Comparative Analysis Of Circumstantial Elements In Crime News Reports From Dawn And Express Tribune

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to determine the significance of circumstantial elements in the representation of news discourse. In this regard, a Systemic Functional Analysis of the crime reports from two Pakistani English newspapers, Dawn and The Express Tribune,is conductedemploying Halliday's (2004; 2014) model of Systemic Functional Grammar.The focus of the study is on circumstantial elements due to their significance in the field of systemic functional linguistics. Circumstantial features are often regarded as structurally peripheral parts of the clause, but they play a vital role in contributing to the context of any clause in a particular text. Two hundred crime news event reports from two newspapers namely Dawn and The Express Tribuneare [1]selected as datato demonstrate how circumstantial elements in news texts are used to represent, frame, clarify, or exaggerate the crime event. The UAM Corpus tool is used for data analysis. Ant-Conc. Software is used to cross-verify the occurrences of features coded through the UAM Corpus Tool. At the end of the analysis of each news report, a comparative analysis of crime event reports from newspapers; Dawn and The Express Tribune is carried out to find out the difference of representation with reference to the utilization of circumstances. The objective of the study is to observe how the newspapers employ circumstantial choices to represent the news event; and how the absence of these contextual features in the representation of a crime event affects the depiction of a crime event. This study is also an effort to draw the attention of common readers of the newspapers to the new way of perceiving and analyzing the language of the newspapers.The findings of the research displayed that Dawncrime news reports designated every single detail of participants, time, date cause, and scenario of the crime scene revealing a focus mainly on detailed context including temporal, spatial locations, cause, matter, source, and situation of the crime scenes. Contrarily,Express Tribune focused just on delivering a crime report instead of adding complete context and details. By highlighting the importance of contextual elements, this study has analyzed the media discourse by using a very comprehensive approach.

Keyword*s: systemic functional grammar, circumstantial elements, crime news events, comparative analysis.*

INTRODUCTION

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The systemic functional linguistic theory offered by Halliday (2014) helps us comprehend how language makes meaning. SFL theory has had a significant impact on linguistics all around the world. To be more precise, the grammatical resources of the ideational metafunction enable linguists to investigate human experiences through the language they employ the texts they construct in the light of their previous experiences and ideologies, and the words they utter to convey a message. The crime news events are represented by the reporters in newspaper reports. Based on their representation, they are categorized differently because they are reported by different reports and hence this representation is affected by their variant ideation and experiences.

Halliday's SFL provides an outline for comprehending how language functions in social circumstances which focuses on "three metafunctions: ideational, interpersonal, and textual. These metafunctions shed light on how language produces reality, expresses social interactions, and arranges text for communication, making them crucial for assessing criminal event reporting in the news".

1. Ideational Metafunction is related to how language expresses experience. This is broken down by Halliday into two metafunctions: logical and experiential. The representation of events, individuals, and conditions in clauses is the main emphasis of the experiential function. Components that make up the ideational metafunction are processes, participants, and circumstances. Processes include five major categories: material, mental, behavioral, relational, and existential processes. Material processes (action verbs) are commonly used in crime reports to describe physical actions, such as "robbed," "attacked," or "shot." These processes show offenders' acts in the crime scenes. For instance, "The suspect was arrested by the police" draws attention to the actors (suspect, police) as well as the material activity (arrest). Such roles and activities are discussed in news reports. This makes it clearer to readers who were affected by the crime and who committed it. Participants are by nouns and noun phrases, for example in the above-mentioned sentence, "The Suspect" and "the police" are the participants.

The three primary elements that make up the ideational metafunction can be used to examine elements include Processes that are realized by the verb or verb phrases; participants are the action's actors, which are realized by nouns and nominal phrases; circumstances describe the where, when, how, why, for what purpose and on whose behalf of the action's occurrence or execution. The present research has focused on the circumstantial elements in the news that are used to portray the crime scene. The research mainly focused on circumstantial elements because they play a very important role in the field of systemic functional linguistics. They are effective features that add direct clarity and specificity to the clause such as the circumstantials of location clarify the settings of the crime scene, circumstantials of time are responsible for specifying the time of the happening, circumstantials of cause are significant to figure out the reason behind the happening and that of means are to provide information about the means and weapons utilized in a crime. Although circumstantials are frequently overlooked as compared to processes and participants and are often regarded as structurally peripheral parts of the clause, have a vital role in contributing to the context of any clause and particular text.

Circumstances: Circumstantial features, which include information like the location and time of the incident, are also crucial for reporting crimes. These factors include Location either of time or place, Extent, Cause, Manner, Contingency, Accompaniment, Role, Matter, and Angle. For example, the sentence "The crime occurred at night in a residential area" gives some demonstrative context where "at night" is the location of time and "residential area" is

the location of space. Location of extent gives information about the distance, duration and frequency of a happening. Location of Cause demonstrates the reason behind the crime or happening, the purpose behind a minor or major criminal act, and the information about the person or entity on whose behalf an action has been carried out. Whereas Accompaniment provides information about the participants accompanying for the sake of a criminal act.

An example of crime news: A crime report can say something like this: "Late last night in Karachi, two men attacked a woman during a street robbery." The victim was left critically injured as the attackers ran away from the scene. It is believed that the offenders were armed, and police are looking into the event. Here's a quick illustration: The crime occurrence is described by the material process "was attacked". The attackers, two males, and a lady are all identifiable as participants. Circumstance details are given (time: "late last night," place: "in Karachi").

The most significant circumstances are place (including time and space), extent, matter, reason, purpose, behalf, contingency, accompaniment, and role. They have been extensively studied within various theoretical frameworks. However, the aspects of projection of idea and locution have not received enough attention in previous linguistics research. To fully understand circumstantial meanings, it is necessary to properly categorize the relevant choices of circumstantials at various levels i.e. at the word level, clause level, and clause complex level, and that is what this research seeks to ensure.

Ideational metafunction offers a more comprehensive explanation for this phenomenon. Halliday's SFG will be used to investigate the impact and function of circumstantial choices in crime event texts in connection to discourse semantics, Lexico-grammar, and field and how the circumstances are ultimately implemented across these three tiers.

2. Interpersonal Metafunction: This metafunction examines the social roles and attitudes that are ingrained in language, as well as the interaction between the writer/speaker and the reader/listener. Mood and Modality: An Application to Crime Event Reporting Declarative mood is used by reporters to present information impartially. Nonetheless, in continuing investigations, modality—the degree of certainty or obligation—is frequently employed to convey uncertainty, suspicion, or possibility. Words like "the suspect may have fled the scene" cast doubt on the situation and highlight how unfinished crime investigations are.

3. Textual Metafunction: This function deals with how the text is organized to make information comprehensible and easy for the reader to access. Theme and Rheme in Crime Event Reporting Application: News stories frequently start with the most important information (the theme) and then go into more detail (rheme). For example, "A man was killed in a robbery" establishes the sentence's subject and then provides further details about the time, place, and suspects in the rheme.

Logico-semantic relations, such as temporal and spatial enhancing of clauses, are essential for giving particulars about the order of occurrences in crime reporting. While spatial enhancement establishes the crime in distinct locations and adds to a more comprehensive description of the occurrence, temporal enhancement in clauses helps structure how the event emerged across time.

To sum up, Halliday's theory offers a potent prism through which crime event reporting can be viewed and analyzed more precisely. It draws attention to the ways that language choices

in these reports influence social attitudes toward criminal conduct, create narratives about crime, and affect readers' comprehension of events.

This research is substantial because it can provide insight into how crime is portrayed in the news media and how that portrayal affects public opinion, legislative decisions, and law enforcement in the current sociopolitical environment. The way crime reports are constructed—particularly the language used to describe offenders, victims, and crime settings—can either reinforce or challenge existing stereotypes, social biases, and power structures in today's highly politicized world where the media plays a central role in shaping narratives and influencing public discourse.

This study critically examines how language is used to frame crime events using Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) paradigm, paying particular attention to the ideational metafunction and circumstantial aspects. Developing an understanding of the participants, processes (material, mental, existential), and contextual features (place, time, cause, style, etc.) helps explain the underlying ideologies and power structures that influence crime reporting. This is particularly important in situations where underprivileged groups are disproportionately overrepresented in the criminal justice system as offenders or victims. Or where, depending on the sociopolitical context, some crime types receive more media attention than others.

This study emphasizes the significance of looking at how crime news not only reflects but also generates social reality in the contemporary context, where media representations can affect public fear, security measures, and even law enforcement activities. Additionally, it can highlight how news event reports support some prevailing beliefs while marginalizing others, adding to the greater conversation about justice, inequality, and the role that the media plays in either upholding or opposing these injustices.

Research Questions

1. To what extent do Dawn and The Express Tribune differ in their linguistic representation of reports on crime events?

2. What factors contribute to the differences in the linguistic representation of crime event reports in Dawn and The Express Tribune?

LITERATURE REVIEW

By analyzing how processes, participants, circumstances and societal concerns are portrayed in various newspapers and media platforms, the review of literature highlights the significant effect of language and underlying meanings in making and molding news narratives. Language is more than just a means of conveying information; it can also be an effective instrument for highlighting certain points of view, disregarding others, and conveying unique opinions. Newspapers can influence public opinions, attitudes, and beliefs about specific events or issues by selectively using language.

Since people in positions of control or influence can use language to promote their objectives or to retain dominance, power dynamics have a significant impact on how news narratives are presented. For example, the research conducted by Zhang (2013) engaged in a comparative examination of news coverage related to the third U.S.-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue (S&ED) as depicted in both Chinese and American newspapers. The study's primary objective was to unveil the distinct portrayals of the same event within these

two contrasting sources and to illuminate the underlying reasons for these discrepancies using CDA as a theoretical framework. Employing a qualitative methodology, the research probed deeply into the dynamics of news discourse, exploring the intricate interplay among language, power dynamics, and covert ideologies. Specifically, it sought to unveil how language serves as a reflection of power dynamics and ideological stances or, conversely, how entrenched ideologies influence language selection.

In another scholarly endeavor by Chen (2016), the research probed into the analysis of the "projecting Circumstance" component within the grammatical structure of English and Chinese. Employing the Sydney model of SFL, the study specifically focused on one type of circumstance: Angle. The research highlighted the distinctive syntactic characteristics of the linguistic construct known as "Angle," and investigated Angles through the lenses of explicit and implicit orientation. The study provided a comprehensive exploration of the Angle phenomenon in English, offering initial insights into the typological features that underlie the explicit orientation observed in Chinese Angles. Methodologically, the research leveraged data from a corpus of both English and Chinese texts, employing a functional syntax analysis to investigate and categorize the Angle phenomenon. The research methodology involved a thorough examination of various facets of projection, including source versus viewpoint distinctions and modes of projection, categorizing them into explicit versus implicit manifestations. This systematic approach aimed to explain and classify the different manifestations and functional aspects of Angles, shedding light on their structural nuances and the typological influences that shape their expression in both English and Chinese languages.

Chen's work stands as a noteworthy scholarly contribution, offering a thorough examination of the linguistic intricacies inherent in the Angle phenomenon within the grammatical structures of English and Chinese. The study's use of the Sydney model of SFL ensures a robust theoretical foundation and the comprehensive analysis of Angle's explicit and implicit orientation enriches our understanding of this linguistic aspect. Moreover, the reliance on a corpus of texts from both languages strengthens the study's empirical basis, facilitating a detailed comparative analysis. However, the research serves as an essential resource for scholars and linguists interested in the nuances of linguistic projection and Circumstance components in English and Chinese grammar.

As far as the ideological underpinnings are concerned, Mohammed's (2016) study's primary objective was to probe into the ideological and attitudinal underpinnings that dictate the utilization of discourse structures in conveying transitivity. The research encompassed a comprehensive examination of various processes, including material, relational, mental, and verbal, within the dataset sourced from Al Jazeera's Arabic website. Specifically, the analysis centered on the depiction of Nelson Mandela in contrast to other involved entities and the respective roles assigned to participants within the discourse framework. The chosen data was derived from the extensive coverage of Mandela's 2013 illness (March to April 2013) on the Al Jazeera Arabic website, given his global significance and his representation as an African leader.

CDA served as the preferred methodology, aligning with the authors' view that it offers a suitable approach for investigating ideological attitudes embedded within language structures. This choice was particularly apt considering the complex political relationships between South Africa and the Arab world. The study was situated within the broader framework of SFL, where the transitivity system illuminated the organization of clauses into processes, participant roles, and circumstances. The corpus-linguistic tool AntConc was employed for data analysis, facilitating the retrieval and identification of common linguistic

structures. The results underscored the prominence of material processes in conveying actions and events, with Mandela as the primary agent and actor.

The discourse structures selected in the corpus were deliberate, intending not only to evoke sentiment but also to elicit reader sympathy concerning Mandela's challenges and his unyielding commitment to the freedom of his people, despite his 27-year imprisonment. In the Arab world, Mandela emerged as a moral figure who inspired reformation and reconciliation. In summary, this study accentuates Nelson Mandela's significant presence in Arab media, particularly within Al Jazeera Arabic. It emphasizes the potential of critical discourse analysis in scrutinizing media coverage of prominent figures or central contemporary political and social issues. Furthermore, the research underscores the efficacy of systemic functional linguistic and corpus linguistics approaches for exploring the meanings within media texts and offering insights into the underlying attitudinal and ideological dimensions of media discourse structures. However, a broader comparative analysis across multiple Arabic media outlets would have enriched the study.

Furthermore, Ismayatim et al.'s (2018) study rigorously analyzed the transitivity patterns observed in the coverage of the air-strike incident carried out by Malaysian security forces on March 5, 2013, amid the intrusion by "Sulu Sultan" followers in Lahad Datu. The research concentrated on analyzing how this specific event was depicted across four English newspapers—The News Straits Times (NST), The Star (TS), The Philippine Daily Inquirer (TPDI), and The Philippine Star (TPS). The investigation encompassed a range of methodological approaches for comprehensively studying newspaper representations and perspectives on contentious issues. These methodologies included examinations of lexical cohesion, content analysis, critical discourse analysis, metaphors, transitivity, and thematic analysis. By employing this diverse array of analytical methods, the study aimed to provide a multifaceted understanding of how the event was portrayed in the media, offering insights into the nuanced strategies and linguistic mechanisms used in shaping the narrative surrounding the air-strike incident across different newspapers and shedding light on their varied representations and stances on the issue. Particularly noteworthy was the study's endeavor to address the underrepresentation of the transitivity framework in prior research by employing SFL for data analysis. Adhering to a qualitative research methodology, the study employed SFL, specifically M.A.K. Halliday's System of Transitivity (1994), to conduct a comprehensive analysis of transitivity in the texts, identifying prevalent process types used in reporting. The findings unveiled significant variations in process types among the newspapers, with Mental Processes predominating in NST, while Material Processes were more prevalent in TS, TPS, and TPDI. These discrepancies indicated distinct reporting styles and preferences for the experiential significance of the event within the newspapers. Furthermore, the identification of 35 themes associated with different process types offered a multifaceted perspective on various facets of the attack, derived from the diverse processes depicted in the texts. This paper provided an extensive analysis of the reporting of the air-strike incident across four distinct English newspapers, effectively employing SFL to discern differences in reporting styles and the experiential significance of these events. It holds significant value for linguistics researchers, journalism students, and media critics interested in text and discourse analysis.

Moreover, Tian's (2018) study conducted a comprehensive exploration into the infusion of ideological elements within The Guardian's news coverage of China's Military Parade, marking the 70th anniversary of the Second World War. The study primarily aimed to discern and unravel the underlying social and historical ideologies embedded within the news report. To achieve this, the research employed Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model of CDA as the theoretical framework. Additionally, analytical tools were drawn from Halliday's SFG,

enabling a detailed examination and interpretation of the linguistic structures and functional aspects of the news coverage. By utilizing these frameworks and analytical approaches, the study sought to uncover the ideological underpinnings shaping the narrative within The Guardian's reportage, offering insights into how social and historical perspectives were constructed and conveyed through the newspaper's discourse on China's Military Parade and its commemoration of the Second World War's 70th anniversary. This research analyzed the intricate interplay between language, ideology, and discourse, seeking to uncover the underlying ideological underpinnings shaping the portrayal of this significant historical event within The Guardian's coverage. The study analyzed a sample from The Guardian, a prominent UK newspaper, focusing on international criticisms against China regarding the parade and contrasting it with the positive emotions and pride experienced by the Chinese people. The methodology was rooted in the social semiotics approach, emphasizing the relationship between language and society, and recognizing the influence of power in language use. Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model of CDA encompassed text analysis, discursive analysis, and social analysis. Text analysis scrutinized linguistic features, discursive analysis investigated how language constructs meaning and ideology, and social analysis explored how the news report mirrored and reinforced social structures and power dynamics. The study used Halliday's SFG to examine the roles of transitivity, mood, and modality in the news report to unveil the ideological features. The study's results unveiled an overemphasis and over-interpretation of the negative influences of the Military Parade in The Guardian's news report, suggesting that the news was not ideologically neutral but rather influenced by the social and historical ideologies of the news organization. Furthermore, the news report was found to serve as a platform for reflecting international social power relations, with China being subjected to negative criticism.

The study conducted by Novita (2019) undertook a comparative analysis of crime news engagement in two newspapers to determine whether they presented crime news subjectively or objectively. The researcher adeptly employed both qualitative and quantitative methods, utilizing the total sampling technique to gather data. The collected data included appraising items from six different texts. The article's introduction provided a lucid overview of the Appraisal Theory, positioning it within the interpersonal metafunction of language in SFL. The author aptly described how Appraisal Theory centers on language evaluation, particularly concerning the expression and reaction to personal viewpoints, encompassing attitudes and emotions. The methodology used in the research was meticulously detailed, ensuring that readers could grasp how the study was conducted.The researcher's choice of crime news as the subject of analysis was well-founded, given its relevance and societal significance. The research questions were explicitly defined, leading to a clear research objective: (1) Understanding the engagement of The Jakarta Post and The Jakarta Globe; (2) Analyzing the description of crime news by the writers of these newspapers. The article adeptly presented the collected data, elucidating how the dataset of appraising items was generated and analyzed, with comprehensive steps for the analytical process. The results were also presented with clarity, offering a comparative assessment of appraisal resources utilized in the two newspapers. The article concluded that crime news in The Jakarta Post is reported objectively, while The Jakarta Globe adopts a more subjective approach. This result provided valuable insights into how two major newspapers in Indonesia report on crime news, shedding light on their distinct approaches.

Moreover, ideological influences are persistent in journalistic discourse and frequently influence how issues, events, or participants are presented. As demonstrated in another scholarly effort by Asad et al. (2019), the research aimed to dissect the subtleties of election coverage in Malaysian and Pakistani online newspapers, with a specific focus on uncovering

the concealed meanings underlying the language used by both mainstream and independent newspapers regarding corruption issues. The research sample consisted of 25 news reports from independent and mainstream online newspapers in both countries, examining the positions and representations of social actors concerning corruption issues within the reports, dated between May and July 2018.The research methodology employed by Asad et al. (2019) relied on Norman Fairclough's CDA theory to uncover latent power dynamics, ideological inclinations, and societal connotations embedded within the language of news reports. Additionally, the study integrated SFL through Halliday's Transitivity Analysis technique to conduct a comprehensive linguistic analysis of the gathered data. Commencing with an examination of newspapers for social semiotics framing, drawing from van Leeuwen's framework, the authors subsequently conducted a detailed scrutiny of linguistic choices in election coverage utilizing the theoretical underpinnings of CDA. The study's findings elucidated those independent online newspapers in the studied contexts portrayed a more liberal and impartial representation of societal actors, whereas mainstream newspapers tended to employ linguistic choices reflecting stronger alignment with specific political interests. This comparative analysis sheds light on the divergence in linguistic strategies employed by different media outlets, highlighting how they potentially frame and present political narratives within their election coverage. The research presented in the text provides a comprehensive and analytical examination of the hidden social meanings embedded in election coverage within Malaysian and Pakistani online newspapers. While the study offers valuable insights, it may face some criticism related to the relatively small sample size, which could affect the generalizability of its findings. Additionally, the article would benefit from a more detailed exposition of the Transitivity Analysis applied, elucidating how this method aids in understanding the nuanced aspects of election coverage.

In the study conducted by Fong et al. (2020), the researchers conducted a comparative analysis of how Malaysian and Chinese newspapers reported on the South China Sea disputes and Malaysia-China bilateral relations. The comprehensive research aimed to uncover the nuanced ways in which these newspapers framed the contentious issues. Their sample consisted of six prominent newspapers, three Malaysian and three Chinese, with a total of 242 articles analyzed. The research methodology employed was rigorous, utilizing an inductive approach to discern news frames and establish coding categories, with a focus on four keyframes: Conflict, Consequences, Peace resolution, and Others. This study's results unveiled notable distinctions in the intensity, prominence, and choice of news sources in the reporting of the South China Sea disputes by Malaysian and Chinese newspapers, highlighting the differences in their valence in covering these issues. The article stands as a well-constructed and lucid contribution, skillfully conveying its findings in a clear and organized manner. The authors' meticulous data analysis and thought-provoking insights enrich the scholarly discourse on media studies and international relations. A comprehensive review of relevant literature and theoretical frameworks further underscores the study's contextual significance. While acknowledging certain limitations, such as a relatively small sample size and an exclusive focus on newspapers, the article remains a valuable and informative piece of research that shines a light on the distinct approaches employed by Malaysian and Chinese newspapers in reporting on the South China Sea disputes.

Therefore, the reviewed literature highlights the complex relationship between language, functional features of language, power, and ideology in media narratives, indicating that news reporting is anything from an impartial account of events. Rather, it is a multifaceted process driven by ideological motivations, societal power relations, and the deliberate construction and communication of specific reality versions through language. This view highlights how news media can create, uphold, or challenge dominant power structures and

ideologies, as well as the significance of critical discourse analysis in illuminating these hidden layers of meaning.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Process of Data Collection

The crime news reports are taken from the newspapers; Daily Dawn and The Express Tribune, 100 from each, from January 1, 2021, to February 24, 2023. The process of data collection has the following steps: Each news report is copied from the source e-newspaper and pasted into a separate Word file along with the date and day of publication. These files were then converted to Unicode files. Files that could not be copied and pasted from the source were retrieved in the form of PDF and scanned photos. To retrieve data from such formats, the PDF texts were directly converted into notepad files via an online Google PDF to Word converter and then converted to notepad files. Whereas scanned text photos were converted into an editable form and notepad files by using 'Google Docs and online OCR (Optical Character Recognition software).

For this research, 100 crime news stories from Dawn and 100 from The Express Tribune were chosen to provide a solid, equitable, and representative dataset for the analysis of crime coverage in Pakistani media. This choice was made for many important reasons:

Two well-known English-language newspapers in Pakistan with different readerships and editorial philosophies are Dawn and The Express Tribune. The study can examine the reporting on crime in various newspapers, which may have differing political, cultural, or ideological angles by choosing reports from both sources. Different approaches to criminal and societal concerns can be reflected in the differences in language use that this comparison may show, including differences in processes, participants, and circumstantials.

Readers from around the world, policymakers, and public opinion are all greatly influenced by both newspapers. The Express Tribune, a more contemporary newspaper, is thought to target a younger, more liberal readership, whereas Dawn, Pakistan's oldest and most widely read newspaper, is renowned for its more conventional and probably conservative journalistic style. The study can capture how crime news is molded for certain population segments by choosing information from both sources.
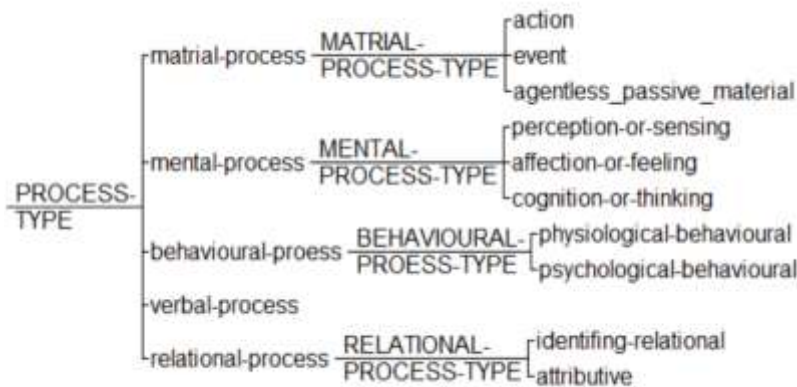
The study guarantees a sample size large enough to identify patterns in the representation of crime by choosing 100 reports from each newspaper. Two hundred reports together offer a sizable corpus to meticulously analyze different language aspects and contextual features, guaranteeing that the results are statistically significant and not derived from a small or biased sample.The study covers a wide range of crime types, from street crimes to more organized forms of crime, and the sample is guaranteed to contain multiple time, geographic areas, and criminal situations owing to the selection of reports from two newspapers. This diversity keeps the analysis from being overly restricted or narrow, which improves the research's validity and reliability.
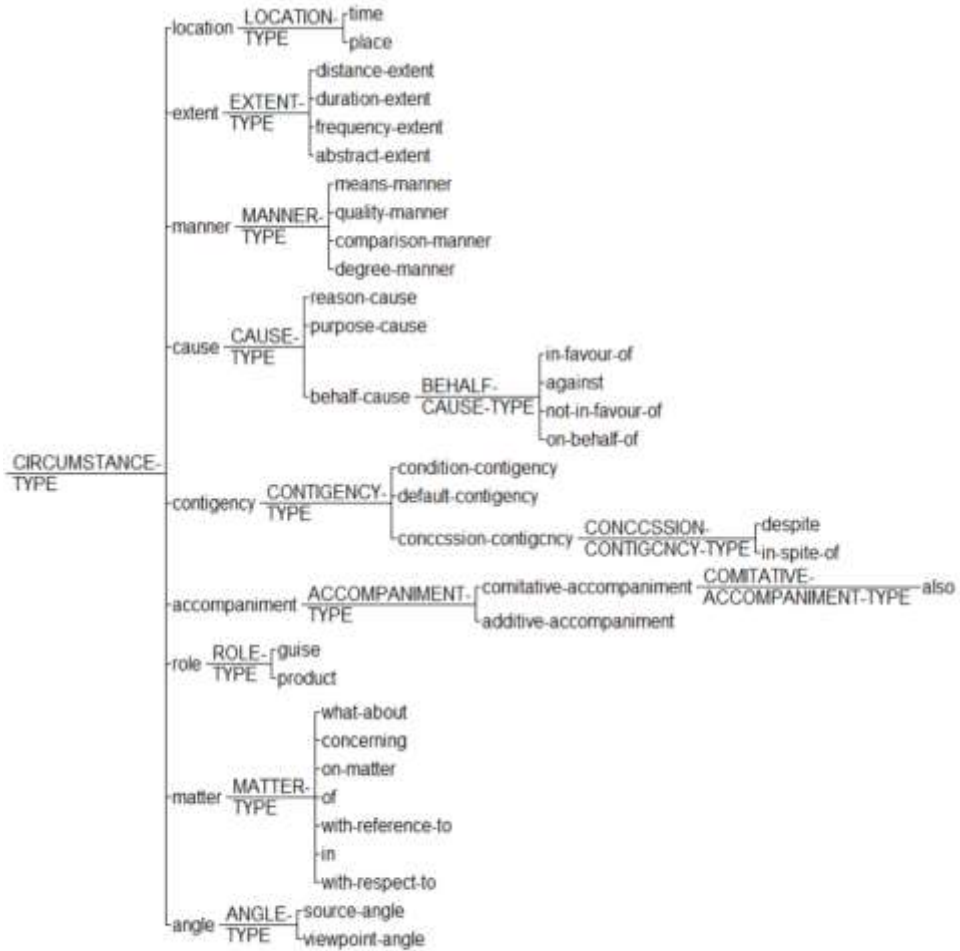
By examining articles from two different sources, one can lessen the possibility of bias that could result from concentrating on just one news source. It enables a more thorough comprehension of the ways that outside variables, such as media ownership or political inclinations, may impact language and circumstantial components in crime reporting.

Data Analysis

UAM corpus tool is utilized for coding the text and calculating the frequencies and percentages of features. These files are incorporated into the UAM software. Data from Dawn Newspaper and The Express Tribune is analyzed separately to find out the difference in representation and circumstantials utilized in both Newspapers. Hence both of them are analyzed and interpreted separately.

A well-developed scheme is provided for the software. Data is coded using the manual coding option. Not only the main clause but the subordinate and embedded clauses are also coded. At the word level, the words and phrases are coded into processes, participants, and circumstantials. At the level of clause complexity, logico-semantic relations are analyzed and interpreted. Each clause is analyzed separately to figure out the role of circumstantials at the clausal level to derive meanings at an experiential level. The organization of the clause realizes experiential meaning (Eggins, 1994). To find the circumstantial choices in the chosen Crime News Event Reports, they are read and carefully examined. Secondly, the coded features are categorized. The categorized features are interpreted in relation to their patterns and impact on the presentation of crime events. In the next step, the frequencies of various features are compared and contrasted across both newspapers to identify and interpret patterns of circumstantial elements.

CIRCUMSTANCE-TYPE

- location — LOCATION-TYPE — time / place
- extent — EXTENT-TYPE — distance-extent / duration-extent / frequency-extent / abstract-extent
- manner — MANNER-TYPE — means-manner / quality-manner / comparison-manner / degree-manner
- cause — CAUSE-TYPE — reason-cause / purpose-cause / behalf-cause — BEHALF-CAUSE-TYPE — in-favour-of / against / not-in-favour-of / on-behalf-of
- contigency — CONTIGENCY-TYPE — condition-contigency / default-contigency / conccssion-contigcncy — CONCCSSION-CONTIGCNCY-TYPE — despite / in-spite-of
- accompaniment — ACCOMPANIMENT-TYPE — comitative-accompaniment — COMITATIVE-ACCOMPANIMENT-TYPE — also / additive-accompaniment
- role — ROLE-TYPE — guise / product
- matter — MATTER-TYPE — what-about / concerning / on-matter / of / with-reference-to / in / with-respect-to
- angle — ANGLE-TYPE — source-angle / viewpoint-angle

It is a mixed-method approach that utilized both quantitative and qualitative research methods. A more data-driven method was used in quantitative research, which offers a measure of features of data analysis in the form of frequency and percentage measurements. So, the frequencies and percentages of processes, participants, and circumstances employed in each news text are calculated through UAM software. These quantities are explained with the help of tables. The interpretation of the quantitative results, which is qualitative, concentrates on location, cause, matter, means, contingency, accompaniment, condition, and viewpoints communicated in the text through the use of circumstantial elements among the flow of events presented in these crime news reports.

Findings

Both newspapers employed a wide range of processes, circumstances, and expansions, including material, verbal, mental, behavioral, relational, existential, location, extent, manner, cause, matter, accompaniment, angle, enhancement, elaboration, extension, variation, etc. The reports applied numerous types of word-relations of crime events to convey the proper meanings of crime. The results revealed that both newspapers tended to use the same categories of relations in text comparatively. This section goes for further elaborations and explanations in both the ways quantitative and qualitative. It compares the results of both papers as well as

descriptively explains the numbers of processes, circumstances, and logic-semantic expansions.

Comparison of Processes

A comparison between Dawn and The Express Tribune's reportage of crimes is exhibited in this section. It revealed that The Dawn uses 239 material category instances, which is 39 more than The Express Tribune. This suggests that action verbs and physical contexts are used more frequently in Dawn. Furthermore, Dawn used 425-word categories in its crime reporting as opposed to 374 in The Express Tribune, indicating a more thorough explanation approach.

Table 1 Frequencies: The Dawn and Express Tribune

Sr. No.	Process	The Dawn	Express Tribune	Difference
1	Material	239	200	39
2	Verbal	425	374	51
3	Mental	04	01	03
4	Behavioral	00	04	04
5	Relational	29	66	37
6	Existential	10	15	05

Table 1 compares the whole processes of The Dawn and Express Tribune collectively. The table says that The Dawn News used 239 numbers of material categories with a difference of 39 to Express Tribune. These quantitative values elaborate that The Dawn news crime reports tend more in the use of verbs of actions and physical contexts in text. Moreover, same as before the table also explains the verbal categories of The Dawn as 425 and Express Tribune with 374 numbers quantitatively. It also undergoes the idea of expansion in The Dawn News reports as compared to Express Tribune. The researcher makes a statement from the results that crime reportsspecified in The Dawn News are more explanatory than in Express Tribune. The mental process unveils the difference of 03 in frequencies of TheDawn and Express Tribune. The number of process usages is more in The Dawn than in Express Tribune as of before. Tabled categories examined the next three processes in series with different results in comparison. The Behavioral, Relational, and Existential processes are more common in Express Tribune rather than the The Dawn News. Although the differences are comparatively lower than material, verbal, and mental usages in The Dawn. Here the study explains the comparisons of both the papers that the crime reports in every single newspaper vary.

It all depends on the strategies of the crime event publications, some of the newspapers utilize more processes like material, verbal, and mental to elaborate the crime reports with the help of verb of actions and verbal techniques as of The Dawn. The researcher evaluates that The Dawn news crime reports are more expressive and lengthy than the Express Tribune based on consistency. To support the researchers' viewpoint here the study comes with the same crime report published in The Dawn and Express Tribune to give the idea of categories usage differences as well as headline length variation. The Dawn News published a crime report on December 21st, 2021;

KARACHI: A young man was arrested for allegedly vandalising a Hindu temple in the Eidgah area here on Monday, police said.

Whereas the same crime report was headed in Express Tribune in the following way;

With the help of given headlines published in two newspapers study evaluates that the crime event representations are different from each other based on process usages, categorizations, and themes. One of the newspapers titledDawn goes for the verb of actions and deeper explanations to make the text more comprehensive whereas the Express Tribune chooses simple and precise statements in crime event representations. These type of evaluations goes in favor of the researcher's hypothesis that every newspaper plays a vital role in crime reports, the worlds of choices are not the same everywhere moreover every crime report carries a lot of pieces of information as well as formats in it likewise The Dawn and Express Tribune. The study evaluates that logico-sematic relations and uses of processes/ circumstances play a major role in making the discourse of a newspaper a crime text.

Comparison of Circumstances

According to Michael Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics, language is a social semiotic system that uses various linguistic structures to reflect reality and experience. Three essential elements of crime report analysis can be addressed in this context:

  i. **Processes** (verbs and verb phrases that show actions, events, or states).
  ii. **Participants**are denoted by nouns and noun phrases.
  iii. **Settings or Circumstantials** (adverbs or prepositional phrases that provide details, including where something is, when it's happening, how it happened, why it happened, and so on).

The decision to highlight contextual details or processes can have an impact on how an incident is reported in crime reporting. And adopts whether to draw attention to the actions performed or the surrounding circumstances.

The utilization of circumstantial categories in crime reporting by Dawn and The Express Tribune is contrasted in this section. According to a comparison of Dawn News and The Express Tribune, these two publications make varied use of these linguistic resources, which is consistent with Halliday's idea of how language is used to create meaning.

Compared to The Express Tribune, The Dawn uses 220 more location conditions (730 total), indicating that The Express Tribune depends more on circumstantial evidence. Comparably, The Express Tribune contains 334 extent categories as opposed to 267 in The Dawn, suggesting that contextual elements are given more weight.

Table 2 Frequencies: The Dawn and Express Tribune

Sr. No.	Circumstance	Dawn	Express Tribune	Difference
1	Location	730	950	220
2	Extent	267	334	67
3	Manner	50	85	35
4	Cause	90	119	29

5	Matter	96	85	11
6	Contingency	00	00	00
7	Accompaniment	146	178	32
8	Role	00	00	00
9	Angle	51	57	06

Table 2 goes for the comparison between The Dawn and Express Tribune collaboratively. The categorizations explore that The Dawn News used 730 circumstances of location with a difference of 220 to Express Tribune. These quantitative elaborate that the Express Tribune crime reports tend more to use circumstantial shreds of evidence than the Dawn News usages. Moreover, same as before the table also explicates that the extent categories of Express Tribune are 334 and The Dawn News carries 267 numbers quantitatively.

It is revealed that The Express Tribune uses circumstances—particularly those related to location, extent, and manner—more frequently as compared to Dawn Newspaper. An Express Tribune report, for instance, may present a crime in the following manner:

"On April 13, a school teacher was killed in a bomb blast in the same Mamond tehsil of Bajaur district."

"extremist activities during an intelligence-based operation (IBO) conducted in the general area of Mir Ali, North Waziristan district"

It also undergoes the idea of expansion of circumstance in the Express Tribune reports as compared to The Dawn News. The researcher states from the results that crime event reports are more common of circumstances in Express Tribune than in The Dawn News. The circumstance of manner unveils the difference of 35 in frequencies of The Dawn and Express Tribune. The number of categories is greater in Express Tribune than in The Dawn News likewise. Tabled categories examined the next three circumstances in series with the same results in comparison irrespective of matter. The Cause, Accompaniment, and Angle circumstances are more common in Express Tribune rather than Dawn News respectively.

These incidental details center on the where, when, and how of the crime; they offer a situational and spatial context that enhances the reader's comprehension of the surrounding circumstances. In SFL, circumstances provide important details that support the primary actions while also—and this seems to be The Express Tribune's preferred tactic-shifting the emphasis from "what happened" to "where" and "how" things transpired. This supports the theory put forth by Halliday, according to which the reader is better able to understand the context of an event rather than just its main actions when they take into account the circumstantial details, which include location, time, and manner. As a result, The Express Tribune reports more accurately and descriptively, giving a more situational account of criminal activities.

Although the differences are comparatively lower than location, extent, and manner of usage in Express Tribune, however, here the study explicates the comparisons of both the papers that the crime reports in every single newspaper vary. It all depends on the utilization of different strategies for the representation of crime event reports. Some of the newspapers plan to use circumstances like the aforementioned ones to elaborate the crime reports with the help of circumstantial shreds of evidence and situational techniques as of Express Tribune.

However, some of the papers are composed of literacy rather than descriptive manners. In the results and discussion sections, the study has evaluated the headlines of both the papers that go with the same thing. Researchers evaluated that The Dawn News crime publications were more expressive and lengthy than Express Tribune based on process representations whereas Express Tribune reports were composed of circumstance (location, extent, and manner) more commonly as compared to The Dawn News. So the study comes with the frequency differences of the same crime reports published in The Dawn and Express Tribune to give the idea of categories usage variations and their impacts on the representation of Pakistani crime event reports.

The comparative evaluations say that the crime event representations are far from each other in both newspapers based on processes, and circumstances. One of the newspapers titled The Dawn goes for the verb of actions and deeper explanations to make the text more comprehensive whereas the Express Tribune chooses the circumstances and precise statements in crime event representations. These type of evaluations goes in favor of the researcher's hypothesis that every newspaper plays an important role in crime reports, the word choices are not the same everywhere rather and every crime report carries different styles as well as formats in its representations to give the idea or information. The present study collocates the logico-sematic relations, use of the process, and circumstance to play a basic role in making the discourse of crime news.

Comparison of Logico-semantic Relations

A quantitative analysis of logico-semantic links between Dawn and The Express Tribune's crime reporting is exhibited in this section. It shows that Dawn uses 243 instances of expansion enhancements, 35 more than The Express Tribune, suggesting that The Express Tribune makes greater use of these relationships.

Table 3 Frequencies: The Dawn and Express Tribune

Sr. No.	Expansion	The Dawn	Express Tribune	Difference
1	Enhancement	243	278	35
2	Elaboration	00	00	00
3	Extension +ve	569	450	119
4	Extension –ve	00	01	01
5	Adversative	33	64	31
6	Variation	19	00	19

Table 3 describes the comparative results of The Dawn and Express Tribune quantitatively. The distinctions conclude that The Dawn News carries 243 enhancements of expansion in logico-semantic relations with a difference of 35 to Express Tribune. These quantitatively speak that the Express Tribune crime reports tend more to use logico-semantic relations than the Dawn News usages. Furthermore, the table shows that positive extensions of logico-semantic relations in Express Tribune are 450 and DawnNews carries 569 numbers quantitatively. It undergoes the frequent use of positive extensions in Dawn News reports as compared to Express Tribune. The study evaluates that crime event reports are more common

enhancements in Express Tribune whereas positive extensions inDawn News with a difference of 119. The negative extension of logico-semantic relations uncovers the difference of single frequency in The Dawn and Express Tribune. The aforementioned category carries the details of logico-semantic relations in a negative extension of Pakistani crime reports. The next category of logico-semantic relations examined that adversative extensions are more frequent in Express Tribune rather than in The Dawn News. Furthermore, The Dawn News used variation 19 times in logico-semantics whereas the frequencies of variation in Express Tribune were 00.

The comparison analysis highlights that The Express Tribune employs circumstantial aspects in its expansion function, thereby furnishing supplementary details about criminal events by elaborating on the "where," "when," and "how." This tactic demonstrates a preference for expansion in both time and space, two important dimensions that place crimes in larger contextual contexts.For example

According to the Express Tribune, "The robbery took place in a secluded alley near the main market, where security cameras are scarce." Here, the location's specifics and the addition of background information elaborate on the main robbery action, providing the reader with a more comprehensive understanding of the crime's circumstances.

However, Dawn News frequently uses projection techniques, particularly given its action-oriented approach. This indicates that speaking activities (such as remarks made by police or witnesses) or mental processes associated with the crime are likely to be reflected in the reporting: Dawn News reports that "The police stated that the suspect fled the scene after committing the robbery." By improving the narrative's depth through reported speech or thought, the employment of processes connected to verbal projections gives the reader more insight into the official actions and interpretations of the crime.

The study comes with the viewpoint that it varies from situation to situation and paper to paper. Some of the logico-semantic categories are more common inDawn News and the remaining are in Express Tribune. Although sometimes the differences are comparatively similar in both the newspapers, however, the study discovers the comparisons of both the papers that the crime reports in every single newspaper vary.Dawn News is envisioned more in use of positive extensions and variations whereas the Express Tribune uses enhancements and adversatives frequently. In detailed discussion, the study has evaluated the headlines of both the papers that go with the same thing. Researchers evaluated that Dawn News crime publications were more expressive and lengthy than Express Tribune based on process representations whereas Express Tribune reports were composed of circumstance (location, extent, and manner) more commonly as compared toDawn News.

The researcher unveils the logico-semantic usages in both papers from the same crime reports published in The Dawn and Express Tribune to explore the idea of category usage variations and their impacts on Pakistani crime event reports discourses. The comparative evaluations say that the crime event representations are far from each other in both newspapers based on processes and circumstances excluding logico-semantic relation categories. One of the newspapers titled The Dawn goes for the verb of actions and deeper explanations to make the text more comprehensive whereas the Express Tribune chooses the circumstances and precise statements in crime event representations. The present study speaks of the logico-sematic relations, use of processes, and circumstances to play a role in making the discourse of Pakistani crime reports published in The Dawn News and Express Tribune at different times.

Examples along with a Comparative Analysis

Example 1: Breaking News "The attacker <u>shot</u> the victim multiple times before <u>attempting to flee</u> the scene." This sentence presents a more vivid account of what happened during the crime and highlights the material process—the firing action. The focus lies in the activities that the parties involved have taken.

Example 2 from the Express Tribune: "The incident occurred <u>on the outskirts of Lahore</u>, with the suspect fleeing <u>northward for 5 kilometers before being apprehended</u>." Rather than describing the action itself, the focus is on the location and extent of the event, elaborating on its temporal and spatial context.

Summary of Findings

The SFL analysis of the crime news texts from The Dawn and Express Tribune is concluded, providing a profound understanding of Pakistani crime event reports. The study demonstrated that the SFL model of ideational metafunction is not restricted to the processes or circumstances only but can also be applied to the context. Material and verbal were the most common processes employed by both newspapers. Excluding contingency and role, all the circumstances are commonly used by both. All the logico-semantic expansions were used by both the newspapers besides elaboration, -ve extension, and variation (Express Tribune only). The study successfully addressed both research questions.

The first research question in the study focused on the difference in the use of circumstantials and logico-semantic relations to shape specific meanings in crime events of The Dawn and Express Tribune. The study disclosed thatDawn and Express Tribune used a range of different processes, circumstances, and expansions of logico-semantic relations that played a vital role in the meaning-making process. When analyzing the frequencies, it becomes evident that both papers employed written and invoked instances in various reports. For instance, in Dawn's reports, every single detail is added. It inscribes the event with the help of the participant's details, time, and date of act as well as goes for descriptive elaborations. In the previous section researcher has added a lot of examples of crime report length differences in both the papers which collocates the present idea that The Dawn News focuses mainly on the context of a crime and answers what the causes of a crime and the crime was committed in what kind of situations along with the detailed context. However, the Express Tribune focuses only on the news delivery rather than addressing each and everything. So the study reveals that Express Tribune does not focus mainly on every participant's detail, the context of crime minor descriptions as well as circumstantial shreds of evidence such as time and date of crime event. It explains headlines but in bullets rather than paragraphs compared to The Dawn.

Variety in both the newspapers addresses the third research question. It explains the specific processes, circumstances, and logico-semantic expansions as contributing factors in The Dawn and Express Tribune dissimilarities. The study statistically describes the contribution of both the newspapers; The Dawn carries the frequencies of material: 239, verbal: 425, mental: 04, behavioral: 00, relational: 29, and existential: 10 likewise. Whereas Express Tribune comes with the frequencies like 200, 374, 01, 04, 66, and 15. The Dawn reports carried the circumstances of location, extent, manner, cause, matter, contingency, accompaniment, role, and angle with the frequencies 730, 267, 50, 90, 96, 00, 146, 00, and 51 likewise on the other hand Express Tribune comes with aforementioned circumstances frequency numbers as 950, 334, 85, 119, 85, 00, 178, 00, and 57.

Furthermore, on the grounds of logico-semantic relations, the results showed the differences of both newspapers' digested expansions along with the frequency numbers as The Dawn comes with an enhancement: 243, elaboration: 00, extension +ve 569, extension –ve: 00, adversative: 33, and variation: 19. On the other side Express Tribune goes for the results like

enhancement: 278, elaboration: 00, extension +ve 450, extension –ve: 01, adversative: 64, and variation: 00. In the subsequent section, the results explore the significance of logico-semantic relations and emphasizes the value of circumstantial evidence, conveying a text of crime, which represents a positive contextual value. This suggests that evaluating the event's situation and style towards the audience/ reader, which appears to be more satisfactory, holds significance. The researcher establishes a connection between the concepts of text and context (of crime), favoring the process to a certain extent.

The application of logico-semantic relations of SFL has provided clarification regarding the abundance of Pakistani crime event reports as a highly valued genre in the English language. It has been shown that this form of study aligns closely with our societal requirements and encompasses a wide range of thought-provoking and discussable themes. Even in the present era, contemporary newspapers maintain a strong connection with their genre norms and perspectives on crime reports. Despite the prevalence of technology, these newspapers continue to redefine the concepts of Pakistani crime reports news genre, and the pursuit of a worth-it existence.

The findings of the study are consistence with the findings of the studies conducted by (Fallaki, 2022; Ahmad, 2022; Alphonce et al., 2023). They found out the significance of criminal word choices in constructing meaning and conveying ideas about an event. Furthermore, all the studies examined news headlines as a variable that can be positive or negative. The findings demonstrated that the majority of transitivity resources used in the analysis were related to CDA rather than the logico-semantic relations of SFL. Negative evaluations were more prevalent than positive ones. These findings suggested that a higher level of expansion in narrative texts serves the purpose of effectively communicating with readers. By using more circumstances, authors can vividly portray the instincts and thoughts experienced by the participants and events in reports, engaging readers and allowing them to empathize with the author's perspective. This is essential for readers to comprehend the authors' beliefs and opinions expressed in the crime events. Furthermore, the newspapers employ basic English words and repetition to enhance the reader's understanding of the texts, incorporating a criminal attitude in their writing.

CONCLUSION

Using SFL to analyze crime stories, it can be observed that Dawn News emphasizes processes, especially material processes that include action, to tell criminal occurrences in a way that makes them more dynamic and action-packed.The Express Tribune, on the other hand, emphasizes the situational framework around criminal incidents by utilizing circumstantial factors that emphasize context and clarity, such as location, extent, and method. The two newspapers support the idea that word choice, style, and structure can have a big influence on how crime news is conveyed by producing diverse representations of the same criminal incidents through their various uses of linguistic resources.

This analysis demonstrates how each newspaper uses logico-semantic relations, processes, and situational features to achieve its communication aims, highlighting the crucial role these variables play in forming the discourse of crime reporting.

Contributions and Implications

This study highlights the significance of circumstantial features and logico-semantic ties in discourse analysis, with major implications for both media studies and linguistics. The study offers a deeper comprehension of how language creates meaning in crime news broadcasts by utilizing Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), which promotes more truthful and objective

media representations.The results emphasize the importance of using precise terminology when reporting on crimes, which may encourage more responsible journalism and influence public opinion. The study also advises further research on the role of contextual elements in different media genres and provides useful insights for teaching discourse analysis, improving media and linguistics curriculum. Lastly, it urges more research into the use of SFL in many genres and circumstances, including translated and cross-cultural publications.

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