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# CF-9: Anticipatory Closure

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From The Encyclopedia of Arabic Rhetoric

## Definition

A rhetorical device in which the speaker introduces an early phrase that guides or prepares the listener for the final word of a clause or rhyme of the verse, thus enhancing rhythmic harmony and closure. This rhetorical pre-emption or foreshadowing guides the listener's expectation.<sup>[1]</sup>



### CF-9: Anticipatory Closure

**Category** Linguistic Embellishments ('ilm al-badi')

**Subcategory** Paragraph Structure & Flow

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## Example 1

وَسَبِّحْ بِحَمْدِ رَبِّكَ قَبْلَ طُلُوعِ الشَّمْسِ وَقَبْلَ الْغُرُوبِ.

And glorify the praise of your Lord before the rising of the sun and before its setting.

[Qur'an 50:39](#)

## Explanation

The phrase “قبل طلوع الشمس” sets up a rhythmic and thematic expectation, fulfilled by “قبل الغروب”.

## Example 2

وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ لِيظْلِمُهُمْ وَلَكِنْ كَانُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ.

And Allah was not to wrong them, but they wronged themselves.

[Qur'an 29:40](#)

## Explanation

The structure “...وَمَا كَانَ اللَّهُ لِيظْلِمُهُمْ... وَلَكِنْ كَانُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ” anticipates a contrastive resolution, which arrives with “...وَلَكِنْ كَانُوا أَنفُسَهُمْ يَظْلِمُونَ”.

## References

- <sup>1</sup> Ahmad al-Hāshimī, *Jawāhir al-Balāgha fī al-Ma'ānī wa-al-Bayān wa-al-Bādī* (Windsor: Hindāwī Foundation, 2019), 367-368, ISBN 9781527316386.

Categories: Arabic Rhetorical Devices | Linguistic Embellishments ('ilm al-badi') | Paragraph Structure & Flow

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