

## Attributive Adjectives in Standard English and Central Kurdish: A Contrastive Study

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### **Abstract:**

In this paper, the phenomenon of attributive usage of adjectives is analysed in order to clarify the attributive adjectives in English and Kurdish languages. Thus, the researchers, through the present study have investigated the different uses of attributive adjectives and pointed out the similarities and differences between attributive adjectives in English and Kurdish. The present research aims at finding the problematic areas faced by those who deal with this subclass of adjectives in English and Kurdish. The positions of adjectives in both languages are different; some adjectives can be used as attributive and predicative, but while others have to be used either in an attributive or a predicative position.

Thus, the present research tackles the syntactic and semantic subclasses of attributive adjectives. The syntactic part has been proposed to account for the function of adjectives. On the semantic features for introducing the quality of the nouns. At last, the attributive adjectives in English and Kurdish have been explained by different examples to point out their different uses, both syntactically and semantically.

**Keywords:** Adjective, attributive, predicative, position, stativity, gradeability, meaning

### **الملخص:**

في هذا البحث، تم تحليل ظاهرة الاستخدام المنسوب للصفات من أجل توضيح الصفات المنسوبة في اللغتين الانكليزية والكردية. وهكذا قام الباحثون من خلال هذه الدراسة بالتحقيق في الاستخدامات المختلفة للصفات المنسوبة وأشاروا إلى أوجه التشابه والاختلاف بين الصفات المنسوبة في اللغة الإنجليزية والكردية. هدف البحث الوقوف على الإشكالية التي يواجهها أولئك الذين يتعاملون مع هذه النوعية من الصفات في اللغة الإنجليزية والكردية. فثارت الصفات في كلتا اللغتين مختلفة عن البعض؛ فبعضها ينقدم على الاسم وبعضها يتأخر، ولكن في حين يجب تقديم بعضها الآخر على الاسم أو يتأخر.

فالباحث الحالي يتناول استخدام النحواني والدلالي للصفات المنسوبة. وقد تم اعتبار الجانب النحواني بجانب الوظيفي للصفات. والجانب الدلالي بجانب الكيفية لها. وأخيراً، تم شرح الصفات المنسوبة في اللغتين الإنجليزية والكردية بأمثلة مختلفة من أجل إبراز استخداماتها المختلفة، من الناحيتين النحوية والدلالية.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** الصفة، الإسناد، المنسد، الموضع، الحالة، القابلية للتدرج، المعنى.

پوخته:

لهم توییزینه موهیدا، دیاردهی بهکارهینانی ئاوەلناوی دانپاڭ شیکر اوەتموھ، ئەمەش بە مەبەستى ropyونکردنەھەی ئاوەلناوی دانپاڭ لە زمانى كوردى و ئىنگلەيزبىدا. بەمغۇرە، توییزەران لە رېيگەھى ئەم توییزینەھەمەو لە بهکارهینانى جىاوازى ئاوەلناوی دانپاڭلار كولۇيەتەھەمەو خالى لىكچوون و جىاوازبىان لە زمانى كوردى و ئىنگلەيزبىدا خىستۇتىمۇرۇ. ئامانجى توییزینەھەمەكە دۆزىنەھەمە ئەم كىشانىيە، كە ropyوبەرروى ئەم كەسانە دەبىتەھە، مامەلە لهەگەل ئەم جۇرە ئاوەلناودا دەكەن لەم دوو زمانەدا. جىكەمەتە ئاوەلناوی دەمەنەدا جىاوازنى دەنەكى، ھەندىكى ئاوەلناو لە پېش ناموھ دىن و ھەندىكى ترىيان لە دواي ناموھ دىن، لە كاتىكدا ئاوەلناوەكەنەي دىكە يان دەبىت لە پېش ناموھ بىن ياخود لە دواي ناموھ.

كەوانە، توییزینەھەمە ئامازە دەدات بە بهکارهینانى سىنتاكسى و سىمانتىكى ئاوەلناوی دانپاڭ. لايەنى سىنتاكسى بە لايەنى ئەركى ئاوەلناو دانراوە لايەنى سىمانتىكى بە لايەنى چۈننەتى ئاوەلناو دانراوە. لە كۆتايىدا، ئاوەلناوی دانپاڭ لە زمانى كوردى و ئىنگلەيزبىدا بە نمۇونەي جىاواز ropyونکر اوەتموھ، ئەمەش لە پېنلە ئەنەنلىكى دەرىخستى جىاوازى بهکارهینانىان لە ropyو سىنتاكسى و سىمانتىكىيەوە.

**كىلىلە و شەكان:** ئاوەلناو، دانپاڭ، دانپاڭ (پاش ناو)، جىكەمەتە، چۈننەتى، پلەبەندى، واتا.

## Introduction

The term ‘attributive’ refers to the position of an adjective in a phrase or a sentence. It is claimed that an adjective is attributive or is used attributively when it comes before a noun. These adjectives can be called prenominals. For example: He is a *young* man. Or it may follow the noun it modifies immediately. In this case, it is called postnominal, such as, your brother seems *angry*. The majority of adjectives can be used attributively and predicatively (Crystal, 2004, p. 258); but some adjectives can occur only before a noun, others only after verbs. Some adjectives can occupy more than one position, but depending on where they are placed, they may carry different meanings. Thus, the positions, functions and carrying different meanings of adjectives are problematic for Kurdish learners when they want to identify adjectives in English and Kurdish. Thus, the aim of the study is to shed light on only attributive adjectives in English and Kurdish to clarify their syntactic and semantic functions.

The researchers hypothesised that attributive adjectives in English and Kurdish are different depending on their positions and functions. Thus, they may ask, how attributive adjectives are different according to their positions, functions and orders in English and Kurdish?

The present research deals with those adjectives which are used in attributive positions only and it also discusses the meaning and the function they convey when used in one position or another. It proceeds to concern the form and word order of attributive adjectives in English and Central Kurdish accordingly.

### 1. Attributive Adjectives in Standard English

According to traditional grammar, an adjective is said to be governed by a noun. This definition relies more on function than meaning (Blake, 1988, p. 22), but according to modern grammar, adjectives are usually defined like other major word- class ‘[a] position/ function and [b] form/ inflection’ (Chalker, 1984. P. 162).

On the other hand, Crystal describes attributive as “a term normally used to refer to the role of adjectives and nouns when they occur as modifiers of the head of a noun phrase.” For example, *black* has an attributive function in *a black cat*. (2008, p. 43).

In general, adjectives have two main characteristics, one of which is syntactic and the other is semantic. Syntactically, they are able to function as modifiers, and they may be combined recursively with nouns. Semantically, they denote properties, whether they denote quality or properties is a question, it will be answered in below.

### 1.1 Position of the Adjective

The position of an adjective in a phrase or a sentence is referred by attributive and predicative terms. The focus of this paper is on attributive adjective, which is the most typical common position and the most characteristic position between a determiner and a noun. Adjectives in this position are called "attributive" because they attribute a quality or a characteristic to the noun.

An adjective is said to occur in the attributive position when it comes before a noun in a noun phrase. It provides further details about the character, nature, or state of the noun (Aarts, 2001, p. 33), for example:

1. The green car. The above example is a noun phrase; the adjective *green* comes before the noun *car*. The adjective *green* is in an attributive position between the determiner *the* and the noun *car*. This does not mean that; the position of the adjective *green* cannot be changed into a predicative position. On the other hand, the adjective *green* can occur after the noun and be in the predicative position as in:
2. The car is green. The adjective *green* is in the predicative position. In contrast, most adjectives, but not all, can appear in either the attributive or the predicative positions, for example:
3. The man was awake / \* The awake man
4. \* The failure seems utter / An utter failure: *Awake* can only be used as a predicative adjective but not as an attributive adjective, while, *utter* can only be used attributively and not predicatively (Tallerman, 1998, p. 43)

Sometimes, a change in the position of the adjective involves a change in meaning as in the following examples:

5. A handy tool. It means a tool that is inherently easy to manipulate.
6. A tool that is handy. It means a tool that is easy to access (Hamawand, 2007, p. 232)

As explained, English adjectives mostly are pronominal or in attributive positions, and many adjectives can appear in both positions, but some known as reference adjectives appear in the pronominal position. The following eight categories of adjectives that occur exclusively in attributive positions are introduced by Bolinger (1967) which can be referred to reference adjectives (Celce-Murcia & Larsen- Freeman, 1999, p. 382) .

1. Those adjectives that show the reference of the head noun have already been determined, e.g. The *very, particular, self-same, exact, same* man I was seeking
2. Those adjectives that show the importance or rank of the head noun, e.g. Their *main, prime, chief, principal* faults
3. Those adjectives that show the head noun is recognized by law or custom, e.g. The *lawful, legal, true, rightful* heir
4. Those adjectives that identify the reference of the noun itself – that is, they explain (in part) what the noun means – and they cannot occur after the copula be.

A <i>medical</i> doctor	* a doctor is medical.
An <i>atomic</i> physicist	* a physicist is atomic.
A <i>reserve</i> officer	* an officer is reserve.

Premodifiers of nouns are a common use of nouns. For example; *the bus station, a business friend, and student agents* (Greenbaum & Quirk, 1990, p. 131).

5. Those adjectives that qualify the time reference of the noun, as in the *future king, the former chairperson, the present monarch the previous occupant*
6. Those adjectives that qualify the geographical reference of the noun:

A *southern* gentleman the *urban* crisis, A *rural* mail carrier.

Two other categories that are mentioned but not specially defined by Bolinger (1967) are:

7. Those adjectives that intensify or emphasize the head noun:

A *total* stranger, a *mere* child, *sheer* fraud, *utter* nonsense

8. Those adjectives that show the uniqueness of the head noun:

The *sole* survivor, The *only* nominee, A *single* individual."

When the entire adjectival measure phrases come before a noun, the noun is in its singular form, regardless of the cardinal number expressed:

7. He is *a six-foot-tall* man. (Celce-Murcia & Larsen- Freeman, 1999, p. 38)

Although the example (7) appears to be plural because of *six*, the noun *man* should be singular because it is a part of adjectival measure phrase, but if the noun is not in that phrase it should be plural; the adjective phrases remain regardless of the agreement of gender and number:

8. He is a *smart* boy.

9. She is a *smart* girl.

10. They are *smart* boys and *smart* girls.

## 1.2 Syntactic Function of Attributive Adjectives

According to Greenbaum & Quirk, the referent of the noun is not explicitly characterized by adjectives that are restricted to attributive position or that occur most frequently in attributive position (1990. p.141). For instance:

11. My old friend.

12. My friend is old.

In example (11) the adjective *old* means that (one who has been a friend for a long time), *old* is restricted to an attributive position and cannot be related to *My friend is old*. In this case, *old* is the opposite of new (recently acquired). The person referred to is not being identified as old: it is his friendship that is old. On the other hand, in example (12) *old* refers to the person, it is about the age of that person not the relationship (Quirk, et al., 1972, p.233).

In addition, some nouns can have the attributive function, as premodifiers of other nouns such as, the *city council*, *a love poem*, *a stone wall*. In this function, the attributive nouns resemble adjectives which one of them modifies the other noun that comes after it (Quirk, et al., 1972, p.218).

### 1.3 Semantic Features

Adjectives can have numerous semantic features that can be divided into many sub-groups like (color, terms of value, size, age, weight, etc ....). They attribute qualities or properties of the noun (Hobi, 2011, p. 267), and the most two important qualities which are used in this paper are **Stativity** and **Gradeability**.

#### Stativity

Stative adjectives are those adjectives that indicate permanent inherent qualities. Stative meaning is a quality especially associated with attributive adjectives when they are used as a component of a noun phrase as in the example below:

13. My old blue jacket. (Chalker, 1984, p. 163).

In addition, adjectives are characteristically stative. However, many of them might be seen as dynamic. Stative and dynamic adjectives differ in various ways. For instance, a stative adjective such as *tall* cannot be used with the progressive aspect and the imperative one:

14. \*He's being tall.

15. \*Be tall.

In contrast, some adjectives can be dynamic like *careful* can be used as a dynamic adjective:

16. He's being careful.

17. Be careful. (Quirk, et al. 1972, p. 237).

#### Gradeability

Gradeability is another semantic feature of adjectives that are used in the attributive position. The majority of gradeability can be represented through comparisons:

18. tall                    taller                    tallest

19. beautiful            more beautiful            most beautiful

They can also be represented through modification by intensifier:

20. *very* tall    *so* beautiful    *extremely* useful (Green Baum & Quirk, 1990, p. 145).

Furthermore, those adjectives that are not inflected cannot be gradable, hence those adjectives are called ungradable adjectives. Ungradable adjectives are found in the following:

1. Attributive only adjectives like, *former*, *outright*, *chemical*, etc. ....
2. Nationality adjectives such as, *English*, *French*, etc. ....
3. Adjectives with absolute meaning like, *alternative*, *overage*, *equal*, *extra*, etc. .... (Chalker, 1984, p. 163).

#### **1.4 The Form**

Concerning the form, many common adjectives do not have forms such as, *good*, *hot*, *little*, etc., except some of them which are identified by their suffixes such as; *-able*, *-ful*, and *-y* as in *comfortable*, *playful*, and *dirty*.

Also, some of them can be identified by the inflection of comparative and *superlative*, like; *great* ~ *greater* ~ *greatest*. But many do not allow inflected forms such as; *disastrous* ~ \**disastrouser* ~ \**disastrousest* (Quirk, et al., 1985, p. 402).

#### **1.5 Order of the Attributive Adjectives in Standard English**

Celce-Murcia and Larsen-Freeman (2005, p. 185) offer a very concise list for the order of attributive adjectives. Adjectives that are only attributively used are the focus of this study. Below is the list of the order of attributive only adjectives:

1. Opinion: *beautiful*, *nice*, *wonderful*, *awful*, etc.
2. Size: *long*, *large*, *small*, *short*, *tall*, etc.
3. Most of the other qualities: *clear*, *busy*, *famous*, *new*, etc.
4. Age: *new*, *old*
5. Shape: *round*, *square*, *fat*, *thin*, *wide*, *narrow*, etc.
6. Color: *blue*, *red*, *white*, *black*, etc.
7. Participle forms: *running*, *missing*, *covered*, *broken*, etc.
8. Origin: *British*, *Italian*, *Chinese*, etc.
9. Material: *sandy*, *wooden*, *brick*, *paper*, *plastic*, etc.
10. Type: *electronic*, *human*, *chemical*, etc.
11. Purpose: *alarm* (*clock*), *tennis* (*court*), *walking* (*boots*), etc.

For example:

21. An ugly old gray wooden statue.

In example (21) it is clear that the adjectives should be in the following order: opinion, age, color, and material, it is not acceptable to put age in front of opinion, such as an *old ugly* gray wooden statue.

#### **2. Attributive Adjectives in Central Kurdish**

As a part of speech, in Kurdish, an adjective can express quality, characteristics, and features. It is explicit that this feature of adjectives appears in syntax and morphology. The main difference between adjective and noun in syntax is that an adjective is typically used as a modifier and is a modifier of a noun (Marif, 2014, p.109). Consequently, illuminating the criteria for identifying adjectives is the

main aim of denoting the adjectives, which is a mechanism of separating the adjectives from other word categories (Awl, 2008, p. 106).

Words do not classify as the parts of speech in modern syntax; instead, they are classified by conforming to the categories. Consequently, according to the semantic feature, the morphological form, and the syntactic function, words are classified into different categories. The semantic feature is mostly a criterion used to classify the adjectives. However, it is unreliable since some words can be nouns and adjectives at the same time, for example, *shirin, azad* (sweet, free). Thus, classifying adjectives in Kurdish according to the morphological features (morphemes) is a deterministic way because the adjectives take the comparative (*tr, er*) and superlative (*trin, est*) morphemes (Ahmed & Majeed, 2021, p. 359- 360).

Grammarians and linguists classified the parts of speech into two main groups, the primary group (noun, adjective, and adverb) and the minor group (article, preposition, number, and conjunction). One of the main differences between these two groups is that the first group separated in terms of form; for example, the comparative and superlative form of an adjective is different from a noun because the noun cannot take these morphemes (*tr (er), trin (est)*) and attaching to the adjectives (Fatah, 2010, p. 301). Concisely, even some linguists believe that an adjective is a part of the noun category. However, new studies consider adjectives as a separate category and also usually used to specify and constrain nouns in Kurdish Language (Abbas, 2019, p. 103).

## 2.1 Position of the Adjective

The position of adjectives in phrases and sentences is denoted through prenominal and predicative. The adjective has two main features that can be used in two functions, which are:

1. The adjective comes after the noun, and it becomes the noun's modifier. This phenomenon is called attributive use, for example, *guli sur* (red flower), *kçı jwan* (beautiful girl).
2. An adjective can be a predicative if it is used as copula construction and clause, for instance, *çala qulaka* (deep hole), *gunda duraka* (a remote village) (Majeed, 2016, p. 97).

The position of adjectives in the phrases are as in the following:

1. The adjectives are the final head in the attributive use, such as *guli zard* (yellow flower).
2. The adjectives are the final head in the attributive use of comparative construction, for example, *maleki gawratr* (a bigger house).
3. The adjectives are the initial head in the attributive use of superlatives, such as, *jwantrin mal* (the most beautiful house) (Ahmed & Majeed, 2021, p. 362-363).

Contrary to English in Kurdish, the adjectives frequently follow the nouns. This means that are two positions of adjectives which are attributive and predicative; in the attributive use, the adjectives follow the nouns, but in the predicative use, the adjectives can precede the nouns. Additionally, in comparative use, the adjectives can precede and follow the nouns, while in superlative use, the adjectives precede the nouns typically (Ahmed & Majeed, 2021, P. 362-363).

## 2.2 Syntactic Function of Attributive Adjectives

The sentence or elements are composed of a subject, verb, determiner, object, complement, or adjunct. All arguments are obligatory except adjunct, which is an optional argument. Some Kurdish linguists believe that in Kurdish adjectives can be a subject or an object and can fill the arguments of a sentence. Accordingly, a verb argument must fill with a verb. (Aziz, 2016, p. 135).

Furthermore, some words are noun categories (Adjectival nouns) that may have adjective features, and their features are presented in the adjectival use, such as *ser* (*lion*) in *sera zhn* (*lion woman*), *rewi* (*fox*) in *pyawi rewi* (*fox man*). Those nouns are marked as nouns and are in attributive use according to the marked intensity; they are also known as adverbials (Mehwi, 2014, p. 110).

Commonly, some features of an adjective distinguish it from a noun. An adjective works as a determinative in syntax and describes a noun. The adjectives do not determine each other but determine a noun within a phrase or a sentence, for instance:

(2.1) *Mndaleki jwan u şirin* (a beautiful sweet baby).

(2.2) *Kureki drezh u lawaz* (a thin tall boy).

In these examples, the adjectives that describe the nouns (*jwan*, *şirin*) are the adjectives that determine the noun (child); and the same meaning occurs in the second example. Moreover, an adjective can emerge in some syntactic situations; the adjectives can be attributive modifiers of nouns. However, nouns and verbs cannot be modifiers, and adjectives can be secondary predicates (Karacan & Khalid, 2016, p. 17).

In Syntax, the internal information of adjectives regarding the meaning is inherently the feature and nature of adjectives that are related to the nouns recognized. Deriving adjectives can appear due to the noun (complement) that fills the position of predicative (Saeed, 2019, p. 87).

Although, an adjective is defined as an independent category of the lexicon, in a sentence, it does not appear lonely; it comes with a noun or pronoun that indicates the characteristics of the nouns or pronouns, or becomes a part of a verb that completes its meaning (Aziz, 2016, p. 61).

## 2.3 Semantic Features

Generally, expressing some thoughts depending on some categories, some ideas in the deep structure are related to some categories that are not associated with other categories; for example, those words that express an incident or an activity are called verbs such as *eat*, *go* and *break*. Consequently, words that illustrate color or personal or object characteristics such as *white*, *blue*, *courage*, *hot*, and *cold*, are an adjective category. Thus, the number of categories varies between languages, for example, every language in the world does not have an adjective, but it is evident that every language has nouns and verbs (Fatah, 2010, p. 309).

It is noticeable that an adjective in its genuine concept expresses thoughts, volumes, colors, physical and personal characteristics, speed, age, and value. Those seven thoughts are the source of adjectives in most languages, which mean no language has adjectives that exclude these thoughts, but each language benefits differently from these thoughts. In other words, some languages may not have

all types of thoughts meaning that they do not have an adjective to express age and speed (*ibid*, P. 310). Thus, there are two significant qualities of adjectives which are **Stativity** and **Gradeability**.

### **Stativity**

Certainly, adjectives are described as words that are typically used with nouns to denote more information about the things that are referred to, for example, *happy* with people, *large* with objects, and *strange* with experience (Yule, 2010, p. 82).

In Kurdish, an adjective is also defined as a category of the main categories that appear in the form of a base word or constructed form juxtaposition of noun+ adjective and genitive combinations. The juxtapositions are modifier words and adjectives, examples include, (*çaw şin*) blue-eyed, a person whose eye is blue. In the genitive combinations, the attributive use of adjectives is (noun+ adjective), which accepts a juxtaposition noun, for example, (*çaw şin*) blue eye, an eye which is blue (Mehwi, 2014, p. 107-108).

### **Gradeability**

The main difference between nouns and adjectives is gradability; the adjective has a degree, as indicated by the comparative degree morpheme in the back (*tr, er*), and superlative degree morpheme (*trin, est*). As, it is obvious that the adjective category can take a degree. Hence, it is different from the noun category since it does not take a degree as well as comparative morphemes, for instance, \**kurtr*, \**very boy* – \**boyer* – \**kurtrin*, \**boyist*. Here, an adjective is used as a modifier of the noun; meanwhile, it does not emerge without a noun; consequently, the adjective is inside the noun phrase (Marouf, 2010, p. 59).

In the lexical categories, the adjective is the mere category that expresses quality and comparison, as most adjectives are gradable (Aarts, 2001, P. 32). In Kurdish, these words (*zor (very)*, *kam (less)*, *yekjar (once)*) may precede the adjectives. Even though the adjective is gradable, it has a significant characteristic of an invisible degree and can be increased or decreased. For instance, in Kurdish, these sentences clarify that an adjective has an invisible degree (Aziz, 2016, P. 144).

### **2.4 The Form**

Concerning the form, there is no difference between nouns and adjectives in Kurdish. It means that there is no grammatical feature or morpheme to discrete adjectives from the nouns. The main difference between these two categories is meaning and function (Marif, 2014, P. 110-111).

New words are made in the process of word formation which depends on the valency of the morphological process. The lexical words are different from the syntactic and morphological expressions that are used to fulfill the insufficient of the adjective, and they did not become independent words (*milky white*, *snowy white*). In addition, the adjectives with the phrasal words and collocation became separate words recorded in the lexicon. It is essential that the internal structure of those words is opaque, and not significant in grammar; for example, *masigrek* (a bird that catches fish is known as a fish catcher) will catch a fish, not a snake or a fish. Grammar that works with words approves that the below examples are in the genitive phrase and mysteriously accepted as adjectives and for example (*kureky aza* (a brave boy), *pyaweky dloz* (a loyal man) (Mehwi, 2014, P. 105).

An adjective must have these characteristics:

1. In Kurdish, words should express the semantic features that are expressed through adjectives. In terms of meaning, the word should be an adjective, and should be used as a prescribed word.
2. In terms of form, the word is to be identified as an adjective that takes comparative and superlative morphemes (*tr*, *er*, *trin*, *est*). Consequently, in Kurdish all adjectives take those morphemes, for example, *jwan\_tr* (most beautiful), *zhir\_tr* (wiser), *zirak\_tr* (smarter) ...etc.
3. A word with a verb can make a compound verb, for instance, *bçukkrdn* (minimise), *barzkrdnawa* (raise). The word to be identified as an adjective should have a complement that is represented by some verbs (Mehwi, 2014, P. 106-107).

## 2.5 Order of the Attributive Adjectives in Central Kurdish

Fatah (2010, p. 317) argues that adjectives in Kurdish should be in the following order in a sentence (color, size, shape), but it is obvious that fundamentally there is no rule to organize the adjectives in a sentence, although a difference needs to be made between simple adjectives with the compound adjectives or the idiom and lexeme adjectives (Aziz, 2016, p. 140-141). For instance:

(2.3) *Kureky ganjy balabarzy spim nard.* (I sent a young tall white boy).

(age, size, color, etc.)

(2.4) *Kureky balabarzy ganjy spim nard.* (I sent a tall young white boy).

(size, age, color, etc.)

(2.5) *Kureky spi ganjy balarzm nard.* (I sent a white young tall boy).

(color, age, size. Etc.)

## 3. Contrastive Analysis of the Attributive Adjectives in English and Kurdish

### 3.1 Points of Similarity

The points of similarity between the two languages are as follows:

1. Adjectives modify the nouns and pronouns in both Standard English and Central Kurdish.
2. In both languages, adjectives can take comparative and superlative morphemes.
3. The attributive use of adjectives is recognizable in both languages, the adjectives attribute and characterize the noun. Also, adjectives are identified as a separate class in both languages.
4. Syntactically, the referent of the noun in Standard English and Central Kurdish is not explicitly characterized by adjectives that are restricted to the attributive position.
5. There are some nouns that have attributive use in both languages. They are nouns that can be used in the position of adjectives and also are prescribed and characterized nouns.
6. Semantically speaking, changing the position of adjectives may change their meanings in both languages.

### **3.2 Points of Difference**

These two languages are different in the following points:

1. According to form, some English adjectives are formed by adding certain derivational suffixes (morphemes) to other parts of speech, or they may be attached to certain inflectional suffixes, while in Kurdish, no addition of morphemes occur.
2. In English, the attributive adjectives precede the nouns, in contrast, attributive adjectives in Kurdish follow typically the nouns.
3. In terms of order the adjectives are different in both languages. In English, there is a rule to organize the adjectives when they come in a sentence, but in Kurdish, there is no rule to organize the adjectives.

### **Conclusions**

An adjective is one of the main parts of speech in a language, in English and Kurdish, it has an important role in the description and analysis of sentence structure. The attributive adjectives are those adjectives that describe the nouns in terms of quality. Even though, some similarities were found in this study, there are some main differences. The main difference is the position of the adjectives in these two languages. In English, the adjectives precede the nouns typically, but in Kurdish, the adjectives follow the nouns frequently, which are related to the initial and final heads. The order of the adjectives is according to a rule of English while in Kurdish the adjectives do not follow a rule; there are some adjectives that come together as there is no rule to organize them in Kurdish. The findings show that attributive adjectives in Standard English and Central Kurdish share more similarities than differences.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the conclusions and findings of the study, it is recommended that the researchers of the linguistic field should investigate the suggested topics that are relevant to this paper, which are:

1. Attributive nouns in English and Kurdish.
2. Predicative adjectives in English and Kurdish.
3. Predicative verbs in English and Kurdish.

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