

A Procedural Analysis of *kadhalik* in Modern Standard Arabic: Demonstrative or Discourse Marker?

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Abstract

The objective of this chapter is to apply a procedural analysis to the demonstrative form *kadhalik* in Modern Standard Arabic. It is argued that the form *kadhalik* can function either as a demonstrative or as a discourse marker. In the first use it consists of *kaaf 'al tašbüh* (*kaaf* for simile)+distal demonstrative *dhalik*, while in the second use it has grammaticalised into a single semantic unit. Using corpus examples, these two uses will be differentiated as the chapter further argues that the semantic contribution of both *kaaf 'al tašbüh* and *kadhalik* as a discourse marker can be systematically accounted for in procedural terms. This explains how both terms are used to make a discourse relation explicit by encoding procedural constraints on the interpretation process. The distinction of the two uses of *kadhalik* in procedural terms also explains distribution patterns in corpus data.

Keywords

Conceptual-procedural distinction, demonstratives, discourse markers, Modern Standard Arabic, relevance theory

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