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Overstatement in Donald Trump's Selected Speeches on COVID-19

A B S T R A C T

This study intends to investigate the ways in which news agencies and writers overstate the risk posed by COVID-19 through the use of a linguistic strategy: overstatement. The President of the United States of America, Donald Trump, will be the primary focus of this research project. The scope of this data is limited to a random selection of two speeches downloaded from YouTube by President Donald Trump. In light of this, the primary objective of this research is to provide a response to the following question: (1) Which linguistic strategies does Trump employ in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic? (2) Which linguistic and rhetorical tools does he utilise more frequently in the course of putting this linguistic tactic into effect? (3) What functions are performed in addition to using exaggeration in his speech?

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(COVID-19) فيروس كورونا المبالغة في خطابات مختارة لدونالد ترامب بشأن

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الخلاصة:

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى التحقيق في الطرق التي تتبالح بها وكالات الأنباء والكتاب في تقدير المخاطر التي يشكلها فيروس كورونا (COVID-19) من خلال استخدام استراتيجية لغوية: المبالغة. سيكون رئيس الولايات المتحدة ، دونالد ترامب ، هو المحور الأساسي لهذا المشروع البحثي. يقتصر نطاق هذه البيانات

على اختيار عشوائي لخطابين تم تنزيلهما من موقع YouTube بواسطة الرئيس دونالد ترامب. في ضوء ذلك ، فإن الهدف الأساسي لهذا البحث هو تقديم إجابة على السؤال التالي:

- (١) أي الاستراتيجيات اللغوية يستخدمها ترامب فيما يتعلق بوباء فايروس كورونا (COVID-19)؟
 - (2) ما هي الأدوات اللغوية والبلاغية التي يستخدمها بشكل متكرر في سياق تطبيق هذا التكتيك اللغوي؟
 - (٣) ما هي الوظائف التي يؤديها بالإضافة إلى المبالغة في حديثه؟
- الكلمات المفتاحية/ استعارة / الاطناب / ترامب/ المبالغة /جائحة فيروس كورونا

1. Introduction

The importance of figurative language in human languages and cultures is noteworthy due to its significant contribution and support in interpreting the intended messages generated. Along with other tropes, over and under statements are figures of speech that characterise figurative language.

The speaker's and listener's mutual comprehension is crucial to the success of communication. This depends on the listener's comprehension of both literal and metaphorical meanings as well as the distinction between them, because if the listener interprets everything literally, much of the speaker's intent may be lost. Literal meaning is clear, doesn't depend on context, and is built or made by language processes automatically (without conscious control).

Nonliteral meaning, in contrast, is derived at the option of the user and requires additional cognitive work. The metaphorical meaning is generated from the literal meaning through the method of semantic substitution. This is particularly noticeable when using figurative language such as metaphor, hyperbole, and simile.

Consider the following as an instance of a metaphorical expression:

- (1) Surgeons are slaughterers. (Anolli et al., 2002, p. 14)

According to Börjesson (2011:19-21), the literal meaning is formed first. Non-literal meaning is activated or arises as a result of literal meaning that does not fit in the receptive context. This is due to the fact that literal meaning is interpreted without consideration to context. As a result, it is formed automatically from the meanings of linguistic forms.

Literal meaning is important because its reinterpretation leads to nonliteral interpretations of the text. Metaphor, hyperbole, irony, simile, and other literary devices are thought to embody various types of non-literal meaning. One of the rhetorical forms of speech that cannot be accepted literally is understatement. It should be interpreted metaphorically. The relationship between semantics and literal meaning, on the one hand, and pragmatics and non-literal meaning, on the other hand, must be clarified. The study of language that deals with the literal meaning (conventional meaning) of words and phrases, as well as the relationship between those meanings, is known as semantics. The relationship between language forms and their denotations . While pragmatics looks at how a speaker uses context and shared information to convey information that isn't directly related to the semantic content of their words, It also looks at how people generate inferences based on what they hear (Bianchi, 2004:1).

(2) My tooth is killing me (figurative meaning)

(3) My tooth hurts me (Literal meaning)

After considering all of the above, it is clear that the literal and figurative meanings are mutually beneficial. As a result, ignoring one of them is impossible.

2. Overstatement:

According to Norrick (2004: 1728), overstatement is defined as exaggerated or attenuated statements or amplifications used to express emotions that should not be taken literally.

Norrick shows that overstatement occurs when speakers make claims that are lower or higher on some scales than they should be. As a result, it is not as a literal numerical claim but rather as a signal of emotions through glorification.

(4) I'll die if I don't pass this course.

We say things like "die if I don't pass the exam," which is impossible to attain, and these assertions are metaphorical language that should not be taken literally.

Proverbial phrases and idioms tend towardss overstatement in the form of far-fetched imagery or overstated comparisons. For example,

(5) Work one's finger to the bone .

(6) Throw out the baby with the bathwater.

(7) Over than the hill (Norrick, 2004: 1729).

Claridge (2011: 58) defines overstatement as the phrase of a number, such as millions, hundreds, thousands, or billions, and its singular form, a million, a hundred, a thousand, and so on. As an example,

(8) I phoned you millions times by noon .

Furthermore, Claridge shows that these forms represent the formal feature of an indirect comparative (as, like, than). As a result, strong hyperbole could result from comparison. Consider this example,

(9) Good as gold or shake like a leaf.

Overstatement, according to Claridge, is an unintentional and subconscious behaviour (disregarding exaggeration itself as a denomination).

Speakers tend to overstate quantities and numbers of time and years, according to Christodoulidou (2011:145). Consider the following:

(10) He repeated several hundred times.

(11) She is one in the million.

(12) I love you more than the number of stars.

According to Mattiello (2013:207), overstatement is the tendency to exaggerate the strength, importance, and seriousness of notions or things in order to contrast with the reality of facts.

3. Device of overstatement

Some devices are used more often than others to get across what the exaggerator wants to say. These tools are:

3.1 Hyperbole

Fussell and Krueuz (1998:94) characterise hyperbole as a figure of speech characterized by blatant exaggeration. It is utilized by speakers to express their emotions or mental processes as precisely as possible. Thus, hyperbole can provide context for why a remark was made, as in:

(13) I have just witnessed the Pittsburgh football team lose for the thousandth time!

The preceding exaggeration conveys specific facts, namely the team's defeat, as well as the speaker's perspective on this information (in this case, disgust or disillusionment). As a result, and as Cano Mora (2006:205) stresses, the use of hyperbole frequently adds an additional dimension to a statement. She observes that many hyperbolic statements are used, on the one hand, to praise or approve of

someone or something, and, on the other hand, to complain, attack, and criticise the same person or thing. Claridge (2011:7-37) notes that exaggeration is initially related to formal and persuasive discourse, followed by stylistics and literature. In addition, exaggeration is a phenomenon that is both semantic and pragmatic in character. As a result, its interpretation is based only on the context or on the context-induced selection of one of the main interpretations of a polysemous term. Regardless of how the meaning is taken, it will contain an emotional component based on a person's disposition. Claridge (2011:40) , identifies two types of hyperbole. The first is basic, whereas the second is composite. He identifies numerous varieties of hyperbole, such as numerical hyperboles, adjectives, verbs, nouns, and adverbs. Spitzbardt (1963:278–280).

Belgioioso (2009:281) posits that there are two fundamental sorts of hyperbole: rhetorical hyperbole, which occurs in single words or sentences, and logical hyperbole, which occurs in comparison, hypothesis, and other broader contexts. He says that the main point of the categories listed above is to make it easier to find the truth.

Two primary types of hyperbole have been identified: fundamental hyperbole and composite hyperbole. The domain of the relevant literal expression is not exceeded by the fundamental hyperbolic expression. For instance,

(8) Cold and freezing, both belong to the temperature field and forever and minute being part of the domain of time. (Claridge, 2011:40-44).

Basic hyperbole lacks metaphor and is also known as domain-preserving hyperbole. In contrast, domain switching is involved in metaphorical and composite hyperbole. In fact, composite hyperbole combines hyperbole with other rhetorical figures of speech such as metaphor, simile, etc. (ibid).

3.2 Irony

According to Kreuz (1996:23) and Fussell and Kruez (1998:91), individuals may exaggerate when describing the features of a situation that they wish to emphasise. People's exaggerations usually take the form of saying the opposite of what they intend (irony). Fussell and Kruez (ibid., p. 91) also contend that the use of hyperbole is "a solid indicator of ironic intent." If the following example is given during a thunderstorm, it is ironic.

(13) What a beautiful day!

In addition, Colebrook (2004:1-22) notes that nothing truly means what it says, i.e., irony removes the immediacy and sincerity of existence. All generic notions, including irony, are malleable and context-dependent. Reading ironically entails not taking things at face value, but rather searching beyond the conventional use and exchange to determine what something may actually signify. Also, irony is a figure of speech that happens when irony covers a whole idea and doesn't just involve changing one word for its opposite, like in:

(14) I should remember to invite you more frequently.

If the speaker truly intends to indicate his discontent with the addressee's company, the example above would be a figure of speech. Here, the ironic device of exaggeration is not the substitution of a word but the statement of the opposing concept. Sharp (2009:35) says that each interpretation of irony needs to be unique and convincing because irony is always contextual and is seen differently by different people.

3.3 Simile

One of the tactics of exaggeration is the simile, which Cruse (2006:165) defines as an explicit comparison between two items that share a comparable quality. In a simile, the word "as" or "like" is used to create a comparison in mind as:

(15) Our troops are as courageous as lions.

It is possible to deduce the purposes of simile in ordinary life and in literature. In general, simile is considered a technique of elucidating a concept, i.e., its primary function is to provide a clear description. It is always the result of imagination, and as such, it is a poetic quality. As a result, it is seen as a decorative element and a method for suggesting a secondary meaning through the association of ideas. Sometimes, a simile is used to improve the rhythm of a sentence or to add to a description that has already been given (Kleiser, 1925:3–17).

According to Abrams (1999:120), a simile compares two things using 'like' and 'as'.

Reaske (1966:41) defines simile as a straightforward comparison between two unrelated items. A writer or poet presents it through a connecting word which signals that comparison has been made and the most particularly used connectives are "as", "like," but "than" is also used when the writer has written as in:

(16) She's more beautiful than the dawn ocean.

(17) She's like the morning ocean. She's like the sunrise sky.

3.4 Metaphor

One of the tactics of overstatement is metaphor, which exaggerators use to convey their ideas, judgements, and attitudes about things through an implied comparison (Fussell and Kreuz, *ibid.*: 194). Consequently, Moon (1998:194) asserts that exaggeration is a crucial aspect of metaphorical language. In metaphor, "concepts, notions, models, and images from one domain, the source domain, are borrowed to describe things in a different domain, the target domain" (Lobner, 2002:50).

In the following example, which signifies "it is pouring," the word "sky" is the goal and "weeping" is the source:

(18) The sky is in tears.

According to Chapman and Routledge (2009:131), metaphors are intended to highlight a perceived similarity. Metaphors form the basis of the human conceptual system and influence its mental processes and communication. In fact, they are prevalent in everyday speech and writing. In other words, one can refer to the foot of a mountain or the eye of a needle. As with every other language, English contains thousands of such metaphors, the majority of which are so common that they may no longer be considered metaphorical. Yaseen (2013:53–59) describes various types of metaphor, including absolute, primary, conceptual, complicated, conventional, personification, submerged, and root metaphors, among others.

Perrine (1983:571) explains that metaphors consist of comparing two distinct entities as if they were one. These events occurred because metaphors lack connective words such as 'like' or 'as' and appear to be defined as figurative language.

According to Abrams (1999:97), a metaphor is a literal term or word that applies to a different thing without comparison.

(19) Life is a hungry animal.

The hungry animal is a metaphor for life (Reaske).

3.5 Rhetorical Question

An exaggerator may utilise a rhetorical question to persuade people of their thoughts and beliefs. It is a query that asserts rather than seeks a response. Black (2006),

such as:

(20) Does anyone question the morality of this action? (No one could possibly question the wisdom of this action) (Quirk et al,1985:826).

A rhetorical question does not require an answer. Someone may inquire, "What time is it?" if you arrive late. This man wants no response. They inform you that

you're running late. In persuasive writing, rhetorical questions are used. A rhetorical question addresses the reader directly because no one can answer it. It allows the reader to reflect. They pique the reader's interest and prompt them to contemplate their own response to the topic.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zmfc7ty/articles/z7dyvk7>

From a pragmatic standpoint, a positive rhetorical yes-no question has the illocutionary power of a strong negative claim, whereas a negative question has the illocutionary force of a strong positive assertion.

4. Functions of Overstatement

The functions underlying the use of exaggerated language might vary depending on the speaker's intent in each instance. Thus, it is conceivable to derive some overstatement functions from its numerous devices. These characteristics are as follows:

4.1 Emphasis

Exaggeration's primary and most frequent function is to emphasise. Exaggerating a statement for emphasis is a typical and prevalent practise among the general population. The level of contrast between literal and exaggerated expression will influence the strength of the chosen interpretation. In other words, the bigger the contrast, the stronger the accent or intensity of the statement. The contrast therefore conveys the message's attitude content (Fogelin, 1988:13).

4.2 Manipulation

Manipulation entails the exercise of a dishonest sort of influence through the manipulators' words. Thus, manipulators influence people to believe or act in a manner that serves their own goals while working against those of the targets. (Van Dijk, 2006:360-62).

4.3 Humor

Some comic theorists (Draitser, 1994:135) states that exaggeration is a common way for comedians to make jokes.

According to Rose (1966:49) and Aristotle (1976:165), the exaggerator has been a common figure in Western culture since the appearance of the alazon. The alazon refers to a typical character in Greek comedy, namely, Abaster, who appears to have notable traits that he either does not possess or possesses to a lesser degree than what he pretends. As a result, Aristotle (ibid.) defines exaggeration as the portrayal of anything in an exaggerated manner in order to make it more noticeable, or as being larger, better, less, or worse than it actually is.

5. Overstatement Texts

Speech1

Trump's Speech1 is found on the following website:

<https://youtu.be/G5TZ6fTYrsE>

Trump: Coronavirus is Democrats' "new hoax" The Telegraph, 29 February 2020

Overstatement device

a-Metaphor

Text 1 We will do everything in our power to keep the infection and those carrying the infection from entering our country we have no choice whether it's the virus that we're talking about or many other public health threats.

When referring to "**power**," Trump employs hyperbole as a sort of metaphor. This may lead the reader or listener to believe that Trump will perform a miracle, as everyone in the world is aware that the spread of the coronavirus is impossible to control.

Trump makes use of "**hyperbole**." As an example of the function of overstatement, he asserts that the United States has immense power and will use it to

keep COVID-19 at bay, and that everything is under control and everyone will be okay. So he utilises **emphasis** as a strategy to overstate his declaration of dealing with coronavirus.

Text 2 The press is in hysteria mode.

Trump draws a striking parallel between the press and a person who becomes ill after getting suddenly bad or horrific news. "Hysteria mode" is used as a metaphor to describe the state of the press over the issue of the COVID-19 .

Trump uses a **humorous** method of oversatatenmet to increase the impact of the COVID-19 hoax on the U.S. And he portrays the state of the press as someone who does not know how to behave or who acts absurdly in certain circumstances.

Text3 I also created a White House virus task force it's a big thing the virus task force I requested 2.5 billion dollars to ensure we have the resources we need .

Trump utilizes the figurative utterance as '**White House virus task force** 'to overstate the severity of the COVID-19 and the challenges American society will face because of the corona virus, and he also discusses the substantial financial resources allotted to safeguard people from the COVID-19 terrible outbreak.

As Trump employs the metaphorical tactic of overstatement, he utilizes **emphasis** as a function of overstatement to increase the amount of force and money that will be employed to combat the spread of COVID-19.

b-Hyperbole

Text 1 The Democrat policy of open borders is a direct threat to the health and well-being of all Americans.

Trump uses the hyperbolic technique of exaggeration is used to emphasise his discontent with Democratic policies and the ways in which they have

jeopardised the safety of all American citizens through his dis-agreement with the Democrat's open-border policy. He then makes a suggestion that overstating could endanger all American lives.

In this instance, Trump employs an **emphasis** overstatement function to illustrate the possibility that a virus may kill all Americans in response to the Democrat party's strategy for combating viruses. He insists that all Americans' lives are not safe because of the deadly virus and the policy of the Democrat party in dealing with the issue.

c-Irony

Text 1 We are totally prepared it doesn't mean we won't but think of it you hear thirty five and forty thousand people .

In it, Trump deploys an ironic formula to convey information about the country's preparation to tackle the deadly illness, which later showed that the symptoms had resulted in countless injuries and deaths in the United States due to the coronavirus.

The President utilizes **humor** as a result of overstatement function to reduce the public's reaction to the COVID-19 rumor and reinforce the United States' preparedness to deal with the epidemic. As usual, Trump's funny side is used to ease the irritation and worry that COVID-19 causes.

Speech2

Trump's Speech2 is found on the following website: <https://youtu.be/hB8icFsfJe0>

Trump vs. Trump on Coronavirus: the US President's changing tone in just a few weeks Channel 4 News, April 2, 2020

Overstatements

Devices of Overstatement

a-Metaphor

Text 1 We're gonna go through a very tough two weeks because of all we've done the risk to the American people remains very low.

In the preceding text, Trump uses the metaphor strategy of overstatement to show an increase in the severity of the virus's spread in the coming days, as opposed to the previous days. He deploys the metaphoric term 'tough' to describe the intensity of infections of the corona virus in target domain .

Trump **emphasizes** the seriousness of the pandemic in the following weeks, urging people to take precautions since the weeks ahead will be more difficult 'tough,' as he puts it. Trump compared the losses Americans will face to those experienced by other societies as a result of the coronavirus.

Text 2 If we could hold that down as we're saying to a hundred thousand it's a horrible number.

The speaker draws a picture in a recipient's imagination by using a modifier noun phrase with an adjective, "**a horrible number,**" as a metaphor to indicate that the number of infected people is too high.

He employs the **Manipulation** function to portray the impression of dramatization; he deploys a numerical manipulation to disclose the truth about COVID-19 and the number of casualties; and he also argues that the audience should be vigilant and adhere to the medical team's safety guidelines to avoid the COVID-19.

Text3 I am officially declaring a national emergency two very big words.

Trump employs a figurative expression such as "big words" to illustrate the magnitude of the peril that the country will face, as well as to indicate to the reader

or listener that he is confident that the virus will be so dangerous to American residents.

To illustrate the severity of the coronavirus, Trump utilises an **emphasis** function of overstatement, leaving the audience to infer what Trump's speech would be about and why he refers to two big words in proclaiming a state of emergency.

Text 4 I've been watching them bring in a huge trailer trucks meet the freezer trucks the freezer trucks because they can't handle the bodies

The speaker employs metaphorical expressions like **a huge trailer truck** besides freezer one to describe the number of the fallen victims from the coronavirus epidemic and how medical professionals are unable to regulate such a large number of dead people.

By referring to "trucks meet the freezer trucks" and adding that "they cannot control it," Trump employs an **emphasis** function of overstatement. Such remarks leave the readers in a condition of uncertainty and terror as they attempt to predict the large, unknown number of COVID-19 victims.

Text 5 It is incredible the job that all of these people are doing putting them all together the job that they're doing I am very proud of the job they're doing .

Trump uses the phrase "incredible job" as a metaphor to show how professional his medical team is and how hard they are working to fight the virus compared to other countries. He does this to emphasise the severity of covid19 and how hard his medical staff is working to fight the corona virus.

The COVID-19 yells are deployed to highlight the level of his team's effort, which is Trump's favourite tactic for inflating their ideal states in virtually everything when compared to others, and he pretends that the American physicians are the best team to ever overcome COVID-19.

Trump uses an **emphasis** function of overstatement to depict the scenario of medical staff behaviour during an epidemic outbreak . He upscales the US professionalism in facing the unseen virus .

Text6 They're doing a very professional job but I'm a little upset with China I'll be honest with you because as much as I like President Xi and as much as I respect the country and they should have told us about this.

Trump deploys the term "**very professional**" in regard to the Chinese government as a figurative language to exaggerate the excellent job that **China** offers to handle the coronavirus situation.

Regarding the CP, the quantity maxim is violated because the speaker is extremely competent in sharing his perspective on others' service efforts and techniques.

The maxim of quality is also violated because the speaker's understanding of professionalism in combatting COVID-19 is untrue. Furthermore, throughout COVID-19, Trump is ambiguous in expressing his intended message of professionalism and point of view about other countries. The key point of the communication may be missed by the listener or hearer. As a result, by being unclear, the maxim of good manner is also violated.

When calling the Chinese's handling of the coronavirus outbreak "**professional**," Trump applies a **manipulation** function of overstatement and manipulates language in this way to deliver his message.

b-Simile

A simile is a figure of speech that employs "**like**" or "**as**" to compare two things in an entertaining way. A simile creates an interesting association in the mind of the reader or listener. Simile is a common sort of figurative language. Examples of

similes can be found everywhere, from poems to song lyrics to everyday encounters.

Text 1 I like President Xi and as much as I respect the country and they should have told us about this.

In order to highlight the severity of his feelings towards other countries, most notably China, Trump frequently employs the rhetorical strategy of comparisons that involve exaggeration. Moreover, he continues by saying that he has a positive opinion of their president.

Trump deploys an **ironic** function of overstatement to convey his attitude towards China, and he displays his sentiment towards China in a sarcastic way by expressing the opposite of what he hides for the country. In other words, Trump uses irony to convey his attitude.

b- hyperbole

Text 1 It's frankly it's a matter of life and death with the flu.

In "**a matter of life and death with the flu,**" Trump uses the hyperbole sense of overstatement device to express to society the gravity and peril of the coronavirus, which has killed many people, and the need for everyone to take the required precautions to recognize the threat.

Trump employs the **emphasis** function in the preceding passage to emphasize that it is a matter of life and death, signaling that extra caution must be exercised. Trump then adds "Flu" to describe the threat that the flu poses to individuals. This demonstrates that he incorporated humor into his discussion of COVID-19, a topical subject.

Text2 The peak in death rate is likely to hit in two weeks so I'll say it again the peak the highest point of death rates remember this is likely to hit in two weeks .

Trump deploys a fundamental and typical hyperbole, of the superlative degree of the adjective "**the highest** point" in the aforementioned text to the outer limit of the number of death's scale between two time periods and suggests that it would be elevated to its maximum level in the future weeks.

Using superlative degree construction, Trump **emphasizes** his point by hinting that the death rate will grow in the next two weeks. So, in order to make his points, the above text uses the emphasis function of overstatement to create hyperbole.

Text 3 You would have been looking at potentially 2.2 million people more 2.2 million people in a relatively short period of time.

When Trump talks about how bad the virus is and how many people might get sick or die in a short amount of time, he uses numerical hyperbole to imply that the number could go up even more in the coming days!

With the **manipulative** function of overstatement, Trump conveys the reality of COVID-19 and the number of victims, then indicates for a short period of time that the number of victims of the coronavirus will increase, thereby sowing panic and manipulating the minds of everyone who listens to him.

Text4 The best test far more than anybody else we want to see anybody else I'm talking about other countries.

Trump employs superlative and comparative formulations to emphasise the quality of their testing and depict it as superior to that of other countries. As a result, he uses the rhetorical device of hyperbole to exaggerate his argument.

The test is conveyed by employing the overstatement **humour** technique to convey the notion of the test by boasting and bragging about what they have, coinciding with the high number of infections with the Coronavirus.

d-Rhetorical question

Rhetorical inquiries are open-ended. Rhetorical questions help persuade readers. A rhetorical question speaks directly to the reader as no one can answer it. It gives the reader time to ponder. They capture a reader's interest and make them think about their own response to the inquiry.

Text 1 When do you agree with that assessment well?...I probably will it possibly will the modeling estimates that the peak in death rate is likely to hit in two weeks.

The question is posed to guarantee that his audience realises that the COVID-19 situation is unavoidable, that there is no way to escape it, and that the virus will spread over the country. This type of query is not meant to provoke a response like a generic question; rather, it is meant to confirm whether or not people agree with him.

Through his contradictory view about the actuality of the coronavirus since its spread, Trump deploys a **manipulation** function of overstatement to transmit his belief in speedy separation to COVID-19 throughout the United States.

Text2 When can you guarantee that every single American who needs a test will be able to have a test?

Trump does not pose a general inquiry and expect a response; instead, he wants to know when every American will be tested, as well as the medical team's attempts to speed up the vaccine and testing procedure to ensure that no one contracts the Corona virus.

And here, Trump deploys an **emphasis** component of overstatement to emphasise that every individual is checked for COVID-19 symptoms, and he has employed a rhetorical question to see if that guarantee can be met on time.

Text3 Did you know is number one of Facebook and I just found out I'm number one of ?

In this case, Trump uses a rhetorical question to exaggerate his position during the epidemic. This is not just a random question that Trump wants an answer to. Instead, he wants to make sure that the public knows that he is a professional who can handle the COVID-19.

He uses the overstatement function "**manipulation**" to dramatise the way he runs the issue of COVID-19, and he uses the term "number one" when he presents his competence to the people of the US, and he emphasises that he has power, and everybody talks about that, and he is considered number one in the world in dealing with the coronavirus.

e- irony

Text1 "this UK basically has been it's got the border it's got the first strong borders and they're they' doing a very good job"

To represent the UK's situation in the face of virus transmission, Trump employs an irony device of overstatement, and he highlights the magnificence of Britain's borders in order to keep the virus from spreading! The British Prime Minister has been diagnosed with the Corona virus.

In the aforementioned text, Trump emphasises the significance of the British border as the world's first solid border and the professionalism of the UK government in handling a specific issue. He then employs a **humour** function of exaggeration when he continues to praise the competence and accomplishments of the UK's authorities in maintaining the safety of their border. This speech

concludes with the revelation that the British prime minister has tested positive for COVID-19.

Text2 Trump's handling of the corona virus and the number one on Facebook.

In this speech, Trump uses situational irony by referring to himself as number one in the fight against the coronavirus, despite the reality that many Americans are sick with the virus during this speech.

A **humor** function of Overstatement is employed to discuss the American administration's strength and control over the Corona virus, particularly during his presidency. In the meantime, the number of sick individuals and deaths continues to rise.

5. Conclusions

The following are the main conclusions that the recent research has uncovered:

1-The data analysis demonstrates that Trump, overstates facts, viewpoints, issues, solutions, and/or treatment of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic.

2-Trump relies heavily on overstatement when addressing the aforementioned pandemic, this may be attributable to the fact that a large number of individuals disregard the safety precautions necessary to prevent the spread of the new virus.

3-It is determined that Trump predominantly uses hyperbole and metaphor to overstate the coronavirus issue. This could be due to the fact that Americans find these two devices simple to use and enjoy them greatly.

4- Trump uses rhetorical questions more frequently to persuade people to agree with and always support him.

5- The data analysis also shows that Trump talks about the COVID-19 in a more ironic way . This may be the reason that Trump is not very serious in

dealing with the epidemic of COVID19 or perhaps president Trump may use comedy or sarcasm to express the majority of his presentation and attitude towards issues.

6- Trump primarily uses comedy to overstate the issue of COVID-19 because it is one of his preferred strategies for communicating almost any subject.

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