

A Study of English Condolence Expressions on the Death of Queen Elizabeth II: A Socio-Pragmatic Analysis

Eman Majeed Kadhim¹, Ibtihal M. Al-Tememi²

Abstract

Speech acts such as apologies, invitations, compliments, refusals and complaints have been studied widely whereas the speech act of condolences has been neglected or more specifically very little literature has been written on the subject. The current study investigates the speech act of condolence on the death of Queen Elizabeth II as well as it aims at showing the cross-cultural factors such as social class, gender, and religion that make the participants selecting different strategies whether through speech acts categories or the semantic formulas. The adopted models used in this research are Searl's classification of speech acts (1979) and Elwood's semantic formula (2004). Furthermore, The researcher arrives at the significant concluding points such as the analysis reveals that assertive has the highest frequency and percentages of illocutionary acts performed by officials. Moreover, the semantic formulas and especially the expression of sympathy have the highest frequencies and percentages among other strategies. And, finally the analysis also shows that women's condoling messages are more sympathetic, emotional, softhearted, and associative than men in expressing their feelings and emotions.

Keywords: *Cross-cultural study, gender, Speech Act, socio- pragmatic approach, strategies of condolence.*

Introduction

Pragmatics is mainly concerned with the use of language in appropriate social situations instead of limiting itself to the linguistically determined features of settings. Austin (1962) states that we are not just mouthing words rather we are performing certain actions instead. Crystal (2008) confirms that pragmatics "has come to be applied to the study of language from the point of view of the users, especially of the choices they make, the constraints they encounter in using language in social interaction, and the effects their use of language has on the other participants in an act of communication." Pragmatics involves five focuses of the study; they are deixis, entailments, presuppositions, implicatures, and speech acts. The present study adopts a socio-pragmatic analysis. It is based on Searle's classification of speech acts (1979) and Elwood's semantic formula (2004).

¹ Department of English, College of Languages, University of Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq,
eman.majeed2201@colang.uobaghdad.edu.iq

² Department of English, College of Languages, University of Baghdad, Baghdad, Iraq,
ibtihalaltameemi@colang.uobaghdad.edu.iq

Previous studies

The investigation of the routine formulas has typically focused on speech acts such as compliments, invitations, refusals, apologies, and complaints whereas little work has been carried out on condolences. The major studies on condolences will be examined in the following lines:

Kate Elwood in her book "I am so sorry" (2004) investigated cross-cultural analysis of expressions of condolences. The participants of her study were divided into three groups as: 25 American students writing in English, 25 Japanese students writing in English, and 25 Japanese students writing in Japanese. Data were collected using a written discourse completion test. Her result revealed five common patterns of responses: acknowledgment of death, expression of sympathy, offer of assistance, future-oriented remark, and expression of concern. In addition, Abdul Qadir (2005) studies condolences from a socio-pragmatic perspective in a contrastive study between Arabic and English. His conclusion is that English people do not pay much attention to face-to-face interactions and English condolences take the form of institutional and organizational shape whereas Arabs take the form of familial and social links.

Moreover, Ebaa Yahya (2010) studies condolences in Iraqi Arabic with reference to English as a socio-pragmatic study. The data she used were an ethnographic approach and collected from family and friends of the researcher. She finds that Iraqi condolences are affected by culture, age, gender, and the major factor is "religion". Furthermore, another study made by the researchers Bahareh Lotfollah & Abbass Eslami-Rasekh (2011) between English and Persian in expressing condolence and its responses in both languages. They found variations in age, gender, and social distance among participants. Therefore, they conclude that there is a big difference between the two cultures (Eastern and Western) in the way of offering condolences. Other researchers who are written on condolences are: Bernan, M. (2008), Laila Samavarchi (2012), Mostafa Morady Moghaddam (2012), Yasser Al-Shboul (2013), Shaimaa' Emad (2013), Tareq Mitaib Murad (2013), Kuang Ching Hei (2018), Diah Nurlianingsih & Ernie D. Ayu Imperiani (2019), Muhammed Safwat (2019), Kamal Hasan (2021).

The problem

Different speech acts such as refusals, invitations, apologies, compliments and complaints have been studied widely. However, the speech act of condolences has been neglected and very little research has been done on condolences. Moreover, the components of each culture such as religion, norms of socialization, social conventions, traditions, social class, gender, and age etc. play a tremendous role in the configuration of statements of condolence. According to Elwood (2004, p 5), bereavement is a time when people may be particularly vulnerable and weak and failure to express condolences in the right way may damage personal relationships especially if the expression of sympathy is perceived as insensitive, careless or inadequate.

Research questions

1. Which of the existing semantic formulas for expressing condolences used frequently?
2. Do the formal statements and expressions of condolences affected by factors such as religion, age, and social status, etc. in expressing sympathy?
3. Are there any significant differences among condolence responses with accordance to speech act theory?

Literature review

Socio-pragmatic approach

The concept of Socio-pragmatic refers to the social use of language . In social interaction, people use language differently in different situations. Therefore , Pragmatics as stated by Yule(1996,p.3) is the study of speaker's meaning and sociolinguistics is the study of the relationships between language and society to understand the structure of language and how language functions in communication. What this means is that the language used by people is influenced to some extent by some social aspects such as social class, gender , certain social situations, age , etc.

Social Class

social class has been associated with figures like Karl Marx and Max Weber. Thompson (1978,p.132-142), suggests that social class might be perceived as a representational formation about societal and cultural factors within a community. Social class has been ascribed to the sense of hierarchically positioning persons depending on certain socioeconomic attributes such as income, wealth, and education.

Gender

Differences between the speech of men and women have been substantially well-researched, providing rich results under the scope of linguistic politeness. As a social category, gender differs from sex which holds much promise to the distinctions between male and female in the purely biological sense. According to Talbot (2010, pp.77-100), gender is socially constructed. Men and women use different language styles. Hence, Wardaugh (2006,p.316-324) states that women are reported to perform more polite forms and more compliments than men to develop solidarity with others and to maintain social relationships. Likewise, Tannen (1994,p. 35) states that women's characteristics in speaking are sympathetic , listening , supportive, and intimate whereas men are described as figures who are stronger , more powerful than women and tend to be more competitive than women. Therefore , women tend to use prestige or standard forms while men tend to adhere to non-standard forms or low varieties .

Religion

Religion is faith and a kind of confidence and trust between man and the unique power of God.

Religion regulates all aspects of human life which determine the relationship of man to God and the relationship of man to man. Dawson (1952,p.303) ascertains that the real sense of culture is established within the framework of religion . Besides, Geertz (2009,p.55) observes that religion contains moral aspects that inform people's spirits and how they characterize their quality of life and view themselves in world . Indeed, the cultural identities of many individuals and groups are influenced by their religious values and beliefs, and these play a significant role in intercultural communication and cultural conflict.

The speech act of condolences Condolence is an expressive speech act performed by a speaker on a sad occasion to show sympathy with the hearer. Expressives help to heal one's psychological state by revealing inner feelings. On the one hand , Elwood (2004:4) believes that death may be announced without prior indication, leaving the speaker with no time to prepare. She posits further that bereavement is a time when people may be particularly vulnerable and weak; hence, failure to express condolences appropriately can damage personal relationships if the expression of sympathy is perceived as insensitive or inadequate. On the other hand , Clark and LaBeff (1982:367) , believe that death is almost always unscheduled in that, sometimes, we least expect the occurrence of death in our lives. Furthermore, they suppose that in delivering or talking about bad news, there is a tension between showing support and involvement by speaking about it at length , and

showing respect for privacy by closing the topic quickly. Most people believe that it is difficult to find the right words to comfort the bereaved. Uttering a meaningful sentiment, such as a condolence, is something personal depending on the relationships between the individual and the bereaved. Yule (1996, p.5) claims that being able to say the right thing to the right person at the right time would be a great social accomplishment. In short, death is something that all humans experience, but talking about death is a difficult matter due to its sensitive nature.

According to Yule (1996, p.5), speech acts are speech functions that are realized by way of words. Speech acts include a wide range of functional units such as apologies, compliments, requests, condolences, invitations, and so on. Levinson (2000: 236) also states that Austin isolates three basic senses in which in saying one thing is doing something". These are the locutionary act which refers to the act of saying something, the illocutionary act which refers to the act of performing a real, physical, psychological, or mental activity by the speaker, perlocutionary act which refers to the activity performed by the hearer.

On the one hand, Austin classifies condolence under the category of 'behabitives'. Behabitives speech acts are concerned with "personal feelings, attitudes, and social behaviors" (Austin, 1962. P. 51). On the other hand, Bach and Harnish (1979. P. 51) put condolence under the category of 'Acknowledgment' which helps to express the feelings and emotions of the speaker. Acknowledgments are considered social acts that have courtesy on the speaker's behalf. Searle (1969, p: 22-25), in contrast, believes that condolences occur under the category of expressive in the sense they express the speaker's psychological attitudes towards a state of affairs that the illocution presupposes. Moreover, condolences can be expressed explicitly or implicitly. Condolences can be explicitly spelled out by verbs such as "condole", "grieve" and "commiserate" in addition to the adverb "hereby" as in "I hereby grieve with you". Unlike explicit condolences, implicit condolences do not contain the mentioned verbs but we can feel it as condoling message from its context as in "He / She will always live in our hearts".

Methodology

The current study uses a mixed-method approach, i.e. qualitative and quantitative methodology. Thus a double method is used and according to Williams (2007, p.65-72), quantitative research involves gathering information quantified and submitted to statistical analyses to prove or disprove alternative knowledge assertions. Moreover, Hancock (1998, p.20) states that the qualitative approach aims to answer questions such as how? why? In what way? and so on. It is called the qualitative method because the data in question appears in words instead of numbers. As a result, the present study aims to analyze and explain the selected data to achieve the best answers to the qualitative research questions.

Description of Data Collection

The data collected for this research is composed of written comments and messages made after the death of Queen Elizabeth II and the participants were presidents, vice presidents, Prime ministers, kings, and ministers of foreign affairs or their delegates.

The Procedures: The procedures adopted in this study are as follows:

1. Presenting a survey of the main speech acts categories.
2. Adopting an eclectic model based on the model of Searle (1979) and the taxonomy of Elwood (2004).
3. Carrying out socio-pragmatic analysis to clarify and look into the collected data.

4. Drawing conclusions and discussing the results of the analysis and stating some recommendations.

Adopted Model

This study follows an eclectic model which includes Searle's classification of speech acts (1979) and Elwood's semantic formulas (2004).

Searle (1979) classified speech acts into five categories:

1. Assertives commit the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition such as stating, suggesting, boasting, complaining, claiming, and reporting.
2. Directives are intended to produce some effect through action by the hearer (ordering, commanding, requesting advising, and recommending are examples).
3. Commissive commit the speaker (to a greater or lesser degree) to some future actions such as promising, vowing offering.
4. Expressives have the function of expressing or making known the speaker's psychological attitude towards a state of affairs that the illocution presupposes. Examples of expressive are thanking, congratulating, pardoning, blaming, praising, condoling, etc.
5. Declaratives are illocutions whose successful performance brings about the correspondence between the propositional content and reality, such as resigning, dismissing, christening, naming, sentencing and appointing are instances of declarations.

Elwood's categories are as follows :

1. 'Acknowledgement of the death' contains interjections such as "oh", "Oo", "oh no", "oh sir", "oh my God". Wierzbicka(1986) notes that interjections like "AH, my God ...") contain the following information :

I feel something bad because of that .

I realize something bad is happening . etc.

2. 'Offer of assistance' refers to any attempts to make the speaker's burden lighter . And such offers can be specific such as "Do you want to borrow my class notes ,...etc. or it can be general such as "if there is anything I can do please let me know", "if you need any help, I am with you",etc.

3. 'Expression of sympathy' can be considered as the "core " of the speech act, and the most common expressions of sympathy are "I'm really sorry", "what a pity", "it is really a great loss", "that is really sad", in addition to these expressions , there are adjectives that are used with this category and these adjectives are "terrible " ,"hard" ,"awful, and horrible " .

4. 'Expression of concern' relates to showing care for the well- being of the speaker and /or his or her family and includes questions like " How are you doing? ", "Are you OK ?" or " all right " or open-ended questions ,or responses like "I am on my way", "I am coming to you", "I hope you are OK"... etc. They usually appeared in the interrogative forms .

5. 'Future-oriented remarks' usually took the form of words of "encouragement" or "practical advice", like "try not to get depressed " ,"you should be strong enough", "God be your aid", "God will be with you".

6. Other responses

There are other responses that did not fit into any of the five semantic formulas . These are :

- a) Expression of surprise
- b) Expression of empathy
- c) Positive statement
- d) Sharing similar experience
- e) Statement of not knowing
- f) Statement of lacking words
- g) Related questions
- h) Related comments
- i) Quoted lines
- j) Seeking absolution from God .

Sample (1) JOE BIDEN Statement on the Death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

Text 1

Locution: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was more than a monarch , She defined an era.

Illocutionary act assertive (representative):

the sender states that her majesty was not only monarch but also she defined an era in the sense that he asserts her glory and prosperity reign.

Text (2)

Locution : “In a world of constant change , she was a steadying presence and a source of comfort and pride for generations of Britons, including many who have never known their country without her” .

Illocutionary act (Expressive) here the sender praises the queen in the sense that her existence was stabilized and was an origin of ease and achievement for many ages of Briton and for many who never know their country without her achievements .

Locution: An enduring admiration for Queen Elizabeth II united people across the Commonwealth. The seven decades of her history-making reign bore witness to an age of unprecedented human advancement and the forward march of human dignity .

Illocutionary act (Expressives): the sender expresses his intentions or makes known that the Queen Elizabeth was a powerful person and she has the energy which makes her reign full of achievements as well as she was an icon of human nobility .

Text 3

Locution : She was the first British monarch to whom people all around the world could feel a personal and immediate connection –whether they heard her on the radio as a young princess speaking to the children of the United Kingdom , or gathered around their televisions for her coronation , or watched her final Christmas speech or her Platinum Jubilee on their phones .And she , in turn, dedicated her whole life to their service .

Illocutionary act (Assertive) : Biden here confirms his idea about the queen as a powerful queen and lovely and a close person to the people around her and all over her country .In addition, he also admits her nearness to her people in the sense that she is devoted her life to her people to serve them .

Text 4

Locution: Supported by her beloved Prince Philip for 73 years, Queen Elizabeth II led always with grace , an unwavering commitment to duty , and the incomparable power of her example.

Illocutionary act (assertive) : The sender here asserts the solidity of the Queen in the sense that her power stems from her husband's(Prince Philip's) encouragement for 73 years, in the sense that she always guided the country with elegant and loyal leadership.

Locution : She endured the dangers and deprivations of a world war alongside the British people and rallied them during the devastation of a global pandemic to look to better days ahead .

Illocutionary act (expressive) : Biden here praises the Queen that she was a patient person because she faces hard times in her life like the world war in the sense that she supported her country as well as her people to be more stable and steadiness for better days ahead.

Locution: Through her dedication to her patronages and charities , she supported causes that uplifted people and expanded opportunity . By showing friendship and respect to newly independent nations around the world , she elevated the cause of liberty and fostered enduring bonds that helped strengthen the commonwealth , which she loved so deeply , into a community to promote peace and shared values .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Biden acknowledged and insisted the Queen's role in supporting and in doing good with people who need someone to encourage them to get their freedom and she promoted peace and commonalities among newly independent nations .

Text 5

Locution : Queen Elizabeth II was a stateswoman of unmatched dignity and constancy who deepened the bedrock Alliance between the United Kingdom and the United States .She helped make our relationship special.

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Biden here confirms the strength of the Queen in her relationship with the United States in the sense that this relationship is characterized as being steady and mutual respect . And she , in turn , deepened this relationship to make the exceptional relationship between the two countries.

Text 6

Locution : We first met the Queen in 1982 , travelling to the UK as part of a Senate delegation . And we were honored that she extended her hospitality in June 2021 during our first overseas trip as President and First Lady , where she charmed us with her wit , moved us with her kindness , and generously shared with us her wisdom.

Illocutionary act (expressive): Biden here talks about his first meeting with the Queen in 1982 in which he was part of a Senate delegation and he also talks about her prosperities such as generosity , smartness , kindness, and gentle treatment .

Locution: All told , she met 14 American presidents . She helped Americans commemorate both the anniversary of the founding of Jamestown and the bicentennial of our independence .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : The sender here asserts that the Queen met 14 presidents of the USA and she also participated in both the anniversary celebration of the founding of Jamestown (in 1957, Virginia hosted an eight-month-long celebration known as "Jamestown festival" to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the founding of the colony at Jamestown . The event drew national and international attention to the state and

this event included notable personalities such as the vice-president of the USA “Richard Nixon” and Queen Elizabeth II) and the Queen also attended the anniversary festival of the independence of the USA . What Biden tries to say is that he is appreciated and grateful for the Queen’s deeds and she is considered as an antecedent in attending such occasions .

Locution : And she stood in solidarity with the United States during our darkest days after 9/11 , when she poignantly reminded us that “Grief is the price we pay for love”.

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Biden admits the truth that the Queen supported the government of the USA and its people during their hard times i.e the events of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Towers in the sense that she stood by them during tough times and she reminded them that what happened is the price of love and people should pay for this Love

Text 7

Locution : In the years ahead , we look forward to continuing a close friendship with the King and The Queen consort .Today , the thoughts and prayers of people all across the United States are with people of the United Kingdom and the commonwealth in their grief .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Biden here acknowledged the mutual relationship with the United Kingdom and insisted that this relationship will stay as it is in the sense that it is an intimate one . And he also said that the United States, its government and its people all supported the United Kingdom in their grief of losing the Queen .

Locution : We send our deepest condolences to the Royal Family , who are not only mourning their Queen , but their dear mother , grandmother , and great –grandmother . Her legacy will loom large in the pages of British history , and in the story of our world.

Illocutionary act (expressive): Biden sent his condolences to the Royal Family and the Commonwealth and he expressed his sadness in his words , and he also praised the Queen’s role and her power and her bequest not only in the history of British but also in the history of the world .

Sample no. (2) Norway’s PM Erna Solberg

Text 1

Locution : It is with deep sadness that we all receive the news that the Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain has passed away .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Solberg here confirms her profound grief that she was informed of the passing of Her Majesty in the sense that such news can be considered as astonishing news .

Text 2

Locution: Queen Elizabeth has contributed to pride in happy times and unity in troubled times . Both within and far outside the UK borders. I’d say she’s kinda been the queen of the worlds and safe grandma .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Solberg emphasizes the Queen’s role and such a role can be touched through dignity , satisfaction , and self-esteem . She handles both happy and difficult times . Solberg here also praises the Queen’s personality in the sense that she is powerful and self- confident and able to work comfortably with problems in and outside the UK . Moreover , she also expresses her admiration for her majesty’s merits in the sense that she was the world’s monarch and not only restricted to the UK ,but the Queen of the world as well as she was a source of peace , calmness and sobriety to all people around her Majesty .

Text 3

Locution : Prince Charles is now king Charles . There are huge shoes to be filled and big tasks to be filled . My thoughts are with him , the rest of his family, and all the British people .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Solberg admits that Prince Charles becomes the King now and she also adds that there are big and considerable responsibilities and duties on his shoulders that he has to do .Furthermore, she confirms that her heart and also her sympathy are all with King Charles and also with the Royal family as well as with the British people.

Text 4

Locution : Thank you for your tireless efforts and your utterly priceless contribution to the world , Queen Elizabeth . God save the Queen .

Illocutionary act (expressive) : Solberg here appreciates the Queen's achievements and attainments that the Queen did in a vigorous , effective , and an eager manner as well as her endowments and participation to the world in irreplaceable and immeasurable ways. Finally , Solberg asks God to mercy the Queen and let her soul rest in peace .

Sample no. (3) India's PM Narendra Modi

Text 1

Locution : I had memorable meetings with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during my UK visits in 2015 and 2018 . I will never forget her warmth and kindness .

Illocutionary act (assertive and commissive) : In the first sentence , Modi confirms his appointments with Her Majesty in 2015 and also in 2018. In the second sentence , he intends to say that he will not neglect her personality which was characterized by friendliness ,tenderness ,and affectionateness .All these merits were constructed for her personality can be perceived to make her an extraordinary monarch .

Text 2

Locution : During one of the meetings she showed me the handkerchief Mahatma Gandhi gifted her on her wedding . I will always cherish that gesture.

Illocutionary act (declarative and commissive) : Modi in the first sentence makes known that in one of his appointments with Her Majesty, she revealed that she had a kerchief as a donation from the great leader Gandhi on the occasion of her marriage . In the second sentence , Modi promises himself and the Royal Family that he will adore and appreciate her majesty forever.

Sample no. (4) New Zealand's PM Jacinda Arden

Text 1

Locution : It was with great sadness that New Zealand woke to the news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II .

Illocutionary act (expressive) : Jacinda here conveys her sincere feelings about the news of the death of Her Majesty and she also adds that they become aware of the passing of the Queen in the sense that hearing such bad reports are sorrowful and depressed matter.

Text 2

Locution : I know I speak for all New Zealanders in conveying our deepest sympathy to members of the Royal Family and condolences to King Charles III on behalf of the Government and New Zealanders at this time of enormous loss .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Jacinda also confirms her profound commiserations on behalf of herself and all the New Zealanders , and she asserts her heartfelt consolations to

the Royal Family and more specifically to King Charles III and his Government in such a huge deprivation .

Text 3

Locution : The last days of the Queen's life capture who she was in so many ways . Working till the very end , on behalf of the people she loved .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Jacinda insists on the Queen's role as well as her achievements in the sense that she was a person who always vowed to serve her country as well as her loving people .Moreover , she also confirms that the Queen's work was tirelessly and vigorously and this is an indication of her big heart and her high sense of responsibility towards her country and her nation .

Text 4

Locution : And that is why I am sure that we will have received the news of her passing with both emotions of deep sadness , but also deep gratitude for a life that was utterly and completely devoted to the service of others .

Illocutionary act (commissive) : Jacinda intends to say that the announcement of the death of her majesty be presented not only with profound regret and depression but also with heartfelt appreciation and acknowledgement in the sense that she served her country and others . This means that the Queen allocated her position and her monarchy to work for the people she loved .

Text 5

Locution : The Queen has been such a constant in our lives for 70 years , the longest -serving Monarch in British history . Over her reign she has come to define notions of service , charity ,and consistency. Her commitment to her role and all of us has been without question and has been unwavering .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Jacinda affirms that the Queen's reputation , her good deeds , and also her long age lived with us as a persistent figure for more than 70 years in the sense that her rule was a long period in British history . And during her leadership , her majesty established concepts of assistance , kindness, generosity , and steadiness as well as her sense of responsibility and loyalty was fixed and unswerving .

Text 6

Locution : She has also demonstrated courage and compassion and humor . A strong memory I will have of her is her laughter .She was extraordinary .

Illocutionary act (assertive) : Jacinda confirms deep merits that represent her majesty such as bravery , warmth, soft-heartedness as well as a sense of comedy . Jacinda asserts that the queen's personality is an exceptional and remarkable one .

Text 7

Locution : To honor the passing of the Queen of New Zealand and realm countries , we move into a period of official mourning . Flags will be flown at half- mast . Preparations begin for a state memorial service to be held after the official funeral is held in the United Kingdom . While we await details of these arrangements , we anticipate it will be held in the UK in about 10 days' time .

Illocutionary act (commissive) : Jacinda here declares that the news of her passing is a depressing report and must be treated gloriously in New Zealand and in all the sovereign countries . She also promises that there will arrangements to be taken into account such as official mourning , flags will be hanging at half-mast (lowering to half-staff) and an official funeral to be taken in the Uk .

Text 8

Locution : I know many will want to share their thoughts at this time . There will be condolences books placed in the foyer of the Beehive , the National Library , and Wellington Cathedral . I expect across New Zealand local arrangements will be made .

Illocutionary act (commissive) : Jacinda here accepts that there are many people want to participate with their sincere emotions and sympathy on such a sad occasion . She also intends to say that there will be official books of condolences which are located at the entrance of the Beehive (the National library and Wellington Cathedral). Moreover , she offers that there will be many arrangements to be done locally .

Text 9

Locution : This is a time of deep sadness . Young or old, there is no doubt that a chapter is closing today . And with that , we share our thanks for an incredible woman , who we were lucky to call our Queen .

Illocutionary act (expressive) : Jacinda conveys her sincere and profound feelings of mournfulness on the passing of her majesty , as well as she expresses that the Queen's presence was great in the sense that a segment of history is closing today . Moreover , she appreciates the Queen's personality in saying that her majesty was a wonderful and magnificent woman , and she also adds that the New Zealanders and she were fortunate to have a monarch like her majesty .

The analysis of the selected data based on Elwood's model

Sample no. (1) Joe Biden statement

Text 1

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II was more than a monarch , she defined an era .

Positive statement : here President Biden praises her majesty in the sense that she was not only a monarch but also defined an era in the sense that he asserts her glory and her prosperity reign .

Text 2

In a world of constant change , she was a steadying presence and a source of comfort and pride for generations of Britons , including many who had never known their country without her .

Expression of concern : Biden glorifies the Queen and adores her existence in the sense that she was stabilized and was an origin of ease and achievements for many ages of Briton and for many who never know their countries without her achievements .

Text 3

An enduring admiration for Queen Elizabeth II united people across the Commonwealth. The seven decades of her history-making reign bore witness to an age of unprecedented human advancement and the forward march of human dignity .

Positive statement : here Biden makes known that Queen Elizabeth was a powerful person and she has the energy which makes her reign full of achievements as well as she was an icon of human nobility .

Text 4

She was the first British monarch to whom people all around the world could feel a personal and immediate connection –whether they heard her on the radio as a young princess speaking to the children of the United Kingdom , or gathered around their televisions for her coronation , or watched her final Christmas speech or her Platinum Jubilee on their phones . And she , in turn , dedicated her whole life to their service .

Future – oriented remarks : Biden here gives his practical advice about the glory of her majesty and she was a lovely and close person to the people around her and all over her country .In addition, he also admits her nearness to her people in the sense that she is devoted her life to her people to serve them .

Text 5

Supported by her beloved Prince Philip for 73 years, Queen Elizabeth II led always with grace , an unwavering commitment to duty , and the incomparable power of her example.

Positive statement : Biden here asserts the solidity of the Queen in the sense that her power stems from her husband's (Prince Philip) encouragement for 73 years, as well as he praises her majesty in the sense that she was always guided the country with elegant and loyalty leadership .

Text 6

She endured the dangers and deprivations of a world war alongside the British people and rallied them during the devastation of a global pandemic to look to better days ahead .

Positive statement : Again Biden glorifies the Queen's role in the sense that she was a patient person because she faces hard times in her life like the world war . Moreover , she supported her country as well as her people to be more stable and steady in the face of hard times for better days ahead.

Text 7

Through her dedication to her patronages and charities , she supported causes that uplifted people and expanded opportunity . By showing friendship and respect to newly independent nations around the world , she elevated the cause of liberty and fostered enduring bonds that helped strengthen the commonwealth , which she loved so deeply , into a community to promote peace and shared values .

Future –oriented remarks : The sender gives his practical advice as well as he insisted on the Queen's role in supporting and in doing well with people who need encouragement to get their freedom . In addition , she promoted peace and commonalities among newly independent nations.

Text 8

Queen Elizabeth II was a stateswoman of unmatched dignity and constancy who deepened the bedrock Alliance between the United Kingdom and the United States . She helped make our relationship special.

Positive statement : Biden here confirms the strength of the Queen in her relationship with the United States and how this relationship is characterized as being steady and within mutual respect . And she, in turn , deepened this relationship to make an exceptional relationship between the two countries.

Text 9

We first met the Queen in 1982 , travelling to the UK as part of a Senate delegation .And we were honored that she extended her hospitality in June 2021 during our first overseas trip as President and First Lady , where she charmed us with her wit , moved us with her kindness , and generously shared with us her wisdom.

Expression of concern : Biden here talks about his first meeting with the Queen in 1982 in which he was part of a Senate delegation and he also talks about her prosperities such as generosity , smartness , kindness , and gentle treatment .

Text 10

All told , she met 14 American presidents .She helped Americans commemorate both the anniversary of the founding of Jamestown and the bicentennial of our independence .

Positive statement : Biden here asserts that the Queen met 14 presidents of the USA and she also participated in both the anniversary celebration of the founding of Jamestown and the Queen also attended the anniversary festival of the independence of USA . What Biden tries to say is that he is appreciated and grateful for the Queen's deeds as she is considered as an antecedent in attending such occasions .

Text 11

And she stood in solidarity with the United States during our darkest days after 9 /11 , when she poignantly reminded us that “Grief is the price we pay for love”.

Offer of Assistance : Biden admits the truth that the Queen supported the government of the USA and its people during their hard times i.e the events of the terrorist attack on the World Trade Towers in the sense that she stood by them during tough times and she reminded them that what happened is the price of love and people should pay for this love .

Text 12

In the years ahead , we look forward to continuing a close friendship with the King and The Queen consort . Today , the thoughts and prayers of people all across the United States are with the people of the United Kingdom and the commonwealth in their grief .

Expression of Concern : Biden here acknowledged the mutual relationship with the United Kingdom and he insisted that this relationship will stay as it is in the sense that it is an intimate one . And he also said that the United States , its government , and its people all supported the United Kingdom in their grief of losing the Queen .

Text 13

We send our deepest condolences to the Royal Family , who are not only mourning their Queen , but their dear mother , grandmother , and great -grandmother . Her legacy will loom large in the pages of British history , and in the story of our world.

Expression of Sympathy : Finally , Biden expresses his profound condolences to the Royal Family and the Commonwealth and he expressed his sadness in his words , he also praised the Queen's role and her power as well as her bequest not only in the history of British but also in the history of the world .

Sample no. (2) Norway's PM Erna Solberg

Text 1

It is with deep sadness that we all receive the news that the Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain has passed away.

Expression of Sympathy : Solberg expresses her profound grief on the passing of Her Majesty in the sense that such news can be considered astonishing news .

Text 2

Queen Elizabeth has contributed to pride in happy times and unity in troubled times . Both within and far outside the UK borders. I'd say she's kinda been the queen of the worlds and safe grandma .

Positive statement : Solberg emphasizes the Queen's role and such a role can be touched through her dignity , satisfaction , and self-esteem . Moreover, Solberg praises the Queen's personality in the sense that she is powerful ,self-confident as well as she was able to work comfortably with problems not only in the UK but also all over

the world. Therefore, Solberg shows her admiration for the Queen's merits in the sense that she was a source of peace, calmness, and sobriety to all people around her majesty.

Text 3

Prince Charles is now King Charles. There are huge shoes to be filled and big tasks to be filled. My thoughts are with him, the rest of his family, and all the British people.

Future-Oriented remarks: Solberg gives her practical advice that Prince Charles becomes now the King and she also adds that there are big and considerable responsibilities and duties on his shoulders that he has to deal with. In addition, Solberg confirms that her heart and her sympathy are all with King Charles, the Royal family, and with the British people.

Text 4

Thank you for your tireless efforts and your utterly priceless contribution to the world, Queen Elizabeth. God save the Queen.

Positive statement and seeking absolution from God: finally, Solberg here praises the Queen's achievements and attainments that her majesty did in a vigorous, effective, and eager manner not only to the UK but also to the whole world. Moreover, Solberg ends her condoling message by seeking absolution from God to mercy the Queen's soul.

Sample no. (3) India's PM Narendra Modi

Text 1

I had memorable meetings with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during my UK visits in 2015 and 2018. I will never forget her warmth and kindness.

Positive statement: Modi confirms his appointments with Her Majesty in 2015 and also in 2018, he remembers the good qualities of the queen in the sense that her personality was characterized by friendliness, tenderness, and affectionateness. What Modi tries to say is that her majesty was an extraordinary monarch.

Text 2

During one of the meetings she showed me the handkerchief Mahatma Gandhi gifted her at her wedding. I will always cherish that gesture.

Positive statement: Modi makes known that in one of his appointments with Her Majesty, she revealed that she had a kerchief as a donation from the Indian great leader Gandhi on the occasion of her marriage. In addition, Modi promises himself and the Royal Family that he will adore and appreciate her majesty forever.

Sample no. (4) New Zealand's PM Jacinda Arden

Text 1

It was with great sadness that New Zealand woke to the news of the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

Expression of Sympathy: Jacinda conveys her sincere feelings about the news of the death of Her Majesty in the sense that hearing such bad reports are sorrowful and depressed matter.

Text 2

I know I speak for all New Zealanders in conveying our deepest sympathy to members of the Royal Family and condolences to King Charles III on behalf of the Government and New Zealanders at this time of enormous loss.

Expression of Sympathy : Jacinda confirms her profound commiserations on behalf of herself and all the New Zealanders , and she also asserts her heartfelt consolations to the Royal Family and more specifically to King Charles III and his Government in such a huge deprivation .

Text 3

The last days of the Queen's life capture who she was in so many ways . Working till the very end , on behalf of the people she loved.

Positive statement : Jacinda praises the Queen's role and her achievements in the sense that she was a person who always vowed to serve her country as well as her loving people. Moreover , Jacinda words can be considered as an indication of the queen's high sense of responsibility towards her country and her nation .

Text 4

And that is why I am sure that we will have received the news of her passing with both emotions of deep sadness , but also deep gratitude for a life that was utterly and completely devoted to the service of others .

Expression of sympathy & positive statement : In the first sentence , Jacinda intends to say that the announcement of the death of her majesty is presented with profound regret and depression , and in the second sentence Jacinda appreciates the Queen's role in allocating her position and her monarchy to work for the people she loved .

Text 5

The Queen has been such a constant in our lives for 70 years , the longest- serving Monarch in British history .Over her reign , she has come to define notions of service , charity , and consistency. Her commitment to her role and all of us has been without question and has been unwavering .

Positive statement : Jacinda confirms the Queen's reputation , her good deeds as well as her long age lived with us as a persistent figure for more than 70 years . What this means is that her rule was a long period in British history , and during her leadership , her majesty established concepts of assistance , kindness, generosity , and steadiness as well as her majesty was an openhanded person .

Text 6

She has also demonstrated courage and compassion and humor . A strong memory I will have of her is her laughter . She was extraordinary.

Positive statement and future -oriented remarks : In the first part , Jacinda acknowledges that her majesty has deep merits such as bravery , warmth , soft-heartedness as well as a sense of comedy. And in the second part , Jacinda describes the queen's personality in the sense that her majesty has an exceptional and remarkable character .

Text 7

To honor the passing of the Queen of New Zealand and realm countries , we move into a period of official mourning .

Expression of sympathy : Jacinda here declares that the news of her passing is a piece depressed news and must be treated gloriously in New Zealand and in all the sovereign countries.

Text 8

Flags will be flown at half - mast . Preparations begin for a state memorial service to be held after the official funeral is held in the United Kingdom . While we await details of these arrangements , we anticipate it will be held in the UK in about 10 days .

Future –oriented remarks : She also adds that there will arrangements to be taken into account such as official mourning , flags will be hanging at half-mast and an official funeral to be taken in the United Kingdom about 10 days’ time .

Text 9

I know many will want to share their thoughts at this time . There will be condolences books placed in the foyer of the Beehive , the National Library , and Wellington Cathedral . I expect across New Zealand local arrangements will be made .

Future - oriented remarks : Jacinda here expresses her idea i.e . there are many people want to convey their sincere emotions and sympathy on such a sad occasion . In addition , she also adds that there will be official books of condolences which are located at the entrance of the Beehive (the National Library and Wellington Cathedral). Furthermore , she offers that there will be many arrangements to be done in New Zealand .

Text 10

This is a time of deep sadness . Young or old, there is no doubt that a chapter is closing today.

Expression of sympathy : Jacinda expresses her sincere and heartfelt feelings of mournfulness about the passing of her majesty when she said that a chapter is closing now this means that her majesty was a great and exceptional monarch.

Text 11

And with that , we share our thanks for an incredible woman, who we were lucky to call our Queen.

Positive statement : Jacinda acknowledges the Queen’s personality in the sense that her majesty was a wonderful and magnificent woman . Moreover, she adds that the New Zealanders and she were fortunate to have a monarch like her majesty.

Results

Table No.1 below illustrates the distribution of the types of illocutionary acts in the selected texts with their frequency and percentages .

Type of Speech acts	Frequencies	Percentages
Assertive	16	53.%
Expressive	8	26.%
Commissive	5	16.%
Declarative	1	3.%
Directive	-	-
Total	30	98%

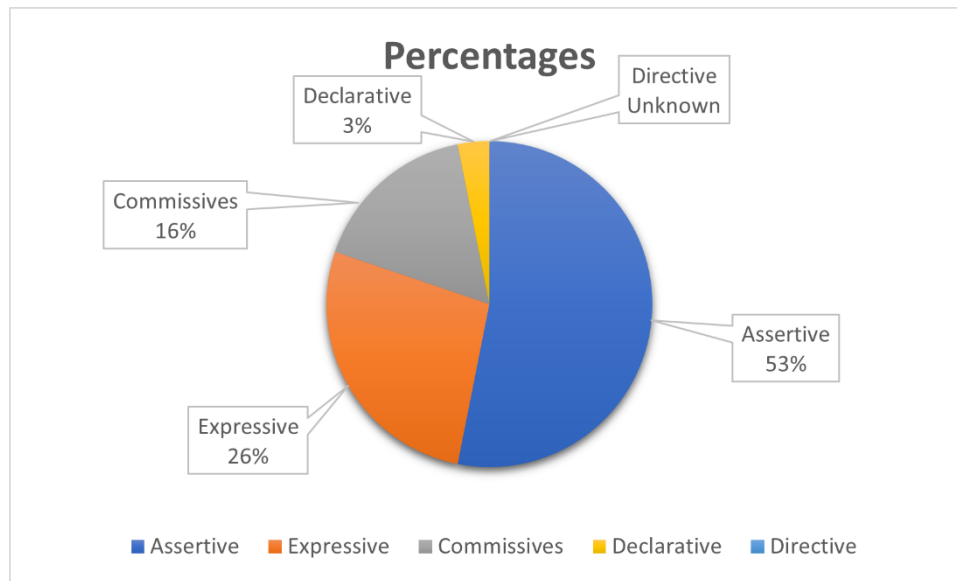


Figure 1

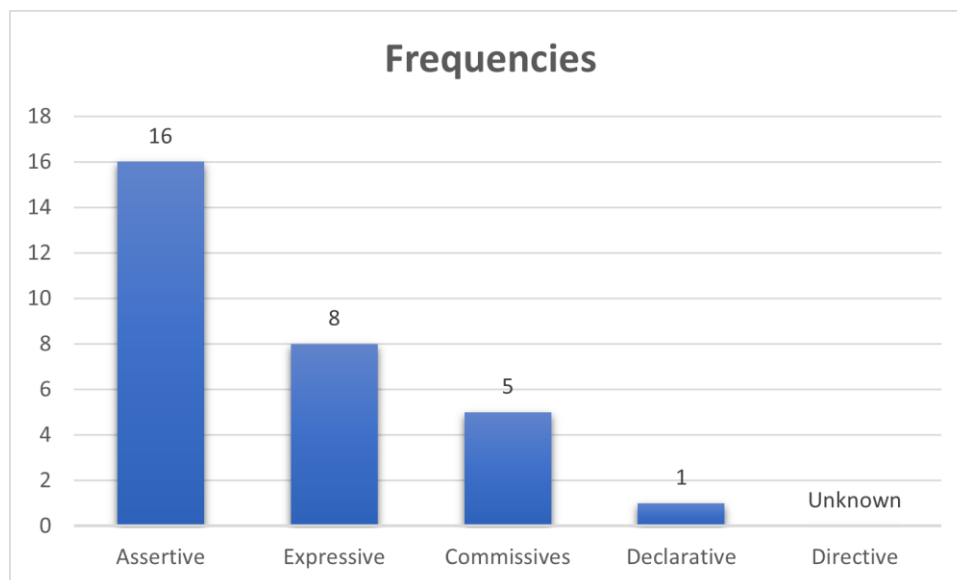


Figure 2

Figure 1&2 illustrate the frequencies and percentages of speech acts in the selected data

Concerning the qualitative and quantitative analysis of condoling expressions, the analysis of the selected data reveals that assertives are the main illocutionary acts performed in the condoling expressions and they appeared sixteen times in a total percentage of (53%), in the sense that assertive represents sender's supportive state of mind and assertive also commits the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition. Besides, expressive that comes next in the occurrence which occurred eight times in a total percentage of (26%) , in the sense that expressives are psychological and have to do with sender's emotion, attitude towards the addressee's accomplishment or success, his or her moral and to some degree their cultural values. Moreover, The analysis also reveals that commissives occur five times in a total percentage (16 %) and commissives usually commit the speaker to some future actions. Furthermore, declarations are used only once time in a total percentage (3%) and they are shown to be performed successfully and bring about the correspondence between propositional content and reality. Nevertheless, directives are never used of the selected data.

Table No. 2 shows the Overall Frequencies and Percentages of the semantic formulas and the other strategies in the selected Texts.

Semantic formulas	Frequencies	Percentages
Expression of Sympathy	7	41%
Future – oriented remarks	6	35%
Expression of concern	3	17%
Offer of assistance	1	5%
Total	17	98%

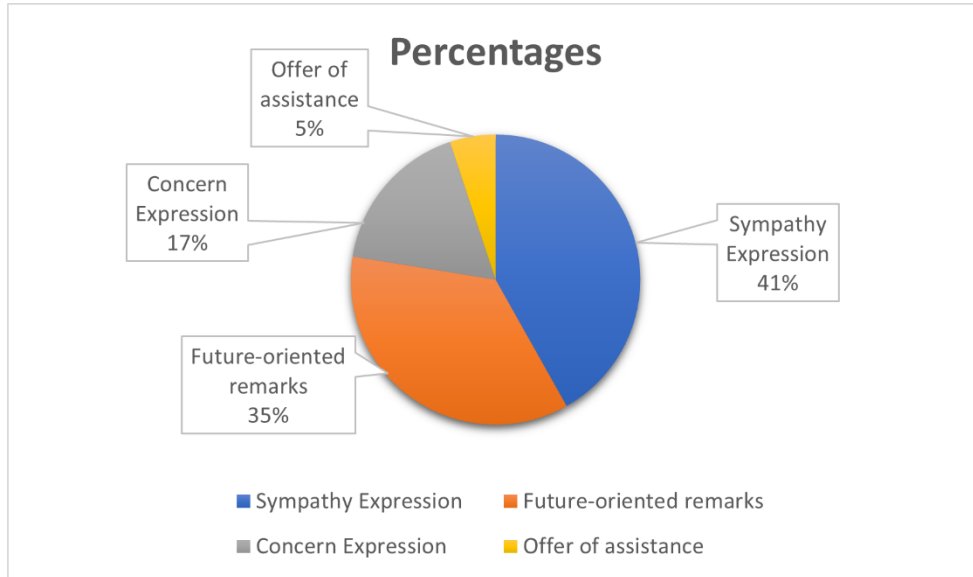


Figure 3

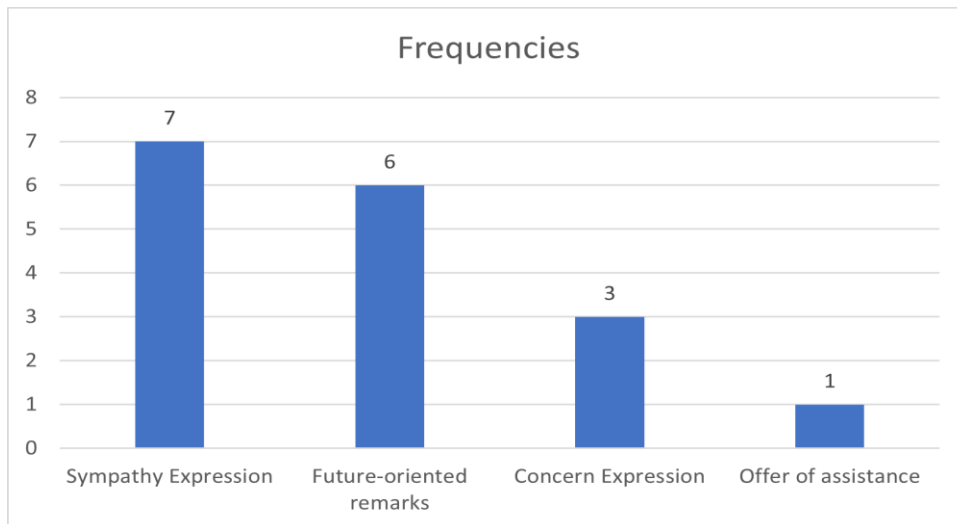


Figure 4

Figure 3&4 illustrate the frequencies and percentages of the semantic formulas

The analysis of the data reveals that expressions of sympathy are the most common that are used in the whole text in the sense that they represent the core of the speech act. In addition, future-oriented remarks come next to the expressions of sympathy in total occurrences (6) and they took the form of encouragement or practical advice. Moreover, expression of concern occurs three times and it relates to showing care the well-being of the speaker and /or his or her family. Finally, the offer of assistance occurs only once.

Table No. 3 shows the frequencies and percentages of the other strategies that are used in the analysis. These formulas are as follows:

Name of the formula	Frequencies	Percentages
Positive statement	15	93%
Seeking absolution from God	1	6%
Total	16	99%

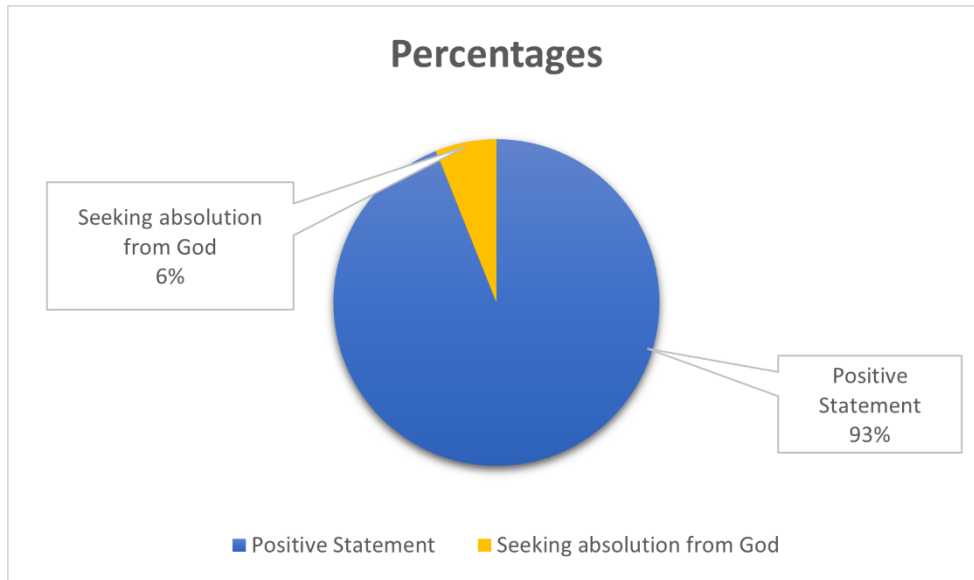


Figure 5

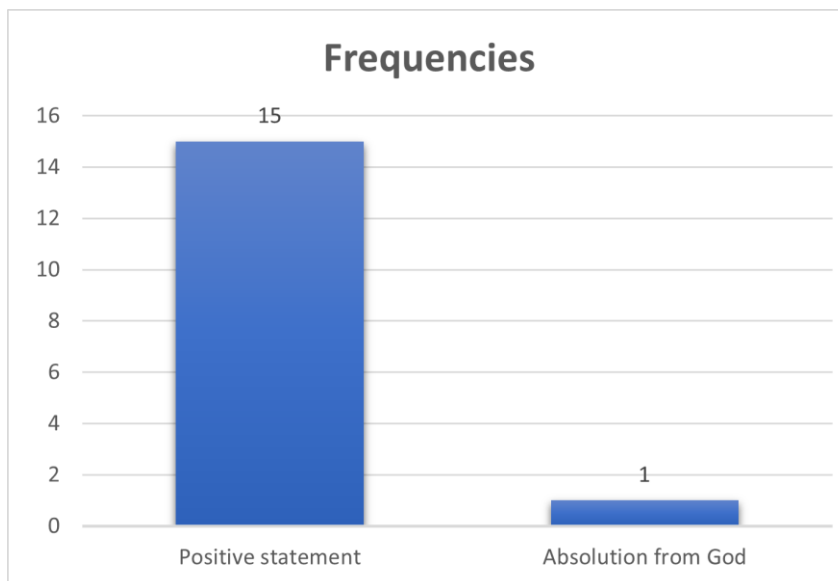


Figure 6

Figure 5&6 illustrate the frequencies and percentages

Discussion

The analysis of the selected data reveals that assertive is the main illocutionary acts performed in the condoling expressions in the sense that assertive represents sender's supportive state of mind and also commits the speaker to the truth of the expressed proposition. Moreover, expressive comes next to assertive in the sense that expressive has to do with sender's emotion and the psychological attitude towards the addressee. In addition, the analysis also reports that commissives occur after

expressives and they usually commit the speaker to some future actions . Furthermore, declaratives are used only once and they are brought about the correspondence between propositional content and reality . Nevertheless , directives are never used in the analysis .The analysis also shows that expression of sympathy is the most frequently semantic formula that used in all of the texts in the sense that they represent the core of the speech act. Moreover , future-oriented remarks come next to the expression of sympathy and they took the form of encouragement or practical advice. In addition , expression of concern occurs next to future- oriented remarks and it relates to showing care the well-being of the speaker and /or his or her family. Nevertheless , the offer of assistance occurs only once and it refers to any attempts to make the speaker's burden lighter . Moreover, there are other categories that did not belong to the semantic formulas such as positive statement and seeking absolution from God . Positive statement refers to the good qualities of the late and it is used frequently . Furthermore, seeking absolution from God is totally a religious expression and unique to religious cultures and it can be considered as asking God for forgiveness for the late .

Conclusion

The researcher arrives at the following significant concluding points :

1. The quantitative-qualitative analysis reveals that assertive has the highest frequency and percentages of illocutionary acts performed by officials .
2. The analysis also reveals that the semantic formulas and especially the expression of sympathy have the highest frequencies and percentages among other strategies .
3. Moreover , the analysis also shows that other formulas and especially positive statement has the highest frequencies and percentages amongst the other strategies .
4. Finally, the analysis also displays that women's condoling messages are more sympathetic , emotional , softhearted , and associative than men in expressing their feelings and emotions.

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