



University of Zabol

Faculty of Humanities

Department of English

Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of  
Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)

**Subject:**

The Comparative Study of Causal Conjunctions in the top Iranian and  
International Applied Linguistics Papers

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## **Abstract**

Writing is a crucial skill in English classes, requiring students to develop various linguistic, cultural, and intellectual abilities to excel (Barkawi, 2007). Achieving coherence and cohesion in writing is essential, necessitating the proper organization of ideas to establish a strong writing style. This study was conducted on applied linguistics research articles by Iranian and international authors, focusing on causal conjunctions within the framework of Halliday and Hassan (1976), and utilized the AntConc program. The corpus involved 50 English articles from both Iranian and English journals in the field of applied linguistics, examining causal links based on Halliday and Hassan (1976) and Liu (2008). The findings revealed a preference for the use of the causal conjunction "thus" in Iranian journals, while "then" was more common in English journals. Additionally, a higher frequency of causal conjunctions was observed in the "findings and discussion" section compared to other sections. Interestingly, Iranian journals exhibited fewer causative conjunctions in the "introduction" section, whereas foreign journals had fewer in the "conclusion" section. This discrepancy could be attributed to the influence of the authors' first language and their content expression methods, warranting further investigation to elucidate this phenomenon.

**Keywords:** Cohesion, Cohesive Devices, Causal Conjunctions, Iranian, International, Applied Linguistics Journals, Articles