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Module: Translation English/Arabic/English

Level: MCIL 2

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**REPORTING VERBS IN THE NEWS MEDIA (PART 1)**

In English, there are a number of reporting verbs commonly used in the media as listed here:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | Finite verb | That  | Finite clause |
| Subject | saygo on to sayreportstateclaimmake it clearaddexplainmentionarguecommentdeclareannouncewarnsuggestinsistallege | that  | … |

An informed source declared that the American President would visit Arabia Saudi soon to discuss the current situation.

In English reported speech, the modal verb “will” must be changed to “would” when the introductory verb (in the example above declared), while in Arabic this change is not required.

أعلن نصدر مطلع بأن الرئيس الأمريكي سيزور العربية السعودية قريبا لمناقشة الأوضاع الراهنة.

Exercise 1: read the notes below before translating the following examples, paying attention to the modes of narration.

1. A source close to the Pentagon made it clear that the US navy was determined to carry out military manoeuvres in the near future.
* The reporting verb ‘to make something clear’ is used in the past, thus lending itself to بيّن أو أوضح
* The phrasal verb ‘to carry out’ can be replaced here with other vebs, such as ‘to perform’ يقوم , ‘to execute’ ينفذ or ‘to conduct’ ينجز as they all collocate with the noun ‘manœuvre’ مناورة.
* Words like ‘navy’ and ‘militar’ can be translated as القوات البحرية and عسكري respectively.
1. It was reported by the central bank that the current year would be the third in succession to witness a fall in demand for oil from the industrial countries.
* The framing verb ‘to report’ used in the past and in the passive voice lends itself to:

أفاد تقرير صادر عن...أن

جاء في تقرير صادر عن ...أن

ذكر...في تقرير صادر عن...أن

* The expression ‘in succession’ can be translated into على التوالي
1. Recently, yhe Iraqi government has accused the neighbouring countries, particularly Turkey of destabilizing the country. It has also declared that Iraq is aware of the intensive military operations that some countries are undertaking on the Iraqi borders. Further, a spokesman for the Iraqi government has added that no military operations threaten the security of Iraq.
* In the above text, there are one simple sentence and two complex sentences:

The Iraqi government has accused X of… (simple)

It has also declared that …(complex)

A spokesman for the Iraqi government has added that …(complex)

* The main verbs used in the text, i.e. ‘to accuse’, ‘to declare’, and ‘to add,’ are in the present perfect tense, thus lending themselves to اتهم.بيّن/أوضح, and أضاف respectively.
* The verb ‘to destabilize,’ which is the opposite of ‘to stabilize,’ lends itself to تقوم بـ/ تعمل على زعزعة استقرار...
* The expression ‘the intensive military operation’ can be translated into عمليات عسكرية مكثفة
* The expression ‘a spokesman for’ can be translated into الناطق الرسمي عن.../ المتحدث باسم
1. In an article, the newspaper, quoting a reliable source, said that investigations had been carried out on 300 officers accused of being involved in a coup attempt. Further, it went on to say that about 100 officers had been dismissed, while 200 others had been given stiff penalties.
* ‘In an article, the newspaper, quoting a reliable source, said that …’ lends itself to وفي مقالة، قالت الصحيفة نقلا عن مصدر موثوق به إن...
* The verb ‘to be involved’ can be translated into اشترك/يشترك، انخرط/ ينخرط. However, in this context, it has a negative overtone, thus lending itself to تورّط/ يتورّط
* The expression ‘coup attempt’ can be translated into محاولة انقلاب
* The expression ‘to go on to say’ used in the past lends itself to وأردف قائلا، واسترسل قائلا، ومضى قائلا/يقول, and the like.

Consider the following expressions commonly used with the verb ‘to say’:

A short statement said that…وقال بيان مقتضب إن/ بأن ...

In commenting on…, he said that …وقال معلقا إن/بأن...

In criticizing, he said…وقال منتقدا إن/ أن...

He added, saying that…وأضاف قائلا إن/ بأن...

He went on to say…ومضى قائلا إن/بأن...

He went on/carried out to say that …وأردف قائلا إن/ بأن ...

He went on to say that …واسترسل قائلا إن/ بأن...

Confirming…, he said that …وقال مؤكذا إن/ بأن...

Emphasizing…, he said that …وقال مشددا إن./ بأن...

Denouncing …, he said that …وقال منددا إن./ بأن ...

1. State television said a number of people were arrested in the capital for having weapons and gas cylinders. The interior Ministry warned in a statement that the forces would deal firmly with protesters acting ‘irresponsibly.’
* The expression ‘state television’ can be translated into تلفزيون الدولة (الرسمي)، التلفزيون الرسمي للدولة
* Gas cylinders lends itself to أسطوانات الغاز
* ‘The Interior Ministry’ lends itself to  وزارة الداخلية. It is worth noting that in the UK the equivalent is the ‘Home office’, while the minister in overall charge is called ‘the home secretatry’. In the USA’s federal system there seems to be no single body that is equivalent, but there is somethingcalled ‘the department (and secretary) of Homeland Security.
* The verb ‘to war,’ in ‘to warn in a statement’ can be translated حذرّت في بيان لها
* The verb ‘to deal with’ along with the adverb ‘firmly’ can be translated into تتعامل بحزم، تتعامل بشدة، لا تتعاون، تضرب بيد من حديد
* The word ‘acting’ in this context lends itself to يتصرفون
1. The Times Newspaper, published in London, declared that an unofficial dialogue between the US and the PLO had begun with the aim of achieving a resolution of the main outstanding Middle East problems.
* The verb ‘to publish’ which means نشر. ينشر lends itself to صدر/يصدر, as in التي تصدر في/ من/ عن...
* PLO stands for ‘Palestine Liberation organization’, that is منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية
* The complex prepositional phrase ‘with the aim of’ can be translated into بغية، بهدف، من أجل
* In media, the word ‘outstanding’ has two meanings, i.e. “unexpectedly good’ and ‘remaining’. Here it means ‘remaining’, thus lending itself to العالقة
1. In their final communiqué, the participating countries expressed the disappointment of their hope over the delay in seizing the political opportunity offered by the US President.
* The word ‘communiqué’, which is commonly used in media, simply means ‘statement’, thus lending itself to بيان
* The word ‘final’ which collocates well with ‘comminiqué’ or ‘statement’ can be translated into ختامي
* The preposition ‘over’ here lends itself to إزاء
* The verb ‘to seize’ which collocates with the noun ‘opprtunity’ can be translated into يغتنم or ينتهز as they collocate well with فرصة in Arabic.