

Adaptation of Sentence Structures in News Texts: A Corpus-Based Analysis of Complexity Levels Using Halliday's Functional Grammar

Sapolachet Prachumchai^{1*} Kanyarat Pinmuang²

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Abstract

This study explored how sentence structures function in news texts with varying levels of complexity, focusing on grammatical and contextual features. Using a quantitative corpus-based method supported by qualitative interpretive analysis, the research examined 1,308 English news articles (155,435 words) collected from *Newsinlevels.com* (2022), a learner-oriented platform. The findings revealed that simple sentences dominate (54%), followed by complex (23%), compound-complex (13%), and compound sentences (10%). The proportion of simple sentences decreased as complexity levels increased, while the use of complex and compound-complex structures grew—indicating a shift toward more nuanced communication. These patterns align with Halliday's (1985) functional grammar framework, showing how sentence structures were adapted to maintain coherence, accessibility, and complexity in news discourse. However, the corpus's reliance on *Newsinlevels.com* may introduce bias toward simplified syntax, suggesting the need for future studies to investigate cross-cultural and longitudinal developments in journalistic style.

Keywords: Corpus-Based Analysis, Sentence Structures, News Texts

Introduction

Language is the backbone of news communication, shaping how information is conveyed and understood by diverse audiences. In an era of information overload (Eppler & Mengis, 2004; Soroya et al., 2021), where readers face unprecedented volumes of daily content, the clarity and accessibility of news texts have become paramount. Journalists face the challenge of crafting messages that are both easily digestible and rich in nuance, making syntactic choices—particularly sentence structure—a critical tool in their arsenal (Cotter, 2010).

Sentence structures—from simple to compound-complex—play a pivotal role in determining the clarity, coherence, and depth of news discourse (Biber et al., 2021). While linguistic research has extensively explored syntax in academic and literary texts (Hyland, 2018; Biber & Gray, 2016), its application in journalistic contexts remains underexamined (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). Journalism demands a unique balance: sentences must be straightforward enough to engage broad audiences (Strömqvist et al., 2021) while retaining the complexity necessary to convey layered meanings (Bell, 1991). This is a tension that is especially clear in news texts that need to make ideas easier to understand without losing analytical rigor or factual accuracy.

Existing scholarship has classified sentence types (Harris, 1951; Bloomfield, 1933) and analyzed their semantic functions (Partee, 1976). Among syntactic frameworks, Halliday's (1985) Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) is especially appropriate for the analysis of news discourse

¹ Lecturer, English Program, Humanities and Social Sciences, Phetchabun Rajabhat University

E-mail: sapolachet@gmail.com

² 3rd Year Student, English Major, Humanities and Social Sciences, Phetchabun Rajabhat University

E-mail: Akanyarat12@gmail.com

* Corresponding author

because it emphasizes the communicative nature of language—namely, that syntax is motivated by specific system purposes in communicative contexts (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Contrary to formalist theories (e.g., Chomskyan syntax) that abstract away from it, and that look at general grammatical rules, SFG looks at how sentence structures vary due to audience, register, and social context (Thompson, 2013). That makes it good to analyze if you are analyzing journalistic syntax, where readability and function are eminent. However, these studies have predominantly focused on academic or learner-oriented texts, leaving a gap in understanding how syntactic variation is tailored to news readers across different comprehension levels. Recent research on Thai news coverage (Endoo, 2024) highlights editorial preferences for simplicity in culturally sensitive contexts, yet cross-cultural and longitudinal analyses remain scarce.

Despite the recognized importance of syntax in communication, little is known about how journalists strategically adapt sentence structures to cater to audiences of varying proficiency levels. While prior studies have examined syntactic complexity in academic writing (Biber & Gray, 2016) and literary discourse (Toolan, 2001), few have systematically analyzed how news outlets adjust sentence structures for readability across different audience segments (Marchi & Taylor, 2018). This gap is particularly problematic in digital journalism, where algorithmic content tailoring (Thurman et al., 2022) and multilingual readerships (Van Doorslaer & Flynn, 2021) demand precise syntactic adaptation. For instance, while *The Nation* (Thailand) favors simple sentences for cultural sensitivity (Endoo, 2024), Western outlets like *The Guardian* employ more complex structures for analytical depth (Conboy, 2013)—yet no cross-regional framework exists to explain these choices. The lack of research hinders both journalism training, where instructors lack evidence-based guidelines (Cotter, 2010), and NLP applications like text simplification (Saggion, 2017), which often rely on oversimplified syntactic rules.

Due to observed challenges in news readability across audience proficiency levels, preliminary analysis of news texts revealed that readers often struggle with overly complex sentence structures—particularly compound-complex constructions with embedded clauses—while simpler sentences improved comprehension (Kintsch, & Vipond, 1979). Some journalists argued that vocabulary and context could be adjusted for clarity, but syntactic complexity remained a persistent barrier, even when individual words are understood (Kintsch & Vipond, 1979). This suggested that even when readers grasped individual words, intricate grammar hindered full understanding of nuanced journalistic messages. Although journalists aim for broad accessibility, this generalized approach may fail when precision, factual accuracy, and layered reporting are required—core demands of quality journalism.

Therefore, this study investigates how sentence structures—simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex—are deployed across three difficulty levels in news texts. Using a mixed-methods approach, we analyze a corpus of 1,308 English news articles from Newsinlevels.com (2022) which is a platform uniquely designed for language learners, offering parallel articles at beginner, intermediate, and advanced levels with systematic syntactic adaptations. Computational tools quantify sentence-type frequencies, while qualitative analysis contextualizes their communicative intent. The findings will not only advance linguistic research on journalistic syntax but also offer actionable insights for media practitioners, educators, and AI developers striving to bridge the gap between readability and informational depth in news communication.

Research Objective

This study analyzes how sentence structures function in news texts with varying levels of complexity, focusing on their role in conveying meaning and information.

Literature Reviews

1. Historical Evolution of Journalistic Syntax

The historical evolution of journalistic syntax reflects the dynamic interplay between technological advancements, audience expectations, and editorial conventions. Early journalistic writing, particularly in print media, favored complex and compound-complex sentences to convey nuanced storytelling, as noted by Conboy (2013) in his analysis of mid-20th-century British newspapers. However, the transition to digital journalism has prioritized brevity and immediacy, leading to a dominance of simple and compound sentences that align with rapid consumption behaviors (Cotter, 2010; Thurman et al., 2022). This shift has been observed to be further amplified by algorithmic content tailoring and social media platforms, which favor concise phrasing and truncated clauses (Marchi & Taylor, 2018). Cross-cultural variations could be observed to play a significant role, as seen in Endoo's (2024) study of Thai news outlets, where simple sentences dominate for cultural sensitivity, contrasting with the more elaborate structures in Western analytical journalism.

Despite these trends, the balance between clarity and complexity remains critical. Longitudinal studies reveal a cyclical adaptation of syntax, responding to societal demands and technological innovations (Matthiessen, 2019). For instance, crisis reporting often could be seen to employ simpler structures for accessibility while retaining enough complexity to convey layered meanings (Soroya et al., 2021). These adaptations could be considered underscoring how sentence structures serve communicative purposes, shaping audience perception and engagement across different contexts. Future research should explore emerging trends, such as AI-generated journalism and multilingual readerships, to further understand syntactic evolution in global media (Grabe, Zhou, & Barnett, 1999).

2. Digital Journalism and Algorithmic Content Tailoring

The rise of digital journalism has significantly influenced syntactic choices in news writing, particularly through algorithmic content tailoring and the constraints of digital platforms. Thurman et al. (2022) highlight how algorithms prioritize engaging and easily digestible content, leading to a prevalence of simple and compound sentences designed for rapid consumption. This trend has been further amplified by social media platforms, where character limits and scanning behaviors necessitate concise phrasing and fragmented structures (Marchi & Taylor, 2018). Saggion (2017) explores the role of automatic text simplification tools, which often rely on streamlined syntactic rules to optimize readability for diverse audiences. These tools, while enhancing accessibility, could be observed to risk oversimplifying journalistic messages, potentially undermining nuanced reporting. The interplay between algorithmic prioritization and syntactic adaptation could be considered underscoring the need for precise linguistic strategies that balance clarity with depth in digital news discourse.

Despite these advancements, challenges remain in ensuring that algorithmic tailoring does not compromise journalistic integrity. Strömqvist et al. (2021) emphasize the importance of maintaining syntactic complexity to convey layered meanings, particularly in analytical or investigative journalism. However, the demand for immediacy and engagement often conflicts with these goals, as evidenced by the dominance of simple sentence structures in AI-curated news feeds. Future research should examine how emerging technologies, such as AI-driven journalism and voice-activated news delivery systems, further shape syntactic patterns, offering insights into the evolving relationship between form, function, and audience perception in digital contexts (Grabe, Zhou, & Barnett, 1999).

3. Audience Perception and Readability Metrics

Audience perception and readability metrics are essential for understanding how syntactic choices influence comprehension and engagement in news texts. Research highlights that readability depends not only on sentence length but also on the balance between simplicity and depth (Strömqvist et al., 2021). Soroya et al. (2021) found that overly complex syntax could often lead to information avoidance, particularly during crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. To address this, journalists strategically could be observed to employ simple sentences and noun phrases to ensure accessibility, as seen in Thai news outlets covering culturally sensitive topics (Endoo, 2024). However, excessively simplistic structures might risk oversimplifying nuanced messages, while overly complex ones may alienate general readers. Tools like Flesch Reading Ease scores emphasize the need for shorter sentences and familiar vocabulary, yet they often overlook the functional role of complex and compound-complex sentences in analytical journalism (Conboy, 2013). Future research should integrate qualitative and quantitative approaches to explore how audience perception interacts with syntactic adaptation, particularly in digital contexts where algorithmic tailoring prioritizes rapid consumption over depth (Thurman et al., 2022).

4. Sentence Structures

A review of the literature reveals a common emphasis among prominent linguistic scholars on the analysis and classification of sentence structures, with particular focus on the primary types—simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. Harris (1986) pioneered the application of distributionism to investigate how words were distributed within syntactic contexts, thereby contributing valuable insights into structural classifications. In a similar vein, Bloomfield (1933) examined sentence structures from a distributional standpoint, underscoring the significance of morphological and syntactic components in the understanding of grammar. Chomsky & Halle (1997) further expanded this inquiry by integrating phonological rules within generative phonology and transformational theory, offering a more nuanced explanation of sentence types. Halliday (1985) made substantial contributions through a functional approach, analyzing how sentence structures facilitate communicative purposes. Additionally, Partee (1976) explored the intersection of syntax and semantics, investigating the ways in which structural variations influence meaning. Taken collectively, these scholars highlight the centrality of sentence classification in linguistic theory, each employing distinct methodological frameworks to elucidate the complex relationship between form, function, and meaning.

5. Language Use in News Texts

The language used in news texts plays a crucial role in shaping public perception, as demonstrated by key studies in media discourse. Fowler (1991) highlights how news language reflects ideological biases through lexical and syntactic choices, while Fairclough (1995) examines the power dynamics embedded in media texts. Van Dijk (1988) explores linguistic strategies like nominalization and lexicalization that reinforce dominant ideologies. Entman (1993)'s framing theory reveals how selective emphasis in news narratives influences audience interpretation. Finally, Bell (1991) analyzes how news values such as immediacy and negativity dictate linguistic patterns in journalism. Together, these works underscore the deliberate and often persuasive nature of language in news reporting.

6. Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG)

Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), introduced in 1961, is a linguistic framework that views language as a dynamic system for meaning-making, shaped by its contextual functions. Unlike structural approaches, SFG emphasizes how language achieves communicative goals through three core metafunctions: ideational, interpersonal, and textual. The ideational metafunction represents experiences via processes (e.g., material, mental, relational) and participants, with transitivity analysis revealing entity relationships. The interpersonal metafunction enacts social interactions and attitudes through mood and modality, highlighting power dynamics and rapport. The textual metafunction organizes language into coherent texts using theme and cohesion, structuring information for clarity and persuasiveness. SFG finds applications in discourse analysis, translation studies, education, and analyzing diverse texts, including political and literary works, across languages like Vietnamese, Chinese, and French. It also integrates with theories like Appraisal Theory for enhanced sentiment analysis, demonstrating its versatility and broad relevance (Bloor & Bloor, 2017; Schleppegrell & Oteíza, 2023; Matthiessen & Halliday, 2009).

7. Related Studies

The recent studies on syntactic analysis in news coverage of Buddhist monks could be seen to highlight a strategic preference for simplicity and clarity in *The Nation* (Thailand), where simple sentences (51.79%) and noun phrases (43.26%) dominate, contrasting with *Bangkok Post*'s reliance on complex sentences (70.56%) (Endoo, 2024; Endu, 2019). These syntactic choices reflect an editorial balance between readability and cultural sensitivity, as Thai media could be observed to avoid overly complex structures when representing religious figures.

However, gaps remain in cross-cultural comparisons (e.g., Western vs. Thai outlets) and longitudinal studies on syntactic evolution, particularly in digital journalism (Kingchan & Endoo, 2020). For instance, Van Doorslaer & Flynn (2021) explore how translation influences syntactic choices in global journalism, underscoring the role of cultural framing in shaping audience perception. Similarly, Matthiessen (2019) uses Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) to analyze historical shifts in journalistic syntax, revealing cyclical adaptations driven by societal demands and technological innovations.

In digital journalism, Thurman et al. (2022) highlight how algorithmic curation prioritizes simple and engaging sentences, often at the expense of nuanced reporting. Social media platforms could be seen to further amplify this trend, favoring concise phrasing and truncated clauses due to character limits and scanning behaviors (Marchi & Taylor, 2018). Automatic text simplification tools, explored by Saggion (2017), offer potential solutions for enhancing readability but risk oversimplifying complex messages.

Audience perception studies reveal that overly complex syntax could often lead to information avoidance, particularly during crises like the COVID-19 pandemic (Soroya et al., 2021). To address this, journalists strategically employ simple sentences and noun phrases to ensure accessibility, as seen in Thai news outlets covering culturally sensitive topics (Endoo, 2024). In contrast, Strömqvist et al. (2021) emphasize the need for syntactic depth in investigative journalism, balancing clarity with layered meanings. These findings could be considered underscoring the role of linguistic patterns in shaping audience perception while calling for further research on syntax-mediated cultural framing in global media.

Research Methodology

The study employed a quantitative corpus-based analysis, using computational tools to systematically examine linguistic features. This was complemented by a mixed-methods approach incorporating qualitative interpretive analysis. Quantitative data (e.g., frequency counts) revealed statistical patterns, while qualitative analysis contextualized these findings (e.g., assessing coherence and meaning). Results were cross-checked to ensure consistency and to address the research objectives.

A comprehensive corpus of 1,308 English news items (totaling 155,435 words) was assembled from News in Levels (<https://www.newsinlevels.com/>), a portal that offered news content structured across three complexity tiers. The corpus included a balanced sampling across all levels, with 436 articles per tier, spanning publications from January 1 to December 23, 2022. Given the international focus of News in Levels, the majority of the news items were foreign in origin, though some locally relevant stories with global appeal were included; this balance influenced interpretation due to varying cultural contexts. Selection criteria ensured that only complete English news texts were included. The processing workflow involved directly copying text content from the website, followed by rigorous quality control through manual verification of a 5% sample (65 articles). Web-specific components and formatting inconsistencies were thoroughly removed and documented, and all texts were converted to UTF-8 plain text format using Notepad for compatibility with analytical tools.

Grammatical analysis examined sentence structures according to Halliday's (1985) framework, categorizing sentences as simple, compound, complex, or compound-complex. Data analysis utilized Microsoft Excel for statistical summaries and manual coding for move analysis. The analysis proceeded through systematic steps: corpus preparation, text cleaning, and grammatical feature annotation using AntConc, supplemented by manual verification. Quality assurance measures included:

1. A pilot study of 10% of the corpus (130 articles) achieved 95% cleaning accuracy.
2. Intercoder reliability testing with two trained coders annotating 10% of the corpus achieved Cohen's Kappa ≥ 0.80 .
3. Data validation through cross-checking automated results with manual counts in a 5% sample (65 articles) confirmed accuracy.

Acknowledged limitations included the moderate corpus size (1,308 articles), which may not have captured all variations in news discourse, and potential complexity skew due to the learner-oriented design of Newsinlevels.com. These limitations were mitigated through balanced sampling across complexity levels (436 articles per level where feasible) and rigorous manual verification procedures.

Results

A total of 1,308 news texts in 2022 from the Newsinlevel.com website was analyzed in this study. The sentence structures presented in these texts were examined in accordance with the adapted theory of Halliday (1985). The results of various structures in news texts as occurrences and percentage were shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Total Number of Sentence Structures in News Texts

No.	Structure	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Occurrences	Percentage
1	Simple	4,005	1,880	1,836	7,721	54%
2	Compound	368	541	497	1,406	10%
3	Complex	750	1,245	1,333	3,328	23%
4	Compound-Complex	313	724	818	1,855	13%
Total		5,436	4,390	4,484	14,310	100%

As shown in Table 1, the results presented the distribution of sentence structures in news texts across three levels, categorized into simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences. The data revealed that simple sentences were the most prevalent, accounting for 54% of the total occurrences ($n = 7,721$). This was followed by complex sentences at 23% ($n = 3,328$), compound-complex sentences at 13% ($n = 1,855$), and compound sentences at 10% ($n = 1,406$).

The frequency of simple sentences decreased from Level 1 ($n = 4,005$) to Level 3 ($n = 1,836$), while complex and compound-complex sentences showed an increasing trend across the levels. This suggested a shift towards more intricate sentence structures as the text complexity increased. Compound sentences, however, remained relatively stable in frequency across the levels.

Simple Sentence

A simple sentence consists of a single independent clause, conveying a clear and direct message (Halliday, 1985). In this present study of sentence structures, 7,721 out of 14,310 sentences were identified as simple. Examples from news texts include: *Coca-Cola makes a song* and *The World Cup will happen in Qatar* (2022 World Cup anthem – 2022); *Wimbledon is a tennis competition* and *He is Russian* (Wimbledon bans Russian and Belarusian tennis players – 2022); *Google builds a new campus* and *Around 40,000 employees will work there* (Google’s newest campus – 2022); *It carries a small device* and *It can make 5.6 grams of oxygen an hour* (Oxygen on Mars – 2022); *Two NASA astronauts go for a spacewalk* and *The walk lasted more than 7 hours* (Tarantula Snack – 2022). These examples illustrated how simple sentences efficiently convey key information in news reporting.

Compound Sentence

A compound sentence consists of two or more independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction (Halliday, 1985). In this present study of sentence structures, 1,406 out of 14,310 sentences were identified as compound. Examples from various news events illustrate their usage: *He is very popular, and people all over the world know him* (Fire at South African Parliament – 2022); *Workers started to build the bridge in 2016, and they finished it two years ago* (Bridge connects Russia and China – 2022); *The attacker aimed at the vice-president, and he pulled the trigger* (An attack on Argentinian vice-president – 2022); *She beat her rival Rishi Sunak, and she became the new leader of the Conservative Party* (Britain’s new prime minister – 2022); *The event is an alternative rite of*

passage to protect wildlife, and conservationists promote it (Maasai Olympics – 2022). These examples highlighted how compound sentences connect related ideas, enhancing clarity and cohesion in news reporting.

Complex Sentence

A complex sentence consists of an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses, providing additional detail and depth by a coordinating conjunction (Halliday, 1985). In this present study of sentence structures, 3,328 out of 14,310 sentences were identified as complex. Examples from various news events illustrate their usage: *Police officers arrived very quickly because the station was not far away* (Train hits a plane – 2022); *They came to the town because the streetlights attracted them* (Beetles in a small town – 2022); *Meat Loaf was his nickname, which he got from his father* (Singer Meat Loaf dies – 2022); *The media said that West bought a house close to his ex-wife and children* (Famous couples in 2021–2022); *Athletes wore the letter Z, which was a symbol of war* (Athlete wears a war symbol – 2022). These examples demonstrated how complex sentences enhance news reporting by adding explanations, reasons, and descriptive details.

Compound-Complex Sentence

A compound-complex sentence consists of at least two independent clauses and one or more dependent clauses, adding depth and complexity to communication (Halliday, 1985). In this present study of sentence structures, 1,855 out of 14,310 sentences were identified as compound-complex. Examples from news texts include: *Militants say that they will attack Israel if the man is not free., Gaza militants often test rockets, and they fire them toward the sea.* (Israel attacks Gaza – 2022); *In 2017, Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico, and it damaged the country's electric system., Since that time, the power grid is not good in Puerto Rico.* (Hurricane Fiona hits Puerto Rico – 2022); *Among them were actress Whoopi Goldberg and model Gigi Hadid, who are leaving the platform., Similarly, rapper Kanye West returned after an anti-semitic post.* (Venice's flood safety – 2022); *She loves a dog because it looks cute, and it is very friendly to humans.* (The first cannabis café in Israel – 2022). These examples highlighted how compound-complex sentences enhance news reporting by providing multiple layers of information within a single structure.

Conclusion and Discussion

The analysis of 1,308 news texts from Newsinlevels.com underscored the central role that sentence structures *played* in conveying meaning and information in news reporting. The results revealed that simple sentences dominated (54%), followed by complex (23%), compound-complex (13%), and compound sentences (10%). These findings aligned with Halliday's (1985) Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), demonstrating how syntax adapted to balance clarity, coherence, and complexity across three levels of difficulty.

Simple sentences could be seen serving as the backbone of factual reporting, presenting information with immediacy and precision. Examples such as "*Coca-Cola is releasing a song*" and "*Google is building a new campus*" highlighted their ability to convey key facts succinctly. Their frequency could be seen decreasing from Level 1 (n = 4,005) to Level 3 (n = 1,836), suggesting that while they were fundamental to accessibility, they gave way to more elaborate forms as complexity increased. In contrast, complex and compound-complex sentences were found to

provide additional context and relationships, enhancing depth and nuance. For instance, "*The police officers arrived very quickly because the station was not far away*" illustrated how dependent clauses add explanatory details, while compound sentences like "*The workers started building the bridge in 2016 and finished it two years ago*" linked related ideas with clarity.

Compared to related studies, Endoo's (2024) analysis of *The Nation* highlighted a preference for simple sentences (51.79%) to ensure cultural sensitivity, while Endoo's (2019) study of *Bangkok Post* employed complex structures (70.56%) for nuanced reporting in educational contexts. These discrepancies could be considered reflecting differing journalistic conventions across platforms—*The Nation* prioritized straightforward communication for broad audiences, whereas *Bangkok Post* employed elaboration for specialized discourse. Both studies were considered aligning with Halliday's functional framework, underscoring how syntax serves distinct communicative purposes.

Cross-culturally, Western outlets like *The Guardian* could often be observed to favor complex structures for analytical depth (Conboy, 2013), contrasting with Thai media's emphasis on simplicity. These variations highlighted the role of syntax in shaping audience perception and engagement, as noted by Van Doorslaer & Flynn (2021). However, gaps remain in understanding syntactic evolution over time and across regions, particularly in digital journalism where algorithmic tailoring prioritizes rapid consumption (Thurman et al., 2022). Future research should explore these dynamics to develop a cross-regional framework for explaining syntactic choices.

Theoretically, these findings could provide support to SFG by illustrating how sentence types fulfill different functions in news discourse. Practically, the information found could be transferred to journalism training by emphasizing the importance of balancing simple sentences for accessibility with complex structures for depth. Additionally, these insights could improve NLP applications, such as text simplification tools, by modeling how syntax influences readability and audience engagement (Saggion, 2017).

Limitations of the study include its reliance on *Newsinlevels.com*, which is designed for language learners and may bias results toward simpler structures. Soroya et al. (2021) highlighted that overly complex syntax often leads to information avoidance, particularly during crises, underscoring the need for clarity. Future research should expand the corpus to include mainstream news sources and examine audience comprehension in diverse linguistic and cultural contexts. Investigating structural variations in investigative journalism or digital media could further clarify syntactic roles.

In summary, sentence structures in news texts could be considered strategic tools for optimizing messages for accessibility and impact. These findings highlighted the importance of intentionally selecting sentence types for journalists and editors, such as employing simple structures in headlines or breaking news to ensure immediate comprehension, and reserving complex sentences for in-depth analysis or contextual explanations. Language instructors could utilize this framework to design curricula that taught students how to adapt syntax for diverse audiences, mirroring the tiered approach of *Newsinlevels.com*. For AI developers, the observed patterns provided a model for refining text simplification tools or readability algorithms, ensuring they aligned with how humans naturally process information across contexts. This interplay has thus been seen reflecting the adaptability of language in media communication, confirming the functional centrality of syntax in shaping meaning and information.

Recommendations

1. Recommendations for Practical Distributions

I would recommend students, authors, and writers who like to create content to employ short sentences and simple subject-verb-object structures (S + V + O), including high-frequency words such as “people” and “can.” This can be clearer and accessible, particularly when reporting time-sensitive information to a wide audience. This technique improves their communication skills, making their writing more effective and entertaining. Students can gain confidence and enhance their general writing skills by focusing on these core aspects.

2. Recommendations for Further Studies

To grasp the tendency towards simplified sentence forms, compare the language of Newsinlevel.com with more traditional news outlets, exploring the way in which clarity and comprehension are promoted. Also look at historical transitions in news syntax as they play out in pre-digital and digital era reporting; similarly, how technological advancements, like social media and AI tools, have paved the way for shorter, more declarative sentences.

To better understand user engagement, researchers should expand news analysis to include multimodal texts, which include not only written language (e.g., headlines, articles), but also visual (images, videos), audio (narration, sound), spatial design (layout, fonts), and interactive features (hyperlinks, comments). A broader range of materials, such as multimedia platforms and digital newspapers, would improve generalizability, while mixed-method approaches (computational and manual analysis) could enhance findings. Cross-cultural comparisons might help to discover genre-specific practices in multimodal news discourse.

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