Paronomasia

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Definition

The occurrence of two words which sound similar but have different meanings.[1][2][3][4]

Types of Paronomasia

There are several types of Paronomasia:

(A) Complete Paronomasia (al-jinās al-tāmm)

The two words are identical but they have different meanings. This is also known as a pun.

(B) Incomplete Paronomasia (al-jinās ghayr al-tāmm)

The two words differ in one aspect such as:

1. **Reverse Paronomasia (jinās al-qalb)**

   The letter order is changed to make an anagram or a palindrome.

2. **Morphological Paronomasia (jinās al-ishtiqāq)**

   The two words are derived from the same root but have different morphological forms.

3. **Fabricated Paronomasia (al-jinās al-mulaffaq)**

   Two unrelated words that sound the same appear together.

4. **Resemblance Paronomasia (al-jinās al-muḍāriʾ)**

   The two words differ by one letter, but the different letters have the same point of articulation.

5. **Non-resemblance Paronomasia (al-jinās al-lāḥiq)**

   The two words differ by one letter, and the different letters have different points of articulation.

6. **Distorted Paronomasia (al-jinās al-muḥarraf)**

   The two words are the same but have a difference in a vowel.

See also

- Pun
- Palindrome
- Evasive Letterplay

References

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2. ↑ Ayman Amin Abd Al-Ghani, *Al-Kāfī fī al-Balāgha: Al-Bayān, wa al-Badīʿ wa al-Maʿānī* (Cairo: Dār al-Tawfīqiyya lil-Turāth, 2011), 223-234.
3. ↑ W. P. Heinrichs, 'Rhetorical Figures', in *Encyclopedia of Arabic Literature*, ed. Julie Scott Meisami and Paul Starkey (London: Routledge, 1998), 660, ISBN 0415068088. DOI: 10.4324/9780203020425
4. ↑ Lidia Bettini, 'Jinās', in *Encyclopedia of Arabic Language and Linguistics Online*, ed. Lutz Edzard and Rudolf Erik de Jong (Leiden: Brill, 2011).

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Paronomasia
الجناس، التجنيس

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