is forbidden.		
34	الهمد شرب العالمين، الرهمان الرهمان الرهيم. الرهيم. All praise is due to Allah, the Lord of the Worlds, The Beneficent, the Merciful.	An utterance: الهمد لله رب العالمين، الرهمان	•Use of a broken	Attracting the attention to the Bedouins's culture that although they are not educated they know their religion, Islam, well.
35	الناس مات بقلوبهم الله، الواحد منهم صار مثل الصل. Religion does not exist in people's hearts. They became like a cobra.	An utterance: الناس مات بقلوبهم الله، الواحد	•Use of a dialect	Spotting light on the Bedouins's culture.
36	الله سبحانه و تعالى ، علم الانسان ما لم يعلم. God Almighty Makes a human realize what he does not know.	الله سبحانه و تعالى ، علم	•Use of a standard	Making the reader get to know the Bedouins's culture that they are aware their religion, Islam.
37	النفط؟ ما يأتينا يكفينا لنرقد هذه الفوانيس التي تخنق برائحتها اكثر مما تضيئ." Oil? What we get is enough for us to light the lightings which damp because of their smell more than they illuminate."	النفط؟ لنوقد هذه الفوانيس التي تخنق برائحتها اكثر مما تضيئ.	environment Use of a standard variety embedded by	Spotting light on the Bedouins' environment.
38	الحطب قليل الناس يقتصدون في الستعماله ، تحسبا للأيام التالية كمجيئ قابلة او موت احد. the firewood is few people economize in using it anticipating for the coming days midwife 's visit or the death of someone.	An utterance: الحطب قليل الناس يقتصدون في استعماله ، تحسبا للأيام التالية كمجيئ قابلة او موت احد. the firewood is few people economize in	environment	Drawing the attention to the Bedouins's environment.



39	اصبح الوادي اقرب ما يكون الى	A phrase:	• interdiscursivity :	Depicting the
	عواء نئاب ضالة. The valley close to the	عواء ذئاب ضالة howling of lost wolves.	Reference to environment	confusion in the Bedouins's life after
	howling of lost wolves.		•Use of a standard variety.	the discovery of oil in the desert.
40	فتح فيها اثلاما رفع النباتات الطفيلية و الاشواك. He raised the parasitic plants and the thorns.	A phrase: النباتات الطفيلية و الاشواك "the parasitic plants and thorns"	• interdiscursivity : Reference to	Attracting the attention to desert environment.
41	كان يتعلق بذيل الناقة و هي مسرعة كالبرق. He was holding the tail of a camel while it was running as fast as the lightning.	An utterance: يتعلق بذيل الناقة و هي مسرعة كالبرق. He was holding the tail of a camel while it was running as fast as the lightning.	• interdiscursivity : Reference to environment • Use of a standard	Attracting the attention to the Bedouins's environment.
42	كل شيء فيهم مغلف، طبقات فوق طبقات، تماما مثل الصحراء التي يعيشون فوقها. Everything is covered, layers one over the other just like the desert in which they live.	كل شيء فيهم مغلف، طبقات فوق طبقات، تماما مثل	environment Use of a standard	Giving focus on the identity of the Bedouins.
43	اذا دخل الشتاء و ربعت نروح الحباري. When winter comes and the very coldest period starts, we go for hunting bustard.	An utterance: اذا دخل الشتاءوربعت نروح	environment Use of a standard variety embedded by	Emphasizing the fact that the Bedouins are very much affected by the desert environment.
44	يتذكرون جازي الهذالالناس قبل اربعين او خمسين سنة, و ما فعله ضد الاتراك. People remember what Gazzy al-Hathaland did to Turks forty or fifty years ago.	An utterance: البعين الهذال قبل الربعين او خمسين سنة, و ما فعله ضد الاتراك. People remember what Gazzy al-Hathaland did to Turks forty or fifty years ago.		Attracting the attention to the Bedouins's history.
45	كانوا اشرس اهل الوادي في محاربة الاتراك.	An utterance: كانوا اشرس اهل الوادي في	• interdiscursivity : Reference to history	Drawing the attention to the Bedouins's



	They were the fiercest fighters against Turks in the valley.	محاربة الاتراك. They were the fiercest fighters against Turks in the valley.	•Use of a standard variety	history.
46	ناكل التراب و نقدم للضيوف اولادنا لكن لا نرضى ان نهز رؤوسنا مثل العبيد لكل كلمة يقولونها. We eat dust, and we offer our children to guests, but we do not accept to nod our heads like slaves for every word they say.	ناكل النراب و نقدم للضيوف اولادنا لكن لا نرضى ان نهز رؤوسنا مثل العبيد لكل كلمة	•Use of a standard	Spotting light on the Bedouins that they do not accept to be humiliated by anyone.
47	ما كاد يصيح بأعلى صوته "يا بويه يا بويه" حتى المسك به عقله تماما كما تعقل الابل، حدده كما تحدد الخيل. The moment he had shouted, "my dad my dad", he caught him controlling him as camels and directed him as horses.	An utterance: ما كاد يصيح (فواز) بأعلى	•Use of a standard variety embedded by	Directing the attention to the Bedouins's culture.
48	اذا اردنا ان نهاك قرية امرنا ان نهاك قرية امرنا مترفيها فقسقوا فيها فحق عليها القول فدمرناها تدميرا و كم اهلكنا القوى When we decide to destroy a town .We send a definite order to those among them who are given the good things of this life. Then, they transgress therein, and thus the word is justified against it. Then We destroy it with complete destruction.	An utterance: اذا اردنا ان نهاك قرية امرنا از الهاك قرية امرنا القول القول فدمرناها تدميرا و كم القول فدمرناها تدميرا و كم الهكنا قبلهم من القرى. When we decide to destroy a town, We send a definite order to those among them who are given the good things of this life. Then, they transgress therein, and thus the word is justified against it. Then We destroy it with complete destruction.	• interdiscursivity : Quotation from the Holy Quran	Drawing the attention to the identity of the Bedouins that they consider the holy Quran the guidance of their life.



49	او قل اعملوا فسيرى الله عملكم و	An utterance:	• interdiscursivity :	Directing the attention
	رسوله"	و قل اعملوا فسيرى الله عملكم	Quotation from the	to the identity of the
	"Tell them to work and	و رسوله"	Holy Quran	Bedouins that they
	God and His Messenger	"Tell them to work and		consider the holy
	will see your work."	God and His Messenger		Quran the guidance of
		will see your work."		their lives.
50	" لا تبقى و لا تذر "	An utterance:	• interdiscursivity :	Attracting the attention
	It spares not (any sinner),	" لا تبقى و لا تذر "	Quotation from the	to the identity of the
	nor does it leave (anything	It spares not, nor does it	Holy Quran	Bedouins that they
	unburnt).	leave.		consider the holy
				Quran the guidance of
				their lives.
51	"باسم حران، باسم رجالها و نسائها		• interdiscursivity :	Spotting light on the
	، شيبها و شبابها، باسم ال باسم	"باسم حران، باسم رجالها و	Use of a speech	the identity of the
	حاضرة و البادية، باسم الامير خالد			Bedouins.
	الذي لا يهدا ليل نهار."	ال باسم حاضرة و البادية، باسم	variety.	
	"On behalf of Harran, on	الامير خالد الذي لا يهدا ليل		
	behalf of its menandits	نهار."		
	women, its oldsters and	On behalf of Harran, on		
	youths, and on behalf of	behalf of its menandits		
	prince Khalid, who is	women, its oldsters and		
	restless night and day."	youths, and on behalf		
		of prince Khalid, who		
		is restless night and		
		day.		
52	جو هر خبر دولتك اللي بنوا البيب	An utterance:	• interdiscursivity :	Drawing the attention
	سباع	جوهر خبر دولتك اللي بنوا	Use of a poem	to the identity of the
	سباع و الرجال تحمي حقوقها و ما تصير للأمريكان متاع	البيب سباع	•Use of a dialect	Bedouins that they like
			variety	
	و هذه الديرة ديرتنا	تصير للأمريكان متاع		declaim it.
	Jawher inform your	و هذه الديرة ديرتنا		
	country Those who built	Jawher inform your		
	this country are like lions.	country Those who		
	And men protect their	built this country are		
	rights and will prevent the	like lions. And men		
	Americans from playing	protect their rights and		
	with their country.	will prevent the		
	This country is our country	Americans from		
		playing with their		
		country.		
		This country is our		
		country		



53	دمك يا مفضي ما يضيع حران كلها تطالب و انت يا ابو التل الشمالي تسمع و انت يا ابو التل الشمالي تسمع و الزم تجاوب. "Your blood, Mufdi, will not be lost. All the people of Harran are demanding and You, the father of the northern hill, hear and you must reply. Your blood, Mufdi, will not be lost."	An utterance: Your blood, Mufdi, will not be lost. All the people of Harran are Demanding and You, the father of the northern hill, hear and you must reply. Your blood, Mufdi, will not be lost.	<u> </u>	Spotting light on the identity of the Bedouins that they like to write poetry and declaim it.
54	الموت يموت و انت ما تموت يا ابو عثمان عز الرجال و فوق الروس عثمان الموت يموت و انت ما تموت يا ابو عثمان الموت يموت و انت ما تموت يا ابو عثمان Death dies and you do not die Abu Othman You're an honour and you are above our heads Abu Othman Death dies and you do not die Abu Othman	الموت يموت و انت ما تموت يا ابو عثمان عز الرجال و فوق الروس يا ابو عثمان الموت يموت و انت ما تموت.	• interdiscursivity : Use of a poem • Use of a dialect variety	Attracingt the attention to the identity of the Bedouins that they like to write poetry and declaim it.
55	يمكن الشركة تقدم الاسعاف الاولي، في المكان الذي يوجد فيه الجرحى، و هذا لن يتم الا بموافقة الامير خالد، و بعد ذلك يمكن ان ينقل الجرحى الى عجرة او الى أي مكان اخر. The company can provide the first aid in the place where the wounded are found. This will only be done if the consent of Prince Khalid is given, and then the wounded can be	An utterance:	•Use of a standard	Directing the attention to a legal discourse.



	sent to the Ajrah or to any other place.			
56	بعد التدقيق و التمحيص لم تثبت التهمة على احد، و قد امر صاحب السمو الامير بغلق القضية و اعتبار . القاتل مجهولا . After the audit and scrutiny, the charge did not prove to anyone. The prince had ordered to close the case and considered killer unknown.	لم تثبت التهمة على احد، و قد امر صاحب السمو الامير بغلق الفضية و اعتبار القاتل مجهولا. the charge did not prove to anyone. The	discourse	Attracting the attention to the use of a legal discourse.
57	ان مسئولية العمال انتقات اليها بعد الوفاة الشركة قبل هذا التا ريخ لا تعترف لاحد بأية حقوق او تعويضات" The responsibility of the workers to move to it after their death. The company prior to this date does not confess any rights or compensation for anyone ".	An utterance: الشركة قبل هذا التا ريخ لا تعترف لاحد بأية حقوق او تعويضات. The company prior to this date does not confess any rights or	discourse • Use of a standard	Spotting light on a legal discourse.
58	" الحرب المتكافئة ،حرب الانداد، لان مثل هذه الحروب و حدها التي تشرف المتحاربين، حتى الذين يخسرون ، اما الحرب غير المتكافئة فان المنتصر فيها مهزوم ايضا" "A symmetrical warfare is apeer war. Such wars are the only ones which are an honour to the combatants, even those who lose. On the other hand, in an asymmetrical war even the winner is defeated"	" الحرب المتكافئة ،حرب الانداد، لان مثل هذه الحروب وحدها التي تشرفا لمتحاربين،	discourse Use of a standard	Spotting light on the use of a political discourse.
59	صدر عن ديوان الامارة البلاغ القصير التالي: غادر صاحب السمو الامير خالد	An utterance: غادر صاحب السمو الامير	• interdiscursivity : Use of a political discourse	Spotting light on the use of a political discourse.



			•
	Uو قد امر سموه قبل سفره بعودة • U		ard
سموه قبل سفره بعودة جميع العمال	ν; جميع العمال الى الشركة، و قد	ariety.	
الى الشركة، و قد استجابة الشركة	استجابة الشركة لها الامر ، كما		
لها الامر ، كما امر سموه بتكليف	امر سموه بتكليف لجنة للتحقيق		
لجنة للتحقيق و تحديد مسئولية	و تحديد مسئولية الحوادث		
الحوادث الاخيرة.	الاخيرة.		
The office of the emirate	His Highness Prince		
issued the following short	Khalid has left Harran		
proclamation:	for medical treatment.		
His Highness Prince	Before that he had		
Khalid has left Harran for	ordered that all workers		
medical treatment. Before	can return to the		
that he had ordered that all	company. Accordingly,		
workers can return to the	the company have		
company. Accordingly, the	accomplished such a		
company have	request .The prince had		
accomplished such a	also ordered that a		
request .The prince had	committee to		
also ordered that a	investigate and		
committee to investigate	determine the final		
and determine the final	responsibility of the last		
responsibility of the last	crimes had to be		
crimes had to be formed.	formed.		

10. Conclusion

S&W's notion of ostensive stimuli has the ability to provide a firmer theoretical basis for an RT form of social language analysis, with a particular reference to discourse analysis, giving a detailed description of the relevance notion of ostension as an act of intentionally highlighting or directing the addressee's attention to certain information. Ostensive behavior made this information relevant to the interactants' mutual cognitive environment in the form of explicatures or implicatures. This study has provided a means of considering some concepts in RT which may be utilized to bridge the gap between the theoretical underpinnings of this paradigm that describes interdiscursivity. The result, hopefully, provides some insights into the way in which RT may be employed with more theoretical strength to social aspects of communication. This study has attempted to apply RT by affirming the function of ostension contributors as signposts for relevance, and by re-identifying some of the units of analysis which bear this function.

11. The Results

a) The stylistic approach has successfully introduced the social and cultural factors into the analysis of the linguistic structures. This view helps in understanding the macro relationship between literature and social/historical context, as shown in 43- 44 in Table 1. It is through this dynamic linguistic phenomenon, *interdiscursivity*, literature achieves its unique charm and aesthetic value.



- b) It is shown through the analysis of the literary ostensive stimulus of the study data that culture plays an effective role upon the 'identity' of an Arab writer as an evidence in his theme choices by using *interdiscursivity*; such as the reference to the common habits and the customs of Arabs, as in 1 in Table 1, the identity of the Bedouins, as in 46 and 47 in Table 1, the Bedouins's environment, as in 37-43 in Table 1, the Arab proverbs, as in 21-25 Table 1, poetry, as in 52-54 in Table 1 and the Holy Quran, as in 48-50 in Table 1.
- c) A variety of ostensive behaviours are used by an Arab writer employing his linguistic repertoire to highlight the efficient role of *interdiscursivity* in a literary discourse; such as the use of a standard variety, as in 1 and 6 in Table 1; a dialect variety, as in 7-10 in Table 1; a standard variety embedded by a dialect variety, as in 14, 30, 37,43 and 47 in Table 1; the use of rhetorical questions, as in 26 in Table 1; sarcasms, as in 18 in Table 1; threats, as in 19 in Table 1; and the reference to culture, as in 1-29 in Table 1; environment, as in 37-43 in Table 1, Arabian proverbs, as in 21-25 in Table 1 factual, as in 29 in Table 1; religious, as in 30-36 in Table 1; political, as in 58-59 historical, as in 44-45 in Table 1 and legal discourses, as in 55-57 in Table 1.
- d) Interdiscursivity, as a marked linguistic form or ostension contributor, supports efficiently to the contextual effect on the mutual cognitive environment of the interactants, as shown in in all the examples in Table 1.
- e) S&W's notion of ostension is usefully discussed not only in the level of an uttrance ,but below the utterance level to the linguistic structures as well, such as marked words, , as in 1 and 5 in Table 1 , and phrases as in 2, 11, 17,3 9 and 40 in Table 1. This contributes to ostension and, therefore, to the analysis of *interdiscursivity* depending on the context in which they are used.
- f) The pieces of Ostensive Stimulus allow an analyst to determine how the relevance of an utterance is realised, and particularly for this research, why interdiscursivity is used. These aspects of the linguistic ostension contributors are described as a means of adding to the highlighting, signaling, signaposting or indicating the relevance of an utterance.
- g) The ostension contributors, which carry with them the presumption of relevance, for example in 16 in Table 1, where the word "ironing" according to the reader's background knowledge indicates a means of medical treatment and "magic", a tool used to destroy man's life, and the intended messages of a writer. These ostension contributors are used to add to the utterance's ostensive behavior. They make manifest the intention to make something manifest forms which help construct the relevance of an utterance for describing the occurrence of interdiscursivity.
- h) It has been proven in this study that implicatures are interpreted according to the background knowledge of a reader and his inferences about a current situation as a whole rather than from inferences about the intentions of a writer, such as his knowledge about culture, as in 1-25 in Table 1, environment, as in 37-43 in Table 1, Arabian proverbs, as in 21-25 in Table 1 factual, as in 29 in Table 1; religious, as in 30-36 in Table 1; political, as in 58-59 in Table 1, historical, as in 44-45 in Table 1 and legal discourses, as in 55-57 in Table 1.
- i) The arguments presented in this research demonstrate that there is nothing intrinsically



asocial about RT. Any attempt to explain behaviour by reference to the social environment implies certain information processing abilities. RT seeks to provide an explicit account of these abilities and is, therefore, of great potential value to an adequate understanding of humans as social beings, as shown all examples presented in Table 1.

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