

Exploring Intra-Genre Functional Variation In Pakistani Newspapers - A Comparison Of Political News With Opinion-Based Reportage

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ABSTRACT: Linguistic variation is the main focus in register studies. The current study uses multidimensional analysis to explore internal linguistic variation and language functionality of leading Pakistani English newspapers. Pakistani news language has not been explored extensively in sub-genres however; this study pioneers by comparing the linguistic characteristics of the sub-genres of Pakistani English newspapers, such as political news and opinion-based reportage. Besides examining the linguistic variation between the two sub-genres of newspapers, this multidimensional study reveals the cause of newspaper trending based on language usage by comparing the linguistic functionality of trending English newspapers of Pakistan. The corpus of this study is formulated by collecting 7240 text samples from five leading English newspapers of Pakistan. Current research analyzes the Pakistani English press reportage text on five dimensions as proposed in Biber's (1988) study that leads towards elaboration on each dimension. Moreover, quantitative data is also analyzed statistically for authentication. As it is a triangulated study, so for validation, quantitative data is interpreted qualitatively. Findings of the study reveal heterogenic results in terms of linguistic functionality in political news and opinion-based reportage of Pakistani English newspapers. Furthermore, this study unveils that there is great coherence in Pakistani opinion-based reportage, however, political news showed contrary results. In the light of detailed linguistic study on Pakistani English newspapers some recommendations are also formulated for pedagogical implications as well as for

future researchers to get advantage from the findings by implementing in their practical fields.

Keywords: Multidimensional, corpus, dimensions, linguistic functionality, diachronic study.

1. INTRODUCTION

In studies where register is analyzed, the linguistic variations are focused and particularized. With the notion of linguistic variation, the examination of patterns of co-occurring linguistic features across registers has got great significance. Registers are sets of language entities related to distinct professional or social groups. Registers are situational characteristics it is, therefore, labelled as situational definite varieties. Variation in register is usually comprehends as core of all cultures. In all human languages, language structures differ following the instances of use that are defined as linguistic variation (Ferguson, 1983).

Register analysis can be carried out on the basis of individual linguistic features. Such as Anwar and Talaat (2011), Muhabat, Noor, and Iqbal (2015) have examined the distinctive individual linguistic features among the editorial register of Pakistan. However, Biber (1988) through a series of his seminal work on multidimensional analysis (MDA) advocates the most important idea of ‘Co-occurrence’ of linguistic features that communicates shared linguistic functions without which he considers findings may mislead in the register studies (Biber, 1986, 1988, 1995, 2006). Many other linguists are also in favor of ‘Co-occurrence linguistic features’ and are dissatisfied with the analysis of individual linguistic features (Ervin-Tripp, 1972; Hymes, 1974; Halliday & Hasan, 1989). In print media, newspapers are considered the most effective entity that shapes the realities, circulates ideologies, and forms the opinions of its readers. Using powerful linguistic features it shares information and news which is substantially poles apart from other registers. News is understood in terms of values and the language that is used for news communication mirrors those values. In Pakistan, the language of newspapers carries several linguistic characteristics that are taken from indigenous linguistic features so that readers can successfully understand and local readership can be propagated (Grover & Deepak, 2004).

1.1. Language of Newspaper

The language of journalism is a captivating field to analyze, as it deals with an interesting viewpoint on its intricacies and supremacy in each journalistic genre. This sort of language assist to apprehend how journalists generate their reports or stories, form their opinion, and convey predictable news and in which way media language is dissimilar from other languages we come across.

Examining, interrogating and fact analyzing events are elementary constituents of journalism that are transferred to media users, in order to update, motivate, but also to strengthen civic beliefs, using deploying practices. Journalists also use implicit messages in their reports through their wisely chosen sentences and word. Sometimes censor words are used by journalists in their speeches to generate an inflammatory situation for themselves. This includes stating sentences contrarily in order to avoid pressure against them and their writings. Thus, a wide-ranging vocabulary will fetch stories and transmits

to life, allowing journalists to define the world around them in a better way. Use of words in a proper way may give a shadow to meaning and comprehension to the journalistic vocabulary level they wish to reach. All sorts of publicists have the vital duty to learn and practice their language as experts with all linguistic tones mandatory in their career either the journalistic purpose is writing for newspapers or news media (Bell, 1991).

1.2. Interaction of Media Language with Society

Language for presenting news and anywhere in presenting media signifies a form of relation between language and society that affects us all. We want to know how language works while interacting the society. Its subject matter should be easily comprehensible for the people who have curiosity in these subject matters additionally, to the people who study these kinds of problems.

The language of press media is noticeable in society and it is fascinating to find out how it is formed, how it is formed by principles of the society and how it affects a person's views. The analysis of media language tells about the constituents of the structure of reporters' language, deepened with information for the purpose of removing some misunderstanding that is present in it. This kind of study involves detecting various kinds of media language through broadcast channels and producing a type of writing essential by stylistic qualities such as conciseness, precision and pragmatism of the discourse. The journalistic language style is notable mostly by correctness, sparkle language, morality, aptness and proficiency (Fer, 2018).

With the theoretical developments in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), over the past few decades, Register, and Genre studies have proved empirically that variability in a language is not only an outcome of a cultural and situational context, rather there are specific discourse and functional goals that can also be achieved by executing such variability (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013; Bhatia, 2008; Swales, 1990; Hyland, 2008).

In 1988 Douglas Biber explored the distinction of language used for British press reportage and promoted MD analysis as the most appropriate methodology for analyzing registers in register studies. Biber's (1988) computational study got immense popularity due to its objectivity and quantitative analysis of language analysis. In recent years several studies are being published that achieved their objectives using multidimensional analysis, for example, register and sub-registers are studied (Qasim, Shakir, & Qasim, 2017; Alvi, Mehmood, & Rasool, 2016; Iqbal, & Danish, 2014) and academic writings are evaluated (Abdulaziz, Mahmood, & Azher, 2016; Boeckx, & Theofanopoulou, 2014) whereas, discursive studies are also carried through multidimensional analysis (Zheng, 2018; Ali & Ahmad, 2007; Irshad & Anwar, 2021).

Biber's (2004) studies discover linguistic variation that occurs within a corpus of one register performs different communicative functions. It stimulates that linguistic variation across newspaper sub-genres needs to be explored to examine their language functionality. The multidimensional approach has been used by many researchers in the past to explore various language functionalities in different registers of Pakistani English. After studying previous researches on Pakistani English newspapers it has been found that a tad of studies has been conducted on the newspaper language. Some researchers have explored attitude markers and engagement markers in the newspaper (Siddique, Mahmood, & Qasim, 2019; Siddique, Aqeel, & Imran, 2019). There are some studies where English of Pakistani newspapers has been compared with native English newspapers (Shafqat, Memon, &

Akhtar, 2019; Iqbal & Danish, 2014). Although, some researchers compared language within Pakistani newspapers genres (Malik, Manzoor, & Jamshaid, 2020; Batool, Majeed, & Zahra, 2019); yet, the existing work on the language of Pakistani newspaper is not sufficient. There is still a need to investigate newspaper language with some different perspective. The immense inclination of the researches in the field of variation across English register evoked to explore and compare the linguistic variation of Pakistani political and opinion-based reportage through multidimensional (MD) analysis on five textual dimensions of Biber's (1988) study.

This research compares the linguistic variation and language functionality of two sub-genres of Pakistani English newspapers: political news and opinion-based reportage, through multidimensional analysis.

1.3. Objectives

The objectives of this research are penned down as follows:

- To collect relevant data for corpus formation
- To explore language functionality of two sub-genres of Pakistani newspapers: political news and opinion-based reportage
- To perform a comparative analysis of political news and opinion based reportage from English newspapers of Pakistan based on dimensions given in Biber's (1988) study

1.4. Research Questions

This study attempts to answer the questions as mentioned below:

1. Where does political news and opinion-based reportage stand based on the five dimensions given in Biber's (1988) study?
2. What kind of functional variation exists between political news and opinion-based reportage?

1.5. Significance of the Research

The current research is significant in many ways. This research has great implications in the domains of print media as well as electronic media. So, the findings of the study are helpful for the people working in the media profession especially content writers. Furthermore, comparison of political news with that of opinion-based reportage of Pakistani English newspapers reveals interesting facts and figure and it is expected that its outcomes would add tremendous novelty in the existing research work and that pave new ways for the novice researchers. From the pedagogical point of view, this research is significant specifically for the instructors who intend to teach review writing, blog writing, and content writing to the learners. Besides this, through its findings v-loggers and bloggers can get help to boost themselves in purposeful language. Moreover, the corpus developed for this research is an advantageous addition in Pakistani English as it would be available online for consumers on demand.

1.6. Limitations

This study has some limitations within which findings need to be interpreted. First of all, this study is limited to Pakistani English newspapers. Secondly, just two sub-genres of the newspapers; political news and opinion-based reportage are focused on due to its exceeding

readability up to 65% of consumers (Soong, 1997). Thirdly, linguistic functionality of Pakistani English language is analyzed. Lastly, its results are not generalizable to other sub-genres of newspapers.

1.7. Delimitations

Due to the time constraints, this study is delimited to the latest six months Pakistani English newspapers. Furthermore, just top five Pakistani English newspapers are taken as a sample. In this study, only the press reportage register of Pakistan is studied and the analysis is comprised of on only written texts.

2. METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents detailed description of the methodology of the current study. After reviewing the literature allied to the problem, a suitable methodology for the study is designed. Particulars of the framework of the research, population, sampling techniques, data collection and analysis tools, and techniques for conducting the current research are elaborated in this chapter.

2.1. Research Framework

This research was triangulated as it offered a variety of databases both in the quantitative and qualitative form to validate the approach. The design of this research was adopted from Biber's (1988) study. A multidimensional analysis with the tagging of 67 grammatical features was applied to the corpus. MDA is an approach that uses statistical techniques to calculate co-occurring linguistic features to investigate linguistic variations on multiple dimensions. In MDA each dimension is scored with positive and negative factors. In each factor, there is a group of co-occurring linguistic features. (CPPNOR) Corpus of Pakistani Political News and Opinion Based Reportage of English Newspapers was analyzed twice to answer the questions posed in the study. Basically the research was conducted in three main steps: data collection, data analysis and interpretation of the data.

2.2. Population

Detail of population group and type is described as follows:

2.2.1. Population Group

The population group of the current research was comprised of newspaper genre. Among all event news political news and opinion articles by guest authors were extracted for the population of research.

2.2.2. Population Type

Population for this study was chosen in text form due to the requirement of research method. Thus, only texts in non-native English language from Pakistani English newspapers were included in the research.

2.3. Sample and Sampling Techniques

According to the nature of the design of the present research probable sampling method was chosen. Among the probable sample, the stratified sampling technique was the most suitable for the study as it divides the population into homogenous groups and each group

holds subjects with parallel characteristics. Therefore, it was a beneficial blend of categorization and randomization that enabled a mixed-method piece of research to be undertaken (Cohen & Morrison, 2007). Sample of the study was taken in two steps: selection for the newspaper, selection for text samples.

2.3.1. Selection of Newspapers

As per requirement of the question of the study, comparison among leading Pakistani English newspapers had to be made. For this purpose web ranking of 2021 of English newspapers in Pakistan was examined and found that hierarchy of top five English newspapers in Pakistan are Dawn, The Nation, The News, Daily Times, and The Express Tribune, so, these were taken as sample of the study (Xaibi, 2021).

2.3.2. Text Sample

According to the stratified sampling technique samples from each stratum were taken equally, so, it was decided to pick out eight samples from one newspaper: four from the political news category and four from the opinion-based section. As per the calculation corpus for the current research was comprised of **7240** texts.

2.4. Data Collection Tools

Data for the present research was mainly collected from online resources through specific websites of selected newspapers. For this purpose archives of the newspapers from the specific websites were probed and required data was saved in a computer in soft form.

2.4.1. Formation of Corpus of Pakistani Political News and Opinion Based Reportage of English Newspapers (CPPNOR)

To fulfill the first objective of the study corpus for the study was built in various steps. Before the formation of corpus an estimated planner was made to get an idea for text collection duration and the labor.

First of all files for data saving were made as per requirement of MAT tagging txt files were required, so, 7240 txt files were made in placed in separate files according to newspaper sub-genres and newspaper hierarchy. These files were coded with initial letters of newspapers, early letters of newspaper sub-genre and file number. It was done for precise entries and to get proper examples during interpretation of data. A spread sheet was constructed in Microsoft excel for saving the further details of extracted texts. Thus particulars of entire corpus were arranged properly in MS Excel. Later on websites were searched keenly to get accurate texts. While extracting the data it was kept in mind to get full text for consecutive reading from the newspaper for better analysis. Data was extracted from the websites and saved in document txt files. The corpus was comprised of five daily online English newspapers of Pakistan of latest six months from 1st September 2020 to 28th February 2021. Contrary to estimation more than three months were spent in toiling for the purpose of corpus constructing. Lastly, all the saved files were checked and rechecked for refining the data to make the corpus mistake-proof. Total number of words was calculated through software named AntConc, as per its calculation corpus of (CPPNOR) was comprised of more than five million words.

Table 2.1: Detail of CPPNOR

Total number of words	51,41423 words
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Number of newspapers	5
Number of newspaper sub-genres	2
Number of texts per newspaper sub-genres	3,620
Total number of texts per newspaper	1,448
Total texts of CPPNOR	7,240

2.5. Data Analysis Tools

To analyze the quantitative data of current study different computational tools were used.

2.5.1. MAT Tagger v 1.3.2

The basic analysis tool of the study was Multidimensional Analysis Tagger v 1.3.2 (MAT). It is a program for windows that is a replica of Biber's (1988) tagging of grammatical features used for the MD functional analysis of English writings. It is usually applied for researching in genre variation and text types. MAT tags the texts with grammatical annotations (Nini, 2015).

To answer the questions of the study texts of the CPPNOR were tagged by MAT v 1.3.2 twice. First, for comparing political news with opinion-based reportage the corpus was divided into two categories in two separate files containing each sub-genre with 3620 texts. These two files were run on MAT one by one. As it was a huge corpus so, it took almost six to seven consecutive hours for completing the analysis. Secondly, for comparing linguistic functionality of five newspapers texts files of each newspaper were alienated along with their sub-genres. In this way, five files of political news containing each newspaper with 724 texts, likewise, five files of opinion-based reportage with 724 texts each were made. Hence, these ten files were separately run on MAT v 1.3.2.

2.5.2. Other Tools

AntConc was used for calculating word tokens (TTR). General calculations, tables, and graphs were generated through Microsoft Excel for clear representation of quantitative data. For analyzing the data statistically, a software 'Statistical Package for Social Science' (SPSS) was used for interactive, or batched, statistical analysis. The last step of study analysis was to calculate significant difference between sub-genres of newspapers and among five newspapers. For this purpose two-way ANOVA was applied on the mean dimensional score acquired from statistics of MAT v 1.3.2 in three phases that was carried out through SPSS. Later on, these findings were interpreted manually in context of five dimensions of Biber's (1988).

2.5.3. Five Dimensions of Biber's (1988) Study

The present research was done on the basis of following dimensions of Biber's (1988) study:

Dimension1: Involved vs. Informational Production

Dimension2: Narrative vs. Non Narrative Concerns

Dimension3: Explicit vs. Situation Dependent Reference

Dimension4: Overt Expression of Persuasion

Dimension5: Abstract vs. Non-Abstract Information

3. ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Following are the results, its analyses and detailed discussion in response of the questions of current study. Additionally, all summed outcome is also proven by multiple statistics to enlighten the findings. Meanwhile, various comparisons are displayed through graphs and tables in the following to fulfill the objectives of the research.

3.1. Linguistic Variation between Political News and Opinion-Based Reportage in Pakistan

To answer question one to three of the present research, linguistic variation of two sub-genres of Pakistani English newspapers has been analyzed according to five dimensions of Biber's (1988) study. The means of dimension scores of both sub-genres are exhibited in the graph below:

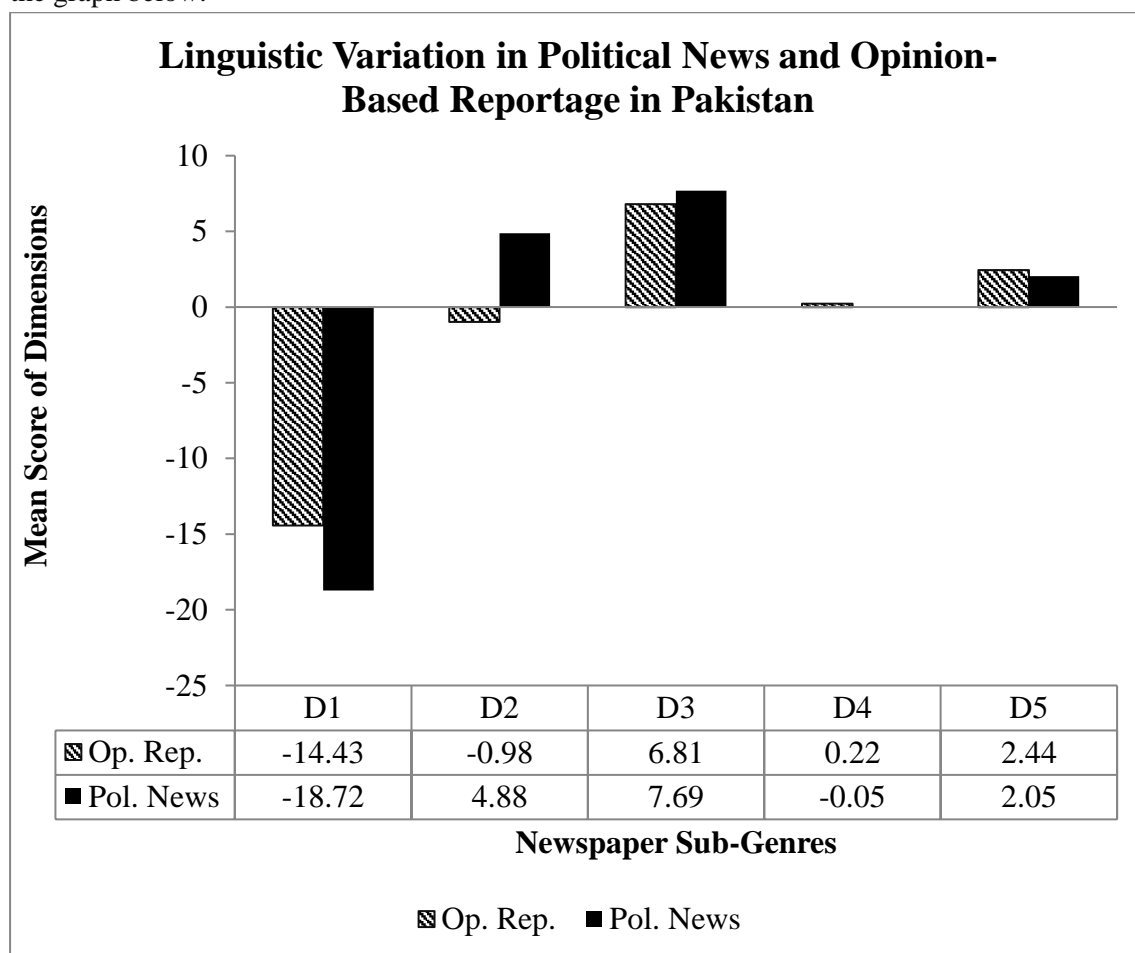


Figure 3.1: Linguistic Variation in Political News and Opinion-Based Reportage in Pakistan

The above mentioned bar graph displays linguistic variation in two sub-genres of Pakistani English print media. Overall, the graph showed least scores on dimension one and highest score on dimension three in both categories however, on D2 scores of both newspaper categories are quite contrary in two opposite directions whereas on D3 and D5 both news forms remained alike with slight differences.

To commence with D1 that is involved vs. informational production, it can be seen that scores of both categories fall totally below the x-axis. Biber's (1988) interpretations on D1 reveal that highest score on this dimension means that discourse is highly involved while

lowest score on this dimension makes the discourse highly informative. So, according to this explanation, discourse of Pakistani opinion-based reportage and political news is highly informative in nature as it carries lowest scores on D1. However, comparison of both categories of newspaper at this dimension exposes that scores of political news (-18.72) on D1 is much higher than of opinion-based reportage (-14.43) which depicts that language of political news conveys more information rather than of opinion-based reportage. While explaining the co-occurring features of D1, Biber (1988) mentioned that informationally dense text contains total other nouns (NN), attributive adjectives (JJ), total prepositional phrases (PIN), average word length (AWL), and type-token ratio (TTR). Linguistic analysis tool multidimensional analysis tagger v 1.3.2 tagged the features of D1 with certain codes in the texts. Figure 3.2 displays difference of grammatical features of informative discourse between two newspaper sub-genres.

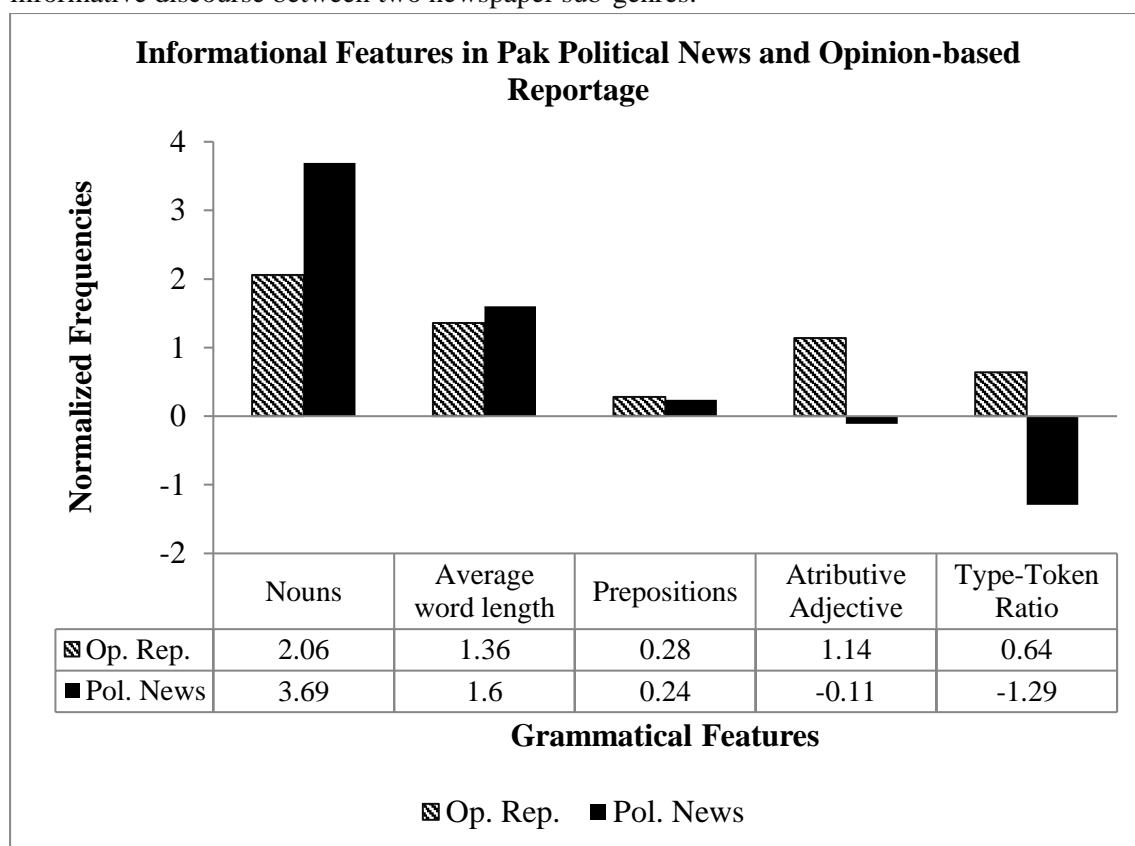


Figure 3.2: Informational Features in Pak Political News and Opinion-based Reportage
The above bar graph clears that frequency of noun (3.69) is higher in political news rather than of opinion-based reportage. However, in all other grammatical features of information like average word length (1.36), prepositions (0.28), attributive adjective (1.14), and type-token ratio (0.64) opinion-based reportage was higher in values in contrast of political news. Hence, lowest mean scores are interpreted as highly informational, so, Pakistani political news are considered more informational than opinion-based reportage. The lowest D1 scores are of a political piece of news from Daily Times English Newspaper with -37.92. The extract of news is described below with highlighted features of informative discourse.

Text: DT_POL_(486), D1 Score: -37.92

The EBM approved filing corruption reference against Sarwar Javed, former member Board of Revenue, Quetta, Shahbaz Khan Mandokhel, former senior member Board of Revenue for illegally allotting state land to Dilshad Akhtar, causing Rs. 60.48 million losses to the national exchequer.

Moving to D2, narrative vs. non-narrative concerns, above bar graph exhibits divergent scores of two sub-genres of newspaper. It is clear from the figure 4.1 that at D2 scores of Pakistani political news are in positive domain while scores of opinion-based reportage are in negative side. Biber (1988) coded the positive scores with narrative but negative scores with non-narrative discourse. As per these interpretations it can be said that Pakistani political news is highly narrative with 4.88 scores in contrast with opinion-based reportage that contain -0.98 scores that are minor in compare of former news category. Co-occurring linguistic features of narrative discourse are more in number than non-narrative discourse that are coded with certain letters in MAT tagger v1.3.2 such as, third-person pronouns (TPP3), present participial clauses (PRESP), public verbs (PRESV), past tense (VBD), synthetic negation (SYNE), perfect aspect (PEAS), whereas non-narrative text surrounds two co-occurring features that are attributive adjectives (JJ) and present tense (VPRT).

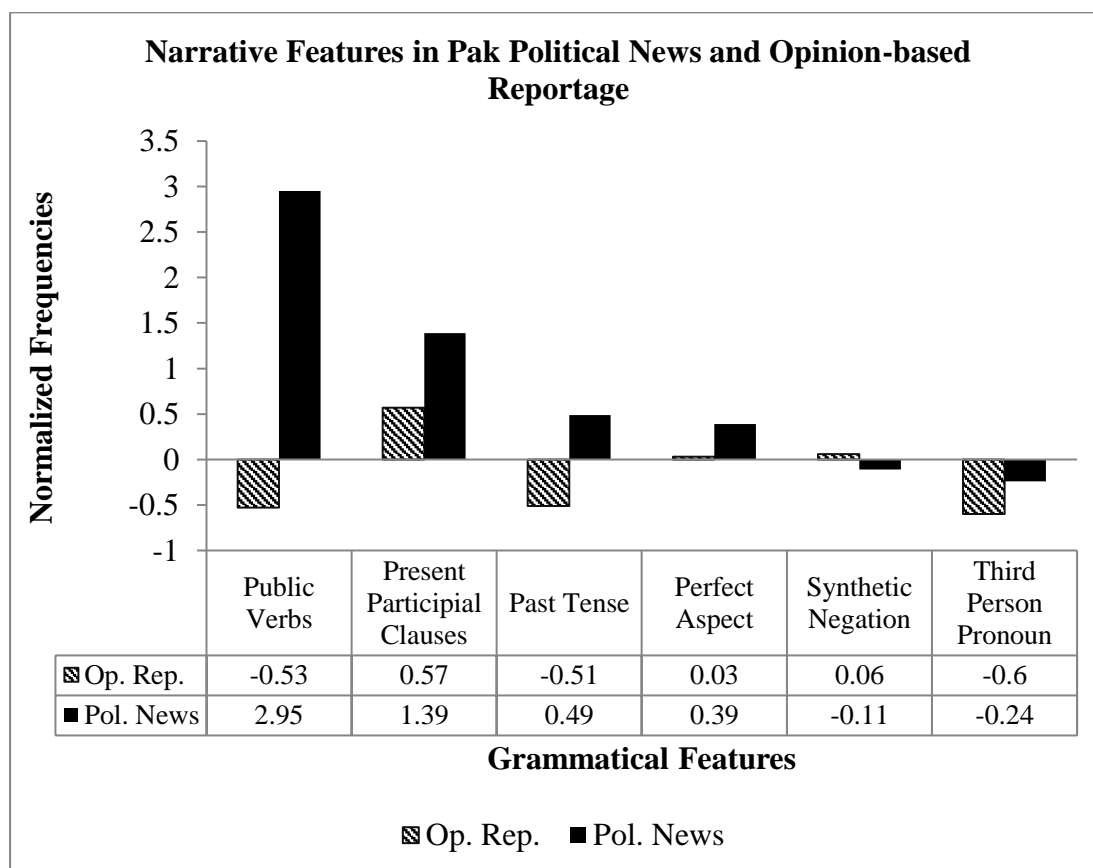


Figure 3.3: Narrative Features in Pak Political News and Opinion-based Reportage

Figure 3.3 presents features of narrative discourse in political news and opinion-based reportage of Pakistan. Normalized mean scores clear that Public verbs (2.95), present participle clauses (1.39), past tense (0.49), and in perfect aspect (0.39) political news was higher rather than values of opinion-based reportage. However, synthetic negation (0.06) and third person pronouns (-0.6) were comparatively greater in opinion-based reportage rather than of political news. So, political news extract of Daily Dawn found highly narrative with repeated features of narration as quoted below:

Text: D_POL_ (173), D2 Score: 36.07

Balochistan Chief Minister Jam Kamal Khan Alyani has been infected with coronavirus and has quarantined himself at his home. My coronavirus test has turned out to be positive" he himself said, according to sources on Tuesday. Health officials confirmed that he had quarantined himself at his residence. They said he was being given the required treatment.

As presented in the above graph, at third dimension; explicit vs. situation dependent reference, scores surged to the highest limit in both sub-genres of newspaper. Biber (1988) labeled the positive scores on D3 as explicit discourse, as both categories of newspaper in this study raised in positive domain so it is factual to categorize Pakistani political news and opinion-based reportage as explicit in discourse. However, dimension scores illustrate that political news (7.69) is somewhat more explicit in compare to opinion-based reportage (6.81). Hence, these sub-genres are context independent in discourse which means that their texts can easily understand without any conversational reference. D3 contains WH relative clauses on object position and subject position (WHOBJ), (WHSUB), contractions (CONT), pied-piping relative clauses (PIRE), phrasal coordination (PHC), and nominalizations (NOMZ) co-occurred.

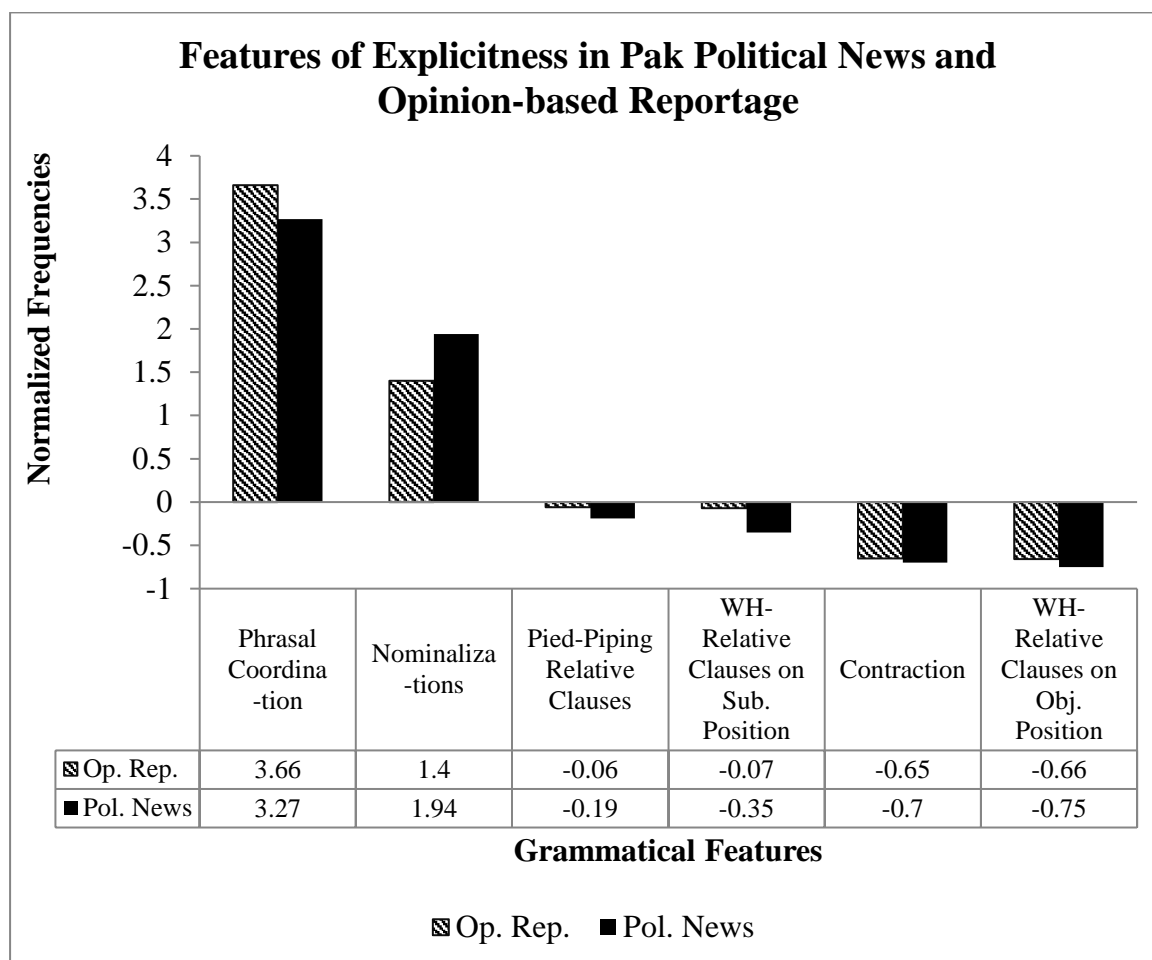


Figure 3.4: Features of Explicitness in Pak Political News and Opinion-based Reportage
Figure 3.4 displays features of explicitness in two sub-genres of Pakistani English newspapers. It reveals that values of explicit features were higher in political news than in opinion-based reportage. Grammatical features of explicit discourse such as nominalizations (1.94), pied-piping relative clauses (-0.19), WH relative clauses on subject position (-0.35), contractions (-0.7), and WH relative clauses on object position (-0.75) were more in frequency in political news except phrasal coordination (3.66) that were higher in opinion-based reportage, so political news was more explicit in nature than the former one. Political news extract from The News exhibited features of D3 in co-occurrence as exemplified in the following with highlighted words.

Text: TNS_POL_(326), D3 Score: 37.97

To finalize the upcoming rallies in Okara and Multan, PML-N Vice President Maryam Nawaz held a meeting with PML-N leaders from Okara and Multan here on Friday. The meeting reviewed preparations for Okara and Multan rallies. Rana Sanaullah and Awais Leghari also held detailed consultations with party officials, members of National and Provincial Assemblies and ticket-holders of Okara and Multan Divisions. During the meetings, the party officials from Okara and Multan were instructed to exercise caution and ensure implementation of corona SOPs during the rallies.

Just like D2, at D4 political news and opinion-based reportage scored in opposite directions. Biber, (1988) classified this dimension being argumentative or having features of overtness owing to its co-occurring linguistic features such as infinitives (TO), necessity modals (NEMD), suasive verbs conditional (SUAV), subordination (OSUB), prediction modals (PRMD), possibility modals (POMD), and split auxiliaries (SPAU). Given bar graph displayed scores of opinion-based reportage at D4 are 0.22 and scores of political news are -0.05. According to Biber, (1988) highest values on this dimension means that text unambiguously showed writer's opinion, his own judgments and concerns about a matter. Hence, scores of opinion-based reportage stand in positive domain so discourse of opinion-based reportage is argumentative and exposed and discourse of political news is contrary to former one.

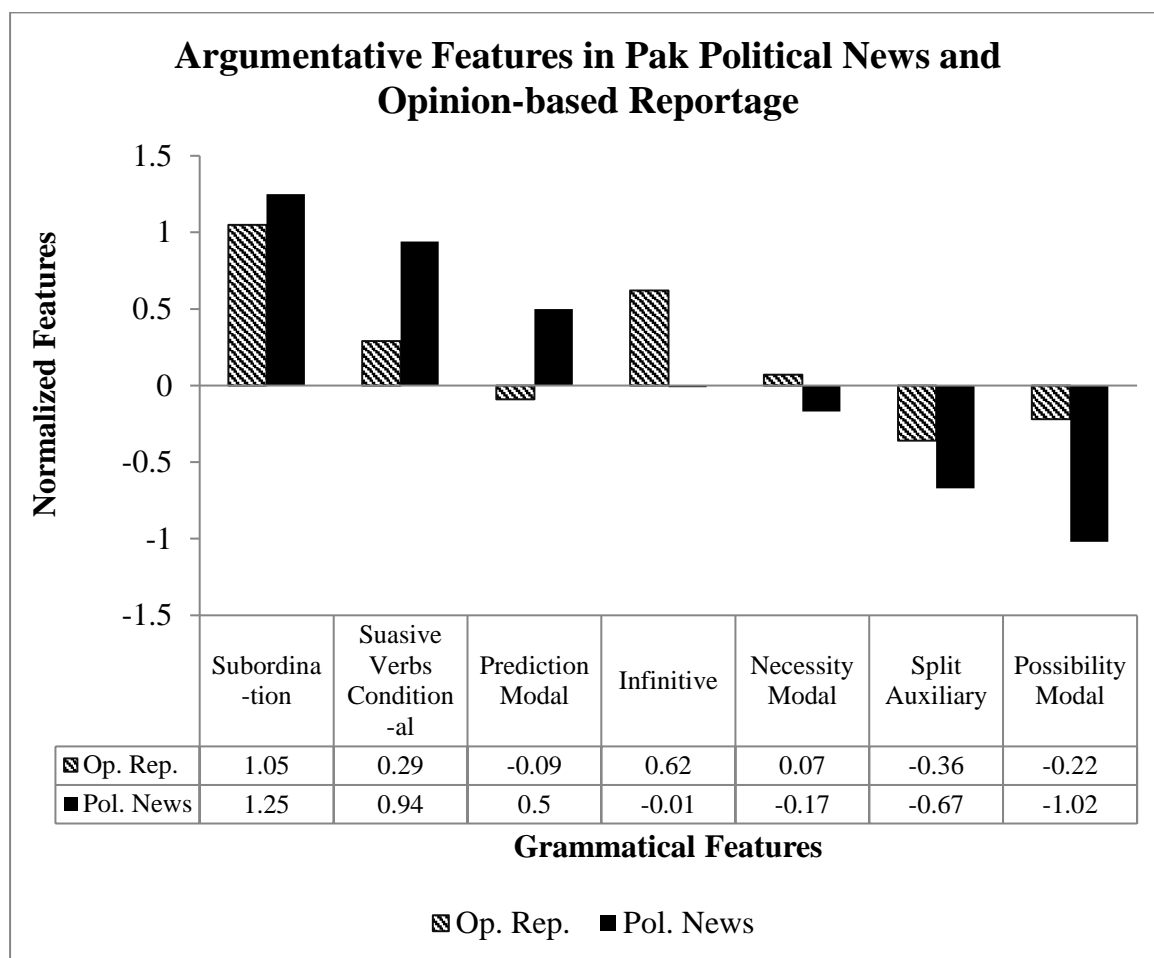


Figure 3.5: Argumentative Features in Pak Political News and Opinion-based Reportage

Figure 4.5 reveals the difference between argumentative features of political news and opinion-based reportage of Pakistani newspapers. It shows quite competitive values in both sub-genres as subordination (1.25), suasive verbs conditional (0.94), prediction on modals (0.5), and in split auxiliaries (-0.67) values of political news were higher however with little difference but in infinitives (0.62), necessity modals (0.07) and possibility modals (-0.22) normalized frequencies of opinion-based reportage was greater than political news. An example with high explicit features is given as below:

Text: TNA_OP_413, D4 Score: 16.49

It will want the JCPOA to include Iran POS ballistic missile forces capabilities as well. The GCC will want to be proactively consulted before President Biden revisits the JCPOA with Iran. The US will not be averse to taking strong military action if Iran does not submit to its diktat. The US-led West will be in full support of the US-Israel endeavor to this end. China has plans to invest about US \$ 400 billion in Iran and would prefer a pacified and stable GMER. It will look at Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Qatar, CARs, Malaysia, and Indonesia etc. for support.

Fifth and final dimension of the study is entitled as abstract vs. non-abstract information that is also designated by negative and positive scores. The bars on the graph at D5 elevate above x-axis which means that both sub-genres of newspaper provide abstract information. However, there is slight difference between the two, where opinion-based reportage with 2.44 dimension scores has minor dominance over the political news with 2.05 dimension scores. It indicates that authors of both sub-genres write in technical and formal way to provide facts to the readers. There are certain linguistic features that offer abstract information such as: conjuncts (CONJ), past participial clauses (PASTP), agentless passives (PASS), by-passives (BYPA), other adverbial subordinators (OSUB), and past participial WHIZ deletion relatives (WZPAST).

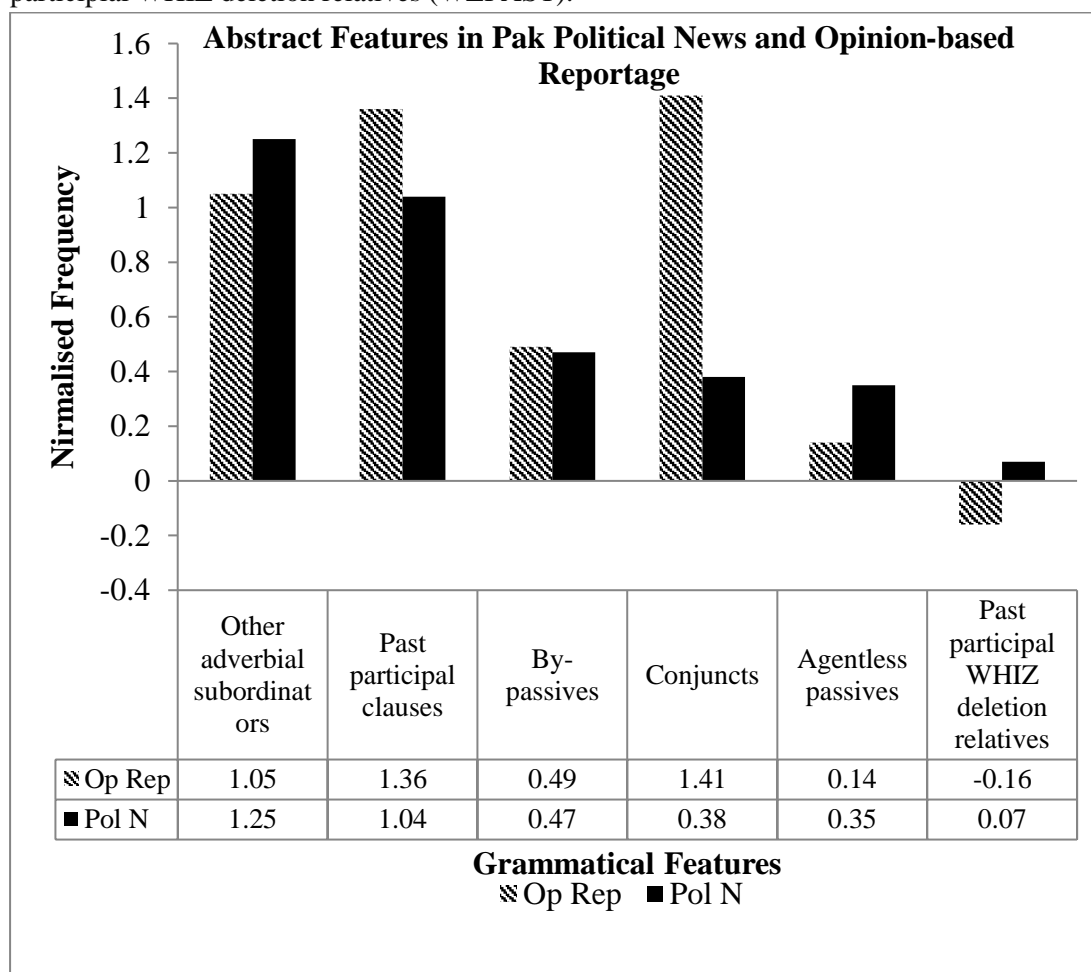


Figure 3.6: Abstract Features in Pak Political News and Opinion-based Reportage

Figure 3.6 presents features of abstract discourse in both sub-genres of Pakistani English newspapers. Comparison between the two discloses that past participial clauses (1.36), by passives (0.4), conjuncts (1.41) were higher in frequency in opinion-based reportage in comparison of political news. However, other adverbial subordinators (1.25) agentless passives 0.35 and past participial WHIZ deletion relatives were greater in number in political news. Overall, opinion-based reportage of Pakistani English newspapers were more abstract in nature than political news.

Text: TNA_OP_580, D5 Score: 18.06

"The Islamic State is not just a challenge to Judeo-Christian Western civilization. It is a challenge to civilization itself--to the very idea of civilization." The consequences of the United States' Iraq invasion were far-reaching; they severely undermined the stability of the already fragile Middle East. And the words of Tariq Ali that the American occupation of Iraq will determine global politics for this century have come true. While the US was already struggling with crises of all sorts in the region, a deadly organisation emerged, the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS). 2014 was the height of IS operations. It captured large swathes of land both in Iraq and Syria. While the group was driven out of urban centres of Iraq, the group nonetheless maintained its presence in Iraq's peripheries. Since last year, the group is regaining its devastating capabilities. The latest terror attack in Baghdad's commercial area is testimony to the assertion made above.

Generally, in comparison of political news with opinion-based reportage of Pakistani English newspapers, opposing results were seen at D2 and D4 whereas, political news dominated on opinion-based reportage at D1 and D3 however, it left behind at D5. The following table chart clarifies findings statistically to give insightful exposure of MAT results.

Table 3.1: Statistical Comparison of Dimension Mean Scores of Newspaper Sub-Genres

ANOVA	D ²	0.96	0.12	Note . N=10, ANOVA=analysis of variance; **p<.05 *p>0.05
	df	4	1	
	F value	24.94**	0.048*	
	Effect	Dimension	N. Sub-genres	
D5	SD	3.34	2.85	
	M	2.44	2.05	
D4	SD	4.12	3.43	
	M	0.22	-0.05	
D3	SD	4.18	3.80	
	M	6.81	7.69	
D2	SD	4.65	2.32	
	M	-0.98	4.88	
D1	SD	5.60	6.34	
	M	-14.43	-18.72	
Variable	Newspaper Sub-genre	Political News	Opinion-based Reportage	

Table 3.1 shows means, standard deviation and F ratios for linguistic variance between two sub-genres of newspaper. Results indicated significant mean difference in linguistic variation on dimensions with $F(4) = 24.94$, $MSE = 6.63$, $p < 0.05$, $D^2 = 0.96$ and non-significant difference between newspaper sub-genres with $F(1) = 0.048$, $MSE = 6.63$, $p > 0.05$, $D^2 = 0.12$. The findings revealed that, political news at D1 ($M = -14.43$, $SD = 5.60$) exhibited higher mean scores as compared to the rest of four dimensions. Opinion-based reportage also presented higher mean scores at D1 ($M = -18.72$, $SD = 6.34$). Post-Hoc comparisons revealed significance across dimensions while pair-wise comparison displayed non-significance mean difference between political news and opinion-based reportage.

4. CONCLUSION

This study has successfully achieved its objectives by analyzing linguistic diversities found within newspaper sub-genres as well as its comparative studies.

Findings achieved from MAT 1.3.2 were based on five dimensions that Biber (1988) made in his study. To answer questions results indicate that political news of Pakistani English newspapers was more informational and explicit rather than opinion-based reportage. Moreover, political news was narrative and overt whereas opinion-based reportage was non-narrative and had no features of overt writing. Finally, opinion-based reportage was written in more abstract style than political news. Comparatively, linguistic functionality of political news and opinion-based reportage was quite distinct from each other. It finds out that different linguistic co-occurring features are used by the newspaper authors to convey particular news items. Each sub-genre has its own linguistic specification and taste that cause a source of alluring for its consumers.

4.1. Recommendations for Future Researchers

As it is a corpus based study so linguistic functionality of current Pakistani newspapers is highlighted through this study so, that would be a foundation for coming researchers to study language of Pakistani newspapers from several perspectives as corpus of the study is created during COVID-19 era that is exceptional for linguistic point of view as numerous words generated and colloquially used by the consumers. Moreover, this corpus would be helpful in diachronic studies in future.

In addition, this study would be helpful for novice v-loggers and blog writers who are interested in making their opinion-based reportage for various platforms of social media.

Furthermore, editors of Pakistani newspapers can also avail assistance from this study as it offers linguistic comparisons of leading English newspapers of Pakistan. So, they can know well which linguistic features are used by certain newspapers that make them distinct and communal from others.

Language of any nation can be recognized by its newspapers as it reflects face of the majority of public. So, anyone who wants to know the nature of Pakistani English Language of current era, this study would be a beneficial source for them as it not only provides functionality of Pakistani English language but also compares it with that of British English to reveal the versatility of native and non-native English language of newspapers.

Finally, comparative studies of language are always interesting and a huge source of knowledge as well. Therefore, this study would be interesting for the linguists who are

interested in comparative linguistic studies, as this study brought forward versatility within Pakistani English at a minute level that is often fused and considered as same, while findings of the study exposed that English language performs different functions to communicate specific meanings through altered grammatical features.

To sum up, by and large, this study is precious from above mentioned perspectives. It is recommended that instructors, learners, and researchers should communally gain benefit from the findings of this study to improvise their studies.

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