# Subjectless Sentences vs. Subjectless Clauses 

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#### Abstract

The study is concerned with the contrastive analysis between the sentence and the clause level. It aims to investigate the usage of both subjectless sentences (independent clauses) and sentence-like construction (dependent clauses) in formal vs. informal language. The idea of subjectless is the focus of the analysis undertaken on selected samples, ranging from formal to informal language used in a presidential speech, a standup comedian's monologue performance, an interview with a celebrity, and an episode of a TV series. Since English is a non-pro-drop language, then the study tries to answer the following questions: (1) why can we find instances of null subject on the sentence level. (2) How would null-subject for both sentences and clauses influence communication in different contexts?


Index Terms-Subjectless, independent clauses, dependent clauses

## I. Introduction

Even though English is not a pro subject null language, yet it still allows three types of grammatical structures to be subject null. These are imperatives, truncated, and non-finite null subjects. Since imperatives contain subjects which are null and "intrinsically second person" (Radford, 2004, p. 90), then it is not going to be included in the present study. The reason behind excluding this type is because the researchers are interested in the other two structures since they may include more than two options to be their subjects.

## II. Truncated Null Subjects

To illustrate what truncated null subjects are, it is necessary to first define the notion of "truncation". Truncation, as Radford (2004, p. 362) defines it, is "an operation by which a sentence is shortened by omitting one or more unstressed words at the beginning" which in this case applies on the subject. So truncated null subjects are finite independent clauses (i.e. sentences) that do not contain a subject. They aremainly used in colloquial English. This case of truncation can also be referred to as situational ellipsis. According to Quirk et al. (1985), the following are examples of situational ellipsis where the elliptical element is the subject:

- Told you so (I/We told you so)
- Looks like rain (It looks like rain)
- Get it? (Did you get it?)

In the third sentence, not only the subject is ellipted but also the operator (ibid.).

## III. Non-Finite Null Subjects

Non-finite null subjects are non-finite dependent clauses known to have no tense neither mood. Moreover, they "lack an explicit subject and subordinator" (Biber et al., 1999, p. 198). However, it does not mean that a non-finite clause does not contain any subject. Rather, it may have its own subject which sometimes is preceded by the preposition 'for' for the purpose of introducing it. Since the present paper is concerned with subjectless clauses then the non-finite clauses containing subjects are not going to be included in the discussion. According to Quirk et al. (1985), the subjectless clauses that do not contain any subject are of four types:

1. To- Infinitive clauses: (Jack hates to miss the train)
2. Bare infinitive: (Did you hear anyone close the door?)
3. -ing participle: (Buying all those books will cost you a fortune)
4. -ed participle: (Called early, he was sleepy all day)

The most frequently used ones are (to- infinitive, ed clause, and -ing participle) while the (bare infinitive) is rarely used.

Now one may wonder what may be the benefit of employing non-finite clauses. Biber (1999) explains how non-finite clauses can be used as supplementive clauses in that
the speaker marks the information given in the clause as subordinate: as background (initial position), parenthetical (medial position), or supplementary (final position). (p. 201).
A. Infinitive Clauses

Infinitive clauses are used with anticipatory 'to' to construct a non-finite clause. (Quirk et al., 1985). They may occupy different positions within sentences and hence function as either a subject, extraposed subject, subject predicative, direct object, object predicative, adverbial, or part of a noun phrase (Biber et al., 1999).

For instance:

- The best thing would be to tell everybody. (Quirk et al. , 1985, p. 993)


## B. Bare Infinitive

The bare infinitive clauses can be found in pseudo-cleft sentences "where the infinitival to is optional" as in:

- What they did was (to) dig a shallow channel around the tent. (Quirk et al. 1985, p. 993)


## C. -ing Participle

-ing clauses may also occupy different positions within sentence and hence have a range of syntactic roles such as a subject, extraposed subject, subject predicative, direct object, prepositional object, adverbial, part of noun phrase, part of adjective phrase, or complement of preposition (Biber et al., 1999)

For instance:

- Leaving the room, he tripped over the mat. (Quirk et al. 1985, p. 993)


## D. -ed Clauses

-ed clauses differ from infinitive and -ing clauses in being less versatile. -ed clauses are restricted to the following syntactic roles: direct object, adverbial, or part of noun phrase (Biber et al., 1999).

For instance:

- Covered with confusion, they apologized abjectly. (Quirk et al. 1985, p. 993)


## IV. Limits of the Study

In order to have an interesting research concerning the concept of subjectlessness, the researchers have chosen a variety of data to be analyzed. This data ranges from formal to informal language as well as monologues to dialogues. These data are:

1. A political speech by Hilary Clinton in New York.
2. A standup comedian's monologue.
3. An episode from a comedy TV show; Full House.
4. An interview with a celebrity; Leonardo DiCaprio.

## V. The Analysis

## (1) Hilary Clinton's Speech in New York

TABLE (1):
Hilary Clinton's Speech in New York

| Text | Type of Structure |
| :--- | :--- |
| to be here with all of you | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| To be in New York with my family | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| To be right across the water from the headquarters of the United Nations | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| To be here in this beautiful park dedicated to Franklin Roosevelt's enduring <br> vision of America | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| And in a place... with absolutely no ceilings | Subjectless Sentence |
| "Equality of opportunity... Jobs for those who can work... Security for those who <br> need it... The ending of special privilege for the few... The preservation of civil <br> liberties for all... a wider and constantly rising standard of living." | Subjectless sentence |
| printing drapery fabric in Chicago | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| increasing their incomes by the same percentage as the top 5 percent. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| going to college, starting a business, buying a house, finally being able to put <br> away something for retirement | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| making record profits | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| making record pay | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| to make ends meet | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| making more than all of America's kindergarten teachers combined | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| paying a lower tax rate | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to secure the gains | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to make our economy work for you and for every American | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| For the successful and the struggling | Subjectless Sentence |
| For the innovators and inventors. | Subjectless Sentence |
| For those breaking barriers in technology | Subjectless Sentence |
| discovering cures for diseases. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| For the factory workers and food servers who stand on their feet all day. | Subjectless Sentence |
| For the nurses who work the night shift. | Subjectless Sentence |
| For the truckers who drive for hours and the farmers who feed us. | Subjectless Sentence |


| For the veterans who served our country. | Subjectless Sentence |
| :---: | :---: |
| For the small business owners who took a risk. | Subjectless Sentence |
| For everyone who's ever been knocked down, but refused to be knocked out. | Subjectless Sentence |
| to change course. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to turn the tide | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| working for us more than against us. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to see our progress ripped away. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| singing the same old song... | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| singing that, too | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| promising lower taxes for the wealthy | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| listening to those who are? | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to wipe out tough rules on Wall Street | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| courting future failures | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| offering any credible alternative. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to make our own reproductive health decisions. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to put immigrants, who work hard and pay taxes, at risk of deportation | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to build an inclusive economy | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| without drowning in debt | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| not to have either one | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| working as a housemaid | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to eat at lunch | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| without embarrassing her | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| letting her go to high school so long as her work got done | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| To meet every challenge | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| To be resilient | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| To solve the toughest problems | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| to babysit the children of Mexican farmworkers | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to require better working and living conditions for farm workers workers whose children deserved better opportunities. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to find out how many children with disabilities couldn't go to school | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| guaranteeing them access to education | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to have a lawyer | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| And saw lives changed | Subjectless Sentence |
| going to college | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| becoming sick themselves. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| juggling a job | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| raising three kids | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to come easy. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to be her champion and your champion. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to make the economy work for everyday Americans | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| To make the middle class mean something again | Non-finite Clause(-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| rising incomes and broader horizons. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to give the poor a chance | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| to work their way into it. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to work to build tomorrow's economy | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to come to the table | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to reward businesses | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| stashing profits overseas | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| cutting red tape | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| making it easier | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| to get a small business loan | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| Developing renewable power - wind, solar, advanced biofuels... | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| Building cleaner power plants, smarter electric grids, greener buildings... | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| Using additional fees and royalties from fossil fuel extraction to protect the environment... | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| to help our fellow Americans | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to lead the global fight against climate change | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to pay for some of these improvements. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| building an economy for tomorrow | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| investing in our most important asset | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| beginning with our youngest | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to remember this | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| developed by age three. | Non-finite Clause (-ed participle) - Final Position |
| to learn and thrive as they should | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to gain or improve skills the economy requires | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| setting up many more Americans for success | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to strengthen America's families | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to do their job at work and at home | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to earn paid sick days | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to arrange childcare or take college courses | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to get ahead. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to retirement with confidence, not anxiety. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |


| breaking the bank | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| :---: | :---: |
| to choose between keeping a paycheck and caring for a new baby or a sick relative. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to end the outrage of so many women | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| earning less than men on the job | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| making even less | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| raising the minimum wage | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| Expanding childcare | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| Declining marriage rates | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| Helping more people with an addiction or a mental health problem | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| Not second-class status | Subjectless Sentence |
| to harness all of America's power, smarts, and values | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to maintain our leadership for peace, security, and prosperity. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to thrive in the $21{ }^{\text {st }}$ century | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to meet traditional threats from countries like Russia, North Korea, and Iran | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to deal with the rise of new powers like China | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to meet emerging threats from cyber attacks, transnational terror networks like ISIS and diseases that spread across oceans and continents. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to keep Americans safe | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| soaring skyward. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to maintain the best-trained, best-equipped, strongest military, ready for today's threats and tomorrow's. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to be smart as well as strong. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| Meeting today's global challenges | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Initial Position |
| to improve lives around the world with people, not just their governments. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to shape global events rather than be shaped by them. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to be strong in the world | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to win the fourth fight | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| reforming our government and revitalizing our democracy | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Medial Position |
| to stop the endless flow of secret | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to buy elections | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to undo the Supreme Court's decision in Citizens United. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to make it easier for every citizen to vote | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to disempower and disenfranchise young people, poor people, people with disabilities, and people of color. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to give Americans something worth voting for. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to have all the answers | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to help cut waste and streamline services. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| To do that | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Initial Position |
| to expand health care for children and for our National Guard | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to reduce the number of Russian nuclear warheads that could threaten our cities | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Medial Position |
| to join me in this effort | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to make calls and knock on doors. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| to advance a very different vision for America | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| fighting for children, families, and our country | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to be a President for all Americans. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |
| pointing them out! | Non-finite Clause (Gerund)- Final Position |
| to live up to our God-given potential | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive)- Final Position |

In table (1), the researchers notice that subjectless clauses, non-finite clauses, have the highest number of occurrence; (123)times which constitute about $90.4 \%$. Concerning non-finite clauses, it was found that

1. -to infinitive clauses occurred (76) times throughout the data constituting about $61.7 \%$ of the total number of nonfinite clauses used.

- Initially (9)

$$
11.8 \%
$$

- Medially (24)
$31.5 \%$
- Finally (43) $56.5 \%$

2. Gerund clauses occurred (46) times throughout the data constituting $37.3 \%$ of the total number of non-finite clauses used.

- Initially (7) $\quad 15.2 \%$
- Medially (13) $\quad 28.2 \%$
- Finally (26) $56.5 \%$

3. -ed participle clause occurred only one time throughout the data in a final position. It constitute about $0.8 \%$ of the total number of non-finite clauses used.

Meanwhile subjectless sentences occurred only (13) times which constitutes only $9.5 \%$ of the analyzed data.
(2) Fat man with a sense of humor (Standup Comedian's monologue)

TABLE (2):
FAT MAN WITH A SENSE OF HUMOR (STANDUP COMEDIAN'S MONOLOGUE)

| Text | Type of Structure |
| :--- | :--- |
| being extra helpful | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) -Medial Position |
| cracking jokes in the gym | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) -Medial Position |
| doing nothing else there | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) -Final Position |
| allowing other people to get in to the line at checkout counters | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) -Medial Position |
| saying that you have never gone to that section | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) -Final Position |
| trying to entertain kids of single mothers | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| sharing a little of their love with the person whom their kid likes | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| promoting some healthy product | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| Looking back | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| eating the sundae rather than the joke | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| watching comedies and funny sitcoms | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| While watching TV | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| Looking down from my neck | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| to lose my remote | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| trying to produce energy from renewable resources | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to use humans as a source of energy | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to produce electricity | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |

In table (2), the researchers notice that subjectless clauses, non-finite clauses, have been used (17) times. Concerning non-finite clauses, it was found that:

1. -to infinitive clauses occurred (3) times throughout the data constituting about $17.64 \%$ of the total number of nonfinite clauses employed.

- Medially (2)
66.6 \%
- Finally (1)
33.3 \%

2. Gerund clauses occurred (14) times throughout the data constituting about $82.35 \%$

- Initially (3)
21.4 \%
- Medially (6)
42.8 \%
- Finally (5)
35.7 \%

Meanwhile subjectless sentences have not been used at all.
(3) Full House (TV series) - S01E02

TABLE (3):
Full House (TV series) - S01E02

| Text | Type of Structure |
| :---: | :---: |
| Beautiful! | Subjectless Sentence |
| 17 minutes. | Subjectless Sentence |
| Baby wipe. | Subjectless Sentence |
| to make a quantum leap in diaper theory. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| Loving it, loving it | Subjectless Sentence |
| to tie a hefty bag around her waist | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| Jr. Jammy time. | Subjectless Sentence |
| very nice | Subjectless Sentence |
| Snagging a plan | Subjectless Sentence |
| Big deal | Subjectless Sentence |
| Over my bunnies? | Subjectless Sentence |
| hanging all over Graceland. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| riddle time | Subjectless Sentence |
| Elvis? | Subjectless Sentence |
| to go to this big fancy ball | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to come to the ball with me? | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| No monsters, no witches, | Subjectless Sentence |
| Red light | Subjectless Sentence |
| Because I have an actual job that pays money | Subjectless Sentence |
| Two words. | Subjectless Sentence |
| Two more words | Subjectless Sentence |
| to be a success in the music business. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be in bed girls. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| dreaming about Tweety Bird or Big Bird or Larry Bird or something. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| And cookies. | Subjectless Sentence |
| to be taken on that kind of ride. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to listen to the greatest rock band in the world. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| Great hair | Subjectless Sentence |
| to do that? | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to tell you about our 11 o clock pizza. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| Open party! | Subjectless Sentence |
| Ready. | Subjectless Sentence |
| to say that Joey is innocent | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do with it. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| ripping and knifing its way through your soft, tender, inflamed gum tissues. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to ask for that girl singer's phone number. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to think that you were adult enough | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial |
| to take care of my kids. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final |
| Empty bowls and empty cartons. | Subjectless Sentence |
| No probably about it. | Subjectless Sentence |
| to say thanks | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to do better. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to grow on me. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| turning it into a 24 hour mini-mart. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| Want a piece of pizza? | Subjectless Sentence |
| to get some sleep. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| An ice cold carrot | Subjectless Sentence |
| to know that was really nice of you | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to take the rap for DJ and Stephanie. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| walking around you | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| saying well...well...well. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to say no. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be Robert Young. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| counting on me | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to stop her from being in pain | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be here | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be in a real house with real people. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to go to bed. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |

In table (3), the researchers notice that subjectless clauses, non-finite clauses, have the highest number of occurrence; (34) which constitute about $58.6 \%$ of the analyzed data. As concerning non-finite clauses, it is found that

1. -to infinitive clauses occurred (27) times throughout the data constituting about $79.4 \%$ of the total number of nonfinite clauses employed.

- Medially (3)
11.1 \%
- Finally (24) 88.8 \%

2. Gerund clauses occurred (7) times throughout the data constituting about $20.5 \%$ of the total number of non-finite clauses employed.
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\circ Medially (2) 28.5 %
\circ Finally (5)
71.4%
Meanwhile subjectless sentences occurred (24) times which constitutes about \(41.3 \%\) of the analyzed data.
(4) Interview with Leonardo DiCaprio
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TABLE (4):
Interview with Leonardo Dicaprio

| Text | Type of Structure |
| :---: | :---: |
| to do a sort of portrait of this culture | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to start on a basis of somebody being very honest. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be very surreal sometimes | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| doing this movie, | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| to put that darker nature of humanity up on screen, | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| consuming as much as possible | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| feeding every primal urge | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| giving into the sort of reptilian part of our brain. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| doing this film that plot | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| allowing the actor to have a certain amount of freedom in their portrayal of that | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| spending so much time being Jordan Belfort | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| to get out of that mindset, | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| To tell you the truth | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Initial Position |
| to shut off pretty quickly | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to act like this | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to reel it in | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to spend so much time with him? | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to capture his attitude | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to accomplish in that scenario. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to say I think a lot of his actions were deplorable. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to put this era up on screen | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to make sure that you didn't try to make him likable. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to emulate Gordon Gekko. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be the fat cats on Wall Street. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) Final Position |
| selling these fraudulent penny stocks to very rich people | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - MedialPosition |
| to uphold that attitude | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| doing those speeches in front of the whole crowd of people | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| making more money | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| identifying who you are. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to clap for me | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to be the "Wolf of Wall Street" of its time. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to make his fortune | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to belong to the aristocracy of America | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to have an identity | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to try to find the motivation of Jordan | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Initial Position |
| to a reptilian part of his brain | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be paramount | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| doing very good things for the world | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to be sort of rampant | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| taking me | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to watch a great actor | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to work with Marty | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to work with my favorite director of all time | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to finance a movie some day | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to work with him. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to trust each other more and more implicitly | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to discover what the film is | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| Being the film historian that he is, | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| talking about that movie | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| coming from the sort of violent streets of New York | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| watching movies | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| doing it | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| getting opportunities after "This Boy's Life" and "Gilbert Grape," | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to say sanitized, | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| making the movie you wanted to make. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to do it | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to get this type of resistance. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do this in a very real, authentic way, | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to do another film | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to put it together with another director | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to have the freedom to portray these people. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to make the movie we wanted to make. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be serious. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |


| to do a film like that | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| :---: | :---: |
| watching De Niro prepare | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| creating something out of thin air | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| embodying that character | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| committing to it | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to make this character realistic. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do anything, really | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be a working actor, | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to squander this opportunity at all | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| doing independent movies | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| seeing it around the world | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) 0 Final Position |
| to really finance movies as a result of being in that film. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to be honest with you | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to keep you grounded. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| being able to do great impressions. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| recreating what I was actually going to do on camera, | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| coming to Lasse Hallstrom with a checklist of, like, 300 different attributes | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| doing this one, this one, this one. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| doing that role | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| being the leading man | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to carry the story. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do whatever the hell I wanted at any given moment | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to carry on the way it should've. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do with a big plate of spaghetti, | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| being terrified of the possibility of ever winning something like that | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| Being very honored | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to do this type of film. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to see epics or big movies coming from Hollywood | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to take a gamble on this. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to seek that out. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to turn down superhero roles | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to not go in the new "Star Wars" epic. | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do some good for the world | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| getting involved in environmental issues | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| talking to me about climate change | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| speaking about it | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| speaking to different NGOs | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| affecting our culture | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| affecting a global conversation like never before. | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to do "11th Hour" as well | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| arguing with 100 people | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| acting as we do today | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| making enough of a positive change in a worldwide culture | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to make any sort of dramatic shift | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to find oil | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| bubbling up in the Antarctic | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| doing this | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to make that shift | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| saving the Sumatran tiger | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to be a marine biologist | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| considering this is the biggest life-support system, | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to focus on targeting a lot of these places | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to get some more support by any willing billionaires out there | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to help me support this cause | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to get financial support for a lot of this stuff | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| being a little bit older, too, | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Initial Position |
| criticized for it a lot, too. | Subjectless Sentence |
| to avoid [it] | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to say this | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| saying this about a lot of different things | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| trying to sort of outdo each other | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| saying to one another | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to get a role in the movie as well | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to lead an interesting life | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to support you | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| A little sedate? | Subjectless Sentence |
| raising money for a film | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| to raise money for environmental causes? | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to donate their work | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| Which was a huge success | Subjectless Sentence |
| to do that | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do more of that | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |


| to actually physically buy land | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| :--- | :--- |
| to manage it | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| to monitor it | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| being able to go to the Natural History Museum | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| going there now as an adult and experiencing those places firsthand | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Medial Position |
| being [an] equal life form | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| snapping a few feet away from me | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| following some fish | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to think that these majestic creatures | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Medial Position |
| protecting pristine environments and biodiversity | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |
| to hopefully make a big difference | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| to do some pretty incredible things | Non-finite Clause (-to infinitive) - Final Position |
| roaming on our planet? | Non-finite Clause (Gerund) - Final Position |

In table (4), the researchers notice that subjectless clauses, non-finite clauses, have the highest number of occurrences; (145) which constitute about $97.9 \%$ of the analyzed data. Concerning non-finite clauses, it is found that:

1. -to infinitive clauses occurred (86) times throughout the data constituting about $59.31 \%$ of the total number of non-finite clauses used.

- Initially (2) $\quad 2.3 \%$
- Medially (32) $\quad 37.2 \%$
- Finally (52) $60.4 \%$

2. Gerund clauses occurred (59) times throughout the data constituting about $40.68 \%$ of the total number of nonfinite clauses used.

- Initially (4) $\quad 6.7 \%$
- Medially (29) $49.1 \%$
- Finally (26) 44 \%

Meanwhile subjectless sentences occurred only (3) times which constitute about $2 \%$ of the data analyzed.

## VI. Conclusions

One of the goals of modern linguistics is to develop a model of Universal Grammar which captures natural language features that are universal, while also accounting for variation among languages. The use of empty subjects in English has been explained in both syntactic and stylistic terms. Syntactically, empty subjects in independent clauses occur in non-initial coordinate clauses

Accordingly, the study reveals the occurrences of subjectless clauses in a variety of contexts, i.e. formal and informal language, and this verify the aim of the study which asserts the usages of such kind of clauses in different texts, via. Presidential speeches, comedian monologue performance and interviews with a celebrity and an episode of TV series. Further, the findings of the study provide support for the key arguments of the influence of subjecless clauses on the way of communication in various situations.

Such clauses give power and affect people's opinions and tendencies of the contextual settings, apart from their smoothness when used in such situations. The study attentively answered all the questions posed so far.

It was noted at the beginning of this paper that the use of empty subjects in English is stylistically determined. This makes style an important predictive factor in the use of empty subjects, but not a sufficient one. The findings presented in this paper allow one to predict precisely which subjectless clauses will be used and which will not. Thus, subjectless sentences in English are a discourse level phenomenon in which pragmatically recoverable material is deleted sentence initially.

The results of this study motivate further text-based analysis of any discourse in language in order to see to what extent subjectless clauses in English or any other language is conditioned by - or independent of - higher-level discourse-pragmatic factors.

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