UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST

A DISCURSIVE PROFILING OF NEWS VALUES IN GHANAIAN RADIO

NEWS BROADCAST

BY

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DECLARATION

Candidate's Declaration

I hereby declare that this thesis is the result of my original work and that no part of it has been presented for another degree in this University or elsewhere.

Candidate's Signature: ………………………….. Date: ……………………………

Candidate's Name:

Supervisors' Declaration

We hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of the thesis were supervised in accordance with the guidelines on supervision of thesis laid down by the University of Cape Coast.

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ABSTRACT

Over the past decades, studies on the language of broadcast media have favored patterns of the lexicogrammar over patterns of prosody. The present study examines the patterns of intonation deployed to structure information during news broadcasts by English-medium Ghanaian radio stations and the communicative meaning those patterns are expected to evoke to the listeners. The data for the study comprised two stories: one each from Joy FM's *News Night* and Citi FM's *Eyewitness News*, on the same event of a suspected case of COVID-19 and were dated March 6, 2020. The study relied on Systemic Phonology and Discursive News Value Analysis (DNVA) as a theoretical lens. Employing a qualitative content analysis, the study revealed that the data were predominantly constructed using complex units, particularly clause complexes and group complexes, a pattern of configuration typical of written texts rather than spoken texts. Another key finding of the study was that the texts were predominantly marked for tonality and tonicity. The information units, on average, were relatively shorter than the clauses, and their integration into the patterns of the grammar realized new forms of meanings and grammatical association. In addition, the tones used to construe interpersonal and logical meanings predominantly derived their associated functional meaning from the lexical items they fell on and/or from their association with other tones from other information units. The major implication of the study is that it supports the claim that a prosodic analysis offers an additional line of interpretation of media texts, which is otherwise lost when focus is given to just the patterns of the lexicogrammar.

KEYWORDS

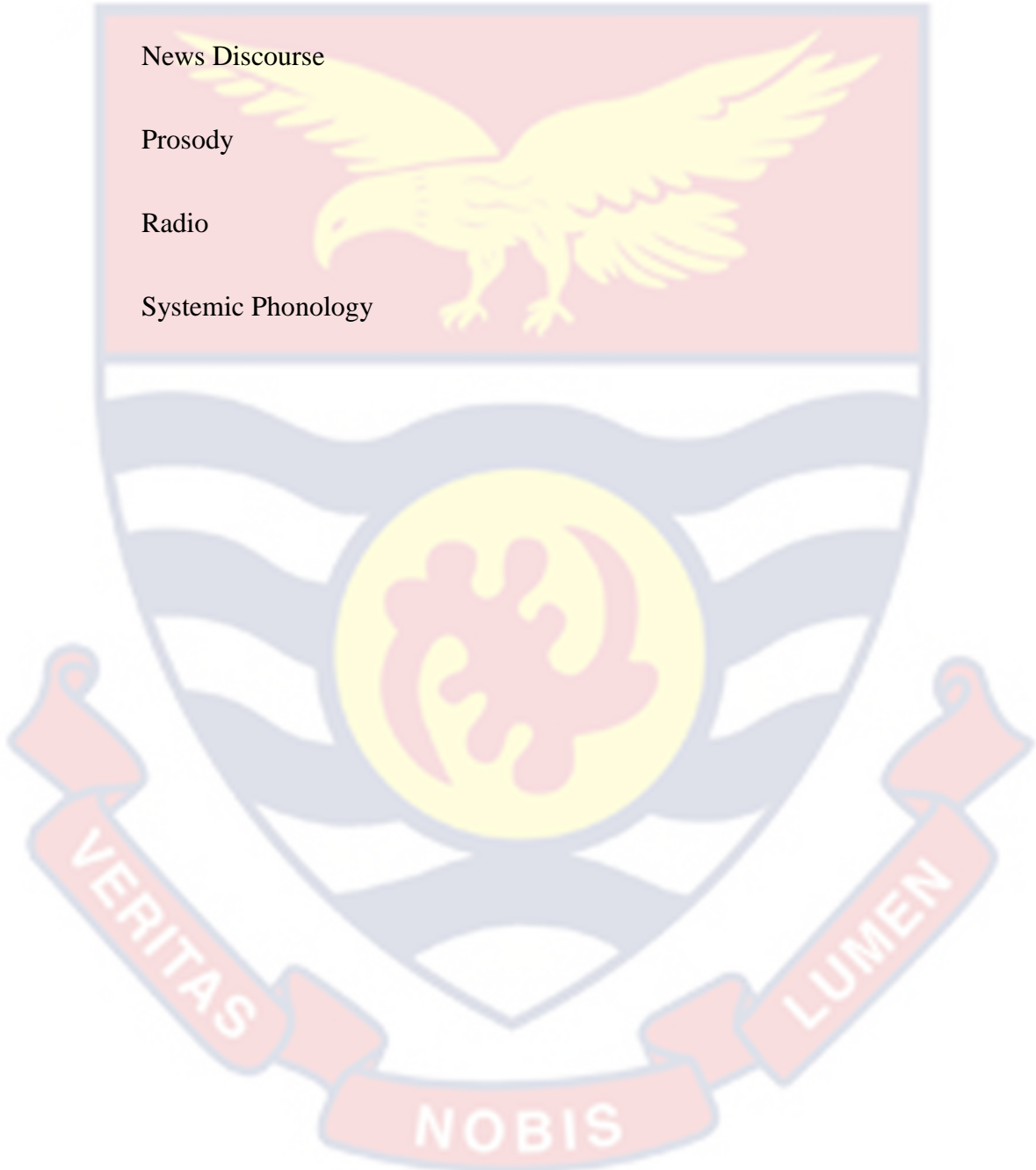Discursive News Value Analysis (DNVA)

Information Structure

News Discourse

Prosody

Radio

Systemic Phonology

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DEDICATION

To my wife, Maame Aba Kofua Hammond, and my family

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Content   Page

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

LIST OF ACRONYMS

DNVA   Discursive News Value Analysis

EC   Expanding Circle

OC   Outer Circle

IU   Information Unit

CHAPTER ONE
INTRODUCTION

Introduction

The aim of this introductory chapter is to create a general context for the study which is placed within the broader scope of media discourse and prosody. In this chapter, the following aspects are considered: the background to the study, the statement of the problem, the research questions, the significance of the study, the delimitations of the work, the synopsis of the research and the chapter summary.

Background to the Study

Mass media are tools, means, and channels established through technologies that allow a sender to transmit information to multiple recipients simultaneously (Baran, 2014; Campbell, Martin, & Fabos, 2016; Talbot, 2007). Subsequently, in mass communication, producers rely on the individual traits of the mass media in use to institute effective measures to regulate forms of interference (Baran). The radio is one of the formidable mass media as it reigns as the most patronized and most important medium amongst the constellation of mass media, particularly in Africa (Baran; Familusi & Owoeye, 2014; Isbell & Nyamekye, 2018; Walsh, 2018). It is also one of the oldest – developed in 1901 – and the only mass media that relies on audio only (Mikhuta, 2018).

Within the current age of technological advancement, radio broadcast is considerably patronized (Baran, 2014; Familusi & Owoeye, 2014; Isbell & Nyamekye, 2018). The continuous patronage of radio amongst new and improved mass media shows that although new mass media keep emerging with

improvements that surpass already existing mass media such as radio, they do not serve to replace the old ones, but provide options in addition to the already existing ones. Jara-Figuera, Yu and Hidalgo (2019), for instance, observe that the introduction of communication technologies comes with parallel contents that suit each technology or media. The immediate implication then is that the traits associated with a mass media very much define the general context that sets the basis for the form and contents of a mass media production. From such background, McLeish (2005) explains that within a competitive marketplace where information is a commodity and producers employ diverse media channels to sell, it is only important that a producer understands the strengths and weaknesses of the media channel used to compete effectively with others who may possess other media channels.

Radio has some merits. First, it is cheaper and easy to acquire as well as maintain. Familusi and Owoeye (2014), in their study, identify that a key reason why many people patronize radio broadcasting is the low cost of owning a radio set. Secondly, it is convenient and easy to use or operate, relative to other mass media (Apuke, 2017; Kuyucu, 2016). Radio users can move (the radio) around as well as engage in other activities simultaneously (Apuke; Kuyuku; McLeish, 2005); users do not need any special expertise to operate it; and since it is audio-only, a person is relieved of the struggles of having to know how to read. Third, radio is an intimate medium of immediacy that feeds into popular discourses or culture (Kuyucu; McLeish). Fourth, the language used in radio broadcasts is simple (Kuyucu; McLeish). The above-mentioned traits explain why radio broadcast is

virtually the most patronized mass media, especially in Africa (Apuke; Familusi; Kuyucu; McLeish). These traits render radio as a very competitive mass media.

In spite of these advantages, there are several challenges associated with radio broadcasts. First, the radio allows almost everyone the opportunity to own and use radio. It creates a context of a huge heterogeneous audience where the social personalities of the groups are large, conflicting, and unstable (in terms of age, education, class, culture, et cetera). In the acquisition and use of newspapers or magazines, for instance, one cannot access the content without the necessary language skills of reading (Talbot, 2007). In effect, in the production of newspapers, the producers can assume that their audience has a level of education that allows them to read and access information all by themselves (Talbot). Hence, there are restrictions that naturally identify with some mass media that help their producers to assume and define not only their addressees, but their socio-geographical reach as well. In radio production, such restrictions are farfetched; the producers have to create their own limitations and define their addressees out of the many heterogeneous groups. In the construction of texts for radio broadcast, this challenge influences the interpersonal meaning, which involves the representation of relationships among the producer, their audience and the message, produced in text (Banks, 2002; Matthiessen, Teruya, & Lam, 2010).

Another challenge that emerges with the radio is the constant need to draw the attention of the addressee to the contents of radio broadcasts using audio-only. In McLeish's (2005, p. 5) view, "radio suffers from its own generosity – it is easily interruptible". Since radio allows its users to focus on other activities while in use,

3

it becomes more of a background to such activities. It, thus, makes it difficult to sustain continuously the attention and interest of its users on the content of a radio broadcast. In contrast, television naturally draws its users into its broadcast, engaging their entire attention as interlocutors experience events first hand, using the various senses to experience what is ongoing (Mcleish; Talbot, 2007). It sounds even more taxing when one considers that the radio depends on prosody only to reinforce its meanings and to attract the attention of their listeners.

Other challenges include; radio broadcasts are transient, it lacks space, and it is prone to interference (Apuke, 2017; Kuyuku, 2016; McLeish, 2005). The idea of transience, as examined by McLeish, generally translates into a feature of language and speech production: texts produced as utterances or speech vanishes within the same time that they are produced. Expressed alternatively, radio broadcasts go as fast as they come. Radio is naturally a one chance channel, and unlike a newspaper, the listener cannot choose his/her own time to access it, choose to overlook some part of the broadcast, and come back to it later, or ask that what was not clearly heard or understood be repeated (Apuke; Montgomery, 2007). Furthermore, as a medium, the radio is usually time-bound as compared to the newspaper; thus, lacking space to provide some details. Fang (1991), therefore, highlights the need for the broadcaster to manage effectively the limited time available.

The challenges discussed necessitate that a radio producer (or broadcaster) be strategic in presenting information to listeners. They are tasked to produce broadcasts in a language that nurtures the listener's willingness to learn of the issues

4

in the broadcast and how those issues relate with each other as they unfold in the texts, as fast as they are produced and lost. Radio producers are positioned to use a simple and familiar language to address their heterogeneous listeners to allow them to access the content. Interestingly, that language is also expected to be complex enough to carry every message or information to be broadcast. This issue summarizes the huge task that the radio as a mass media places on its producers (especially in the construction of textual meanings).

In general, the intrinsic properties of radio enable it a direct and wide access to the public. They also propel a set of verbal practices different from those deployed in print and television broadcast (Montgomery, 2007). It is also true that the challenges associated with radio highlight the importance of encoding in radio broadcasting. According to Talbot (2007, p. 10), "the way something is said is as interesting and significant as what is said." Additionally, the present study finds that the way something is said will determine whether what is to be said is actually said, noticed and understood as such. Subsequently, the study moves to explore the textual resources and the complex relations that are used to construct radio news broadcasts.

Statement of the Problem

Generally, there have been a number of studies that have engaged news broadcast from a linguistic perspective (e.g., Bednarek & Caple, 2012; 2017; Bell, 1991; Lukin, 2019; Montgomery, 2007; Nissen, Randle, Johnson & Lynes, 2020; Smith & Hiigins, 2013; Talbot; van Dijk, 1988). However, it is observed that most of the studies have favoured patterns of the lexicogrammar over patterns of prosody

in their analysis. Studies that have explored the prosody of news broadcast are very few. Lukin and Rivas (2021), being one of the few, emphasize the problem with the description that prosodic analysis is the "poor cousin" (p. 302) in discourse studies that is typically overlooked in both general and applied linguistics projects. This is set against the background that broadcast media typically involve radio and television, which are audio-only medium and audio-visual medium respectively (Montgomery, 2007). Thus, the prosodic patterns in their texts are as much important as their lexicogrammatical patterns since their texts are typically rendered as speech and not as written texts.

The problem is even more acute for radio, where prosody serves as the only communicative tool that provides a referential framework to news texts. By default, it feeds directly into the impression-forming process of the listener who engages a radio broadcast (Anton, 2013). Panese (1996) adds that the "fine-grained, non-referential" prosodic cues in radio broadcast contextualize the language used and guide participants' interpretation at any point in the discourse (p. 83); prosody in radio creates a context in which talk, as a performed social activity, is interpreted. Thus, as established by Stahl (2010), a prosodic analysis offers an important line of interpretation in a discourse analysis of radio news broadcast that is lost when disregarded. Despite this, no study could be found that engages prosody in radio news broadcast in Ghana.

The present study aims to fill the gap by exploring the patterns of prosody in radio news broadcasts in Ghana. It examines how the unique patterns of news texts, usually construed in the lexicogrammar, are discursively construed in the

6

prosody of the radio news texts. Thus, the study seeks to provide insights into how prosody and lexicogrammatical patterns interact and shape the communicative meaning in Ghanaian radio news broadcasts. By doing so, this research contributes to the understanding of prosody and broadcast media discourse, specifically within non-native contexts of English use such as Ghana.

Research Questions

The following research questions informed the study:

1. What forms of news values are constructed in radio news texts?

2. How are the forms of news values discursively construed in the texts?

3. How does prosody influence or contribute to the news values which are communicated to the listener?

I examine the linguistic patterns of radio news discourse from the perspective of Bednarek and Caple's (2012, 2017) Discursive News Value Analysis (DNVA), as well as Systemic Phonology (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014; Matthiessen, 2018). DNVA defines the lexicogrammatical resources that have been observed in the literature as patterns of newsworthiness. Those resources are described as news values and they show the patterns of meaning that are present in a news text as the first research question seeks to do. Since DNVA presents different forms of news values, Research Question Two seeks to show how they are all put together to form a news text. The examination of the news values will guide me towards the prosodic resources used in the texts as well. This will unravel the role prosody plays in the communication

7

of the meaning of the texts as Research Question Three seeks to do. Thus, Research Questions One and Two provide a linguistic background within which the role of prosody can be examined and discussed.

Significance of the Study

This study contributes to literature on prosody in non-native contexts of English use, broadcast media discourse, as well as the relationship between news discourse and prosody, and news production in Africa and Ghana. It also contributes to the theoretical scape of DNVA and its use in combination with other theories.

The history of radio and the use of the English language as a medium language of communication for radio transmission in Ghana underscore the significance of the study. It is almost a century (87 years) since the introduction of radio in Ghana. Texts produced through radio (using English) constitute a rich source to investigate and characterize the use of English language in a non-native situational context. Therefore, the study seeks to add to existing scholarship on the use of English language within linguistic contexts such as Ghana.

Furthermore, although some studies have focused on discourses on radio in Ghana such as Ahlijah (2017), Boamah (2016), Boateng (2009), Coker (2011) and Opare-Henaku (2016), there is little to no studies as well as scholarly interest in the prosodic configuration of texts produced through broadcast media (i.e., radio and television). Thus, the study will also occupy an important niche in existing scholarship on the discourse of news broadcast within the context of study.

8

In addition, the present study contributes to the scholarship on the interface between news discourse and prosody in general, and news production in Africa and Ghana in particular. It will provide a reference point for scholars who would want to research into news discourse and prosody as the present study moves to establish prosody as means to defining news discourse. In terms of practice, it will also provide a reference point for media producers who want to be intentional about the use of prosody in the production of media broadcasts, particularly in Ghana and Africa.

The study also contributes to the theoretical scape of DNVA. A number of studies have used DNVA to analyse the discursive construction of newsworthiness in news texts from different geographical settings: Makki (2019) looked at news texts from Iran; El Seidi (2019) considered texts from Britain and Egypt; Huan (as cited by Bednarek & Caple, 2017) engaged Chinese and Australian sites; and Dahl and Flottum (as cited by Bednarek & Caple, 2017) also considered British news texts. The present study uses DNVA to analyze Ghanaian radio news broadcasts. Thus, the present study is the first to use DNVA to analyze texts in Africa and Ghana, showing the applicability of the theory in the African context.

One of the advantages Bednarek and Caple (2017) associate with DNVA is that it can be used in combination with other theories and forms of analysis. The present study confirms this by combining the analytical frameworks of DNVA and Systemic Phonology, something previous studies did not do. In this present study, this theoretical triangulation enabled me to give a holistic view of how newsworthiness is discursively constructed in news discourse. As has been

established, in a discourse analysis of news broadcast, lexicogrammatical and prosodic analyses are necessary to offer a holistic interpretation (Stahl, 2010). The study shows that the combined analytical framework of DNVA and Systemic Phonology is an effective framework to engage both forms of analysis of news broadcast.

Delimitations of the Study

This research is delineated along three main parameters to ensure the study has a sharp focus and boundary. These comprise the radio stations involved in the study, parts of the news text for the analysis, and the year under review in which the data set is collected.

First, the study focuses on two radio stations, Joy FM and Citi FM. The two stations were selected because they are among the top three most patronized radio stations in Ghana and the best two when English is considered as the medium of communication (Boateng, 2019; Coker, 2011; Opare-Henaku, 2016; Wangari, 2018). That is, they are well recognized to serve the communication needs of listeners.

Second, the present study focuses on news items, regularly referred to as stories, and not necessarily an entire news bulletin. With each of the bulletin lasting between thirty minutes and an hour, and considering the cumbersome nature of manual transcription, it seemed logical to limit the data to two stories to be able to provide a clearer and detailed description of the prosodic patterns of radio news discourse along with the lexicogrammatical patterns. It is, however, important to

state clearly that the individual news stories would be enough to reveal an objective results of the general prosodic patterns employed in the data as the study focuses on consistency or coherence and relevance (Olaniyi, 2021; Lukin & Rivas, 2021).

Again, it is important to state that the text serving as the data for the present study is the finished product of the entire processes of news production. Thus, the study focuses on the spoken text that is made available to the listener, and not necessarily on the news script produced to be read. This allows the researcher to focus on intonation with variable focus on the lexicogrammatical features that may be prevalent in the news script.

Finally, the data for the study is limited to March 6, 16, and 23, 2020 respectively. The rationale for selecting this period is to ensure recency as far as the data for the analysis is concerned. Furthermore, it is selected out of convenience: A pre-assessment of the availability of the data revealed that one of the sources would allow only three news bulletins to be taken from them. Subsequently, the dates are chosen because there are certain major social and political events in Ghana that take place in March and the researcher is sure the two radio stations will report those events. The decision offers the study the right environment to compare stories from the same event, produced within two competing contexts.

Definition of Key Concepts and Terms of the Study

For purpose of clarification, the important terms and concepts used in this study have been defined. While some the terms have already been introduced, most of them have been introduced and reviewed in subsequent chapters. They include:

Discursive News Values Analysis

DNVA is a framework employed in this study for analyzing news values. It integrates elements of discourse analysis and notions of news values to examine the linguistic patterns and realization of news values within news texts. DNVA is theoretical set to examine how events are endowed with newsworthiness, revealing which aspects of the events are emphasized, and the shape in which the events are packaged for news consumption by audiences (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). It provides a systematic approach to explore the lexicogrammatical features and structures that reflect the prioritization of specific news values in news reporting.

Information Structure

Information structure is conceived of as a system that assigns a structure to the flow of information, the patterns of discourse (Halliday, 1967). It is observed as a plane of linguistic organization where lexicogrammar, prosody and meaning of the English language interact to produce discourse. For that, there are three units associated with information structure: the clause, the tone unit, and the information unit.

News Discourse

For the present study, news discourse is operationalized as news text – news text is news discourse in written or spoken form and it is produced primarily to inform or provide information to groups of people, with the aim of updating and shaping their knowledge base and consciousness in other already established discourses.

12

News Values

News values are conceived of as patterns of linguistic expressions of news texts that highlight the quality of events reported in news texts and construe the events as worth the attention of the public. The study engages a number of news values construed by Bednarek and Caple (2017), including timeliness, proximity, negativity/positivity, superlative, eliteness, consonance, personalization, and unexpectedness.

Prosody

Prosody is conceived as features of phonic material, which spread and influences more than a phonematic unit, such as stress, rhythm, and intonation. The features particularly manifest in connected speech and are predominantly associated with larger phonological units such as the syllable, foot, and tone group.

Radio

Radio is an audio only channel that propels a set of verbal practices different from those deployed in other channels of communication such as print and television. For instance, a radio producer is limited to only prosody as means to reinforce meaning expressed in the lexicogrammar of texts produced through radio.

Systemic Phonology

Systemic phonology is a framework employed in the thesis to analyze the patterns of prosody. It profiles phonology as a subsystem of language and a resource for realizing meanings through sounding: It presents phonology as a means

13

to express meaning through sounds. It does so through providing sets of options in 'sounding' organized into a system, and then into a system network.

Thesis Synopsis

The thesis is composed of five chapters. The first chapter includes chapter introduction, the background to the study, the statement of the problem, the research questions that guide the study, the significance of the study, and the delimitations of the study, definition of key concepts and terms, as well as the thesis synopsis and chapter summary. The second chapter presents a conceptual framing of the study as well as some theoretical review. It also gives a review of some previous studies that are central to the analysis and discussion of findings, particularly on prosody in radio news broadcasting. Chapter three discusses the methodology of the study. It discusses the research design, the research site, ethical considerations, data collection procedure, and transcription and coding of data. The challenges faced by the researcher during the collection and transcription of data are also presented. In chapter four, analyses of the data collected are presented, together with discussion of the findings in response to the research questions posed to guide the study. The final chapter provides a conclusion to the research. Here, the researcher highlights the major findings of the study, the implications of the findings, and recommendations for further studies.

Chapter Summary

This chapter provided a brief background to the study. It highlighted prosody as an important linguistic resource in radio news discourse (Anton, 2013) and established that prosody in radio news discourse has relatively been under-researched, particularly in Africa and Ghana. This informed the decision to examine how the patterns of meaning in news discourse are construed in the prosody of radio news broadcast. The chapter also established the research questions for the study and the significance of the study. The study has implications for scholarship on prosody of news discourse and theory of DNVA and Systemic Phonology. . The chapter also presented definition of key concepts and terms of the study and the synopsis of the research to guide readers. The next chapter will review related literature.
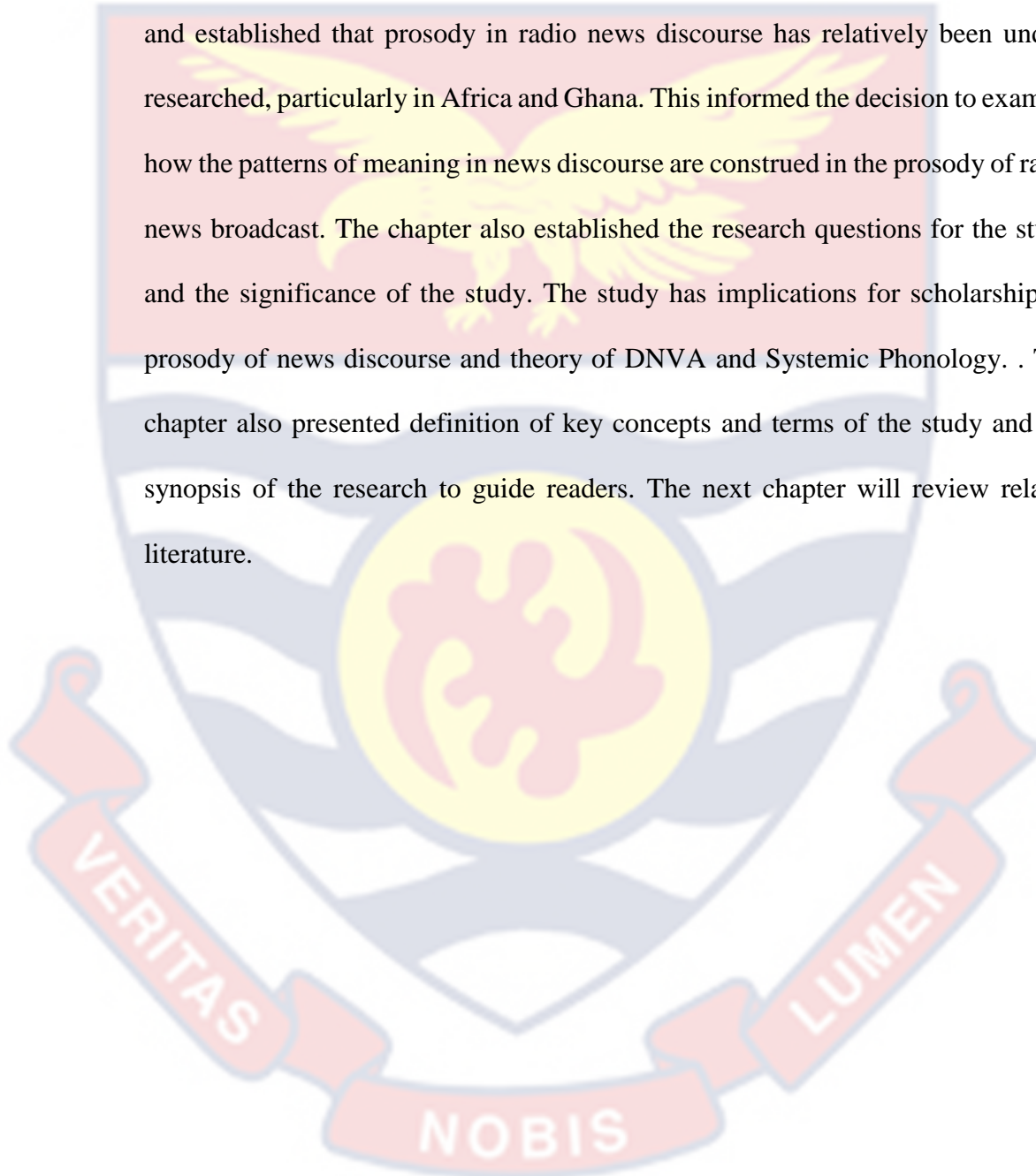
CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

Introduction

The aim of this chapter is to provide an in-depth account of the context within which the study is to be situated as well as the background literature relevant to the context. It does so through a conceptual review, where the researcher attempts a synthesis of concepts as background and contextual information; a theoretical review, where the researcher reviews the theoretical perspectives underpinning the study; and an empirical review, where the researcher reviews relevant research literature relevant to the study and a critique thereof. The chapter closes with a summary.

Conceptual Framework

The following key concepts and issues guided the study: *radio (its development in Ghana), news discourse, news text, information structure.* These concepts and issues are discussed under this section to provide readers with an overview of the conceptual thrust of the study and to show how these concepts are used in the present study.

The Development of Radio in Ghana

As an instrument of colonial policy, radio was introduced in Ghana in 1935 by the then governor, Sir Arnold Hodson, to mark the silver jubilee of the head of the British Empire, King George V (Ghana Broadcasting Study, 2005; Oberko, 2010). Known as Radio ZOY, it was first used to transmit BBC programmes to a few colonial residents and privileged native elites. The services of Radio ZOY were

16

later extended to Kumasi, Sekondi, Koforidua, and Cape Coast to provide information and entertainment with the primary intent of thwarting all efforts of anti-colonial campaigns of the nationalist press (Oberko; Walsh, 2018).

In the history on the use of radio in Ghana since 1935, radio has triumphed as the most important mass media. The reasons behind this state of affairs identify with the political history of Ghana, especially in terms of technological advancement (Ghana Broadcasting Study, 2005; Isbell & Appiah-Nyamekye, 2018; Karikari, 1994; Oberko, 2010; Walsh, 2018). In the early years after 1935, radio assumed the role as the most advanced mass media in Ghana. Even more, within that same period, its use afforded a form of classism, placing a distinction between the colonizer and the colonized, the rich and the poor, those of highborn and the commoners. Amongst other issues, radio particularly served as an important control mechanism in the hands of the colonial powers.

After independence in 1957, radio in Ghana still served as a tool of control and the government duly exploited it to establish its power amongst its people. For Karikari (1994), radio in Ghana virtually translated into "half-a-century of state ownership and control" (p. 13). Through the period between independence (1957) and 1992, radio was viewed as one of the most powerful assets of the state. In fact, "the fate of an attempted coup d'état depended on who got hold over the radio station… [It run on the principle] 'Seek ye first the radio station and its effectiveness and all other things shall be added unto it'" (Karikari, p. 17).

After 1992, the use of radio in homes became quite common in Ghana even though television existed and was far more an advanced mass media to radio. As

17

an agricultural oriented state, Ghana had most of her citizens as farmers who were located in areas that had neither electrical power nor the right conditions to allow television frequencies. Even more, some farmers were too poor to own television set(s). Consequently, radio seemed the most reasonable means to access entertainment and information in such areas. In the urban areas, Walsh (2018) points to issues such as 'dumsor' (power outages) as causative factors that made it difficult to depend on television for entertainment and information in Ghana. Radio, thus, seemed the most laudable choice in such areas as well.

The established definitive boundaries to radio in Ghana very much give a general view of the socio-historical context that the study concerns itself in terms of news discourse. Though radio is not a produce of Ghana, it has acted and served as an important political and social tool in the historical development and growth of the nation; it was and has been the tool through which control of the Ghanaian society and power have been enacted (Karikari, 1994). Thus, the development and use of radio in Ghana is core to the history and politics of Ghana (Ghana Broadcasting Study, 2005; Isbell & Appiah-Nyamekye, 2018; Karikari; Oberko, 2010; Walsh, 2018).

The discussion so far also shows that quite conversely, the history and politics of Ghana is also core to the development and use of radio in Ghana. One can be quick to suggest that the history and politicization of the use of radio in Ghana has shaped the language of radio production. The study finds more interesting almost a century old experience and accumulated conventions of the use of (English) language in shaping the experiences and in giving positions of power

to some people within the Ghanaian society (Talbot, 2007). It is conceived that those accumulated conventions hold true in the use of prosody in radio broadcasting in Ghana. However, since discourse is observed in the study as a process of interaction, it is also conceived that there is a great deal of discursive patterns of meaning realized in the prosody of radio news text that lie beyond those conventions of use of the language. The study serves as a resource to explore the patterns of prosody of Ghanaian radio news texts with due consideration of the probable conventions of usage of language as well as its discursive tendencies.

News Discourse

News discourse is prototypically tied to media discourse as news discourse is central to the operations and activities of the media whose central output is news (Montgomery, 2007). During the years, a number of scholars have tried to be definitive of the relationship between news and discourse in order to establish news discourse as a concept (Bednarek & Caple, 2012). Thus, rather than use the term *news discourse*, scholars such as van Dijk (1988, 2009) and Montgomery have used *News as discourse* and *The discourse of broadcast news* respectively as alternatives to engage news discourse. Their deliberate use of such an approach allows them to define and limit their scope of study into news discourse. In the case of van Dijk's choice of linguistic construction, the focus is given to defining *news* as a type of discourse, whereas that of Montgomery gives emphasis to *discourse* as language used during news broadcasting.

The two instances do elaborate the complexities that characterize attempts to conceptualize news discourse, especially with the approach to engage *news* and

19

discourse as separate units to define *news discourse*. Both *news* and *discourse* are operational in a number of contexts where the participants or variables involved vary. As such, as much as the scope of news discourse is intangible (as van Dijk [2009] affords all forms of discourse), the approach makes the scope and context that abound news discourse less durable and even more so, highlights the need to have a more solid approach to conceptualize news discourse. The study conceives news discourse as the interaction of the elements within the communicative context of news discourse.

Figure 1: "The 'communicative context' of news"
Source: Bednarek & Caple, 2012, p. 20

As with van Dijk (1988) and Montgomery (2007), who reinforce the idea of discourse as discursive, there is usually so little an effort by a number of studies into news discourse to characterize the overall communicative context of news discourse as means to define news discourse, especially in relation to the interaction central to it. According to Bednarek and Caple (2012), the communicative context of news discourse is best discussed as the relation between news discourse, the producer of news discourse and the audience(s) of news discourse. In Figure 1, they explain that the producer(s) are involved in the production of news discourse

addressing specific audiences. Additionally, the producers interact with the audience(s) in specific ways and may hold assumptions about each other. Inasmuch as the current researcher acknowledges and adopts Bednarek and Caple's characterization of the communicative context of news discourse, the characterization has some inconsistencies and deficiencies to be classified as definitive of the overall communicative context of news discourse.

Although Bednarek and Caple (2012) present quite a clear view of their conceptualization of the communicative context of news discourse in a diagrammatic form (presented as Fig. 1), they are unable to manage that entirely in their discussions on how the individual aspects interact with each other as designated by the resonance arrow in the diagram. For instance, they do mention that the producers and audience share a relation with news discourse represented as an aspect of the communicative context they establish; however, they do not show the kind of relation, except that producers produce news discourse to address audience. Unlike within the producers' unit (community) and the audience' unit respectively, they also do not show the kind of roles that exist for the news discourse and how they help it function and relate with the other broad aspects they identify in the communicative context of news discourse.

They make further complications tagging the diagram of illustration of the communicative context of news discourse as "the 'communicative context' of news" (Bednarek & Caple, 2012, p. 20). These tendencies, which seem to be deficiencies to Bednarek and Caple's characterization of the communicative context of news discourse, are rooted in a number of factors that were left

21

unaccounted for. Central to them all is the lack of will to establish and observe the basic difference between discourse and text, especially when one considers that Bednarek and Caple had adopted a linguistic approach towards their exploration of news discourse.

Text and discourse are closely knitted terms in discourse studies usually distinguished from one another to facilitate a systemic and unbending account of studies of forms of discourse, especially in instances where the study involves a linguistic approach or analysis (Talbot, 2007). The distinction is also a way of unpacking the many associations of concepts to the term 'discourse' (Talbot). According to Talbot, the distinction is quite an analytical one, which helps to distinguish two very important aspects of discourse: "the observable material of a completed product and the ongoing process of making it" (p. 9). In her retrospection, she explains that:

> …text is the fabric in which discourse is manifested, whether spoken or written, whether produced by one person or several. The distinction, then, is between product and process, between object and activity. …text here refers to an observable product. In terms of interaction, it often only comes into play as a category with an interest in interaction that is mediated. A text is something that is transportable from one context to another: a letter, a book, a DVD, an email message or some other artefact that is 'designed in one context and with a view to its uptake in others'… Discourse is not a product; it is a process. To analyze it we need to look at both the text itself

22

and the interaction and context the text is embedded (Talbot, 2007, pp. 9-10).

The distinction, as provided by Talbot, presents some clarity to Bednarek and Caple's (2012) conceptualization of the communicative context of news discourse. It also provides a basic framework and an important perspective to Bednarek and Caple's work. For the most part, it positions their efforts as defining news discourse as text and not necessarily as discourse.

Bednarek and Caple (2012) introduce and operationalize news discourse as how semiotic systems of language and of images are put to use and the contributions they yield to the construction of news. Subsequently, they identify news discourse as "the discourse that audiences encounter in news bulletins, news programmes, on news websites, or in newspaper – discourse that reports on newsworthy events, happenings and issues" (p. 2). That which audience(s) encounters in news discourse are usually the observable parts of news discourse, mostly constructed as texts, or broadcast (Montgomery, 2007; Talbot, 2007). So, right from the word go, Bednarek and Caple categorically define news discourse as the observable material of a completed product, news discourse as text.

They present news discourse as dealing with language constructed through the activities of producers, which is thereof transported through a medium into a context where it is defined and assessed by audience as an observable object to be interacted with; or where it makes a report on newsworthy events to its intended audience, listeners, or viewers. That is, in observing Talbot's (2007) differentiation of discourse and text as extensional concepts of discourse, it becomes clear that the

23

characterization Bednarek and Caple (2012) make as definitive of the communicative context of news discourse identify with news discourse as text, and not necessarily as discourse. If that be regarded, then the relation they identify as existing between news discourse, the producer(s) and the audience(s) as aspects of the communicative contexts of news discourse becomes quite glaring, as well as other inconsistencies.

From the set premise, Figure 1 then is to be considered a representation of the communicative context of news text where news text is produced as an object used by producer(s) to interact with audience(s) through a medium (radio in this context). Also, the relation both the producer(s) and audience(s) share with news discourse presented as an aspect of the communicative context in Fig 1. is to be regarded as one of restrictions, guidelines or frameworks that seem to characterize the interaction between the producer(s) and the audience(s). It also means that news discourse set as an aspect of the communicative context is not to be regarded as just produced by producers to interact with the audience, as Bednarek and Caple (2012) propose. It is to be regarded as representative of the context encompassing the practices and intelligible ways of the interaction between the producer(s) and the audience(s) in relation to knowledge construction and consumption that necessitate the production of the news text (Hall, 1977). That is, the logical way to consider news discourse as an aspect of the communicative context conceptualized by Bednarek and Caple is to observe the producer(s) and audience(s) as roles established, defined, and existing in the news discourse as an aspect; and that the communicative context proposed by them as that of news discourse is rather of

24

news text. Subsequently, that leaves room to characterize the communicative context of news discourse.

The Communicative Context of News Discourse

Like any other form of discourse, to study news discourse means to look at news texts, the interaction that produces the news texts to meet a communicative purpose, and the context in which the interaction or the text is made to exist (Talbot, 2007). The roles established in news discourse are observed by the production community, the audience community, and the research community, which are herein discussed as aspects of news discourse (Talbot). They also define the communicative context of news discourse. Figure 2 below has the configuration of the communicative context of news discourse as well as the audience community, an active participant in the construction of news discourse.

Figure 2: Levels of contextual configuration of news discourse

Source: Researcher's construct

From Figure 2, the audience community serves as the overall communicative context within which news discourse ensues. It constitutes the public sphere, a place there usually exists "struggles of meaning to make dominant one of several preferred interpretations of occurrences and issues and to maintain the social order" (Berkowitz & Terkwurst, 1999, p. 126). The production community acts as a sub-community and a participant of news discourse within the audience community. Any stance within the discourse the production communities may presume to construct could very much be the product of assumptions built from successive participation and interaction within the audience community as an interpretive community – a group of people who are engaged in common activities and common practices and employ a common frame reference for interpreting their social setting (Berkowitz & Terkwurst; Schrøder, 1994). Their stance may as well be one of many existing and competing stance(s) of the sub-communities (social groups such as churches) within the audience community.

In addition, within the contextual configuration set by the production community (defined by its practices) is the research community. Two situational issues necessitate or make relevant the research community to the realization of the communicative context of news discourse: First, mass media, often identified with mass communication, naturally offers a one-way communication and its texts frozen in nature (see Martin Joos (1967)). Since the spatial distance that naturally identifies mass communication usually makes it easy to ignore or difficult to react directly to most feedback from the audience community (Baran, 2014; Bednarek & Caple, 2012; Talbot, 2007), the research community provides systematic accounts

26

from their assessments and research of feedbacks and other data necessary to the effective construction and consumption of news discourse. They help close the virtual and spatial distance between the audience community and the production community.

The second and most important situational issue is premised on Keller's (2012, p. 73) observation: "all discourse-focused approaches [are] itself a discourse about discourses, which follows its own discourse production rules, ways of enabling and disciplining". That is, within a situational context of news discourse production and consumption where the research community engage a form of discourse about news discourse, they logically assume a participatory role in the construction of frameworks, approaches, and rules that identify with the production and consumption of news discourse.

The issue here is that news discourse is primarily constructed within the audience community, and the production and research communities respectively exist as members of the audience community who very much engage in news discourse in ways peculiar to themselves but consisting of some shared beliefs and values about a society. Thus, the communicative context of news discourse is very much defined by three sub-contexts that the current researcher identifies as the configurations of activities by the research communities, production communities, and audience communities who research, construct, and consume news respectively. It is those activities of the respective communities that fuel the interaction that defines the communicative context of news discourse while news discourse which consist of shared beliefs or values about a society provides a

27

mutual ground of what is accepted as 'common sense' or 'conventional wisdom' in the interaction.

The Communicative Interaction of News Discourse

Figure 3: The communicative context of news discourse

Source: Researcher's construct

Figure 3 provides an overview of the communicative interaction of news discourse. Within this frame, news discourse is regarded as a body of knowledge and practices established as the context that defines some social identities as roles of interaction towards the construction and consumption of objects of knowledge as valuable information (Bednarek & Caple, 2012; Talbot, 2007; Thompson, 1995;

van Dijk, 1988). As with Pan and Kosicki's (1993, p. 57) observations, the three communities (research, production and audience) all engage in news discourse process based "on their socially defined roles and are linked to one another by the news discourse that they design, construct, transmit, and act on".

The interaction among the communities enables the production communities to engage the audience communities through a mediated quasi interaction (Thompson, 1995; Talbot, 2007). As represented in Figure 3, they engage in a form of communication where the two communities remain separated from each other in terms of temporal and spatial distance or just spatial, narrowing the range of communication cues that would usually exist in a face-to-face interaction. It is a form of interaction associated with the use of media of mass communication. As Thompson and Talbot identify, the interaction would be that the production community addresses the public or audience community constituted of an indefinite range of potential recipients. Typically, the interaction is monologic (Thompson; Talbot): The production communities address an audience community that is not physically present, and the audience community gets addressed by a production community to whom they cannot respond but form bonds of friendship, affection or loyalty.

Over the years, the emergence and effective use of mobile phones and the internet by traditional media organization allow the audience community to respond to the production community. Mobile phones, now often characterized as the seventh media, provide the audience community access to services as instant messaging (SMS) and social media that allow them to provide response or feedback

to news texts with which they interact (Coker, 2011; Wolf & Schnauber, 2014), That is, within the interaction between the production community and audience community has grown to be dialogic rather than monologic due to the multiple platforms (usually social media platforms which are easily accessible to mobile phone users) available to the production community that grants them access to a significant amount of feedback from the audience community, depending on their coverage.

Therefore, within Figure 3 are four established traits of the interaction between the production community and audience community within the broad context of news discourse (Thompson, 1995). First, the production community and the audience community contribute to the production of news discourse from contexts which are spatially and/or temporally distinct and separate. Second, because of the spatial distance in the interaction, the medium of interaction would force the production community to make use of some communicative cues at the expense of others in addressing the audience community. This would have direct influence on information structure. Third, within the construct of mass communication, the interaction would be that the production community addresses the public or audience community constituted of an indefinite range of potential recipients. In effect, the addressers would only know their addressees from the text with which they interact.

Fourth, the interaction will be dialogic due to the emergence and effective use of mobile phones and the internet. It is to be assumed, however, that the response that the production communities would access would not directly

30

influence the content for which those feedbacks or responses were given, but the frameworks that the production communities use to construct their objects of interaction (of which one of those frames is news values). That is, a news text can be defined as constructed from frameworks that the production communities have perfected from their continuous interaction with the audience community and the research community. It is important to state that the primary goal of news discourses (in the research communities and production communities) operationalizes with the construction of forms of broadcasts as news that interacts directly with the public (audience communities) (van Dijk, 1988, 2009; Montgomery, 2007; Talbot, 2007).

News Text

Within a linguistic purview, news text is key to defining news discourse (Pan & Kosicki, 1993; Talbot, 2007). Fundamentally, news text can be in print or broadcast form (Montgomery, 2007). Regardless of form, news text has broadly been thought of as "information about current or recent events, happenings or changes taking place outside the immediate purview of the audience and which is considered to be of likely interest or concern to them" (Montgomery, p. 4). Such information is referred to as news; the media treats them as stories (van Dijk, 1988; Talbot; Benarek & Caple, 2012; Caple, 2018). It is produced primarily to inform or provide information to groups of people, with the aim of updating and shaping their knowledge base and consciousness in other already established discourses (Chafe, 1974; van Dijk; Talbot; Claridge, 2010).

31

Cocker explains that news text is nothing but "what a chap who doesn't care much about anything wants to read… and it is only news until he's read [watched or listened to] it. After that, it's dead" (cited in Harcup & O'neil, 2001, p. 261). What sets news text apart as a report, then, is the significance the events it consists of carries for a sufficiently large group of people and the impact or influence it may exercise on their lives thereof – to be discussed as news values (Drid, 2019; Reah, 2002). For Caple (2018), people need such a report "in order to participate in democratic governance and to function effectively and knowledgeably in society" (p. 2). Within such context of social interaction, the intent behind the production of news text in news discourse could be tied to three social powers. Berkowitz and TerKeurst (1999) identify them as the ability to engage and become part of an ongoing social debate that has an already established boundaries and outcome alternatives; second is the ability to influence the interpretation in a social debate; and/or the third is the ability to influence the popularity of a social debate or occurrence, whether they gain attention or not.

From the established impacts of news text, it can be deduced that much of the interaction in context (amongst the three aspects) that fuels news discourse in its broader conception is conducted through news text, which makes it apt an object of interaction in the examination of news discourse. It also reasserts the point that the primary goal of news discourse(s) (in the research setting and production setting) operationalizes with the construction of forms of broadcasts or information as news that interacts directly with the public or audience communities (Montgomery, 2007; Talbot, 2007; van Dijk, 1988, 2009). Therefore, as from

Figure 3, news text is practically an object of manifestation of the interaction among the communities of news discourse. It is prototypically constructed to be transported from one community (the production and research communities) to another to be consumed through a set medium. It is bound by the general context that defines the interaction among the communities. Amidst this characterization rest the issue of distance that characterizes the interaction between the production community and the audience community (Talbot).

Within the frame of entextaulization within which the study conceives news texts, news text is operationalized along the concepts of decontextualization and recontextualization. According to Silverstein and Urban (1996), entextualization involves processes by which fragments of discourse are conceived of and treated as units separate from the processes from which those fragments were produced. Bauman and Briggs (1990), often identified with the concept, explain that entextualization often begins with a distinction between discourse and text. They state that entextualization involves "…the process of rendering discourse Extractable, of making a stretch of linguistic production into a unit – *a text* – that can be lifted out of its interactional setting" (p. 73). So, in their configuration, news text, then, is discourse rendered decontextalizable – taking the discourse text out of its context – and then recontextualizable – integrating and modifying the text so that it fits into a new context (Leppänen, Kytölä, Jousmäki, Peuronen, & Westinen, 2013).

Clearly, the frame makes the effort to establish a strong link between news text on one hand and the production and consumption processes on the other hand

while maintaining the autonomy of news text as an aspect of news discourse and as a means of a representation of news discourse in general. The basic idea of entextualization, Bauman and Briggs (1990) posit, is that discourse has a reflexive capacity which "it shares with all systems of signification to turn or bend back upon itself, to become an object to itself, to refer to itself" (p.73). Entextualization operationalizes news text as not just an object produced from a process of interaction in context, but as independent as the process and a representation of the entire processes of interaction in context due to the reflexive capacity it shares with the process. News text is news discourse in written or spoken form (Halliday & Hassan, 1985).

It is important to establish that while the conceptual approach to news text is premised on entextualization, the study is generally conditioned by the Systemic Functional Linguistic. Like all other texts, news text is regarded as a metafunctional construct (Banks, 2002; Dvorak, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014; Matthiessen, Teruya, & Lam, 2010). It is primarily set to perform three meaningful functions simultaneously: (a) it is to act as a means through which the human experience of the world around and in us are construed as meaning (ideational metafunction); (b) it serves to enact interpersonal relationships as meaning (interpersonal metafunction); (c) it serves as a means through which textual statuses are assigned to the ideational and interpersonal meanings so that there is coherence and a cohesive flow of meaning as a whole (textual metafunction). The treating of news text within this study is, thus, explored and further characterized within such boundaries.

Information Structure within the Context of Study

Information is central to this study as much of the study rests on how prosody contributes to the structuring and dissemination of information in the construction of news discourse within the general context of radio news production. From a systemic functional perspective, information has its own systems of description mostly expressed through information structure. Information structure is generally conceived of as a system that assigns a structure to the flow of information, the patterns of discourse (Halliday, 1967). The first of its use as a concept is mostly traced to Halliday, who identified it as an aspect of the thematic organization as well as of the lexicogrammar of the English language. Additional descriptions include that it is realized phonologically, it allows the speaker to choose which part(s) of an information unit is to be regarded as newsworthy, and it has as its origin in the information unit (Calhoun, 2006; Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Matthiessen, Teruya, & Lam, 2010; Moore, 2016). Much of its descriptions from a systemic functional perspective identify it as the plane of linguistic organization where lexicogrammar, prosody and meaning of the English language interact to produce discourse. For that, there are three units associated with information structure: the clause, the tone unit, and the information unit.

In an instance of a spoken discourse, two systems are deployed to manage the flow of discourse: theme and information (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). According to Halliday (p. 223), the two systems provide two dimensions of theme-rheme and given-new where the former "has its organization in sentence structure, framing each clause into the form of a message about one of

35

its constituents" and latter "determines the text's organization into information units and the status of each such unit as a component in the discourse, the latter." Subsequently, in an unmarked case of information distribution across a spoken discourse, the clause and information unit both serve as an observable quantum of information that allow participants of the discourse to manage the flow of the discourse (Halliday; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen). In such established case within a logical frame of order, one information unit is made coextensive with one clause; the theme falls within the Given information, and the New information coexist with the rheme (Halliday; Halliday & Greaves; Halliday & Matthiessen).

Since the tone unit functions grammatically as the realization of the information unit (Halliday & Greaves, 2008), it can further be extended that a single tone unit is also coextensive with one clause as seen in the Figure 4. Within a more technical description, in an unmarked case, the information unit maps to one non-embedded clause together with all clauses embedded within it. In other cases, the information unit may be more than a clause, or less than a clause, or any of the combination (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Further extensions from Halliday and Halliday and Matthiessen are: (a) While the unmarked case means that a clause would be realized by one tone unit, in other cases, the clause could be realized as part of a tone unit or as two or more tone groups; (b) Although an information unit is realized as a single tone unit, there may be instances where a unit of information structure higher than the information unit may be realized in terms of patterns of tone group sequences specified by tone.

36

Structure of Information of Radio News Text
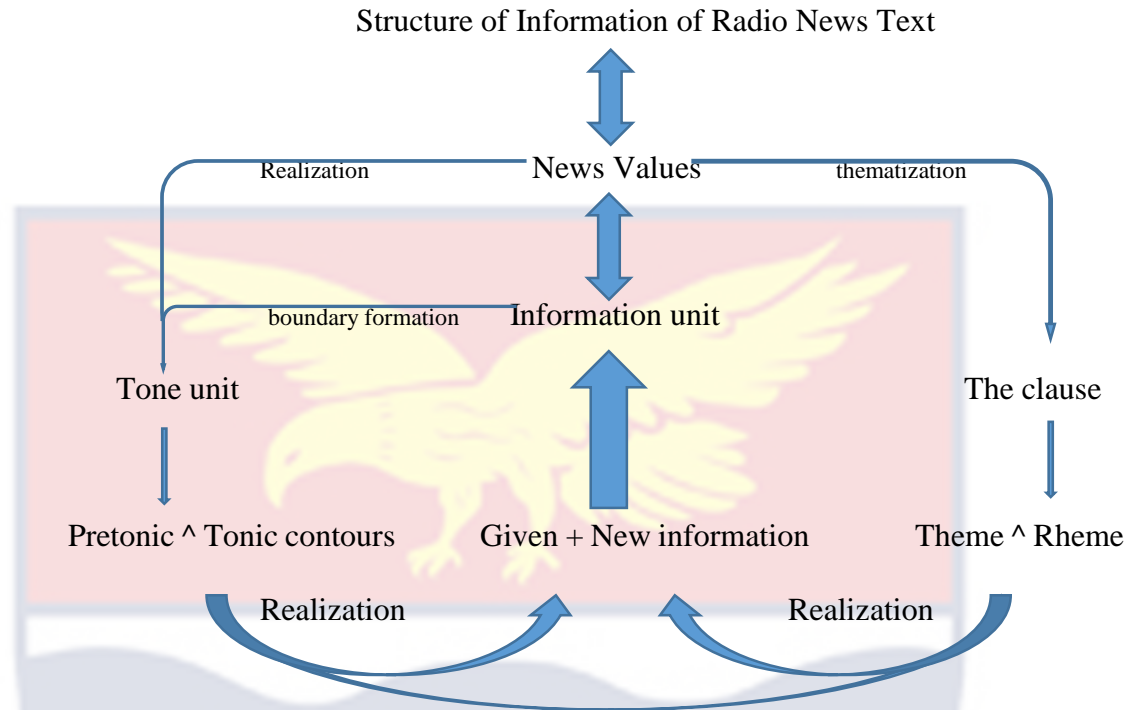
Figure 4: The relationship between the tone unit, the information unit, and the

clause

Source: Researcher's construct

Figure 4 presents a summary of the relationship that exists between an information unit, a tone unit, and the clause (in the unmarked case) towards the realization of information structure in the English language. It was constructed from the considerations of Halliday (1967), Halliday and Greaves (2008), Halliday and Matthiessen (2014). The sign, ^, describes the linear arrangement of the functional parts of the clause and the tone unit. It is such that, necessarily, the functional parts of the respective units must always be ordered in that manner of arrangement (Halliday; Halliday & Greaves). The sign also signifies a syntagmatic relationship where the functional statuses of the two parts of the respective units are defined in relation to each other. It is such that, for both the tone unit and the clause, the

37

internal structuring is observed in a way that is independent of preceding units (Halliday). In the case of the tone unit, the status of the pretonic and its range of possible patterns are defined in relation to the tonic (Halliday & Greaves), while the status of the rheme, in the case of the clause, is defined in terms of the theme (Halliday & Matthiessen).

The plus (+) sign between describes the non-linear arrangement of the functional parts of the information unit. It is such that either of the functional parts of the information unit may take the initial position. The plus sign also expresses a paradigmatic relationship between the Given information and New information where the functional statuses of the two parts of the information unit are defined in relation to the functional parts of previous information units. It is important to state that, in the unmarked case, the information unit would have Given-New pattern rather than the plausible New-Given pattern since the information unit is grammatically realized by the tone unit. The tone unit would normally have the pretonic realize the Given item in an information unit, and the tonic the New item (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). That is, it is usually the order of the functional parts of the tone unit that determines the order of the functional parts of the information unit.

"News values", in Figure 4, is an added unit of description to the operationalization of information structure of the English language within the context of the study. It serves as the point of conceptualization. As a functional term, it has two meanings: (a) it is used to describe the value of the parts of an information unit, which part is valued as new, worthy of attention (newsworthy),

38

and "to be attended to", and which part is "to be taken as read" or known or given (Halliday & Greaves, 2008); (b) it serves as a descriptive framework in the organization of news discourse. "News values" as used in Figure 4 identifies with the latter. It is the case that the present study identifies news value as a bundle of information units which functions as a unit of meaning. It is a chain of information units with establish coherency (information unit nexus) that has an over reaching goal to establish news worthiness of an event present as a story in a news text. The idea expressed is very similar to the idea of a clause and a paragraph. In the flow of information in written discourse, words are organized into the clause; the clause is organized into clause complex; and the clause complex into paragraphs, and the paragraphs into a text (Dovrak, 2008). Within that same stretch, particularly with radio news discourse, it is the case that information units are organized into information unit complex, the information unit complex is organized into paratones, and the paratones are organized into news values which identify as patterns of reported events which constitute a news text (Bell, 1991; Durant & Lambrou, 2009; Bednarek & Caple, 2017; 2012). The Discursive News Values Analysis as a theory supports this framework.

The basic premise is that at the center of the activities of the production community of news discourse is the need to establish the news worthiness of reported events (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Bell, 1991; Durant & Lambrou, 2009). The need is accomplished through the construction of news values in news text (Bednarek & Caple). As has been established, news text is a form of report that presents news worthy events, happenings and issues (Bauman & Briggs, 1990;

Bednarek & Caple, 2012). It is a composition of semiotic systems of language and of images that draws attention to its formal structures and lexical features by which news discourse is organized (Bauman & Briggs; Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Brown & Yule, 1983; Talbot, 2007). That is, for every event that is presented as part of news text are patterns of linguistic expressions that highlight the quality of the event as worth the attention of the public. Those patterns of linguistic expressions that define and construe events in news texts as significant are described as news values. The most pronounced of linguistic descriptions of news values comes from Bednarek and Caple (2017, p. 42): news values are concerned with "newsworthiness of events – their potential newsworthiness in a given community, their newsworthiness as evaluated and determined by news workers in news practice, or their newsworthiness as constructed through discourse".

From these premises, the study conceptualizes news values as a textual property of news text and of news discourse, and as that which inform the structuring of news text as a unique form of report – news values are the textual patterns of news text defined through lexicogrammatical systems as theme, information structure, and cohesion. The study also identifies news values as associated with the interpersonal metafunction, and as such, has direct implication on the patterns of intonation. In a news text then, as meaning associated with the interpersonal metafunction, news values would be expressed by intonation contour; by the "Mood" element and expressions of modality (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). In relation to the textual metafunction, news values would be expressed by what is put first (the theme) and what is put last (the rheme); by what is

40

phonologically prominent and signals information focus (and comes last – the New); and by the placement of conjunctions and relatives. According to Halliday and Matthiessen, and Matthiessen Teruya, and Lam (2010), these textual units form quantum of information which express their textual meaning through wave-like patterns of periodicity that are set up by peaks of prominence and boundary markers. Hence, as rightly presented in Figure 4.0, news values as patterns of news text are realized through the interlocking systematization of the tone unit, the information unit and the clause.

Theoretical Framework

The study is situated within two theories: Discursive News Value Analysis (DNVA) and Systemic Phonology. The two theories complement each other to examine how prosody contributes to the construction of news text. While DNVA is used to establish the unique patterns of news text that are emphasized in the lexicogrammar of the texts as significant to its audience, systemic phonology is used to assess how those patterns sound like, particularly with news text produced through radio in Ghana.

Discursive News Values Analysis (DNVA) as a Theory of News Values

While most linguists show very little interest in news values in their studies into news discourse, linguists such as Bell (1991), Durant and Lambrou (2009), and Smith and Higgins (2013) explain that at the heart of a journalist's work and a primary function of news discourse is to establish the newsworthiness of reported events, where news values refer to newsworthiness. Bell, for instance, states that the goal of news discourse is invested in enhancing and further maximizing news

41

values through the journalist's language. The Discursive News Values Analysis (DNVA) is a unique linguistic approach and theory to the study of news values in news texts. It is an emerging theory developed and established by Bednarek and Caple (2017). The study favours it because of three reasons: It is uniquely placed and has a clearly stated theoretical motif which aligns with the study; it has clearly defined scope and boundaries; and it has a uniquely placed analytical framework.

The theoretical motif of DNVA is partly credited to Galtung and Ruge (1965), the earliest attempt at providing a systematic definition of newsworthiness. According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), Galtung and Ruge's approach to news values was centered on how events became news. Galtung and Ruge had suggested twelve news factors (news values) which they believed were simultaneously triggered any time an event was to be considered worthy of reporting as news, and they had moved on to establish a chain of news communication. Within that frame of order, Galtung and Ruge progressed to test the hypothesis that the more an event identified with the criteria defined by the news factors, the more likely the event was to be selected as newsworthy and registered as news (selection). Once selected, that which made the event newsworthy according to the news factors was accentuated (distortion). From there, the selection and further accentuation or distortions were repeated (replication) at all steps in the chain of news communication, from the event to the reader.

From their hypothesis, Galtung and Ruge (1965) logically argued that the continuous replication of the selection and distortion processes through the chain of news communication meant news factors (news values) have considerable

42

cumulative effects on the events that eventually make it to the reader. The cumulative effects would be a manifestation of an image of a world different from what really happened (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). According to Bednarek and Caple, Galtung and Ruge's idea meant the image of the world presented as news was one that had to be constructed (distorted) through discourse. And rightly so, the selection of an event due to its inherent news value and further accentuation of qualities of the news value meant news discourse involved enhancing the news values of events that have happened. Bednarek and Caple, within such conceptual background, favored exploring how the news values as concepts actually manifest in news text – how it defines the semiotic resources of news text and the characterization of news discourse thereof.

According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), Galtung and Ruge (1965) and their followers were rather bent on how events get selected as news so much that they ended up projecting news values as inherent in events; the events either had it or not. The problem with that approach, Bednarek and Caple point out, is in two folds: (1) When news values are presented as inherent in events, it suggests that events that are registered as news are monolithic; that news values (newsworthiness) can be easily determined objectively since events would either be newsworthy or not; that there is little to no human intervention (social cognition and discursive mediation) in the selection and production of news; (2) It often conflates the terms "event" and "story", which are two different terms.

When there is flood, it occurs as an event; however, it is a story when it is reported as news (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). When the two terms are conflated,

43

they create an instance of ambiguity since news values can be conceived as a selection criteria applied to (a) the event that has taken place to ascertain whether it should be selected for investigation by a journalist or (b) the story which has to compete with other stories to be selected for publication in the limited space or time in a broadcast or newspaper (Bednarek & Caple). [Say] if an event of flood (conflated) was to be regarded to have *Impact* as news value, would that mean the flood affected a lot of people (event), or the event as a report would have massive audience (story)? DNVA makes such distinction and focuses on story.

DNVA is also uniquely placed. Unlike other concepts or theories of news values (Cotter, 2010; Galtung & Ruge, 1965; Harcup & O'neil, 2001; van Dijk, 1988), DNVA was premised on clear distinctions among news values, news selection factors and news writing objectives as aspects of the news process. These had often been conflated in other studies (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). News writing objectives implied general goals associated with news writing such as clarity of expression, brevity, colour, amongst others, whereas news selecting factors included any factor impacting on whether or not an event gets covered or not such as commercial pressures, availability of reporters amongst others (Bednarek & Caple). With those values having duly been defined and classified, what remained as news values concerned the newsworthiness of events. It concerned the potential news worthiness of events in a given community, the newsworthiness of events as evaluated and determined by news workers in news practice, or the news worthiness of events as constructed through discourse. From those potentials, Bednarek and Caple further characterized news values into four dimensions: the material,

44

cognitive, social and discursive dimensions. The DNVA takes the discursive dimension.

It is theoretically set for a close analysis of how news values are constructed through discourse (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). It takes into consideration the semiotic resources (linguistic and visual resources) that are put in use in the presentation or treatment of news values in any published news story (Bednarek & Caple; Makki, 2019). Within the set scope, Bednarek and Caple state that first, DNVA does not tell why a particular story is eventually selected for publication as news. The theoretical considerations are placed in the "how" and not "why". Second, DNVA does not tell whether a semiotic device was used consciously in a news broadcast with the strategic aim of providing news values. The reason they do not make such a claim for DNVA is found in the reason that semiotic devices that construct newsworthiness are usually conventionalized and the result of journalistic practice over time. They, however, do claim that DNVA presents news discourse to attract the audience through the presentation of a story that can be identified as news worthy. Third, they state that DNVA does not necessarily tell how the audience read or reach the meaning potential of news text since the audience find themselves in the public sphere where multiple interpretive frameworks are allowed to co-exists and compete; audience could decode meanings from different position although textual resources do assist in decoding news text.

According to Caple and Bednarek (2016, p. 45), "examining how events are endowed with newsworthiness by the news media shows which aspects of the event are emphasized, and reveals the shape in which events are packaged for news

consumption by audiences". DNVA is theoretically set to do so. The news values recognized as definitive of DNVA are Negativity (and conflict), Impact (consequence, significance, relevance), Superlativeness (size, scale, scope), Proximity (geographical, cultural nearness), Timeliness (recency, currency), Unexpectedness (and unusuality), Eliteness (prominence, elite status), Personalization, Consonance (expectedness, typicality), and Aesthetics (visuals only) (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Caple & Bednarek, 2013; Maki, 2019).

Table 1: Linguistic resources for establishing news values

News value	Linguistic resources and examples
Consonance ([stereo]typical)	References to stereotypical attributes or preconceptions; assessments of expectedness/typicality (typical, famed for); similarity with past (yet another, once again); explicit references to general knowledge/traditions, and so on (well-known)
Eliteness (of high status or fame)	Various status markers, including role labels (Professor Roger Stone, experts); status-indicating adjectives (the prestigious Man Booker prize, top diplomats); recognized names (Hillary Clinton); descriptions of achievement/fame (were selling millions of records a year); use by news actors/sources of specialized/ technical terminology, high-status accent or sociolect (esp. in broadcast news)
Impact (having significant effects or consequences)	Assessments of significance (momentous, historic, crucial); representation of actual or non-actual significant/relevant consequences, including abstract, material or mental effects (note that will stun the world, Australia could be

	left with no policy, leaving scenes of destruction)
Negativity/Positivity (negative/positive)	References to negative/positive emotion and attitude (distraught, condemn, joy, celebrate); negative/positive evaluative language (terrible, brilliant); negative/positive lexis (conflict, damage, death, success, win, help); descriptions of negative (e.g. norm-breaking) or positive behaviour (has broken his promise, unveiled a cabinet with an equal number of men and women)
Personalization (having a personal/ human face)	References to 'ordinary' people, their emotions, experiences (Charissa Benjamin and her Serbian husband, 'It was pretty bloody scary', But one of his victims sobbed, Deborah said afterwards: 'My sentence has only just begun'); use by news actors/sources of 'everyday' spoken language, accent, sociolect (esp. in broadcast news)
Proximity (geographically or culturally near)	Explicit references to place or nationality near the target community (Australia, Canberra woman); references to the nation/community via deictics, generic place references, adjectives (here, the nation's capital, home-grown); inclusive first person plural pronouns (our nation's leaders); use by news actors/sources of (geographical) accent/dialect (esp. in broadcast news); cultural references (haka, prom)
Superlativeness (of high intensity/ large scope)	Intensifiers (*severe, dramatically*); quantifiers (*thousands, huge*); intensified lexis (*panic, smash*); metaphor and simile (*a tsunami of crime, like a World War II battle*); comparison (*the largest drug ring in Detroit history*); repetition (*building after building flattened*); lexis of growth (*a growing list of, scaling up*

47

Timeliness (recent, ongoing, about to happen, new, current, seasonal)	*efforts*); *only/just/alone/already* + time/distance or related lexis (*only hours after*) Temporal references (*today, yesterday's, within days, now*); present and present perfect (*it is testing our emergency resources*); implicit time references through lexis (*continues, ongoing, have begun to*); reference to current trends, seasonality, change/ newness (*its 'word of the year' for 2015, keep their homes well heated this winter, change from GLBT to LGTB, after fresh revelations, for the first time, a new role as*)
Unexpectedness (unexpected)	Evaluations of unexpectedness (*different, astonishing, strange*), references to surprise/expectations (*shock at North Cottesloe quiz night, people just really can't believe it*); comparisons that indicate unusuality (*the first time since 1958*); references to unusual happenings (*British man survives 15-storey plummet*)

Source: Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 79-80

Table 1 above provides a brief overview of the description and linguistic resources associated with the values as presented by Bednarek and Caple in DNVA. Against the background that news organizations (the production community), metaphorically speaking, "sell" events to their audience as news through verbal and visual resources, DNVA establishes which aspects of events presented as news are emphasized, while revealing the shape in which the events are packaged for consumption by audience (Bednarek & Caple 2017; Caple & Bednarek, 2016). The analytical framework to DNVA focuses on structures of the lexicogrammar and does not move below that stratum. Since the focus of the present study lies with prosody, DNVA, thus, serves as means of establishing the lexicogrammatical patterns of meaning of news text.

DNVA, within the present study, provides the conventions to which phonological structures and systems of news text produced through radio could be defined and tied in with the lexicogrammatical patterns of news text. In what follows, I discuss Systemic Phonology which is used to assess whether there are peculiar patterns of prosody in news text; and if there are, how they shape and reinforce meanings construed as news values.

Prosody in Systemic Phonology

Systemic Phonology is a theory subsumed within the architectural blueprint of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) (Matthiessen, 2018). While Systemic Phonology does not have one specific individual to whom it can be credited, the study draws on the synthesis of Halliday (1967), Halliday and Greaves (2008), and Matthiessen (2018) to guide the analysis of the prosodic patterns. In Systemic Phonology, phonology is simply a subsystem of language organized into "an extensive network of phonological systems distributed across the phonological rank scale of units" (Matthiessen, 2018, p. 25). Phonology is recognized as a resource for making sound, a sounding potential.

There are two domains of phonology associated with and made representative of such effort to make sound, a sounding potential: prosodic and articulatory domains (Matthiessen). In the description of English phonology, four units are recognized: tone unit, foot, syllable and phoneme. The prosodic domain has the network of systems spread across the tone unit and foot while the articulatory domain has the syllable and phoneme and associated systems (Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014; Matthiessen). It is best to state

49

that the higher-ranking units provide the environment within which adaptations of lower ranking units are captured (Matthiessen). Second, the syllable phonologically serves as a "gateway" between the prosodic and articulatory domain of the system of phonology (Matthiessen). In that context, in relation to the prosodic domain, the syllable serves as the domain of the system of tone (Matthiessen).

In the description of the English phonology, Halliday (1967) does two things. First, he tackles the phonological resources of intonation that expound grammatical meaning; and then he moves to the grammatical systems that are expounded by intonation. The difference, he points out, is that in the first part of the description, he observed the patterns associated with intonation from the phonological end while he did so from the grammatical end in the second part. The present study takes similar route. However, a description of the grammatical systems that are expounded by intonation is provided in the analysis. For this part of the theory then, the description of the phonological resources of intonation that expound grammatical meaning is the prime focus. The description is set against the background that patterns of intonation are the complex realization of three phonological systems: tonality, tonicity and tone. The systems are interdependent with a fourth system, rhythm. The four systems are a set up along the hierarchical relation of three phonological units: the tone group, foot and syllable. The hierarchical relations between the three are defined according to the rank-descendant principle (Matthiessen, 2018): the tone unit consists of the foot and the foot, the syllable.

In elaborating the interdependency of the systems, the tone unit is described as a melodic line. In a matter of perception, within a connected speech, one would hear continuous melody with rising and falling pitch (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). The melody would have certain moments of prominence which are marked by either relatively rapid pitch changes or extended pitch intervals. Those moments of prominence define a snatch of melody regularly identified as a tone unit (Halliday & Matthiessen). As the melody progresses, one is bound to be drawn in by a more or less regular beat, the rhythm within the melody (Halliday & Matthiessen). Those are patterns of the foot. Progressively, for every snatch of a beat, there is a part where the beat is felt strongly and the part where the beat seems to be dying. The two different parts in the snatch of the beat are realized by the syllable. Thus, the strong and weak beats each constitute a "minimal" chunck of the regular beat (foot) and they are realized by the syllable (Matthiessen, 2018). Along those lines, a description of the structural composition of the units can be made. The tone unit consists of two functional elements: the tonic and the pretonic. The tonic element is obligatory while the pretonic element is optional (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). It is, however, the case that in a structural configuration, when present, the pretonic always precedes the tonic. Also, the range of possible patterns of the pretonic depends on the set patterns of the tonic, for every type of tonic are different set of pretonic possibilities (Halliday & Greaves).

The tonic and pretonic may each consist of one or more than one complete foot. According to Halliday (1967), it is the foot that operates the tone unit. The foot, like the tone unit, has two functional elements: the ictus and remiss. The ictus

51

is always present in a foot although in some instances it is realized as a silent beat (Halliday; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). The remis, on the other hand, is optional. In its configuration, the foot always has the ictus preceding the remis (if it is present). A foot is regarded "complete" when the ictus in it is not silent (Halliday). The functional elements of the foot, the ictus and remis, are operated by the syllable just as those of the tone unit is operated by the foot. The ictus is realized by the syllable that carries the strong beat, the salient syllable, while that of the remis, if present, is realized by the weak syllable (Halliday & Matthiessen). Strong (Salient) syllables are typically prominent (louder) than weak syllables. Along the established structural composition and hierarchical relation of the prosodic units, the tone unit manages intonation; the foot manages the rhythm of the English language; and the syllable manages the prominence realized in the foot and the tone unit (Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen; Matthiessen, 2018). There are, thus, four systems that are set in operation in the prosodic domain: tone, tonicity, tonality and rhythm.

The tone system has the most powerful generalizations in the phonological stratum (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). It is a set of mutually exclusive tones (Halliday & Greaves; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Phonologically, tones are simply relatively distinctive pitch contours that carry grammatical meaning (Halliday & Greaves). There are seven exhaustive choices in the English tone system. Five are simple and two compound. Marked as tone (t) 1 to tone 5, in a successive order, the simples tone would either have the pitch fall (t1), rise (t2), level rising (t3), fall rising (t4), or rise falling (t5). The compound tones are a composite of t1 plus t3

52

and t5 plus t3. According to Halliday and Greaves, the seven choices made available in the English tone system constitute the primary choices as some of the tones can be represented delicately to exude other secondary tones, such as high fall or mid fall or low fall. Basically, the tone is defined by a form of prominence phonetically characterized as loudness and/or longer timing with the relatively greatest amount of pitch movement (Halliday & Greaves). Referred to as the tonic prominence, it is conferred on a syllable (Halliday & Greaves). Typically, it is conferred on a syllable only and only if the syllable already carries a level of prominence and it is realized as the beginning of the tonic element of the tone unit (Halliday & Matthiessen).

In that theoretical juncture, the tonic prominence tells the particular syllable that marks the focus established in a tone unit (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). Much more than that, Halliday (1967) tells that it identifies the syllable sufficient enough to allow one identify correctly the tone selected from the tone system. Of course, since prominence is already a feature of the syllable, it begs the question of how tonic prominence can be made out. All syllables are produced with respiratory energy and as such, are each stressed (Ladefoged & Johnson, 2011). In wording where they are placed side by side, syllables are distinguished from one another as stressed and unstressed. Stressed syllables are produced with greater respiratory energy than the unstressed. According to Gut (2009), the perceptual impression of stress is prominence where prominence is perceived as louder and longer. Phonetically, prominence is observed as greater amplitude and duration (Halliday & Greaves). It is, thus, used as a relative term. Stressed syllables carry prominence

53

since they are perceived as louder and longer (Halliday & Greaves; Gut). The prominence is discussed as salience, and the syllable, salient syllable.

All words when in isolation, either monosyllabic or polysyllabic, always have a syllable that carries prominence, a salient syllable. When words are used to compose a speech phrase, Ladefoged and Johnson (2011) point out that the stresses of the words are modified. The most common modification involves producing some stressed syllables in the words as unstressed. According to Ladefoged and Johnson, this is mostly the case because as a general rule, the English language does not allow stresses too close together. Thus, it is usually the case that stresses on alternate words are dropped in speech phrases where they would otherwise come too near to each other. Words that operate as functional words in utterances suffer the most. This is further characterized by the intuitive bodily urge for a regular pulse or rhythm in utterances (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). Thus, in a speech phrase, the syllables are organized in a way that a salient syllable is followed by a weak syllable(s) and they constitute a foot. Within the foot, the salient syllable takes the position of the ictus where it carries the regular rhythmic beat definitive of a speech phrase. The weak syllables operate as the remis. It is important to reecho the idea that prominence is a perceptual impression of stress, a feature of the syllable, and it establishes the status of a syllable as either salient or weak syllable (Gut, 2009).

When intonation patterns set in to have the speech phrase or utterance organized into a tone unit, the tonic prominence as a perceptual impression of stress sets in as a feature of the syllable. According to Halliday and Greaves (2008), compared to the prominence that the syllable already carries (salience), "tonic

prominence is mainly a matter of pitch movement: it is the place where the greatest amount of pitch movement occurs relative to the range of pitch change…" (p. 54). In that case, the particular syllable that carries the tonic prominence must stand out from all other syllables, be it salient or weak. This is theoretically accomplished by having a salient syllable in the tone unit carry the tonic prominence. It stands out then as a "combination of amplitude, duration (timing), and change of pitch along one or other of the (tone) contours": it is perceived as louder and longer with the relatively greatest pitch movement (Halliday & Greaves, p. 54). The salient syllable that obtains the tonic prominence identifies as the tonic syllable. To that particular end, researchers such as Ladefoged and Johnson (2011) point out degrees of stress where salience plus tonic prominence is referred to as primary stress and salience minus tonic prominence is referred to as secondary stress. There are other two in the name of tertiary and weak stress which have little relevance to this study (Halliday, 1967). The foot in which the tonic syllable is located is the tonic foot, and it defines the tonic element of the tone unit (Halliday; Halliday & Greaves).

In terms of structural placement and setting of boundaries, the tonic syllable is realized as the first salient syllable in a tonic foot; the tonic foot is realized as the first complete foot in the tonic element; and the tonic element is the obligatory element in the structure of the tone unit usually made of one or more complete foot (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). The tone unit has a pretonic if and only if there are at least one foot with a salient syllable occurring before the tonic syllable which marks the beginning of the tonic element (Halliday). To that end, Halliday draws a syntagmatic line that in addition to the

55

tonic element, the pretonic part of the tone unit is the other place that contrasts in tone can be made: While all primary tone contrasts are carried by the tonic syllable in the tonic element, there are distinct sets of secondary contrasts that are realized either in the pretonic or the tonic or both. He, however, points out that no other form of contrasts can be made after the tonic syllable as everything that comes after it forms part of the tonic element. All these are theoretical generalizations set up as part of the principle that each phonological unit consists of a whole number of units ranked next below; thus, a tone unit boundary will always also be a foot boundary, and a foot boundary will always also be a syllable boundary (Halliday; Halliday & Matthiessen). Other theoretical postulations considered part of the prosodic set up are that each tone unit begins where the previous one ends with no overlaps or hiatus; each tone unit can be unambiguously identified with one tone (Halliday).

The above constitute the description of the phonological resources of intonation that expound grammatical meaning. The description is laid along the hierarchical relation among the tone unit, the foot and the syllable, showing the interdependency of the phonological systems of tone, tonicity, tonality and rhythm. While at it, it is important to restate that the first three systems are not independent of rhythm. Typically, as Halliday (1967) puts it, as long as rhythm is kept constant, the number of possible choices in tonicity is equal to the number of salient syllables. Figure 5 (see page 57) summarizes the instance of description of the systemic network of the four systems that typically characterize the choices in prosody or the prosodic domain of phonology.
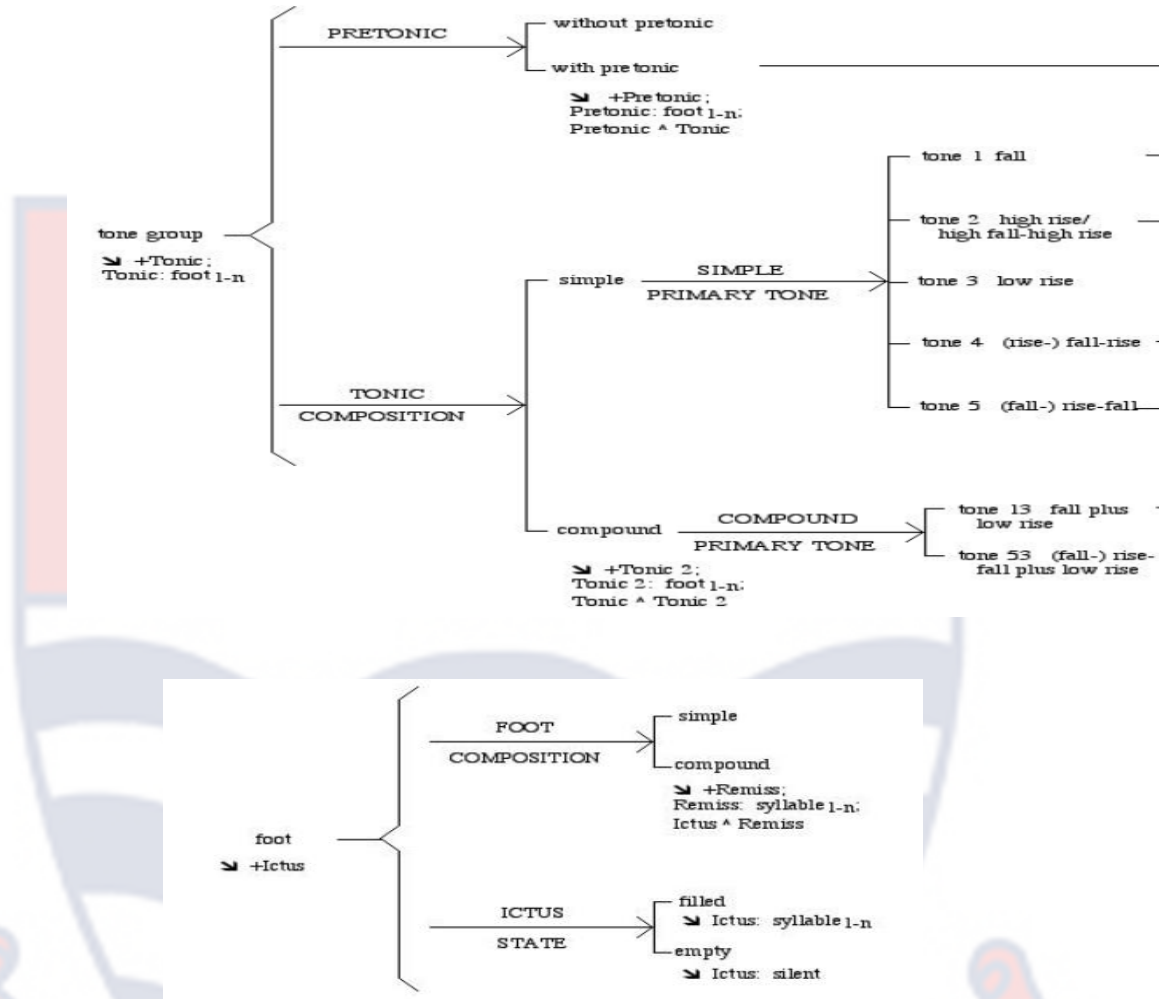
Figure 5: Some systems at the rank of tone group and foot in English

Source: Matthiessen, 2018, p. 30

It is also important to state that choices in prosody are not necessarily intentional choices but automated in relation to content-plane choices (Matthiessen, 2018). So, while DNVA is used to establish the patterns of news text that are emphasized as significant to its audience, systemic phonology is used to access how those patterns sound like, particularly with news text produced through radio in Ghana. Furthermore, the present study employs Systemic Phonology since it affords the study the inter-stratal relation between the lexicogrammar and

57

phonology. The study conceptualizes a peculiar relation between news values as a lexicogrammatical construct, and tone group ("paraphone"), a phonological unit. Additionally, Systemic Phonology provides enough depth to carry the analysis of the study. Its theorization of the tone group and associated systems provides a level of delicacy that affords the current study means of a robust analysis.

Empirical Review

Generally, there is a substantial amount of research on news discourse (Bednarek & Caple, 2012, 2017; Boamah, 2016; Fosu, 2016; Galtung & Ruge, 1965; Nyarko, 2016; Talbot, 2007; van Dijk, 1988) and prosody (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Matthiessen, 2018; Moore, 2016). However, there are not so much empirical works that have used DNVA as a theory or explored the role of prosody in news broadcast, the very interest of the study. To the best of my knowledge, this is very much the case in Africa and Ghana. This section is a review on, first, the role of prosody in news broadcast; second, on the patterning and use of prosody in Ghana; and third, on DNVA and news discourse. The section then discusses the relationship between previous studies on the role of prosody in news broadcast, the patterning and use of prosody in Ghana, as well as that of DNVA and the present study.

Role of Prosody in News Broadcast

It is not enough to treat the patterns of prosody (intonation, rhythm and stress) as merely carriers of emotional nuances superimposed on the lexicogrammar of language (Halliday, 1967). In a speech situation, speakers have access to several paralinguistic resources (prosody, facial expressions and gestures) that allow them

58

to override the meaning as well as the effects words do carry in a communicative context (Brown & Yule, 1983). This is usually the case for such audiovisual channels as the television. The paralinguistic resources available to a newscaster are reduced to prosody in radio news broadcast, as radio is an audio-only channel. Within that perceived regard, some studies have explored the role of prosody in news broadcast. Some of these studies include Anton (2013), Nissen et al. (2020), Lukin and Rivas (2021), and Olaniyi (2021).

Anton (2013) focused on radio news broadcast. She perceived radio as the only medium of communication that emphasizes the prosodic configuration of texts in the broadcast of information. For her, prosody provides a referential framework to radio news texts and so feeds directly into the impression-forming process of the listener. Within that background, she proceeded to a prosodic characterization of radio news where she tried to identify the prosodic resources used in producing radio news broadcast. She found out that radio news bulletins would usually have a wealth of circumflex contours, regular use of the pitch contour or accent, and constant stress on the emphatic accent. From her findings, she argued that there is a peculiar style that characterizes the narrating or telling of news on radio. According to her, the peculiar prosodic style facilitates the attempt to keep the listeners' attention through a melody similar to those of an exclamatory statement. She, however, added that while prosodic resources could guide the discursive understanding of radio news broadcast by the listener at specific moments during speech, their repeated use could lead to counterproductive effects for the comprehension and attention of the listener.

59

Nissen et al. (2020) had their interest in television news broadcast, specifically, how individuals verbally express meaning through pitch, loudness, and tempo. They sought to give their interest a scientific outlook to influence broadcast vocal coaching. To carry out their exploration, they engaged a quantitative analysis where they examined the mean pitch, pitch variability, and pitch range (as properties of prosody) of the broadcasts of 45 males and 45 females. They found that compared to everyone else, male broadcasters actually speak with elevated mean pitch, more pitch variability, and they use more range; while female broadcasters speak at slightly lower mean pitch levels compared to other female speakers, but with more variability and range just as their male broadcasters. Very much, the study seemed to project that regardless of sex, newscasters tend to execute their broadcast in a similar fashion.

Along a similar trajectory as Nissen et al. (2020), Olaniyi (2021) investigated the differences in intonation patterns exhibited in the speech of three linguistic groups, Hausa, Igbo, and Yoruba. With particular focus on tone group juncture, Olaniyi extracted news broadcasts from the Nigerian Television Authority's *News Tonight* from which he examined 30 sentences for the differences in intonation using the Systemic Phonology framework. The study was set on the basic premise that the ethnic origin and inclinations of individuals often surfaced in their articulation of patterns of intonation. He found out that intonation goes beyond the assignment of stress in spontaneous speech and so there may usually not be any difference in the intonation patterns of individual English speakers

whether native or non-native, whether they belong to the same non-native group or different ones.

From a systemic functional framework as well, Lukin and Rivas (2021) sought to examine the ideological effects that prosodic choices impart on news text. They particularly examined an instance of news reporting on television of the 2003 invasion of Iraq and moved to show how prosodic choices constitute an ideological force in the text. This included prosodic choices shared with other texts of similar register and those choices specific to the text. From their analysis of the text, they observed and argued that prosodic choices in the text (a) project a very particular interpretation of the invasion as if distant and objective; and (b) give prominence to claims that the invasion was measured and targeted, and by implication, in accordance with international law.

The discussion in this section highlights the fact that the role of prosody in news broadcasts has been explored within various contexts to meet diverse objectives. The studies reviewed in this section recognized prosody as a core linguistic tool to the construction of news broadcast, be it on radio or television.

Realization of Prosody in Ghana

Since the 1970s, researchers such as Criper, Sey, Norrish, and Dolphyne have observed a distinct variety of English in Ghana known as Ghanaian English, separate from the native variety (Appartaim, 2009).. Through the years, the scholarship on the Ghanaian variety of English has grown: Studies have either supported and extended the proof of its existence or confined it as just accumulated

61

errors characteristic of non-native contexts such as Ghana. Across the scholarship, however, a number of the studies observe patterns and use of the English language peculiar within the linguistic scape of Ghana. Amongst those studies, Owusu-Ansah (1992), Appartaim (2009), and Lomotey (2020) explored the patterns of prosody.

Owusu-Ansah (1992) was particularly interested in how new information is signaled in non-native context of English use. For him, a native variety of English can be distinguished from a non-native variety based on how new information is signaled in the two varieties. To prove his stance, he engaged a comparative study between "British English" and "Ghanaian English", involving recorded lectures from two Open University lectures on television and the University of Cape Coast, Ghana, respectively. His study involved two levels of analysis: phonetic and lexicogrammatical analysis. He also included an acoustic analysis to measure the loudness and duration of the speeches he analyzed. He found out that, in Ghana (which is a non-native context of English language use), variation in 'loudness' is mostly used to map out new information. He further observed that there is the pervasive use of grammatical patterns such as clefted and semi-rhetorical constructions in the realization of new information in speech. He also observed the use of some lexical items as markers of new information. He concluded the findings were reflective of the Ghanaian variety of English distinct from the native varieties.

Appartaim (2009) was also interested in the patterns of prosody that distinguish non-native varieties of the English language from native varieties. She particularly investigated the use of rhythm and prominence in the educated

Ghanaian English speech. She examined an audio recording of a Ghanaian parliament in session that involved sixty MPs. Using Nativisation and Metrical Phonology as theoretical frameworks, she found out there are several ways Ghanaians achieve prominence. They include using pitch and intensity and duration and intensity. She also found out that the data was characterized by a form of rhythm peculiar to the setting and can be regarded as Ghanaian. Amidst the findings, she acknowledged the context of situation and the environment within which the MPs spoke as factors that influenced the form of the rhythm. She concluded that there is a Ghanaian variety of English which observes different realizations of prominence and rhythm.

Lomotey (2020) was also interested in the selection and use of prominence within Ghana as a non-native context of English use. The premise for her study was that although prominence selection seems fixed in the inner circle, it is not the case for the outer (OC) and expanding circles (EC) Englishes: Speakers in OC and EC do not always select prominence to indicate meaning selection. Using Brazil's Discourse Intonation model, she analyzed 6 hours of English conversations from 100 Ghanaians, observing the selection of prominence to indicate meaning selection. She found out that while their selections of prominence do not always coincide with the functions defined by Brazil, Ghanaians assign prominence to individual syllables with communicative intent. She concludes that phonological choices such as prominence selection is common to OC Englishes; however, the differences in use necessitate the adoption of a model that describes the intonation of outer circle Englishes in relation to their contexts and not a native speaker model.

This section highlights the fact that studies have indulged the patterns of prosody within the linguistic scape of Ghana, non-native context of English use. The studies reviewed recognize a patterning and use of prosody in Ghana different from what has been established as norm in native contexts of English use.

Discursive News Values Analysis (DNVA) and News Discourse

DNVA relates to the discursive construction of newsworthiness of reported events. Bednarek and Caple (2017) observe that although the construction of newsworthiness of reported events is a key component of a journalist's work and a primary function of news discourse, most linguistic researches on news discourse do not engage news values at all, and if they do, they only engage them in passing or outside the scope of linguistics. DNVA emerged as a linguistic approach to the study of news values, and of news discourse. To that end, some studies have emerged to investigate the depth of DNVA framework (as an emerging theory) from different linguistic and socio-cultural contexts. Such studies include Makki (2019) and El-Seidi (2019) which are both placed outside Africa.

In his "Discursive news values analysis' of Iranian crime news reports: Perspectives from the culture", Makki (2019) sought to provide a discursive analysis of crime and misbehavior reports and to extend the application of DNVA as a new framework to the Iranian context, particularly to newspapers constructed in the Persian and Farsi language respectively. One-month worth editions of such newspapers were collected and put through a quantitative and qualitative analysis with Bednarek and Caple's (2017) DNVA as the analytical framework. According to Makki, the quantitative analysis revealed Eliteness as the dominant news value

constructed in both newspapers. However, there were differences in how each set of newspapers had their news values constructed. The qualitative analysis revealed that the news values were constructed in line with the sociocultural values dominant in the society and it was also reflective of the possible role of state and political authorities.

In a similar fashion, El-Seidi (2019) decided to engage a comparative investigation into the construction of newsworthiness in newspapers using DNVA, and particularly focused on English and Arabic science stories. The data comprised two built corpora from 120 texts each and they were built from the British Daily Telegraph and the Egyptian Al-Ahram respectively. Rather than focus on the entire texts, he focused on the science news stories headlines and leads. He found out that newsworthiness in science news stories are, by and large, discursively constructed and established as Eliteness, Impact, Negativity, Newness, Positivity, Proximity, Superlativeness, and Unexpectedness news values. He also found out that there are similarities as well as variations in the relative frequency of news values and the linguistic resources used in their construction. He also established that combining two or more news values is a predominant feature of the headline and lead section of the science news story in the two languages. Furthermore, he observed that Positivity and Negativity, in particular, seemed inseparably related to other values.

This section has highlighted the DNVA as an emerging linguistic theory of news values. The studies reviewed in this section recognized DNVA as capable of defining the discursive construction of news values in news text.

Relationship between Previous Studies and Present Study

All the studies reviewed on the role of prosody in news broadcast (Anton, 2013; Lukin & Rivas, 2021; Nissen, Randle, Johnson & Lynes, 2020; Olaniyi, 2021), on the patterning and use of prosody in Ghana (Appartaim, 2009; Lomotey, 2020; Owusu-Ansah, 1992), and on DNVA (El-Seidi, 2019; Makki, 2019) point to the lack of research. The present study advances a prosodic characterization of radio news text, focusing on the role of prosody in the realization of meaning in radio news broadcast. It does so by employing the DNVA as a means to describe and characterize the linguistic construction of news text as a product of news discourse while employing systemic phonology as a framework to access and systemically examine the role prosody plays in the linguistic construction of news text. The characterization is done with due consideration of the linguistic context, Ghana. This section shows the place of the present study among previous studies already discussed.

While Anton (2013) examines radio news broadcast, she sought to highlight prosody as a key linguistic resource in radio production. Unlike the television which has other paralinguistic resources to help establish and reinforce meaning as well as draw the attention of its audience (Mcleish, 2005; Talbot, 2007), radio as an audio-only channel has only prosody to help establish and reinforce meaning as well as draw the attention of listeners to its text. Her finding that radio news broadcast encourages a peculiar style of prosody – a melody – that facilitates the attempt to keep the listeners' attention identifies radio news broadcast as characterized by a strong sense of rhythm. Her finding is key to the present study

in that regard: The patterns of rhythm determine the placement of the tonic accent (information focus) at the structural level, and as such, rhythm would have a strong influence in the construction of information and meaning in radio news broadcast.

Although Appartaim (2009) engaged parliamentary discourse in her study, her study relates closely with Anton (2013) in terms of their relevance to the present study. Apartaim particularly investigated how rhythm is used in the educated Ghanaian speech. She found that certain social and linguistic factors in non-native contexts of English use encourage a peculiar style of rhythm. The particular case of Ghana, the geographical site for the present study, was no different. Although the linguistic situation may influence the rhythm of the educated Ghanaian speech, the educated Ghanaian speech has a peculiar rhythm and it associates with syllable timing, which are influences of the local languages. Owusu-Ansah (1992) and Lomotey (2020) share a similar view. In their respective studies, they show that the linguistic patterns realized with the linguistic scape of Ghana take forms that can be defined as Ghanaian English. Lomotey was interested in the selection of prominence to indicate meaning by speakers of the Outer Circle. Just as with Appartaim, he found that Ghanaians assign prominence to individual syllables with associated communicative intents that are sometimes different from what has been established in native contexts. Owusu-Ansah observed a unique lexicogrammatical behavior that the educated Ghanaian use to signal new information against the use of prosody.

Although the three studies do not engage news discourse, they highlight the unique linguistic scape of Ghana, the linguistic site of the present study, in terms

of prosody and lexicogrammar. First, in contrast to Anton (2013), Appartaim (2009) shows that the rhythm perceived in a radio news broadcast in Ghana can be an influence of the linguistic scape of Ghana as much as it can be the product of radio broadcasting. Second, Lomotey (2020) shows that prominence, in a Ghanaian situational setting, can be used to perform communicative functions peculiar to the Ghanaian context. Third, Owusu-Ansah (1992) shows that within the Ghanaian linguistic scape, it is possible to have speakers dissociate the lexicogrammatical patterns of the English language from the prosodic patterns and use the lexicogrammatical patterns as the only means to effect specific communicative functions in speech, especially signaling of new information. For the present study, the three studies suggested that it was possible that the role of prosody in the discursive construction of Ghanaian news text could be insignificant in the construction of meaning. However, Nissen et al. (2020) and Olaniyi's (2021) studies put a perspective on the influence of the contextual features of Ghana as non-native context on the patterns of prosody in radio news broadcasting. They foreground the relevance of the findings of Anton (2013) to the present study.

Unlike Anton (2013), Nissen et al. (2020) and Olaniyi (2021), as with Lukin and Rivas (2021), were not interested in characterizing prosody in relation to the medium of communication. Nissen et al. and Olaniyi seemed to be interested in whether the sex or the ethnic origin and inclinations of individuals had a considerable influence on how individual newscasters rendered prosody in their broadcasts. Olaniyi found little to no difference in the prosodic realization of news broadcasts of the newscasters who identified with the three linguistic groups he

68

considered. Nissen et al. observed a similar result with regard to female and male broadcasters. Thereof, Olaniyi makes some conclusion relevant to the present study:

a. At the suprasegmental level of phonology, news broadcasts have a structured declarative sentence pattern which ends in falling tones irrespective of nativity or non-nativity to the English language.

b. News broadcasts are usually not attitudinal, individualistic and unconsciously displayed as it would be in the instance of interaction between couples, friends, among others.

c. The tone group junctures are mostly realizations of the falling tone. They are clear manifestations of the patterns of the declarative as used to give information.

d. Context, education and training as well as exposure inform the level of competence in the articulations at the tone group junctures.

These conclusions of Olaniyi (2021), especially the last one, seem true for Nissen et al. (2020). The two studies seem to project the idea that newscasters have some level of training that allows them to present news without much interference from their sex or ethnolinguistic background. From these conclusions, the present study did not dwell on associating the prosodic realization of news discourse with the biological or linguistic background of newscasters. Neither did the present study attempt to define the patterns of prosody as unique to the linguistic scape of Ghana. It observed prosody as a conventionalized semiotic resource used to characterize news broadcasts.

69

Lukin and Rivas (2021), on the other hand, were interested in the role choices in phonological systems play in the ideological work of a text. The key finding they establish in their study is that political and cultural elites project dominant ideologies unto the masses and they do so through the intricate meshing of choices from the lexicogrammar systems and systems of prosody to create the meaning necessary to maintain and project such ideologies. Second, although phonological choices are not observed as conscious choices, they are still enacted and interactive below the conscious threshold of participants in interaction. Their study particularly highlights the intricate relationship between the systems of the lexicogrammar and those of the phonology of the English language in realizing meaning in news broadcasts. So far, apart from Anton (2013), Lukin and Rivas come very close to the objectives of the present study. Although the present study is not much invested in the ideological positioning of news broadcast and the role of prosody in that regard, it is very interested in the meshing of prosody and the lexicogrammar of the English language towards the realization of meaning in radio news broadcasts.

The basic premise of the present study then is to examine the role of prosody in the construction of events as news (newsworthy). Some of the similarities Lukin and Rivas (2021) share with the present study lie with the use of the Systemic Functional Linguistic framework. While the present study focuses on radio news broadcast, Lukin and Rivas examined television news broadcast. Second, while the present study employs DNVA as means to access the patterns of linguistic expressions that highlight the quality of the events in the news reports as worth the

70

attention of the public, Lukin and Rivas, like all the studies reviewed on the role of prosody in news broadcast, neither discuss nor attempt to analyse news values of the news text they examine, a criticism Bednarek and Caple (2017) make against linguistic studies into news discourse. However, unlike the other studies, Lukin and Rivas make up for the difference by examining a text which already had its ideological force established in previous study, Lukin (2019). Consequently, all they needed to do was to examine the role of prosody in establishing the ideological force of the text.

Makki (2019) and El-Seidi (2019) are the two studies that used DNVA. However, firstly, their focus was not on broadcast news but on print news. Logically then, they could not have been interested in prosody. Their studies do, however, provide some useful insights into the use of DNVA as a theory. Makki established in his study that it is possible to have the sociocultural context of a study influence the linguistic choices conceptualized to identify with some news values in DNVA. He argued that, in Iran, some news values are constructed in ways different from what was normally perceived in the literature. It was, therefore, predictable to have some linguistic choices changed. El-Seidi found that multiple news values could be distinguished to characterize a single story in a news broadcast. It was not the case that each story would necessarily be characterized by one news value.

The studies reviewed so far show that some studies have examined the prosody of news broadcast, be it radio or television. Additionally, they show that, although the studies on the prosody of news discourse are set outside Ghana, there

are studies that have explored prosody in some other discourses in Ghana. In the studies reviewed, some of them employed Systemic Functional Linguistic (SFL) framework (Lukin & Rivas, 2021; Olaniyi, 2021), Metrical Phonology framework (Appartaim, 2009), and Brazil's Discourse Intonation framework (Lomotey, 2020). Others simply examined prosody from the phonetic outlook. The present study combines SFL framework with DNVA theory to assess how news broadcasts are discursively constructed and the role of prosody in such discursive construction. The present study will contribute meaningfully to the growing literature on the role of prosody in news text and DNVA, especially in Ghana and Africa. The present study was, therefore, set to examine the role of prosody in the discursive construction of radio news text in Ghana. It seeks to profile the discursive realization of prosody in Ghanaian radio news text.

Chapter Summary

The chapter focused on reviewing the literature that is integral to the topic under investigation. Thus, the chapter presented a conceptual review, where the researcher engages *radio in Ghana*, *news discourse*, *news texts*, and *information structure* as background and contextual information to the study; a theoretical review, where the researcher presents DNVA and Systemic Phonology as the underpinning theoretical framework of the study; and an empirical review, where the researcher reviews research relevant to the study and a critique thereof. The next chapter will focus on the methodology employed in the study.

CHAPTER THREE
METHODOLOGY

Introduction

This chapter describes the methodological procedures used in the study. It describes the data and its nature, the ways through which the data was gathered and processed to reach the conclusions of this study. The chapter, therefore, addresses the research design, research site, data collection procedures, transcription and coding of data for the study. In the chapter, the problems encountered during the data collection and analysis are also presented.

Research Design

The qualitative research paradigm was adopted for the study. The qualitative research paradigm, according to Descombe (2010), facilitates an in-depth study of relatively focused areas and it affords small-scale research as the present study, a detailed analysis of data. Other advantages that the study sought to benefit from qualitative research include (a) its tolerance of ambiguity and contradictions as social realities of interactions; (b) its orientation towards the interpretive skills of the researcher, which allows more than one interpretation as valid; and (c) its inclination to use naturally occurring data.

The qualitative research paradigm was, therefore, favoured in the present study since it concerns itself with the description of communicative events including those that exist as texts, images, and other objects; it nurtures strategies to an in-depth understanding of meaning and definitions of research situations (Barbie, 2008; Descombe, 2010; Maxwell, 2008; Reinard, 1994). Although

Bednarek and Caple (2017) employed both quantitative and qualitative research designs, they observed that qualitative analysis is crucial to examining the discursive construction of news values. According to them, the qualitative analysis is necessary because "not all lemmas/word forms are good predictors for newsworthiness construction, and a semantic tagger cannot simply be used as a news values tagger" (p. 203). Furthermore, news values may not necessarily be established through recurring word forms or words with the same semantic tag. It is possible to have "Unexpectedness" as a news value construed through factual reference to happenings that will be considered usual in most instances (without explicit markers), and Consonance may also be difficult to detect without a qualitative analysis. Consequently, for the present study that involves examining the role of prosody in the discursive construction of news values, the qualitative research paradigm is most useful.

The study particularly employed content analysis as the qualitative research approach to the analysis of the data. Descombe (2010) describes content analysis as an approach that could be used to study any text, whether written, spoken, or pictorial. It could be books, magazines, web pages, poems, newspapers, songs, paintings, speeches, letters, e-mail messages, among others. It is the study of recorded human communication (Barbie, 2008). For this study, it is radio news broadcast. The qualitative content analysis is considered suitable for the present study for a number of reasons. Firstly, although qualitative research paradigm nurtures a subjective interpretation of the content of a text through identification of themes or patterns, it follows a logical and relatively straightforward procedure that

74

allows the researcher to offer an objective interpretation of the content of the text (Hsieh & Shannon, 2005; Descombe). It also allows the researcher the room to approach the aspects or choices made in the construction of the text as not entirely conscious acts; it facilitates an open-minded examination of the text. Through the procedures it identifies with, it also offers means of quantifying the content of analysis (Barbie; Descombe; Maxwell, 2008).

It is important to state that the study approached the texts as objects built to interact outside the interactional context within which it was produced. In effect, the study sought to examine the texts on their own merits and communicative value as it is typically presented to be meaningful without its external context of production. Ideally, as Halliday and Hasan (1985) explain, as an object and a representation of the process of news discourse, news text has the context in which its meaning unfolds embedded in itself. Qualitative content analysis proved to be the perfect methodological approach to be used since it "has an in-built tendency to dislocate the units and their meaning from the context in which they were made, and even the intentions of the writer or speaker" (Descombe, 2010, p. 283). Another important consideration is the fact that most of the literature in their analysis of news values employed content analysis to identify news values (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). According to Bednarek and Caple, although some researchers employed the ethnographic approaches (such as interviewing, newsroom observations), several researchers employed content analysis which tells more on the how news values are constructed.

"Content analysis is essentially a coding operation" (Barbie, 2011, p. 361) where coding simply involves assigning tags, lines, names or labels to pieces of data. The goal for coding is usually to assign meaning to the pieces of data and to transform the raw data into a standardized form (Barbie, 2011). The researcher first employed open coding to map out the data using identifiable patterns that would facilitate finding conceptual categories in the data. According to Punch (1998: p. 210), open coding typically functions "to expose theoretical possibilities in the data." The researcher then moved on to axial coding with the aim of finding the relationships between the categories. The axial coding, according to Descombe (2010), shifts the analysis of data towards the identification of key components, placing the researcher in a position to focus or concentrate on the most significant categories of the data. The goal to involving the two processes, open coding and axial coding, was to arrive at the basic ideas that very much characterize the way the categories observed relate to each other as a single notion.

For this study, the qualitative content analysis enabled the present researcher to remain open to the possibility of identifying novel phenomena through open and axial coding (Punch, 1998; Descombe, 2010). This process was particularly useful as it encouraged the present researcher to examine rigorously the data in order to arrive at valid conclusions rather than skew findings.

Research Site

The sites chosen for the study were Citi FM and Joy FM. The two are situated in Accra, the capital of Ghana. These Media sites were chosen based on two factors: they are amongst the most rated and highly regarded radio Media

76

houses in Ghana, and they employ English language in their news production. By the end of the year 2019, Citi FM, and Joy FM constituted the top two English-speaking radio stations in Ghana (Boateng, 2019).

Joy FM was the first English speaking private radio station to be licensed in Ghana soon after the liberalization of the airwaves in the 1990s (Opare-Henaku, 2016). It is, therefore, a key research site for any description involving the use of the English language as a medium of communication in radio production within the context of media linguistics in Ghana. It started operating in 1995. It serves as one of the major brands (and the first) of the Multimedia Group Limited (MGL), Ghana's biggest private media group in radio, digital TV and online broadcasts. Boateng (2009) notes that after some time of its conception, Joy FM had a sister station, Adom FM, which was established to meet the language needs of the locals. It used Akan as the language of interaction. The expected impact was to satisfy the language needs of the locals without compromising the language needs of those who patronized Joy FM. To that end, Joy FM, over the years, amassed an audience characterized by the educated middle to upper income audience who preferred English as the language of interaction on radio (Opare-Henaku). The station operates on the frequency 99.7 MHz., has an online platform (www.myjoyonline.com), and has a number of affiliate stations across the country (Coker, 2011).

Citi FM, on the other hand, has arguably been judged the best English radio station for some time now, having surpassed Joy FM. In a story covered by Boateng (2019) on Citi FM online platform (www.citinewsroom.com), Citi FM was judged

77

the fifth most listened to radio station in Ghana in 2018 by GeoPoll audience rating, with an average daily audience of 474,000. Joy FM was seventh with an average daily audience of 430,000. Citi FM, however, took the top spot for English speaking radio stations in Ghana (with Joy FM placing second) in the 2018 GeoPoll audience ratings – GeoPoll is a recognizable research group that has existed since 2012, and conduct remote research through mobile-based methodologies in Africa, Asia, and Latin America (www.geopoll.com). According to Boateng, it was the third consecutive time that Citi FM had emerged number one in the annual ratings of the English market in Ghana. Thus, like Joy FM, it is also language sensitive to the educated middle to upper income audience who prefer English as the language of interaction. The profile of Citi FM made it an impeccable site for the study. Citi FM started operating in 2004. It operates at a frequency of 97.3 MHz and has an online platform as well (www.citinewsroom.com).

The domain within which the data was collected is news bulletins. The texts for the study were sampled from *News Night* of Joy FM and *Eyewitness News* of Citi FM respectively. *News Night* runs from 6pm to 7pm whereas *Eyewitness News* runs from 5.30pm to 7pm. Although the two radio stations run two major news bulletins, one during midday and the other in the evening, the researcher decided to choose the ones conducted in the evening. The reason was in their respective titles, *News Night* and *Eyewitness News*. The respective titles suggested an effort to highlight them as unique programs to the respective radio stations. Rightly so, as their slogan suggest ("be there as it happens"), Citi FM seem to present their stories through accounts of people who witnessed the events they report as news. Joy FM

runs about nine briefs of news in a day which lasts about 5 to 10 minutes each (Opare-Henaku, 2016). During *News Night*, they run the stories which they judge to be significant amongst the rest. Thus, the two programs do have an outlook that makes them stand out as unique news bulletins among the news bulletins ran by the respective radio stations. The two respective news bulletins were observed as the appropriate news bulletins with which to work. It is important to add that the two programs run from Monday to Friday.

Within these sites, the unit of observation was the patterns of news values of the individual stories that made up a news bulletin and the units of analysis were the patterns of intonation that characterized the stories. The patterns of news values were to be observed to define the patterns of the data so that an analysis of prosody could be made to ascertain the role of the prosody in the construction of those patterns (Barbie, 2008). The study was set to explore and observe how prosody contributes to the discursive construction of news broadcast.

Ethical Considerations

The data for the study were produced as social and circulable texts: There are no expectations of privacy attached to them. However, since the data was taken from the source, consent was sought from the two radio stations. I presented an introductory letter to them, which provided them with information on the institution I was affiliated to, the contact of my Head of Department and my supervisor, and my research focus. I then explained to them the significance of my study and assured them I would not manipulate the data to cause any social harm to their institutions. I also assured them that they would get access to the results of my

79

research. I was granted permission and access to their data after I signed an undertaking they had prepared for me. I was granted permission and access to their data after I signed an undertaking they had prepared for me. The purpose of the undertaking was to ensure that I would observe the agreement we had regarding the use of the data I obtained from them.

Data Collection Procedure and Sampling Method

Data for this study comprise two transcripts of news stories from *News Night* and *Eyewitness News* respectively. They were extracted from the audio files of the respective news bulletins dated March 6, 2020. While the audio file of *News Night* was taken from ATL FM, an affiliate station of Joy FM, that of *Eyewitness News* was taken from Citi FM. The negotiations for the audio files were done by presenting a letter of introduction obtained from the Head of Department of the Department of English.

The data was originally composed of six news bulletins, three each from *News Night* and *Eyewitness News*. They were dated March 6, 16, and 23, 2020 respectively. The three dates were necessary since one of the sources for the data would allow the researcher access to just three news bulletins of choice. The dates were chosen because they marked certain major social and political events in Ghana. The researcher anticipated that those events would be covered by the two radio stations which would offer the study the right environment to compare stories from the same event but produced within two competing contexts. On March 6, there was the independence celebration of Ghana as well as a development on the presence of COVID-19 in the country. On March 16, a Monday, schools and

churches had been closed down due to COVID and they were yet to be broadcasted on the two news bulletins. Similarly, on March 23, a Monday, the borders to the country had been closed. Of course, it was also a year of elections. Consequently, there were a lot of national issues to report as news. Eventually, the news bulletins selected from *News Night* and *Eyewitness News* were those produced on those same dates and from the same event.

With the help of two research assistants, the six sessions of radio news bulletins were examined and related stories were selected to make up the data. Surprisingly, very few of the stories from the two respective news bulletins shared close connection with an event. A careful study of the data revealed that there were stories which seemed to be connected by a single event; however, they were about different aspects of the events and so they were exempted. For instance, there was a story on some six suspected cases of COVID-19. While Joy FM reported their situation of where they had been quarantined while awaiting their test results, Citi FM focused on the places the suspected individuals had been to and the probable spread of the virus in those areas. There were also stories which seemed to have been construed within a similar space of an aspect of an event, but the duration (time) of the stories presented in the respective news bulletins were extremely wide. That is, there were instances where a story that lapsed about three minutes in *Eyewitness News* was presented as a minute story in *News Night.* Such instances were also avoided as much as possible.

Eventually, the study settled on just two news stories out of the sixteen stories that were identified as related, one each from the two radio stations. The two

stories, in their audio format, had the time duration of about two minutes, thirty seconds for *News Night* (Data A) and about a minute and forty seconds for *Eyewitness News* (Data B). The difference in duration for which the stories were produced in the respective news bulletins was the closest the data yielded. Both stories were reports on the test results of a suspected case of COVID-19 in Ghana. Two defining traits led the researcher to consider the two stories from twelve others. First, the stories chosen had both newscasters of the respective radio stations present a similar story where they both interacted with the same person as the key personality from whom the story emerged. Second, the stories selected had the newscasters fairly represented as much as the key personality who acted as witness to both stories. These were very important as it was observed of the data that the stories presented in *Eyewitness News* were largely oriented towards foregrounding the account given by the eyewitness of the event in question. If the statement of the eyewitness lapsed relatively longer, the duration of the stories was relatively longer and vice versa. Thus, the two stories offered a fair premise to do a comparison.

From the literature (Olaniyi, 2021; Lukin & Rivas, 2021) and having examined the data, the decision to settle on just two stories was a practical one; detailed analysis of even one text in relation to the linguistic systems and patterns which characterize the data produces extensive results requiring extensive observation and interpretation. The analysis was rendered on two levels: an analysis of patterns of news values and theme; and an analysis of information focus in relation to patterns of intonation. Particular attention was granted the second as the research was primarily focused on prosodic patterns: the role of rhythm, tone,

tonality, and tonicity in the construction of news values in radio news text and their contribution to textual, interpersonal and logical meaning. Additionally, since the study was interested in the significance of prosody in construing meaning in radio news broadcast, two of the stories sufficed to achieve the study objectives.

In sum, the researcher employed purposive sampling to select data that were most useful for the study. According Descombe (2010), purposive sampling runs on the principle that the best of information can be accessed paying attention to a relatively small number of instances deliberately selected based on their known attributes. The sample that constitutes the data for a research in purposive sampling is "hand-picked" on the premise of relevance of the sample to the research and knowledge the researcher has about the sample (Descombe).

Transcription and Coding of Data

Each audio file was listened to a number of times and transcribed. The audio files were then listened to again and marked following a perceptual analysis which were further affirmed using Praat software. As the primary objective of the study was to examine the role of phonology in the construction of radio news text and not to describe the text phonologically, the transcript was created to exude patterns of information units. It is usually the case that there is a one-to-one correspondence between information unit and tone unit (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). The researcher did not engage a phonetic transcription in that regard, be it broad or narrow. The decision was influenced by the fact that the researcher had already established wording or the lexicogrammar as the level of organization in language where the systems of writing and sounding

83

can be duly represented and related (Halliday & Matthiessen). That is, the systems of the tone unit and the clause can be represented and related drawing on the information unit. Furthermore, the researcher had established that while the tone unit help give form to the functional aspects to information unit, it is the information unit that carries meaning and provides the sense of boundary associated with the tone unit (Halliday; Halliday & Greaves; Halliday & Matthiessen). The conventional symbols used to mark the transcription are as follows:

///	tone group complex
//	tone group
/	foot boundary (salient syllable)
^	silent beat
…	pauses
..	mumbling

The transcription methods and conventions used follow the notations of Systemic Phonology (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). After the phonological features were marked on the transcription, it was passed on along with its audio to two senior lecturers to be verified as valid and reliable.

In Appendix B, the transcribed texts were further coded for analysis. Different colours were used to map out patterns of news values in the news texts. The colours used were blue (Timeliness), green (Proximity), yellow (Negativity), grey (Superlative), violet (Eliteness), brown (Consonance), light green (Personalization), and red (Unexpectedness). This was done following the analysis of the news values of the respective stories using DNVA. The selection of distinct

84

colours was crucial in visually mapping out the patterns of news values within the analyzed news texts. Each colour was chosen to effectively differentiate the linguistic patterns associated with specific news values, facilitating a clear and intuitive understanding of the findings. The colours were also used to measure and determine which news values were predominantly realized in the lexicogrammar of the respective news stories. Additionally, the colours were used to paint a general outlook of how patterns of news values interact with each other to make dominant one or two amongst them. This step was necessary after considering Makki (2019) and El-Seidi (2019). It is important to state that the colours were chosen based on personal convenience.

Problems Encountered

I encountered major challenges during the data collection. The first challenge was getting access to the data. Texts, such news broadcasts, are produced as social and circulable. One does not need a password to access it as they are intentionally made public (Talbot, 2007). Thus, it was initially presumed that securing the data would be easy. Contrary to that, although the news broadcasts of the respective Media houses were still public, they had intentionally taken off most of their audio files from the public domain (the internet). Since the study required quality audio files produced with little "noise", it was necessary to get the data from the sites rather than have them recorded. On the first interaction, the media sites chosen would not grant any access to the data although I had all the needed documents to identify myself as a student researcher and had established that all ethical issues were going to be observed. Their premise was that they were forced

85

to take down most of their audio files from the public domain as bloggers misuse and misrepresent them, using their files. They were, therefore, on high alert to prevent anyone from using their material for any kind of research as there were sensitive issues emerging pending the 2020 elections. Amidst these, securing an appointment with the editor-in-charge to explain and establish credibility was also an additional challenge.

To deal with the challenge, it became necessary to find someone from the media house who would vouch for my credibility. This was extremely tedious and it took a lot of time and money spent on traveling and accommodation. Eventually, middlemen were found who secured an audience with the respective media houses. Some documents were produced for me to sign, and in one context, I was allowed only three audio files. Subsequently, as with the dictates of ethical issues (Descombe, 2010), I had to explain the nature of the study and the involvement of the media houses; that the audio file would be treated as confidential; that I would operate within the dictates of the sign bond (which basically stated that I had agreed to use their data for only academic purposes); that the researcher was going to be honest especially with the results and not seek to manipulate the data or expose them to an unacceptable harm. With these in place, their consents were registered. The challenge the researcher observed from these acts was that the media houses did not have any proper channel established to track and allow research within the media space. This makes gathering data from the media houses very strenuous.

Another challenge faced was managing the data. After I had gathered the data and left for my institution of studies, I realized the audio files taken from one

of the data sites were corrupted. Two to five minutes into the audio file and the audio was lost while the file kept playing. Since there was no indication of a virus and the audio files taken from the other data site had none of those problems, it was deduced that the problem was from the source. Considering the amount of time spent getting the data from the data sites and the condition that I had to wait for the expert (I had initially pressed them to have someone other than the IT person in charge get me the data) to get another set of data (which could probably be corrupt as well), I decided against going back to the particular data site. Subsequently, I went to an affiliate station, which was closer to my institution of studies, for the data. I went through a similar process as with the other data sites but it was relatively faster. However, far from over, due to some busy events which were unfolding at the time, the audio files I was granted contained all programs run in a day by the affiliate station. Subsequently, I was forced to listen through the 24-hour audio files to mark out the targeted news file.

In addition, the processes involving the identification of relevant portions of the news bulletins for the study and further process of transcription were very difficult. Transcription itself requires a huge amount of time, whereby audio files have to be repeated countless times to enable the researcher to obtain a clear hearing of some words and as well understand the complex nature of interaction. Since the data had to be marked for perceptual features and further run through Praat, the time spent was more intense than usual. It was also tedious, scanning through the news stories from *News Night* and *Eyewitness News* to select stories common to each other. There were times that some news bulletins had to be repeated twice

since there were no stories that seemed to be common to the two news bulletins. This was done because I was skeptical about the situation. Six news bulletins had to be examined for the task. *News Night* is an hour long while *Eyewitness News* is an hour and thirty minutes long. Thus, considering the workload associated with the sorting of the stories, transcription, the marking of perceptual features and the need to have a second and sometimes a third person repeat the processes to ensure validity, there was the need for thorough patience. This caused a great deal of delays in the transcription and analysis of the data. Also, it is known to researchers, in general, that transcribing an oral text into a written form poses a great deal of difficulties and problems due to hesitations, overlappings and interruptions (Birdwhistell, Stubbs, as cited in Edu-Buandoh, 1999). Notably, these features were not absent in my data. They even served as pointers in limiting the data to two stories. Thus, parts of the audio files were inaudible, so I had to play the recordings back and forth for the information to be clearly accessed.

Amidst all these, it is worth mentioning that the processes were observed to ensure the data for the study was accurate and precise, the instruments used were neutral, and the findings associated with the data were generalizable, and the analysis impartial. According to Descombe (2010), for a qualitative research as this, credibility is everything. According him, conventionally, the credibility of a research is judged based on validity, reliability, generalization, and objectivity. The researcher tried to achieve credibility through these processes.

Chapter Summary

This chapter has discussed the methodological procedures used in the study. The qualitative research approach adopted in the study was discussed. Procedures for collecting and analysing data were also discussed in this chapter. Data was obtained from *News Night* and *Eyewitness News* produced by Joy FM and Citi FM respectively. The data was collected as portions of the audio files secured from the research sites and was transcribed for analysis. This chapter also presented the challenges encountered during the data collection and transcription of data for analysis and how they were surmounted.
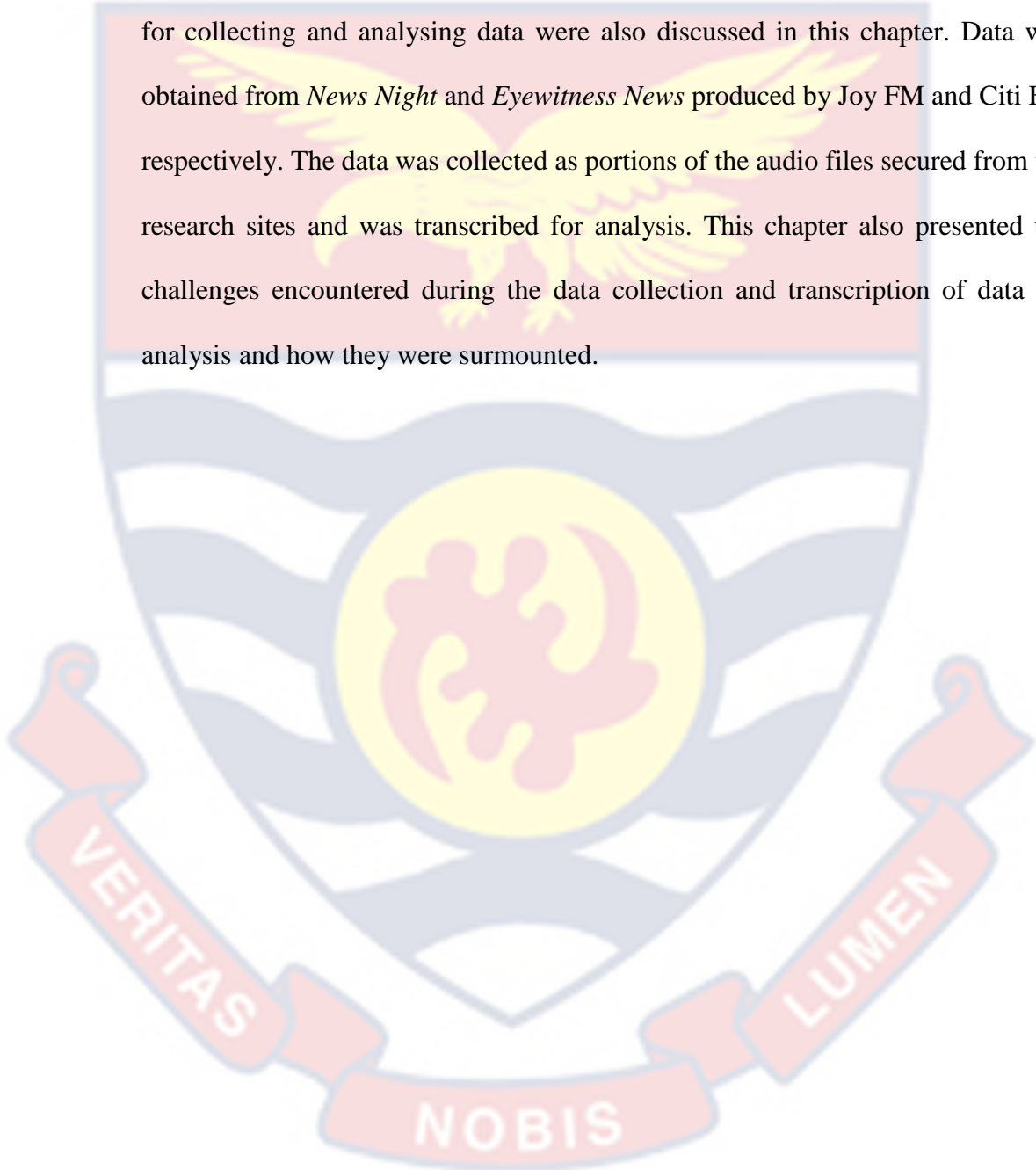
CHAPTER FOUR
ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

Introduction

Chapter four aims at presenting the analysis and discussion of the data. I accomplish this in two sections, guided by the conceptualization and theories that underpin the work and the research questions. Thus, the first section analyses and discusses the discursive construction of news texts, drawing on the patterns that define the texts as news or newsworthy; it involves the patterns of news values and theme. The second section analyses and discusses the role of prosody in the discursive construction of the news texts, which involves the patterns of the tone unit and their realization of meaning (information unit). This chapter ends with a summary.

The Forms of News Values and their Allocated Resources

To start the analysis and discussion of the study, I reestablish the premise that in discussing the discursive construction of news text, the concern lies with the construction of news values (newsworthiness) through the semiotic resources in use (Bednarek & Caple, 2012; 2017). The information of news text exudes two patterns of news values. While they both foreground the newsworthy parts of news text, one is associated with the organization of information units – explored by Lukin and Rivas (2021). The other is mainly related to the organization of news discourse in text. In the second instance, explored by Bednarek and Caple (2017), news values are basically "…constructed by an open-ended range of lexical or grammatical resources (word forms, lemmas, phrases, whole clauses, or sentences)" (p. 78).

Those resources function to emphasize or de-emphasize the aspects of the news text so that they colour the reported event as significant to the audience. Thus, they act as explicit signals revealing the shape in which reported events are packaged for consumption (Bednarek & Caple). News values, associated with Lukin and Rivas, is used to describe the value of the parts of an information unit; which part is valued as new, worthy of attention (newsworthy), and "to be attended to," and which part is "to be taken as read" or known or given (Halliday & Greaves, 2008).

In this part of the analysis and discussion, the focus is on the second instance – the explicit signals set up in the lexicogrammatical resources that define the news values of the respective news stories and reveal the shape or structure within which the stories are packaged as news. I observed that the two data sets had their respective semiotic resources construct more than one news value within these spheres. However, the two data sets had the same forms of news values constructed. Table 2 (see page 92) shows the news values constructed in the two data sets (A and B) and the percentage allocation of the linguistic resources used to construct the respective news values. It is a summary of Appendix B.

The percentages were drawn from all the forms of linguistic resources defined by Bednarek and Caple (2017): words, groups/phrases, clauses, and even sentences. Bednarek and Caple defined the linguistic resources based on their meaning potential, typical usage, and function. In all, Data A had 69 distinguishable linguistic resources that construed either of the news values identified while Data B had 46 distinguishable linguistic resources. It is important to state that while the percentages may be close for the two data sets, the news values in data A were

relatively well-represented than in data B. That is, although Timeliness has the percentages 12 and 11 in Data A and B respectively, in Appendix B, the percentages reflect 8 and 5 instances in Data A and B respectively. The situation can be attributed to the textual space of the respective data set. Data A had 393 words (with 69 distinguishable linguistic resources), while Data B had 287 words (with 46).

Table 2: News values and their percentage distribution of linguistic resources

News Values	Data A Percentages of linguistic resources	Data B Percentages of linguistic resources
Timeliness	12	11
Consonance	12	6.5
Superlative	14	07
Personalization	06	06
Proximity	17	13
Eliteness	12	22
Negativity/Positivity	23	15
Unexpectedness	04	19.5

Table 2 above supports most of the initial propositions made by Bednarek and Caple (2017) on the realization of news values in news stories. First, Bednarek and Caple established that news values are frequently combined in news stories. As Table 2 indicates, the two data had their linguistic resources construe multiple news values. In all, there were eight news values identified in both data. Furthermore, Table 2 shows that the two sets of data had constructed similar news values; hence,

92

all the news values identified in Data A are present in Data B and vice versa. The similarities in the news values constructed in the respective data were expected due to three factors. First, the stories that made the data are both reports from the same event (Bednarek & Caple). Second, they have similar rhetoric of reporting the event. They both were constructed around the same key personality and somewhat had a dialogic form. Third, they were directed to a similar target audience.

While Table 2 shows that the expectations were exactly the case, the table also shows that the emphasis on the identified news values differed for the two texts. According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), news organizations emphasize similar or different news values in reporting the same event, usually accomplished using similar or different linguistic resources. From Table 2, most of the linguistic resources that constructed news values for Data A showed Negativity/Positivity as the dominant news value. In contrast, Data B had Unexpectedness and Eliteness as the dominant news values. Thus, although the two data seem to have had the same shared input material and news values, they emphasize different news values.

In what follows, I provide a detailed analysis of the various news values and their associated linguistic resources. I then discuss how the respective linguistic resources identified with the respective news values eventually feed into the discursive construction of the data as a newsworthy story. In so doing, I create a linguistic context within which the role of prosody can be examined and discussed.

93

Timeliness

Timeliness is to be regarded as, perhaps, one of the essential news values of the data since the data is associated with radio which boasts of instant (fast) transmission of information, a medium of here and now (Kuyucu, 2016). According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), Timeliness is primarily concerned with temporality. It would typically involve using linguistic resources to construe events as immediate, imminent, or recent as much as possible (Bell, 1995). The respective data are presented in a way that they sound as if the events of the story had just happened, with the two respective instances of the report as the first broadcasts of the story. According to Bednarek and Caple, Timeliness is construed if and only if the linguistic resources locate a reported event close to the time of publication. Data A has time deictic(s) or temporal references such as "latest," "yesterday," "currently," "recently," "since," "now." Data B has the word "earlier" and the groups "just this afternoon" and "a few hours." All these linguistic choices locate the reported events closer to the time of broadcast of the news stories.

The tense/aspect expressed in the data also construes Timeliness. Data A and B are characterized by the use of present perfect, present progressive, and simple past verb forms that locate the reported events in time closer to the time of broadcast of the stories. Most of the verbs are, however, presented in the passive voice. While the identified linguistic resources and patterns do conform to the projected outcome of construing Timeliness (Bednarek & Caple, 2017), it is observed that the time deictic(s) and tense/aspect are used in a complementary way to enhance their temporal news value.

94

Extract 1a:

The suspected patient, a lady who <u>arrived</u> in Ghana **recently** from New Jersey in the United States and <u>is **currently** being held</u> at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital, passed the mandatory checks…

Extract 1b:

The Noguchie memorial institute for medical research <u>was **earlier** mandated</u> to investigate a suspected case of the deadly COVID nineteen in Ghana

In Extract 1a ("a" represents Data A), there are the verbs "arrived" and "is being held." The temporal referents are "recently" and "currently." "Arrived" as a verb form places the event or action it expresses in the past. According to Bell (1995), in the construction of Timeliness, recency is assumed when the time concerning a reported event is not specified. While Bell's proposition helps characterize "arrived" as recent, it still leaves room to define how far recent is into the past (two weeks or three weeks). The overt use of "recently" to qualify the verb shows intentionality to characterize the event expressed in the verb as past, but very recent and relevant to the present state of affairs. The appropriate term to use in that regard is "recent-past" (Faccinetti, 2012). As the media that characterizes the data is radio, the verb form plus "recently" draws a timeline of 24 hours before the broadcast.

The combination of the present progressive passive verb form, "is… being held" and "currently" also identifies the associated event as ongoing and locates the event as running concurrently with the broadcast. The use of "currently" as a qualifier also determines the state of affairs expressed in the verb form as extended actions in progress capable of changing right from the point of broadcasts. It draws

95

in the future time relative to the time of broadcast. Rather than recency, the combination appeals more to immediacy (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). In Extract1b ("b" represents Data B), the combination of the past passive tense, "was… mandated", and the temporal referent, "earlier," locates the event as occurring near the beginning of the broadcast. It could count as less than 12 hours since the broadcast time is placed from 5.30 pm to 7:00 pm and is produced through radio. The respective linguistic resources that construct Timeliness are combined within the data to enhance the temporality of expressed Timeliness.

Consonance

Consonance is tied to "stereotyping". It is constructed when linguistic resources used in a news text construe an event's news actors, social groups, organizations, or countries in a way that conforms to stereotypes sheltered by members of the target audience (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). It is essential to highlight that stereotyping is defined by the producers of the news text in relation to the supposed target audience (Bednarek & Caple; Makki, 2019). In the data, I observed three distinct instances Bednarek and Caple identify as the instances around which stereotypes are typically constructed. These are presented below:

Extract 2a:

And [I]the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital… The suspected patient [II]a lady who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey… [III]this brings the total number of cases tested negative to forty-six locally

96

Extract 2b:

The case involved [IV]a Ghanaian woman based abroad who returned to the country for a medical procedure

In Extract 2aI, Consonance is primarily constructed through three lexeis, "latest," "suspected," and "case." "Latest," apart from construing temporality, also facilitates comparison between the now and the past. It presents the now as expected following similar series of events. In the "latest suspected case of COVID," the "suspected case" is presented as neither the first nor the second but, in anticipation, the most recent case to be recorded at the teaching hospital. "Suspected" and "case" particularly construe the stereotypical image of all persons suspected of having contracted COVID as potential threats in the spread of the pandemic. It, thus, establishes the event as a stereotype, to be precise, as yet again.

The use of "suspected" also helps construe Consonance. It provides an assessment of some news actors' behavior in line with past behavior, particularly the Ghana Health Service (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). The use of "suspected" as a modifier in Extract 2bI provides a typical assessment of the behavior of the Ghana Health Service towards patients diagnosed with symptoms similar to COVID nineteen. Like the event being reported, all similar cases that had occurred earlier had been treated with suspicion and thorough carefulness until a test had been conducted. Subsequently, it is seen in the data (both A and B) that the word "suspected" is used to collocate the words "case," "patient," and "COVID," respectively, to construe Consonance. II and IV (superscripts) in Extract 2a and 2b respectively construe Consonance with explicit reference to general knowledge and

97

stereotypes prevalent during the time of broadcast of the data (Bednarek & Caple). Suppose the virus did not originate from Ghana and all suspected cases observed tested negative, in that case, all things being equal, it would take someone who had recently traveled into the country to transport the virus into the country. The stereotype expressed in II and IV is simply that people from abroad are regarded as prime-suspect carriers of the virus. The two nominal groups, thus, construe Consonance through reference to well-known knowledge, which defines the event as expected – the suspect in the reported event would definitely have to be someone who had recently travelled from abroad.

In III of Extract 2a, Consonance is construed through a clause simplex rather than a nominal group with embedded structures. Within the clause is an explicit association of the current event with similar past events, which identifies the event as typical. The association is expressed in the verb "brings," which connotes addition in the context. It is reinforced through "total," the premodifier to "number," the headword of the nominal group functioning as the complement of the clause. Thus, in 2aIII, the clause associates past events, expressed in the clause residue, with current events, which is expressed in the subject. It is also observed that the stereotypical attribute that the linguistic resources construe as Consonance in Extract 2aIII is positive while the rest are negative. Suspecting and stereotyping a particular group of people as carriers of a deadly virus is considered racism and, as such, negative. On the other hand, it is great to have all the test results of a pandemic negative; that is the case of Extract 2aIII. Bednarek and Caple (2017)

rightly notice that events constructed as Consonance are presented as either negative or positive depending on the target audience.

Superlatives

Linguistic resources associated with Superlatives often construct an event as high intensity or large scope (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). Among the classifications Bednarek and Caple identify as explicit linguistic resources used to construct an event as Superlative, I encountered superlative adjectives ("latest"), quantifiers ("third," "all," "every"), and intensified lexeis ("panic," "indeed") in the data. These are, however, found in Data A only. In Data B, the only instance of a constructed Superlative involves linguistic resources being repeated successively. Data A has a similar instance of repetition. The instances of repetition in the data in the construction of Superlative constitute important shifts in the linguistic characterization of the data. According to Bednarek and Caple, repetition of linguistic resources occasionally occurs in news stories. Such instances of repetition are presented below:

Extract 3a:

…they have come up with a report and shared with us indicating that [I]they have done the test, [II]they have done all that is required and [III]done it again and indeed the report has come up to be negative.

Extract 3b:

Non none of them ending so [IV]all those we have received [V]they-[VI]all of them are negative.

99

In Extract 3a, it is the repetition of a clause. The clause is first presented in 3aI and then repeated in II and III. In II, the subject plus the finite and the predicator of 3aI are maintained while the complement, "test," is replaced with "all that is required." In III, the subject expressed in I and II is omitted, and the complement is replaced with the pronoun, "it." The repetition in Extract 3b also takes a similar format as 3a. However, the repetition occurs at the group level where the nominal group (IV) is repeated in V and VI. In V, the entire nominal group is reduced to a single pronoun, which is realized as a false start (Clark & Wasow, 1998). In VI, the nominal group in IV is repeated, and marked by the repetition of the pronoun, "all."

While the continuous repetitions realized in Extracts 3a and 3b are both audible and visible in the data, they nurture a form of disturbance in the structural patterns within which the linguistic resources are repeated. The disturbance includes the change in the linguistic form of the complement in Extract 3aII and the subsequent omission of the subject in 3aIII. Leech (1969) observes such phenomenon as characteristic of verbal parallelisms, a form of repetition. Just as he notices, far from being a blemish, the two instances draw down the level of formality of the text and communicate a genuine form of expression. It suggests spontaneity, which is not a characteristic of news text (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Clark & Wasow, 1998; Leech). According to Lukin and Rivas (2021), news text is, by nature, pre-prepared, and it is indicated by the absence of the typical disfluencies derived from spontaneity.

However, as the news texts feature an interview, the part of the interviewee(s) which is not pre-prepared is characterized by spontaneity. The

100

disfluency markers indicate it. Within that state of affairs, the interviewee(s) uses repetition to show commitment to the information he provides (Jackson, 2016). Using the form of repetition identified, he makes salient the part of the linguistic resources that vary or cause a disturbance in the structural patterns (Leech, 1969). The salience forces an effort to extend the context of the interpretation of the event being reported (Jackson; Leech). In this instance, it forces a form of comparison that establishes a relationship among "the test," "all that is required," and "it." As the three linguistic items refer to one thing, they simply construe the reported event as intense and, as such, a Superlative. Although it is not featured prominently, the construction of events in the individual news stories as Superlatives provides a powerful characterization of the texts in their explicit structural outlooks.

Personalization

Personalization is the least constructed news value in the text. However, the associated instances define a critical aspect of the content of the text. As such, they nurture a high stake in the general structural outlook of the two texts in general. According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), Personalization in a news text would have an event discursively constructed around everyday people who may either be an eyewitness to an event or just one of the news actors. The linguistic resources involved would refer to a person, their emotions, or experiences. Bednarek and Caple identify the realization of accent as one of the major linguistic tools used in the construction of events as Personalization. Instances of the construction of Personalization in the data are shown in Extracts 4a and 4b.

Extract 4a:

The suspected patient [I]a lady who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States and is currently being held at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital…

But [II]the woman herself indicated that within her flight there were quite a number of people with possible respiratory conditions…

So [III]she thinks that there is based on this the clinician had the suspicion

Extract 4b:

The case involved [IV]a Ghanaian woman based abroad who returned to the country for a medical procedure

…during the process, [V]I think… a few hours… or so,

It is observed that 4aI makes reference to a person, "a lady." It is the same for 4bIV, whose referent is a "woman." In both instances, the construction is served through nominal groups with embedded structures which attach to the person of reference, descriptions of her travel log, nationality ("Ghanaian"), residency ("based abroad"), and current location ("Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital"). The respective nominal groups with embedded structures heighten the "concreteness of individual reference" which, in turn, identifies the unfolding events with the referent ("a lady") (Fowler, 1991, p. 92). In 4aII, the instance of Personalization is triggered by "herself" and "indicated." The use of the reflexive pronoun confines the referent to "the woman" and customizes the experiences "indicated" as the woman's experience. In 4aII and 4bIV, the predicator "thinks" refers to the thoughts harboured by the referents of "I" and "she." In Extract 4a and 4b, as noted by Cotter (2011), it is observed that the identified linguistic resources characterized

102

a large part of the issues reported around the lady or woman who had travelled into Ghana and was exhibiting symptoms to be regarded as a suspected case. Within that sphere, the lady's thoughts and comments were included to register the Personalization of the event through the associated linguistic resources.

Proximity

According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), events discursively constructed as Proximity are usually construed as geographically or culturally near the location of the broadcast or the target audience. The linguistic resources that construe events as Proximity are the most explicit in the data. Most of them are grammatically realized as nominal groups/phrases (Bednarek & Caple). Some of them are simply spatial references. Instances are "New Jersey," "United States," and "Ghana." There are also institutional referents such as "the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital," "Kotoka International Airport," "Noguchie Memorial Hospital." "Joy News channel" and "Ghana Health System" are service systems peculiar to the geographical location the event happens and, as such, construe the reported event as geographically near the target audience. Generic place referents are also used to construe Proximity: In the "nation's premier hospital" (in Data A), the generic place referent, "nation," is used as a premodifier to identify the hospital within the geographical area of the target audience. Other instances of the discursive construction of Proximity in the data include the use of the adverbs "locally" and "somewhere," which are deictic within the context they are used.

Eliteness

The characterization of Eliteness relates closely with Personalization and Proximity, and it is observed in the data. In the construction of an event as Eliteness, the linguistic resources employed, like those of Personalization, characterize the associated event around a news actor or source. In other instances, the linguistic resources used, like those of Proximity, mark the associated event as geographically close to the target audience. The difference between the instances of Eliteness and those of Personalization and Proximity is in the social status of the news actors involved. For instance, in Data A and B, the events presented are constructed to have the woman from abroad as the news at one point. At another, it is the Director of Public Health who serves as the source for the information on the COVID-19 test results. While both instances have the linguistic resources construct the unfolding events as Personalization, the second instance particularly constructs Eliteness due to the social status of the director. The social status of being the Director of Public Health, in the data, constructs the event he is associated with as high status and, as such, significant. Bednarek and Caple (2017) explain that the form of description that the linguistic resources used to construe Eliteness exude is one of "role model": "Only high-status role labels construct Eliteness" (Bednarek & Caple, p. 82). Proper nouns are some of the high status role labels that construct Eliteness in the data. Examples are "Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital," "Kotoka National Airport," "Noguchi Memorial hospital," among others. While these are place names, they are presented at times as news actors. Consequently, they do not need a name of a news actor to accompany them (Bednarek & Caple).

104

Extract 5a:

And the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the [I]Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital yesterday has tested negative. This is the third suspected case at the [II]nation's premier hospital…

[III]Doctor Badu Sakordie is [IV]the Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service.

Extract 5b:

[V]The Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, says.

Extracts 5a and 5b are the instances in the data within which the high-status role labels are accompanied by the names of news actors or sources in the construction of unfolding events as Eliteness. In Extract 5aIV (the superscript), the underlined structure, a nominal group, is a high-status role label used in predication to complement the news actor in the subject position of the clause. In Extract 5aIII, the noun and title, "Doctor," is used in pre-modification to identify the news actor, "Boadu Sarkodie," as high status. It labels his social role as relevant to the event reported. In Extract 5bV, the high-status role label is realized as the subject with the associated name of the news actor expressed as an appositive. While the other instances may have been predicted by Bednarek and Caple (2017), the case of Extract 5bV is peculiar to the instances they identify. Other than these instances, Bednarek and Caple (2017) explain that there are also peculiar instances where a news actor's name does not accompany the high-status role label in the immediate co-text. This is the case for Extract 5aII. "Premiere," as used in Extract 5aII, is a status indicating premodifier, which Bednarek and Caple explain also construct

105

Eliteness. More than that, it also construes the group as a high-status role label. Unlike the other identified instances of high status role label, within the sentence that "premiere" functions, there is no name or news actor to which premiere could be associated, except for when the sentence before it is considered. 5aII provides an instance where a high-status role label is not accompanied by the name to which it is associated in the immediate co-text.

Relatively, the linguistic resources that help construe the unfolding events as Eliteness are high-status role labels usually expressed in nominal groups.

Negativity/Positivity

Negativity and Positivity are two sides of a coin. From Bednarek and Caple (2017), it is clearly the case that in the construction of an event as Negativity, there is the option of constructing the same event as Positivity. The associated linguistic resources are characterized as such; they are in the opposites. According to Bednarek and Caple, news events constructed as Negativity would have their linguistic resources make reference to emotions culturally considered negative. In Data A, the word "panic" is culturally defined as negative. Its negative emotional value is heightened by the fact that it is directly associated with "health officials" through its post-modification by a prepositional phrase ("a brief panic among health officials"). Culturally, in instances of a health crisis, the situation is considered dire (negative) when "health officials" panic. In Data B, there is "deadly," which serves as an evaluative language that expresses the negative opinion associated with "COVID-19." Bednarek and Caple observed that the linguistic resources are defined as negative or positive depending on the target audience (cultural context)

106

or on the assessment of a situation or behavior of news actors by the producers of the broadcasts or quoted source. In the data, words such as "panic," "deadly," "necessary," and "suspected" are all used in a similar instance. "Necessary" is used to connote positivity in the groups "necessary steps" and "necessary investigations." It is used by the quoted source in the evaluation of the events identified with "steps" and "investigations." "Suspected" is used in relation to "case" to establish neutrality.

Extract 6a:

And the latest [I]suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital yesterday has tested [II]negative.

Extract 6b:

…the [I]suspected COVID nineteen case at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital has turned out to be [II]negative

…the virus which has [III]claimed over four thousand lives

The data's predominant linguistic resources that explicitly constructed events as Negativity or Positivity were defined as negative or positive depending on the context circumscribed in the news texts. The two stories that constitute the data are broadly associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequently, in the data, the word "negative," which is used in most instances with the verbs "test," "…tested" (Extract 6aII) in Data A and "turned out…" in Data B (Extract 6bII), takes on a positive meaning due to its association with a disease. The adjectives "possible" and "confirmed" used in "possible respiratory conditions" and "the confirmed case of COVID-19 in Ghana" respectively take on a negative meaning.

107

Although "possible" signifies neutrality, in the case of a pandemic where "respiratory conditions" are contextualized as symptoms of the pandemic, a "possible" case is treated with as much caution as a "confirmed" case since a pandemic is easily spread. "Possible", therefore, carries a negative meaning. There are also verbs such as "claimed" and "suspected." They also take on negative meaning in the context circumscribed in the text. The case of "Suspected" is similar to "possible." In the case of "claimed" in Extract 6bIII, the action it expresses is performed by the "virus" and the complement that suffers the action expressed is "lives." The instance is socially construed as negative and identifies "claimed" with a negative meaning.

Generally, Negativity/Positivity is the most represented in terms of the linguistic resources that construe news values in Data A. Just as predicted from Table 2 and considering the meaning potential of the linguistic resources in relation to the appropriate context circumscribed in the text (the co-text), I realized that when considered as a whole, the linguistic resources of Data A, regardless of the news values they are associated, are characterized to construe the entire story as Negativity/Positivity. This is further discussed later in the analysis.

Unexpectedness

When events are constructed as expected, Bednarek and Caple (2017) rightly identify them as Consonance. In the opposite direction, they are simply labelled as Unexpectedness. "Unusual", "strange", "rare" are words that best describe instances of Unexpectedness (Bednarek & Caple). Of the explicit linguistic resources Bednarek and Caple identify with Unexpectedness, the data

108

was mostly characterized by linguistic resources that simply made references to happenings considered unusual, happenings that fall outside established expectations. Typical instances of the construction of events are presented in Extracts 7a and 7b.

Extract 7a:

The suspected patient a lady who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States and is currently being held at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the Kotoka international airport because she was on a pain medication.

Extract 7b:

So far the country has recorded over forty-six cases of the virus which has claimed over four thousand lives and infected over ninety thousand others in some seventy countries.

I observed that in most instances in the data, the linguistic resources used to construct events as Unexpectedness were clauses and sometimes sentences. Extracts 7a and 7b are sentence structures with embedded clauses, making references to happenings recognized in the text as unusual or out of the norm. In Extract 7a, the unusual is first expressed in the fact that "the suspected patient… passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the … airport". It is unusual because the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the airport were supposedly mounted to help track suspected carriers of the virus who had travelled into the country. It was, thus, unusual that it would fail to help detect such cases. The unusualness of the happening is further heightened in the reason clause marked by "because": She passed the checks because she was using pain medication. It is

absurd to even consider that one could pass such mandatory checks simply using painkillers. The absurdity is placed in the fact that the suspected patient had breached a well-planned system of checks using pain medication, a very cheap easily accessible medication. The event also had no intentionality behind it. Thus, the sentence of Extract 7a is constructed as Unexpectedness as it makes references to happenings considered unusual or out of the norm.

In Extract 7b, the sentence is constructed as Unexpectedness through the comparison of the cases of the virus in "the country" (Ghana) and "some seventy countries." The virus is reported to have "claimed over four thousand lives and infected over ninety-thousand others in some seventy countries," while Ghana had recorded forty-six cases. When expounded, every one of the seventy countries had over a thousand cases of the virus and 50 deaths. Considering how far spread the virus was in the seventy countries and the resulting casualty, the situation of Ghana, when compared, identifies as out of that norm. The instance of "the country" is, thus, painted rare compared to the other "seventy countries." Therefore, the happenings referenced in the sentence are constructed as Unexpectedness in Extract 7b.

In Data B, Unexpectedness is the most constructed news value. Although Eliteness has some percentage more than Unexpectedness, Unexpectedness is considered dominant since the linguistics resources involved in the construction of Unexpectedness are larger grammatical units (the clause). At the same time, those of Eliteness are relatively small grammatical units (nominal groups).

110

The Discursive Construction of the Data Set as News Text

As established, news text is broadly perceived as a form of a report that presents information on happenings or changes taking place outside the immediate purview of a target audience and is considered to be of interest or concern to the audience (Montgomery, 2007). As a form of a report and a narrative, news text can be assessed in terms of the elements of a narrative (such as the plot, point of view, characters, setting) (van Dijk, 1985; 1988; Vicente, 2019). While the analysis does not focus on the elements of a narrative, the data analysis revealed the stories were structured, using the inverted pyramid narrative technique. It is a rhetorical and dramaturgical technique that affords the Media the means to conveniently present information in a brief and efficient form that helps them manage the demand for immediacy (such as associated with radio) (Fang, 1991; Vicente). Fang points out that the technique allows an editor to edit a story simply by cutting out information from the bottom part of a story as those are less newsworthy, and that is because stories composed using the technique are structured in a descending order of importance (van Dijk; Vicente; Lukin & Rivas, 2021).

According to Van Dijk (1985; 1988), the associated schematic structure of the inverted pyramid narrative technique has a Headline and Lead, Context and Main Event (the body), and a Consequence and Comment (conclusion). The two stories of the data were structured to have a Lead, Context, Main Event, and Consequences (verbal reactions), in that order. This has been analyzed, coded, and presented as Appendix A. The analysis contributed to how the text as radio news discourse unfolds. It was observed that the linguistic resources of the respective

parts of the schematic structure were characterized by different forms of news values (see Appendix B). The characterization was in terms of the possible meanings to be exchanged between the newscaster and the target audience.

All the sentences (and clauses) of the data were declarative: They all functioned as statements except for a single instance in Data A. This seemed typical as news texts are usually structured to provide information. Appendix C shows the thematic analysis of the clauses of the respective data with due consideration of the functional structures of the sentences. It reveals that, for Data A, 18% of the clauses have marked topical themes, 58% of the clauses have shared thematic status between unmarked topical themes and textual themes, and 20% have unmarked topical themes only. In Data B, 21% of the clauses have marked topical themes, 29% have unmarked topical themes accompanied by textual themes, and 50% of the clauses have unmarked topical themes only.

As Dashela (2021) noted, it was observed that the thematic configuration of the data helped establish the focus and coherence in the texts as a message. The theme-rheme analysis of the texts also provided a textual context to assess the news values present in the text, whether they had been emphasized or de-emphasized within the respective schematic structures. This is assessed in the subsequent pages with relevant instantiations in relation to the schematic structure of the respective news texts. Particular attention is payed to the Lead, the Context, and the Main Event sections of the schematic structure identified. They constituted the more important information (Fang, 1991; Vicente, 2019).

The Lead

The Lead summarized the news stories. According to Fang (1991), the lead is usually composed of details, relatively the fewest compared to the details of the body and conclusion. Traditionally, it provides information on what happened, who was involved, where, when, why, and how it happened. It answers these questions in a form of a summary and introduces the story (Fang; Vicente, 2019). Within such a context, the Lead provides the general and most significant information to the story reported and functions to fetch the listener's attention. Subsequently, the listener is fed with an idea of the story (van Dijk, 1985; Fang; Vicente).

Extract 8a:

[1]And the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital yesterday has tested negative. [2]This is the third suspected case at the nation's premier hospital.

Extract 8b:

[1]The Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, says [2]the suspected COVID-19 case at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital has turned out to be negative. [3]The Noguchie Memorial Institute for medical research was earlier mandated [[to investigate a suspected case of the deadly COVID-19 in Ghana]].

Extracts 8a and 8b constitute the lead for Data A and Data B, respectively. In Extract 8a, the linguistic resources in use construct the news values: Timeliness, Consonance, Proximity, Superlative, and Positivity. The linguistic resources of Extract 8b construct Timeliness, Consonance, Proximity, Eliteness, and Positivity. They both construct almost the same news values (see Appendix B). However, Extract 8a has clause simplexes, while Extract 8b has clause complexes. The

113

underlined structures are the selected themes in the respective clauses. For Extract 8a, both clauses have unmarked topical themes; their selected themes also function as the subject. In the discursive construction of the news values, the head noun of the nominal group realizing the theme, "case," is associated with the medical term "case definition," which is a set of standard criteria for classifying whether a person has a particular disease or not (Wharton, Chorba, Vogt, Morse, Buehler, 1990). Thus, "case" connotes certain expected norms of handling diseases and, as such, constructs Consonance. It is premodified by "latest," and "suspected" and further construed by the nominal groups – expressed in prepositional phrases – "COVID-19" and "Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital." It is also construed by "yesterday." While "suspected" provides the fixed image shared about the "cases" (as under investigation), "latest" and "yesterday" help narrow down the image in terms of its temporal referents (construct Timeliness). Additionally, "Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital" narrows it down to a geographical location (Proximity) while "COVID-19" specifies the disease in question (Consonance).

With the linguistic resources identified, the theme answers the questions of when (constructed as Timeliness), where (constructed as Proximity), and ultimately, introduces what is being talked about (constructed as Consonance). Since all grammatical elements in the nominal group function to enhance the head noun, "case," which constructs Consonance, Consonance is emphasized in the theme. The associated rheme of the theme provides information on "what the clause is about" or what it is to be said about the theme (Halliday & Mathhiessen, 2014; Dashela, 2021) – "The… case …has tested negative." As part of the introductory

114

clause of the lead section, the rheme of clause 8a1 identifies the entire clause as an answer to what the entire news story is about. Quite specifically, the rheme construes the meaning to be communicated about the theme. The rheme established that the "case," expressed in the theme, tested negative. As a negative test result of a pandemic is regarded as good news, it is ascribed a positive meaning and constructs Positivity. Considering it is through the rheme that the meaning potential of the clause is established as a message, Positivity is established as the dominant news value of clause 8a1.

In 8a2, the theme is "This," which makes an anaphoric reference to the entire sentence meaning of clause 8a1. In the rheme of clause 8a2 are linguistic resources which construe Superlative ("third"), Consonance ("suspected case"), and Proximity ("nation's premier hospital"). The deictic pronoun "this," as the subject and theme of clause 8a2, binds clause 8a2 to 8a1. Subsequently, the meaning expressed in 8a1 is set off as the focus of clause 8a2. It is also observed that in the thematic development of Extract 8a, the nominal group functioning as the theme in 8a1 is realized as the complement of the rheme of 8a2. The two nominal groups have their head nouns as "case." Within the two respective nominal groups are linguistic resources that construe Superlatives ("latest" vs. "third"), Proximity ("Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital" vs. "nation's premier hospital"), and Consonance ("suspected case of COVID-19" vs. "third suspected case"). The rheme of 8a2 also emphasizes Consonance as the dominant news value, just as with the theme of 8a1. The difference between the two is simply that the nominal group in the rheme of 8a2 is more specific. It identifies the case as the third of all the cases

recorded. It identifies Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital as the first hospital among all other hospitals in Ghana. The instance of 8a2 is typical of identifying clauses which would usually have the complement within the rheme provide a definite identity for the associated subject and theme of the clause (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014)

As "this," the theme and subject of 8a2, makes reference to the 8a1, the rheme of 8a2 narrows down the proposition expressed in 8a1 to a specific instance amongst others. That is, for Extract 8a, 8a2 elaborates 8a1, providing a more specific information about the thesis expressed in 8a1: The latest test came out negative (8a1) and it is the third negative test result that have been recorded (8a2) from Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital (8a1), the earliest hospital to be established in Ghana (8a2). While a negative result of a pandemic is regarded positive, having three cases of a pandemic all turn out negative is also regarded as a (very) positive feedback – that constructs Positivity. Therefore, when the two clauses, 8a1 and 8a2, are considered as the lead of Data A, the logico-semantic relation shared between them (through "this") helps establish Positivity as the most emphasized news value in 8a2 and in the lead of Data A as a whole.

From the analysis presented in Appendix B, the lead section of Data B emphasizes Eliteness and Unexpectedness. Presented as Extract 8b, it is composed of two dominant clauses and one dependent clause. All three clauses have unmarked topical themes. 8b1 and 8b2 constitute a clause complex, where 8b1 is the dominant clause, and 8b2 is the dependent clause. They share the logico-semantic relationship of projection, which, as Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) observe, is used to attribute to sources in news reporting. The level of projection is

116

such that 8b2 is set up as the linguistic "content" of 8b1, which is a "verbal" clause of saying marked by the verb, "says" (Halliday & Matthiessen). In that regard, 8b1 functions as the projecting clause, while 8b2 functions as the projected clause. According to Halliday and Matthiessen, in such instances of projection, the projected clause is represented as a report dependent on the projecting clause. They describe the instance as the hypotactic projection of report, the traditional instance of an indirect speech. The respective themes of 8b1 and 8b2 are underlined in extract 8b.

The linguistic resources of the unmarked topical theme in 8b1 emphasize Eliteness as the dominant news value. The topical theme is realized by two nominal groups, one functioning as the subject and the other as an appositive. The two nominal groups construct Eliteness. The first nominal group has its head noun, "director," together with its postmodifiers, serving as a status-role label ("director of the public health at the Ghana Health Service"). As established, status-role labels define the social status of their associated news actors or institutions as significant (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). They help construct Eliteness (Bednarek & Caple). The second nominal group has the status role label, "Doctor," premodifying the proper nominal group, "Badu Sarkodie." The status role label, "Doctor," helps construe the second nominal group as Eliteness as well (Bednarek & Caple). Thus, the subject, along with the appositive, construes Eliteness. In 8b2, the theme has linguistic resources that construct Consonance ("suspected COVID-19 case") and Proximity ("Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital"). Consonance is emphasized as its constructed around the head noun ("case") of the nominal group functioning as the

117

unmarked topical theme. The rheme of 8b2, like the case of 8a1, constructs Positivity – "the…case has turned out to be negative." Thus, at the clausal level, 8b2 emphasizes Positivity.

However, when the logico-sematic relationship between 8b1 and 8b2 is considered, Eliteness is emphasized as the dominant news value. As has been established, in a hypotactic projection, the projected clause (8b2) is presented as the linguistic content of the projecting clause (8b1) (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Subsequently, the meaning constructed in 8b2 is presented as simply dependent on 8b1. More importantly, Halliday and Matthiessen add that the projected clause presents only a gist of what was said. As such, the projecting clause is typically emphasized in a hypotactic projection. Thus, between 8b1 and 8b2, 8b1 is emphasized as the projecting clause and 8b2 only serves as an extension of 8b1. Similarly, as Eliteness is construed in 8b1, it is emphasized as the dominant news value amongst 8b1 and 8b2, with Positivity, constructed in 8b2, as an extension (expansion) of Eliteness.

The third clause of 8b emphasizes Unexpectedness. The theme of 8b3 is realized by a proper noun (a nominal group) ("The Noguchie Memorial Institute for Medical Research") that labels a place. Typically, it would construct Proximity. However, first, the theme's association with the verbal group "was mandated" and the to-infinitive clause ("to investigate…") creates a violation of the selectional restriction rule: Only animate objects can be "mandated" to do something or be made to embark on an investigation (Asher, 2014). Thus, the theme and subject of 8b3 identifies as a news actor rather than a geographical location in the news story

118

reported. Second, the place referent of the proper noun has a national status which identifies it as high social status, and as such significant. Subsequently, the theme of 8b3 constructs Eliteness. When considered in relation to the theme, the rheme of 8b3 establishes Unexpectedness as the dominant news value in 8b3.

As stated, the rheme tells what exactly is being said about the point of focus, expressed as the theme (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014; Owusu-Ansah, 1992). Through the rheme, we accrue the meaning potential of clause 8b3: The elite news actor was ordered to do something. The Unexpectedness constructed in the clause is simply that "the suspected case" was exposed at the nation's premier hospital, one of the well-equipped health facilities in "Ghana" (Proximity) expected to deal with high profiled diseases. The fact that the expertise of another high-profiled health facility is invited to deal with the situation in the premiere hospital establishes Unexpectedness and subsequently, the severity of the situation – this is marked and expressed in the word, "deadly," which constructs Negativity. The rheme paints a picture of surprise and worry around the theme of 8b3. The clause, thus, construes Unexpectedness.

It is observed that when considered in relation to 8b1 and 8b2, 8b3 establishes a thesis different from that expressed and extended in 8b1 and 8b2 respectively. 8b3 moves the discourse on "the suspected case" forward. Whereas 8b1 and 8b2 advance what the Doctor says about the test results, 8b3 establishes the news actor that conducted the test and with their social status as the experts in Ghana, the credibility of the test results. Hence, unlike the instance of Data A, the Lead of Data B construes two news values as emphasized. There is Eliteness (8b1

and 8b2) and Unexpectedness (8b3). It is also observed that, while the respective sentences of the Leads did emphasize some news values as domineering – advancing the discourse on the disease – the phrases and groups that functioned in the sentences also construed some news values, providing pieces of information that answered some questions that typically identify the lead of a news text. That is, the lead of Data A (8a), including emphasizing Positivity as the dominant news values, construes answers to what happened (constructed as Consonance and Positivity), where it happened (Proximity), and when it happened (Timeliness and Superlative). The lead of Data B has Eliteness and Unexpectedness emphasized as the dominant news values. They provide details on what happened (constructed as Eliteness and Positivity), who was involved (Eliteness), where it happened (Proximity), how it happened (Unexpectedness), and when it happened (Timeliness). See Appendix B for details.

While the respective leads do give the most important information of the stories in the form of a summary, they do not necessarily conform to the traditional summary lead. The lead of Data A conforms to the "delayed identification lead" while that of Data B is a "paraphrased quotation lead" (Fang, 1991). According to Fang, the delayed identification lead nurtures the sequential nature of broadcasting. It involves the intentional move to leave some key information from the lead to be introduced and developed in subsequent sections of the broadcast. For Data A, the delay involved the identification of who was involved in the reported event and how the event occurred. No referent to any actor or character is made in the Lead of Data A except for the subtle reference realized through the construction of

Consonance where "case" is used as a typical referent to "patient." It is in the Context section that the additional information is provided to establish a concrete image of the "patient" and how the event unfolded. It is important to note that it is the most important information of the news story that is presented in the lead (van Dijk, 1985; 1988; Fang; Vicente, 2019). Subsequently, any information that is presented within the other sections identifies as less important or significant to the information presented in the lead.

The lead of Data B, on the other hand, provides information on all the five wh-questions that identify the typical lead section except for why. However, the lead of Data B takes the form of a paraphrased quotation lead, which contrasts with quoted lead. The quoted lead, according to Fang (1991), would have direct quotes used as the lead; it is used "only when the quotation is the most significant element of the story" (p. 13). With Data B in focus, it is observed that a paraphrase is employed: the hypotactic projection of the report is used to place focus on the source of what was said rather than what was actually said. Since what is said is not a direct quotation, it means that a gist of what was said is presented (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). In that structure, the source is presented as the most significant element of the story rather than what was said. Consequently, in the lead section of Data B, it is established that the event is reported as news because it is associated with "Doctor Badu Sarkodie," "The Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service."

121

Context

The data reveal that the two stories are structured to have a Context usher in the Main Event reported. According to van Dijk (1988), semantically, the Context denotes the actual situation reported. It consists of concrete news events other than the one reported as the main event. It usually answers the question, "what happened before this?" The data reveal that the information categorized as the Context compensated for the supposed previous episodes of events leading to the main event reported. Van Dijk highlights simultaneity and recency as defining traits of the Context: It sets up the related event as simultaneous or as having happened in a day or two or some weeks. It, thus, sets the main event as an update of previously reported event(s). From the analysis, it is observed that the Context section provides a background from which the story can be interpreted. Extracts 9a and 9b constitute the Contexts for Data A and Data B, respectively.

Extract 9a:

[1]The suspected patient, a lady [[who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States and is currently being held at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital]], passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the Kotoka International Airport [2]because she was on a pain medication.

Extract 9b:

[1]The case involved a Ghanaian woman [[based abroad]][[who returned to the country for a medical procedure]]. [2]So far, the country has recorded over forty-six cases of the virus, [[which has claimed over four thousand lives]] and [[infected over ninety-thousand others in some seventy countries]].

Appendix B shows Timeliness, Consonance, Personalization, Proximity, and Unexpectedness as the news values characteristic of semiotic resources in use

122

in Extract 9a. The semiotic resources of Extract 9b construct Consonance, Personalization, and Unexpectedness. The sentences of both Extracts are clause complexes and function as statements. They all observe the subject-verb order of the declarative and their associated verbs are finite and agree with the subject, particularly, in number. From the theme-rheme analysis, along with the analysis of the clausal relations, it is observed that the clauses of Extract 9a emphasize Unexpectedness as the controlling news value of the Context of Data A. For the Context of Data B, extract 9b reveals Personalization and Unexpectedness as the dominant news values. The underlined structures are the selected themes of the respective clauses.

The Context of Data A, Extract 9a, is made of only one sentence. As a message, Extract 9a has three parts: the theme and subject of the dominant clause; the rheme that complements the theme of the dominant clause; and the rhematic dependent clause that serves as a comment to the meaning expressed in the rheme of the dominant clause. The theme of the dominant clause of Extract 9a is realized by two nominal groups, one functioning as the subject and the other, an appositive. Although the appositive shares the same semantic status as the subject, the semantic relationship between them is one of hyponymy: The head noun of the appositive, "lady," is a hyponym of the head noun of the subject, "patient." Thus, the appositive provides specific information about the head noun of the nominal group serving as the subject (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).

Additionally, the head noun of the appositive, "lady," is postmodified by the two embedded clauses. The two clauses are defining relative clauses introduced

by "who." According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2014), the defining relative clause essentially functions to define, delimit or specify the class designated by the head noun it postmodifies. "Who" serves as the topical theme to the two relative clauses, with its referent as the "lady." Semantically, the two embedded relative clauses in Extract 9a essentially define the "lady": They provide information on her travel log ("arrived in Ghana"), residency ("New Jersey"), and location status ("Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital"). They specify the particular "lady" to whom the reference is made. The linguistic instance of the theme, therefore, constructs Personalization: "Lady" is used as a hyponym to specify "the suspected patient" in question; the two defining relative clauses are used to further narrow down the referent. Together, they construct Personalization through heightening the concreteness of the individual referent, "the suspected patient" (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). The instance answers the question of "who" that does not feature in the lead section of Data A.

In the rheme of the dominant clause, it is revealed that the suspected lady in question had passed the mandatory checks. The fact that she passed the mandatory checks meant to detect persons with her symptoms come as a surprise and this is further heightened by the fact that they were still able to apprehend her without the assistance of the set up. Thus, the rheme construes the dominant clause as Unexpectedness. Since the rheme tells what exactly is to be said about the topical theme, Unexpectedness is emphasized over Personalization in the dominant clause. Closely attached to the rheme is the rhematic dependent clause. It has an unmarked theme selection, and it is introduced by "because," which serves as a textual theme

124

and a clause binder. Within the sentence, the dependent clause, with its binder expressing reason, manifests as an adverbial clause. According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2014), the adverbial clause combines enhancement with hypotaxis: While the relational status of the adverbial clause is dependent, it enhances (or qualifies) the meaning of the dominant clause to which it is attached. In the particular instance of Extract 9a, the dependent clause comments on the proposition expressed in the rheme of dominant clause.

With "she" as the topical theme, the rheme of the dependent clause tells why the lady, the referent of the pronoun, managed to pass the checks: She passed the checks "because she was on a pain medication." The dependent clause shifts focus from what happened, established in the dominant clause, to why it happened. It does so by forming an effect-cause chain with the dominant clause where the proposition expressed in the dominant clause resonates as an effect (result) of the proposition expressed in the dependent clause. From the effect-cause chain, the dependent clause of Extract 9a also constructs Unexpectedness. That is, while it is a total surprise to have someone with the symptoms of the virus pass the mandatory checks meant to detect persons with such symptoms, it is even more surprising that the suspect breaks through the sophisticated system of checks by simply taking a pain medication, one of the most common, cheapest, easily abused and first-to-go-to-medication for people with such symptoms. The established effect-cause chain is one that is surprising and, as such, construes the dependent clause in addition to the dominant clause, as Unexpectedness. Subsequently, in the Context section of Data A, Unexpectedness is highlighted as the dominant news value.

Extract 9b, which represents the Context of Data B, has two clause complexes. The underlined structures function as the themes of the respective sentences. 9b1, the first clause complex, has "the case" as the theme and subject. It presents the known and context-dependent information of the sentence (Owusu-Ansah, 1992). It re-foregrounds what the discourse is about and creates an instance of cohesion with the co-text present in the lead section of Data B. With its the associated rheme, Personalization is constructed as the dominant news value of 9b1. Within the rheme is a nominal group that functions as the complement of 9b1. The nominal group has the head noun "woman" which is premodified by the adjective, "Ghanaian," and further postmodified by two embedded clauses. As has been established, Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) identify the defining relative clause with the function to define, delimit or specify the class designated by the head noun it postmodifies. Semantically, the two embedded relative clauses in 9b1 essentially define the "woman": They provide information on her residency ("based abroad"), travel destination ("returned to the country"), and purpose of travel ("for medication"). This set of information specify the particular "woman" to whom the reference is made. The adjective, "Ghanaian," equally contributes to characterization of who the woman in question is. Together, they construct Personalization through heightening the concreteness of the individual referent, the "woman." As the verb of 9b1, "involved" engages the complement as a participant of "the case;" it is the identity of the woman that is ultimately construed as the message of the sentence, and as such, Personalization is foregrounded in 9b1.

In the thematic development of sentence 9b2, the theme is marked; rather than the subject, the theme is realized by the adverbial group, "so far." The associated rheme is realized by three clauses: There is the dominant clause and two conjoined dependent non-restrictive relative clauses. As the theme, the adverbial group, "so far," functions as a circumstantial adjunct as it has the adverb "far," denoting the circumstance of time, as the head of the adverbial group and the grammatical element "so" as modifier (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Halliday and Matthiessen characterize such adverbial groups as "circumstantials of extent" as they construe the extent in time of unfolding events. In the instance foregrounded, the adverbial group construes the events expressed in the succeeding clauses as unfolding within a duration in time from whence the virus was encountered to the present. The linguistic instance aligns with the construction of the news value, Timeliness.

Within the rheme, the first of the clauses, the dominant clause, has the sub-topical theme, "the country." The use of the definite article, "the," without any additional modifications to the noun head establishes that the sub-theme presents a known information already established within the context of the discourse (Dashela, 2021; Halliday & Mathhiessen, 2014; Mardani, 2016). The sub-theme of the dominant clause foregrounds the location within which the events expressed in the rheme of the dominant clause unfold, which is Ghana. However, the verb in the rheme registers the subject as a news actor rather than just a location in the scenario. In the rheme, the proposal is made that over forty six cases of the virus has been recorded by "the country". As it is a pandemic in focus within the discourse, the

127

proposal facilitates its assessment as either negative or positive, with either being a probability. Subsequently, the associated dependent clauses to the dominant clause offer some background information to the discourse that colors the proposition expressed in the dominant clause with some certainty of interpretation.

The two conjoined dependent clauses are relative clauses since they function within a nominal group as postmodifiers and are introduced by the relative pronoun, "which" (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). However, they function as non-defining relative clauses. In terms of meaning, they do not attempt to specify "the virus" in question as the virus is already specified in the lead section as "COVID-19". Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) describe the non-defining relative clause as a combination of elaboration and hypotaxis: While it provides some level of specification, it does not necessarily function within the domain of a nominal group but within the entire domain of the dominant clause on which it depends. That is, it does not function as an embedded clause but as a dependent clause. For Halliday and Matthiessen, that means the non-defining relative clause functions as some form of a descriptive gloss to the dominant clause, providing some background information to the discourse to facilitate some form of a characterization, an interpretation or evaluation of some aspect of the dominant clause. Within 9b2, the non-defining relative clauses provide some background information into the discourse which facilitate a form of interpretation of some aspects of the dominant clause.

The relative clauses inform us that outside the location construed as the theme of the dominant clause, the virus, which is the focus of the discourse, has

"claimed over four thousand lives," and "infected over ninety-thousand others." Although the information has little relation to the events unfolding in "the country," it provides the appropriate context to interpret the situation in "the country" as great, and as such, positive. The relative clauses identify the virus as very active outside the country of interest in the discourse. This is very much the case as neither of the cases of the virus recorded "so far" by the country has "claimed" or "infected" anyone. Subsequently, the propositions expressed in the non-defining clauses help establish the proposition expressed in the dominant clause as positive rather than negative. It is important to recognize that against the linguistic background established, the dominant clause, together with the non-defining clauses, does not construct Positivity as the dominant news value of 9b2. It is Unexpectedness that is rather emphasized as the dominant news value.

An aspect of the dominant clause that the non-defining relative clauses set up as important to the discourse is the cardinal number, "forty six." It premodifies the head of the nominal group of the rheme of the dominant clause. Within the non-defining relative clause, it is contrasted with "four thousand" and "ninety thousand". The comparison quickly foregrounds the overwhelming difference in the numbers associated with the activities around the virus. It sets up an instance of surprise of how little "the country" has suffered from a virus that has been so deadly and devastating and spreading so fast "in some seventy countries". Thus, relatively, when considered as a whole, the entire sentence of 9b2 constructs Unexpectedness. This is set up through the non-defining relative clauses which introduce additional information into the discourse and force an interpretation of the events unfolding

in the dominant clause as positive, a very surprising turn of events when compared to the outcomes associated with the unfolding events expressed in the relative clauses.

Relatively, it is observed that both Context sections of the respective data introduce into the respective texts, the tone and background information with which the flow of the discourse is construed. For Data A, the Context establishes the Main Event as a consequence of the previous events. The Context of Data A presents the events leading to the apprehension of the suspected carrier of the virus who had even managed to beat the system set up to detect her condition. The events are construed as Unexpectedness. Because of that event, The Noguchie Memorial Hospital is invited to deal with the (Unexpected) situation and to ascertain whether the suspect is indeed infected. It is this event that eventually resonates as the Main Event of Data A with the results of the test as a further consequence. In Data B, rather than previous events, the Context presents certain circumstantial information as defining conditions for which the Main Event is relevant. It establishes that the virus is killing a lot of people abroad and quickly spreading among them as well; however, the virus is yet to be encountered in the country (construed as Unexpectedness). It also establishes that the suspected case involves someone from abroad (construed as Proximity) and by extension, the test could turn out positive or negative considering how active the virus is at abroad. Thus, for Data B, the Context sets the Main Event up as the climax of the story. From these then, it is observed that the Contexts of the respective data set up the respective Main Events as very important updates and extensions of those immediate past events and

130

circumstances. It is important to add that the Contexts were observed as a means by which the reporters created a situational simulation from which the Main Events were to be interpreted. The information that the Contexts provided did not advance the discourse, but it provided a background to help establish and engage the discourse.

Main Event

The Main Event is described as the most evasive yet easily identifiable section of the news text (Bednarek & Caple, 2012; van Dijk, 1988). As with Bednarek and Caple, van Dijk observed the Main Event as either a composition of sections such as the Context, Verbal reaction, Consequence, or an embedded section within the Context Section or a section before any of the other sections of the news text, except the Lead section. While the description of what section of the text constitutes the Main Event is a problem, van Dijk observed that consumers of news text paid the most attention to the Main Event and could easily recall it. What constitutes the Main Event then? What makes it easily identifiable? Extracts 10a and 10b constitute the Main Events for Data A and Data B, respectively.

Extract 10a:

After a brief panic among health officials, [1]samples were taken to the Noguchie Memorial hospital for further erh test erh, [2]which has since proven negative.

Extract 10b:

[1]Director of the public health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, [2]who confirmed the earlier development to Citi news, said [3]the suspected case turned out to be negative.

131

Appendix B shows Timeliness, Superlative, Eliteness, and Negativity/Positivity as the news values construed in Extract 10a. For Extract 10b, the linguistic resources construe the news values Timeliness, Proximity, Eliteness, and Positivity. The sentences of both Extracts are clause complexes and function as statements as they all observe the subject-verb order of the declarative clause with their associated verbs as finite, agreeing with the subject in number and person. From the theme-rheme analysis, along with the analysis of the clausal relations, it is observed that the clauses of Extract 10a emphasize Negativity as the controlling news value of the Main Event of Data A. For the Main Event of Data B, Extract 10b reveals Eliteness as the dominant news value. The underlined structures are the selected themes of the respective clauses.

Clause 10a has a marked theme. As a message, clause 10a has three parts. There is the circumstantial adjunct and theme of the clause; there is the dominant clause which constitutes the first half of the rheme (10a1); and then there is the non-restrictive relative clause (10a2), the other half of the rheme. Rather than the subject, it is a prepositional phrase that realizes the topical theme of 10a. It is introduced by the preposition "after" with the nominal group, "a brief…officials," as its complement. Since the prepositional phrase functions as a marked theme, it occupies the place of prominence. Within the instance described, Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) explain that the preposition signals and reinforces the prominence the prepositional phrase takes on because it occurs earlier than expected in the clause. Furthermore, with its complement, it is used to augment

132

circumstances that characterize a clause in the configuration of the clause and that seemed exactly the case for the instance described (Halliday & Matthiessen).

According to Halliday and Matthiessen (2014), it is only through the prepositional phrase that indirect participants can be introduced into a clause before the subject of the clause. The dominant clause of 10a is presented in the passive voice: The logical subject is absent. However, rather than leave it absent, the prepositional phrase is used as a means to introduce into the dominant clause, the actor and logical subject ("health officials") of the process expressed in the dominant clause ("taken"). This is introduced at the initial position of the sentence. Additionally, it is used to construe the circumstance in time ("after a brief panic") leading to the actor acting out the process expressed in the dominant clause. Subsequently, the theme is used as a means of enhancing the propositions expressed in the rheme. The relationship between the two structures is construed and defined by the preposition, "after" (Halliday & Matthiessen) – It sets the events expressed in the dominant and its associated dependent clause as a sequence in time and a consequence to the circumstance construed in the theme by the prepositional phrase. That is, the taking of the samples is marked by the time the health officials experienced the panic and the further test was necessitated by the fact that the health officials panicked.

In terms of the development of news values, the theme construes Negativity and the dominant clause and the non-restrictive clause construe Proximity and Positivity respectively as their dominant news values. In the theme, the news value, Negativity, is construed from the association of "panic" with "health officials." A

133

panic attack, according to Nicomedes and Avila (2020, p. 15), is a form of anxiety "characterized by pounding heart, sweating, trembling, shortness of breath, feeling of choking, chest pain, nausea, stomach ache, dizziness, derealization, depersonalization, feeling of losing control, overwhelming fear of death, tingling, and chills." Considering health officials literally work to keep people alive and healthy, even a brief exposure to any of the stated traits of a panic attack foreshadows doom. Thus, the association of those two groups of words construe Negativity.

The dominant clause has as sub-theme, "samples." As the sub-theme, "samples" serves as the point around which the proposition expressed in the rheme of the dominant clause is grounded (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Within the rheme of the dominant clause of 10a, the theme, "samples," is construed in terms of the location they were sent to ("Noguchie memorial Hospital") and the associated reason they were taken there ("for further erh test…"). Since the location has a national status, it validates its own significance in the clause, and as such, conditions the dominant clause to construe Proximity as the dominant news value. There is also the non-restrictive relative clause which construes the "samples" – the referent to "which" – in terms of their results. Since it makes the proposition that the results of the disease and pandemic were negative, the non-defining relative clause also construes Positivity. Relatively, clause 10a is dominated by neither of the news values construed by the three structural parts. Although Negativity is construed at the position of prominence (the theme of 10a), it is construed as part of the means to enhance or qualify the meaning expressed in the rheme.

For Extract 10b, it takes quite the same structure as its associated Lead section, particularly the first sentence of the Lead of Data B (clauses 8b1 and 8b2): The clauses share the logico-semantic relationship of projection where 10b3 is set up as the linguistic "content" of 10b1, which is a "verbal" clause of saying identified by the verb, "says" (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). In that configuration, 10b1 functions as the projecting clause, while 10b3 functions as the projected clause. Furthermore, just as with the first sentence of Data B's Lead section, the theme of 10b1 construes Eliteness as news value. Since 10b1 is the projecting clause, it takes the position of prominence. Thus, Eliteness is further constructed as the dominating news value of the entire sentence. In fact, except for the non-defining relative clause which forms part of the theme of 10b and the predicate of 10b which takes the past form, 10b identifies as the repetition of 8b1 and 8b2 in the Lead section of Data B.

From the analysis, both data had the Main Event section separated from the other sections and introduced by the Context. The Main Event reintroduced into the story the actual event around which other events were classified as past events or as outcomes. In the case of Data A, samples drawn from the suspected patient have been tested at Noguchie Memorial Hospital and the test results came out negative. For Data B, the director of the public health of Ghana has released a statement to the radio station, the producers of Data B, about the results of the test run on the suspected patient. He said the test result was negative. This observation is very typical of van Dijk's (1988) description of the Main Event: "Both the Headline and Lead, given their summarizing function, also feature the main event, but are not

part of the Main Event category" (p. 57). In effect, the Lead section plays an integral role in identifying the Main Event. It marks the Main Event section as characterized by a form of repetition where the Main Event is made parallel to the Lead section (Leech, 1969; van Dijk). In parallelism, the structures in question have parts that are repeated and parts that remain variant (Leech). Between the Lead and the Main Event, the repeated part constituted the actual event being reported in the text and it answered the question, "what has happened?"

For Data A, it is the proposition that "the latest suspected case… has tested negative" that is repeated. It is reconstituted as the non-restrictive relative clause in the sentence that forms the Main Event section. Within the linguistic context (Data A), it serves as a repetition of the proposition expressed within the first sentence of the Lead section, which eventually serves as the dominant proposition of the entire Lead section – The other sentence of the Lead section only extends the meaning of the first. That is, it is logical to conclude that the proposition takes the form of non-defining relative clause because it is a repetition. The linguist form, the non-defining relative clause, provides the right linguistic context to reintroduce the actual event being reported as news. Additionally, it also marks the Main event section of Data A, providing the section with a descriptive gloss that helps with the linguistic characterization of the section (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). When considered in relation to the proposition expressed in the non-defining relative clause, the theme and adjunct of 10a construed a contingency circumstance: The health officials panicked because they knew the result could be positive which would spell doom for the country (and the audience). Thus, the theme established

136

the significance of the proposition expressed in the non-defining relative clause, the actual even being reported. On the other hand, the dominant clause of 10a construed the credibility of the result expressed in the non-defining relative clause: The test was done at a credible institution established to deal with instances of emergency as a pandemic in Ghana.

For Data B, the actual event they report is simply that "…Doctor Badu Sarkodie, says the suspected COVID-19 case… turned out to be negative." This is presented first as the first sentence of the Lead of Data B and subsequently repeated as the only sentence of the Main Event section of Data B. As has been established, van Dijk (1988) observed that while the main event section would usually be a repetition of some part of the Lead section, there is always the part that distinguishes the Main Event section from the Lead. Between the Lead and the Main Event section of Data B, it is the non-defining relative clause realized as part of the theme of 10b that sets the two apart as not just a repetition of the other, but independent of one another. In Data A, the repetition is realized through the non-defining relative clause. In Data B, it is a non-defining relative clause that realizes the variance. The non-defining relative clause, "who confirmed the earlier development to Citi news," foregrounds the fact the producers of the news got their statement directly from "Doctor Badu Sarkodie." That is, as far as the credibility and significance of the event goes, the non-defining relative clause foregrounded the incessant use of the status role labels to define "Badu Sarkodie," the referent of "who," as an elite: Because they ("Citi news") got their information from the

137

director of the public health at the Ghana Health Service, their information is both credible and significant.

In conclusion, the Main Event section takes the outlook of a recycled Lead section: Part of it is a repetition of the Lead section (van Dijk, 1988; Bednarek & Caple, 2012). The repeated part usually constitutes the actual event being reported as news (van Dijk, 1988). While it establishes the actually focus of the discourse, it does not advance the discourse. It rather provides some additional description of the actual event, which would usually be already stated in the Lead section. Thus, it is observed that relatively, the information the Main event section provides in the construction of the news texts has little significance compared to those of the Lead section and the Context section. That established, the Main Event section of Data A foregrounded Positivity as the dominating news value of the actual event – the test result came out negative – while that of Data B foregrounded Eliteness – Doctor Sarkodie said the results were negative.

Conclusion

The finding of the analysis is a reflection of Martin's (1992) proposition; the different patterns and meanings realized in the choice of theme is exploited consciously or unconsciously to convey a viewpoint or angle of the text. The theme-rheme analysis reveals that the news values emphasized were used as a means to express the viewpoints in the respective texts. In reporting the events of Data B, the reporter implores hypotactic projection to construe and introduce the event. The linguistic technique helped dissociate her from the event as well as the responsibility of ensuring the credibility of the event they report, if it turned out to

138

be false. However, in establishing the status of the source of their information through the construction of Eliteness and establishing it as the dominant news value, they manage to ensure the credibility of the information as well as the significance of the event is established. Although the analysis does not necessarily reveal whether the linguistic options were made consciously to construe such meaning, the news' outlet's identity as *Eyewitness News* seems to suggest that it was purposeful to narrate the story from the view point of one of the main (important) characters (actors) of the event. That character was characterized as the most important element of the event and so the event was construed around him.

For Data A, the reporter introduces the event from the third person perspective and subsequently moves to expand it. Unlike that of Data B, the Context and the Main event sections were characterized by events leading to the actual event. In the Context, they construe Personalization and Unexpectedness where they establish the identity of the suspected person and the astonishing events around which the suspect was apprehended. In the Main Event, they construe Negativity, Proximity and Positivity where they establish that a further test had to be done at a specialized institution since it was needful to make sure the test was not positive – a positive result was dreaded. However, it came out negative. The outlook of the events establishes that the events for Data A were presented in a sequential manner of ordering, showing cause and effect. It is within that cause and effect that the significance and credibility of the event reported was established. Progressively, relating the three forms of analysis (presented as Appendix A, B, and C) revealed and established the various news values and their associated linguistic resources in

relation to the communicative purpose of the respective texts. They create the much needed linguistic environment to define the prosodic traits of the texts as either meaningful or not.

The Prosodic Profiling of the Data Set

Halliday (1967), Halliday and Greaves (2008), Halliday and Matthiessen (2014), and Matthiesen (2018) all note that phonological choices are below the level of consciousness. They are automated in relation to content plane choices, which would include choices made at the semantic and the grammatical levels of language organization. Subsequently, whether a particular phonological choice is grammatical or not in a language, it is the overall lexicogrammatical environment of the text being analyzed that defines and establishes the grammatical meaning and relevance to associate with a phonological choice. Of course, much also depends on the relations shared among those phonological choices in the construction of the texts (Halliday & Greaves). Appendix D is an analysis of the phonological choices that characterized the grammar of the information units through which the texts unfolded.

First, most of the information units (IU) were marked for Tonality: They did not have a one to one correspondence with the clause (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). Data A was composed of 8 clause simplexes and 10 clause complexes (compound sentences and complex sentences). The clauses unfolded over 60 information units setting the ratio of information units to clause at approximately 3-1. Data B was composed of 13 clause complexes only, which unfolded over 48 IU, pegging the ratio of IU to clause complex at approximately 4-1. In a more

140

elaborate analysis of the distribution of the IU to the clauses, Appendix D revealed that 75% and 96% of the tone units of Data A and Data B respectively could not be singled out and mapped onto a single clause. This was in contrast with the unmarked relation defined by Halliday (1967), Halliday and Greaves (2008), and Halliday and Matthiessen (2014): One information unit did not equal one clause. Thus, most of the IU for the two texts were marked for tonality.

Subsequently, Appendix D also revealed that the information units that characterized the texts were mostly short and relatively smaller than a clause. The information units were characterized by two forms of "markedness" in tonality: Clauses which shared an information unit with other clauses and individual clauses which unfolded over multiple information units (Lukin & Rivas, 2021). The second form was the most pervasive. Data A had 82% of the marked information units identify with the second form of markedness while Data B had 72%. The highest distribution of IU to clause for Data A was 6 IUs to 1 clause while Data B had 4 IUs to 1 clause. The percentages show the texts were mostly characterized by information units which were marked for tonality and were mostly realized as short and relatively smaller than a clause. Thus, although the Data sets were construed by a relatively few number of clause simplexes and clause complexes, the clauses were loaded with information.

Second, due to the marked tonality, the two texts were characterized by pervasive dissociation between the meaning construed by the grammar of the information units and that of the grammar of the clauses. As has been established, it is within the grammar of the English language that the metafunctions as

functional meaning are construed (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). The clause serves as the principal organizing unit for the grammar (Halliday & Greaves); hence, the clause construes the three functional meanings associated with the metafunctions. The baseline to these associations is simply that it is typical of the English language that one clause construes one quantum of discourse (construed as textual meaning), one quantum of experience (construed as experiential meaning) and one quantum of personal exchange (construed as interpersonal meaning) simultaneously (Halliday & Greaves; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Thus, all things being equal, in the unmarked case of tonality where one information unit equals one clause, the information unit becomes the secondary organizing unit to the clause towards construing the experiential, interpersonal and textual meanings (Halliday & Greaves, 2008).

Extract 11:

1.   //3 has   /tested   /negative// (Data A, IU#3)

Theme	Rheme	
		Focus
Information	←	New

2.   //4 Doctor /Badu /Sakordie is the di/rector of /public /health at the /Ghana /Health /Service//   (Data A, IU#16)

Mood	(Doctor…) Subject	(pres) Finite	(is) Pred	(the Director of Public Health) Complement	(at the Ghana…) Adjunct
	Mood		Residue		
Theme	Theme		Rheme		
Info.				Focus	
	Given ⟶		←	New	Given

142

Both structures of Extract 11 are information units. Example 1 has marked tonality while example 2 has unmarked tonality. While the two structures are analyzed in terms of the grammar of information units, in example 2, the analysis is done at the semantic stratum with particular attention to the semantic system of speech function (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). This is premised on the fact that example 2 has an information unit that is also a single dominant clause, the unmarked instance of tonality, as defined by Halliday and Greaves. As the grammatical structure of the dominant clause observes the declarative mood, it functions to realize a statement, an option within the speech function system at the semantic stratum (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Subsequently, by default, the information unit of example 2 also functions as a statement: It is the same functional structures defined as a quantum of information (information unit) that construe the clause as independent, a declarative and a statement.

Typically, example 2, therefore, has the grammatical structures of the information unit mapped unto the grammatical structures of the clause (as seen in Extract 11) towards constructing the associated functional meaning (a statement). According to Halliday and Greaves (2008), the mapping, for example, facilitates the combination of the system of Mood and the system of tone towards the realization of major options within the system of speech functions: While the interrogative mood realizes a question, tone 2 and tone 1 help distinguish polar questions from non-polar questions respectively (Halliday & Greaves). The declarative mood plus tone 1 realizes a statement; in the case of example 2, the declarative mood is combined with tone (4) to construct a variation of a statement,

one that shows a strong contrast ("health" to be contrasted with other public sectors such as education) (Halliday & Greaves).

In contrast to example 2, the information unit in example 1 is less than a clause. The grammatical structures of the information unit can be mapped onto only a part of the grammatical structures of a clause, which creates an incomplete association between the meaning and grammar of the information unit and the meaning and grammar of the clause. That is, in example 1, while the information unit is composed of only New information with "negative" as focus, the seeming clause structure that realizes the information unit has relevant grammatical structures to identify as a clause except the subject (//has tested negative//). It is unclear whether the structure is a declarative (with a noun as subject) or an interrogative (with a wh-element) and whether it construes a statement or a question. Subsequently, the structures (be it grammatical or not) that realizes the information unit cannot be identified as a clause, the principal organizing unit for the system of speech function. In effect, the meaning and grammar of the information unit is dissociated and made independent from the meaning and grammar of the clause as has been done in Extract 11. Such were the many instances (82% and 72% of marked tonality for the two texts) of the information units that characterized the two Data sets.

Third, like the instance of Tonality, most of the information units of the two texts had marked tonicity: The tonic prominence (focus) in the information units predominantly fell on lexical items other than the final lexical item. It is important to re-establish that tonicity serves as a textual mechanism a speaker employs to

manage the cline of familiarity within the sequence of information units (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). In effect, it defines the grammar of an information unit and facilitates the association of the grammar of the information unit and that of the clause. Additionally, Halliday and Greaves note that tonicity, together with tonality, provides the iconic means of creating textual meaning. These are a very important characterization to the two texts, especially in the realization of the functional meaning of the tones.

Table 3: Tone distribution in the two data sets

Tones	No. of IUs		Percentage of IUs	
	Data A	Data B	Data A	Data B
1	32	24	53	50
2	04	08	7	17
3	06	01	10	2
4	09	05	15	10
5	09	10	15	21

While all the five primary patterns of the tone were observed in the two data sets, the predominant dissociation and independence of the grammar of the information unit and the clause construed discursive conditions that influenced the associated functional meanings of the tones. Table 3 shows the distribution of the tones across the information units of the two data sets. The tones were used to construe interpersonal meanings and logical meaning. Predominantly, they derived their associated functional meaning from the lexical items they fell on and/or from

145

their association with other tones from other information units (subject to the logical systems of clause). Extract 12 provides instances of the dominant discursive conditions within which the functional meaning of the tones was construed:

Extract 12:

1. **6//2** The /suspected /patient a /lady who /arrived in /Ghana **// 7//4** recently from /New /Jersey in the /United /States **// 8//1** ^and is currently being /held at the /Korle-bu /teaching /hospital **//**passed… (Data A, IU# 6-08)

2. **1//2** The di/rector of /public /health **// 2//1** at the /Ghana /Health /Service**// 3//1** Doctor /Badu /Sarkodie **//**says…   (Data B, IU# 1-3)

The two examples in Extract 12 are instances of marked tonality where one clause unfolds over multiple information units, such that the information units form an information unit nexus (a form of systemic pairing different from that of the clause) (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). Example 1 has information units with the tone sequence 2, 4, 1… while example 2 has the tone sequence 2, 1, 1… respectively. The structural components of the tone units for both examples also constitute the themes in the respective associated clauses (complex). Appendix C shows that both themes have the structural components subject plus an appositive. For example 1, "The suspected patient" functions as the subject with "a lady who… Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital" as its appositive while Data B has "The director of…" as its subject with "Doctor Badu Sarkodie" as the associated appositive. Although the themes of the two examples unfold over three tone units, the sequence of tones are different from each other and even different from the default sequential pattern.

Typically, Halliday and Greaves (2008) explain that in an instance where two tone units have their associated structures functioning as a subject and an

146

associated appositive, the two tone units typically take same tone pattern (tone concord): The concord construes a relationship of identity between the two nominal groups as characterization of the same person or thing. Hence, if the tone unit functioning as subject has Tone 2, that of the appositive would also have tone 2. Halliday and Greaves also explain that tone concord is again exploited as a resource to chunk what could possibly be a very long tone unit. In which case, if a tone unit was chunked into manageable parts to avoid instance of an inordinately long tone unit, the emerging tone units from the long one would have the same (repeated) tone pattern. If the first tone unit has Tone 2, the succeeding tone units will also have Tone 2. From these default tactic sequencing of the tone units, both instances of Extract 12 should have had the tone sequence 2, 2, 2….

While IU#1 and IU#2 in example 2 constitute an instance of what could have been a long unit, the two exhibit two different patterns of the tone; that is, rather than the default tone sequence of 2, 2 or 1, 1, IU#1 and IU#2 have the tone sequence, 2, 1. The reason for the deviation manifests as marked tonicity in IU#1; that the point of prominence does not fall on the last lexical item of the tone unit but on the first lexical item. Within such marked tonicity, the speaker defines the information status of the first lexical item, "director," as New information and proceeds to change the neutral information status of the succeeding elements, "of public health," from New information to Given information – all elements after the focal point are Given information (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). Subsequently, the change in focus creates a contrast in the grammar of IU#1 and manifests with a correlating change in the tone pattern where tone 1 (typically realized as neutral for

147

unmarked tonicity in declarative structures) is contrastive with tone 2 (Halliday, 1967).

In IU#2, tonicity is unmarked; and as such, Tone 1 is realized as the neutral tone pattern. Since IU#1 and IU#2 are exponents of the same nominal group, they form the tone sequence, 2, 1 where Tone 2 is used to indicate that there is more to come. The fact that the lexical item takes Tone 2 rather than Tone 3 or tone 4 is also contrastive: Halliday and Greaves (2008) and Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) note Tone 3 and tone 4 as tone patterns are typically used to indicate that there is more to come, be it another clause in a clause nexus or another information unit in an information unit nexus. They usually nurture a 3, 1 or a 4, 1 tone sequence which are used to establish a paratactic or a hypotactic relation respectively between two IUs (Hallliday & Greaves; Halliday & Matthiessen). In contrast, Tone 2 is typically used to query or challenge a preceding statement or command as well as show uncertainty, which are conditions absent for example 2 – there are no preceding statements or commands (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Amidst these deficit circumstantial factors, it is observed that the realization of tone 2 on "director" in IU#1 instigates a more direct association of the lexical item, "director," with IU#2.

In the instance presented in example 2 (see page 147), the relation between tone 2 and tone 1 is hypotactic; however, rather than challenge or query, tone 2 in IU#1 is used as a question-response resource in relation to IU#2: Which director is the speaker talking about? In relation to IU#2, the speaker tells the listener that the report is not coming from just anybody but the director (of public health) who works with Ghana Health Service. So what if anything should there be a fuss about

148

the validity and credibility of the report? The speaker does this by directly associating the lexical item in focus in IU#1, "director," to the entire New information in IU#2, the other part of nominal group. This is very relevant because within the theme of the clause, which IU#1 and IU#2 are exponents of, it is the identity of the "director" that is construed as the focus of the nominal group. Ultimately, the speaker uses tone 2 to reinforce the focus on the "director" and to tell the listener that whatever it is to be said in relation to the director is important and credible because of his status "at the Ghana Health Service". Tone 2 in IU#1 establishes urgency and assurance. It also instigates a specification of the status (identity) of the "director" in relation to IU#2. IU#3 is an appositive to IU#1 plus IU#2. As described by Halliday and Greaves (2008), it takes on the same tone pattern as the immediate preceding IU to show concord (tone 1).

In example 1(see page 147), Tone 2 is used in a similar fashion except in a slightly different linguistic environment. In example 1, IU#6 realizes the identified subject and appositive structures. The appositive structure includes two defining relative clauses joined with "and." IU#7 realizes part of the first defining relative clause while IU#8 realizes the second defining relative clause. Thus, the three information units are realized as chunks of what could have been an inordinately long tone unit (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). However, rather than observe tone concord, they observe the tone sequence 2, 4, 1. Like IU#1 in example 2, IU#6 has marked tonicity with tone 2: The focus falls on the head of the nominal group that functions as an appositive rather than the last lexical item of the tone unit. Table 3 shows the structural composition of IU#6 in which there are two structures of Given

149

information: One is the subject and it is recoverable from previous IUs whereas the subsequent one comes after the focal point of IU#6 (Halliday & Greaves, 2008).

3. The /suspected /patient a Lady   who /arrived in /Ghana

Given →	New	← Given
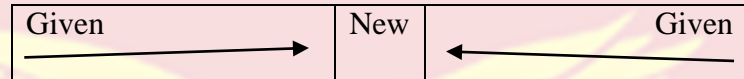
Like the use of Tone 2 in IU#1 in example 2, Tone 2 in IU#6 in example 1 is used as a question-response resource in relation to IU#7 and IU#8: Since "lady" is given focus without any specification, Tone 2 is used to stimulate the question, "who might she be?" Then, in relation to IU#7 and IU#8, the speaker tells the listener that the lady is someone who recently arrived from New Jersey in the US and she is being held at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital. Thus, IU#7 and IU#8 specify the class the "lady" identifies with: One who travelled into the country and is being quarantined. The speaker does this by using Tone 2 to directly associate the lexical item in focus in IU#6, "lady," to the entire New information in IU#7 and IU#8. It is important to stress that example 2 is characterized as a structural component of projection whereas example 1 identifies with expansion. In each case, Tone 2 is used to identify and relate the lexical item of importance (New information) in the first IUs (IU#6 and IU#1) to succeeding information units. It is also used to construct urgency and assurance in both examples; however, whereas in example 2, it instigates a specification of the status of the "director" in relation to IU#2 (Eliteness), in example 1, tone 2 is used to instigate a specification of the location of the "lady" in relation to IU#7 and IU#8 (Personalization). This is very relevant because as has been established, as of the time of report, no case of the virus in the country had been reported positive. Subsequently, the travel log and

150

location of the "lady" becomes very relevant in the story and to the identity of the "lady". That is, in each case, it is the identity of the "director" and the "lady" that are construed.

As has been established, IU#7 and IU#8 do not observe the tone concord rule with IU#6 as correlating unit in example 1. They do form the tone sequence, 4,1, which is typically identified as establishing a hypotactic relation between two IUs. That is, the tone sequencing construes the two IUs as sharing a dependency relation. However, when considering the lexicogrammar of the structures, the two IUs map onto the two defining relative clauses joined together with the conjunction, "and." Subsequently, between IU#7 and IU#8, there is already an established tactic relation at the level of the lexicogrammar where both IUs have equal status. In his discussion of coordination contrast, Halliday (1967) observed similar pattern where he explains that in instances of coordination (with the use of "and"), Tone 4 followed by Tone 1 can be used to express contrast where "and" is associated with "but." In relation to IU#7 and IU#8, the speaker sets up tone 4 against the coordinator "and" in order express the form of contrast associated with "but": The lady had recently arrived from the United States (to be contrasted with China) but she still had to be quarantined at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital.

From the foregoing discussion, it has been established that the information units in the two texts were predominantly marked for tonality and tonicity. There are three effects. First, most of the information units that were unfolded in the two texts were realized as shorter than the clause which afforded the two texts high information load or density. Second, the meaning and grammar of the information

units were predominantly realized as independent of the grammar and meaning of the clause which facilitated some situational/discursive conditions. This instigated new forms of meaning and grammatical associations formed from relating the dissociated meaning and grammar of the information units and the clauses (simplexes and complexes). Finally, from the situational conditions set up through the marked tonality and tonicity, the tones were used to construe interpersonal and logical meanings. Predominantly, they derived their associated functional meaning from the lexical items they fell on and/or from their association with other tones from other information units.

Phrasing and Discourse Segmentation in the two Texts

As has been established, the two texts exhibited a particular text structure that identifies with the schema of the narrative pyramid technique usually used to present events as news. They have the Lead, Context, Main Event, and Consequences (Verbal Reaction), which unfold in a descending order of importance. The initial analysis of the lexicogrammatical patterns revealed the parts of the text structure were characterized by pervasive use of clause complexes which Halliday and Greaves (2008) point out as a means of connecting clauses: The clause complexes provide the structural linkage to relate events expressed in individual clauses. The analysis also engaged other lexicogrammatical choices such as the choice and change in theme of the clauses, the repetition of clauses, and the use of deictic lexical items as cohesive means to construe some systematic coherence among the parts of the text structure. Relatively, the lexicogrammatical patterns

152

provided the needed linguistic context to rate the newsworthiness of related clauses as well as categorize them in respect of the schematic structure the two texts exhibit.

While the lexicogrammatical patterns do provide the respective texts with structural coherence, in speech, it is the prosodic choices that serves as the primary source for constructing the structural coherence of texts. According to Lukin and Rivas (2021), the particular prosodic choices that provide structural coherence resonate with two systems established within the framework of discourse intonation. They are Key and Termination which are pitch level options realizable at the onset (typically, the first prominent syllable) and the final (typically the last prominent syllable) positions of an information unit respectively. The set of options for both systems are high, mid, and low pitch level choices (Lukin & Rivas). Once choices are made at each end, they construe oral paragraphs already identified as paratones (Brown & Yule, 1983; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Lukin & Rivas). Paratones are usually marked by an observable pause at the point of termination (Brown & Yule; Halliday & Greaves; Lukin & Rivas). In the respective texts analyzed, the paratones equaled a clause simplex or a clause complex.

Extract 13:

1. // 1 And the ↑**la**test /suspected /case of /COVID nine**teen** at the // 1 **Kor**le-bu /teaching /hospital↓**yes**terday// 3 has ↓**test**ed↓**ne**gative//

2. //1↑**This** is the /third /suspected ↓**case** at the // 5↑**na**tion's /premier ↓**hos**pital//   (Data A, IU#1-5)

3. // 2 The di↑**rec**tor of /public **health**// 1 at the ↓**Gha**na /Health **Ser**vice// 1↓**Doc**tor /Badu ↓**Sar**kodie// 1↓**says** the sus/pected /COVID /nineteen **case**// 2 ^at the ▲**Kor**le-bu /teaching /hospital has /turned out to be ↓**ne**gative//

153

4. // 4 The↓**Noguchie** me/morial /institute for /medical re**search** // 4 was ↑**ear**lier man/dated to in/vesti**gate**// 4 a sus↑**pect**ed /case of the /<u>deadl</u>y /COVID /nineteen in ↓**Gha**na//   (Data B, IU#1-8)

Extract 13 is a composition of the Lead sections of Data A and Data B respectively. Examples 1 and 2 are the paratones of the Lead section in Data A while example 3 and 4 are the paratones of the Lead section in Data B. The first and last stressed syllables for each information unit is presented in bold with high pitch ↑) and low pitch ↓) choices signaled with the arrows, and mid-pitch unmarked. In reading, both newscasters mark the beginning of the sections with high pitch. With the pitch range set between 50 Hz and 500 Hz, the newscaster for Data A started at 299.5 Hz while that of Data B started at 339.5 Hz. In both instances, the pitch levels of successive tone units were kept relatively close to the starting point (see figure 6 below). The minimum pitch range for the Lead section of Data A was approximately 167 Hz with the Lead section of Data B's set at 162 Hz. Thus, the mid-range for the respective texts were set between 255 Hz and 210 Hz for Data A and 274 Hz and 215 Hz for Data B. Extract 13 provides what seemed to be typical of the paratones identified in the respective texts.
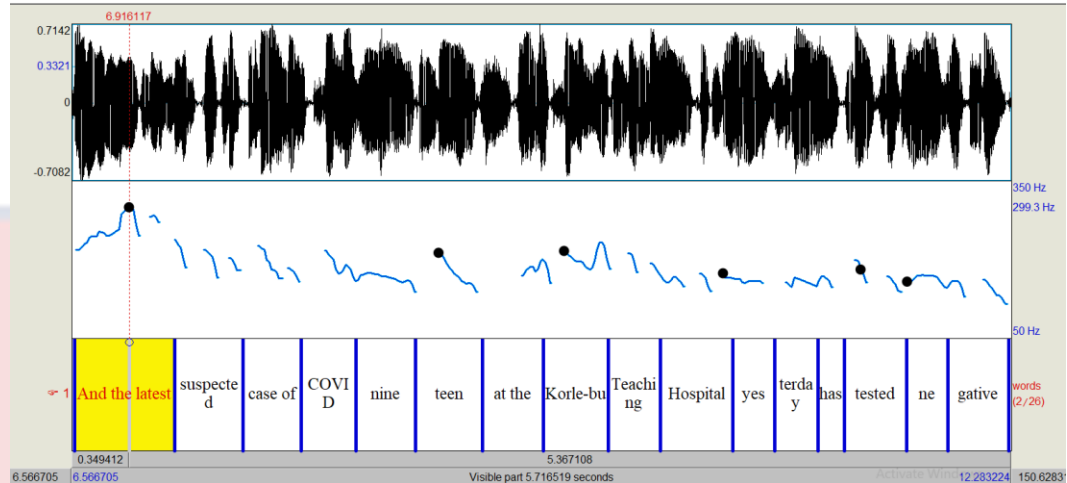
Figure 6: Praat view of the first paratone of Data A (IU#1-3)

Figure 6 presents a Pratt view of the first paratone of Data A. For the lead section of Data A, at the final stressed syllable of IU#1 and the first stressed syllable of IU#2, Praat (see Figure 6) shows a fall in pitch range from 299 Hz to 220 Hz and 212 Hz, which are mid-range pitches. The pitch range falls again to the low range on the final stressed syllable of IU#2 and on the first stressed syllable (190 Hz) and final stressed syllable (170 Hz) of IU#3. Between the three IUs, there are no observable relative long pauses. However, between the final stressed syllable of IU#3 and the first stressed syllable of IU#4, there is a relatively long pause which is characterized by a sudden jump in the pitch range from 170 Hz to 281 Hz as illustrated in figure 7 on page 156.

155
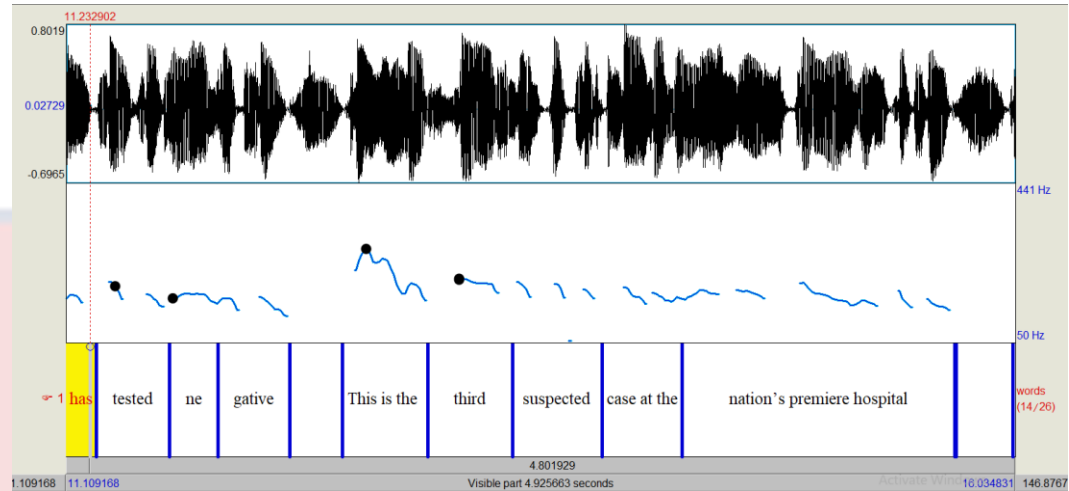
Figure 7: PRAAT view of the pause between IU#3 and IU#*4*

The instance, according to Lukin and Rivas (2021), sets in motion a pitch reset and the beginning of another paratone. Thus, IU#1-3 is marked as a paratone with the reset in pitch range. Such were the instances in the texts. The individual paratones were a chain of information units mapped onto individual clause simplexes and clause complexes. The implication was that although most of the information units were smaller than a clause and could not be mapped directly onto the meaning construed in the clause simplexes and/or clause complexes of the respective texts, the paratones provided an enabling linguistic context to group related information units and directly map them onto their associated clause simplexes and/or clause complexes. Although Lukin and Rivas do not explicitly establish such association between the paratones and tone units they identify, their analysis revealed a similar pattern.

It was also observed that the paratones provided structural coherence among the respective clause simplexes and clause complexes with which they shared boundaries. Considering the pitch range set up at the boundaries of the paratones,

156

two forms of paratones were construed in the respective texts: the major paratones and the minor paratones. According to Lukin and Rivas (2021), major paratones are marked by high pitch reset at the beginning of an utterance while the minor paratones are signaled by medium or low pitch. Example 1 and 2 constitute major paratones as they are marked by high pitch at the beginning with low termination at the end. Example 3 identifies as a major paratone as well. Example 4, on the other hand, begins at a pitch range of 212 Hz, which relatively identifies as low pitch, and has low termination. It is identified as a minor paratone. Lukin and Rivas observe major paratones as contrastive paratones while they observe minor paratones with medium pitch at the onset as an addition to what precedes them and minor paratones with low pitch at the onset as subordinates or part of whatever precedes them.

Subsequently, as constituents of the Lead section of Data A, example 1 and example 2 share an independent relationship whether they are considered as paratones or clauses. Within such configuration, it has been established that it is the deictic lexical item, "this," that is used to explicitly construe example 2 as adding more information to example 1 and as a constituent of the Lead section. Between examples 3 and 4, the latter is construed as a subordinate to the former since example 3 is construed as a major paratone and example 4 is construed as a minor paratone with low pitch range (Lukin & Rivas, 2021). The difference in the two instances is simply that for the Lead section of Data B, it is the prosodic choices in pitch range that serve as explicit cohesive means of establishing coherence between the structures in example 3 and example 4. For the lead section of Data A, it is the

157

demonstrative pronoun. The point to be highlighted is that although the two texts are spoken texts, it was observed that lexicogrammatical choices were used as much as prosodic choices to provide the two texts with explicit text structural signals and coherence.

The literature revealed that the patterns of the lexicogrammar and prosody of the two texts were not usual, especially when the text structure or discourse segmentation of the two texts are considered. In Fang's (1991) consideration of the narrative pyramid technique, he notes that radio news texts that observe the narrative pyramid technique are short, characterized by the pervasive use of simple, short, declarative sentences in the active voice, with the subject set very close to the predicate as much as possible. According to him, the characterization is set against the background that a sentence carries information, and the longer the sentences, the less likely it would be understood. Clearly, these were not the case for the two texts under study. The theme-rheme analysis of the texts revealed the texts were characterized by long clause complexes, with heavily post-modified nominal groups as subjects which pushed their predicates far away from them. The lexicogrammatical choices in the texts construe the texts as somewhat of a written-to-be-read text than written-to-be-spoken text (Moore, 2016): The two texts were heavily influenced by written conventions. Considering radio news texts are transient, lacks space, and prone to interference (Apuke, 2017; McLeish, 2005; Montgomery, 2007), the two texts take a form that is very complex to decode from just listening.

However, as if a paradox at work, the two texts are pervasively phrased in information units smaller than the clause simplexes and clause complexes. The effect is that although the long clause simplexes and clause complexes present the message of the discourse (as established in the theme-rheme analysis), they are presented in smaller chunks of information units that allow the listener access to smaller portions of the message at a time and to be able to focus on what is important in those small portions of the message. That is, in the two texts, the information unit to clause relation is marked because the newscasters, in reading the texts, chunked the relatively longer clause simplexes and clause complexes into manageable units. In that context, the paratones functioned as a means of grouping the chunks of information into the message construed in the clauses: The pitch resets at paratone boundaries indicated a chain of related information units had been presented. Since the boundaries of the paratones mapped onto the clause simplexes and clause complexes, it allowed for the information units to be assessed in relation to the message presented in the clause simplexes and clause complexes. The yoking of the linguistic choices at the lexicogrammatical and phonological strata within the respective texts presented the listener the right linguistic environment to anticipate the flow of the discourse however complex; whether they were dealing with a related information unit in a single linear message or they had started another message that was contrasting with the first message or a subordinate to the previous message. The two texts were "complexly-simple."

The Composite Texture of the Texts

So far, it has been suggested that the skillful manipulation of the choices in the systems of the lexicogrammar and phonology (intonation) creates an important rhetorical advantage in the two texts: The clause simplexes and clause complexes are construed to carry the line of meaning as a message in the flow of the discourse whereas the information units and information unit complexes are construed to uphold the practical function of chunking the flow of the message in the discourse into manageable units (Halliday, 1967; Halliday & Greaves, 2008; Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014; Matthiessen, 2018; Moore, 2016). The point is, contrary to the initial conceptualization premised on the unmarked relation between the clause and information units, there was a significant dissociation between the two units with the paratone as the semantic unit serving as the point of association. Subsequently, there was a clear distinction in the textual meaning of the texts to show: (a) the point the newscasters chose as the orientation for their message (construed as theme in the clause simplexes and clause complexes) and (b) the point the listeners were to know or focus on (construed as Given and New information in the IUs and IUs complexes).

Extract 14:

// 1 And the /latest /suspected /case of /COVID-nine/<u>teen</u> at the // 1 Korle-bu /teaching /hospital /<u>yesterday</u> // 3 has /tested /<u>ne</u>gative//

(Data A, IU#1-3)

In Extract 14, for example, the parts in bold functions as the theme. Since "case" is the nominal head of the theme, it is foregrounded as the focus and subsequently modified by the other lexical items in it. With the double slashes as

160

information unit boundary, the parts in bold is divided into two information units which observe tone concord. They both take tone 1. Since they mark the beginning of the discourse, they both function as New information with the parts underlined as the points of contrastive focus in the theme: (i) Information 1: The New information is "COVID-nineteen" (to be contrasted with any other disease or subject matter in the news); it extends back over all the information; (ii) Information 2: The New information is "yesterday" (to be contrasted with *now*); it extends back over all information 2. From the textual patterns, it becomes quite clear that there are two related but different meanings to the structure in bold. The theme tells us that the newscaster chooses to talk about the "case" while the two New information say the listener should focus on "COVID-nineteen" and "yesterday." The two textual instances of Theme and New information in Extract 14 construe interpersonal relationship between the newscasters and their listeners with the theme presenting the newscasters' oriented perspective and the information units, the listeners' oriented perspective in Extract 14 (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).

A dissociation between the information unit and the clause meant a dissociation between the clause and the tone group. Subsequently, in the two texts, since the tone groups did not necessarily function to realize a clause but something smaller than the clause, they were used to signal some grammatical structures in the clause (the rhetorical advantage). First, they were used to mark a distinction between subordinate clauses and embedded clauses. Extract 15 presents (in bold) instances in the two texts that has subordinate and embedded clauses. Example 1 and 3 are two instances with defining relative clauses which identify as embedded

161

clauses (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). In each of the examples are two succeeding defining relative clauses. In both examples, the respective first defining relative clauses share a single tone group with their respective antecedents, "lady" and "woman." The difference, however, is that, for example 1, the first defining relative clause is loaded with extra information that is contrastive to the second. As such, it is the initial part that shares a single tone unit with the associated antecedent. The two examples (1 and 3) also show that within instances in the texts that there were successive defining relative clauses with shared antecedent, the second defining relative clauses formed their own tone groups.

Extract 15:

1. **//** 2 The /suspected /patient a /la̲dy **who /arrived in /Ghana // 4 recently from /New /Jersey in the /United /Sta̲tes // 1 ^and is currently being /held at the /Ko̲rle-bu /teaching /hospital//**   (Data A, IU#6-8)

2. …**//** 1 samples were /ta̲ken **//** 1 ^to the Noguchie Me/morial /hospital for further erh /te̲st erh **// 4 which has /since pro/ven /ne̲gative//**

   (Data A, IU#13-15)

3. **//** 1 The /ca̲se **//** 5 in/volved a /Ghanaian /woman **/based a/bro̲ad // 1 ^who re/turned to the /country for a /medical pro/ce̲dure//**

   (Data B, IU#9-11)

4. **//** 2 So /far the /country has re/corded /over /forty-six /cases of the ^/vi̲rus **// 5 which has /cla̲imed// 3 over /four /thousand /li̲ves // 5 ^and in/fected over /ni̲nety /thousand /others in /some /seventy /countries//**   (Data B, IU#12-15)

Examples 2 and 4 are instances with non-defining relative clauses which identify as subordinating clauses (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). Within the two examples (2 and 4), the non-defining relative clauses (identified as the bold

162

structures) are given their own tone groups. In example 4, there are two non-defining relative clauses which share a paratactic relation. They are both given their own tone groups. According to Halliday and Matthiessen, the two instances of embedded clauses and subordinating clauses are typical since embedded clauses provide information that forms part of their antecedent and subordinating clauses provide separate information to be associated with their antecedent. In written texts, the distinction is marked using the comma (Halliday & Matthiessen; Moore, 2016).

Second, the tone group was used to signal marked themes. Within the two texts, it was very typical for marked themes to be given a separate tone group. Marked themes typically include themes realized by an adverbial group or prepositional phrase or a nominal group not functioning as Subject (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). According Halliday and Matthiessen (2014), in speech, such thematic structures are usually marked off as a separate tone group. In Extract 16, the structures in bold are the marked themes because they function as adjuncts rather than subjects (Halliday & Matthiessen). In example 1, the theme is realized by a prepositional phrase while in examples 2 and 3, it is adverbial groups. In each case, the themes as adjuncts are used to construe the circumstances within which the events expressed in the succeeding clause simplex or clause complex unfold and they are marked off using the tone group. On the contrary, in example 3, although the theme is marked, it is not uttered as a separate tone group.

Extract 16:

1. **// 4 after a /<u>brief</u> /panic among /health /officials** // 1 samples were /<u>ta</u>ken// 1 ^to the Noguchie Me/morial /hospital for further erh /<u>test</u> erh//
   (Data A, IU#12-14)

2. **// 4 just this after/<u>noon</u>// 1** we re/ceived a /report from Nogu/<u>chie</u> and//…
   (Data B, IU#21-22)

3. **// 2 So /far** the /country has re/corded /over /forty-six /cases of the ^/<u>vi</u>rus// 5 which has /claimed// 3 over /four /thousand /<u>lives</u>// 5 ^and in/fected over /<u>nine</u>ty /thousand /others in /some /seventy /countries//
   (Data B, IU#12-14)

In the theme-rheme analysis carried out earlier (see pp. 123-126), it was observed that the themes realized by circumstantial adjuncts typically conditioned the entire clause (complex) that followed. While the analysis remains valid, example 3 shows a contrastive outcome in not marking the theme with a separate tone group as Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) had observed. In entering the theme (adjunct) and the dominant clause in one tone group in example 3, the listener is forced to relate the circumstance construed in the theme to only the event expressed in the dominant clause. That is, in the typical situation where the marked theme would be uttered as a separate tone group, the circumstance construed in time by "so far" would be associated with the events expressed in the dominant clause and in the succeeding non-defining relative clauses of the clause complex. In that instance, "so far" extends to the time the disease emerged, with every country in the world in focus. In example 3, "so far" extends to the time the first (suspected) case of the disease was reported in the country, Ghana. That is marked by uttering

164

the circumstantial adjunct and theme and the dominant clause as a single tone group.

Extract 17:

1. **// 1 And the /latest /suspected /case of /COVID nine/<u>teen</u> at the // 1 Korle-bu /teaching /hospital /<u>yester</u>day//** 3 has /tested /<u>neg</u>ative//

   (Data A, IU#1-3)

2. **// 4 The /Noguchie me/morial /institute for /medical re/<u>search</u> //** 4 was earlier man/dated to in/vesti<u>gate</u> // 4 a sus/pected /case of the /<u>dead</u>ly /COVID /nineteen in /Ghana//

   (Data B, IU#6-8)

The tone groups were also used to signal some unmarked themes. Unmarked themes, as has been established, are realized by structures that function as subject. Although their positions as subjects already place them in focus, some of the unmarked themes were still given separate tone groups. Extract 17 presents examples of such instances, with the unmarked theme in bold. In example 2, the theme shares boundary with the IU#6 which is simple to acknowledge: it begins at where the theme begins and ends at the junction where the theme ends and the rheme begins. In example 1, the theme is realized by two IUs, IU#1 and IU#2; IU#1 begins where the theme begins and IU#2 ends at where the theme ends and the rheme begins. The relationship between IU#1 and IU#2 as parts of the same structure, the theme, is marked by the tone concord the two tone groups that realize IU#1 and IU#2 observe.

In all, it was observed that the textual patterns of the lexicogrammar provided the needed linguistic contexts to construe, emphasize, and de-emphasize

some news values identified in the respective texts. The dissociation between the textual patterns of the lexicogrammar and that of phonology provided the newscasters the necessary linguistic means to foreground grammatical structures that would otherwise be relegated to background as just functional structures to emphasize some news values in the textual patterns of the lexicogrammar.

Prosody as a Line of Interpretation

When the phonological choices that characterize the data set are considered in relation to the overall lexico-grammtical contexts of the texts, it is observed that there are two scripts to each text. It is those two scripts that construe the composite texture of the respective texts. When example 1 of Extract 17, for instance, is considered in the lexicogrammatical context only, the nominal group that realizes the theme has "case" as the head and it is that which is foregrounded in the theme wherein the other lexical items as modifiers are construed as the background – they are considered to be part of "case." Subsequently, since "case" construes Consonance and tells what is being talked about, the other lexical items simply function to construe that meaning in the theme. On the other hand, when the same example is reviewed with due consideration of the phonological context, the two tone groups that realize the theme identify as two parts of the same nominal structure through tone concord. They also show that there are two contrasting focus in the nominal group. They add the value the speaker attaches to each: Since they form the beginning of the text, they unfold as new information; subsequently, the focus moves from the last lexical item on the right to the left in both tone groups. They are both defined as very important information on which the listener needs to

focus. The first construes Consonance around the focused point, "COVID-nineteen," which construes negative impact as an epidemic; the second construes Proximity around the focused point, "yesterday," which construes Timeliness. Thus, within the two tone groups that realize the theme of the clause, the speaker provides information on what thing is being talked about (which is something negative), where that thing occurred, when that thing occurred, and what has happened to that thing when the third tone group that realizes the rheme is considered. The level of importance of the second script can best be described in relation to the Lead section which is expected to tell the listener in brief, information about the five "wh-question." The second script construed as series of tone groups frames the message presented in the clause into items of news (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).

Chapter Summary

This chapter has analyzed and discussed the data collected for the purpose of the present study. This approach was aimed at providing answers to the research questions that guide present study. Firstly, the chapter discussed the discursive construction of news texts, engaging the linguistic patterns that define the texts as news or newsworthy. The discussion involved the patterns of news values and theme. Secondly, the discussion engaged the patterns of the tone unit and their realization of meaning through the information unit. The present chapter presents the role of prosody in the discursive construction of the news texts. The next chapter presents the conclusion of the entire study.

CHAPTER FIVE
SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Introduction

In the previous chapter, the results of the analysis of the data for the study were discussed. This final chapter presents a summary of the entire study, highlighting the key findings of the study. Conclusions are then drawn based on the findings. The chapter further presents the implications of the study; finally, recommendations are made for further studies.

Summary of the Study

The study was premised on news discourse and prosody. It sought to analyse radio news texts at the phonological level. It aimed at examining the patterns of the intonation systems as part of the textual resources that are frequently deployed to structure information during news broadcasts by selected Ghanaian radio stations who read their news in English, and the communicative meaning those patterns are expected to evoke for the listeners. By focusing on this problem, the following research questions were formulated:

1. What unique patterns of meaning are construed in news texts?

2. How are the patterns of meaning construed in the lexicogrammar of the texts?

3. How does prosody influence the patterns of meaning that are communicated to the listener?

In answering these research questions, the study adopted the combined analytical framework of DNVA and Systemic Phonology. This framework enabled

me to focus on the analysis of linguistic forms such as information units, tone units, and clause and/or sentences, and how these linguistic resources fuel the progression of news discourse during radio news broadcast. The study used as data for the analysis two news stories, one each from Joy FM's *News Night* on March 6, 2020 and Citi FM's *Eyewitness News* on March 6, 2020. By using the analytical framework of DNVA and Systemic Phonology, I arrived at the findings that have been discussed and presented in the previous chapter.

Key Findings

The analysis of the data which was guided by the research questions stated below revealed these key findings.

First, with reference to research question 1, the study revealed that the patterns of meaning of the respective radio news texts were particularly unique to the interpersonal meaning established in the texts through the patterns of news values. Both texts engaged the same issue on *COVID-19* (the test result of the latest suspect), the same source of information, the same target audience, and were therefore characterized by the same patterns of meaning construed as news values: Consonance, Superlative, personalization, Proximity, Eliteness, Negativity/ Positivity, and Unexpectedness. However, the uniquely placed nature of the texts as news produced within different contexts saw different patterns of meaning emphasized and de-emphasized in the two texts. Data A had its patterns of meaning emphasize Negativity/Positivity as the dominant news value (26%) while Data B had its patterns emphasize Eliteness (24%). In Data B, the semiotic resources in use were dominated by patterns of meaning that construed the event around the news

source who happened to be a very important person within the institution that engaged the event of testing (Ghana Health Service). The significance of the story was, thus, invested in the high-status profile of the news source: The news text is important for the target listener who is a Ghanaian because the information provided is from the person in charge of directing the national institution in charge of managing the healthcare systems in Ghana.

In the case of Data A, the semiotic resources in use were mostly contextualized to force an assessment of the event as either good (positive) or bad (negative). Since the event was one about a pandemic, the test result of a suspected case was construed as that which made the news valuable or significant: A positive result meant the target audience had to brace themselves up for some severe crisis while a negative result meant the target audience were safe from the crisis. Within the set characterization, the primary difference between the two texts was that Data B had the identity of the news source presented as that which makes the news significant or valuable to the listener whereas in Data A, it was the intrinsic property of the subject matter (probable experience of a pandemic) that was contextualized to establish the value or significance of the story. Subsequently, for the news texts, the researcher holds that their unique patterns of meaning are defined by that element of an event that is discursively constructed and emphasized in the texts as newsworthy or worth the attention of the audience – construed as news values.

Research question 2 also revealed some interesting findings. While considering patterns of meaning at the strata of the lexicogrammar, the study revealed a pattern of configuration within the grammar typical of written texts

rather than spoken texts: (a) All the clauses were rendered in the declarative mood which, in turn, influenced the assignment of the textual status of theme as realized in the respective clauses; (b) The texts were characterized by the mass use of clause complexes; (c) Below the clause, the texts were predominated by relatively longer group and phrase complexes. In the findings, the configuration was such that, below the clause, patterns of meaning were constructed as longer group and phrase complexes. Within those longer groups and phrase complexes, favoured patterns were emphasized above others. In the theme of the first clause of Extract 8a, "And the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital yesterday," there are the nominal group, the prepositional phrase, and an adjunct. As was established, whereas each construe a news value as meaning, relatively, it is the meaning construed in the nominal group that is favoured and emphasized over those construed in the prepositional phrase and adjunct.

At the level of the clause, the study showed that the group and phrase complexes functioned to develop individual elements of the clause whereas the respective clauses were integrated into clause complexes. The integration was such that the clause complexes depended less on cohesive devices such as conjunctions and repetitions and more on their internal structuring to relate the clauses construed as messages. This was a key finding because the means of integration of the clauses provided a contrast between the parts of the texts presented by the newscasters and the parts presented as statements from the news source which were characterized by predominant use of cohesive devices, especially, conjunctions. Between the two forms of integration, the study revealed that the producers/newscasters resorted to

the internal structuring of the clause complexes to make the texts compact at both the grammatical and semantic level.

Additionally, the unique patterns of meaning of the two texts were distinguished in the choices made in the internal structuring of the clause complexes that formed the texts. The internal structuring of the clause complexes was such that the compositional clauses were presented as sequences of figures (or moves) that are textually related as messages (Halliday & Greaves, 2014). Subsequently, the internal structuring of the clause complexes defined how the discourse unfolded within clause complexes. It was characterized by choices within the systems of taxis and logico-sematic relationship (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). In Data B, for instance, the study showed that the unique patterns of meaning established as Eliteness manifested within a form of clause complexing unique to only Data B: The clause complex had two clauses with one projecting the other in a hypotactic relation where the projecting clause dominated the projected clause (see clause 8b1). Such internal structuring of clause complexes typically attribute the proposition expressed in the projected clause to its sources which are construed in the projecting clause. In Data B, the producers employed such internal structuring of clause complexes to construe the discourse as unfolding from the angle of the news source. It also helped emphasize the identity and voice of the news source while relegating the voice of the newscaster to the background. The opposite was the case for Data A.

The researcher believes that radio news producers depended heavily on the two systems of relation in contrast to some cohesive devices to grammatically and

semantically integrate the chunks of messages they had construed in respective clauses. It provided direct means to make compact the meanings expressed in individual clauses while diversifying the patterns of meaning at the grammatical level. The researcher also believes that the configuration of the patterns of meaning at the lexicogrammatical level, as has been established, was an effort on the part of the respective producers of radio news text to enable the task of providing a language that is complex enough to enact and communicate intended meaning while managing the space in time the messages as clauses are reported on radio.

For research question 3, the study revealed that the newscasters favoured the five simple primary tones. That is, the compound tones were rarely recognized in the texts. Amidst those patterns, Tone 1 is frequently used (53% and 50% for Data A and B respectively). The researcher believes that that was the case because the clauses in the texts were mostly of the declarative mood which, within unmarked situations, takes on Tone 1 to enact statements. Thus, the newscasters used tone 1 to provide the basic linguistic environment within which all other tones could be contrasted. Within such established context, the study revealed that, although the interpersonal functions of the respective tones were, in most cases, context dependent, in some significant instances, their respective functions aligned with what was regarded the case (Halliday & Greaves, 2008). Tone 2 is, however, the exception. The study revealed that Tone 2 was predominantly used to single out individual lexical items in an attempt to define the value of that item in relation to successive (rather than previous) tone groups. The phonological context was such

173

that both tonality and tonicity were marked, and the lexical item was drawn out as central to whatever question the succeeding information units answered.

Another key finding was that both radio news texts were predominantly marked for tonality and tonicity. Subsequently, information units that were unfolded in the two texts were realized as shorter than the clause: On the average, one dominant clause unfolded across three information units. It meant that although short, the news texts had high information load or density. Second, since the patterns of prosody of the texts were mostly marked, their integration into the patterns of the grammar realized new forms of meanings and grammatical associations. Finally, from the situational conditions set up through the marked tonality and tonicity, the tones used to construe interpersonal and logical meanings predominantly derived their associated functional meaning from the lexical items they fell on and/or from their association with other tones from other information units.

From the study, on one hand, it was observed that the producers of radio news texts resorted to the textual patterns of the lexicogrammar to construe, emphasize, and de-emphasize some news values identified in the respective texts. On the other hand, through the voice of the newscaster, they construed patterns of prosody dissociated from the textual patterns of the lexicogrammar to foreground grammatical structures that would otherwise be relegated to the background as just functional structures so as to emphasize some news values which would otherwise lose value in the textual patterns of the lexicogrammar. Additionally, the prosodic patterns were used to chunk those patterns within the lexicogrammar which would

otherwise be rendered as very long tone groups. The prosodic patterns were used to enact the interpersonal relation between the producers/newscaster and their listeners while the lexicogrammatical patterns defined the textual properties that generally characterized the texts.

Although long clause simplexes and clause complexes are used to present the message of radio news discourse, they are presented in smaller chunks of information units that allow the listener access to smaller portions of the message at a time and to be able to focus on what is important in those small portions of the message. The small portions of the message expressed in the information units are grouped and mapped unto their associated clause complexes through the semantic unit of paratones. The yoking of the linguistic choices at the lexicogrammatical and phonological strata in the unfolding of radio news text present the listener the right linguistic environment to anticipate the flow of the discourse however complex, whether they are dealing with a related information unit in a single linear message or they have started another message that was contrasting with the first message or a subordinate to the previous message. Radio news texts are complexly-simple.

Implications of the Study

The study has several implications.

The first major practical contribution of the research is that it offers an empirical basis for some theoretical claims in media linguistics on the auditory perspective of media broadcast. The study supports the claim that a prosodic analysis, which provides an auditory perspective to media broadcasts, offers an

additional line of interpretation of media texts (Stahl, 2010). Evidence from the present study clearly shows that the prosodic patterns of media broadcasts directly influence how patterns of meaning framed in the lexicogrammar are communicated to listeners. The study shows that they provide the context within which news texts are uttered and their communicative meaning altered in mass media communication. Subsequently, without due consideration of the prosodic characteristics of media broadcast, a large part of its interpretive framework is lost in any form of a linguistic analysis.

Second, the research also has implication for the use of DNVA as an analytical framework in linguistic analysis. As an emerging framework that gives insight into the conventionalized resources or the rhetoric of newsworthiness in news texts, DNVA works well with other linguistic theories. The study shows this through the combination of the DNVA and Systemic Phonology to assess the semiotic resources that were repeatedly employed to establish particular forms of meaning as news values at the lexicogrammatical strata and the phonological strata. The combination offered the study much insight into how newsworthiness are integrated and structured within established semiotic resources of news texts. Along those lines, the study also contributed to insights into media texts as social and semiotic practice, which Bednarek and Caple (2017) claim, offers new perspective on how to teach and study news discourse.

The study is also useful to producers of media discourse, particularly, radio news discourse. It supports the claim that the effective use of prosody guides the discursive understanding of the listener at specific moments of news casting;

176

however, since prosody is a default of radio broadcast, it can also yield counterproductive effects for comprehension and attention (Anton, 2013). This is an extension of Halliday and Greaves' (2008) theoretical claim within Systemic phonology that once there is a dissociation in the unmarked case between the lexicogrammar and intonation, new meanings are formed from new combinations of patterns of the lexicogrammar and that of intonation.

Another implication of this study is the contribution it has made to studies into radio news broadcast in Ghana. Over the years, studies into radio news discourse have grown considerably with studies such as Boateng (2009), Coker (2011), Boamah (2016), Opare-Henaku (2016), and Ahlijah (2017). There have been little to no scholarly interest in the prosodic configuration of texts produced through radio in Ghana which has almost a century old of accumulated conventions. The study clearly shows that there are unique patterns that may be identified as unique conventions to radio news texts produced in Ghana. There is the peculiar use of tone 2 and the use of paratones as means to directly map groups of information units unto a clause. That is, the study establishes radio broadcasting as a fertile site for data collection towards the exploration of linguistics forms of English language use in Ghana. Considering the socio-historical background of radio in Ghana intertwined with its political development, and considering the fact that English has served as the language of communication since colonial rule to date, spanning almost a century, the study establishes radio broadcasting in Ghana as a rich site for linguistic exploration and characterization of the English language in general.

Recommendation for Further Studies

Based on the findings and implications that have emerged from the present study, the following recommendations for further studies are made.

First, a similar study can be done on news stories on different events. Since the study focused on stories produced from the same event, the findings of the study were biased towards patterns that were repetitive against those that were just unique. A study focusing on news stories emerging from different events should encourage a rather freeing disposition to explore the patterns of prosody in relation to the patterns of the lexicogrammar in radio news texts.

Second, a study on a larger sample than used in the present study can be conducted. This should increase the probability of finding more nuanced patterns of prosody that are used to construe meaning in Ghanaian radio news discourse.

Third, since the history of radio in Ghana identifies radio news texts as the means through which power and ideology have been enacted and communicated respectively from the times of colonial power, the current researcher recommends a study on how power and/or ideology is enacted through the prosodic choices of radio news texts in Ghana.

Additionally, the researcher recommends a diachronic study into the prosodic patterns of radio news texts with due consideration of its socio-historic bonds with the English language which has served as the primary language of radio since Ghana was under a colonial power. The present study was synchronic.

178

Chapter Summary

This chapter provided a summary of the study, highlighting its key findings, implications, and recommendations for further research. The study aimed to investigate the role of prosody in constructing newsworthy events in Ghanaian radio broadcasts. Specifically, it examined the patterns of intonation systems used in English news broadcasts by selected Ghanaian radio stations, and the communicative meanings these patterns evoke for listeners. The key findings are presented in relation to the research questions, revealing that the prosodic patterns of media broadcasts directly influence how meaning is conveyed through the lexicogrammar. Therefore, neglecting the prosodic characteristics in any form of a linguistic analysis undermines a significant portion of the interpretive framework. Additionally, the chapter discusses the theoretical and practical implications of the study and concludes with four recommendations for future research

179
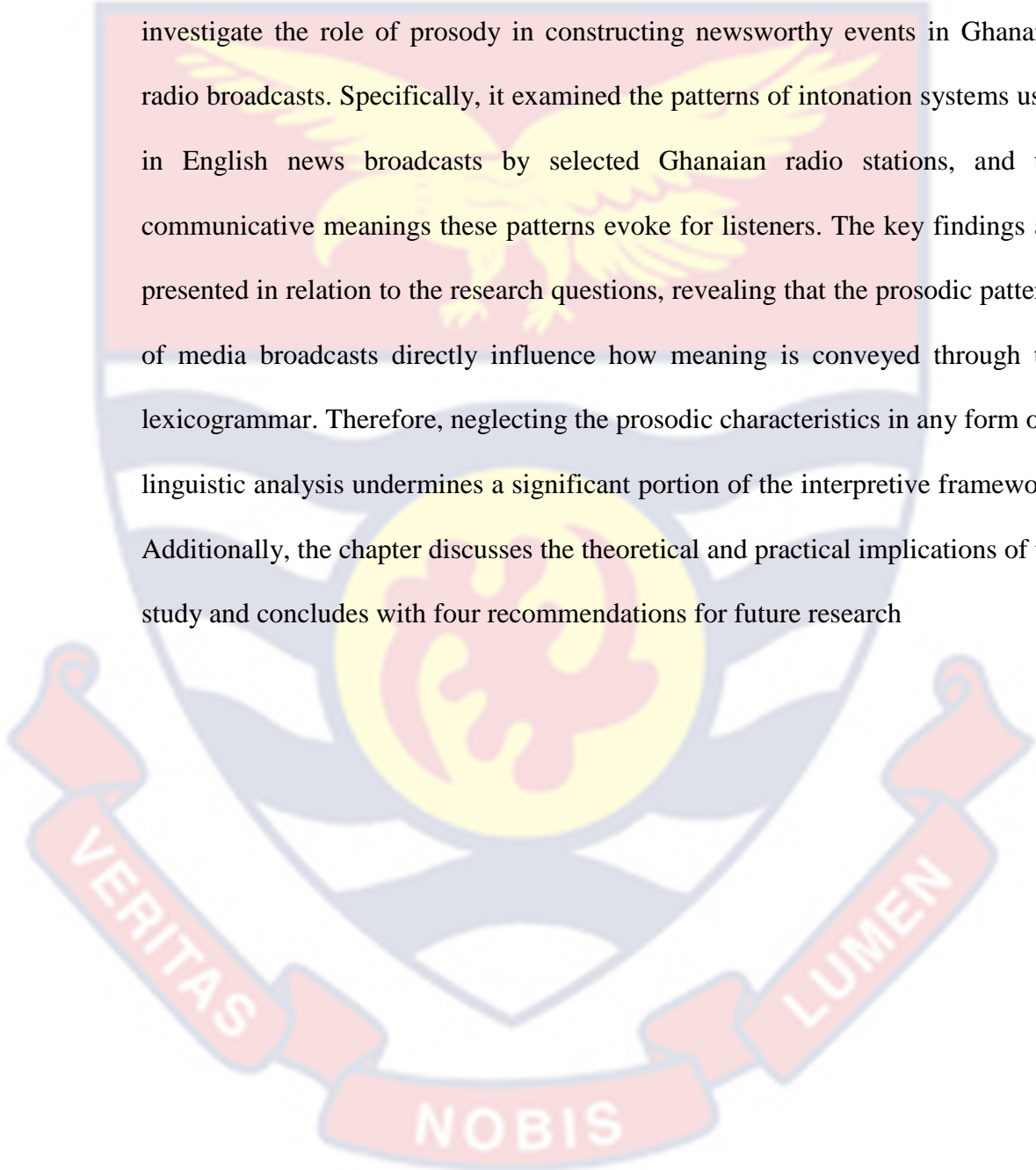
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APPENDICES
APPENDIX A: THEME AND RHEME ANALYSIS

DATA A: 6TH MARCH, 2020 - NEWS NIGHT

Lead

NEWSCASTER: And the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-bu teaching hospital yesterday has tested negative. This is the third suspected case at the nation's premier hospital.

Context

The suspected patient, a lady who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States and is currently being held at the Korle-bu teaching hospital, passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the Kotoka international airport because she was on a pain medication.

Main Event

After a brief panic among health officials, samples were taken to the Noguchie Memorial hospital for further erh test erh which has since proven negative.

Consequences (Verbal Reactions)

Doctor Badu Sakordie is the Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service. He spoke to Daniel Dartey on the pulse on the joy news channel.

DOCTOR BADU SARKODIE: We had report of suspected erm case of COVID nineteen in Korle-bu yesterday and the necessary steps to get samples taken to

194

send the samples to Noguchie and then Noguchie doing their assessments has finished with the investigations and they have come up with a report and shared with us indicating that they have done the test. They have done all that is required and done it again and indeed, the report has come up to be negative.

[And they have given…]

DD: We understand that this brings the total number of cases tested negative to forty-six locally.

D: That's correct. Indeed, erm the for every suspected case, sample has to be taken and sent to the lab for the necessary investigation laboratory investigation to be done. So this one added up to the forty-six. All of this have been erm investigated in the lab and all of them have tested negative. So for now, we can be very definite that we don't have the confirmed case of COVID nineteen in Ghana.

But the woman herself indicated that within her flight, there were quite a number of people with possible respiratory conditions. So she thinks that there is based on this the clinician had the suspicion that they have to consider testing this very candidate of client for COVID nineteen and that is the rationale for the suspicion and the necessary steps have been taken and the report is negative.

NEWSCASTER: That's Doctor Badu Sarkodie. He's Director of Public Health of the Ghana Health Service.

DATA B: 6TH MARCH, 2020- EYEWITNESS NEWS

Lead

NEWSCASTER: The Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie says the suspected COVID nineteen case at the Korle-bu teaching hospital has turned out to be negative. The Noguchie Memorial Institute for Medical Research was earlier mandated to investigate a suspected case of the deadly COVID nineteen in Ghana.

Context

The case involved a Ghanaian woman based abroad who returned to the country for a medical procedure. So far, the country has recorded over forty-six cases of the virus, which has claimed over four thousand lives and infected over ninety-thousand others in some seventy countries.

Main Event

Director of the public health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, who confirmed the earlier development to Citi News said the suspected case turned out to be negative

Consequences (Verbal Reactions)

DOCTOR BADIU SARKODIE: Just this afternoon, we received a report from Noguchi, and the report is that the test, negative, adds up to total number of cases suspected that have been evaluated to be forty-six and all these are negative. So for now, we don't have any confirmed case in the country. Non none of them ending. So all those we have received, they-all of them are negative.

The facems came from the US to conduct surgery here and during the process, I think… a few hours… or so, her temperature went up. Having come from US and based on the report she gave defines elements with regards to the interaction she had other people somewhere… the clinicians suspected it could be COVID nineteen and they took it, they started the process and then erm indicated that there is the need to investigate the situation for possible COVID nineteen.

NEWSCASTER: Head Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health ServiceDoctor Badu Sarkodie
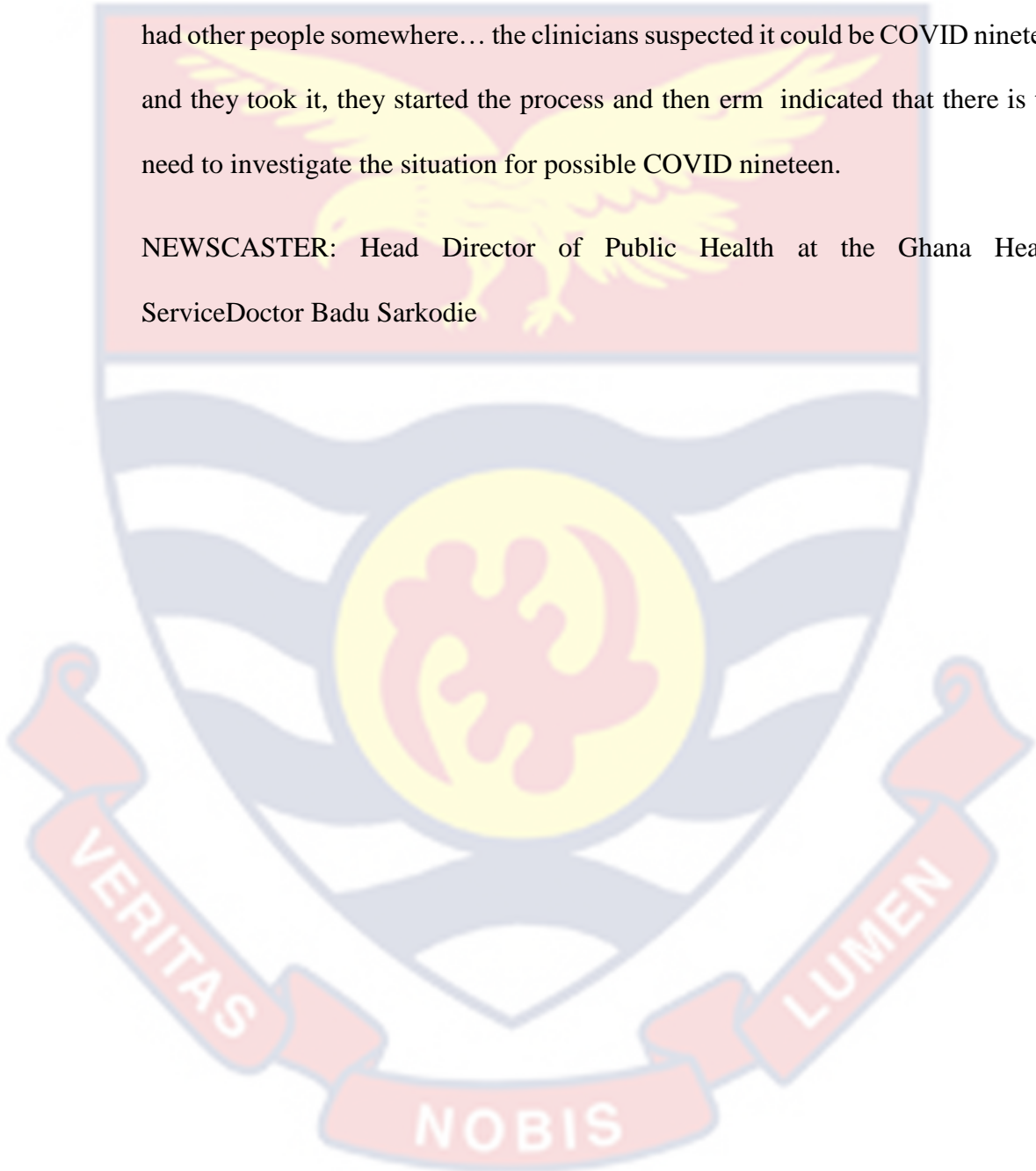
APPENDIX B: NEWS VALUES ANALYSIS IN NEWS TEXTS

DATA A

No	Sentences	News Values							
		Timeliness	Consonance	Superlative	Personalization	Proximity	Eliteness	Negativity/Positivity	Unexpectedness
1	And the **latest suspected case of COVID nineteen** at the **Korle-bu teaching hospital** yesterday has tested negative.	**Latest** **Yesterday** **Has**	**suspected case of COVID nineteen**	Latest		**Korle-bu teaching hospital**		tested negative	
2	This is the third **suspected case** at the **nation's premier hospital.**		**third suspected case**	Third		**nation's premier hospital**			
2	The **suspected** patient **a**	**Recently**	**Who arrived in Ghana**		**A lady who arrived**	**Ghana**			**suspected patient**

198

	lady who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States and is currently being held at the Korle-bu teaching hospital passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the Kotoka international airport because she was on a pain medication	is currently being held			in Ghana …	New Jersey Korle-bu teaching hospital United States Kotoka international airport		passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens because she was on a pain medication
3	After a brief panic among health officials,	since		Further		Noguchie Memorial hospital	brief panic among health officials	

199

	samples were taken to the **Noguchie Memorial hospital** for further erh test erh which has **since proven negative**							proven negative	
4	**Doctor Badu Sakordie** is the **Director of Public Health** at the **Ghana Health Service**					Ghana Health Service	Doctor Badu Sakordie Director of Public Health		
5	He spoke to **Daniel Dartey** on the **Pulse** on the **Joy News channel**				Daniel Dartey		the Pulse Joy News channel		
6	We had report of **suspected** erm **case of**	yesterday	case of COVID nineteen					suspected	

200

	COVID nineteen in **Korle-bu yesterday**								
7	And the **necessary steps** to get samples taken to send the samples to **Noguchie** and then **Noguchie** doing their assessments **has finished with the investigations**					**Noguchie**	**Noguchie**	**necessary steps** **has finished with the investigations**	
8	And they have come up with a report and shared with us indicating that **they have done the test**			**they have done the test**					

9	They have done all that is required, and done it again			They have done all that is required done it again				
10	And **indeed**, the report **has come up to be negative**		**Indeed**				has come up to be negative	
11	We understand that **this brings the total number of cases tested negative to forty-six locally**		**this brings the total number of cases… to forty-six**			**locally**	tested negative	
12	That's **correct indeed**						correct indeed	
13	erm the for every suspected case sample			every suspected case			the necessary investigation laboratory	

202

	has to be taken and sent to the lab for **the necessary investigation laboratory** investigation to be done								
14	So **this one added up to the forty-six**		**this one added up to the forty-six**						
15	All of this have been erm investigated in the lab and **all of them have tested negative**			All of this… all of them				**have tested negative**	
16	So for **now,** we can be **very definite that we don't have the confirmed case** of	**now**				**Ghana**		**very definite that we don't have the confirmed case**	

203

	COVID nineteen in **Ghana**							
17	But **the woman herself indicated** that within her flight, there were **quite a number of people** with possible **respiratory conditions**			**quite a number of people**	**the woman herself indicate**			**respiratory conditions**	
18	So **she thinks** that there is based on this **the clinician had the suspicion** that they have to consider testing this very candidate of				**she thinks**			**the clinician had the suspicion**	

204

	client for COVID nineteen								
19	and that is **the rationale for the suspicion**		**the rationale for the suspicion**						
20	and **the necessary steps have been taken** and **the report is negative**							**the necessary steps have been taken** **the report is negative**	
21	That is **Doctor Badu Sarkodie**						**Doctor Badu Sarkodie**		
22	He's **Director of Public Health** of the **Ghana Health Service**					**Ghana Health Service**	**Director of Public Health**		

205

DATA B

No	Sentences	News Values							
		Timeliness	Consonance	Superlative	Personalization	Proximity	Eliteness	Negativity/Positivity	Unexpectedness
1	**The Director of Public Health** at the **Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie,** says the **suspected COVID nineteen case** at the **Korle-bu teaching hospital has turned out to be negative**	**Has**	**suspected COVID nineteen case**			**Ghana** **Korle-bu Teaching Hospital**	**The Director of Public Health** **Doctor Badu Sarkodie**	**turned out to be negative**	
2	**The Noguchie memorial**	**Earlier**				**Ghana**	**Noguchie memorial institute**	**deadly**	**Was mandated to investigate** a

206

	institute for medical research was **earlier mandated to investigate** a **suspected case** of the **deadly** COVID nineteen in **Ghana**				**for medical research**		**suspected case**
3	The case involved **a Ghanaian woman based abroad who returned to the country for a medical procedure**	**a Ghanaian woman based abroad**	**a Ghanaian woman**				**who returned to the country for a medical procedure**
4	So far **the country has recorded over forty-six cases of the virus**						**the country has recorded over forty-six cases of the virus**

207

	which has **claimed over four thousand lives** and **infected over ninety thousand others in some seventy countries**							**has claimed over four thousand lives** **infected over ninety thousand others in some seventy countries**
5	**Director of the public health** at the **Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie,** who confirmed the **earlier** development to **Citi news,** said **the suspected case turned**	**earlier**			**Ghana Health Service**	**Director of the public health** **Doctor Badu Sarkodie** **Citi news**	**turned out to be negative** **the suspected case turned out to be negative**	

208

	out to be negative							
6	Just this **afternoon,** we received a report from **Noguchie** and **the report is that the test, negative**, **adds up to total number of cases suspected that have been evaluated to be forty six** and **all these are negative**	**afternoon**				**Noguchie**	the report is that the test, negative all these are negative	adds up to total number of cases suspected that have been evaluated to be forty six
7	So for now, **we don't have any confirmed case in the country**						we don't have any confirmed case in the country	

209

8	Non none of them ending so all those we have received they-all of them are negative			none of them all those we have received all of them are negative				
9	[The facems] **came from the US to conduct surgery here** and during the process, I think… **a few hours**… or so, **her temperature went up**	**a few hours**						**came from the US to conduct surgery here** **her temperature went up**
10	**Having come from Us** and **based on the report she gave** defines elements		**Having come from Us**	**based on the report she gave**	somewhere	clinicians		

210

	with regards to the interaction she had with other people **somewhere** … the **clinicians** suspected it could be COVID nineteen and they took it								
11	They started the process and then erm indicated that **there is the need to investigate the situation for possible COVID nineteen**								**there is the need to investigate the situation for possible COVID nineteen**
12	**Head Director of Public Health** at the **Ghana**					**Ghana Health Service**	**Head Director of Public Health**		

211

						Doctor Badu Sarkodie		
Health Service **Doctor Badu Sarkodie**						**Doctor Badu Sarkodie**		
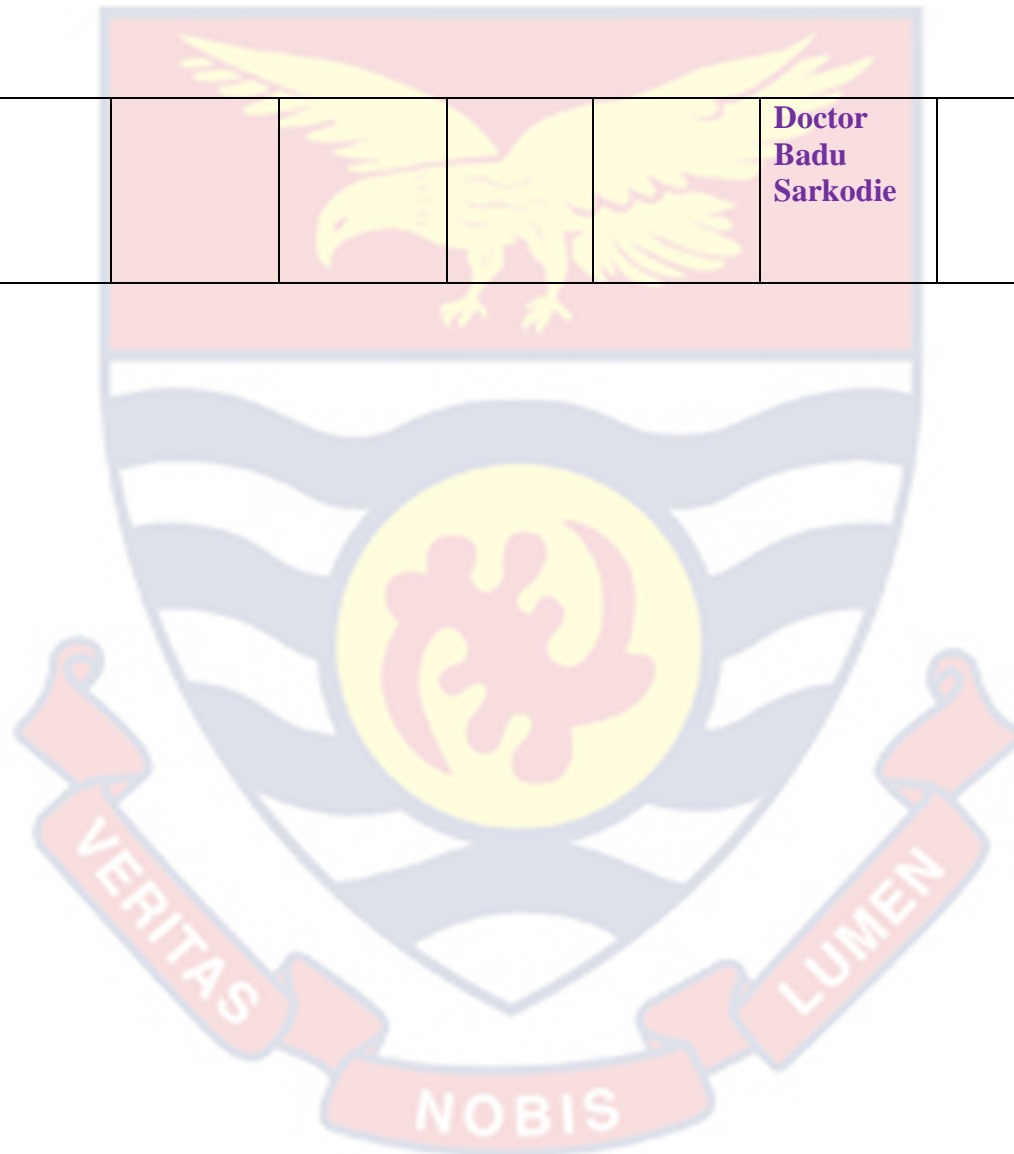
APPENDIX C: CLAUSE, TEXTUAL: THEMATIC ANALYSIS

THEME = <u>THEME</u>

DATA A

Cl#	Theme				Clause
	Textual	Interpersonal	topical: marked	Topical: unmarked	
[1]	And			the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-bu teaching hospital yesterday	<u>And the latest suspected case of COVID nineteen at the Korle-bu teaching hospital yesterday</u> has tested negative.
[2]				This	<u>This</u> is the third suspected case at the nation's premier hospital.
[3.1]				The suspected patient, a lady [[who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States]] and [[is currently being held at the Korle-bu teaching hospital]]	<u>The suspected patient, a lady [[who arrived in Ghana recently from New Jersey in the United States]] and [[is currently being held at the Korle-bu teaching hospital]]</u> passed the mandatory checks on the thermal screens at the Kotoka international airport
[3.2]	because			She	<u>because she</u> was on a pain medication.
[4]			After a brief panic among health officials		<u>After a brief panic among health officials</u>, samples were taken to the Noguchie Memorial hospital for further erh test erh [[which has since proven negative]].

213

[5]				Doctor Badu Sakordie	Doctor Badu Sakordie is the Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service.
[6]				He	He spoke to Daniel Dartey on the pulse on the joy news channel.
[7.1]				We	We had report of suspected erm case of COVID nineteen in Korle-bu yesterday
[7.2]	And			the necessary steps [[to get samples taken]] [[to send the samples to Noguchie]] and then Noguchie [[doing their assessments]]	and the necessary steps [[to get samples taken]] [[to send the samples to Noguchie]] and then Noguchie [[doing their assessments]] has finished with the investigations
[7.3]	And			They	and they have come up with a report
[7.4]	And			[they]	And shared with us [[indicating that they have done the test]].
[8.1]				They	They have done all [[that is required]]
[8.2]	And			[they]	and done it again
[8.3]	And	Indeed			and indeed, the report has come up to be negative.
[9.1]				We	We understand
[9.2]	That			This	that this brings the total number of cases tested negative to forty-six locally.
[10]				That	That's correct.
[11.1]		Indeed	erm the for every		Indeed, Erm the for every suspected case, sample has to be taken

214

				suspected case	
[11.2]	And			[sample]	and sent to the lab for the necessary investigation laboratory investigation [[to be done]].
[12]	So			this one	So this one added up to the forty-six.
[13.1]				All of this	All of this have been erm investigated in the lab
[13.2]	and			all of them	and all of them have tested negative.
[14.1]	So		for now		So for now, we can be very definite
[14.2]	That			We	that we don't have the confirmed case of COVID nineteen in Ghana.
[15.1]	But			the woman herself	But the woman herself indicated
[15.2]	That		within her flight		that within her flight, there were quite a number of people with possible respiratory conditions.
[16.1]	So			She	So she thinks
[16.2]	That		there is (false start) based on this		that there is based on this, the clinician had the suspicion
[16.3]	That			They	that they have to consider [[testing this very candidate of client for COVID nineteen]]
[16.4]	And			That	and that is the rationale for the suspicion
[16.5]	And			the necessary steps	and the necessary steps have been taken
[16.6]	And			the report	and the report is negative.
[17]				That	That's Doctor Badu Sarkodie.
[18]				He	He's Director of Public Health of the Ghana Health Service.

215

DATA B

#	Theme				Clause
	Textual	Interpersonal	topical: marked	Topical: unmarked	
[1.1]				The Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie,	The Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, says
[1.2]				the suspected COVID nineteen case at the Korle-bu teaching hospital	the suspected COVID nineteen case at the Korle-bu teaching hospital has turned out to be negative.
[3]				The Noguchie memorial institute for medical research	The Noguchie Memorial Institute for Medical Research was earlier mandated [[to investigate a suspected case of the deadly COVID nineteen in Ghana]].
[4]				The case	The case involved a Ghanaian woman [[based abroad]] [[who returned to the country for a medical procedure]].
[5]			So far		So far, the country has recorded over forty-six cases of the virus [[which has claimed over four thousand lives and infected over ninety thousand others in some seventy countries]].

216

[6.1]				Director of the public health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, [[who confirmed the earlier development to Citi news]]	Director of the public health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie, [[who confirmed the earlier development to Citi news]] said
[6.2]				the suspected case	the suspected case turned out to be negative.
[7.1]			Just this afternoon		Just this afternoon, we received a report from Noguchie
[7.2]	And			the report	and the report is
[7.3]	That			the test, negative,	that the test, negative, adds up to total number of cases suspected [[that have been evaluated to be forty six]]
[7.4]	And			all these	and all these are negative.
[8]	So		for now		So for now, we don't have any confirmed case in the country.
[9]				Non none of them	Non none of them ending
[10]				So all those [[we have received]], they-all of them	So all those [[we have received]], they-all of them are negative.
[11.1]				(The facems)	(The facems) came from the US [[to conduct surgery here]]

217

[11.2]	And			during the process, I think… a few hours… or so		and during the process, I think… a few hours… or so, her temperature went up.
[12.1]					[[Having come from US]] and [[based on the report she gave]]	[[Having come from US]] and [[based on the report she gave]] defines elements with regards to the interaction [[she had other people somewhere…]]
[12.2]					the clinicians	the clinicians suspected
[12.3]					It	it could be COVID nineteen
[12.4]	And				They	and they took it,
[12.5]					They	they started the process
[12.6]	And then erm					and then erm indicated
[12.7]	That				There	that there is the need [[to investigate the situation for possible COVID nineteen]].
[13]					Head Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie	Head Director of Public Health at the Ghana Health Service, Doctor Badu Sarkodie

218

APPENDIX D: INFORMATION UNIT, TEXTUAL: ANALYSIS OF TONE, TONALITY, TONICITY, AND PITCH

DATA A

Speaker	Cl#	IU#	Information unit	Tonicity (focus of New)	Tone	Marked information distribution (Tonality)	Marked information focus (Tonicity)
Newscaster	1	1	//And the /latest /suspected /case of /COVID nine/teen at the //	nineteen	1	Y	Y
		2	//Korle-bu /teaching /hospital /yesterday//	yesterday	1	Y	N
		3	//has /tested /negative//	negative	3	Y	N
	2	4	//This is the /third /suspected /case at the //	third	1	Y	Y
		5	//nation's /premier /hospital//	premiere	5	Y	Y
	3.1	6	//The /suspected /patient a /lady who /arrived in /Ghana //	lady	2	Y	Y
		7	//recently from /New /Jersey in the /United /States//	states	4	Y	N
		8	//^and is currently being /held at the /Korle-bu /teaching /hospital //	Korle-bu	1	Y	Y
		9	//passed the /mandatory /checks on the //	passed	5	Y	Y
		10	//thermal /screens at the /Kotoka inter/national /airport//	screens	1	Y	Y
	3.2	11	//^be/cause she was on a /pain medi/cation//	pain	4	N	Y

	4	12	//after a /brief /panic among /health /officials //	brief	4	Y	Y
		13	//samples were /taken//	taken	1	Y	N
	4	14	//^to the Noguchie Me/morial /hospital for further erh /test erh //	test	1	Y	N
		15	//which has /since pro/ven /negative//	negative	1	Y	N
	5	16	//Doctor /Badu /Sakordie is the di/rector of /public /health at the /Ghana /Health /Service//	health	4	N	Y
	6	17	//He /spoke to /Daniel /Dartey on the /pulse on the /joy news /channel//	pulse	1	N	Y
Doctor Badu	7.1	18	//We /had re/port of /suspected ^ erm //	report	1	Y	Y
		19	//case of /COVID nine/teen ^ in //	nineteen	1	Y	Y
		20	//Korle-bu yester/day//	yesterday	5	Y	N
	7.2	21	//and /the ^ /necessary /steps to//	steps	1	Y	Y
		22	//^ /get /samples /taken //	taken	1	Y	N
		23	//to /send the /samples //	send	1	Y	Y
		24	//to Nogu/chie//	Noguchie	1	Y	N
		25	// and then No/guchie /doing their a/ssessments//	Noguchie	5	Y	Y
		26	//^has fi/nished with the investi/gations //	finished	1	Y	Y
	7.3	27	//^and /they have /come up with a /report//	they	3	N	Y
	7.4	28	//and shared with /us//	shared	4	Y	Y
		29	//indicating /that//	indicating	3	Y	Y

220

		30	//they have /done the /test//	they	3	Y	Y
	8.1	31	//they have /done /all that is re/quired//	required	1	N	N
	8.2	32	//^ and done it a/gain //	again	1	N	N
	8.3	33	//and in/deed the //	indeed	5	Y	Y
		34	//report has /come up to be /negative//…	negative	3	Y	N
Daniel Dartey	9.1-9.2…	35	//we under/stand that this /brings the /total /number of /cases /tested /negative to //	negative	3	Y	Y
	9.2	36	//forty-six /locally//	locally	2	Y	N
Doctor Badu	10	37	//that's co/rrect//	correct	1	N	N
	11.1	38	//^ in/deed erm /^the//	indeed	4	Y	Y
		39	//^for /every /suspected /case //	case	4	Y	N
		40	//sample has to be ta/ken//	taken	1	N	N
	11.2	41	//^and sent to the /lab //	sent	1	Y	Y
		42	//^for the necessary investi/gation la//	investigation	4	Y	Y
		43	//boratory investi/gation to be /done//	investigation	2	Y	Y
	12	44	//So /this /one /added up to the /forty-six//	one	1	N	Y
	13.1	45	//all of /this have /been ^erm investi/gated in the /lab //	lab	5	N	N
	13.2	46	//^and all of /them have /tested /negative//	negative	5	N	N
	14.1	47	//So for /now //	now	5	Y	N
	14.1-14.2…	48	//we can be /very /definite /that //	that	5	Y	N
	14.2	49	//we /don't have the con/firmed /case of /COVID nine/teen in /Ghana//	nineteen	1	Y	Y

221

	15.1-15.2…	50	//But the /woman /herself /indicated that /within her /flight //	flight	4	Y	N
	15.2	51	//there were /quite a /number of /people with ^ /possible /respiratory con/ditions//	respiratory	1	N	Y
	16.1-16.2…	52	//So she /thinks that //	thinks	1	Y	Y
	16.2-16.3…	53	//there is /based on /this the cli/nician /had the su/spicion that //	clinicians	2	Y	Y
	16.3	54	//they have to con/sider /testing this /very can/didate of /client//	client	1	Y	N
		55	//for /COVID nine/teen//	nineteen	1	Y	N
	16.4	56	// and that is the ratio/nale for the su/spicion//	rationale	1	N	Y
	16.5	57	//^and the necessary /steps have been ta/ken//	steps	1	N	Y
	16.6	58	//^and the report is ne/gative//	negative	1	N	N
Newscaster	17-18…	59	//That is /Doctor /Badu /Sarkodie. He's di//	sarkodie	1	Y	Y
	18	60	//rector of /public /health of the /Ghana /Health /Service//	health	1	Y	Y

222

DATA B

Speaker	Cl#	IU#	Information unit	Tonicity (focus of New)	Tone	Marked information distribution (Tonality)	Marked information focus (Tonicity)
Newscaster	1.1	1	//The di/rector of /public /health//	director	2	Y	Y
		2	//at the /Ghana /Health /Service//	Service	1	Y	N
		3	//Doctor /Badu /Sarkodie//	Sarkodie	1	Y	N
	1.1… 1.2…	4	//says the sus/pected /COVID /nineteen /case//	case	1	Y	N
	1.2	5	//^at the Korle-bu /teaching /hospital has /turned out to be /negative//	turned	2	Y	Y
	3	6	//The /Noguchie me/morial /institute for /medical re/search //	research	4	Y	N
	3	7	//was earlier man/dated to in/vestigate//	investigate	4	Y	N
		8	//a sus/pected /case of the /deadly /COVID /nineteen in /Ghana//	deadly	4	Y	Y
	4	9	//The /case//	case	1	Y	N
		10	// in/volved a /Ghanaian /woman /based a/broad//	abroad	5	Y	N
		11	//^who re/turned to the /country for a /medical pro/cedure//	procedure	1	Y	N
	5	12	//So /far the /country has re/corded /over /forty-six /cases of the ^/virus//	virus	2	N	N
		13	//which has /claimed//	claimed	5	Y	N

223

		14	//over /four /thousand /lives//		3		N
		15	//^and in/fected over /ninety /thousand /others in /some /seventy /countries//	ninety	5	Y	Y
	6.1	16	//Di/rector of the /public /health at the /Ghana /health /service//	Health	1	Y	Y
		17	//Doctor /Badu /Sarkodie//	Sarkodie	1	Y	N
		18	//who con/firmed the /earlier de/velopment//	confirmed	2	Y	Y
	…6.1-6.2	19	//^to /Citi /news /said the sus/pected /case//	news	1	Y	Y
	6.2	20	//turne/d out to be /negative//	turned out	2	Y	Y
Doctor Badu	7.1	21	//just this after/noon//	afternoon	4	Y	N
	…7.1-7.2…	22	//we re/ceived a /report from Nogu/chie and //	Noguchie	1	Y	Y
	7.2-7.3…	23	//^the /report is that//	report	5	Y	Y
	7.3	24	//^the /test /negative //	negative	2	Y	N
		25	//adds up to /total /number of /cases sus/pected//	suspected	1	Y	N
		26	//^that /have been e/valuated//	evaluated	1	Y	N
	…7.3-7.4…	27	to be /forty /six and all //	forty-six	1	Y	Y
	…7.4-8	28	//these are /negative so for /now we /don't have any con/firmed /case in the /country//	Now	5	Y	Y

224

9-10…	29	//Non /none of /them /ending so //	none	5	Y	Y	
10	30	//all those we have re/ceived//	received	1	N	N	
	31	they-all of them are /negative//	negative	1	N	N	
11.1	32	//The facems /came from the /US to//	came	1	N	Y	
	33	//con/duct /surgery here//	surgery	1	Y	Y	
11.2	34	//^and during the /process//	process	1	Y	N	
	35	//I /think… a few /hours… or so//	hours	1	Y	Y	
	36	//her temperature went up //	went up	4	N	N	
12.1	37	//having /come from /US and//	US	5	Y	Y	
	38	//based on the /report she /gave de//	gave	5		Y	
	39	//fines /elements with re/gards to //	regards	2	Y	Y	
	40	//^the erm inter/action /she /had /other /people /somewhere…//	had	1	Y	Y	
12.2	41	// ^the cli/nicians //	clinicians	5	Y	N	
…12.2-12.4…	42	//sus/pected it /could be /COVID /nineteen and//	nineteen	1	Y	Y	
…12.4-12.5	43	//they /took it /^they /started the /process//	started	1	Y	Y	
…12.6-12.7	44	//^and then erm in/dicated that there is the /need	need	5	Y	N	
12.7	45	//^to in/vestigate the situ/ation for /possible /COVID /nineteen//	investigate	1	Y	Y	
Newscaster	13	46	//Head di/rector of /Public /Health //	director	2	Y	Y
	47	// at the /Ghana /Health /Service//	Service	1	Y	N	

225

		48	//Doctor /Badu /Sarkodie//	Sarkodie	1	Y	N