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Contrastive Analysis of Concord in Arabic, English, and Indonesian

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Abstract: Recognizing the differences in concord among languages will be very important to avoid mistakes in using these languages because concord errors are the most common errors in language use. This article was a contrastive study of concord in Arabic, English, and Indonesian, and the implication of teaching the languages. Through contrastive analysis, the grammatical concord system of the languages was compared to determine the similarities, differences, and teaching implications. Library research was used through a qualitative method. The data was taken mainly from Arabic, English, and Indonesian grammar books. The results showed that the concord in Arabic and English was grammatical, while in Indonesian, it was notional. The element of concord in Arabic was more complex, comprising phrases and clauses, and consisting of five features: person, number, gender, definiteness, and case markers. Meanwhile, the English concord occured on the clause domain of person and number, differing from that of Indonesian which was based on meaning. This study provided an incentive to foreign language tutors, especially, Arabic and English tutors, to develop strategies in helping students master concord and avoid grammatical errors.

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Introduction

Studies had shown that concord errors were inevitable among Arabic and English learners.[1][2][3] Sa'adah found 293 errors from a thousand cases among Arabic learners. Oribabor stated the different types of errors in English students' essays, such as Subject-Verb in regards to number and person. In addition, Hassan, et.al. found concord errors in

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[1] M. Husni Arsyad, "Metode-Metode Pembelajaran Bahasa Arab Berdasarkan Pendekatan Komunikatif untuk Meningkatkan Kecakapan Berbahasa," *Jurnal Shaut Al-Arabiyah* 7, no. 1 (2019): 13–30.

[2] Maskuri Maskuri, Miftachul Taubah, Aisyatul Hanun and Nofiyatun Nahilah, "Analisis Kesalahan dalam Menggunakan Lahjah Arabiyah pada Maharah Kalam," *Lahjah Arabiyah: Jurnal Bahasa Arab dan Pendidikan Bahasa Arab* 4, no. 2 (2023): 159–170.

[3] Sihhatul Mahbubah, "Bentuk-Bentuk Interferensi Sintaksis Bahasa Indonesia Terhadap Bahasa Arab pada Naskah Soal MFQ MTQ Nasional XXVI," *Studi Arab* 12, no. 1 (2021): 65–76.

English newspapers in Nigeria.[4] This reflects that concord is an important issue that requires consent among teachers and linguists to find solutions to the errors committed by Arabic, English, and Indonesian learners from investigating the difference between Arabic, English, and Indonesian concord. Concord is a linguistic system that requires a match between one element and another in a language structure.[5] In English, it is represented in three terms: concord, congruence, and agreement.[6] In Arabic linguistics, it is called *al-mutabaqah*. In Indonesian, it is a synonym of *kongruensi* 'congruence' and *kesesuaian* 'conformity'. In this article, concord and agreement are synonymous.

Some studies related to concord had been carried out. Haig & Forker wrote 'Agreement in Grammar and Discourse: a research overview. They elaborated the agreement diachronically, and there was an interrelation of pragmatic, semantic, and syntactic factors of agreement.[7] Winchester wrote concord and agreement features in modern standard arabic.[8] Alsarayreh also wrote negative concord in modern standard arabic.[9] This article underlined the hypothesis that there were similarities and differences of concord among Arabic, English, and Indonesian languages. Also, it was predicted that the more complex the concord system a language has, the more difficulties the learners possibly have.[10] Based on the theories of concord and the hypothesis mentioned earlier, a contrastive analysis of concord in the three languages was performed and the implication of teaching them was also predicted. No further study had been conducted on a contrastive study on the concord of Arabic, English, and Indonesian and their implication in the teaching practices to the non-native of these languages. To fill this gap, this study was therefore carried out. Theoretically, this article presented the similarities and

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[4] Isyaku Hassan and Nazri Latiff, "An Analysis of English Concord Errors in Selected Nigerian Newspapers," 2020.

[5] Khairul Asyraf Mohd Nathir, "Nazm Al-JurjaniyaAnd Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) Approach In Quranic Text Study: Pendekatan Nazzm Al-JurjāNiy dan Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (Sfl) Dalam Kajian Teks Al-Qur'an," *Al-Qanatir: International Journal of Islamic Studies* 21, no. 1 (2021): 1–11.

[6] Valentin Geshev, "On the Syntagmatic Typology of Modern Bulgarian," *Съпоставително Езикознание/Сопоставительное Языкознание* 4, (2016): 30–48.

[7] Geoffrey Haig and Diana Forker, "Agreement in Grammar and Discourse: A Research Overview," *Linguistics* 56, no. 4 (2018): 715–734.

[8] Lindley Winchester, "Concord and Agreement Features in Modern Standard Arabic," *Glossa*: *A Journal of General Linguistics* 4, no. 1 (2019).

[9] Mahmoud Al-Sarayreh, Marion M. Reis, Wei Qi Yan, and Reinhard Klette, "Detection of Red-Meat Adulteration by Deep Spectral–Spatial Features in Hyperspectral Images," *Journal of Imaging* 4, no. 5 (2018): 63.

[10] Adi Marsono, "Revitalisasi Pendidikan Bahasa Arab Berbasis Pendidikan Life Skill pada Jurusan Pendidikan Bahasa Arab di IAIN Tulungagung dalam Menghadapi Masyarakat Ekonomi Asean (MEA)," *Jurnal Dinamika Ekonomi Syariah* 7, no. 1 (2020): 7–29.

differences of concord in Arabic, English, and Indonesian, and predicts the difficulties faced by the learners. Practically, this study was benefited teachers of foreign languages in the presentation of the similarities and differences in concord to their students, through a contrastive analysis approach in order to reduce errors.

Methods

The data were collected from Arabic, English, and Indonesian grammar books, using the note-taking method. The reading techniques were conducted by reading data sources, and simultaneously taking note of the Arabic, English, and Indonesian grammatical concord on cards. The data were in the form of theories or rules on Arabic, English, and Indonesian concord, as well as phrases and clauses. The contrastive analysis method is used as an activity for comparing the structure of two or more languages, in order to determine their similarities and differences.[11] This activity is concerned with analyzing the structure of the target languages based on description and not historical analysis. The procedures in this contrastive analysis were divided into four stages, namely, description, selection, comparison, and prediction.

Description, each type of Arabic, English, and Indonesian concord was described with examples, and their transliteration, structures, or translations were written in English and Indonesian. Selection, the grammatical rules and elements that cover concord were selected from Arabic, English, and Indonesian. The elements of the phrases or clauses were compared after being written down. Comparison, the grammatical rules, phrases, or clauses containing concord in Arabic, English, and Indonesian, as well as their similarities and differences were compared. The source books used in comparing the grammatical rules of these languages were from (1) Arabics: Ahmad Mukhtar Umar et.al.'s *al-Nahwu-al-Asasi*, Ibrahim Barakat's *al-Nahwu al-'arabi, Tatbiqu al-Nahwi* by Ar-Rajihi, *al-'arabiyah li al-Nashi'in* by Mahmud Ismail Shini, et al., (2) English, A Communicative Grammar of English by Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik, and (3) Indonesian, Alwi, et al. *'Tata Bahasa Baku Bahasa Indonesia* 'Formal Grammar of Indonesian'. Prediction, considering the similarities and differences of concord among these three languages, it was predicted the possible difficulties of the learners. Then, the

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[11] Misdawati Misdawati, "Analisis Kontrastif dalam Pembelajaran Bahasa," *A Jamiy: Jurnal Bahasa Dan Sastra Arab* 8, no. 1 (2019): 53–66.

possible suggestions were made for strategic teaching, which was written in the implication section of this study. These steps were applied in the analysis.

Results and Discussion

Corbett formulated the elements of concord namely domain, controller, target, features, and values[12] through the following chart:
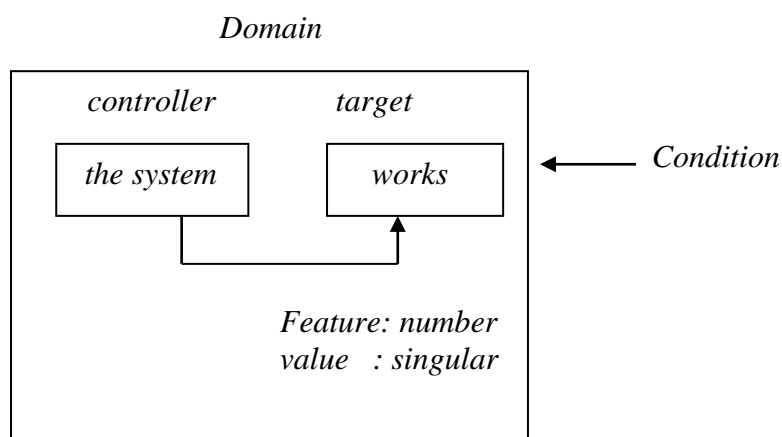
Domain

Figure 1. Elements of Concord

From the figure 1, it was observed that the elements of the concord were: a) *Domain,* which is the syntactic environment where the concord occurs. Grammatically, there are two domains, i.e., clause and phrase. In the example above, the concord domain is a clause "The system works". b) *The controller*, which means the element that determines the concord, in the example above it is the subject of the noun phrase 'the system'. c) *The target* is the element whose form is determined by the controller, in this case it is the verb 'works', or the predicate verb which has to be in the third person with "s". d) *Feature* or category is the aspect where concord occurs, in this case, it is number. e) *Value*, in this case, the type of the number that occurs in the concord which is a singular. e) *The condition* refers to the type of concord, whether it is grammatical, notional, internal (syntactic) and external (index) agreement. Based on Corbett's proposal, the concord elements of the Arabic, English, and Indonesian was contrasted and compared through the elements. The domain is the syntactic environment where the concord occurs i.e., the grammatical levels (clauses or phrases). In Arabic, concord was found at the level of phrases and clauses:

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[12] Greville G. Corbett, "The Agreement Hierarchy Revisited: The Typology of Controllers," *Word Structure* 15, no. 3 (2022): 181–225.

Table. 1 Examples of the Domain of Concord in Arabic, English and Indonesian

No.	Arabic	English	Indonesian
1	جاء الطالب المهذب	The polite student comes	Mahasiswa yang sopan itu datang
2	Al- الطالب مسلم	The student is a Muslim	Mahasiswa itu Muslim
3	الطالبة مسلمة	The (female) student is a Muslim	Mahasiswi itu Muslimah

Table 1 is showing the phrase (1) *al-talibu al-muhadhdhabu* in the example above showed that there was a concord in the categories of definiteness, number, gender, and case between the noun *al-talibu* and the adjective *al-muhadhdhabu*. The concord on the category of definiteness was marked by *alif lam ta'rif* in each word, the concord in the category of singular number was indicated by the absence of dual or plural markers in both words. Meanwhile, the masculine gender concord was indicated by the absence of feminine markers. The nominative case concord was marked by the vowel 'u' in the noun and the adjective. If the noun was changed to a feminine type, the adjective would follow.

In example (2), the relationship between the Subject and Predicate function shows a concord of the singular number and masculine gender categories. The singular number is indicated by the subject constituent *at-talibo-u* 'The student' and that of the predicate *Muslim-un* 'Muslim' which was marked by the inflectional suffix –*u/un*. Meanwhile, the masculine gender is marked by *un-* and the suffix *u/un* marks the nominative case. As for the sentence (3*) 'At-talib-at-u muslim-at-un'* 'the female student is a Muslim'. The relationship between the subject and the predicate function shows a concord in the categories of singular number and feminine gender. The singular number category of the subject constituent "*At-talib-at-u*" which means 'the student' and the predicate constituent *'Muslim-at-un'* which means 'Muslim' are marked by the inflectional suffix -*u/un*. Meanwhile, the feminine gender is marked by the suffix *'at'*. The inflectional suffix -*u/un* also marks the nominative case. Examples (01) to (03) indicate that the domain of concord in Arabic is at the clause and phrase level. In English, the concord occurs in the Subject-Verb relation. Accordingly, the domain of concord in English is a clause. For example:

Table 2. Examples of the Elements of Concord in English and Indonesian

1	The boy walks to school.
2	The boys walk to school
3	**Batu** itu **memukul** anjing kami
	S: N V
	The stone hit our dog
4	**Budi memukul** anjing kami.
	S: N V
	Budi (the name of a person) hits our dog

Table 2, in the example (1), the singular subject 'boy' requires a singular verb 'walks'. Meanwhile, in the (2), the plural subject 'boys' needs a plural verb 'walk'. These examples show that the domain of concord in English is a clause between its subject (S) and verb (V). In Indonesian, the domain of concord is on clauses on the basis of semantic aspects, rather than grammatical. Besides, concord also occurs on the pronoun and its antecedent. Example (3) shows that the sentence does not match, the Subject "Batu" (the stone) and the Predicate Verb "memukul" (hit) in terms of their meaning even though it is not grammatically wrong. Semantically, the sentence in the example is unacceptable because 'hitting' requires that the subject is a person and not a stone. This is different from sentence (4), which is accepted because it shows the person as the Subject performing the activity of hitting.

Based on the description, the domain of concord in Arabic is both clause and phrase. That of English is on clause domain. While in Indonesian, it is based on the semantic aspect. Therefore, Arabic has a wider domain of concord, i.e., clause and phrase. Meanwhile, English only has the same clause domain as in Indonesian. Although the concord in Indonesian is notional. The controller is an element that determines the concord. In Arabic, the controller comprises *Musnad Ilaih* 'Subject' which controls the *Musnad* 'the predicate or verb on clause domain. The *man'ut* 'noun' controls the adjective in the noun-adjective phrase. As well as the subject or verb, which controls the adverb of condition '*hal*'.

At the phrase domain, Arabic concord is divided into five types, and each unit consists of the controller and target element: Head- Modifier which includes:

Table 3. Concord Between Head-Modifier on Phrase

a.	Noun –Adjectives:

1	المؤمن القوي خير من المؤمن الضعيف
	Al-mu'minu al-qowiyyu khoirun
	Def. 'beliver;. S:N sing.mas.Nom. Def. 'strong'adj. sing. Mas.Nom.
	min al-mu'mini al-dha'ifi
	'from. Def. beliver.N: sing.mas.Gen 'weak' Adj. Sing. Mas. Gen.

b.	Noun-Numerals:

2	جاء رجل واحد
	Ja'a rojul-un waḥid-un
	'come'VPerf. 'a man'.N.sing.Mas.Indef.Nom. 'one' Num. Sing. mas. Indef. Nom.
	One man come
	Hanya seorang laki-laki datang (Ind.)

3	ولم يخضر إلا طالبان اثنان
	lam yaḥḍur illa ṭa:lib-ani isnani
	'are not present 'V.imp.Mas. sing. except 'students-two' two.Num. dual.
	Students have not come yet, except two.
	Dan belum ada yang datang kecuali dua mahasiswa (Indonesian)

c.	Numeral-Noun:

4	إن عدة الشهور عند الله اثنا عشر شهرا
	Inna iddat-a al-syuhur-i inda Allahi 'itsna 'asyara syahr-an
	'Truely' part. 'the number 'S.N.Tgl.Fem 'months'mdf. N.Pl. 'on'Prep. 'Allah/God' 'twelve'.
	Num. Mas. 'month'. N.sing.Mas.
	Sesungguhnya bilangan bulan disisi Allah itu 12 bulan.

Table 3, example (1) showing that there is an agreement in the phrase "*al-mu'minu al-Qowiyyu*" 'the strong believer' between the noun '*al-mu'minu*' and the adjective *al-Qowiyyu* on the categories of definiteness, number, gender, and case. The definiteness is marked by the *alif lam*. The singular number in both the noun and the adjective is marked by the absence of dual and plural markers. The masculine gender is marked by the absence of feminine markers on both nouns and adjectives. Meanwhile, the concord on the nominative case is marked by the ending '*dhommah*' or "*u*", in both the noun and the adjective. Meanwhile, dealing with the phrase "*al-mu'mini al-dha'ifi* which means 'the weak believer' there is an agreement on the category of the case between the Head '*al-mu'mini' and* the modifier *al-dha'ifi,* in genetive case marked by the ending *kasrah* or "*i*".

The phrase (2) "*rajul-un wahid-u*" (one man) in the sentence above, shows the concord between the noun *rajul-un* (a man) and *wahidun* (one) in the category of singular number, nominative cases, masculine gender, and definiteness. This case also occurs to the dual number as the example 3. The phrase (3) طالبان اثنان '*talibani ithnani*' (two

students) indicates that there is a concord between head and modifier. Besides, in the phrase between the noun *talibani* and the numeral *ithnani* in the category of the number. *talibani and ithnani* are dual. They are both masculine gender and nominative cases. The concord of the dualist number is marked by the suffix –*ani* in each word, which is also the nominative case marker for the dualist noun. The masculine gender is marked by the absence of a feminine marker in each word. Meanwhile, the indefiniteness is marked by the absence of *alif lam ta'rif*. There is also an agreement in the English translation of "two students", i.e., between the numeral 'two' and the noun 'students'. However, there is no concord in the Indonesian translation of 'dua mahasiswa'. Moreover, in the phrase of Numeral Noun, there is an agreement of numerals and nouns in 4.

Modifier-Head: this phrase comprises demonstrative pronouns-Noun and modality-verb: The phrase *Dha tayyarun* 'This pilot ' in (ذا طيار ماهر) shows that there is a masculine gender and singular number concord between the demonstrative pronoun *Dha* 'this' and the noun *tayyarun.* As well as the demonstrative pronoun phrase (ذى الفتاة شاعرة) *Dhi al-fatatu* 'ini pemudi' in the example above. This indicated that there is a concord of the demonstrative pronoun Dhi, which is a singular feminine with the noun *al-fatatu,* which is feminine gender. The phrase (مادام يدرس) shows that the modal verb *Ma dama* (still) is congruent in the third person category, masculine gender, and singular with the verb *ya-drus-u* (learn). The suffix –*a* in modal verbs marks a singular number and masculine gender. In the verb *ya-drus-u*, the masculine gender is marked by the prefix *ya-*, and the singular number is indicated by the suffix –*u*. Therefore, there is concord between the modal and the verb. In contrast, there is no concord in the English phrase of 'still study' and in Indonesian '*masih belajar'*. This means that there is no agreement between modal and verb in English and Indonesian.

Head-Head, this phrase comprises the concord between adjectives and Verb-Verb.

Table 4. Examples of Concord Between Ajectives and Verb-Verb

1	المسجد كبير وجميل
	Al-Masjidu kabirun wa Jamilun
	Al-Def.Mosque'big'.Adj.sing.Masc'and' 'beautiful'.Adj. Masc.
	The mosque is big and beautiful
	Masjid itu besar dan indah
2	يسود الرجل بالعلمِ و الأدبِ
	Yasudu al- rajulu
	'honor' V.Mas. sing. al. Def. 'a man 'N.sing.Masc. 'with' Prep.
	al-'ilmiwa al-'adabi
	al-Def.'.science' N.Mas.sing.Def. Gen. 'and' conj. Def.
	'politeness' N.Mas.sing.Def. Gnt.
	The man is honered with science and politeness.
	Seorang laki-laki itu akan mulia dengan ilmu dan sopan-santun.

The example (1) showing that the coordination of the adjectives *kabir-un* (big) and *jamil-un* (beautiful) is in agreement with the masculine gender category, because there is no feminine marker. It functions as a masculine noun predicate, a single number, a non-definiteness, and a nominative case category with a marker of the *un-* suffix on each of these adjectives. The coordination of two or more nouns combined by a conjunction "*harf 'ataf* "requires concord in the case category only. The example (2) above shows that there is a concord of the noun *al-'ilmi* 'science' with *al-'adabi* (politeness) in the masculine gender, singular number, definiteness, and genetic case category because it is after the preposition "*bi*" marked with *kasrah* or sound *i* at the end of the word.

Head-Apposition concord: The opposition in Arabic is called '*badal*' which literally means 'substitute'. Terminologically, *Badal* is a noun that follows another directly as a substitute for the case category. The Apposition in Arabic does not require a concord in the category of definiteness.[13]

Tabel 5. Concord on Head and Apposition

مررت بأخيك بكرٍ
Mara-tu bi 'akhi ka bakr-in
'walk' Vperf. 'I' 'with' Prep. 'brother.Gen.your'Bakar'N. Gen
I walked with your brother, Bakar.
Saya berjalan dengan saudaramu, Bakar

The example in the Table 5 showing that there is a concord of the noun *'akhi* in the single masculine category in the genitive case. The appositional noun *Bakar* in the masculine singular category and in the genitive case category. At the clause domain, the

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[13] Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik, "A Communicative Grammar of English," (R*outledge*, 2013).

concord is based on the clause function filling elements that are contained in *'jumlah ismiyah'* (sentence starting with a noun) and at *'jumlah fi'liyah'* clauses starting with a verb, between verb and its noun. As well as the concord between Subject or Verb or Object with *al-hal* 'adverbs of condition'.

In detail at the clause level, concord consists of several units, namely: (1) Subject-Predicate (S-P) concord in *jumlah ismiyyah* 'sentences preceded with noun' which includes: (a) Nominal Clause: Subject Noun-Predicate Noun (S:N) –(PN), Subject Personal Pronoun -Nominal Predicate (S: Ppr)-(P: N), Subject Demonstrative Pronoun-Predicate Noun (S:Dem.Ppt– P:N), Subject Proper Name–Noun Predicate (S:Pr.N) – (P:N), (b) Adjective Clauses, including: Subject Noun – Predicate Adj. (S: N)- (P: Adj), Personal Pronoun Subject – Adjective Predicate (S: Ppr) –(P: Adj), (c) Verbal Clause, includes: Subject Noun-Predicate Perfective Verb (S: N)- (P: Vp), Subject Noun-Predicate Imperfective Verb (S:N) –(P: Vimp), Subject Noun- Predicate- Imperative Verb (S: N)- (P: Vimp). The concord of noun subject and noun predicate is found in the category of number, gender, and case. For example:

Table 6 Concord on Noun Subject and Noun Predicate

1	الطالب مسلم
	Al-talib -u muslim-un
	Def. 'student' S: N. Def.sing. Mas.Nom. 'Muslim'.P: N. Mas. sing.indef. Nom.
	The student is a muslim.
	Mahasiswa itu muslim (Indonesian)
2	الطالبة مسلمة
	Al- talib-at-u muslim-at-un
	Def. 'student' S: N. Def.sing. Fem.Nom. 'muslim'.P: N. Fem. sing.Indef. Nom.
	The (fem.) student is Muslim
	Mahasiswi itu Muslimah

(2) Concord on the Predicate Verb - Subjects (P-S) in *jumlah fi'liyyah* "clause beginning with a verb", including V-S clause: Perfect Verb Predicate-Noun Subject (P: Vp) – (S: N) and V-S clause: Imperfect Verb Predicate- Noun Subject (P: VIP)-(S: N). For example:

Table 7. Concord on Predicate Verb and Subject Noun in Arabic verbal Sentences

1	حضر الطالب
	haḏara al- talib
	'come'.V.perf. Mas.sing. al-Def. 'student'N. Mas. sing. Nom.
	The student comes
	Mahasiswa itu hadir
2	حضر الطالبان
	haḏara al- talib-ani.
	come'V.perf. Mas.sing. al-Def. 'two students'N. Mas. Dual. Nom.
	Two students come
	Dua Mahasiswa itu hadir (Indonesian
3	حضر الطلاب/ الطالبون
	haḏara al- ṭullabu/ al-talib-una.
	come'. V.perf. Masc.sing. al-Def. 'students' N. Masc. pl. Nom.
	The students come
	Mahasiswa-mahasiswa itu hadir

Example (1) in the Tabel 7 shows the concord of the masculine gender category and the singular number between the verb *hadara* 'comes' and the noun *al-talibu* 'The student'. The masculine gender category is marked by the absence of a feminine indicator, namely *ta' ta'nis sakinah.* Meanwhile, the singular number category is marked by the absence of dual and plural indicators in the verb and the noun. In the example (2), it appears that there is only a masculine gender category concord in *hadara al- talib-ani* clause. Meanwhile, the number category concord does not occur, because the verb is singular and the noun is dual marked by *–ani*. Also, in the example (3) there is no concord of the number category in the clause *hadara al-tullabu/al-talib-una,* because the verb remains in the singular form, while the noun is in the plural number. Either plural with irregular or regular plural with the marker *–una*, while for the gender category there is a concord in the clause. Principally, agreement of subject and verb in Arabic depend on word order. When the verb precedes its subject, it remains singular and only in agreement with gender. And when it follows the agent, the verb agrees with the number and gender.[14]

(3) Concord between Subject, Predicate, or Object, and *al-hal* 'Adverb of Condition' including: Subject-adverb, Verb–Adverb, and object-Adverb concord. For example:

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[14] Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik, "A Communicative Grammar of English," (R*outledge*, 2013).

Table 8. Concord between Subject, Predicate, Object, and Adverb of *Hal*

1	رجع عمر إلى بيته مسرورا
	Raja'a Umar ila baiti hi masrur-an
	'went home 'Vperf.'Umar'.sing.Mas. 'to' Prep.home 'his' 'happy' Adv.sing. Mas.
	Umar went to his house happily
	Umar pulang kerumahnya dengan gembira (Indonesian)
2	.وصلت سميرة راكبة
	Waṣalat Samiratu rakibat-an
	arrived'Vperf. Fem. 'Samirah'.N Fem. sing. Adv. Fem. acc.
	Samirah arrived driving (by car)
	Samirah sampai dengan berkendaraan
3	The girl dances
	S: N.sing V (with "s" at the end of the verb)
4	The girls dance
	S: N.pl. V (No "s" at the end of the verb)
5	*Batu itu memukul anjing kami*
	S: N V
	The stone hit our dog.
6	*Budi memukul anjing kami.*
	S: N V
	Budi (Name of Person) hits our dog.

Clause (1) in the table 8 "*Raja'a Umar ila baitihi masrur-an*" shows that there is a concord between the verb predicate, the noun that functions as the subject and the '*al-hal'* which means 'adverb of condition' in the singular number category and masculine gender. In this example, the verb is in the form of the third person singular masculine, which is marked by the absence of a feminine indicator, namely *ta' ta'nith.* Meanwhile, the subject of the personal name Umar shows a singular masculine name and the *al-hal* which means 'adverb of condition'. *Masruratan* indicates a single masculine category. So, there is a concord of the single number category and the masculine gender. The example (2) *'Wassala-t Samiratu rakibat-an'* shows that there is a concordance between the verb *washallat*, which is categorized as feminine with the subject noun. Samirah which is a feminine self-name and is also marked by the feminine marker *ta' marbuthah.* As well as the *al- hal* 'adverb of condition', which shows the feminine gender category marked with *ta' marbutah* and singular number with no dual or plural markers in the word. Therefore, there is a concord between the singular number and feminine gender categories.

In English, since the concord occurs on Subject and Verb relation, the controller is the Subject which controls the Verb as the target. Morley stated that "A first feature of the subject is that, it is the element that controls the form of the verb". Examples (3) and (4) show that the verb 'dance' should agree with the subject "The girl". When the subject

is singular, the verb should be with "s" at the end and when it is plural, the verb should be without "s". This means that the subject is the controller of the verb, which becomes the target of concord. In Indonesian, the controller is the Subject that controls the predicate or Verb on the basis of meaning. As mentioned, the verb "memukul" or 'hit' in examples (5) and (6) have an agreement with the subject Budi in terms of meaning, while it is not appropriate to the subject of 'anjing' (dog). Based on the notional concord, the subject becomes the controller of the verb or predicate, in Indonesian.

From the explanation and examples mentioned above, it is summarized that the controller and the target in Arabic are the subject, which controls the *musnad* as the head of phrases. While in English, the controller is the Subject, directing the verb. Also, the same in Indonesian, the Subject directs the predicate on the basis of the meaning. Feature refers to the grammatical category that determines the concord. As for the Arabic category, Hassan explained syntagmatic relations *al-'alaqat al-siyaqiyah*, by stating the five categories of concord, namely: (a) *syakhs* (person), (b) *al-'adad* (number), (c) *al-nau'* or *al-jins /al-tazkir wa ta'nis/* (gender), d) *al-ta'yin* (definiteness), and *al-'alamah al –i'rabiyah* (case marker). Therefore, there are five grammatical categories in Arabic concord compared to that in English and Indonesian assuming they exist. Arabic has three types of persons, namely: *mutakallim* (1st), *Mukhatab* (2nd), and *Gha'ib/ah* (3rd). The 1st Person in Arabic consists of the personal pronouns "أنا" ,*'ana'* (I) the singular and

nahnu or (we) is plural. In the person category, Arabic requires a concord between personal pronouns and verbs.

Table 9. Concord on Person in Arabic, English, and Indonesian

1	أنا أذهب إلى المستشفى
	'Ana 'azhabu 'ila al-mustasyfa
	Ppr 1st person Sing Verb 1st person
	I go to the hospital
2	أنت تراها فى مضمار الطريق
	'Anta tara ha fimaḏmari al-tariq
	Ppr 2nd person V. 2nd Person
	You see
3	I dance (1st Person: Singular)
	Saya menari (Indonesian)
4	We dance (1st Person Plural)
	Kami menari (Indonesian)
5	You dance (2nd person singular)
	Kamu menari (Indonesian)
6	You dance (2nd Person plural)
	Kamu menari (Indonesian)
7	He/she/it dances (3rd person singular)
	Dia menari (Indonesian)
8	They dance (3rd person plural).
	Mereka menari (Indonesian)

The example (1) in the Table 9 shows that the personal pronoun أَنا *'Aaa'* (I) and the verb *'azhabu'* (I go) have concord in the person category marked by the *hamzah* prefix "أ" in the verb which is only suitable for the personal pronoun *'Ana'* (I). The example (2) '*Anta tara ha fi madmari al-tariq'* shows that there is a concord between the 2nd person singular in personal pronoun '*Anta* (You) with the predicate verb '*tara'* (see) marked by the prefix "*ta*" in the verb *tara*.

In English, the personal pronoun also agrees with the verb in terms of number either singular or plural. The examples (4) to (8) show that when the subjects are I, We, You, and They, the verb 'dance' should be without 's'. However, when the subject is He, She, or It, the verb 'dances' should be with 's'. It indicates that there is an agreement between Persons and Verbs in English. In contrary, in Indonesian, there is no agreement between personal pronoun and the verb. Whatever the subjects are, the verbs remain the same, for examples (in translation of those examples in English). When the subjects: Saya (I), Kami (We), Kamu (You), Dia (He/She), Mereka (They), the verb 'menari' (dance) remain the same. From the explanation and examples, it is observed that in Arabic, concord in Person and Verb are more complex by including 1st, 2nd, 3rd subject combining with the number and gender features. While in English, concord differs from

1st, 2nd, 3rd person plural without "s". In the verb to 3rd person singular that the verb must be with an 's/es', and there is no concord in Indonesian between persons and verbs.

In Arabic, there are three kinds of numbers, namely: *mufrad* (singular), *musanna* (dual), and *jama'* (plural).[1516] The concord in number category is in noun-adjective phrase and nominal clause domain between Subject and nominal Predicate. For examples:

Table 10. Concord on Number Arabic English and Indonesian

1	الأدب حميد
	al-'Adabu hamidun
	Def.'Literature'S:N.sing.Mas. 'commendable' Adj.Sing. Mas.
	Literature is commendable
2	الأخوان مجتهدان
	al-'akhaw-ani mujtahid-ani
	al-Def. 'Two friends'S: N.Dual.Mas. 'diligent'.P: Adj.Dual.Mas.
	The two friends are diligent
3	الطلاب حاضرون
	al- tullabu hadhiruna
	The students are present /'coming'
	Mahasiswa-mahasiswa itu hadir (Indonesian)
4	He knows
5	They know
6	He was
7	They were
8	To treat them as hostages is criminal.
9	The Brothers Karamazov is undoubtedly Dostoyevsky's master-piece.
10	*Pelamar banyak, tetapi mereka tidak memenuhi syarat*.
	N. Pl. Pronoun Pl
	There are many applicants, however, they are not qualified
11	*Pelamar banyak, tetapi dia tidak memenuhi syarat*.
	N. Pl. Pronoun Sing
	There are many applicants; however, he is not qualified.

The example (1) in the Table 10 shows that there is a concord between the noun *Al- 'Adabu* 'literature' and the adjective *hamidun* 'commendable' in the number category, as well as in the example (2) الأخوان *'al-'akhawani mujtahidani'*. There is a concord in the category of subject dualist *al-'akhawani* with the adjective complement "*mujtahid-ani*" marked by the suffix –*ani* as a marker of dualist in each of these nouns. While in the example (3) الطلاب اضرون *'al-tullabu hadhiruna',* there is a concord of the plural

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[15] Ibnu Rawandhy Hula, "Qawaid Al-Taujih dalam Penentuan Dasar-Dasar Gramatika Sinstaksis Arab (Kajian Atas Konsep Istidlaliyah Nahwiyah)," *A Jamiy: Jurnal Bahasa dan Sastra Arab* 5, no. 2 (2020): 330–350.

category, the noun *Al-tullabu* is *jama' taksir* 'broken plural' of *al-talibu* and the noun *hadhiruna* is *jama' muzakkar salim* 'masculine plural' noun which is marked by the suffix *–una.*

In English, Leech and Starvick stated that concord is on the categories of number. The concord in English only arises with the present and the past tense verb as in examples 4 to 9. Examples (4) to (7) show that when the subjects are singular, i.e., He, the verb 'knows' with 's' and the past tense "was" is used. Meanwhile, when the subjects are plural 'they' the verb 'know' without 's' and the past tense 'were' is used. This indicates number concord in English. In addition, a clause acting as a subject is regarded as singular. Furthermore, plural words and phrases used as names, titles, quotations, etc. count as singular. Meanwhile, in Indonesian, concord is basically on number and gender through semantic aspect. In terms of numbers, an Indonesian sentence requires agreement in numbers between the pronoun and antecedent as the example (10) and (11). The antecedent of the pronoun "mereka" 'they' in the sentence (10) is the phrase 'pelamar banyak' (many) applicants. Therefore, the pronoun "dia" 'he' in the sentence (11) is not a substitute. This is because plural nouns are an error in terms of meaning when replaced by singular pronouns. Therefore, the sentence requires an agreement in terms of numbers. From the description, it is clear that the concord in Indonesian occurs in the category of number based on the meaning. Dealing with numbers, Arabic and English has concord between subject, verb, and noun phrase in Arabic. While in Indonesian, it is on noun and its antecedent has an external agreement.

In Arabic, there are only two genders, namely *mudzakkar* 'مذكر' (masculine) and *mu'annas* (feminine).[17][18][19][20] However, there is also one more category is 'neuter'[21] in

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[16] Muhammad Muchlish Huda and Khoirul Amin, "Bentuk Fi'il, Fa'il dan Mubtada'khabar dalam Qashidah Al-Burdah Bait 1 Sampai 58," *El Wahdah* 2, no. 2 (2021): 67–91.

[17] Halya Millati, "The Reconstruction Of Kaidah Al-Tazkîr And Al-Ta'nis In Paradigm Of Gender Equality Interpretation," *Jurnal At-Tibyan: Jurnal Ilmu Alqur'an Dan Tafsir* 5, no. 2 (2020): 259–280.

[18] Ihyak Ihyak, "Konsep Nusyuz dalam Kitab Fathul Qarib Perspektif Mubadalah," *Journal of Innovation Research and Knowledge* 2, no. 3 (2020): 867–878.

[19] Mohammad Ramzi Zakaria, Asmaa Hakimah Abd Halim and Rafedah Mohd Said, "Penerapan Ilmu Gender di Sekolah Agama Johor: Satu Tinjauan Awal," *Jurnal Al-Sirat* 19, no. 1 (2020): 107–116.

[20] Nor Dalilah Zakaria and Raihanah Azahari, "Menghayati Nilai Iman, Islam dan Ihsan dalam Mendepani Cabaran Kontemporari," *Ar-Ra'iq* 5, no. 1 (2022): 20–74.

[21] Tibia Nalurita Rachmani, Rinaldi Supriadi and Mad Ali, "Pemarkah Jumlah dan Gender dalam Bahasa Arab, Bahasa Jerman, dan Bahasa Indonesia (Analisis Kontrastif)," *Muhadasah: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Arab* 5, no. 1 (2023): 49–62.

the gender category, Arabic also requires gender concord at the noun-adjective phrase and nominal clause domains.[22]

Table 11. Concord on the feature of gender in Arabic, English, and Indonesian

1	جاء الطالب المهذب
	Ja 'a al- talibu muhadhdhab-u
	'come'Vperf .'the student'S.N.Tgl.Mas.'polite'Adj.Sing. Mas.
	The <u>polite</u> <u>student</u> came
2	جاء ت الطالبة المهذبة
	Ja 'a al- talibat-u al- muhadhdhabat-u
	'arrives'Vperf. Def.'student'S.N.Sing.Fem. Def.' polite'.Adj.Sing. Fem.
	The polite (female) student arrived
	Seorang mahasiswi yang sopan datang (Indonesian)
3	زيد مجتهد
	Zaid-un mujtahidun
	'Zaid' S: N.Sing.Mas 'diligent' P: N.Sing.Mas.
	Zaid is deligent
	Zaid itu seorang yang rajin (Indonesian)
4	المنظر رائع
	al-mantharu ra i'
	'the view' S: N Sing. Mas. 'beautiful' P: Adj. Sing.Mas.
	The view is beatiful (English)
	Pemandangan itu indah (Ind)
5	*Ibu Fatimah menceraikan suaminya*
	S: N. Fem. Verb.
	Mrs. Fatimah divorced her husband.
6	*Tuti akan menikahi Johan minggu depan.*
	S: N. Fem Verb
	Tuti will marry Johan next week

The example (1) and (2) in the Table 11 show the existence of concord in noun-adjective phrases. Example (2) shows that there is a masculine gender concord in the noun *al-talibu* and the adjective *muhadhdhab-u,* which is unmarked. While example (3) shows the concord of the feminine noun *al-talibat-u,* which is marked by *ta' marbutah.* As well as the adjective *muhazzabat-u,* which is also feminine and marked by *ta' marbutah* as the clause of (4) and (5). Clause (4) shows that there is a concord in the masculine gender category between the subject Zaidun, the predicate *mujtahidun* in number, and the gender masculine category, while the example (4) shows a concord between the masculine subject *al-mantharu,* the noun *ra'i'-un* in the single number category, and the masculine gender. This indicates that there is a concord in the gender category in the noun clause.

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[22] Mochamad Syaifudin, "Pembelajaran Sintaksis Bahasa Arab; Review Diferensiasial dengan Bahasa Indonesia," *Qudwatuna* 5, no. 1 (2022): 1–32.

In Indonesian, the concord on the category of gender is also on the basis of meaning caused by cultural factors. Grammatically the sentences in examples (5) and (6) are correct, however culturally, they are considered inappropriate. This is because the verbs "menceraikan" (to divorce) and "menikahi" (to marry) in Indonesian patriarchic culture generally require a male perpetrator. A man is able to divorce and marry a woman. However, a woman only asks for a divorce from her husband or to be married to a man. Therefore, those sentences are considered errors in traditional Indonesian views. Dealing with concord in gender category in English, there is no rules found in grammar books to be compared with that in Arabic.

The term definiteness in Arabic is called التعيين *'al-ta'yin'*. 'Ism (noun), and is divided into two, namely: *ma'rifah* 'definite' and *nakirah* 'indefinite'. In the category of definiteness, there is a concord in adjective-noun phrases.

Table 12. Concord of the Feature of Definiteness in Arabic English and Indonesian

قرأت كتابا مفيدا فى السيرة المحمدية
Qara' tu kitab-an mufid-an
'read'Vperf. 'I 'Ppr. 'a book'N.indef. 'benefical' Adj.indef.
fi al-sirah al-muhammadiyyah
'tentang'Prep. Def.'history 'Def. Phropet Muhammad.Adj. N.
I read a meaningful book on the history of prophet Muhammad.
Saya membaca sebuah buku yang bermanfaat tentang sirah nabi Muhammad (S.A.W).

The phrase '*kitab-an mufid-an* in table 12 shows that the adjective *mufid-an* agree with the noun - *kitab-an* in the category of defenetness. Both the noun and the adjective are indefinite, marked by *tanwin* at the end of each noun and adjective or suffix "–an"; However, in the adjective phrase al-sirah al-muhammadiyah, there is concord in the category of definiteness between the noun *al-sirah* and the adjective *al-muhammadiyah* in the definite category marked by the prefix *alif-lam ta'rif*. There is no finding related to concord on definiteness in English and Indonesian to compare to that in Arabic. The term case in Arabic grammar is called الإعراب [*I'rab*]. Ar-Rajihi defined I'rab 'case' as a sign that is located at the end of a word and shows its function in the sentence. Arabic noun-adjective phrase requires a concord between the noun and the adjective in the case category. For example:

Table 13. Concord of the Feature of Case in Arabic Engliah and Indonesian

قرأت كتابا مفيدا فى السيرة المحمدية

Qara' tu kitab-an mufid-an
'read'V.perf.'I'Ppr.1'book'N.Indef.Acc. 'beneficial' Adj.indef.acc.
Fi al- sirati al-muhammadiyati
'about'Prep Def.'history'Def.Gen. Def. Muhammad.Adj.Def. Gen.

Example in the Table 13 shows the concord in the category of a case between the adjective-noun phrases. The noun "*kitab-an"* has an accusative case because it is the object of the verb *Qara'tu* 'I read'. The accusative case is marked with the suffix *-a* at the end of the word, as well as the adjective *mufid-an,* which is in agreement with the noun kitab-an marked by the suffix '-a'. Meanwhile, in the noun phrase, the adjective *al-shirat-i al-muhammadiyat -i* shows the concord of the genetic case category because it is located after the preposition *fī* ' 'in'/ 'about' with the *kasrah* case marker or the suffix '–*i*'. Based on the concord case in Arabic, there is no explanation found in the English and Indonesian grammar books. The similarities and differences of concord in Arabic, English, and Indonesian are summarized in the following table:

Table 14. Similarities and Differences of Concord in Arabic, English, Indonesian

Elements	Arabic	English	Indonesian
Theory	Grammatical	Grammatical	Notoinal
Domain	Clause-Phrase	Clause	Clause
Controller	Musnad Ilaihi (Subject/Mubtada' Fa'il),	Subject	Subject
	Pronoun Head (Man'ut)	Pronoun	
Target	Musnad Khabar/Predicate Verb Adjective	Verb	Verb
Feature	Number Gender	Number	Number Gender
	Person Definiteness Case	Person	
Value	Singular, dual Plural Masculine-feminume	Singular, Plural	Singular plural
	1st, 2nd, 3rd Person Definite-indefinite Nominative-accusative Geneitive	1st, 2nd, 3rd person	Masculine-feminime

The table 14 is showing the similarities and differences of concord in Arabic, English, and Indonesian. Dealing with the basis or types of concord, Arabic and English have the same basis that is grammatical, which is different from Indonesian that has

semantic meaning. In regards to the domain, the Arabic concord is in the clause and phrase aspect. While English and Indonesian have clause domains. The controller of concord in Arabic is *Musnad Ilahi*, comprising *Mubtada'* (Subject) in *jumlah Ismiyah* (sentences preceded with a noun), and *Fa'il* (subject) in *jumlah fi'liyah* (clause preceded with verb at clause levels). Then *manut* (the noun) in noun-adjective phrases. English clause also has Subject as controller. The target in Arabic is *khabar* or the predicate,[23] *fi'il* 'verb'[24] and *na'at* 'adjective'.[25] In English, it is the verb. While in Indonesia, it is the predicate.

Concord is a special phenomenon of languages. Every language has its own rules on concord. This difference is caused by many aspects such as different word orders such as in Arabic and Urdu,[26] different grammatical categories involve in concord such as Arabic and English,[27] concord principles of grammatical and notional, concord types of internal (syntactic) and external or index agreement, and views on agreement, namely: against purely syntactic, against purely semantics, and purely index agreement approach. Concord has two principles, namely, grammatical and notional. Grammatical refers to the agreement between subjects, verbs, complements, heads, and modifiers in phrases, pronouns, antecedents, etc. Meanwhile, notional concord is based on meaning or semantics.[28] Based on that theory, the concord in Arabic and English is grammatical, while in Indonesia is notional.

Revera stated that there were two types of concord, namely *internal* or *syntactic,* and *external* or *index agreement*. The first referred to the agreement on the basis of syntactic categories comprising gender, number, and case between a head noun and its modifier. Meanwhile, the second referred to the agreement on the basis of referential indices, such as pronoun-antecedent and subject-verb agreement. Based on this theory,

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[23] Rappe Rappe, "Hal-Ihwal Jumlah Ismiyah dalam Bahasa Arab," *Jurnal Shaut Al-Arabiyah* 6, no. 1 (2018): 1–12.

[24] Muhammad Muchlish Huda and Khoirul Amin, "Bentuk Fi'il, Fa'il dan Mubtada'khabar dalam Qashidah Al-Burdah Bait 1 Sampai 58," *El Wahdah* 2, no. 2 (2021): 67–91.

[25] Kristina Imron, "Analisis Kesalahan Morfologi dan Sintaksis Pada Abstrak Skripsi Mahasiswa Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Arab UIN Raden Fatah Palembang," *Proceedings of International Education Conference* 1, no. 1 (2021): 19–27.

[26] Mohammed Ebrahim and Mansour al-Shibani, "Asymmetrical Subject-Verb Agreement in Standard Arabic and Urdu Languages: A Comparative Study," *International Journal of Innovation, Creativity and Change* 7, no. 5 (2019): 228-243.

[27] Zainab Kadim Igaab and Saja Mohammed Magrood Altai, "Concord in English and Arabic: A Contrastive Study," *International Journal of English Linguistics* 8, no. 2 (2018): 288-297.

[28] Geoffrey Leech and Jan Svartvik, "A Communicative Grammar of English," (R*outledge*, 2013).

Arabic and English apply both syntactic and external agreement while Indonesian applies an external agreement.

Conclusion

Based on the explanation, it is concluded that the concord in Arabic and English is grammatical while Indonesian is notional. The concord in Arabic is more complex since it comprises all five grammatical categories. Meanwhile, English constitutes parts of grammatical categories. These differences cause difficulties among Indonesian learners of both Arabic and English. As well as, for non-native Arabic and English learners. Therefore, a contrastive approach is suggested for minimizing errors in mastering the languages. From the result above, non-native English is prone to make errors on the Subject-Verb concord in the categories of person and number, especially in using verbs with or without an *es/s* and also for the collective noun subject and Verb concord. This phenomenon often occurs among Arabic learners, since they have a more complex concord system. The errors are of several types, for example: on noun-adjective phrases, predicate Verb-Subject Noun, and Subject and Predicate Verb. Moreover, for Indonesian, concord is a problem in learning Arabic or English, since the native only has a notional type. This implication confirmed the hypothesis that the more complex system, the more possible errors were committed. Therefore, in teaching non-native speakers, especially in Arabic and English, which have more complex grammatical concord, tutors have to focus on the differences in concord to minimize errors and to practice a contrastive analysis approach in teaching.[29] This article was limited to grammatical and notional concord in the domains of clauses and phrases. Moreover, it does not include contrastive analysis on negative and proximity concord. Therefore, further studies on negative concord, proximity, pragmatic, and discourse level are needed to be carried out. In addition, studies with regard to the teaching strategies of Arabic and English to foreigners in the field are needed to minimize learners' errors.

Acknowledgment

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[29] Haruna Shuaibu, Ibrahim Ghali and Ahmed Baba Mustapha, "Concord Usage in English Grammar: An Overview," *Journal of Humanities and Social Science* 26, no. 9 (2021): 1-5.

Author Contributions Statement

The first author (S) analyses Arabic data related to grammatical alignment, while the second author (AK) analyses the role of alignment in language as a comparison between Arabic, English and Indonesian.

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