

عنوان مقاله:

?Relative Importance in English and Persian : Thematization or Tonic Prominence

محل انتشار:

مجله تحقیقات زبان شناسی کاربردی، دوره 1، شماره 2 (سال: 1389)

تعداد صفحات اصل مقاله: 14

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خلاصه مقاله:

There are two common ways to assign relative importance in spoken language: tonic prominence and thematization. The former is expressing the main points of information units in speech (Halliday, ۱۹۹۴), and the latter is putting an element at the beginning of a clause. This study explores how relative importance is realized in English and Persian. It also investigates how advanced Persian learners of English assign it in English. ۲۰ Persian declaratives were given to ۳۰ Persian Native Speakers (PNSs) to assign relative importance in whatever way. Results revealed that PNSs more thematize rather than use tonic prominence. Then, the English equivalents of the ۲۰ Persian declaratives were given to ۱۰ English Native Speakers (ENSs). Results demonstrated that ENSs thematize more too. Finally, the same English clauses were given to ۲۰ learners of English. Contrary to expectations, results showed their greater use of tonic prominence.

کلمات کلیدی:

thematizatio, tonic prominence, relative importance, speech, clause declaratives

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