

Q/ How does English differ from Arabic concerning gender system?

A/ English does not have gender for second person pronouns like Arabic *انتَ و انتِ* and does not have gender for *الناقاة و البعير*

The following English example translated into Arabic illustrates the kind of problems gender can pose in translation:

- **Shampoo** the hair with a mild WELLA-SHAMPOO and lightly towel dry.

*يغسل الشعر بشامبو "ويللا" الملطف ثم يجفف الشعر بشكل بسيط بواسطة منشفة جافة*

Note: The translator uses *passive voice* to avoid using gender because he does not want to restrict the sale of the shampoo to men or women.

The secretary spared no effort in organizing the office.

*لم تدخر السكرتيرة جهدا في ترتيب المكتب.*

In the example above, the translator uses feminine gender 'السكرتيرة' despite the fact that 'the secretary' can be feminine or masculine. This is because this job is often occupied by women.

## Person

*Person is the category of person relates to the notion of participants roles.*

Q/ Compare between English and Arabic as far as person system is concerned?

A/ In English we have first person (I, we) second Person, (you) and third person (he/she/it/they) in Arabic the person system has both a gender and number dimension as in " هُنَّ ، انتم ، انتنَّ "

Q/ How is person distinction reflexed?

A/ Some languages unlike English have some **formality/politeness dimension** in their person system, in French for example: *vous* as opposed to *tu*.

1.1. Translation of Verb 'BE' (i.e. 'am, is ,are/was, were/be, been'):

