**Al-Mustansiriyah University**

**College of Arts**

**Translation Department**

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**CONTRASTIVE GRAMMAR**

**Fourth Year/ Morning & Evening Classes**

**Lecture # 15**

**Case in English**

English has two cases:

i-Common case as in :

* The boy came in. subjective
* I met the boy. objective

ii-Genitive Case as in:

* This is the boy’s bag.

The basic meanings of the genitives in English are:

1. Possessive: Ali’s bag – Ali has a bag
2. Subjective: The prisoner’s escape – the prisoner escaped
3. Objective: the prisoner’s release – the authorities released the prisoner
4. Descriptive: teacher’s college- a college for teachers
5. Origin: a lady’s story- the story originated by the lady
6. Measurement: five minutes’ walk- a walk which will take five minutes

The relations expressed by the genitive constructions can also be expressed by ‘of constructions’, with no place for free variation between using these, especially when the possessor is an inanimate entity:

* The legs of the chair --\* chair’s legs