A Contrastive Analysis of Linguistic Structures and Stylistic Devices of Sport Headlines in Iranian and English Newspapers

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Research Field: 0

Year Defended: 0

Thesis Title: Karshnasiards

Newspapers are one of the most important kinds of media. Among the contents of the newspapers, the headlines have received great attention because of their importance. The present study focused on identifying the differences and similarities in the linguistic structures and stylistic devices in sport-section headlines of Iranian Persian and English newspapers. To this end, 100 sport headlines from two Iranian Persian (Hamshahry, Etelaat) and two Iranian English newspapers (Iran daily, Tehran Times) during a 10 day period, 2014 were collected. Shams' (2007) framework of linguistic structures and stylistic devices was used. The results indicated that linguistic structures and stylistic devices were used in Persian headlines more than in English ones. The results also indicated that metaphor was used most frequently in both Persian and English headlines, but rhyme was used the least in Persian headlines, and rhyme, alliteration, and homophony were used the least in English headlines. On the other hand, in terms of linguistic structures, deletion and action deletion were used most frequently in Persian headlines while in English headlines space saving punctuations were used the most, and in Persian headlines, acronyms and abbreviations were used the least while in English headlines it was pre-modification which was used the least.