



A Critical Discourse Analysis of Selected British Political Tweets

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Abstract

Recently, the world has witnessed the war between Russia and Ukraine, which has represented a direct challenge to international rule of law and stability of the international system. Thus, it has led to different types of political tweets among which those of American president Mr. Johnson. He has started a new type of media war on twitter, accusing Russia and hold them the responsibility for what is happening recently in Ukraine. This raise in the use of political tweets give increase to some controversies over their ideologies and the linguistic strategies employed to convey these ideologies. This creates an obvious need to critically investigate these tweets to find out these ideologies and strategies. The current study is based on the hypotheses that British political tweets depend heavily on linguistic devices to convey their intended messages, claiming that tweets can convey the intentions of the president in such crisis. The selected tweets have been analyzed in the light of the adopted model based on Fairclough (1989).

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الملخص

شهد العالم مؤخرًا الحرب بين روسيا وأوكرانيا ، التي تمثلت تحديًا مباشرًا لسيادة القانون، فضلًا عن استقرار النظام الدولي، بما أدى إلى أنواع مختلفة من التغريدات السياسية، منها التغريدات الخاصة بالرئيس الأمريكي (جو بايدن) ورئيس وزراء المملكة المتحدة (بوريس جونسون)، فقد بدأ الرئيسان نوعًا جديدًا من الحرب الإعلامية على منصة "تويتر"، متهمين روسيا بالاعتداء على دولة عضو في الأمم المتحدة ، و قد حملها مسؤولية هذا الاعتداء و تداعياته اللاحقة وهو ما أدى الى حدة ما يراد في التغريدات السياسية ، فضلًا عن الجدل الخاص بالأيديولوجيات و الاستراتيجيات اللغوية المتبعة في نقل هذه الأيديولوجيات ، مما ولد حاجة واضحة لإجراء تحقيق نقدي في هذه التغريدات لمعرفة الأيديولوجيات و الاستراتيجيات التي تضمنتها .

استندت الدراسات الحالية التي عده فرضيات ، أهمها ان التغريدات السياسية الأمريكية والبريطانية تعتمد اعتمادًا كبيراً على الأدوات اللغوية لنقل الرسائل المقصودة، بدعوى أن التغريدات يمكن أن تنتقل نوايا الرؤساء في مثل هذه الأزمة. وقد حلت التغريدات المختارة في ضوء النموذج المعتمد على أساس فيركلوف (1989).

1. Introduction

Certain branches of social theory and earlier discourse analysis, text linguistics, and interactional sociolinguistics are the philosophical and linguistic foundations on which CDA is built. Marx's critique of capitalist exploitation of the working class, his historical dialectical method, his definition of ideology as the superstructure of civilization (Marx and Engels 1845/2001), and his notion of language as "product, producer, and reproducer of social consciousness" have influenced some CDA proponents (Fairclough and Graham 2002: 201).

Some of the CDA's beliefs may be found in Aristotle's rhetoric, and then, two millennia later, in the Frankfurt School's critical thought before second world war. Critical Linguistics (CL) , which arose mostly in the United Kingdom and Australia at the end of the 1970s, gave birth to its current focus on language and discourse. Critical developments in sociolinguistics, psychology, and the social sciences all have CDA equivalents. CDA, like its neighboring fields, can be understood as a reaction to 1960s and 1970s dominant form (asocial) paradigms like Chomsky's TGG (van Dijk, 2008a:85).

In the same vein, Critical Linguistics (henceforth CL) began in the late 1960s at the University of East Anglia, with a manifesto written by Bob Hodge and Gunther Kress that combined linguistics with an activist, Marxist framework in a post-1968 radicalized academic environment. They were influenced by Halliday's Systemic functional linguistics rather than Chomsky's TGG in general terms. In particular, they utilized a number of Halliday's ideas, such as the idea that language users build and mix words from a limited set of alternatives provided by the language (Matheson, 2005: 19-20).

Van Dijk hosted a two-day CL workshop in Amsterdam in January 1991. Among the most popular participants were Norman Fairclough, Gunther Kress, Theo van Leeuwen, van Dijk himself, and Ruth Wodak. This workshop was notable because it marked the start of a new method of discourse analysis known as CDA (Wodak and Chilton, 2005: VI). As a result, CL can be considered an origin of CDA, which has recently received a lot of attention from academics. CDA and CL are also communal (Wodak, 2001: 8).

In addition, Marx's economic and political writings contain themes that are pertinent to contemporary CDA. Though Marxism has many flaws on both a political and economic level, his critique of capitalism was and continues to be significant. Both Marx's political and economic model and CDA share a common base in that they both attack capitalism as a system (Fairclough, 2010: 303).

In many ways, the CDA and Marxism are linked. Three notions are crucial in all CDA, just as they are in Marxism: the concept of power, the concept of history, and the concept of ideology. Some attribute the notion of critique found in CDA to the Frankfurt school, others to literary criticism, and yet others to Marx's ideas (Wodak and Meyer, 2009: 9).

DA became widely established in the 1970s as a discipline of linguistics concerned with the examination of coherent texts. It is defined as a method of addressing and considering a problem. This type of investigation can show what goes on behind people's backs. CDA can be considered a subset of DA because it aims to identify the hidden reasons behind a text. "CDA is a – critical – viewpoint on undertaking scholarship: it is, to speak, DA 'with an attitude,'" Wodak and Meyer (2009:96).

2. Traditional Discourse Analysis

A discourse is a collection of meanings used by a group of individuals to talk about a specific topic. Discourse can be defined in both a narrow and broad sense; for example, a narrow definition of discourse might solely apply to spoken or written language (Hasibuan, 2018 : 6). Another definition of discourse is that it is "language above the clause" according to the formalist or structuralist paradigm (Stubbs, 1983: 1).

This approach to discourse concentrates on the structural aspects of language above where the sentence is derived, such as structure and cohesiveness, but ignores the social notions that influence how individuals use and perceive language (Hasibuan, 2018 : 7).

The second, so-called functionalist paradigm, which asserts that discourse is "language in use," emphasizes the social side of language (Brown and Yule, 1983: 1). According to the functionalist paradigm, language analysis is closely linked to the study of language's purpose and functions in human life. As a result, discourse is viewed as a culturally and socially ordered mode of communication.

Researchers who use this definition of discourse "believe that language is employed to mean and do something," and that this "meaning and doing" is linked to the context in which it is used. "We need to find out what the speaker or writer is doing through discourse, and how this "doing" is linked to wider interpersonal, institutional, socio-cultural, and material contexts" if we want to properly comprehend a text. Discourse is "the process of conversation itself: a cultural activity," whereas text refers to "the observable output of communication" (Talbot, 2007: 9).

In CDA, discourse - the use of language in speech and writing – is viewed as a form of social practice, emphasizing this concept of language as action and social behavior (Hasibuan, 2018 : 7).

3. CDA Contributors

Critical discourse analyzers developed as a group of academics in the early 1990s. Teun van Dijk, Norman Fairclough, Gunther Kress, Theo van Leeuwen, and Ruth Wodak attended a workshop sponsored by the University of Amsterdam in January 1991, where they spent two days discussing ideas and methods of discourse analysis and CL. This workshop might be considered the birthplace of CDA, and these scholars can be considered the organization's founders. The publication of van Dijk's book 'Racism and Prejudice in Discourse' in 1984, followed by his magazine 'Discourse and Society' in 1990, Norman Fairclough's book 'Language and Power' in 1989, and Ruth Wodak's book 'Power and Ideology' in 1989, marked the beginning of the CDA network of scholars (Wodak, 2001: 13-9).

Van Dijk employs a 'socio-cognitive' discourse analysis approach to CDA. He recognizes the importance of cognitive research in the critical analysis of discourse, communication and interaction. He claims to have no particular method and not to represent any methodology, school, or other scholarly thoughts. He does not even want his teammates or classmates to follow him. He also states that he does not have a ready-made CDA offer. He believes that good scholarship,

particularly effective CDA, should bring together the best work of many people working in various fields (van Dijk, 2004a: 6-8, cited in Kawa, 2003: 46).

Norman Fairclough is a well-known author and lecturer in the field of CDA (Mills, 1997:9). Fairclough (1989: 56-9) emphasizes on the howness and whyness of the text description rather than the whatness in his first book on CDA. What factors influence a speaker's or a writer's choice of phrases or forms? He believes that these decisions are never made in a vacuum, but are ideologically charged.

Discourse and discrimination, identity politics, gender studies, and organizational research are among Ruth Wodak's main areas of research. With Norman Fairclough and others, she co-edits and co-authors a number of periodicals and books (Wodak and Chilton, 2005: 314-315).

Wodak underlines the significance of considering the discourse's larger context. The real or immediate use of language or text, the relationship between utterances, texts, discourses, and genres, the extra-linguistic sociological and institutional environment of discourse, and the socio-political and historical contexts are the four layers of context for her. Her research aims to uncover how power and dominance operate in discourse at each of these four levels (Wooffitt, 2005: 138).

According to Van Leeuwen, (2008:6) individuals are social actors. They are influenced by powerful organizations' policies and actions, which either include or exclude individuals from power centers. Like Fairclough, van Leeuwen (Ibid) emphasizes on social practices as socially regulated methods of doing things in his book 'Discourse and Practice.' Participants, activities, performance modes, eligibility conditions, presentation styles, times, locations, and resources are all included, according to him, in all really performed social practices.

Van Leeuwen (Ibid) sees discourse as a'recontextualization of social practice,' and so portrays the various actors within it as social actors who engage in varying levels of activity and have diverse amounts of authority.

4. Macro and Micro Levels of Analysis

According to Lyons (1981:31), CDA can be performed at the Micro (Mil) and Macro (Mal) levels of analysis. Mil concentrates on phonemics, morphology, and syntax, while Mal is interested in the connection between language and all meta-linguistic aspects of communicative behaviors.

Mal, according to Van Dijk (2006b:115,140), deals with more influential and substantial themes that can apply to a higher-level context and beyond the text's current form. The Mil level considers the text's participants, as well as the situations, issues, or individuals who are associated with the text in the context. Identifying and investigating power dynamics between persons and organizations, for example, are important to Mal, as is studying the text's potential ideology. Mal is often associated with the communities, societies, and ideological foundations that provide intellectual sustenance to individuals and groups. It is concerned with the power dynamics that exists between various social classes.

5. Critical Discourse Analysis Weak Areas

Despite the fact that CDA is the most prominent method of political discourse analysis at the moment, several features of it have been questioned. Since critical discourse analysts have stated their views, they have been accused of being subjective rather than impartial, and of taking sides. Some argue that academics should not take sides and should not participate actively in the issues and phenomena they research. CDA practitioners, like CA practitioners, have made no apologies for their socialist motivations and have consistently linguistically critiqued the prevailing discourses of authoritarianism, capitalism, and militarism. CDA has often been accused of exaggeration and over-interpretation (Widdowson, 2007: 108).

One argument used against CDA is that it is extremely similar to previous stylistic analyses in the field of literary criticism (Paltridge and Hyland, 2012 : 198).

CDA, according to van Dijk (2008a : 7-8), has failed to establish more explicit theories of context. He believes that CDA is concerned with the social contexts of discourse, a criticism leveled at Norman Fairclough, particularly power and abuse of authority. In CDA, power is manifested in more than just some elements of powerful speeches; understanding how discourse reproduces social structure necessitates an understanding of the entire complicated context.

In addition, Widdowson (1998 :136) suggests that a CA should include dialogues with text authors and users, rather than relying solely on the analyst's interpretation of what a text means.

Others have claimed that critical discourse analysis neglects to address the reader's involvement in the consumption and interpretation of a book, mistaking themselves for a part of the intended audience (van Noppen 2004:107).

Textual interpretation is discussed in CDA by writers such as Cameron (2001: 140), who argues that it is an exaggeration to assert that any reading of a text is conceivable or valid. She does, however, acknowledge that relying solely on the analyst's interpretation of the texts is a flaw in CDA. To overcome this, she advises relying more on recipients' interpretations in the analysis and interpretation of the discourse.

6. Social Media

New media have made it possible for global social media use within the realm of politics. The social media are used more than any other channel of communication, have offered unprecedented opportunity to users to contribute their own quota in political discourse (Onyechi and Adeitan, 2019: 11).

Vitak et al. ,(2011: 108) averred that social media platforms are believed to be opening up new frontiers, especially for people to participate in politics. For instance, youths who are hitherto presumed to be politically inactive nowadays seem to be very active in online political activities especially on Facebook where they have access to their friends and other political active people. The new media indicate the transforming patterns of media production, distribution and use. The digital revolution has facilitated dramatic changes with significant results worldwide like increased public's access to information increased opportunities of civic engagement and social networking with expanded communities.

However, the emergence of social media, which is specified as "platforms for interaction and information exchange", has introduced a new pathway for inducing political attitudes and participation and enhancing participatory communication, as well as faster dialoguing, and engagement (Ross and Bürger, 2014: 47).

In view of this assertion Khang et. al. ,(2012: 282) maintain that the advent of social media has brought around a different type of political process and campaigns referred to as political digital campaigns which requires political candidates getting acquainted with social media strategy to connect with electorates so as to influence them and the society at large. Most political parties and leaders maintain social media accounts in order to lay out their schedule. For instance, the use of social media sites such as Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and Blogs are used massively by politicians.

7. Methodology

7.1 The Adopted Model

Fairclough's (1989) model which aims to do CDA is adopted in the current study. The three dimensions of this model is used to analyze the selected tweets. Below is a diagram which summarizes the elements of the adopted model, and a brief account of each element.

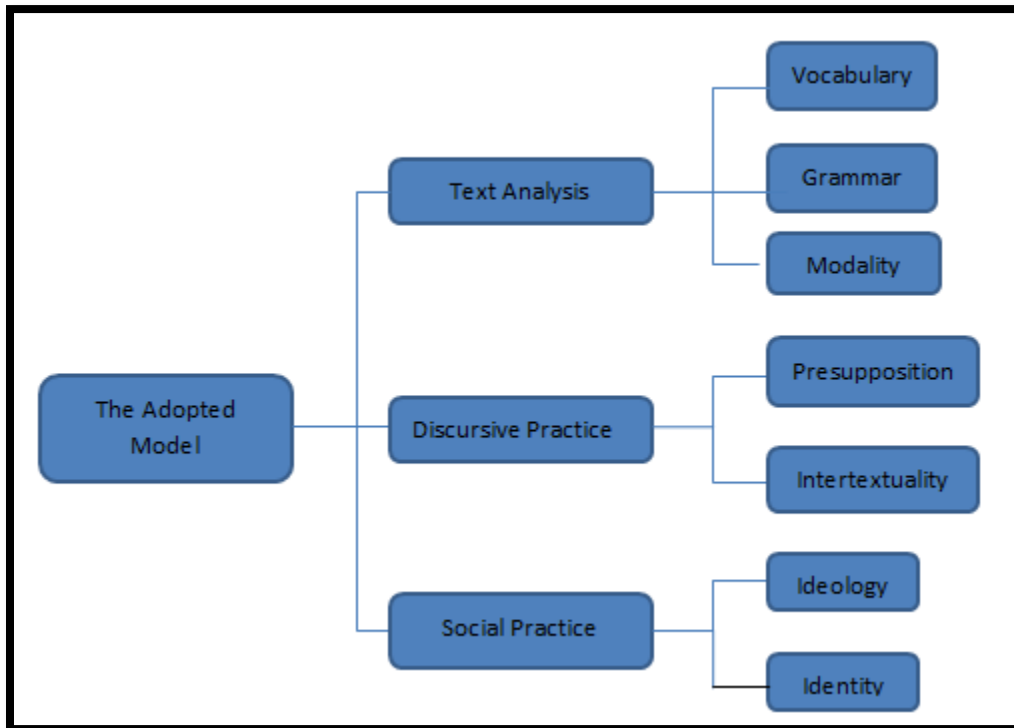


Figure (1) The Adopted Model

7.2 Fairclough's (1989) Model

Fairclough proposes a three-level CDA framework that aims to raise social relations awareness "by focusing on language" (Fairclough, 1989: 4).

This method of DA includes three linguistic levels: description, interpretation, and explanation:

- Description of the language text.
- Interpretation of the relationship between the discursive processes and the text.
- Explanation of the relationship between the discursive processes and the social processes.

7.2.1 Textual Analysis (Description)

7.2.1.1 Vocabulary

Vocabularies and the choice of words and terms in political speeches such as tweets play a crucial role in the world controversies as this between Russia and Ukraine. The effective power of words and ways of using these effective words can affect the decision of presidents around the world.

Fairclough's (1992:76-77) analysis of vocabulary can be explored in a variety of ways, despite the fact that he avoids using the term vocabulary in favor of the words wordings, lexicalization, and signification.

Experiential value, relational value, and expressive value are all considered when analyzing vocabulary. Classification schemes, ideological words, rewording and over-wording, meaning relations, and metaphors are all linked to experiential value. Euphemistic expression and formal or casual words have a relational value. Positive and negative evaluations are linked to expressive value (Fairclough, 1989: 111).

7.2.1.2 Grammar Analysis

The grammatical components transitivity and passive voice, which are primarily concerned with the syntactic structure of the clause, are chosen for analysis of these texts in this study.

7.2.1.3 Modality

The interpersonal function is frequently associated with modality. The intermediate ranges between the extreme positive and negative are referred to as modality. It can express the speaker's opinion on a particular topic, as well as the scale of formality and power dynamics (Wang, 2010: 255-256).

7.2.2 Discursive Practice (Interpretation)

Fairclough (1995a: 9) is interested in the analysis of discourse practices, which includes text production and distribution processes, as well as text consumption and interpretation by various consumers, such as media audiences. The model also considers the dialectical and relational relationships that exist between media texts and sociocultural events such as social change.

As a result, Fairclough's CDA approach was designed to comprehend not only a text, but also the world in which it was produced. Also, CDA entails

examining a specific text in the context of discursive activities and their impact on sociocultural practices. This implies, in part, placing a text's presuppositions, as well as the manner in which they are produced and ordered, within the framework of social and cultural practices in order to appreciate the power and ideological relationships implicit in that text (Richardson, 2007:37).

7.2.2.1 Presupposition

Presupposition is the first component in this stage, and it is a tool for analyzing hidden or implicit meaning inside explicit media materials. According to Reah (2002: 106) presuppositions are "assumptions that are 'baked in' to a speech, rather than being explicitly articulated.

Presupposition, according to Fairclough (2013: 128), is a feature of text producers' understanding of the context. Furthermore, Fairclough states that assumption has an ideological function since it considers "common sense in the service of power," making it a potent instrument in media texts.

7.2.2.2 Intertextuality

Intertextuality is the second component of this model. Discursive practice is defined by De Beaugrande and Dressler (1981: 182) as "the manner in which the production and reception of a specific text is dependent on the participants' knowledge of other texts".

Intertextuality, according to Fairclough (1992: 84), is the feature in which texts borrow pieces from other texts. To put it another way, intertextuality refers to "speech communication chains." Intertextuality analysis is significant since it tends to reveal leverage older texts to create new ones.

7.2.3 Social Practice (Explanation)

The third stage of Fairclough's approach is social practice. According to Fairclough (1989:26) this level is primarily concerned with evaluating speech in relation to ideology and power, as well as seeing power as a way of hegemony .

This level extends beyond the creation and analysis of texts to the study of their social consequences, with a focus on the relationship between interaction and social context.

8. Data Analysis

8.1 Joe Biden's Tweets Analysis

8.1.1 Tweet (1)

“The attack on a Ukrainian train station is yet another horrific atrocity committed by Russia, striking civilians who were trying to evacuate and reach safety” (7:23pm /8/4/2022)

8.1.1.1 Text Analysis

1. Vocabulary

The process of words selection and the way of putting words together in speeches of politicians is a matter have to be taken into consideration. In this tweet, the US president uses the phrase “horrific atrocity” to accuse Russia for what is being done in train station. The president wants to express the idea that Russia is a terrorist country. Russia is doing war against civilian in Ukraine. He adds that the attacks at the train station in eastern Ukraine shows the depth to which Putin's once vaunted army and holding Russia responsible for a rocket attack in the eastern Ukraine city of Kramatorsk. Mr. Biden wants to say it is a war that aims to indiscriminately attack on civilians. Russian crimes in Ukraine will not go unnoticed or unpunished. He adds that USA will continue its security assistance of weapons delivered to Ukraine to help it defend itself against Putin's invasion.

2. Grammar

Forming sentences to make a text has a significant role in forming the ideology in political speeches. Thus, the text structure in political talks is a way of expressing the hidden ideologies. Making a sentence more focused than another is one technique used by politicians in their speeches. In this tweet, the US president uses the verb “attack” to accuse Russia for what happened at train station. Biden has already accused Russian forces of community war crimes outside of Kyiv. Mr. Biden uses verbs of continuity like “were trying” to describe the civilians people killed in the attacks.

3. Modality

There are no modal verbs in this tweet.

8.1.1.2 Discursive Practice

1. Presupposition

The US president Mr. Biden accuses Moscow of trading thousands of anticipation of major Russian offensive in the region. He wants to say that Russia is against humanity.

2. Intertextuality

Mr. Biden uses words like “another horrific atrocity committed by Russia” to blame Russians about their crimes committed in the city of Kramatorsk. He said that more than 52 people were killed including women and children trying to flee from Russian bombing of their city. Mr. Biden uses the words “horrific atrocity” to note that this crime committed by Russian troops at train station is similar to what happened in the Buchan’s massacre.

8.1.1.3 Social Practice

1. Ideology

The US president, Mr. Biden, accuses Russia when he used words like “another horrific atrocity committed by Russia”, so these attacks killed dozens of people as shocking developed;

it is another awful crime displayed by the Russian president. Mr. Biden holds them what is happening, especially when Russia denied targeting civilians claiming that the Russian forces were not responsible for the Kramatorsk attack.

2. Identity

In this tweet, the US president Mr. Biden wants to show the world, that it is clear that Putin is just trying to wipe out the idea of even being able be Ukrainian. He adds that Russian missiles attacked on Kramatorsk railway station. A hub for civilian evaluations which left dozens of people killed and more injured, is one more atrocity committed by Russia in Ukraine. Mr. Biden motivates the world to hold the Russian president Putin to account the disaster in Ukraine.

8.1.2 Tweet (2)

“Today, the U.S. is continuing our strong support for the brave people of Ukraine as they defend their country. I am announcing another package of security assistance that will provide additional artillery munitions, radars, and other equipment to Ukraine”(12:00am/2022/5/7).

8.1.2.1 Text Analysis

1. Vocabulary

Mr. Biden starts his tweet using adjectives words like “strong support” and “brave people” to show that the US stand with Ukrainian in this crisis by providing a historic amount of security assistance to Ukraine at rapid speech, so these words have positive effect on the readers’ (Ukrainian people) about the war. The US supports together with the contribution of their allies and partners has been critical in helping Ukraine to win the battle of Kyiv and hinder Putin’s aims in Ukraine.

2. Grammar

In this tweet, the US president Mr. Biden uses the relational verb “is” to show that the USA and its people still help and support the Ukrainian people in their war against Russia. Mr. Biden uses other activity verbs in his tweet like ‘announcing’ , ‘provide’ and support to show that the US will also provide another package of security assistance to help the brave people of Ukraine to defend and protect their country .

3. Modality

The US president commits himself to stand with Ukraine and help Ukrainian in this war against Russia by providing another package of security assistance for Ukraine to succeed in the next phase of war. Ukrainian’s international partners including the US will continue to demonstrate their unity and their resolve to keep the weapons such as ‘artillery munitions’ and radars’ flowing to Ukraine.

8.1.2.2 Discursive Practice

1. Presupposition

It was and still US is the real friend of Ukraine and the main supporter in this crisis and in other cases. In this tweet, the US president wants to show the world that the American government and the people of the US stand with Ukrainian people in this war against Russia. Thus, in this announcement, his administration has nearly exhausted funding that can be used to send security assistance through drawdown authorities for Ukraine.

2. Intertextuality

USA is the country that plays a crucial role in almost all discords around the world. The role of the USA is either by supporting one part or another by military assistance or by force. Thus, this is not the first time that the US government speak about their support for one part of a discord.

8.1.2.3 Social Practice

1. Ideology

In this tweet, the ideological idea implicates that the president calls all the American's allies and partners to stand and help Ukraine in a way or another, thus they should quickly provide them the required funding to strengthen Ukraine on the battlefield and at the table of negotiation to end this war.

2. Identity

The pronominal social identity in this tweet is the president, Mr. Biden, speaking on behalf of the US people when he said “ the US is continuing our strong support for the brave people of Ukraine as they defend their country”.

8.1.3 Tweet (3)

“In order to sustain Ukraine as it continues this fight, I am sending to Congress a supplemental budget request. It will keep weapons and ammunition flowing to the brave Ukrainian fighters and continue delivering economic and humanitarian assistance to the Ukrainian people”(10:21pm 28/4/2022).

8.1.3.1 Text Analysis

1. Vocabulary

In this tweet, the US president Mr. Biden, uses the word ‘Congress’ to call and request them for additional funding to support Ukraine. As a result, he signed a request to the congress for critical security, economic and humanitarian assistance to help the brave Ukrainian people. From the words and phrases that are used by the president in this tweet, it can be concluded that the US is ready to share in the war by a way or another. The president recommends that the world has to support the brave people of Ukraine who continue to counter Putin's aggression and at a very pivotal moment. Mr. Biden also uses the word ‘brave’, which has positive effect on the Ukrainian people to motivate them fighting for their freedom.

2. Grammar

Mr. Biden uses linking verbs and activity verbs like ‘to sustain’ and ‘continue’ to show the world that the US and their allies and partners still help and support Ukraine from the beginning till now. Mr. Biden uses another actional verb like ‘sending’ to request the congress to help and support Ukraine in this war against the Russian aggression.

3. Modality

In this tweet, Mr. Biden uses the modal verb ‘will’ only one time to express his prediction, that sending economic and military aid would help the brave people in Ukraine defend their country and their homeland against the Russian aggression as long as the assaults and atrocities continue. They are going to continue supplying military assistance.

4.2.3.2 Discursive Practice

1. Presupposition

The current president, Mr. Biden, through the words he uses in this tweet wants to say that we need to unite and work together to support Ukraine in its fight for freedom. American, NATO allies and European Union are going to support and help Ukraine in this crisis. They have to take their part in this war.

2. Intertextuality

It is not a matter what the US would do but definitely America will take part in this war either positively or negatively. This is not a new issue or new declaration from the US. America did the same action in the past, for example in the Gulf war, America supported Kuwait militarily against Iraq.

8.1.3.3 Social Practice

1. Ideology

The hint idea in this tweet that Mr. Biden wants to say is that the US and even the congress stand and help Ukraine, because the cost of this fight is not cheap. Caving to aggression is going to be more costly if ‘We’ allow it to happen as they defend their country as the Russian continue their atrocities and aggression in Ukraine.

2. Identity

In this tweet, Mr. Biden wants to express his intention that every day, the Ukrainians pay for the price with and the price they pay is with their lives for this fight. So, Ukrainians' allies need to contribute arms funding, ammunition and the economic support to make their coverage and sacrifice have a purpose. They can continue this fight and do what they are doing.

9. The Findings

This study is concerned with examining the political tweets in twitter. Thus, many tools are used in order to analyze and illustrate the ideologies that the selected English political tweets have presented about the Russian – Ukrainian war. The tools used are: vocabulary, grammar, modality, presupposition, intertextuality, ideology and identity to investigate the selected tweets taken from the personal account of the UK prime minister, Mr. Johnson. These tools show some ideologies that are represented explicitly or implicitly. For instance, the UK prime minister Mr. Johnson uses vocabulary items which reflect his ideologies that he is created about the Russian-Ukrainian war to show that he supports and stands with Ukraine and hold Russia responsibility of this War, such as "This Crisis", "this tragedy", "The World needs a free and sovereign Ukraine", "working peace with our allies and partners", "a premeditated attack on a democratic state for the sake of Ukraine" and "Putin must fail". "The UK hears you", "we stand with Ukraine", "Putin will never break the spirit of Ukraine's people", "Ukraine will rise again", "Look at what is being done in your Name", "I will do everything in my power" "Starve Putin's war machine" and "The UK will send more defensive weapons to Ukraine". All of these are vocabulary items which state explicitly ideologies about the Russian-Ukrainian war. And how Mr. Johnson stands and helps Ukraine in its war against Russia.

Presupposition is also used by Mr. Johnson in his tweets which is considered a powerful tool in conveying the implicit ideas and ideologies about the Russian-Ukrainian war which happened since a few months ago. Thus, in most of his tweets they accuse Russia which committed the war against the innocent Ukrainian people.

Concerning the use of intertextuality the speakers in their tweets refer to others saying other's stories which mostly reinforce the speaker's points of view about the war. It can be noticed in most of their tweets; that Mr. Johnson refers to the danger of this war, and definitely they know the negative effect of this crisis on the world. For instance, when the UK prime minister uses words such as 'crisis'

and "tragedy" to refer to the Second World War which came up with ruin and tragic state for all the people of Europe those days.

Table (1) The Frequency and Percentage of Transitivity in Johnson's Tweets

Tweet's No.	V. No.	V. Type	Percentage	
			Freq.	%
1	6	Relational	2	33.3%
		Actional	1	16.6%
		Cognition	1	16.6%
2	7	Relational	2	28.5%
		Activity	1	14.2%
		Actional	3	42.8%
3	5	Relational	1	20%
		Actional	3	60%

From table (1) above, which contains the statistics of transitivity percentage of verbs used by Mr. Johnson in his tweets concerning the war between Russia and Ukraine. Cognition verbs are used once , forming (5.5%) . Relational verbs are used 5 times forming (27%) of the total numbers of verbs. This usage indicate the political strategies employed by the UK Prime Minister to deal with the crisis between Russia and Ukraine. Activity verbs are used once , forming (5.5%)of the total percentage. And finally, actional verbs are used 7 times, forming (38%).

Table (2) Frequency and Percentage of Modality in Johan's Tweet

Tweet's No.	V. No.	Model V.	Indication	Percentage		Total Percentage	
				Freq.	%	V. No.	%
1	6	Can	Ability	1	16.16%	2	33.3%
		Must	Obligation	1	16.16%		
2	7	Can	Ability	1	16.16%	1	16.16%
3	5	Can	Ability	1	20.%	1	20.%

Concerning the modality used in Mr. Johnson's tweets, the modal verb (can) has the highest percentage used 3 times, forming (16%) of the total percentage of modality. This high percentage of using the modal verb (can) indicates the abilities of the UK government towards the war between Russia and Ukraine. The modal verb (must) is used once , forming (5 %).

Table (3) The Frequencies and Percentages of Passive and Active Sentences in Johnson's Tweets

Tweet No.	Sentences No.	Passive Sentences No.		Active Sentences No.	
		F	%	F	%
1	3	-----	0%	3	10.71%
2	5	-----	0%	5	17.8%
3	2	1	3.57%	1	3.57%

Concerning the passive and active sentences in Johnson's tweets, passive sentences are used once only, recording (10%) of the total sentences in Johnson's tweets. The active sentences are used 9 times, recording (90%) of the total sentences in Johnson's tweets. Depending on the frequencies and percentages in table no. (3) it can be concluded that Johnson depends on active voice in writing his tweets about the Russian war in Ukraine. Therefore, the UK condemnation and rejection of the Russian war in Ukraine is direct.

9. Discussion of Results Analysis

1. How does Mr. Johnson represent the text structure in his tweets?

Mr. Johnson represents the text structure through the linguistic elements which are used in his tweet, such as the number of transitivity verbs in all his tweets (18) times and modality verbs (4) times. Verbs have the highest percentage and we notice most of these verbs are positive because he stands and supports Ukraine in its war against Russia.

2. What are the main ideologies conveyed in Mr. Johnson's tweets ?

The ideological ideas or beliefs that the prime minister of the UK Mr. Johnson, expresses in his tweets aim to deliver a message to the world that Ukraine is innocent from the Russian accusation and that the world has to support the Ukraine in this war, because this war is a real danger not only for Ukraine but to the whole countries of The world.

Conclusions

1. The meaning of the tweets is not directly or easily accessed. It depends on the extent that one succeeds in establishing interrelationships between textual and social reality.

2. Tweets are very communicative means these days since most of politicians depend on Tweeter to declare their ideas, one tweet can represent a long article with different events.
3. CDA of Mr. Johnson's tweets shows that there is a clear accusation of Russia as being a terrorist country due to its invasion of Ukraine.
4. The overall results of Mr. Johnson's tweets indicate that the UK aims to direct the world's attention to the idea that Russia is the main source of danger and troubles in the world. Therefore, they aim to battle Russia politically, militarily and commercially.
6. The overall results of Mr. Johnson's tweets indicate that they depend on active voice rather than passive voice in writing their tweets. This indicates the direct rejection and condemnation of Russian war in Ukraine.
7. The president tends to express their ideologies through the use of Tweeter.

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