# Speech Act Analysis Of Pakistani Short Stories: A Pragmatic Study

Syeda Iqra Shabbir<sup>1</sup>, Li Yan<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>PhD Scholar, School of International Studies, Shaanxi Normal University <a href="https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6710-5136">https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6710-5136</a>

#### **Abstract**

This qualitative study aimed to analyse Pakistani English Short Stories through speech act theory. The focus of this research is to probe the textual and contextual meanings of Pakistani English Short Stories. Many authors in Pakistan commenced writing short stories in English. Yet to locate a suitable assortment of pragmatic communicative functions in Pakistani English Short stories, exceptionally in speech acts manifest what characters think in communicating is the purpose of this study. Located speech acts in Pakistani English short stories reveal sadness, emotions, and contemplation to the recoil of characters' interlocutor speech acts. The data for this research was gathered from Short stories written by different Pakistan English short story writers.

**Keywords**: Interlocutor, Pakistani Short Stories, Pragmatic Communicative Function, and Speech Acts.

# Introduction

The most intriguing inquisitions regarding human behaviour tackle language. Language plays an important role in our everyday lives. Language is among those scant things which perform a primary role in our lives. Language is an essential object in passing on our feelings and thoughts to each other. Languages of humans are frequently alluded to as natural languages and the science of investigating those befalls below the horizon of linguistics. A general impetus for natural languages is that they are regarded to be first spoken than written, and then an understanding and explanation of the language endeavours. One's thinking is also influenced by language. Halliday's (1989) work advocates the relationship that exists midway between social interpretation and form. He described language as a self-contained system of rules and tried to explain it in terms of its use. Languages comprehended as the discrete set of speech standards of a specific community, are also a proportion of the enormous edification of the

society that speaks them. Humans use language as a mode of gesturing individuality with one informative group and distinction from others. Indeed amidst speakers of one language various distinctive modes of utilizing the language subsist, and apiece is used to indicate association with specific sub-groups within a greater culture. A community's mode of applying language is a component of the communities' civilization, lawfully as other communal exercises are; it is the mode of exhibiting group individuality.

Hence the focus of this research is speech act pragmatic. According to a classification system of speech acts, speech acts perform some basic functions. The basic functions performed by speech acts are social stratification, entertainment, social grooming, and signifying group identity.

The present research attempts to analyse Pakistani English Short Stories through speech act theory. This research emphasizes the exploration of textual meanings and contextual meanings of Pakistani English Short Stories. Pakistani English Short stories have a variety of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Professor, School of International Studies, Shaanxi Normal University https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2714-7611

textual and contextual meanings of utterances based on the environment, culture, religion, security, and political conditions of Pakistan. Many authors in Pakistan set forth to create short stories in English. Though to descry a assortment suitable of pragmatic communicative functions in Pakistani English Short stories, exceptionally in speech acts manifest what characters think communicating is the purpose of this study. Located speech acts in Pakistani English short emotions. reveal sadness. contemplation to the recoil of characters' interlocutor speech acts. The data for this research was grasped from Short stories written by different Pakistan English short story writers. This investigation engaged qualitative analysis of the data.

# **Research Objectives**

The primary aim of this investigation is to prospect Pakistani English short stories through Speech act analysis and Pragmatics. This study enlists two foremost objectives that are:

- To find out the customary and comprehensive function structure of sentences in Pakistani English short stories
- To locate the speech act classification personate in Pakistani English short stories

# Research questions

The current research recapitulates operating speech acts in Pakistani English short stories, hence endeavours to answer the following questions:

- 1. What are general function structure sentences in Pakistani English short stories?
- What kind of classification speech acts authors in Pakistani English short stories?

# **Literature Review**

Linguistics is a way to gain an understanding of the status of language in the life of humans scientifically. It is the study of language's origin, organization of language, nature of language, and development of language, explicitly, historically, descriptively, and comparatively. Language is an instrument to write literature. Every writer consciously or unconsciously is under the influence of linguistics and cultural limitations. Writers use sounds and structures that are appropriate to create an aesthetic effect in writing. Cultural background defines the semantic content of writing and structure defines the language of writing. Hall (1973) describes three levels of linguistics, syntax, morphology, and phonology. While Hockett (1960) describes five levels of linguistics:

- 1. The grammatical level
- 2. The phonological level
- 3. The morphological level
- 4. The semantic level
- 5. The phonemic level

In the present time there are six basic levels of Linguistics to analyse a text:

- 1. Phonetic level
- 2. Phonological level
- 3. Morphological level
- 4. Syntactic level
- 5. Semantic level
- 6. Pragmatic level

The first four levels of linguistics deal with the form of language used in a text. While the fifth level of linguistics deals with the content of a text and the sixth level deals with the use of language. The use of language has many dimensions.

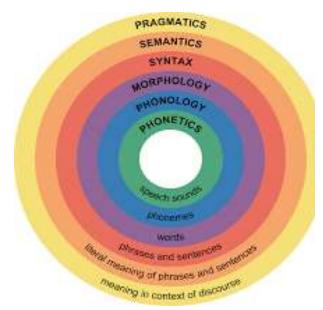


Figure 1: Major Levels of linguistics structure

Pragmatics competence is considered a component of communicative competence or language competence. Pragmatic competence implies "Erudition of situation and manners of suitable use, in adherence with different prospects" (Chomsky, 1978). At the primary level philosophical grounds of the subsequent investigation of the pragmatics competence, the succeeding are the nearly piquant affirmations: the first one is an exercise of language supervised by a proper system of hypothetical codes that are complete, most presumably intrinsically obliged. Second, is an exercise of language supervised by procedures that are unconstrained by other cognitive systems and linguistic procedures. The third is an exercise of language should not be detected with the execution of a communication system (Kasher, 1991).

Leech (2014) reformulates pragmatics to intend linguistics as "the analysis of meaning in connection to speech situations", and he confronts with "meanings of utterances", instead of meanings of sentences. A differentiation between pragmatic meanings and semantic meanings is of specific reference. Since semantic meaning is outlined truly as "a Feature of gestures in a specific language" ("What does X mean ?"), he

considers pragmatic meaning "related to an orator or operator of the language" ("What did you mean by X?").

Fraser (2010) outlines pragmatic competence as the aptitude to convey our determined notation with all its coloration in any socio-cultural background and to elucidate the notation of the speaker as it was affianced. Aside from its aptitude for communication victory, pragmatic competence repeatedly does not supply the stress it is worth in the tutoring of a second or foreign language, with the consequence that speakers of a second or foreign language, who deficit pragmatic competence, may yield grammatical faultless speech that nonetheless misfires to accomplish its communicative objectives.

Perceiving from Geoffrey Finch in Linguistic Terms and Concepts (2005) "Pragmatics emphasizes what is not explicitly stated and how we elucidate utterance in a situational context. They are concerned not so much with the impression of what is said as, with its force, that is, with what is communicated by the manner and style of an utterance ".

Yule (2014) stated that "Actions carried out through utterances are generally called speech acts and, in English, are usually offered more particular labels, such as apology, complaint, compliment, invitation, promise, or request".

On the whole, speech acts are acts of communication. To intercourse is to manifest a particular manner, and the kind of speech act being executed communicates the type of approach being exhibited. For instance, a proclamation exhibits a belief, an appeal expresses a wish and an apology exhibit regrets. As an act of intercourse, a speech act is accomplished if the spectator recognizes, in harmony with the speaker's intent, the demeanor being expressed.

Austin (1962) illustrated a modernistic way of examining meanings; meanings are explained by linguistic patterns correlating with words/sentences, the case where the intentions of the speaker and the words said to contribute to the meanings. He presented the concept that meanings can successfully be presented by the

notions of the speech acts: in verbalizing a sentence the speaker executes a linguistic act to the corresponding person.

Austin's inquiry of meaning is peculiar in a way that meanings are not explained through some form of reduction he explained the meanings considering the speech situations in which they are uttered. He cautioned against the process of reducing meanings to mere descriptive meanings. It is usually seen that some confusing words present in the utterances don't add some additional trait to the event explained but tell us about the way they need to be considered. The descriptive fallacy is the same that includes overlooking thing possibilities.

Austin framed a procedure of explaining sentences in terms of speech situations. He described them in terms of linguistic conventions, the speaker, and the intentions involved. According to Austin, the speaker performs an act to the hearer, to which the corresponding person produces a response. Austin's theory (1962) explained that what we utter has three kinds of meanings:

- 1. Locutinary Acts; the apparent meaning of elocutionary acts, "what is uttered"
- It's cold outside

Locutinary acts include rhetic acts, phatic acts, and phonetic acts. Rhetic acts are acts of uttering sentences with sense, and if the words are uttered about the phonological and syntactic rules then it is a phatic act while phonetic acts are acts of pronouncing sounds.

- 2. Illocutionary acts; the real meaning of illocutionary acts, is "what is uttered"
- It's cold outside

# It could be

- 1. An indirect request to close the window.
- 2. An indirect refusal to close the window.
- 3. A complaint

Austin (1962) explains that illocutionary acts have a force and are valid and complete. He classified them into five types, i.e. commissions, directives, assertive, declarative, and expressive. It is often brought to attention

that this classification is incomplete and the coined terms are not that exclusive but it gives a general picture of illocutionary acts: what kinds of illocutionary acts does one generally utter in a sentence?

- 3. Perlocutionary meaning; the effect of what is said.
  - It is cold outside could result in someone closing the windows.

Perlocutionary acts are the acts that are produced as the effect of any sentence uttered. According to Austin, the sentence uttered produces an effect plus in doing so the speaker of the sentence produces an illocutionary act. In the example above the speaker just said these words which may result in the closing of the window. Thus in opposition to elocutionary and perlocutionary acts, an effect is produced in some kind of work or force. According to Trask (1999), the interpretation of speech acts is an effort at doing something entirely by articulating. Promises, plans, orders, requests, suggestions, and advising someone are some functions of speech acts.

Performing a speech act pertinently and accurately is an art, as the operation needs the correct application of the methods and the appropriate application of the words. In summation, certain situations need to be found for the appropriate usage of speech acts. In every case, the words uttered will be expressed by three associated acts which are elocutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. Both Searle's and Austin's contemplations are based on the same conjecture that "Speaking a language is engaging in a rule-governed form of behavior" (Searle, 1969) but according to Chomsky, the language can be considered as a kind of verbal acting. According to Searle (1975), speech acts can further be classified as commission, assertive, declarative, directive, and expressive.

- 1. Assertive: these can be distinguished as true or false for the reason that they aim to explain the state of affairs in the given situation.
- 2. Directives: these are the statements in which the other person is brought into action.

- 3. Commission: that speech acts in which the speaker shows a commitment to future action.
- 4. Expressive: statements that express the "sincerity condition".
- 5. Declarative: the statements that intend to change the prevailing conditions by presenting them as being changed already.

**Declarations** are those speech acts that modulate the prevailing conditions by their utterances, as given in the example below, the person speaking the words must have some specific institutional role, to perform this specific act.

- a) Judge: You are guilty.
- b) Umpire: you are out.

The declarations need some specific linguistic institutions, as they intend to bring some changes in reality.

Assertives are acts in which the performer of the act states what he/she believes to be the case. The speaker is committing him/herself to a certain preposition in which he/she believes that the words uttered are true. Descriptions, explanations, and conclusions are some examples of the representative speech act.

- 1. The earth is round.
- 2. He didn't send me anything.

**Expressive** speech acts sinclude statements of pleasure, pain, sorrow, likes, joy, etc. Examples are

- 1. I am very happy.
- 2. Congrats.

**Directives** are speech acts in which the speaker of the sentences gets some other person to do something. They represent what a certain speaker needs. The hearer commits him/herself to some action. These include suggestions, begs, orders, commands, and requests. These can either be negative or positive.

- 1. Give me a cup of tea.
- 2. Can I have a tissue, please?

**Commisives** are speech acts in which the producer of the act commits him/herself to some intended action. These may include pledges, refusals, offers, vows, offers, threats, promises, etc. They can be performed by the speaker alone.

- a) I'll be gone.
- b) I am going to finish it tonight.

There are some other classifications as well done by other linguists. They split the utterances into indirect speech acts and direct speech acts. According to Yule (2010), the distinction can be based on the structure. It includes the distinction based on the structural forms. This structural distinction can be given as declarative speech acts, interrogative speech acts, and imperative speech acts, and the communicative functions can be a statement, a question, a request, or a command.

Indirectness is a worldly appreciated conversation strategy in most Western societies. We never find a symbol of "no smoking" or "smoking is strictly prohibited" in public places in Europe instead we find "thank you for not smoking". People tend to use indirect speech acts mainly in connection with politeness (Leech, 2014).

# **Material and Methods**

**Subject:** The subject of this research was English short stories written by Pakistani English short story writers. There was a total of 10 Pakistani English short stories. The selection criteria for these short stories were: (1) short story must be written by a Pakistani English short story writer. (2) Short stories must have characters of Pakistan, settings of Pakistan, and deal with the current situations of Pakistan.

Material: This investigation is restricted to the examination of 10 Pakistani English short stories written by different Pakistani English short story writers. Speech act theory by Searle and pragmatics competence are used for the explication of short stories. The following short stories were taken:

- The Story of the Worst Day of My Life by Qamber Awan
- 2. Hope by Najia Ali Rastgar
- 3. Rotten Bitter Gourds by **Shoaib Khazer**
- 4. These Extinguished Lamps by **Uzma Iftikhar**
- 5. Positive Action by **Babrik Karmal**Jamali
- 6. For the Sake of Work by **Tahir Anwar Bhatti**
- 7. In My Mother's Shade by **Irum Iqbal**
- 8. Sealed Lips by **Sherin Zada Khadukhel**
- 9. The Golden Season of Memories by **Andaleeb Zahra**
- 10. Babu by **Tariq Rahman**

Assessment of Pakistani English Short Stories: Conscripted data in the form of utterances from Pakistani English short stories were analyzed in two stages. In the First Stage, Diction, illocutionary speech, and pragmatic competence of utterances were evaluated. In the second stage, Sentence Structure, Direct and indirect speech acts, and sentence structure of utterances was evaluated.

**Procedure:** Data was ranked as Data 1, Data 2, Data 3, Data 4, Data 5, Data 6, up to Data 20. Each Data is based on the selected utterances from short stories.

# **Data Analysis**

Data 1

The bike rider now even got angrier and was saying to the people don't let him go, we have to teach them a lesson so they will respect people like us. He along with his daughter got in my car. He told me using expletives, I am taking your car now, do whatever you can and off he went. (The worst day of my life)

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found directive speech acts, for example in the start, the biker shows aggressive behaviour and orders the people to take control of the situation and don't let the person fly away, similarly, in the end, he takes the car from the abandoned person and takes his car. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the frustration, hatred, rebellion against society, and selfishness of Bike Rider and on the other hand lurch of the narrator.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative and imperative structure of the sentences. "He told me using expletives, I am taking your car now, do whatever you can, and off he went" Its gist is the narrator is going through a very bad time.

Data 2

One of the officers said you got your car, now what about us?

I replied, what about you? I don't understand. I started feeling uncomfortable.

Well, your car is listed as being snatched and you can't drive your car until we clear it off the stolen car's list, because you might get caught by the police even if you are driving your car.

# (The worst day of my life)

## Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found directive speech acts, for example in these lines, the police officer is asking the man to bribe him because his department has already shown him the favour by finding his car. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the type of mindset our police department has and the despair the people get from going through such situations.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative and interrogative structure of the sentences. "One of the officers said, you got your car, now what about us?" its gist is the bribe system existing in different departments.

Data 3

Apa, why aren't we going to school today? I was a little surprised by the question. It had become a usual routine to get off from college and school due to Karachi's unstable conditions. Because it's closed, I replied simply.

Why is it closed so often? She inquired. Is something wrong?

How can one explain this to a little girl? I thought about the whole of Liyari's grief, the internal civil war; Karachi was not in its prime these days. (**Hope**)

# Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts, for example in the second line, the narrator is surprised by the question of the little girl, and in the last line, the narrator narrates the grief of Liyari on the civil war-like situation of Karachi city. In the researcher's view of the investigation, these communications emulate the serious concern for security, grief, and emotion of the narrator and how a little girl perceived the situation.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the interrogative and declarative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "How can one explain this to a little girl?" its gist is the narrator is still in search of hope while surrounded by despair.

#### Data 4

Life won't wait forever! Move it! It's now or never, I announced as I jumped from the cozy shelter into the wet mud, and soon I and my friends were trampled on.

In the end, I said with a smile.

She looked up at me and then said, that was a really good story, apa. Thank you, I get it now. I have one question though! Does the ending mean we can go to school tomorrow? (**Hope**)

# Explanation

# Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts and assertive speech acts, for example in the third line, the narrator smiled and said something to the little girl. In the starting lines, the narrator is declaring something. In the researcher's view of the investigation, these communications

emulate how at times we should let things go, just to bring normality to our lives. Hope is what keeps us going and we should never lose hope because things change with time. Cocks keep ticking and the circumstances keep changing.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the interrogative, imperative, and declarative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "Life won't wait forever! Move it! It's now or never?" its gist is there is always room for hope while the surrounding is full of despair.

Data 5

On 31 December 1989, when Abdullah came back from school, he was exhausted.

My darling has come, my soul has come. Wash your hands quickly and have prepared a meal for yourself. Abdullah's mother spoke those words with a broad smile on her face.

Mummy, I don't feel like having a meal.

My dear son, you didn't have breakfast in the morning.

Mummy I shall eat after a while.

My son, please fetch some vegetables from the shop, so that I may prepare some supper. (Rotten Bitter Gourds)

# Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts and directive speech acts, for example in the second and last line, the mummy directs her son to wash hands and fetch some vegetables and in the third line, the narrator narrates there is a smile of mummy's face. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the love, care, affection, and concern about the health of her child by a mother.

# Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative and imperative structure while indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure in the sentences. "My darling has come, my soul has

**come.**" its gist is the mummy's unconditional and true love for her son.

Data 6

Some people shouted, noting the license number of the car. But the Prado was already out of sight. There was nothing there except the marks of the tires of the car, impressed on the body of the child, and his blood scattered on the road. (Rotten Bitter Gourds)

**Explanation** 

Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found assertive speech acts, for example in the first line people were shouting and they note the license number of the car. In the last two lines, there is blood on the road and a body of a child. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the brutality and narcosis of the rich people and the lurch and pathetic condition of the poor.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative and structure of the sentences. "Some people shouted, note the license number of the car. But the Prado was already out of sight." its gist is the narcosis nature of rich people and anarchy in society.

Data 7

'You are a jack of all trades,' Rida managed to say.

'No, I am just on a journey, without looking for a destination. My path is my destination.' his tone was so impressive that Rida was absorbed by his words. (**These Extinguished Lamps**) Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found assertive speech acts and commisive speech acts, for example in the second line, he denies Rida's view and places his view. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the idealization of Rida and the self-realization of that guy.

# Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative

structure of the sentences. "I am just on a journey, without looking for a destination. My path is my destination" Its gist is that realization is very important for life.

Data 8

It was Sunday but, even after getting up at 11 a.m., her morning was as tumultuous as it was when she used to go to university. Her family consisted of her mother and herself. She will be gardening, Rida thought to herself, when she found that her mother was not in her room.

## (These Extinguished Lamps)

Explanation

Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found assertive speech acts, for example in the second line, a girl whose fiancé has just been killed and has just left the university. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the emptiness in Rida's life.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure of the sentences. "It was when she used to go to university" Its gist is time changes but life goes on.

Data 9

In the morning, the elder son said to his mother,' Mummy, if my younger brother dies like our father, our neighbours will provide us with food for e week. You and I will survive for some more days. (**Positive Action**)

Explanation

Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found commisive speech acts and assertive speech acts, for example in these lines, the child inquired his mother about the treatment of neighbours in case his brother dies. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the pathetic condition of the poor in society, ignorance, and the apathetic behaviour of rich people.

# Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances the researcher found the direct speech acts in the declarative

structure and interrogative structure in the sentences. "If my younger brother dies like our father, our neighbours will provide us with food for a week. You and I will survive for some more days." its gist is class stratification and poverty in our society. (Positive Action)

Data 10

At that time, the older son called to her, 'Ammi, I have been weeping since yesterday. I am hungry.' the mother continued thinking, for a long time, but could not find any solution. She kept awake the whole night, lost in troubling thoughts

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts and commisive speech acts, for example in these lines, the child told his mother about his hunger. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the misery of the people present in our society.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure of the sentences. "She kept awake the whole night, lost in troubling thoughts." its gist is class stratification, poverty, and despair in our society. (Positive Action)

#### Data 11

I reported to the office on my arrival in Karachi. I was given a briefing about my duties, and the last sentence of the briefing was very important, which was: 'The situation in Karachi is very grave. Therefore, you cannot leave your camp without any reason and without informing us. (For the Sake of Work)

Explanation

# Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found assertive speech acts and directive speech acts, for example in these lines, the narrator is telling about his arrival to Karachi for the job and instructed to not leave his camp without informing authorities. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this

communication emulates the expectations of the people who arrived in Karachi, their expectations, and the ground reality.

# Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure and imperative structure in the sentences. "' The situation in Karachi is very grave" Its gist is the difference between expectations and ground realities.

# Data 12

She answered in an anguished voice,' It's Karachi! I will quit my job. Why should I go to Karachi? I will live with you. No one can separate us. We will not go hungry. We will live on limited resources. We would not go anywhere else. (For the Sake of Work)

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found commisive speech acts, directive speech acts, expressive speech acts, and commisive speech acts, for example in the first line, the speaker said it's Karachi, In the second line, the speaker said no one can separate us. In the first line, she said everything in an anguished voice. In these lines, the speaker said I will quit my job, I will live with you. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker is assuming things and making some decisions depending upon the assumptions.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances the researcher found the direct speech acts in the declarative structure, imperative structure, and interrogative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "It Karachi!" its gist is A feeling of fear is evident in all the society.

Data 13

I was jobless, and the suffocated life of the village horrified me. There was silence on the lips of all. The green fields of grain sang of the prosperity of the landlords and the misery of the workers. One night, I focused my eyes on the evolution of stars and moon and said to myself.

Why should I not search for a job in Karachi, like Shabbir? 'This thought terrified me, yet I set out on my journey to wander here and there on the roads of Karachi in search of a job. (In My Mother's Shade)

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts, for example in the first lines, the narrator is discussing his life in the village. In the last three lines, he talks about his job. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker is committing to future action, telling us about the prevailing situation.

## Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances the researcher found the direct speech acts in the declarative structure and interrogative structure and indirect speech acts in an exclamatory structure in the sentences. "Yet I set out on my journey to wander here and there on the roads of Karachi in search of a job." its gist is the issue of unemployment in our society.

Data 14

When I met Shabbir, he said,' Wow! The ant has grown its wings. You have come to Karachi, but where will you stay?'

I replied,' At whatever place you suggest. I am a young person. I have come to make a living here. I need your guidance in this regard. (In My Mother's Shade)

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found commisive speech acts, and directive speech acts, for example in the first line, the speaker is talking about the question asked by Shabbier due to his arrival in Karachi. In the third line, the speaker is expecting Shabbier to help and guide him. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker's expectation, not aware of the ground reality.

# Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure, imperative structure, and interrogative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "The ant has grown its wings" Its gist is jealousy and unawareness of people.

Data 15

At the time of joining the new party, he said in his brief address, "I am leaving my previous party because I am not happy with the attitudes of its leaders. It is for this reason that I have quit that party and have joined the new party. It promotes democratic values". (**Sealed Lips**)

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts and assertive speech acts, for example in these lines, the speaker is discussing his state of being not happy and the reason for leaving his previous party and joining a new party. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker is clarifying his position and favouring democratic values.

## Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "It promotes democratic values" Its gist is the speaker is a politician who favours democracy.

Data 16

Then he said, in a low and defeated tone," I had great confidence in myself. I had great pride in myself. I had faith in myself. I was arrogant. Perhaps god didn't like that pride. I fell, I broke into pieces, I was scattered. But tell me, if someone threatens you that your young collegegoing daughter will be kidnapped and it will be made public that she has eloped with the lover. (Sealed Lips)

Explanation

iananon

## Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts, declaration speech acts, and assertive speech acts, for example in these lines, the speaker is admitting the flaws of his personality, his inner state, and his helplessness due to someone's blackmailing and threatening. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker's self-realization, helplessness, and shettredness.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "I fell, I broke into pieces". Its gist is that the speaker is disheartened with his present state.

Data 17

At last, the day arrived when they set out on their journey to Karachi. The long road of Mauripur, with quarters on both sides, made them exclaim,' Daddy, what a peaceful atmosphere it is! Saeeda was looking at their quarter with grateful eyes. (The Golden Season of Memories)

Explanation

#### Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts and assertive speech acts, for example in these lines, the narrator is discussing a family's journey to Karachi, their amusement, and experiences. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker explaining the excitement, happiness, and peace of mind of a family who was traveling to Karachi

## Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure and indirect speech acts in an exclamatory structure in the sentences. "What a peaceful atmosphere it is." its gist is the journey to Karachi was peaceful.

Data 18

But, the Karachi existing in Saeeda's imagination is still alive, with the same splendour, in which peace, security, and open-mindedness welcomed newcomers into its embrace, and the doors of employment were open to all.

This was breaking news:" Unknown armed men have shot 16 people dead in Glisten e joharKarachi". (The Golden Season of Memories)

Explanation

Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found assertive speech acts, for example in these lines, the speaker is talking about the image of Karachi in Saeeda's mind and the reality of how Karachi is. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker's comparison of the past and present peace situation in Karachi.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure of the sentences. "This was breaking news on TV:" Unknown armed men have shot 16 people dead in Gulistan e johar, Karachi".its gist is that the present environment of Karachi is not peaceful and full of anarchy.

Data 19

When I was a boy he had been the master mason in our under-construction house. The fort seemed to be of incalculable significance in his eyes because he bustled about everywhere with unflagging enthusiasm. 'Sahib, don't trust this contractor. He is giving half-baked bricks,' he would tell my father. (**Babu**)

**Explanation** 

# Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found directive speech acts and assertive speech acts, for example in the first two lines, the speaker is discussing the character of a mason. In the last line, a person is for biding the speaker from believing the contractor. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the perception of people about others and concerns.

# Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "Sahib,

**don't trust this contractor"** Its gist is speaker has a different perception of people.

Data 20

'Oh, Babu wants to spring a secret surprise on us. I don't know what it is. He's been working incessantly since you left.'

'What? And where is Jamshed? How could you spare the money? Why wasn't I told? (**Babu**) Explanation

## Diction

The hinge on aloft communication researcher found expressive speech acts and assertive speech acts, for example in the first line, the speaker is talking about a surprise given by Babu. In the third line, the speaker is asking about Jamshed and money. In the researcher's view of the investigation, this communication emulates the speaker is asking the question and answering them too based on his observations.

#### Sentence Structure

Based on the above utterances, the researcher found that direct speech acts in the declarative structure and interrogative structure, and indirect speech acts in the exclamatory structure of the sentences. "Why wasn't I told?" its gist is that the speaker is unaware of several things happening around him.

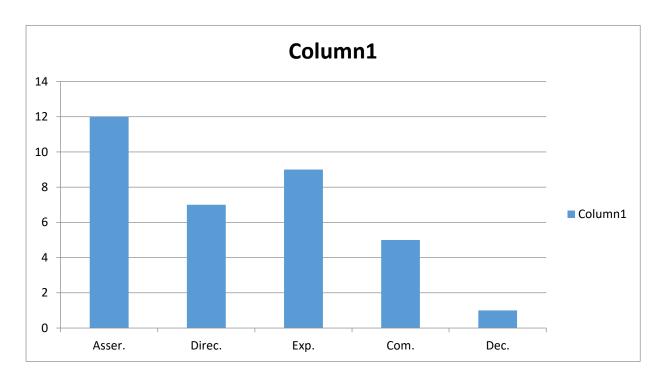
TABLE 1 Distribution of Speech acts in Pakistani English short stories

NO.	TITLE/DATA	TYPES OF SPEECH ACTS		
1	Data 01: The Story of the Worst Day of My Life	Directive		
2	Data 02: The Story of the Worst Day of My Life	Directive		
3	Data 03: Hope	Expressive		
4	Data 04: <b>Hope</b>	Expressive & Assertive		
5	Data 05: Rotten Bitter Gourds	Expressive & Directive		
6	Data 06: Rotten Bitter Gourds	Assertive		
7	Data 07: These Extinguished Lamps	Assertive & sCommisive		
8	Data 08: These Extinguished Lamps	Assertive		
9	Data 09: Positive Action	Assertive & Commisive		
10	Data 10: Positive Action	Expressive & Commisive		
11	Data 11: For the Sake of Work	Assertive & Directive		
12	Data 12: For the Sake of Work	Commisive & Directive		
13	Data 13: In My Mother's Shade	Expressive		
14	Data 14: In My Mother's Shade	Directive & Commisive		
15	Data 15: Sealed Lips	Expressive & Assertive		
16	Data 16: Sealed Lips	Expressive, Assertive & Declarative		
17	Data 17: The Golden Season of Memories	Expressive & Assertive		
18	Data 18: The Golden Season of Memories	Assertive		
19	Data 19: Babu	Directive & Assertive		
20	Data 20: Babu	Expressive & Assertive		

# TABLE 2 Distribution of Speech acts in Pakistani English short stories

NO.	TITLE/DATA	Asser.	Direct.	Exp.	Com.	Dec
	Data 01: The Story of the Worst Day of My					
1	Life		1			
	Data 02: The Story of the Worst Day of My					
2	Life		1			

3	Data 03: Hope			1		
4	Data 04: <b>Hope</b>	1		1		
5	Data 05: Rotten Bitter Gourds		1	1		
6	Data 06: Rotten Bitter Gourds	1				
7	Data 07: These Extinguished Lamps	1			1	
8	Data 08: These Extinguished Lamps	1				
9	Data 09: Positive Action	1			1	
10	Data 10: Positive Action			1	1	
11	Data 11: For the Sake of Work	1	1			
12	Data 12: For the Sake of Work		1		1	
13	Data 13: In My Mother's Shade			1		
14	Data 14: In My Mother's Shade		1		1	
15	Data 15: Sealed Lips	1		1		
16	Data 16: Sealed Lips	1		1		1
17	Data 17: The Golden Season of Memories	1		1		
18	Data 18: The Golden Season of Memories	1				
19	Data 19: <b>Babu</b>	1	1			
20	Data 20: Babu	1		1		
		12	7	9	5	1



Based on the data aloft, it was discovered that Pakistani writers customarily used classification systems assertive, expressive, directive, and commissive and rarely used declarative speech acts. General function from sentences used with asking, ordering, complaint, promise, request, concluding, and planning.

# **Discussion**

The classification system in this research inscribed five types of inclusive functions executed by Speech acts expressive, declarative, directive, commissive, and assertive. Pakistani English short story writer's used assertive speech acts more than the other four types of speech acts. The most commonly used speech act by Pakistani English short story writers was assertive speech acts.

The second most commonly used Speech Acts by Pakistani English short story writers after speech acts were assertive expressive. Emotions, feelings, and how characters perceive the world was important for the Pakistani English short story writers to project. Among the five the third most common speech act was directive speech acts. The character of Pakistani English short stories also projects how speakers make the addressee act. Commissive speech acts were at the fourth number according to use in Pakistani English short stories. Hope to do something good in the future and make the surroundings better was focused on by Pakistani English short story writers. The most rarely used speech act by Pakistani English short story writers were declarative speech acts.

#### **Pedagogical Implications**

The research helps educational institutes to prompt a distinction because professional institutes serve as the training foundation for the development of effective communicators for the workplace. Additionally, the benefit of the investigation is that it would be a skate for future researchers. Researchers may take on studies of speech act analysis and pragmatic study of different Pakistani novels, plays, or

utterances. They would also extend the study to a superior level.

#### References

- Austin, J. L. (1962). How to do things with words. Oxford: Harvard University Press.
- Chomsky, N. (1978). Language and Unconscious Knowledge. New Haven: Yale University Press.
- Finch, G. (2005). Key Concepts in Language and Linguistics (2nd ed.). Palgrave.
- Fraser, B. (2010). Pragmatics Competence: The Case of Hedging. Emerald Group Publishing
  Limited.
- Hall, R. A. (1973). New ways to learn a foreign language. Ithaca: N.Y: Spoken Language Services.
- Hasan, M. H. (1989). Language, Context, and Text: Aspects of Language in a social-semiotic perspective. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Hockett, C. F. (1960). The Origin of Speech," Scientific American, 89–97.
- Kasher, A. (1991). Pragmatics and Chomsky's Research Program. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- Leech, G. N. (2014). The pragmatics of politeness. Oxford University Press, USA.
- Searle, J. R. (1969). Speech acts as an essay in the philosophy of Language. Cambridge, U.K: Cambridge University Press.
- Trask, R. L. (1999). Key Concepts in Language and Linguistics. London: Routledge.
- Yule, G. (2010). The study of language. Cambridge University Press.