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# **АКТУАЛЬНІ ПРОБЛЕМИ ОСВІТИ ТА НАУКИ**

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Збірник містить матеріали XXVII підсумкової науково-практичної конференції викладачів МДУ, яка відбулася 20 лютого 2025 року в Маріупольському державному університеті.

У матеріалах висвітлені актуальні проблеми розвитку міжнародних відносин та зовнішньої політики, філософії та соціології, історії, економіки та менеджменту, права, екології, кібербезпеки, документознавства, культурології, журналістики, філології, літературознавства, методики викладання, педагогіки та психології.

Видання адресоване науковцям, викладачам, аспірантам та здобувачам вищої освіти, а також усім, хто цікавиться сучасними проблемами науки та освіти.

*Редакція не несе відповідальності за авторський стиль тез, опублікованих у збірнику.*

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### **CRITICAL APPROACH TO THE DOCUMENT ANALYSIS**

In the age of digitalisation, written communication has increased, entailing the interest of linguists in documents that are politically and culturally influential to society. Therefore, the document has become an object of critical discourse analysis (CDA). The proposed structure of the document analysis is based on the principle of complementarity i.e. it ensures that a diverse array of methods and perspectives are used to provide a thorough and balanced understanding of a document, capturing its complexity and context. It combines insights from various disciplines, in our case, linguistics and political science, to provide a comprehensive and holistic understanding of the document, employing quantitative and qualitative analyses to explore different aspects.

A report as an official document serves as a sample of document analysis. A report performs various essential functions that contribute to effective communication and decision-making. First, it informs the target audience about specific matters and strategic planning concurrently establishing transparency for scrutiny. Second, it highlights areas for improvement and brings actionable recommendations for future actions and strategies. Third, this document ensures compliance with legal and regulatory requirements by documenting adherence to standards and procedures. By fulfilling these functions, the report plays a crucial role in the effective operation of organizations and the dissemination of information.

**Macro-Analysis.** A framework for conducting document analysis includes macro and micro analyses, besides, each section of these parts may be expanded or narrowed based on the specific focus. Using the deductive approach to the document study, the research may start with macro-analysis considering the whole document, since this is usually where textual manipulations have their most powerful effect. At this level, the analyst has a close look at the document to understand its broader context and overall structure including the genre peculiarities, context with conveyed messages, title with possible headings and subheadings of the sections. Macro-analysis also takes into consideration the genre of the document and its conventions, the register, modality, the

intended audience and their expectations, the examination of the document's broader social and cultural context, and its social and political influence. The analysis starts with the first reading of the document text, to grasp its content in general.

The document title is one of the crucial aspects of textuality. It should immediately reveal the essence of the content, giving the reader a clear idea of what to expect. It is worth paying attention to the correlation between title and content. If they are not correlative, it highlights the problem.

Register. Another aspect of textuality based largely on lexical units is the register of a text. The word is polysemantic, one of the numerous meanings of this term according to OED is “a variety or level of usage, esp. as determined by social context and characterized by the range of vocabulary, pronunciation, syntax, etc., used by a speaker or writer in particular circumstances” [1].

Register refers to text formality or informality, its diction (scientific, literary, neutral, conversational vocabulary), degree of technicality, its subject field, etc.

Modality is another feature of discourse worth paying attention to for critical purposes because sometimes the elements of modality may be found in the document. In line with Narrog, “Modality from a linguistic point of view is mainly defined in three different ways: (1) modality as the expression of the attitude of the speaker, or the expression of subjectivity and the speaker’s opinions and emotions; (2) modality as something including all linguistic expression outside the proposition; and (3) modality as the expression of realis vs. irrealis or factuality distinctions. The elements of these three approaches are sometimes combined” [2]. In plain words, modality refers to the factual tone of statements as regards their degree of subjectivity-objectivity, certitude-doubtfulness. In terms of grammar, it is carried mainly by modal words may, might, could, will, must, and their equivalents; and mood (indicative, imperative, subjunctive) conveying an air of conditional or hypothetical modality.

Genre comes with specific conventions and stylistic norms, for instance, news articles follow the ‘inverted pyramid’ structure, while scientific papers follow the ‘IMRaD’ format. Genre knowledge enables the analyst to detect and interpret possible deviations critically. The style of official documents is subdivided into various genres, each imposing a set of formal linguistic features among which are tone, diction, accuracy, clarity, legibility, logicity, cohesion and coherence, use of denotative meaning of words to avoid ambiguity, to name but a few. Despite the existent and rigid criteria, documents may contain obscure and ambiguous statements and even express an attitude through the connotative meanings of the words. “Many clever writers know how to manipulate a genre, how to go beyond its normal boundaries to produce special effects” [3]. Understanding the genre helps in interpreting the meaning and implications of the discourse, to identify patterns and deviations. Recognizing the genre provides insights into the broader cultural

and social meanings of the document and the potential influence on the target audience. The CDA analyst should therefore begin by determining the genre of the text and observing how that text conforms to it. It can help the researcher imagine what has been left out, and what could have been said, but was not. “If the genre ordinarily includes certain kinds of information, and yet one does not find such information in the text being analyzed, it gives the analyst reason to suspect that the writer has deliberately left it out” [3].

Micro-analysis contains a close-up examination of specific linguistic elements among which are words and phrases, their meanings, connotations, and frequency; sentence structure, theme and rheme relations in it, framing and agency, possible presuppositions and omissions. It makes sense to select empirical data in an addendum to facilitate the following research. The analyst should bear in mind that although a document is “an official paper that gives information about something or that is used as proof of something” [5], it may contain biases, so close analysis is important.

Framing. The major part of text interpretation is framing which refers to how the content of a text is presented, and what sort of perspective, angle or slant the writer is taking. There can be frames within frames. Usually, the frame presents information as a confrontation of participants or ideas in favourable or unfavourable terms; sometimes framing succeeds in drawing attention away from the more substantive aspects of the event. In our case, framing considers Indigenous peoples in the both positions of agent and recipient of an action.

Agency. Many texts deliver the information in such a way that certain people are consistently depicted as initiating actions and thus exerting power and are thereby topicalized (which is a type of foregrounding at the sentence level). In choosing what to put in the topic position, writers create a preconceived opinion, that influences the reader’s perception. In this manner, topicalization is a form of foregrounding on the level of a sentence.

Herewith other participants are depicted as being passive recipients of those actions i.e. being backgrounded.

Foregrounding. Closely related to framing and agency is foregrounding (and its opposite, backgrounding). Foregrounding emphasises certain concepts by giving them textual prominence which sometimes derives from the use of genres, as certain genres will sometimes have slots that automatically bestow prominence on any information occupying those slots. For example, the top-down orientation of news reports decrees that sentences occurring early in the report will be foregrounded while those occurring later will be backgrounded. Being backgrounded refers to the way certain elements of a sentence are given less prominence or importance in the overall structure and meaning. Backgrounding involves de-emphasizing certain information so that it does not take the main focus of the sentence, it is done with the help of subordination, passivisation, and participial constructions.

Omission. The ultimate form of backgrounding is omission, i.e. leaving certain things completely out of the text. Omission is often the most potent aspect of textualisation because if the writer does not mention something, it is not subjected to scrutiny. It is difficult to raise questions about something absent. The classical example is the statement of a scientist “My discovery is useless if taken out of context” which in mass media appears as “Scientist claims his discovery is useless”.

Presupposition in linguistics is “a thing which is presupposed, assumed beforehand, or taken for granted; an antecedent supposition; a preliminary assumption; an idea assumed as a basis of action, argument, etc” [4]. A presupposition may also be embedded in the text as a manipulative element as in: “Indigenous knowledge systems can complement scientific knowledge”. Now that it can complement, the presupposition is that for the time being Indigenous knowledge systems do not complement scientific knowledge.

Thus, by combining micro and macro analysis, a detailed and nuanced insight into a document’s intricacies and its broader significance may be achieved. This holistic approach ensures that both the fine details and the overarching context are thoroughly examined.

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