

ANALYZING SPEECH ACTS IN TRIBUNE NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: UNVEILING IMPLICIT MESSAGES AND ACTIONS

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Abstract

This paper focuses on speech acts in seven articles from The Tribune newspaper randomly pulled from the January to March 2024 editions. The random number generator of StatTrek made a guarantee that each month would feature six articles, without any overlapping of months. The present study hinges on the Speech Act Theory, first introduced by J. L. Austin in 1962 and later developed by John Searle in 1969. Austin divided speech acts into assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and declarations which correspond to the language functions such as informing, instructing, promising, apologizing and declaring respectively. Staying with the idea of speech acts, the study will entail the identification of how The Tribune uses communication strategies through these speech acts. Discovering such information will help the researcher understand more about the newspaper's linguistic tactics hence help the reader. It is shown that 88 numbers are assertive, 38 numbers are declarative, 33 numbers are imperative expressive, 3 numbers are directive and 9 numbers are commissive. About this, the following findings recount how The Tribune's language use positions the language and controls the discursive field in the public sphere, underwrites authority, and instigates process of social modulation. This paper aims to give a more profound understanding of the manner in which the newspaper unfolds and articulates discourses as well as practices and the stance toward the readership and journalism. It identifies the importance of doing speech acts in media communication and the part they have in influencing the discusses in the society.

Keywords: Speech acts, Newspaper analysis, Communication strategies, Linguistic tactics, Public discourse, Societal discussions

1. Introduction

Speech acts are basic language elements considering verbal communication. According to John Austin in 1962, speech is a form of action. This important monograph established the basics of communicative purposes of language. The theory was later developed by John Searle in 1969 who recognized five fundamental types of speech acts, namely, assertives, commissives, directives, expressives and declaratives. Each speech act according to Searle has its own purpose in communication starting from conveying emotions to making assertions or promises.

Hussain et al. (2021) analyzed political speeches while (Khan and Chaudhary 2023) investigated leaders' statements in education and (Afzaal 2022) considered advertisements using the following framework; However, these studies illustrate how different contextual situations expose intentions and actions that guide such moves. Even though a lot of work has been done on this issue there is one area that IMHO stands out as needing attention: application of Speech Act Theory to publications in newspapers like Tribune daily for instance. Whilst it is requested to investigate the role that is played by speech acts in the media and how readers interpret events, there is a gap. Why this study is important? In literature on journalism, applying Speech Act Theory (unexplored for the most part) on newspaper stories can fill a void. Secondly, if they know how speech acts are applied in news media, journalists will be able to tell news stories better and influence public opinion and conversation. Lastly, by identifying the major categories of speech actions employed in the Tribune this study can help understand media practices and how language constitutes social

narratives. Thus, it will establish a strong foundation for future researches addressing different newspapers and other forms of media from the field of pragmatic analysis concerned with use of speech acts.

The aim of this study is to exhaustively analyze speech acts in 18 Tribune newspaper articles released from January to March, 2024. This research, however, places itself within the framework delineated by Searle (1969) and his classification of speech acts, with a view to defining how different illocutionary forces are represented or not expressed through speech act types and their implications on pragmatic implicatures that may be implied in the selected texts. The primary question that drives this investigation reads as follows: “In what way(s) do the kinds of speech acts that were integrated into Tribune newspaper articles during these times reflect some prominent communicative strategies employed by reporters and what are the effects of these strategies on readers’ construal of reported events?” This article attempts to analyze this web of speech acts which exist in journalism discourse in order to reveal some of the strategies used by authors who writing for newspapers. Thus, it is expected that this detailed investigation can give some ideas of how language affects interpretations and understandings of the communication strategies in a way.

Furthermore, this research specifies the newspaper as a particular domain of research investigation which is a ground of discourse investigation and overlooking the roles of language as hidden, vague or clear communication. In conclusion, this research embarks the intellectual journey of scholarly analysis of speech acts within the specified corpus of Tribune newspaper. It highlights and influence the newspaper contribution for information and audience reliable perspectives as a state of perceptions and acknowledging the situations according to the stated facts. Thus, this study inspects the advancement of theoretical and empirical interactions of between language, media and cognition.

2. Literature Review

In the efforts to gain a better and improved understanding on the aspect of how Vice Chancellors (VCs) in Pakistan and other instructive pioneers use language to convey activities and messages within the educative setting, (Khan and Chaudhary 2023) made a study. Based on the findings of the study, it is identified that VC’s are central in compelling understudies to develop an interest in learning and ensure that they take responsibility to the advancement of the nation. Official college websites were used in this study, and data from VC communications are included in this study utilizing a mixed-methods approach. These messages were first subjected to the Discourse Act Hypothesis which was formulated by Searle (1969). The study demonstrated that the discourse acts within the messages fall into three fundamental categories: It breaks down into belongs to the class of representational (40%), commissive (36%), and expressive (24%). This is the social fact, which concerns contextualization; these discourse acts translate their planning implications successfully. The examination asserts that VCs strategically employ expressive, compassionate, and agent-talking acts to make positive over improvements in understudies, create the optimistic learning milieu, and better turn the college to the planned understudies. This objective highlights the significance of dialect with regards to administration in dispersion of instruction and regulation improvement in Pakistani establishments.

(Afzaal 2022) analyzed how people engaged in discourse acts in captivating Pakistani advertisements for customers. There were typical signals which showed that marketers use commercials as a sturdy instrument which turns consumers into captivated customers. Searle’s Discourse Act Hypothesis of 1969 provided a hypothetical system for the assessment. The information collection also consisted of thirty written notices from magazines, dailies, and social sites like face book. The specific assertions and attitudes

contained in the notices were revealed during the information analysis with a help of the specific technique of a qualitative, clear approach. The pondered quantitatively and qualitatively the discourse acts, identifying its kinds and frequencies according to the Searle's hypothesis. As per posing of the questions and answers, publicizing favored the use of forceful, orderly and persuasive Discourse Acts. This ranged from orders, rules, guarantee, and assurance concerning the solidity of their brands. This looks at how discourse acts by marketers to enlighten, persuade and elicit emotive responses, and reassure the customers on the advantages of acquiring their merchandise.

The analysis of the linguistic features of the news headlines is a critical part of studying the means by which information is conveyed (Mothana and Juma'a 2021). It further shows how although purposes of headlines are to show how newsworthy an article is and what it is about, the peculiarity of such messages makes it difficult for viewers to grasp the intended meaning. Thus, to resolve this problem, the study suggests using a practical approach from the standpoint of the speech act theory as a technique for evaluating the headlines. The first objective was to conduct a descriptive, practical research on the identified speech acts in the headlines of COVID-19 by Aljazeera English. To accomplish this purpose, the researchers Taxonomy of Speech Acts Bach and Harnish (1979). Kaplan's research showed that constatives, which are statements of fact, and directives, which are orders or requests, were the most common varieties of the speech act than the commissives, which of commitments or pledges. However, other such types of verbs were missing such as, acknowledgments, verdictives, and effectives. In performing their headline writing, the authors on Aljazeera's website anchored COVID-19 as a globally relevant topic and so engaged in deliberate use of particular speech actions; these include the episodic constatives and commands meant to enhance readers' understanding of the topic in focus. This tactic insists on the importance of observing the use of speech actions in headlines with a view of enabling the readers derive meanings within them.

In this research study, (Hussain, Ali, and David 2021) examined the use of speech acts of insult with the speeches delivered by members of the Provincial Assembly of Sindh, Pakistan by applying Austin's (1962) and Searle's (1969) Speech Acts Theory. According to this theoretical framework, language is used as an instrument to carry out activities like ordering, asking, complaining, praising, apologizing and insulting among others. The research examines the motives behind the insults during the Sindh Provincial Assembly because politicians, in this case, represent the masses. In the present study, the researcher purposively selected data from the comments of eleven participants and followed the procedures for conducting the qualitative analysis. The investigation also shows how politicians perform insulting speech acts predominantly in the expressive use as when addressing issues concerns resources and management; in this case, water, Sindh's water. The study presents the argument that people should expect assembly members to maintain courtesy in their conversation rather than using degradation speech than being their representatives.

(Raza, Qayyoom, and Sadiq 2021) performed study on use of investigating the rhetorical appeals established by former prime minister Nawaz Sharif during the address he delivered through video link on September 20, 2020, on a massive political rally. Sharif's physical actions and discourse's content and tone will be analyzed in order to categorize the sorts of speech acts used directly and implicitly. Being a mixed method study, the speech is analyzed using both qualitative and quantitative analysis in the study. The only available theoretical basis recognised in the investigation of speech functions is the so-called SPEECH ACT theory introduced by J.L. Austin in 1962 and modified by J.R. Searle in 1969 (Leilei and Chunfang 2023). The study also focuses on eye contact signals commonly used in speeches

that are mainly persuasive and used in political systems where the success of an election is hinged upon the right mobilization techniques. The findings indicate that, of the total number of speech acts in Sharif's discourse, there are five distinct distributions: They consist of directive acts, 38.4% declarative acts, 21.9% expressive acts 11%, representational acts 21.9% and the last but important one, commissive, 5.5%. The results of the study reveal that Sharif applied several forms of speech acts in order to assert the truth, disclose feelings, forward an opinion, give a direction and/ or make a promise. This study enhances our understanding of the persuasion techniques used in political speeches, particularly the several ways that speech activities affect people's perceptions and engage them.

(Ahmed, Amir, and Ahmad 2020) aimed to identify and discuss the speech acts in the speech given by Prime Minister Imran Khan on the 27th of September 2019 at the UN General Assembly will focus on components related to Islamophobia. This paper analysed Imran Khan's verbal communication in the speech acts which includes hybrid and identified the direct and indirect speech actions. Thus, the principles of qualitative and quantitative research were applied to explore the features of the specified speech acts in the framework of Speech Act theory proposed by Austin and Searle (Vaezi 2014). In evaluations of the results, it was found that apart from direct speaking, the speech of Khan was performed by the tasks of expressive and representative acts. The identification of the speech act is focused on describing the factual, educative and motivational elements of the Prime Minister's speech where it concerns the aspect of addressing matters of Islamophobia on the international level (Ahmadi and Cole 2023).

Pragmatically, (Odogwu) analyzed the language used in the headline of two Investigations conducted by BBC African Eye of two West African institutions - Jemiluyi. In this connection, forty-seven headlines from Vanguard, The Guardian, The Herald, Nigerian Tribune, PUNCH, Premium Times and The Nation newspapers were selectively adopted based on the following reasons of the study identified by Owolabi (2014). Both qualitative and quantitative research approach was incorporated for data collection and analysis The theoretical framework incorporated into the study was Searle's (1979) theory of speech. According to the findings, the representational speech act was the most utilized type on the headlines and it accounted for 48.9% of the total relative frequency percentages or ORFPs. Thus, declaratives were followed in the frequency of 14.9 percent, directives – in the frequency of 23.4 percent and commissives – in the frequency of 12.8 percent. There were no actions of expressive speech spotted all through the analyzed headlines of the newspaper. The research study has brought into emphasis that media outlets and journalists' comprehension of fairness is procedural, and therefore, they should ensure they use representative speech acts in their news reporting to meet their core mandate of informing the public. In the context of the present analysis, it is important to state that the goal of expanding the existing knowledge of how specifically the field of journalism practices is reflected in the language choices used in headings is to contribute to the fair and informative coverage of the issue under consideration.

(Priyanto 2020) examined various dimensions of translation in the media but concentrated more on the management and the translated-message perspectives as well as the ideological perspectives. Therefore, this paper's overarching objective is to perform a pragmatic evaluation of translated news texts that have both explicit and implicit references to *Pikiran Rakyat*. Forgetting Austin and Searle speech act and employing Newmark's translation principles the research started by finding out subtitles of some Indonesian news items translated from the English language. The data was used from the political news in *Pikiran Rakyat* combined with the English news items. Consequently, this comparative analysis

offered valuable conclusions about the translation processes used in the conversion of the different utterances between the source and the destination language. It also sheds light on the way in which the ideological frameworks of *Pikiran Rakyat*'s news organization shape these tasks.

(Aboh and Agbedo 2020) discussed the following statements made by President Buhari: "jailing of more thieves", "rule of law should be subjected to national interest" and "being fair in federal appointments" based on the Speech Act theory. Three approaches are taken by this study to examine the meanings of these claims: The three levels of communication are: The said or spoken or written words (conveyed through locutionary acts), The intended or performed or spoken words (achieved through illocutionary acts) and the foreseen or intended or actual subsequent effects of the words (Realized through perlocutionary effects). The information applied in the investigation was obtained from the internet Nigerian dailies. The theoretical framework for this study is Austin's Speech Acts Theory, according to Emike (2013). The observed argument by Buhari is indeed truthful in the sense that since this man became the president of Nigeria he is already putting a number of Nigerians, who are well known, behind the bar for theft. Hence, in the given research, analyzing specific illocutionary and locutionary acts in Buhari's remarks, the research demonstrates whether they correspond to Austin's felicity standards or not. The analysis also specifies perlocutionary consequences of these statements as it reveals their purpose in terms of manipulating the further course of the conversation and influencing the public. Scholar studies present a diversity of language's role in the political addressing and government; it advances understanding of Nigeria's presidential discourse through the lens of speech act theory.

(Wiana and Khairani 2020) in their study "An Analysis of Speech Acts on Headlines Medan Newspaper" (2020) identified utterances that consolidate speech acts in the headlines of *Waspada* Newspaper for May, June, and July 2020. The specific objective of the study was to classify the given speech acts and their pragmatic functions in newspaper headlines. The research carried out focused on over one thousand five hundred and twenty (1,520) or fifty three percent (53%) cases of locution speech acts that are statements made without any performative intention in the selected headlines with the use of qualitative research paradigm. The representative function holds the highest occurrence rating at 1,030 cases, for a 36.4% impact. This feature was often employed to convey accurate information, which correlates well with the paper's mandate of sharing the truth through the paper. The study was successful in categorizing speech acts to even enhance readers' understanding and also in delivering the intended messages in the newspaper headlines.

3. Research Questions

This research investigates following questions to address the present aim as following:

- a) What are the predominant types of speech acts observed across the 18 selected articles from the *Tribune* newspaper, and how do they contribute to the overall discourse?
- b) Which certain speech acts are conspicuously lacking from the examined articles, and what circumstances or causes might account for their absence?
- c) To what extent do speech acts contribute to shaping public perception and understanding of key issues or events covered in the *Tribune* articles?

4. Methodology

Research Design

This study examines at the speech acts utilized in 18 *Tribune* newspaper stories using a qualitative content analysis methodology. The approach is based on Searle's Speech Act Theory (1969), which divides speech acts into five categories: directives, expressives,

declaratives, assertives, and commissives. A foundation for recognizing and classifying the many speech acts found in the articles is provided by this model.

Sampling

This analysis has chosen articles from the Tribune newspaper randomly and was conducted over three months between January and March of the year 2024. The list selection procedure was performed out using StatTrek random number generator. This random sampling reduces selection bias and enhances the external validity of the study findings since there is enhanced a priori assurance of an appropriate sample of the given publications.

Data Collection

The data is the eighteen stories selected from the Tribune newspaper. These stories are according to the pinpointed research question that could be accessed from the online archive of the Newspaper. The selecting procedure involved the following steps:

The selecting procedure involved the following steps:

- Initially distinguishing every article that is obtainable for three months of January, February, and March of 2024 in the Tribune newspaper.
- Six of them are selected for each month using the random number generator of StatTrek, and the total number of articles is eighteen.
- Preliminary organization and download of all the selected articles that are planned to be analyzed in the future.

Procedure:

Categorization: In an effort to determine speech acts all the articles were given close attention resulting to the following findings. Subsequently, the speech activities carried out during the scenarios were classified based on Searle's (1969) paradigm into assertives, directives, commissives, expressives, and assertions.

Coding: In order to capture the identified speech activity, a coding method was generated for resident's conversations. Thus, all the occurrences of speech acts in the article were classified by type and context.

Analysis: Overall frequency of each of the types of the speech behavior was counted in the entire sample. In order to extract a deeper understanding of all the facets of the identified speech acts, a detailed qualitative analysis of the topic was carried out in an attempt to try and determine the history and potential consequences the speech acts might have. Each of these speech acts was searched for, with focus made on the fact that their use was either briefly present or completely absent, and plausible reasons for these facts were examined.

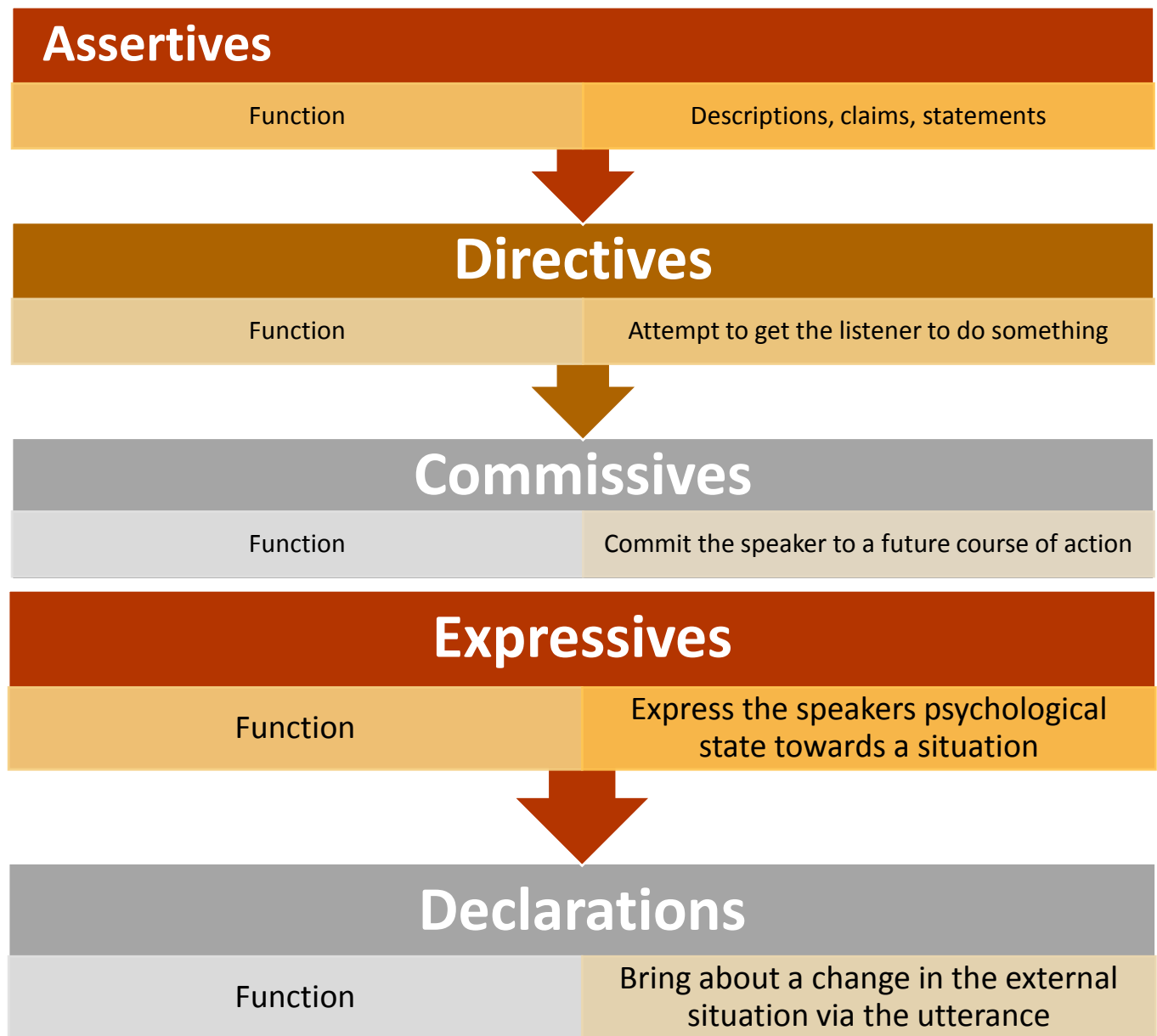
Interpretation:

To understand the categories of newscasts and the frequently used speech acts by authors which may influence the readers' perceptions, the data were analyzed. Inquiries were made concerning how the various types of operational speech acts impacted on the communicated presuppositions aimed by the articles in the newspaper, especial to how these acts impacted on the tech savviness concerning the articles narrative and mood. This paper's approach guarantees a systematic and close examination of the speech acts of Tribune newspaper articles and unveils the language strategy at play in the publication as well as its influence on the audience.

4.1 Model

The Searle's speech act model (1963) is categorized into five following acts as assertives, directives, commissives, expressives and declaratives. Each speech act performs specific function and role which highlights the performative concern of daily routine.

The Taxonomy of Speech Acts by Searle (1969)



5. Analysis

Article	Speech acts
January 1: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2451839/rice-calls-for-change-in-mindset-after-arsenal-lose	Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Arsenal need to build a stronger in-game mentality, midfielder Declan Rice said."

	<p>"Arsenal failed to capitalise on an early lead given by Bukayo Saka." "Arsenal slipped to fourth place on 40 points at the halfway stage of the campaign." "There's so many good teams around you and we want to be pushing up the top end of the table." "Villa moved up to 42 points, the same as Liverpool, who <u>lead</u> on goal difference." "City sit third with a game in hand."</p> <p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about.</p> <p>For instance: "When you go 1-0 up, you need to take more control and have more self-belief." "It's a tough one to take today." "There's been a blip in the road, but there's no room to panic." "It's not the time to be negative."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.</p> <p>For instance: "Arsenal are not fixated on the points table, Rice added." "Rice said Arsenal will not hit the panic button." "We just try to take every game as we can, one by one." "There's still so many games to go, we need to stay positive."</p> <p>Commissives and directives are not found.</p>
<p>January 3: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2452073/pakistan-afghanistan-sit-for-talks-on-issues-of-mutual-concerns</p>	<p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about.</p> <p>For instance: "Their talks lasted over three hours." "There seemed deliberate effort not to further deepen tensions."</p>

	<p>"Jilani and Shirin exchanged views on key issues of mutual concern."</p> <p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "A senior aide of Afghan Taliban supreme leader held talks with Pakistani authorities."</p> <p>"Haji Mullah Shirin led the Afghan side at the Pakistan-Afghanistan Joint Coordination Committee (JCC)." "Their talks lasted over three hours where issues ranging from the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), border security, deportation of undocumented Afghans, and others issues were discussed."</p> <p>"Jilani and Shirin exchanged views on key issues of mutual concern, including peace and security."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "Mullah Shirin is the first senior Taliban figure to have traveled to Islamabad in recent months." "Statements released by both Pakistan and Afghanistan did not touch the thorny issues explicitly."</p> <p><u>Commissives and Directives</u> are not found.</p>
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January 13:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2453140/israel-presses-on-with-gaza-offensive-approaching-100-days-of-war>

Assertives: These are statements that convey information or make claims about reality. Examples include: "Israel kept up bombardments in the Gaza Strip."

"An Israeli airstrike on a house sheltering two displaced families killed 10 people."

"Where is the International Criminal Court to see how the children die?"

Directive: "Where are the Muslims... and the world leaders?" is an implicit command.

Expressives: These convey the speaker's emotional condition in relation to the topic of discussion. For instance:

"The scale of the killing in Gaza and the dire humanitarian situation has shocked world opinion and fueled growing calls for a ceasefire."

Emotional expression: "This child died while she was hungry, while she was eating a piece of bread with nothing on it."

Declaratives: These are statements that change the world by declaring or bringing about a new state of affairs. For instance:

"Israel says it targets fighters and does all it can to minimize harm to non-combatants."

Commissives are not evident in the provided paragraph.

January 18:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2453660/imran-calls-for-introspection-after-iran-strikes>

Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Imran Khan has strongly denounced Iran's violation of Pakistan's airspace."

"Khan emphasized the need to assess how the situation escalated."

"He underscored the importance of cooperation with Afghanistan."
"Khan pointed out the lack of visits to Afghanistan during Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari's tenure."

"He recalled his visit to Iran as prime minister and meetings with its supreme leader."

"Khan commented on the impact of delayed elections attributing the country's challenges to the lack of electoral stability."
"He suggested labeling candidates with 'prisoner number 804' in the upcoming election campaign."

Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.

For instance: "Khan questioned whether it is in Pakistan's interest to sour relations with Iran."
"He urged a consideration of whether such a stance aligns with Pakistan's interests."

"Khan suggested a strategic move of labeling candidates in the upcoming election campaign."

"He criticized the BJP's policy toward Pakistan and advocated for de-escalation."

	<p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about.</p> <p>For instance, "Khan expressed concern." "He praised the efforts of lawyers handling cases against PTI leaders." "Khan acknowledged the opportunity for introspection during his time in prison." "He expressed sadness over the resignation of Justice Ijazul Ahsan."</p> <p>Commissives and Directives are not found.</p>
<p>January 22: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2454063/govt-blames-technical-issues-for-internet-outages</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "The caretaker government blamed 'technical issues' for the recent internet outages across the country." "Netblocks reported a nation-scale disruption to social media platforms across Pakistan." "PTA attributed the outages to 'technical glitches' and system upgradation."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "Solangi said it is important to take care of the economy, businesses, and the prestige of the country." "The interior ministry constituted a five-member joint investigation team (JIT) to investigate the social media campaign against Supreme Court judges."</p>

	<p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about. For instance: "Solangi said one could wish that internet outages did not take place." "Solangi mentioned a 'malicious campaign' against the judiciary."</p> <p><u>Commissives and directives</u> are not found.</p>
<p>January 31: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2455045/us-says-pakistani-people-have-right-to-choose-their-leader</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "The United States strongly condemned the attack on the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) rally in Sibi." "A bomb ripped through a PTI rally in Sibi, leaving at least four people dead and five others injured." "Police reported that an improvised explosive device (IED) was planted on a motorcycle." "Security measures were intensified in and around Sibi following the incident." "The State Department said the incident undermined the electoral process in Pakistan."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "The U.S. strongly condemns the attack." "The incident undermines the electoral process in Pakistan." "Pakistani people have the right to choose their leader without fear for the country's stability and prosperity."</p>

	<p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about.</p> <p>For instance: "Our deepest sympathies to those affected."</p> <p>Commissives and directives are not found.</p>
<p>February 2: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2455183/exports-remain-robust-rise-27-in-jan</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality.</p> <p>For instance: "Pakistan's exports <u>increased 26.9% to \$2.786 billion in January 2024 compared to \$2.195 billion in January 2023.</u>"</p> <p>"Imports decreased 4.5% to \$4.665 billion in January compared to \$4.884 billion in the corresponding month last year."</p> <p>"The country's trade deficit significantly narrowed to \$1.879 billion in January compared to \$2.689 billion in January last year."</p> <p>"Exports amounted to \$17.766 billion in Jul-Jan FY24, up 12% from \$15.831 billion during the same period last fiscal year."</p> <p>"Imports contracted 16% to \$30.010 billion in the seven months under review."</p> <p>"The trade deficit shrank 39% to \$12.244 billion compared to \$20.005 billion in the previous year."</p> <p>"Exports increased almost \$2 billion while imports went down about \$6 billion."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.</p> <p>For instance, "Pakistan's trade performance remained robust in the first seven months (July-January) of FY24." "Overall, Pakistan was steadily expanding its international footprint."</p>

	<p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about. For instance: "This is a substantial improvement from last year." "I am confident that Pakistan is on the right track to achieve its trade goals and become a leading player in the global economy."</p> <p>Commissives and directives are not found.</p>
<p>February 3: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2455296/cement-despatches-witness-decline-of-1479-in-jan</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Cement despatches experienced a significant dip of 14.79% in January 2024." "Local cement despatches in January 2024 accounted for 2.967 MT, showing a decline of 17.30% compared to January 2023." "Export despatches saw a rise of 6.82% in January 2024." "North-based cement mills despatched 2.434 MT cement in January 2024, marking a 15.83% decline compared to January 2023." "South-based mills despatched 979,970 tonnes of cement, reflecting a 12.08% reduction from January 2023."</p>

	<p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "Total cement despatches (domestic and exports) stood at 27.296 MT during the first seven months of the current fiscal year." "Domestic despatches during this period decreased by 1.79% to 23.196 MT." "Export despatches exhibited robust growth of 90.49%, reaching 4.1 MT." "The association urged the government to review the new axle load regulations promptly."</p> <p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about. For instance: "A spokesperson from APCMA raised concerns about the new axle load regime." "The association urged the government to review the new axle load regulations promptly."</p> <hr/> <p><u>Commissives and directives</u> are not found.</p>
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February 14:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2456373/car-sales-surge-81-in-jan>

Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality.

For instance: "Car sales for January hit 10,500 units, marking an 81% increase from December 2023."

"Including non-PAMA members, car sales totalled 11,700 units, up 72% month-on-month."

"Tractor sales surged by 46% MoM and 12% YoY to 3,814 units in January 2024."

"Indus Motors saw a significant increase in car sales, up 304% MoM to 2,762 units in January 2024."

"Pak Suzuki Motors recorded 4,550 unit sales in January 2024, a 22% increase from December 2023."

"Motorbike and three-wheeler sales surged by 27% MoM to 104,619 units in January 2024."

Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.

For instance: "Factors contributing to the decline include escalating car prices, expensive auto financing, and low consumer purchasing power."

"Arif Habib Limited Auto Analyst Muhammad Abrar Polani attributed the spike in January 2024 sales to the new year's buying effect."

"He anticipates further sales recovery as interest rates are projected to be cut in March."

"Adeel Usman, CEO of Regal Automobiles Industries Limited, anticipated a sustained shift away from traditional Internal Combustion Engines in the coming years."

	<p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about. For instance: "Sunny Kumar, Deputy Head of Research at Topline Securities, said car sales reached their highest level in eleven months." "On a positive note..." "With the emergence of SUVs featuring Hybrid-Electric transmissions..."</p> <p><u>Commissives and directives</u> are not found.</p>
<p>February 19: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2456956/qaiser-terms-any-pm-other-than-omar-ayub-fake</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Omar Ayub Khan is our prime minister candidate." "If anyone else becomes prime minister, he will be a fake prime minister." "We demand that results be issued according to Form-45 and a judicial inquiry should be conducted into the allegations." "PTI's electoral symbol was taken away as per planning." "PTI was the largest political force of Pakistan." "We have decided to form an alliance to take the country's economy forward." "Our mandate should be recognized." "MQM-P snatched our seats in Karachi." "We will get 80 more seats." "Pakistan needs a strong prime minister and a strong government."</p> <p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about.</p> <p>For instance: "We demand transparency and accountability in the electoral process." "PTI's electoral symbol was taken away as per planning."</p>

	<p>"Pakistan needs a strong prime minister and a strong government."</p> <p><u>Declaratives, Commissives and directives</u> are not found.</p>
<p>February 20: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2456968/cad-at-6-month-high-as-outflows-rise</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Pakistan's balance of the current account failed to stay in surplus for the second successive month, hitting a six-month high deficit of \$269 million in January 2024."</p> <p>"Foreign investors – mainly China – aggressively pulled out investments from some power projects running in Pakistan, resulting in an outflow of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by a notable \$173 million in January 2024."</p> <p>"The current account deficit surged to \$269 million in January 2024 compared to \$167 million in the same month of the last year, rising by 61% in the month under review on a year-on-year basis."</p> <p>"Cumulatively in the first seven months (Jul-Jan) of the current fiscal year 2023-24, the current account deficit shrank 71% to \$1.09 billion compared to \$3.79 billion in the same period of the last year."</p> <p>"He said a 10% increase in imports to \$4.51 billion in January compared to \$4.10 billion in December 2023 played a pivotal role in contracting the balance of the current account."</p> <p>"The current account deficit aggregated with a 4% drop in exports of goods to \$2.69 billion in the month compared to \$2.79 billion in the previous month."</p> <p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about.</p>

	<p>Example: "However, it (\$269 million) is not a large deficit. Rather, it is moderate and affordable." "He anticipated the current account deficit would remain near and around January 2024 level in the remaining five months of FY24 amid high inflation reading and almost no demand for goods in the local markets."</p> <hr/> <p><u>Declaratives, Commissives and directives</u> are not found.</p>
<p>February 21: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2457086/power-generation-drops-24-in-jan-amid-rising-fuel-costs</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Pakistan's power generation dropped by 2.4% to 8,314 Gigawatt hours (GWh) in January 2024 due to low demand in the system during the winter month." "The cost of the fuel component in the overall production surprisingly surged by 23% to Rs13.79 per unit due to increased reliance on expensive fuels like imported gas, furnace oil, and diesel." "Electricity generation decreased by 2.4% in the month under review compared to 8,515 GWh in January 2023."</p>

	<p>"Production from the second-cheapest nuclear power plants reduced by around 8% to 1,728 GWh in January compared to the same month of the previous year." According to the study house's findings, the cost of producing diesel (the fuel component alone) is Rs45.61 per unit in January."</p> <p>"The fuel cost of furnace oil surged by 22.33% to Rs35.44 per unit in the month compared to Rs28.97 per unit in the corresponding month of the previous year."</p> <p>"The price of imported power surged by almost 28% to Rs32.80 per unit."</p> <p>"The cost of production (fuel cost only) through imported gas-fired power plants rose by 11% to Rs24.30 per unit."</p> <p>"The cost of production on local gas shot up by 43.3% to Rs13.75 per unit."</p> <p>"The cost of generation through local coal-fired plants surprisingly spiked by 72.3% to Rs11.92 per unit in January compared to Rs6.92 per unit in January 2023."</p> <p>"Nuclear power became costlier by almost 24% to Rs1.33 per unit compared to Rs1.07 per unit this time last year."</p> <p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about. For instance: "The cost of the fuel component in the overall production surprisingly surged by 23%..." "The cost of generation through local coal-fired plants surprisingly spiked by 72.3%..."</p> <p><u>Declaratives, Commissives and directives</u> are not found.</p>
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March 1:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2458089/urban-flooding-hits-dha-amid-karachi-downpour>

Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "Due to heavy rainfall, urban flooding situation arose at the Khayaban-e-Shahbaz in Karachi's upscale Defence Housing Authority (DHA) neighbourhood on Friday." "A video of rainwater accumulated on the roads adjacent to Khayaban-e-Shahbaz went viral on social media." "The urban flooding was not in the entire Khayaban-e-Shahbaz area, rather rainwater collected only at the Popular Avenue crossing on thoroughfare, which has been cleared to a large extent." "According to the Pakistan Meteorological Department, 40.5 mm of rain was recorded in parts of Defence Housing Authority, as per the rain observatory installed in DHA Phase II."

Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.

For instance: "According to the DHA spokesperson, a mega drainage project called the Storm Water Drainage was developing at a fast pace." "Currently in the second phase, the project will resolve the problem of urban flooding in the future."

Expressives, commissives and directives are not found.

March 8:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2458791/historic-incident-as-smoking-mars-na-session>

Assertives: Statements that convey information or make claims about reality. For instance: "The incident took place during a session presided over by NA Speaker Ayaz Sadiq, where one member was observed smoking in violation of parliamentary norms."

"He said that even sipping water within the hallowed halls required formal permission."

"Ayaz Sadiq remarked that it was a historic first for the National Assembly of Pakistan, witnessing a member puffing a cigarette on the parliamentary floor."

"Ayaz Sadiq, a loyalist of the Sharif family and a member of the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N), secured the position of Speaker of the National Assembly just last week."

Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's psychological state towards what they are talking about. For instance: "Expressing his anger, Sadiq remarked..." "Addressing the assembly members, the newly-elected NA speaker conveyed his disappointment..."

Commissives: Statements committing the speaker to a course of action. For instance: "He warned of strict actions in the future if such incidents recurred." "Ayaz Sadiq stressed that the galleries within the house are integral parts of the parliamentary proceedings and should be treated as such."

Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "The election saw him defeating the nominee of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)-backed Sunni Ittehad Council."

Directives are not found.

March 13:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2459264/imran-granted-appeal-right-in-cipher-case>

Assertives: Statements that convey information or assert facts.

For instance: "The Islamabad High Court (IHC) has dismissed a prayer contending that former prime minister Imran Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi do not have the right to appeal against their conviction in the diplomatic cipher case."

"A special court on January 30 convicted Imran and Qureshi in a case related to the misuse of a diplomatic cipher..."

"FIA Special Prosecutor Hamid Ali Shah stated that the right of appeal is not provided in the Official Secrets Act (OSA), 1923."

"PTI's lawyer Barrister Salman Safdar responded to the objections raised by the FIA's special prosecutor..."

Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.

For instance, "After hearing the arguments, the court dismissed the FIA's prayer."

"The IHC issued a notice to the Adiala Jail superintendent..."

"Another division bench... noted that restricting a prisoner like Imran Khan... to meet his lawyers only one day a week was not appropriate."

Expressives, commissives and directives are not found.

March 15:

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/2459462/thatta-dc-accused-of-forging-record-of-400-acres-of-land>

Assertives: Statements that convey information or assert facts. For instance: "The Pakistan Peoples Party's MPA Syed Riaz Hussain Shah Sherazi has blamed Deputy Commissioner of Thatta district Asad Ali Khan for forging land record of thousands of acres of land worth tens of billions of rupees."

"According to the findings of the ACE inquiry, the revenue officers purportedly engaged in a plot to manipulate the land accounts..."

"The preliminary inquiry initiated by the Anti-Corruption Establishment (ACE), prompted by a complaint filed by Yuosuf Gabol, the rightful owner of the land, has unearthed several disturbing revelations."

Commissives: Statements that commit the speaker to a course of action. For instance: "He urged the incumbent CM Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah to initiate an inquiry through Sindh Anti-Corruption Establishment against DC Khan and his associates..."
"He demanded that 800 villages in his district should be immediately regularized."

Directives: Statements that aim to get the listener to do something.
For instance: "He urged the incumbent CM Sindh Syed Murad Ali Shah to initiate an inquiry through Sindh Anti-Corruption Establishment against DC Khan and his associates..."

	<p>"The investigation officer has reached out to the Mukhtiarkar, requesting statements from all accused."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "The ACE has issued notices to the suspects, including Ashfaq Sriwal, Imdad Sriwal, Murad Sriwal, Ashraf Sriwal, Rana Wajid, and others allegedly involved in the scandal." Expressives are not found.</p>
<p>March 18: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2459752/revamp-of-historic-takht-pari-forest-in-the-offing</p>	<p>Assertives: Remarks that make factual or informational claims. For instance: "The Forest department has approved the upgradation of Rawalpindi's 300-year-old dense Takht Pari Jungle, declaring it a best recreational spot along with its expansion." "Under this new recreational forest project, pine, sukh chain, olive, ashoka, jikarenda, popular, kuchanar, gul nishtrim, arjun and all types of fruit trees will be planted here." "Currently, 1.78 million new plants are in the final stages in the nurseries of the Forest department of Sargodha."</p> <p>Commissives: For instance: "The DEO has also decided to purchase all types of saplings from the private sector." "Under the project, 1 million saplings of different types will be planted in Rawalpindi division from March 15 to "This project will be completed under the supervision of the Director of Forests Extension Circle Rawalpindi."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that assert a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs.</p>

	<p>For instance: "These plants have been prepared at Sargodha Central Forest Nursery."</p> <p>"Director Forest Extension Circle Abdul Quddus says that one million saplings will be planted in Rawalpindi, Jhelum, Attock and Chakwal areas in Rawalpindi Division."</p> <p><u>Expressives and Directives</u> are not found.</p>
<p>March 28: https://tribune.com.pk/story/2460858/eight-pti-workers-rearrested-after-release-on-bail</p>	<p>Assertives: Statements that assert facts or provide information. For instance: "Eight Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) activists have been re-arrested following their release from the Adiala Jail where they were incarcerated for over 10 months in cases related to May 9, 2023 violence and attacks on the sensitive state installations." "The deputy commissioner of Rawalpindi has detained the eight PTI workers under Section 3 of the Maintenance of Public Order (MPO) for 30 days soon after their release on bail." "Five of them got bail and were released from the jail."</p> <p>Commissives: Statements that commit the speaker to a course of action. For instance: "Their detention was challenged in the Lahore High Court (LHC) Rawalpindi bench on Thursday." "Lawyers associated with the PTI said that the LHC would hear the pleas against these detentions on Friday (today)."</p> <p>Declaratives: Statements that declare a state of affairs or bring about a new state of affairs. For instance: "The Supreme Court granted bail to five more PTI workers." "Later, an anti-terrorism court (ATC) granted bail to 19 activists." "Initially, these 13 were released but four</p>

	<p>hours later, eight of them were rearrested under 3MPO and brought back to the jail."</p> <p>Expressives: Statements that express the speaker's feelings or attitudes. For instance: "Faisal Malik and Hasnain Sambal Advocates [...] expressed the hope that they would be released before Eid-ul-Fitr."</p> <p>Directives are not found.</p>
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6. Results and Discussion

The findings of this study are useful to gain deeper understanding of the speech act analysis for articles published in Tribune newspaper besides establishing the prevalence and distribution of various speech acts. The papers under analysis were 18, published between January and March 2024; the analysis was based on Searle's taxonomy of speech acts proposed in 1969. According to the analysis carried out, one can establish that assertives are the most dominant with 88 occurrences. In news reporting, assertives to transmit information and explain the state of affair are significant since they help to establish facts and give readers the right information. The second most frequently used was the category known as expressives, which are words that reflect the speaker's attitudes and emotions; the identified existed in 33 of the total cases. This illustrates how Tribune stories typically present the readers' subjective feelings about given occurrences, engaging the readers on an emotive level. Reactive declaratives which detail how actions change the physical world were produced 38 times revealing the role of the newspaper in making declarations and announcements. There were just three usages of directives where the author seeks to influence the reader to do something; this means that orders and requests are rarely used in Tribune stories. Self-mentions were identified ONCE: hesitations were found 4 times, and guarantees were found 9 times as frequency is extremely low of commitments and promises. In summary, the study shows that the Tribune employs assertives to pass information out, although, they also apply other forms of speech acts, although in varying extents.

6.1 The most prevalent speech acts seen in the Tribune newspaper and how they add to the conversation as an entire process

A total of 18 articles from the Tribune newspaper were assessed based on speech acts, and the findings indicated that there were 88 more assertives as compared with expressives (33), declaratives (38), instructions (3), and commissives (9). Consequently, each category of speech act plays its unique role within the overall framework of the discourse and entails its own approach to the interpretation of information by the readers.

The commonest speech act type found in the Tribune articles is the informative type of speech act in form of assertives which states the facts and gives the outside world description of the situation. It emphasizes the significance of newspapers in narrating events and making available right information. Assertions are important in news reporting because they help define the topic of discussion, and provide the reader with clear, impartial, basic facts, occasions, developments, and assertions. For example, assertives can be identified in articles related to social aspects, political shifts, updates on the economic situation to give the topic a

factual background. Relating to the frequency of assertives, this was an analysis of the Tribune's adherence to journalistic ethics and its status as a reliable source of information. Thus, expressive speech acts are the second most frequently reported type of speech acts with 33 cases in the articles. On the basis of the above analysis, it can be concluded that expressives are used to indicate the emotions, sentiments and reactions of the speaker. On this basis, Expressives in newspaper articles contribute to the assimilation of the media text to the sphere of human life, emphasizing provoked components of the subjectively recorded event as something highly personal. It can help readers feel and empathize with the content they consume or at least that's what this emotional bond does. Expressives are commonly used in stories, stories about ordinary people, similar to readers' experiences, opinionated and editorial type of material where the story lies in the ability to evoke feelings.

The second most frequent type of speech act is Declaratives with 38 occurrences, which are those that change the state of the external environment by virtue of the mere words said. These actions are often carried out in the Tribune to announce something, to state policies, or to convey messages from the higher authorities. Declaratives are important in articles which narrate on governmental undertakings, institutional processes, and announcements. Aside from narrating events and informing readers, declaratives allow the newspaper to be involved in the act of communication that can substantially alter reality. Directives are rare, with only three examples recorded. Promises are statements that give the reader a future advantage, incentives are messages that the reader wants, and directives are commands, requests, or suggestions given as a message to the reader. The minimality of the deployment of imperative voices in the analyzed Tribune articles shows that its main goal is not to guide the reader's behaviors or decisions explicitly. However, the focus is on providing those readers who seek the necessary knowledge background for making their own decisions, and making those opinions.

Nine cases of commissives that obligate the speaker to perform certain actions were also identified. This speech act is commonly used in the cases when promises, pledges or intentions about the future are made. Commissives in Tribune articles could be found in circumstances where there are political assurances, prospectus of organizations or pledges made by known personalities. Based on the analysis of the newspaper's relatively limited use of commissives, it can be concluded that while the newspaper does convey future-oriented remarks in the form of commissives, they are not as significant within the newspaper's flow of discourse compared to the assertives or declaratives used.

The distribution of the given speech acts within the samples collected from the Tribune contributes to reflecting the Tribune articles' discourse and creating a reinforcing or subversive impact on the readers, given that the authors provide factually accurate information and socially supported emotions while resorting to performative language. Assertives predominate in the newspaper that guarantees the primary goal of the paper as an information source. Expressives add interest by according to news emotional and subjective qualities. They support a focus on crying and promising to achieve important goals and make important statements. This principle of the informational orientation of the newspaper's work is manifested in the periodic use of instructions. Altogether, these speech actions contribute to a full and a rich conversation, thus promoting the Tribune as a reliable and multifaceted newspaper.

6.2 Lack of certain speech acts and their reasons

An analysis of eighteen selected articles from the Tribune newspaper reveals that two speech acts are missing they are; instructions and commissives. Knowledge of why they are

comparatively rare illuminates the very nature of reporting in newspapers and the context by which the speech acts of reporting take place.

6.2.1 Directive: Minimal Presence

The only three directives that try to convince the reader to do something (to order, ask, advise, etc.) were observed across all the articles. A few factors explain why there are few representatives of this kind.

a) Journalistic Objectivity: One of the principles which are very important in journalism is neutrality and objectivity. Some of the considerations that newspapers have are that they want to present and convey facts and opinions with no bias, and thus the paper does not take sides on the decisions or actions of the people. It is important to note that in the context of the guideline's usage, their meaning may be more or less prescriptive Education, which direction respectable publications like the Tribune do not want to take. By lowering orders, the newspaper does not give information in a manner that may be considered prejudice or attempt to change view of readers and thenceforth becomes more accepted and credible.

b) Reader Autonomy: Newspapers read a diverse population and many different people are going to have many different views and perceptions of such events. Some directives may reduce the degree of readers' agency because they are commands that are easily followed by stating readers' behaviors or choices. Naturally, newspapers inform the reader and give context so the reader can make his or her own conclusions and decisions. This approach values the readers' skills of analyzing information and forming decisions independently without a direct guide on how to do it.

c) Contextual Relevance: Because most of the articles selected involve reporting the news, events, and analysis, its nature hardly allows for the actualization of the directives. It is more typical to observe directives in those specific activities like teaching, regular writing when the author has a clear opinion and wants to share it, and in those media assignments where the reader is in some way engaged to interact and do something corresponding. However, articles of news are intended to report information rather than prescribe an action and as such the latter may not be found.

6.2.2 Commissives: Limited Use

Similar to the results obtained for the analysis of the declarative class, the commissive function, which commit the speaker to future activities (promises, pledges, or commitments), are also sparse with only 9 occurrences identified. Several factors contribute to this limited use: Several factors contribute to this limited use:

a) Nature of News Reporting: Unlike many other contract types, news stories revolve around the present, significant events, and brief assessments rather than the contracts' terminology and references to the obligation and promise on the horizon.

Communicational commissives are most common in political speeches, corporate statements, or simply in social or business encounters when persons/enterprises declare their future actions and commitments. Consequently, this type of commitment is presented less frequently in The Tribune since its articles consist of reports and analysis.

b) Source of Commissives: Still, when commissives are used in the news articles, they are mainly producing reportage with the use of quotes, which may come from political leaders, organization heads, or other officials. Due to the low number of commissives, it illustrates that the either of these sources provided relatively lesser such remarks in the reporting period or the articles selected here do not target subjects where future commitment is emphasized.

c) Editorial Focus: Macroeconomic trend may have been inconsequential during a period specified to The Tribune the newspaper might have focused more on breaking news rather

than discussing potential outcomes. Commissives are often associated with comments or articles that contain prognosis statements or speculations, which may not necessarily belong to the actual topic of the chosen pieces. Stressing the focus on the up-to-date topics and the urgent analyses helps reduce the chances of coming across the commissive speech acts.

Contextual Considerations

Thus, the lack of these speech acts can be addressed in the wider context of media communication. Newspapers like the Tribune strive to present the news in an honest manner, ensuring they do not impose a specific way of life on their readers; all the while not accepting promises based on speculation in lieu of commissions. The editorial decisions and news reporting style inevitably shape the discursive processes used, proving the paper's devotion. As seen from the examined Tribune newspaper articles there are grossly or completely missing instructions and commissions and the bare feature of the news that relates an event objectively and factually is best in the 'interest of the reader'. These speech acts are inapplicable to the main goals of news articles, concerning the tasks and objectives of which there is no taking of action or promise to act, but lately to inform the audience. So, by knowing more of these contextual and functional limitations we are able to better understand how and why speech acts are used so selectively in media discourse.

6.3 Public perception and comprehension of important topics or events mentioned in Tribune stories are shaped in part by speech acts.

In the context of Tribune articles, more specifically, speech acts play a significant role in the way that the public understand and engage with issues or events of importance. It is possible to understand how the readers work through the media discourses by identifying the numerous speech act types which are as follows; assertives, expressives, declaratives, directions and commissives.

a) Assertives: Frame the Facts

Most of the speech acts depicted in Tribune articles can be categorized as assertives, with their main purpose being to state facts. They serve as strategies that present events and problems in a particular light that has a considerable influence on the general public. If many citations are used in forceful terms, then the rest of the work will also be read in such manner, concerning the main points of the narrative. For instance, assertives help in determining the category of knowledge about a political event in an essay that would include who, what, when, where and why. Assertives assist in constructing a dependable story because they produce factual evidence. As a result of such preparation, based on the obtained information readers can make reasonable conclusions, thanks to this groundwork. Most media use assertives to advocate for specific opinions when describing an event or phenomenon to develop a paradigm about it.

b) Expressives: Prompting Emotional Responses

According to the media speech, while the overall usage of expressives, which indicate the attitude and feelings of the speaker, is less frequent than that of other categories, each usage is more influential. It means that the speaking acts determined below can slightly affect how the readers feel about the text. For example, a journalist in his/her news articles may employ emotion-inducing words to make the readers have similar feelings as that of sorrow or anger while recreating a disaster. Such an emotional concern enhances the reader's connection with the text and can influence society's relations in specific manners. The use of expressives can

intensify the passion for a human-interest story, thus humanizing the topic making it appealing. This allows expressives to advocate or call for change or coordinate the sentiment of communities. Thus, with help of expressives readers can feel some emotions attached to the news and comprehend it on the emotional level.

c) Declaratives: Establish authority and reality

Declaratives aim at setting in authority and at the same time indicating the reality of the existent

Imperatives, which include statements, proclamation, or appointment, enjoy a higher rank in media since they inevitably change the reality outside. Quotes refer to utterances that are made by officials, or comments that are articulated by any other influential person which are featured in the Tribune articles. Thus, through creating new realities or maintaining existing power relations, these linguistic activities promote the formation of public consciousness. Not only does a political leader educate the public when they speak a declaration, for instance a new policy, but also establish their powers to make a decision. Thus, there is a point in receiving increased support when such declaratives are covered by the media since the circle of persons who needs decisions expands. In this manner, the background that the journalist gives to the readers to make sense of such claims can either bolster or undermine the authority of a speaker.

d) Directives: Guiding Public Behavior

Although, for the most part, Tribune reports do not contain directives, which are writer's attempts to influence the reader's actions, Tribune reports do not contain directives because the paper adheres to journalistic objective approach. When they happen, directives can guide public conduct and response; these are usually framed in terms of calls to action where writing is in the op-ed genre, or primary speeches from officials. For example, recommendations given by experts like the medical doctors on the norms that need to be followed during a pandemic (for instance, when one needs to put on a face mask and maintain social distance) are instrumental in determining the public opinion on the matter. It is noteworthy that journalists help spread information that may affect the further actions and decisions in society through the coverage of these directions.

e) Commissives: Building Expectations

While they are not frequently used in journalism compulsives, which limit the speaker to future behaviour have a substantial influence on readers' expectations if used. Speeches by legislators which contain a promise of the implementation of new programs or affirmations by firms to adhere to certain guidelines create the background of expectation of responsibility and action. 'These commissions are assisted by journalists to develop an account of the right-thinking actions which can shift the perception of the relied speaker or the reasoning and understanding of their messages in question that helps readers in influencing the public authorities in relation to their commitments regarding the current affairs Among the different genres of textbooks, different speech actions in Tribune articles plays an individual role in forming the important aspect of Public Opinion and Interest of the general audiences on some important issues or event from This affects the way the readers deal with the present, and their ability to guarantee that the public authorities fulfill commitments. Altogether, the sequence of and the referential connections between speech actions in Tribune articles regulate how certain issues or incidents are perceived or, in fact, interpreted in the scope of the general audience. Each speaking act in some way shapes the speaking turn in an attempt to generate a specific readers' response to the news. Therefore, the analysis of these speech act could shed add more light to how the media influence the people's perception and level of concern in a given topic.

7. Conclusion

This study employed Searle's (1969) paradigm to analyze the frequency and importance of various speech acts in eighteen selected Tribune newspaper articles. The analysis of the communication type in the given study was based on both quantitative and qualitative approach in order to determine the perceived most frequent speech action kinds, absence thereof, and the role played in shaping an opinion among the audience. Representational speech acts, which broadly speaking are employed to convey facts and details in the interests of establishing a truthful account and informing the narrative of the reported events, were identified as being distinctly more frequently used in relation to the findings in question in 88 cases. One characteristic, which can be highlighted regarding the usage of dialogism and expressive speech acts (total 33), was the impact of the author, who successfully managed to elicit the reader's emotional engagement to the theme narrated. Assertives (38 examples) reiterated power relations by expressing assurances of authority; this category also encompassed new reality statements and descriptions of change.

However, it was noted that there was a rather scanty use of pure directive speaking act (3 times) and a considerable absence of commissive speaking act (9 times). This absence of such information may be attributed to the principle of impersonality of the journalist profession, as well as the emphasis on carrying out rather than on planning and promising to accomplish the tasks in the near future. Thus, the absence of these speech acts aids in proving the stance of the media as being the delivery of information without engaging in an attempt to persuade the public or make a promise. The study found out that speaking acts play a big role in a. shaping the public's knowledge and perception of some critical topics/issues or events. That social influence is realized through the following: Directives control behavior where they are used, while the function of expressives is to personalize the news, the declaratives pledge allegiance to the power that be, and commissives give expectations of behavior in the future. Assertives provided implication with factual evidence of the facts of the situation. Each type of speech act is upgrading something in the flow of messages as a discourse and how readers make sense of them as news.

Finally, this paper shows how readers' understanding and reception is affected by the use of speech acts in Tribune articles. The current work furthers understanding of the linguistic structures at the root of media-mediated manipulation of the society's perception by analyzing the frequency and purpose of various speech actions. This method shows the significance of the theory of speech act in media studies and how it could be employed to analyze the various intricacies of news production.

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