A Systemic Functional Linguistic and Critical Discourse Analysis of A Selected Speech on COVID-19

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Abstract
This paper displays a Systemic Functional Linguistic and Critical Discourse Analysis of Boris Johnson's first public speech on COVID-19. Covid-19 is a very dangerous infectious disease caused by the last discovered virus of the Coronavirus strain. This virus began in Wuhan's Chinese city in December 2019. COVID-19 has spread from Wuhan to the rest of the world. It has now turned into a pandemic affecting the whole world. Halliday's (2004) model of systemic functional linguistics (meta-functions), relying on interpersonal and ideational metafunctions, and Van Dijk's ideology and discourse (2000) model depending on the argumentation categories, are the adopted models of analysis. The paper's main objectives are to analyze the speech of Prime Minister Boris critically to uncover the used ideologies to advise, persuade and control the people's beliefs and actions. In addition, this paper aims to identify the interpersonal and ideational meta-functions in the selected speeches of the chosen figure stating their frequencies, then finding out how these features uncover the ideological strategies used to affect all people; Finding the argumentation categories that are used by the prime minister to support the ideas and actions presented. The paper presents a theoretical background of discourse, Critical discourse analysis, dominant, and ideology. Explains the adopted models; Analyzes the speech critically.
Keywords: Boris Johnson, Critical, COVID-19, discourse analysis, dominant, discourse, ideology, power, speech, systemic functional linguistic

Introduction

Covid-19 is a very dangerous infectious disease caused by the last discovered virus of the Coronavirus strain. Before the outbreak, no one knew about this new virus, which began in Wuhan Chinese city in December 2019. COVID-19 has spread from Wuhan to the rest of the world. It has now turned into a pandemic affecting the whole world.

The main object of critical discourse analysis is public speech. The goal of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is to discover the relation between language, ideology, and power (McCarthy, 1991). CDA treats discourse as a kind of social practice. Most usages of linguistic structures adopt ideological strategies and investigate how language resolves and presents the world from different views.

This study concerns itself with utilizing CDA to make it clear to the readers the different ideologies the selected political leader used to treat a current health issue that needs prompt action to guide the public.

A qualitative-quantitative method with a descriptive approach is used to handle a critical discourse analysis through the use of Halliday's (2004) model of systemic functional linguistics (meta-functions) and Van Dijk's (2000) ideology and discourse model.

The study is of great value because it provides a rigorous analysis of how writers or speakers use hidden ideologies through the use of linguistic tools to make the readers or listeners engaged with the information delivered for a better understanding of the text and speech and how can make the people affected by the used ideologies to perform to required actions.

The study aims at analyzing discourse of the Prime Minister Boris critically to uncover the used ideologies to advise, persuade and control the people's beliefs and actions; besides, Identifying the interpersonal, and ideational meta-functions in the selected speeches of the chosen figure stating their frequencies then finding out how these features uncover the ideological strategies used to affect all people; Finding the argumentation categories that are used by the prime minister to support the ideas and actions presented. It attempts to answer questions such as: what are the most ideological strategies used by Prime minister Boris Johnson of the UK; How does the speaker displays his power and authority through the use of certain ideologies through the use different linguistic devices to affect the public; what are the most dominant meta-functions used by Boris Johnson to manipulate the situation, advice, guide, dominate and save the people, and how does Boris Johnson support the presented ideas and actions through the use of particular argumentation categories?

Critical Discourse analysis

CDA is defined widely as an approach that shows language as a social practice. CDA is concerned with how the ways of ideologies and power are expressed by language. One interesting point about CDA is that it is not concerned with the words printed on the pages, but CDA asks why and how such words are spoken or written. According to Van Dijk (2001) "Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context." (p.352).

For Fairclough (1995), CDA is:

> The kind of discourse analysis which aims to systematically explore often opaque relationships of causality and determination between (a) discursive practices, events and texts, and (b) wider social and cultural structures, relations and processes; to investigate how such practices, events, and texts arise out of and are ideologically shaped by relations of power and struggles over power; and to explore how the opacity of these relationships between discourse and society is itself a factor securing power and hegemony(Fairclough,1995 as cited in Hashemi & Ghanizadeh, 2012, p.38)

The aim of CDA is "to unmask ideologically permeated and often obscured structures of power, political control, and dominance, as well as strategies of discriminatory inclusion and exclusion in language in use"(Wodak, 1992). Thus, CDA tries to explain the relation between discourse, marginalization, dominance, social inequality, and ideology. Furthermore, since CDA has an interdisciplinary nature, so it is applied to a variety of disciplines, to name a few: business, politics, education, and media. (Hashemi & Ghanizadeh, 2012). Mostly, CDA is chosen to analyze speeches to uncover their ideologies and power as wodak (2001)claims with CDA the relation between power and ideology and their use for dominance.

Ideological Discourse Structure

Several ways can emphasize or deemphasize meaning based on an ideological basis. The ideology can be analyzed on many levels of discourse, such as meaning, formal structure, sentence syntax, discourse form, argumentation, Rhetoric, action and interaction, and through some analytical categories to display the ideological properties of discourse. One of these categories is argumentation which can be manifested by using some strategies.

Argumentation

Discourse genres such as scholarly articles, editorials in the press, or parliamentary debates have argumentative structures. Speakers who have social power as political speakers, organizations, experts, moral leaders, the media, scholars, and the church are the ones who tend to

mention authorities to support their arguments. And, of course, different people who have different ideologies mention various authorities (Van Dijk, 2006)

Methodology

       The models adopted for this study are Critical Discourse Analysis and Systemic Functional Linguistics (interpersonal and ideational metafunctions of the transitivity system). They are used to analyze Boris Johnson's first speech on Covid-19 which took place on 9th March 2019.

Halliday's Systemic-Functional Linguistics, 2004

       SFL proposes a practical methodological frame for investigating language in context, whether the context is that of science, advertising, politics, or any other context. SFL describes "language in use." It does not look at language as a "set of generalized rules detached from any particular context of use" (Thompson 2004: p.1). SFL divides language into three semantic metafunctions, which collectively represent meaning as construed in language. These metafunctions correspond to ideational, interpersonal, and textual meanings. (Halliday *&* Matthiessen,2004*)*

Ideational Metafunction

       The ideational metafunction shows how human experience is construed. This metafunction is of two meanings: experiential and logical meanings. Experiential meanings can be classified into six types: material, mental, relational, behavioral, verbal, and existential. Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004)

Interpersonal Meta-function

       This function shows how relationships between people are achieved and "language as action" (Halliday & Matthiessen 2004, p.30). The interpersonal meaning is represented in the interaction between the writer and the reader in written language. This function includes mood and modality. There are three types of interpersonal clauses structured in English: declarative, interrogative, and imperative. They are all known as moods." (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004,p:30)

Van Dijk's (2000) Ideology and Discourse

       CDA is defined as "fundamentally concerned with analyzing opaque and transparent structural relationships of dominance, discrimination, power, and control as manifested in language" (Wodak 1995,p.204 as cited in Muhammed & Flaifel,2015, p.1). CDA is seen as a tool to stand against domination and inequality and a way to change. Scholars agree that CDA is concerned with analyzing and studying texts, whether spoken or written, interpreting discursive sources of power, inequality, racism, and dominance. CDA's role here is to analyze how the discursive source is 'reproduced' within economic, political, and social contexts. Furthermore,

CDA is "a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context" (Van Dijk,2001,p.352 as cited in Muhammed & Flaifel,2015 p.2)

The notion of 'ideology' is being used broadly in social science, particularly in politics and mass media. Thus, ideology is a system of a social group or movement ideas. The group members of a specific ideology share general ideas that they are regarded as the basis of the beliefs of their world; in turn, these beliefs mentor their social practice. Therefore, "Ideologies are the fundamental beliefs of a group and its members." (van Dijk, 2000, p.7)

Considering ideologies are expressed and acquired by discourse. Thus, this must happen according to several structures and strategies. For example, the pronoun 'We' is one of the structures where it refers to the in-group of the speaker. Context also has a significant role. Some variables may be' ideologically marked' as stress, volume in expressing a word or phrase, intonation, etc. (van Dijk, 2000)

Authority

A strategy through which the speakers or writers tend to mention authority to support their case, people or organizations of party politics, or who are moral leaders or experts, international organizations, scholars, or the media usually have this role. (Van Dijk, 2000)

Counterfactuals

A great way to define counterfactuals is "what would happen if." counterfactuals are considered a significant role, especially in debates, because they allow speakers or writers used them to show nonsensical consequences. Counterfactuals are relevant in political debates to manifest what would happen if the public did not follow the law or take measures. (Van Dijk, 2000)

Explanation

The speakers and writers explain their perspectives on illegal acts according to their considerations (Van Dijk,2000)

Openness, Honesty

This strategy assumes that mitigation, not telling the truth, may be perceived as a normal principle, to be precise, to prevent a bad impression on the receivers. However, breaking this norm of telling the truth has been encouraged and supported recently. Hence, speakers presume that their argument complies with openness and honesty values, still at the same time allowing or satisfying negative other presentations. (Van Dijk, 2000)

Reasonability

Another strategy of argumentation is reasonability which shows that the arguments are sound, reasonable, or convincing, but also the speaker is sound. Such strategy is noteworthy when the argument implies that the speaker is prejudiced. Consequently, this strategy has an additional utility in impression management and positive self-presentation. (Van Dijk, 2000)

Comparison

Sometimes two or more groups have opposite interests, which causes a kind of competition. Such contrast may show in several forms of 'polarization,' as the pronoun 'US, THEM. (Van Dijk, 2000)

Evidentially

When speakers present their points of view or claims, they need to support their speech with evidence. They have to mention how or where they got this information, such as from a newspaper or have seen by themselves or from a spokesperson. (Van Dijk, 2006)

Generalization

Generalization is "a strategy that allows writers to go from concrete events and persons to more embracing and hence more persuasive statements about other groups and categories of people" (Van Dijk,1998,p.15)

Number Game

This strategy is used to enhance objectivity and credibility. So, such a strategy is seen to be used in the news to improve the objectivity of reports; on top of the means of showing objectivity and persuasively are numbers and statistics. They are used in news reports, the number of immigrants, and parliament. '(Van Dijk,2006 as cited in Kareem, 2019, p. 49)

Systemic Functional Linguistic Analysis

Using SFL tools to analyze a specific speech serves to provide a micro analysis through the use of interpersonal metafunction (mood and modality structures), and the ideational metafunction (the material, mental, existential, verbal, behavioral, and relational process of the transitivity pattern)

Examining the Interpersonal Meta Function
Personal Pronouns

The speaker's selection of pronouns has an important role in conveying interpersonal interaction. Interpersonal meanings are embodied in the personal system. i.e., The choice of personal pronouns has a crucial impact on the relationship between the speaker and the audience as they may show intimacy or authority of the speaker (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004).

Table 1. *Distribution of person system in Boris's Speech*

Types of pronouns	Frequency	%	possessive		%
1st person singular (I)	5	12.5	My	2	5
1st person plural (we)	19	47.5	Our	2	5
2nd person (You)	2	5			

It	4	10	Its	1	2.5
Third person pronoun (they)	1	2.5	Their	4	10

The number of the 1st plural pronoun *we* and its variant *our* have the highest frequency score (21times equals 52.5%) in Boris's speech. *We* occurs 19 times with a percentage of 47.5%, and *our* occurs two times with a rate of 5%. Of course, many semantic implications can be derived and understood using the pronoun *we*. Using the pronoun *we*, the speaker and the hearers are involved in the situation. In political speeches, *We* is used to refer to institutional identity and to ascertain shared responsibility. Using the pronoun, *we* is inclusive when Boris refers to both the speaker as an individual or institutional entity and the listener(s). Here, *we* involves cohesiveness and unity as in:

".…... the best thing we can all do is wash our hands for 20 seconds with soap and water." He uses the pronoun *we* in an exclusive way to refer to the government only.
"The First Ministers of Scotland and Wales and the First Minister and deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland also attended, and we agreed to continue to work closely in the weeks and months ahead."

Boris uses the pronoun *We* cleverly to avoid selfness and enhance togetherness. He involves all the participants (government, the speaker as an individual, and the hearers) in the prospective issue to gain the hearers' support and avoid the negative implication for those involved in the action. Boris uses *we* exclusively more than inclusively. He uses exclusive *we* 14 times corresponds to ratio 73.684% while inclusive *we* occurs seven times with a ratio of 36.842%. He wants to comfort the audience that the government is involved strongly in this issue and is working hard to overcome this pandemic with no or little loss. He tries to show the people that the whole government is responsible for protecting them. Using the inclusive *we* is of significant importance. Boris wants to make the audience bear responsibility and help the government get set goals. He makes them realize that the goals cannot be reached without group work and unified efforts by the government and the people. The 1st person singular pronoun *I* obtains the second level as it occurs five times and 12.5 % with its variant *my*, which occurs two times 5%. This pronoun indicates that the speaker has an authority (power) that gives him the right to make the decision and instruct others. The third impersonal pronoun *it* and its possessive form with the third personal pronoun *they* share the third rank in the frequency of occurrence. They score (5) occurrences with 10% percentage, The impersonal pronoun *it* is used to refer anaphorically to the disease and the action taken. Besides, it is used as a dummy pronoun to have a grammatical meaning, not a lexical one, to make the sentence sounds like a grammatical one, as in:

"While it is absolutely critical, it's absolutely critical in managing the spread of this virus that we take the right decisions at the right time, based on the latest and best evidence."

As for the use of the third personal pronoun *they*. It is used in its possessive form to refer in an anaphoric way to the public's relatives and families, the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Advisor, and to the victims' families. He addresses the whole and involves all the principals in this challenge.

The pronouns *we* and *I* are chosen specifically as they are the most remarkable ones. They indicate who the speaker identifies with, and they have the power to exclude and include the audience. They can and have the power to change the influence the speech has on the audience.

Modality System

Table 2. *Distribution of Modality system in Boris Speech*

Low degree	Frequency	%	Medium degree	Frequency	%	High degree	Frequency	%
Can	4	30	will	7	53.846	must	1	7
Could	1	7	Would	None		Ought to	None	
May	None		Shall	none		Need to	None	
Might	None		should	none				

Boris uses the model verb *will* more frequently than others, with a score of 7 times and 53.846 %, as he wants to express his and his government's determinations and intentions to do certain actions in the future. He is promising people to overcome this health issue with little loss. Through the use of *will* in his speech, Boris performs an illocutionary speech act of promise to represent his commitments to his people in facing this challenge as in:

"Patrick and Chris will give you some more detailed."
"We will set out further steps in the days and weeks ahead to help people."

The illocutionary speech force of using *will* is not only for the promise but also to convey the indirect acts of warning. Boris alerts the public of the significant challenge they face as in the following sentence:

"The *coronavirus outbreak will present significant challenges for the UK*."
The second-highest range of occurrence is the model verb *can*, which gains 30% frequency of occurrence. Boris uses *can* to show ability or the strong possibility to perform the action as in:
"The more we can delay the peak of the spread to the summer, the better the NHS will be able to manage."
"I have no doubt that we can and will rise to that challenge."

In addition, he uses *could* only one time with 7% frequency of occurrence to imply the probability or expectation that if they do not follow the instructions, everything is expected to show counterproductive.

"So we must not do things which have no or limited medical benefit, nor things which could turn out to be counterproductive."

Whereas *must*, which is the strongest model verb, is used one time with a frequency of 7% of occurrence to show a strong judgment based on the available evidence. Here, Boris uses must in the negative form to set his conclusion based on the latest evidence of the Covid-19 spread with an order not to do things that gives negative results.

Mood System

Mood is an important component that reflects the interpersonal metafunction of the clause (Thompson, 2014). Mood is divided into the indicative and imperative mood and subjunctive mood, as stated in (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2004).

Table 3. *Distribution of Mood system in Boris Speech*

Indicative	percentage	Imperative	Percentage	Subjunctive	percentage
28	80%	1	2.857%	5	14.285

Most Boris' speech compromises the indicative mood statements (28 – 80%) as the purpose of his speech is to exchange information and inform the public about the updated information concerning coronavirus and the actions the government fulfills. He uses this mood to make the public aware of what's happening. In turn, the public will feel comfort because they feel that their government is highly concerned about the issue as in the following extract, which consists of three sentences. The following sentences reflect the indicative mood:

"This morning I chaired a meeting of the government's COBR emergency committee on the Coronavirus outbreak. The First Ministers of Scotland and Wales and the First Minister and deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland also attended and we agreed to continue to work closely in the weeks and months ahead."

In addition, the imperative mood reflects the least percentage of occurrence 2.847% as there is only one sentence that reflects the imperative mood as in:
" *we must not do things which have no or limited medical benefit, nor things*
*which could turn out to be counterproductive.***"**
The imperative mood is not realized from the sentence structure but it is realized from the context and the tone of speech. Boris uses the high degree modal auxiliary *must* in its negative form to reflect his authority and at the same time he expresses command in an indirect way including himself and the government to soften the effect of the command and at the same time to give them the picture of being all together facing the same enemy, sharing the same danger and bearing the same responsibility.

The last mood which is the subjunctive mood occurs five times(14.285%). By using this mood Boris wants to express his desires, opinions and feelings as when Boris expresses his feelings of being grateful to the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Advisor for their efforts.

"*I repeat my gratitude to both Chris and to Patrick.*"
He also uses if- clause to states his hypothetical opinion that if they all pay attention to one another, they will overcome this challenge. At the same time, he expresses his certainty of the outcomes.
"*But if we continue to look out for one another, to pull together in a united and national effort, I have no doubt that we can and will rise to that challenge.*"
Then, Boris shows his desire to stress things to be followed and at the same time he expresses the public desire to hear from the advisors to be acquainted with the situation.
"*I know there are lots of things the public want to hear from our advisors about*
I want to stress the following things"

Ideational meta function
This paper's ideational meta function analysis relies on the transitivity pattern only tackling the (material, mental, existential, verbal, behavioral and relational process of the pattern). Transitivity concerns itself with " the meaning level associated with the verbal clause part and submits information on the action, event, and states." (Al-Janabi & Al-Marsumi ,2021,p.247)

Transitivity System
 Transitivity system is chosen to signal the speaker's ideology and manipulation in this speech
Table 4. *Transitivity System*

No	Material process	%	mental process	%	Existential process Frequency	%	Verbal process	%	Relational process Frequency	%	behavioral process Frequency	%
1	20	46.511	7	16.279	3	6.976	4	13.333	9	20.930	Null	0

Boris uses 57.142% of his clauses for the material process as if he wants to convey that this time is the time for doing and making actions. He presents a lot of actions to be done like when he says: "I Chaired a meeting of the government's COBR emergency committee on the Coronavirus outbreak; We are making extensive preparations for a move to the delay phase; We are preparing various actions to slow the spread of this disease to reduce the strain it places on the NHS; we are doing everything we can to combat this outbreak" and other verbs such as give, work, do look out, pull, attend, delay, make, manage. Such use of material process reflects the speaker's power and dominant ideology. He uses his power to show the actions he and his government will take concerning the health issue to comfort the public that they are not alone in facing and fighting this virus. At the same time, it is considered a way of persuading the public to take their turn and bear responsibility in doing whatever they are instructed to do.

Relational process comes second level represented with 20.930%. Boris uses this process to categorize and describes the present situation of the county and the NHS efforts is facing the virus. this process is realized by using verbs such have and be as in:

"the better the NHS will be able to manage."
"Second, we have a truly brilliant NHS"
"it's absolutely critical in managing the spread of this virus"
"I have no doubt that we can and will rise to that challenge"

The third level percentage goes to the mental process, which gets 20% of the total processes. Boris uses this process to uncover his, the government, and the scientists' cognition about the health issue. Boris uses verbs like "think, expect, want, know, doubt..etc." as in "to reflect the experience of the mindful world which takes place in the consciousness.
"We expect that advice to change as the outbreak develops."
"I know there are lots of things the public want to hear from our advisors about."
"I have no doubt that we can and will rise to that challenge."
"Our scientists think containment is extremely unlikely to work on its own."

Boris shows the public what they expect, know, think, and want, i.e., he uncovers their inner consciousness about this issue but in a way that he doesn't concentrate on this mental process because this is the time of taking action, not experiencing other processes.

Verbal process and existential process take 14.285% and 8.571 consequently. Boris uses verbs like "ask, repeat, respond," relying on the verbal process to repeat gratitude to Chris and Partick and repeat some delivered instructions to the public to follow:
"I repeat my gratitude to both Chris and Patrick."
I………ask Patrick and the Chris to give their own perspective on where we are."
I'm………repeating that the best thing we can all do is wash our hands for 20 seconds with soap and water."

Critical Discourse Analysis
As the categories of Van Dijk's modal of discourse and ideology consists of three levels of description: meaning, Rhetoric, and argumentation, the last one is chosen to be within the scope of the study as it supplies the reader with the strategies used by the speaker to support his issue. These categories and the purpose behind using them are illustrated below.

Authority
Boris Johnson mentions the name of the CDBR committee, the First Minister of Scotland and Netherland, and the Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland. He mentions the chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Advice (Chris and Patrick) more than once.
Boris tries to support his speech from the very early beginning as he mentions authority to reflect the seriousness of the issue. He uses the argumentation category of authority to give his speech a taste of truthfulness and seriousness.

Counterfactuals

Counterfactuals are used to manifest what would happen if the public did not follow the law or take measures.

"if we continue to look out for one another, to pull together in a united and national effort, I do not doubt that we can and will rise to that challenge."

"The more we can delay the peak of the spread to the summer, the better the NHS will be able to manage."

Here, Boris Jonson assures the public that they will overcome this challenge if they work together in the same direction and follow the rules.

Explanation

Boris explains his perspective toward illegal acts as he says"

"So we must not do things which have no or limited medical benefit, nor things which could turn out to be counterproductive."

Openness, Honesty

This strategy assumes that not telling the truth may be considered a kind of mitigation; however, breaking this norm of telling the truth. Hence, Boris presumes that his argument complies with openness and honesty values. He describes the situation to the public in a very honest way. He presents the number of deaths, explains the phases and actions in detail, he even sets his expectation for the future. He mentions some positive self-representation as having the best brilliant scientists in the world who will be present to help overcome this issue.

"There have now been four deaths from coronavirus in the UK."

"We have a truly brilliant NHS, where staff has responded with all the determination, compassion, and skill that makes their service so revered across the world."

Reasonability

An important strategy of argument when the argument sounds to entail that the speaker is prejudiced. Boris argues that they have the most brilliant scientists globally, which undoubtedly makes their service so revered around the globe. He also expresses his management positively as he mentions that NHS will continue to have this government's full support, my support "Boris," in tackling this virus on the frontline.

Comparison

Boris compares his NHS with the world's, but he doesn't mention any negative implications concerning the others. He only gives positive self-representation when he makes sure that they can overcome the situation and have a brilliant NHS..

"We have a truly brilliant NHS, where staff"

Evidentially

Boris supports his speech with evidence as he mentions how or where he got this information, He always refers to the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Advice (Chris and Patrick) and NHS.

Generalization

Using this strategy allows writers to set more persuasive statements and categories of people. Boris generalized the critical situation when he mentioned that this case is not only ours but is a global one when he said:
"There is no hiding from the fact that the coronavirus outbreak will present significant challenges for the UK, just as it does in other countries."

Number Game

Number games is one of the top means of showing objectivity and persuasiveness. Boris uses this strategy to enhance objectivity and credibility. He mentions the number of deaths, number of phases, 20 seconds. He displays the number of deaths to make the public aware of the danger they are in and follow the rule of four phases and a 20-second duration wash of their hands.

Conclusion

Through the application of SFL model and CDA, It seems that Boris uses the chosen tools of these models to reflect and uncover some ideologies in his first speech such as togetherness as a kind of comfort, engagement in the issue and persuasion to gain the hearers' support, and avoid the negative implication of those involved in the action. Thus, he makes the public bear responsibility and help the government overcome the health issue. He reveals his authority (power) that gives him the right to make decisions and instruct others. At the same time, Boris uses the modality system to express his government determinations and intentions to do certain actions in the future. He promises people to overcome health issue with little loss and shows ability or the strong possibility to perform the action. In addition, he displays probability or expectation that if they do not follow the instructions, everything is expected to show counterproductive Whereas, he gives strong judgment based on the available evidence.

Boris' speech compromises the indicative mood statements as the purpose of his speech is to exchange information and inform the public about the updated information concerning coronavirus and the actions that the government fulfills. He uses this mood to make the public aware of what's happening. In turn, the public will feel comfort .He expresses command in an indirect way, including himself and the government, to soften the effect of the command and at the same time to give them the picture of being all together facing the same enemy, sharing the same danger and bearing the same responsibility.

Boris uses a material process to reflect his power and dominant ideology. He uses his power to show the actions he and his government will take concerning the health issue to comfort the public that they are not alone in facing and fighting this virus. At the same time, it is considered a way of persuading the public to take their turn and bear responsibility in doing whatever they are instructed to do. Boris uses Authority, Counterfactuals, Explanation, Openness, Honesty Comparison, evidentially, Generalization, and Number Game as the most obvious strategies that Boris used to support his speech ideology

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Appendix
Prime Minister's statement on coronavirus (COVID-19): 9 March 2020

This morning I chaired a meeting of the government's COBR emergency committee on the Coronavirus outbreak. The First Ministers of Scotland and Wales and the First Minister and deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland also attended and we agreed to continue to work closely in the weeks and months ahead.

We received a detailed briefing from the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Advisor. And again I repeat my gratitude to both Chris and to Patrick. There have now been four deaths from coronavirus in the UK, and our deepest sympathies are obviously with their friends and families.

Our action plan as you know sets out the four phases of our approach to tackling the virus: Contain, Delay, Research, and Mitigate. We remain in the Contain phase of the outbreak, but watching what is happening around the world, our scientists think containment is extremely unlikely to work on its own, and that is why we are making extensive preparations for a move to the delay phase.

We are preparing various actions to slow the spread of this disease in order to reduce the strain it places on the NHS. The more we can delay the peak of the spread to the summer, the better the NHS will be able to manage. Patrick and Chris will give you some more detailed information on the latest advice we are giving the public today - and how we expect that advice to change as the outbreak develops. As things stand I'm afraid it bears repeating that the best thing we can all do is wash our hands for 20 seconds with soap and water. We will also take questions, because I know there are lots of things the public want to hear from our advisors about. But before that I want to stress the following things:

First, we are doing everything we can to combat this outbreak, based on the very latest scientific and medical advice.

Second, we have a truly brilliant NHS, where staff have responded with all the determination, compassion and skill that makes their service so revered across the world. And they will continue to have this government's full support, my support, in tackling this virus on the frontline.

Third, we will set out further steps in the days and weeks ahead to help people protect themselves, their family and in particular the elderly and vulnerable.

And finally, while it is absolutely critical, it's absolutely critical in managing the spread of this virus that we take the right decisions at the right time, based on the latest and best evidence. So we must not do things which have no or limited medical benefit, nor things which could turn out to be counterproductive.

There is no hiding from the fact that the coronavirus outbreak will present significant challenges for the UK, just as it does in other countries. But if we continue to look out for one another, to pull together in a united and national effort, I have no doubt that we can and will rise to that challenge. And I'm now going to ask Patrick and then Chris to give their own perspective on where we are. (529words)

https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-on-coronavirus-9-march-2020