Comparative Critical Analysis of Discourse Structures

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Abstract—We use systematic functional method to analyze and try to find out the estimated correlation behind several different texts. Ideology makes great influences on translation expression and strategy, which thus, is the product of the ideology. Language understanding means to obtain a semantic network and conditional information from a text in a deep sense.

Index Terms—critical discourse analysis, discourse structure, systematic functional theory, transitivity, modality, transformation and classification

I. INTRODUCTION

Michael Billig has clearly pointed to the fact that CDA has become an established academic discipline with the same rituals and institutional practices as all other academic disciplines. Most kinds of CDA will ask questions about the way specific discourse structures are deployed in the reproduction of social dominance, whether they are part of a conversation or a news report or other genres and contexts. Texts as elements of social events bring about changes and contribute to changes. Critical theories want to produce and convey critical knowledge that enables human beings to emancipate themselves from forms of domination through self-reflection.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Yao Xiaoju (2010) makes a comparative critical analysis of two reports concerning the first day of Shanghai's Expo trial opening extracted from the People's Daily and New York Times respectively, taking CDA as an analytical tool and exploring three with a view to identify diverse ideologies hidden in news discourse so as to raise readers' critical language awareness. Ren Xianmin (2009) studies on critical discourse analysis and cultivation of learning ability in English discourse, which gives a brief introduction to the theory of CDA and the main analytic theory—systematic functional theory, which is used to five a critical analysis of the text Say Yes in the following aspects: transitivity, modality, transformation and classification, so as to explore the author's purpose of writing, understand the ideology between the lines. It is expected to be of any help to the college students in enhancing their learning ability in English discourse. Based on modality of Halliday's systemic functional grammar, Zhu Wenquan (2009) explores its employment in critical discourse analysis in terms of ideology and power. Their finding shows that modality functions as a necessary and important linguistic tool in intelligence discourse. The present study reveals that in the NIE report, the strategic use of serves for the working of ideology and power relationship.

III. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. Most kinds of CDA will ask questions about the way specific discourse structures are deployed in the reproduction of social dominance, whether they are part of a conversation or a news report or other genres and contexts. Thus, the typical vocabulary of many scholars in CDA will feature such notions as "power", "dominance", "hegemony", "ideology", "class", "gender", "race", "discrimination", "interests", "reproduction", "institutions", "social structure" and "social order", besides the more familiar discourse analytical notions. Systemic, or systemic-functional, theory has its origins in the main intellectual tradition of European linguistics that developed following the work of Saussure. Like other such theories, both those from the mid-20th century and more recent work in the same tradition, it is functional and semantic rather than formal and syntactic in orientation, takes the text rather than the sentence as its object, and defines its scope by reference to usage rather than grammaticality.

Critical theories, thus also CDA, want to produce and convey critical knowledge that enables human beings to emancipate themselves from forms of domination through self-reflection. Thus, they are aimed at producing "enlightenment and emancipation". Such theories seek not only to describe and explain, but also to root out a particular kind of delusion. The emergent blend of CDA, cognitive linguistics and corpus linguistics has become a huge priority that is also recognized by many other scholars. The question of language and power is still important and urgent in the

twenty-first century, but there have been substantial changes in social life during the past decade which have somewhat changed the nature of unequal power relations, and therefore the agenda for the critical study of language.

IV. RESOURCES AND METHODS

Critical Linguistics opinion, the 'ideology' is not the word 'false' or 'distorted' the meaning refers to the 'people's cause or to prove his way of life' or 'people's lives and to their own expression of their relationship. Critical discourse analysis can in fact draw upon a wide range of approaches to analyzing text. Mostly grammatical and semantic analyses are the main methods and are very productive in social research. It is a general feature of discourse analysis that language is not treated as information about something else but is somehow problematized. Halliday introduced the theory of metafunctions, transforming systemic theory into systemic functional theory. He showed that the internal organization of (the content plane of) language was functional in nature, being organized into ideational, interpersonal and textual systems. The social pragmatic acquisition does not consists of formal "rules" but rather of an inventory of symbolic devices to be used as tools for the construction of messages. Persons are subsumed under objects, and actions are redefined as changes of state in the relevant objects affected.

The discourses being used are from varies resources, which are "Currency appreciation of 'limited help' to trade balance" from China Daily, "Why the current currency conflict could spiral into a protectionist trade war" from Business Insider, "A different kind of currency conflict" from European Voice, "U.S. China currency war drifting towards military conflict" from Market Oracle (UK), "Economist Raghuram Rajan warns of currency conflict" from Der Spiegel (DE), "US-China economic conflict: not dead, but asleep" from International Relations and Security Network (Switzerland).

V. FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

A. Transitivity

There are two kinds of transitivity: syntactic transitivity and semantic transitivity. A proposition is objective if its truth depends purely on the object under study. A proposition is subjective if its truth depends not merely on the object alone, but also on the observer and the relationship between the two. Moral judgments are nothing but expressions of, or about, the individual judge's own attitudes (their thoughts, feelings, personal opinion, etc.) Moral judgments can be "true", "false", depending on whether the judge reports her attitudes accurately (i.e. sincerely). Moral judgments can express "objective" moral facts. The facts are "objective" in the sense that their truth does not depend on who judges them, or whether anybody judges them at all. Transitivity alternations are determined by other narrower aspects of meaning, the nature of the Agent role and the Cause subevent.

Material process: "China has kept its currency artificially undervalued against the dollar for years."

Relational process: "So to keep the currency undervalued is creating distortions in the economy, and this is neither efficient nor fair."

Existential process: "Right now, there is not even a debate about whether this is an appropriate idea."

Mental process: "I just think that sustained low interest rates are dangerous."

Behavioral process: "They are worried that a flood of dollar liquidity is already helping to set off about of asset or goods/commodity price inflation in their economies."

Verbal process: "Increased urbanization will help to work off some of the oversupply in most of these markets," Wolfe says, "and the government's push for more affordable housing is a step in the right direction."

TABLE I.
TRANSITIVITY

Items	China Daily	Business Insider	European Voice	Market Oracle	Der Spiegel	ISN
Material process	14	26	24	30	34	21
Relational process		3	5	1	11	4
Existential process		3			4	3
Mental process	1	2	2	4	1	2
Behavioral process			4		1	2
Verbal process	6		3	1		5

B. Modality

Modality is a category of linguistic meaning having to do with the expression of possibility and necessity; it is effectively a synonym of illocutionary force. Modals have a wide variety of interpretations which depend not only upon the particular modal used, but also upon where the modal occurs in a sentence, the meaning of the sentence independent of the modal, the conversational context, and a variety of other factors. Linguistics studies the structure of natural languages as well as the relation of language to other areas of cognitive science. The roles that logic in general and modal logic in particular, plays in linguistics are quite varied. Since natural language semantics applies model theoretic methods, the role of modal logic in this context involves the application of possible world semantics to natural language.

TABLE II.
MODALITY

Items	China Daily	Business Insider	European Voice	Market Oracle	Der Spiegel	ISN
Can(could)	3	4	4	3	4	3
May(might)		2			1	1
Must						
Need					2	
Ought to						
Dare(dared)						
Shall(should)	1	1		1	3	
Will(would)	3	7	7	9	7	15

C. Transformation and Classification

Nominalization is the use of a verb, an adjective, or an adverb as the head of a noun phrase, with or without morphological transformation. Passivization is a manipulation which makes active sentences such as *John moved the table* into passive sentences such as *The table was moved by John*. 2 is the passive counterpart of 1, and logically has the same meaning as 1. However, the two sentences are different in their respective viewpoints. In 1, its viewpoint is neutral; the speaker describes the event from the Agent (John)'s point of view or the Patient (the table)'s point of view or the point of view neutral to the Agent and the Patient. Instead of representing processes which are taking place in the world as processes (grammatically, in clauses or sentences with verbs), they are represented as entities (grammatically, though nominalization, i.e. transforming a clause into a nominal or noun-like entity).

TABLE III.
TRANSFORMATION AND CLASSIFICATION

Items	China Daily	Business Insider	European Voice	Market Oracle	Der Spiegel	ISN
Nominalization	15	10	21	23	17	17
Passivization	4	6	5	4	2	2

VI. CONCLUSION

One definite characteristic of language is that it is probabilistic, which is most evident when people choose their lexis. Critical theories, thus also CDA, want to produce and convey critical knowledge that enables human beings to emancipate themselves from forms of domination through self-reflection. Thus, they are aimed at producing "enlightenment and emancipation". Such theories seek not only to describe and explain, but also to root out a particular kind of delusion. Moral judgments are nothing but expressions of, or about, the individual judge's own attitudes. The main purposes behind the words meet with the public matters and ideological insights. There will be awareness, unconsciously or subconsciously, dominated by the ideology from their language system choose a certain form of language.

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