

The Relational Types of Relative Clauses and Their Semantic Properties in British and American Political Editorials

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ABSTRACT:

The relative clauses are an important component of English grammar. In this study, the relative clause was the main topic of discussion. Although relative clauses have a significant impact on sentence difficulty, they have received very little attention from academic writing specialists. Political editorials typically require high writing standards. Thus, the authors of these editorials employ complex linguistic structures. The relative clause is one of such complex structures. The semantic study of relative clauses in British and American political editorials may still be understudied at this time, which suggests that certain aspects of relative clauses' semantics have not gotten enough attention. As a result, relative sentences need to be explored from a linguistic perspective, and the current study needed semantic investigation to fill this gap. Consequently, the current study seeks to accomplish two objectives. The first is investigating the types of relative clauses used frequently by British and American writers of political editorials. The second objective is finding out the semantic use of these types of relative clauses by the British and American writers of political editorials. A descriptive-qualitative approach was chosen as the best research design for this investigation in the current study. The data were acquired from important British and American newspapers, the Guardian and The New York Times, respectively. Content analysis was a technique which was used by the researcher in order to examine the relative clauses. By analyzing relative clauses that were gathered by the researchers, the study question's answers arrived at. Considering these questions, the different types of relative clauses and their semantic properties were explored according to Huddleston, et al(2002). British political writers tend to use relative clauses a little more frequently than American writers and American political editorials almost do not use cleft relative clauses. British and American writers used integrated and supplementary relative clauses in political editorials to convey the same semantic properties for each type which help them to communicate the meaning they intend to express In these political editorials.

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Introduction:

Humans utilize language, an organized form of communication, to send and receive messages and to accomplish a wide range of objectives . According to Chomsky (1986) language is collection of highly specific universal rules that are inherent to the human mind and part of

our humanity's genetic make-up. Humans use language to express their feeling or thoughts ,exchange information, apologize, promise , persuade someone with their ideas... etc. .When we share our ideas ,we must do that in concise manner so that people who are listening or reading fully comprehend the content or the meaning of the message.

The American Psychological Association (2009,p.77) states that “incorrect grammar and careless construction of sentences distract the reader ,introduce ambiguity and generally obstruct communication “ .That is why Benson and Silver(2013) assert that it is essential for authors to avoid giving impression that they don't pay sufficient attention to details. Gopen and Swan(1990) state that in an effort to utilize scientific language, inexperienced authors may decide to lengthen their sentences using relative clauses, which, if done carelessly, could lead to misrepresentation. This study focuses on relative clause which is a post modifying element in complex noun phrase. Hallock (2007) states that political editorials are articles written by or under the direction of the editor of a newspaper .They give opinions on important political issues . Their style and content is persuasive. The goal of editorials is to persuade the reader to consider the writer's opinion Gotti (2008) mentions that sentences in specialist writing seem to be longer than those in non-specialized writing. Longer sentences with relative clauses are more difficult to understand. Another element that raises their potential level of complexity is the abundance of relative clause types in English. While relative clauses play a crucial impact in sentence complexity, academic writing experts have paid them relatively little consideration. Complex language structures have important role for political editorials .They are kind of subjects that make writing level of political editorials be a high one. One of those complex structures are relative clauses. Currently , The semantic analysis of relative clauses in British and American political editorials may still be understudied, which indicates that relative clauses' semantic facets have not received the proper attention. Relative clauses therefore need to be studied linguistically, and in order to close this gap the current work calls for a semantic investigation. As far as the researcher is aware, no study has been attempted for the syntactic and semantic analysis of relative clauses in British and American political editorials. Additionally, almost no research has investigated whether British and American political editorials employ relative clauses differently.

The present study aims at: first, Investigating the types of relative clauses used frequently by British and American writers of political editorials .Second, Finding out the semantic use of relative clauses by the British and American writers of political editorials. Consequently , the following research questions are addressed by this study, namely 1-What kinds of relative clause are frequently used by British and American writers of political editorials? 2-How are the relative clauses used semantically by the writers of British and American political editorials ? The procedures to be followed in this study consist of the following steps:First, Presenting a review of literature on relative clauses in English and the elements that influence the way in which relative clauses are used. Second, Discussing the semantic aspects and the topics of relevance to this study . Third, A descriptive-qualitative approach was chosen as the best research design for this investigation in the current study. Content analysis is a research technique used for conceptualization of qualitative data. Fourth, Explaining the relative clauses according to the chosen model(Huddleston et al. ,2002) . Fifth, Analyzing the samples according to the models mentioned previously.Sixth. Drawing conclusions ,making recommendations and proposing new topic for future research .

By examining the semantics of relative clauses, the study is intended to increase students' understanding of them. Furthermore, the study's findings are hoped to give other researchers

and novice writers information that may assist them to increase their understanding of English syntax and semantics by giving them the chance to comprehend relative clause structures.

Semantics

The branch of linguistics known as semantics investigates meaning. Semantics can deal with the meaning of individual words, phrases, sentences, or longer pieces of discourse. Lyons(1968) explains that grammarians are interested in the meaning of words and more interested in their syntactic function. The study of meaning in language is known as semantics. We are aware that language is employed to convey meanings that other people can comprehend. However, we can communicate the meanings we have in our heads using both spoken and written language as well as through gestures, actions etc.

Phonology is the study of language's sound patterns, whereas morphology and syntax are the study of how words and sentences are put together. These are then structured in a way that allows us to send or receive messages that are significant. The level of linguistic analysis where meaning is examined is called semantics. Since meaning cannot be seen or observed in the same way that sounds can be observed and recorded, it is the highest abstract level of linguistic study. Understanding and logical thought are strongly tied to meaning in humans. Therefore, when we attempt to examine meaning, we are actually attempting to understand and analyze our own capacity for thought. Giving a systematic account of the nature of meaning is a concern of semantics (Leech, 1981).

Relative Construction Types

Huddleston, Pullum and Peterson(2002) indicate the many relative construction kinds .Formal kinds and relational kinds are produced by the two main contrast dimensions. The formal types are distinguished from one another by the specific relative terms such as *which*, *who*, etc., the subordinator *that*, or simply a *gap* or missing ingredient. The distinction between the relational kinds is based on their exterior syntax and how they relate to the wider construction they are a part of. Although they use dissimilar terminology and compare it with two additional types, fused and cleft relatives, this situation lends itself well to the standard distinction between non-restrictive and restrictive relative clauses. Huddlestone et al., on the other hand, favor to differentiate between the two categories to be integrated verses supplementary because the comparison can occur in a number of circumstances regardless of whether the relative clauses indicate a differentiating attribute .The case that follows, for instance, uses a definite noun phrase:

1- *The father who had planned my life to the point of my unsought arrival in Brighton took it for granted that in the last three weeks of his legal guardianship I would still act as he directed.*

The speaker, who has three weeks left before turning eighteen, claims that his father assumed that for the duration of three weeks he would remain to follow his instructions. In this sentence, the relative clause is of the integrated class, meaning that the no speaker can remove or speak it with a distinct pitch delineation and it permits that as a substitute for *who*. However, since the narrator has just one father, it is of no use to distinguish this father from the narrator's other fathers. Because it explains why the father assumed that the son would follow orders, rather than because it conveys a differentiating quality, the relative clause's content is presented as an integral part of the message.

Formal Types

According to this distinction, relative clauses get their name because they are connected to an antecedent through their form. They have an anaphoric element in their structure, and the antecedent determines how that element should be interpreted. This feature of anaphora may be overt or covert. The existence of one of the relative words *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *which*, *etc.* as the initial element or within a relative clause designates this clause in the overt form; these clauses are known as *wh*-relatives. In light of whether or not the anaphoric element in non-WH relatives is present, this type is further divided to *that* relatives and *bare* relatives. (Huddleston et al. ,2002).

The Relational Types of Relative Clauses

According to how the relative construction is related to the bigger building that contains it, four forms are distinguished:

a) *The integrated relative clauses*

The integrated relatives are the highest important and popular sort of relatives structure. Typically, it serves as a nominal constituent's modifier. Integrated relations get their name from the fact that they are prosodically and informationally integrated into the construction that contains them. Restricting the denotation of the head nominal is the function of the prototypical integrated relative.

b) *The supplemental relative clauses*

A supplemental relative clauses offer added facts which describe an antecedent that is not completely integrated into the contained clause's structure and is not required to define the set that the antecedent denotes. The following examples demonstrate how the supplemental relative clauses differ from the integrated relative clauses in point that it accepts far broader variety of antecedents:

2- *Tom is scared of wolves, which I'm sure Kim is too. [adjective phrase]*

3-*Tom is scared of wolves, which doesn't astonish me at all. [clause]*

c)The Cleft Relative Clauses

Cleft relative clauses are the clauses that follow the foregrounded elements in an it-cleft structure. Depending on the subtype, cleft constructions are predicational focus constructions that have some features in common with appositive and restrictive relative clauses(Reeve,2012). According to Quirk et al. (1985) ,Cleft clause which is frequently used is one of the arguably remarkable buildings because indefinite pronoun is the antecedent in a very formal sentence.

One way that cleft relatives vary from regular ones is that they permit the relativization of a vastly greater variety of complements and adjuncts. Formally ,the cleft constructions are presented by *wh*-relative and *that*- relative .In describe this type of structure, dropping that is severely discouraged. The following two examples distinguish non-cleft clause from cleft one.

The bold clause is the cleft relatives, which differ from integrated relatives in terms of function and, in some cases, internal structure:

4- *Pat wanted Kim as banker.* [non-cleft]

5- *It was Pat who wanted Kim as banker.* [cleft]

(Huddleston et al. ,2002).

The cleft structure, which gives it its name, divides the more fundamental construction into two sections, one of which is “foregrounded and the other is backgrounded” as in the the following example:

6- *It was John who wanted James as banker.*

7- *It was James that John wanted as banker.*

In (6) James as banker backgrounded is required by John which is foregrounded, but in (7) James is the “foregrounded” division, and John required as “banker backgrounded”. The result of backgrounding, in terms of information packaging, is to label the backgrounded information as presupposed. The following example:

(8) *It was a blue wool sweater that I purchased.*

presume that someone purchased the item, then stress that this item was a blue wool sweater. It is possible to provide an open proposition with an “variable” as a cleft clause's presupposition.

A positive cleft also implies that the importance given to the variable is “exhaustive and exclusive”, which is another property that it possesses. The non-cleft does not suggest anything about this.

Similarly, the comparison in the following examples :

(9) *a. He loves you. b. It's you He loves.*

This implicature of exhaustiveness could be strengthened by the addition of only, or it can be eliminated by negating only:

(10) *It is only on Sunday that they come to this town.*

(11) *It is not only John who will benefit from this choice.*

Within an it-cleft, a foregrounded element acts as an antecedent for an empty space or pro-form within the relative clause. Yet, these relative clauses are a unique kinds that differ in specific ways from regular relative clauses which are integrated and supplemental. The cleft pronoun is given a determiner role by Davidse (2000) and Hedberg (2000), but the purposes of that determiner vary between the two studies. The cleft pronoun functions as a syntactic dummy argument, participating in question construction and verb agreement .This location in the sentence is clearly able to be utilized for many pragmatic, discursive, and possibly semantic objectives.

The Analysis of The Relational Types of Relative Clauses

Three political editorials from the United Kingdom are studied by the researchers, who numbered them 1, 2, and 3 out of a total of six and three American editorials which are numbered as 4, 5 and 6. According to the classification of Huddleston et al (2002) of relative construction, there are four types of relative constructions, but only three types are investigated by the researcher since the fourth type, fused relative, is a noun phrase or prepositional phrase. The three types of relative clauses, are divided based on how they relate the larger structure they are a part of. Therefore, after gathering the relevant information, the researcher classifies the relative clauses into three types: integrated relative clauses, supplementary relative clauses and cleft relative clauses. In order to determine whether there are any differences between the British and American usage of all the aforementioned types, the researcher makes a distinction between British and American relative clauses based on their types. So, the researcher gathered 63 relative clauses over the course of data collection which consisted of 19 British integrated relative clauses, 16 American integrated relative clauses, 14 British supplementary relative clauses, 13 American supplementary relative clauses and 1 British cleft Relative Clauses. The findings which are represented by 63 relational relative clauses demonstrate that the usage of relational relative clauses types in both the British and American languages is nearly identical. But, only a small proportion of British political editorials utilize the rare cleft relative clauses. In addition the researcher finds that Relative clauses are generally used a little more frequently in British than American sentences. Table 4.1 displays the frequency and the ratio of relational relative clauses in the political editorials that are chosen.

Table 4.1 the frequency and the ratio of relational relative clauses in the British and American political editorials

No	Relative Clauses	Frequency	Ratio
1	British Integrated relative clauses	19	30.158%
2	American integrated relative clauses	16	25.396%
3	British supplementary relative clauses	14	22.222%
4	American supplementary relative clauses	13	20.634%
5	British cleft relative clauses	1	1.587
	Total	63	100%

When analyzing how these three different types of relative clauses relate to an antecedent, it is possible to distinguish according to their form, between *wh*-relatives which include overt anaphoric elements such as *who*, *whom*, *whose*, *which*, *etc.* and *non-wh* relatives, which are further divided to *that* relatives and *bare* relatives in light of whether that is present or not. Hence, the researcher collected 25 British *wh*- relatives, 23 American *wh*-relatives, 9 British *that* relatives and 6 American *that* relatives. The findings, which are displayed by 63 relational relative clauses, additionally reveal that the usage of relative clauses in connection to their formal kinds is nearly the same in both the British and American languages. The frequency

and percentage of the formal kinds of relative clauses in the selected political editorials are displayed in Table 4.2.

Table 4.2 The frequency and percentage of the formal kinds of relative clauses

No	Relative Clauses	Frequency	Ratio
1	British wh- relatives	25	39.682%
2	American wh-relatives	23	36.507%
3	British that relatives	9	14.285%
4	American that relatives	6	9.523%
	Total	63	100%

The Properties of Integrated Relative Clauses

The properties that Huddleston employed with relative clauses to be considered like an integrated relative clause are made clear by their term. That is, Regarding syntax, prosody and semantics, an integrated relative is firmly interwoven into the matrix composition. An integrated relative clause typically serves as a modifier in an NP's structure. So, The first property in characterizing the semantics of integrated relative clauses is that they are also known as a "restrictive relative" (Huddleston et al. ,2002,p.1035) which means that they serve to limit the meaning of the head nominal it modifies. The second property, is that the meaning of the sentence containing an integrated relative is implied by the content of the relative. Hence, it provides essential information. The third property is the distinguishing property. In other words, the typical integrated relative expresses a distinguishing property. However, there are several instances when the difference is not dependent on whether or not the relative phrase conveys a differentiating feature, despite the fact that the differentiating property forms the origin for the traditional sorting of relative clauses like restrictive and non-restrictive. The fourth property, is that they do not communicate a statement that could be determined to be "true or false". The absence of punctuation marks is the fifth. Therefore, it is forbidden to employ separation indicators like a comma, hyphen or dash, because they alter the meaning of these clauses. The sixth is that they ordinarily do not come after proper nouns unless a determiner comes before them. The proper nouns classically cannot take an integrated relative unless a determiner comes before them. Such proper noun assumes that the term has been previously stated. Therefore, the data won't be necessary when a proper noun is given. The three formal types are all permitted in integrated relative clauses. The relative pronouns in integrated relative clauses can only be disregarded when the relative clauses meet the requirements for being omitted. Furthermore, a relative pronoun that and bare relative is restricted to integrated relative clauses.

The researcher compares all British relative clauses in the three political editorials that were obtained from The Guardian newspapers and all American relative clauses in the three political editorials that were obtained from The New York Times newspapers with the aforementioned properties while dealing with integrated relative clauses. So, every relative clause that corresponded to those properties was described as an integrated relative clause. In the following table, examples of the manner in which the British relative clauses corresponded with the properties that are given.

Table 4.3 Integrated Relative Clauses in the British Political Editorials

Ed. No	RC. No	Relative Clause Antecedent	Formal Kinds			Semantic Properties						
			Wh R	That R	Bare R	Restrictive R	Essential Information	Distinguishing Property	NO T.F. Statement	No Separation Markers	No Proper Nouns	
1	1	“This is because for years economic growth was overpowered by a financial services sector whose flaws were exposed by the 2008 crisis. The government needs to support exporting businesses by realigning trade with the EU, our closest and biggest trading bloc, and	Sector	yes		yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
1	2	Introduce policies that allow people to dip in and out of training throughout their working lives to ensure the economy has the skills it needs.”	Policies		yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	
1	3	Britain is governed by a Conservative	Conservative Party		yes	yes	yes	no	yes	yes	no	

party that has
shamelessly
embraced populist
tactics as a means
to drive through
Brexit and brought
political chaos in
2022.”

The relative clause “*whose flaws were exposed by the 2008 crisis*” in the first example adheres to the properties for integrated relative clauses. To limit the meaning of the antecedent *sector*, the information in the relative phrase was required. Dropping the relative in (1) would significantly alter the meaning: It would be implied that this is because of all financial services sectors. The reader would become familiar with antecedent because of the constrained attribute. Reader would not be confused as to which sector the author intended. As a result, this relative clause offers essential information. Because this relative clause and its antecedent are separated by no punctuation, including a comma or dash, the distinguishing property is once more asserted. Rather than appearing as a proper noun, the antecedent appears as a common noun. The first editorial integrated relative clause in (1) fails to communicate a claim that could be determined to be true or false, in specific, it fails to state that every financial service sector’s flaws are exposed by the 2008 crisis. As indicated by the relative clause’s structure, it reflects the *wh*-relative, one of the three formal types allowed in integrated relatives.

In the second example of the first editorial integrated relative clause is presented by that relative. Because that relative cannot be used with supplementary relative clauses, the clause, that allow people to dip in and out of training is automatically integrated relative clause. Also, it is crucial for the reader to understand the information provided by the relative phrase to explain the antecedent policies. This antecedent is a common noun, and it is clear that there are no punctuation marks separating it from the following relative clause. The integrated relative clause in (2) fails to contain the claim that can be used to judge whether anything is true or false. Namely, it does not make claim that the government introduced all the policies that it needs but only those that allow people to dip in and out of training. That relative, one of the three formal kinds permitted in integrated relatives, is reflected in the relative clause, as seen by the structure of the relative clause.

The first editorial integrated relative clause is likewise shown in example number three by that relative. Because that relative cannot be used with supplementary, the clause, *that has shamelessly embraced populist tactics as a means to drive through Brexit and brought political chaos in 2022*, is an integrated relative clause. The facts that there is just one conservative party in Britain and it is already known by people over there prevent this clause from differentiating the antecedent, despite the fact that it provides crucial information about it. It explains how the *Conservative party* included populist tactics such as a way to pass through Brexit and brought political chaos in 2022. Despite the fact that a proper noun cannot often take an integrated relative, it is used in this sentence since a determiner came before it and it begins with a capital letter. The claim that can be utilized to determine whether anything is true or false is not contained in the integrated relative clause. Namely, it does not make claim that *the Conservative party has boldly embraced general tactics as a way to pass through Brexit and carried political chaos in 2022*. That relative, one of the three formal kinds permitted in integrated relatives, is reflected in this clause, as seen by the structure of this clause.

As part of an analysis of the integrated relative clauses in American political editorials, The table that follows provides a pair of instances of the way the in which above-mentioned properties have been matched with American relative clauses.

Table 4.4 Integrated Relative Clauses in the American political Editorials

Ed. No.	RC. No	Relative Clause	Antecedent	Formal Types			Restrictive Relatives	Essential Information	Semantic Properties			
				Wh R	That R	Bare R			Distinguishing property	No TF. Statement	No punctuation marks	No proper nouns
4	4	Politically, he was a prominent voice for a generation of dissidents who opposed arming Japan's defense forces and advocated paying war reparations to China, Korea and other Asian neighbors.	Dissidents	yes			yes	Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
5	5	The jury also heard from another Belgian family that was on the bike path that day.	Family		that		yes	Yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

In the fourth example of the fourth editorial integrated relative clause is presented by the relative pronoun *who*. The relative clause *who opposed arming Japan's defense forces and advocated paying war reparations to China, Korea and other Asian neighbors* in this example follows to the properties for integrated relative clauses. The data in the this clause is needed to restrict the interpretation of the antecedent dissidents. Absence of the relative in (4) would greatly change the meaning: This would suggest that dissidents who opposing the financial state are involved. The confined characteristic would allow the reader to familiarize themselves with antecedent. The reader wouldn't be uncertain about the author's intended dissident. This relative clause so provides essential information. Because there are no punctuation marks to separate the relative phrase from its antecedent, such as a comma or dash, the distinctive property is once again emphasized. The antecedent appears as a common noun rather than a proper noun. The next integrated relative clause in (4) fails to state any assertion that could be proven to be true or untrue, including that all the dissident faced arming Japan's defense forces and advocated paying war reparations to China, Korea and other Asian neighbors. The *wh*-relative, one of the three formal kinds permitted in integrated relatives, is reflected in the related clause's structure.

The relative clause *that was on the bike path that day* in the fifth example adheres to the properties for integrated relative clauses. It is presented through a relative pronoun *that*. The relative clause's information is required to limit how the antecedent family might be interpreted, and its absence in (5) would significantly alter the meaning: This could include another Belgian family in another place which is not a Manhattan Bike Path. The intended family of the author wouldn't be a unknown to the reader. Thus, this relative clause conveys essential information. The distinguishing property was again accentuated because there were no punctuation marks, to divide this relative clause from its antecedent. Moreover, the antecedent appears to be a common noun rather than a proper noun. The sixth editorial integrated relative clause in (5) fails to make any claims that may be demonstrated to be true or false, including that it fails to state the claim that all the Belgian family was on the bike path that day. Formally, this sentence represents that relative.

As showed in the findings, the integrated relative clauses are used in political editorials by both British and American writers to communicate the same semantic properties, with a small variance between the numbers of British and American integrated relative clauses. In other words, among 63 relative clauses found in the six editorials that the researcher is examining, 19 British integrated relative clauses are used, accounting for 30.158% of the results, and 16 American integrated relative clauses were used, accounting for 25.396% of the results.

The Properties of Supplementary Relative Clauses

According to Huddleston(2002), the properties of supplementary relative clauses, as contrast to integrative relative clauses, are as follows: the first is non-restrictive which means that relative clauses' information do not limit the meaning of their preceding antecedents. The second is that they provide further description. The additional description suggests that the information is simply taken into account as supplementary information. Readers can still understand the meaning even without the antecedent being described. The third property, is that they state a statement that could be determined to be true or false. Following the proper noun is the fourth. A proper noun signifies that the readers are already familiar with the noun. A relative phrase will only contribute more information when it is inserted to describe a proper noun. The fifth property is the continuative use of supplementary relatives. In other words,

they help the story progress. The sixth is that they are utilized with separating markers. The separating markers indicate that the relative clause is a supplementary relative clause. Formally, supplemental relative clauses only utilize the *wh*-relative. The researchers compares all relative clauses in the political editorials that were obtained from The Guardian and The New York Times newspapers with the aforementioned norms while dealing with supplementary relative clauses. So, every relative clause that corresponded to those norms was described as an supplementary relative clause. A pair of instances of the manner in which British relative clauses are considered as supplementary relative clauses in political editorials are given in the following table.

Table 4.5 Supplementary Relative Clauses in the British political Editorials

Ed. No	RC No.	Relative Cause	Antecedent	Formal Types				Semantic Properties			
				Wh R	That R	Bare R	Non Restrictive R	Additional information	T.F. Proposition	Continuative Use	Separation Markers
1	6	Russia's invasion of Ukraine drove an enormous increase in global energy prices ,which led to inflation spiking across the world” .	Prices	yes			yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
1	7	Ministers, who have in recent year reneged on commitments to promote investment in green energy ,need to priorities low-carbon	Ministers	yes			yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

The relative clause, *which led to inflation spiking across the world* in the sixth example adheres to the properties for supplemental relative clauses. As can be observed by the appearance of the separation mark, the antecedent prices inside the aforementioned main clause and the relative clause are separated by a comma. It suggested that the data in the relative clause just served as extra information and it is not needed to explain the significance of the antecedent. The supplementary relative makes the proposition that global energy prices led to inflation spiking across the world which may be true or false. It formally represents the *wh*-relative, the only formal permissible type in supplementary relatives. Additionally, it serves to advance the editorial. That is, The information communicated in the preceding supplementary relative is somewhat backgrounded in comparison to the information in the sentence holding the anchor; yet, the continuous relative has equal informational value and presents an additional occurrence in a narrative chain.

The supplemental relative clause *who have in recent year reneged on commitments to promote investment in green energy*, in the seventh example follows the properties for such clauses. The antecedent Ministers inside the aforementioned main phrase and the relative clause are separated by a comma, as seen by the presence of the separation mark. The implication was that the details in the relative clause are merely supplementary details that are not required to clarify the meaning of the antecedent. The supplementary relative states the potentially true or potentially incorrect claim that Ministers have in recent year reneged on commitments to promote investment in green energy. In addition, compared to the information in the clause carrying the anchor, the information provided in the preceding supplementary relative is slightly backgrounded; at this point the continuous relative has comparable informational value and presents an additional event in a narrative chain. According to the form of relative clause, It represents the *wh*-relative, which is the only kind that is permitted in supplemental relative.

As part of an investigation of the supplementary relative clauses in American political editorials A pair of instances of American supplemental relative clauses that met the aforementioned properties are shown in the table below.

Table 4. 6 Supplementary Relative Clauses in American Political Editorials

Ed. No.	RC. No	Relative Clause	Antecedent	Formal Types				Semantic Properties			
				Wh R	That R	Bare R	Non Restrictive	Additional information	T.F. Proposition	Continuative Use	Separation Markers
5	8	The recovery effort, which is expected to take days, began not long after debris from the balloon hit the water on Saturday, a defense official said.	Effort	yes			yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
6	9	Having convicted Mr. Saipov, the jury will now be asked to decide whether he should be imprisoned for life or face the death penalty , which would require a unanimous vote of the 12 jurors.	Penalty	yes			yes	yes	yes	yes	yes

Referring to example (8), *The relative clause which is expected to take days* in the eight example adheres to the properties for supplemental relative clauses. The relative clause and its antecedent effort in its main clause are separated by a comma. The implication was that the details in the relative clause are merely supplementary details that are not required to clarify the meaning of the antecedent. The supplementary relative makes the proposition that the recovery effort is expected to take days which according to the situation, may be true or false. It formally represents a *wh*-relative, the only formal permissible type in supplementary relatives. Additionally, it serves to present further event in the editorial. In other words, the information in the previously mentioned supplementary relative is also slightly backgrounded in comparison to the information in the sentence holding the anchor; at this point, the continuous relative has comparable informational value and adds a new event to the narrative chain.

In (9) the relative clause *which would require a unanimous vote of the 12 jurors* follows the properties of supplementary relative clauses. A comma separates the relative sentence from the antecedent penalty in its main clause. It is understood that the details inside the relative clause served as only supplementary information and unnecessary for identifying the significance of the antecedent penalty. Also, it allows the editorial to present additional events. That is to say, in comparison to the information in the sentence carrying the anchor, the information in the aforementioned supplementary relative is likewise slightly backgrounded; at this stage, the continuous relative has comparable informative value and adds a new event to the text's chain. The *wh*-relative, the only officially permitted type in supplemental relatives, is what it represents in formal terms.

The data demonstrate that British and American writers utilize supplementary relative clauses in political editorials to convey the same semantic properties, with a slight difference in the numbers of British and American supplementary relative clauses. To put it another way, out of the 63 relative clauses that were found in the six editorials that the researcher is examining, 14 British supplementary relative clauses and 13 American supplementary relative clauses were employed, together accounting for 22.222% and 20.634% of the results respectively.

The Properties of Cleft Relative Clauses

According to Huddleston (2002) the properties for cleft relative clauses are as follows: the first, the cleft construction derives its name from the division of the more fundamental structure into a pair of portions one of which is "foregrounded" and the other is "backgrounded". The second, the Backgrounding has the effect of labeling background information as presupposed in terms of information packaging. The assumption that the value that is given to the variable is "exhaustive and exclusive" is the third property of the positive cleft.

The researchers deal with cleft relative clauses while comparing all relative clauses in the political editorials that were taken from The Guardian newspaper and The New York Times, with the aforementioned properties. Hence, each relative clause that fits inside those properties was referred to as a cleft relative clause. In this study, it is crucial to emphasize that while one relative sentence of any kind might not meet all of the aforementioned requirements or even contain them, its significance remains unaffected.

As the samples from the New York Times lack cleft relative clauses, the researcher relies on samples from Guardian which, in all three editorials, are the only one examples. The following

table provides a pair of instances showing the way in which the relative clauses have coordinated with the previously mentioned properties.

Table 4. 7 cleft Relative Clauses in the British and American Political Editorials

Ed. No.	RC. No	Relative Clause	Antecedent	Formal types			Semantic Properties				
				Wh R	That R	No Bare R	The cleft construction		presupposition of a cleft clause.	Exhaustive Variable	exclusive. Variable
							Foregrounded	Backgrounded			
1	10	It is lower- income families who will most feel the impact on their standard of living.	Families				families		Yes	yes	yes

In the tenth example, the relative clause *who will most feel the impact on their standard of living* complies with the properties for cleft relative clauses. In (10) lower -income families is foregrounded and will most feel the impact on their standard of living is backgrounded. Regarding the packing of information, backgrounding has the consequence of marking background information as presupposed. The proposition of the cleft clause can be expressed as an open proposition with a variable. In example (10), it is X who will most feel the impact on their standard of living. The foregrounded component then uses the be prediction to convey the value that was allocated to the variable. So, this clause Presuppose that families feel something, emphasizing that it was a lower- income families who will feel that thing. It also give implicature of exhaustiveness and exclusiveness of this feeling to lower income families. Wh-relative are the formal representatives of the cleft constructs.

The Findings Related to Research Questions

To answer the first research question which is “What types of relative clause are frequently used by British and American writers of political editorials? , the researchers gathered all relative clauses in the selected political editorial and divided them first, according to their relation to the larger structure containing it into integrated, supplementary, and cleft relative clauses . Second, based on how they are connected to an antecedent via their form. After examining the data, the researcher found 1 British cleft relative clauses, 19 British integrated relative clauses, 16 American integrated relative clauses, 14 British supplementary relative clauses, and 13 American supplementary relative clauses. According to the form of relative clauses the researcher found 25 British wh-relatives ,23 American wh-relative ,9 British that relative and 6 American that relative. The findings revealed that only British writers employed the cleft relative clauses to indicate specific semantic properties in political editorials. In other words, only 1 British cleft relative clauses, or 1.587% of the results, are utilized out of 63 relative clauses in the six editorials the researcher is investigating The semantic properties of integrated, supplemental and cleft relative clauses are investigated by the researcher to address the second research question , which is “How are the relative clauses used semantically by the writers of British and American political editorials ? “The researcher collected all relative sentences in the chosen political editorials and looked into their semantics. The readers could make use of the semantic properties of the various relative clauses forms given in the aforementioned explanation by Huddleston et al(2002).

Conclusion

In the light of the findings, the researchers comes to the conclusion that both British and American writers employ the same kinds of relative clauses . Also ,the current study's findings demonstrate that the usage of certain types of relative clauses in British and American editorials is almost parallel . However, British political editorials tend to use relative clauses a little more frequently than American sentences and based on the selected American political editorials, American political writers almost do not use cleft relative clauses. Additionally, the classification of relative clause types from Huddleston et al. (2002), as described in the aforementioned explanation could be used by the readers. The researcher conclude after looking at the data that British and American political editorial writers employ these properties to communicate the meaning they intend to express In these political editorials, these relative clauses are useful for modifying and describing noun phrases. Additionally, the researchers comes to the conclusion that some semantic properties, which have not been sufficiently investigated by other researchers such as the properties of continuity true false statement and

the distinguishing property are also expressed by using relative clauses in these political editorials .

الانواع العلائقية لجمل الوصل وصفاتها الدلالية في افتتاحيات المقالات البريطانية والأمريكية

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ملخص البحث: (حجم الخط: 14)

تعد جمل الوصل عنصرا مهما في قواعد اللغة الانكليزية . بالرغم من ان لها تأثير كبير في صعوبة الجمل الا انها اعطيت اهتمام قليل من قبل المختصين . المقالات السياسية تتطلب مستوى كتابة عالي . وهكذا فان الافتتاحيات السياسية وضفت تراكيب لغوية معقدة. جمل الوصل هي واحدة من هذه التراكيب المعقدة . وقد لا تزال الدراسة الدلالية لجمل الوصل قيد الدراسة مما يشير الى ان جمل الوصل ودلالاتها لم تحظ بالاهتمام الكافي لذلك يجب استكشاف جمل الوصل من منظور لغوي والدراسة الحالية تحتاج لتحقيق دلالي ملئي هذه الفجوة . وبذلك فان الدراسة الحالية تسعى لتحقيق هدفين الاول اكتشاف انواع جمل الوصل المستعملة في تلك المقالات ثانيا اكتشاف الاستعمال الدلالي لجمل الوصل في هذه الافتتاحيات . لقد تم اختيار النهج الوصفي النوعي كأفضل تصميم بحثي لهذه الدراسة . تم الحصول على البيانات من جرائد بريطانية وأمريكية . تحليل المحتوى هو الاسلوب الذي استخدمه الباحث في التحليل . بواسطه هذا التحليل امكن الوصول الى حلول لأسئلة البحث حيث استخدم تصنيف العالم Huddleston et al (2002) .

وجد الباحث ان الافتتاحيات البريطانية تميل الى استخدام جمل الوصل اكثر من الافتتاحيات الأمريكية وان الكتاب الأمريكيين تقريبا لم يستخدموا جمل الوصل المشتقة . كما ان كتاب الافتتاحيات السياسية البريطانية استخدموا جمل الوصل المتكاملة والتكميلية للتعبير عن نفس الخصائص الدلالية التي تمكنهم من التعبير عن المعنى المراد ايصاله للقارئ.