

In The Name of God

به نام خدا

A Comparative Study on English and Khezeli Kurdish Adjuncts based on Halliday (2004)

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List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full Form
AdvP	Adverbial Phrase
BNC	British National Corpus
COCA	Corpus of Contemporary American English
EFL	English as a Foreign Language
H&M	Halliday and Matthiessen (2004)
L1	First Language
L2	Second Language
LOB	Lancaster-Oslo/Bergen Corpus
NP	Noun Phrase
PP	Prepositional/Postpositional Phrase
RQ	Research Question
SFG	Systemic Functional Grammar
SFL	Systemic Functional Linguistics
SPSS	Statistical Package for the Social Sciences
SOV	Subject-Object-Verb
SVO	Subject-Verb-Object
TOC	Table of Contents
VP	Verb Phrase

Abstract

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), developed by Halliday in the 1960s, views language as a social semiotic resource for meaning-making in social contexts, simultaneously realizing ideational, interpersonal, and textual metafunctions in every clause. Despite extensive SFG research on adjuncts in English, research on Khezeli Kurdish, a Southern Kurdish dialect spoken by approximately 500,000 people in western Iran, remains severely limited, creating a significant gap in cross-linguistic analyses of minority languages. This study addresses the following research questions: (1) What are the frequencies and structural realizations of experiential adjuncts in English versus Khezeli Kurdish? (2) To what extent do interpersonal adjuncts in Khezeli Kurdish rely more on clausal forms than English? (3) What is the percentage overlap in functional correspondences across metafunctions? (4) How do cultural and contextual factors influence adjunct selection? (5) What pedagogical implications emerge for bilingual EFL education in Iran? To address these questions, a descriptive-analytic, mixed-methods design was employed using a parallel corpus of 74 declarative sentences compiled from *Inside Meaning* (Oxford University Press, 2005), an EFL textbook emphasizing SFG concepts. Sentences were purposively selected and validated via a structured expert questionnaire administered to 20 linguistics experts (10 native Khezeli Kurdish speakers with MA/PhD degrees and 10 SFG specialists from Iranian universities) through Google Forms (February 2025; response rate: 100%; inter-rater reliability: Cohen's $\kappa = .82$). Data analysis followed Halliday and Matthiessen's (2004) SFG model, combining qualitative coding via NVivo v.14 for metafunctional categories and quantitative frequency analysis via SPSS v.27 using chi-square tests and Cramer's V. Findings reveal that adverbials are the dominant realization in both languages (71.43% English; 70.37% Khezeli Kurdish for experiential adjuncts), prepositional phrases show near-equal distribution (~25–28% in both),