

**THE INCIDENCE OF REDUNDANCY IN NIGERIAN NEWSPAPER
EDITORIALS: THE CONFLICT BETWEEN ACCIDENTAL AND
DELIBERATE SELECTIONS.**

By

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis was written by me, and it is a record of my own research work. It has not been presented in any application for a Higher Degree. All quotations are indicated and sources of information are specifically acknowledged by means of references.

.....
Name

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Signature

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Date

DEDICATION

This work brought me to a greater understanding of the need to show gratitude. Thus, I dedicate this research work to God Almighty for his grace and love. To my father, Mr. Innocent Yusuf Agbo; you are one of a kind. To my husband and son, Ochonu and Iyiwoichofie Ochoge. Thank you.

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ABSTRACT

This work is centred on redundancy. It is a syntactic analysis of accidental and deliberate selections in newspaper editorials. It looks at the redundancy present based on the writer's choice of linguistic units. Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1985) Ellipsis and Substitution (reduction) was used to expound varying levels of redundancy within the selected texts. Hornings's (2001) classification of redundancy in syntax was used to categorize the selected texts. The study reveals that redundancy is a common feature of the English language. It further reveals that redundancy is an efficient and effective tool in contextualization. The study showed that accidental redundancy has as a predominant feature, the absence of grammaticality. The research equally shows that some degree of redundancy was intentionally used by the writers for the purpose of emphasis. The research reveals that redundancy is an innate feature of language and performs a natural function of passing the writer's message yet leaving room for the reader's interpretation. Virtually every text is read with some kind of noise in the environment either the lights, hand writing of the author, the size of the print, actual noise and or physical distractions on the part of the reader. Redundancy helps the writer's central message to be passed within these situations though there is a huge difference between functional redundancy and distributional redundancy. Functional redundancy looks at the role of individual linguistic units in a sentence as against the entire text, while distributional redundancy works with the relationship of sentences to other sentences within the text.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

The concept of redundancy is often associated with superfluity and overabundance being thus perceived negatively in its general meaning. The notion has been present in linguistic debates since antiquity (Bauer; 2007:121), with a general meaning of abundance and also develops an extended meaning in the field of rhetorics where it is connected to pleonasm, accumulation, and repetition.

All languages use redundancy in different ways and for contrasting ends. Redundancy basically means the parts of language that could be done away with while allowing the meaning of the statement to remain basically the same.

The idea of redundancy re-echoes Grice's maxim of quantity and manner (Grice 1975:22): Make your contribution to the conversation as informative as necessary; do not make your contribution to the conversation more informative than necessary; be brief.

Redundancy is the construction of a phrase that presents some idea using more information, often via multiple means than is necessary for one to understand the idea. (Chiari, 2002:12) defines redundancy in Language as repetition of messages to reduce the probability of misinterpretation in transmission. Redundancy in language is a wide field with many subsets. But for most of these subsets, the basic themes are the same. With redundancy embedded in a language, the listener or reader will gain a greater understanding but aided comprehension, from the context of usage or their communal value associated to such a word or phrase. Redundancy both adds emphasis and impact.

In rhetoric, the term "redundancy" tends to have a negative connotation and may be perceived as improper because of its use of duplicative or unnecessary wording. However, it remains a linguistically valid way of placing emphasis on some expressed ideas.

Commenting on redundancy, Daniel Jones, in his *Outline of English Phonetics* cited in (Abbott, Greenwood, Mckeating and Wingard 1981:43) stated "No one can hope to be a successful linguist unless he has a good ear. If his ear is insensitive by nature, it may be made more sensitive by training; and if his ear is good by nature, it can be made still better by training". This means that a listener or reader first has to recognize and discriminate between contrasting sounds, letters and word shapes. Furthermore each meaningful material which is read or heard has to, not just be recognized as meaningful and understood on reception, but should be held in the short-term memory (STM) long enough for it to be related to what has gone before. And what follows this process are pieces of information which can be stored in the long term memory (LTM) for recall later.

This is shown in the figure below:

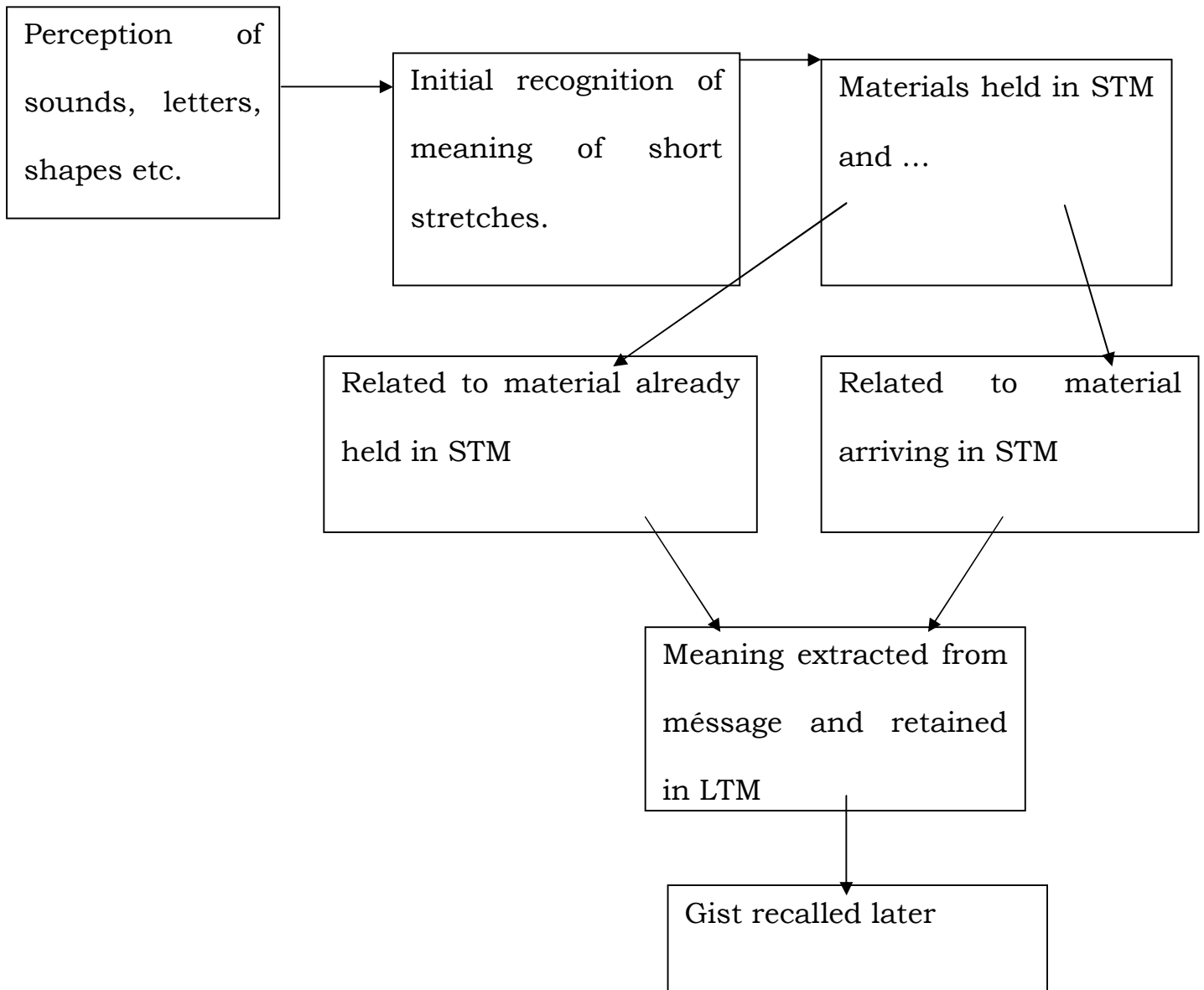


Figure 1: An illustration of the human STM and LTM working process

Stages 1 to 6 follow each other with extreme rapidity and the processing time available within the STM may be very short indeed.

Stages 2, 3, 4 and 5 in the model involve not only the recognition of lexical meaning but the perception of grammatical relationships as signaled by such things as word order, tense markers and various 'structure' words whose function it is to show such relationships. We also have recognized the relationship between the various substitute forms and the item they refer to. Pronouns are obvious examples, but auxiliary verbs are frequently used to refer back to quite long stretches of material. Thus when words are repeated in other forms, there is the high tendency of the listener or reader to retrieve related words from his/her LTM as it hits the STM.

Factors such as fatigue, noise, distraction may cause a listener and reader to lose part of the message.

In our information technology world, redundancy is seen to be when languages protect messages against loss by giving more information than would be necessary if transmission and reception were perfect, it could also be a 'necessity as a safeguard for communication'.

Generally, with human beings, the stream of speech going into one's ear enters a system called the "short term memory" (STM) designed to turn these external sound-waves into internal meanings. In order to do this, one's STM continuously "holds" (or freezes') stretches of speech while it operates on them, and possibly decodes stretches of sound into sound units, recognizing and using intonations as boundaries and so on. This usually turns stretches of speech into meaningful phrases which can in turn be passed on for storage in the long term memory (LTM), thus enabling the sorting of redundancy when encountered in the STM. While sorting STM data, there is equally the possibility of contextualization via this device. There is the ability to predict what is likely to come

next and to select which stretches of material we will pay maximum attention and which not bother too much about. For example:

“[She] put on [her] gloves to keep [her] self warm.”

The competent and alert hearer may miss any one or even two of the three boxed pronouns and still understand the message. Thus any two of the three items are redundant. This is why we can understand telegrams, messages distorted by loudspeakers or faulty telephone lines and stretches of terrible handwriting.

Redundancy is inherent in different stages of communication. It is present in phonetics, syntax and semantics. Basically, it is a tool for context diversification. One fairly consistent observation made by many researchers going back to the 1960s (Bolinger 1963, Lieberman 1963 and Sharp 1960) is that the more predictable a section of speech is, either because of context or inherent frequency, the shorter, or more reduced it tends to become. This predictability due to language structure can be termed language redundancy (Aylett, 2007:123). Recent works have confirmed these findings (Aylett, 2000; Bybee, 2000; Wright, 2003; Munson and Soloman, 2004). At the phonological level, the redundancy of phonological rules may clarify some vagueness in spoken communication.

A speaker may know that 'thisrip' must be 'this rip' and not 'this rrip' because in English the initial consonants cluster 'sr' is illegal" Pinker (1994:178). By repeating certain elements of his/her output a speaker may facilitate the hearer's understanding of it. Repeated items, and thus a certain redundancy, will give the hearer time to absorb the content of the message at about the same rate as it is delivered (Tannen, 1989: 49).

Redundancy can also be semantic or lexical. A writer can achieve this via his choice of words. However writers often use diverse vocabularies for simple reasons of style, such

as a desire to avoid repetition. In this case, it could be said that the differences among the words are ‘neutralized’ by the context. Even when an author makes a lexical choice for semantic (rather than stylistic) reasons, it does not follow that the interpretation stands or falls on the hearer’s or reader’s ability to determine precisely why one word was chosen rather than another. After all, people normally communicate not by uttering isolated words but by speaking whole sentences.

Finally, there is syntactic redundancy, which is the crux of this research. It entails the construction of strings of words to form sentences and the actual repetition of other sentences that are outright pointers to the initial sentence. These new sentences which are not necessary elucidations on the initial sentence may be words in either the same language or a different language that as a necessity expresses the same concept in the former sentence.

Features of syntactic redundancy are present in the print media, which is the focus of this study. The Nigeria Union of Journalists statistical release on the available editorials in Nigeria as of 2005 has a total of 103 registered newspapers, which include regional publications, zonal publications and national dailies respectively. In recent times though, a large number of these dailies have gone out of circulation or have had a change of status from national dailies to regional as reported by (NPN 2009).

1.2 Statement of the Research Problems

Redundancy as a field of study has been embraced by different disciplines, this is to say the least. Redundancy has equally been perceived in different light over the years. The concept of redundancy has been seen in negative lights from varying authorities. In the English language, studies have been conducted on the semantic and phonological aspects

of redundancy. This study is a syntactic study of redundant elements, it intends to study critically the strength and weaknesses of redundancy and subsequently to arrive at an informed decision about the relationship of redundancy to language. language is seen as an item that is alive, it changes its pattern from century to century but the purpose for which it is used has remained a constant over time, language is most relevant for human communication. This study is concerned with written records. It intends to see the effects of redundancy in some selected Nigeria newspapers. The study will take into consideration the unavailability of the writer and his central objective to achieve communication. The use of redundancy will then be studied as either a deliberate act or an unintended act.

Bearing in mind, that a large population of Nigerians read her national dailies everyday either by purchasing newspapers or e-papers, the study thus aids in the efficacy, possible contribution of redundancy to the print media, it looks at the intentional and unintentional use of redundancy.

1.3 Research Questions

The incidences of redundancy in some cases are coherent, intentional and thought through by the writer(s) while in some others the redundancy appears imprecise and unclear. This study intends to answer the following questions:

1. What are the linguistic features of redundancy?
2. How do newspaper writers (columnists) use redundancy as an aesthetic device?
3. How does redundancy help contextualization of written text?
4. What are the distinct linguistic signs that indicate the writer's accidental and deliberate use of redundancy?

1.4 Objectives of the Study

This study aims at looking at the creative aspect of language. This is what (Case, 2007:42) refers to as “language coming to life”. The study is on redundancy in Nigerian newspaper editorials. Consequently, its aim is to examine:

- 1) Whether redundancy can be explained as a feature of contextualization.
- 2) The distinct features of deliberate and accidental occurrence of redundancy.
- 3) The uniqueness of redundancy, especially in relation to its strength as a tool of contextualization, aesthetic values and its prevalence in unplanned and deliberate usage within newspaper editorials in Nigeria.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study highlights the peculiar features of accidental and deliberate usage of redundancy in the Nigerian news media. In doing this, it provides an opportunity where the different types of syntactic redundancy and their application in syntax will not be viewed as overt addition to already comprehensive meaning, but considered as having varying aesthetic values, while those forms that have no aesthetic value can be studied for what they are. The study is therefore significant in serving as a body of knowledge for columnists, editors and others in the print media at large. It will also serve as a source of reference for further study in the area of redundancy.

1.5 Scope and Delimitation

This work will focus mainly on newspaper editorials that represent the six (6) geopolitical regions in Nigeria. Data for ESL speakers will be collected from these. The data for the Standard English usage will be gotten from other publication such as *Times*,

The Herald and *New African*. The following features differentiate the spoken discourse from the written discourse and give some insight to the possible challenges faced in both situations:

Differences between reading and listening comprehension, listening tends to be more difficult than reading for the following reasons:

- i. Initial perception may be more difficult as there is the possibility of a greater range of variation in the way different speakers produce the “same” sounds. There are varieties of vowel sounds used by speakers with different accents and there are much narrower ranges of variations in types of print.
- ii. Speech is much more likely to be distorted by various types of noise. If a reader is really interested in written material, he/she can shut out many distractions but this is more difficult with speech which demands a greater degree of concentration.
- iii. The listener has little or no control over the speed of the input of spoken material. He can occasionally ask someone to slow down but in most circumstances his comprehension just has to try to keep pace with the speed at which the message is being delivered.
- iv. Sometimes spoken material is heard once.
- v. As we cannot stop the inflow of information, we have very little time in which to try to work out the meaning of unfamiliar stretches of material. The listener just has to keep on paying attention to the new material coming in and hope that he will get the general idea.
- vi. The listener often has to deal simultaneously with another task.

While the above listed makes listening more challenging than reading, the task listed below makes listening less challenging than reading.

- vii. Spoken material is normally much less densely packed with information than written material. Collections of rephrasing and recasting is a help to the listener, if he recognizes it as repetition. There is also the presence of pauses and hesitations in normal speech.
- viii. If the listener knows how to interpret them, intonation and placement of stress aids his comprehension. These are not available to the reader but rather he has punctuations to aid proper comprehension of the message or text.
- ix. In conversation the listener can ask for clarification of something he is unsure of.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

The concept of redundancy has attracted considerable attention from many aspects of human life. There have been views on the concept from information technologists, electrical engineers, communication analysts, among others. This work is poised to evaluate the concept from the linguistic point of view, bearing in mind that there are other views. This being so, it is of utmost importance to also look at the definition provided by the communication analyst considering the source of the data. This is because of the need to put into cognizance the views of the laymen and those of the linguists. On the whole, this chapter covers the different facets of redundancy, including earlier studies on the application of the concept to the speakers of English as a second language and native English speakers.

2.1 Redundancy

Basically, redundancy is the construction of a phrase, usage of words that presents an idea using more information, often via multiple means, than is necessary for one to understand the idea being shared in the discourse. It is a concept that ranges from information science, to electronic computing, all through to linguistics. There are different views to what redundancy entails from the layman, to the communication analyst and finally to the linguist.

For the communication analyst, redundancy involves the repetition of messages to reduce the probability of errors in transmission, excessive wordiness or repetition in expression.

Repetition is an act of needlessly repeating, repetition - the act of doing or performing again (as cited in *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*). This does not necessarily entail the features of grammaticality. The definition of redundancy by the communication analyst is though in some close relationship with the linguists' views and approach to redundancy since it entails repetition.

Collins English Dictionary (2003) defines redundancy by the layman as “the state of being redundant, something redundant or excessive; a superfluity”. Redundancy is the repetition of linguistic information inherent in the structure of a language in the sentence.

In looking at the linguistic approach to redundancy, it is important to note that the linguist considers the relationship between language and the human brain. The human brain can cope with simple mistakes in text, which may not be noticed, as the brain expects what is coming and corrects it as it goes along, much like an automatic spell check on a computer. Thus, by utilizing redundancy, we are helping the brain's natural ability to overcome linguistic units that are not comprehended and take on the words with meaning. This is done by emphasizing those words/phrases/sounds we need and which sink into the brain.

The human brain is a very capable machine and only keeps the bits of language that are necessary in order to comprehend the meaning of the language. A famous example of this is the knowledge that a paragraph written without vowels can largely be understood if the reader looks at it, because it is the consonants that add meaning to the words while the vowels add ease of pronunciation. We are immersed in a sea of information, and to organize and control the vast amount of information, there is need to understand that people invent codes. Effective codes require systematic rules and these rules imply

constraints. Wherever there are constraints on any phenomenon, sign system or language, there are laws. Hence, constraints are the prerequisites of any law and every natural law is a constraint which infers predictability as well (Lyons 1968:63). In effect, redundancy is applicable with the rules of the English Language. The constraints are our rules in sentence formation, pluralization, subject- verb agreement, among others.

Every constraint constitutes redundancy, because constraints are in fact redundancy (Ashby, 1956:130). They entail restating things from prior knowledge. Thus, the manipulation of redundancy is fundamental in communication because without redundancy, no natural language could have developed, nor artificial (computer) language devised. Shannon (1951:134 cited in Bauer 2007: 152) argues that the acoustic consequences of differences in redundancy can be explained functionally within an information theoretic framework, by the drive for speakers to achieve robust information transfer in a potentially noisy environment while conserving effort. He argues that these pressures encourage speakers to produce utterances whose elements have similar probabilities of recognition. There are evidences showing that phrase-medial syllables with high language redundancy (i.e., highly predictable from lexical, syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic factors) are shorter than less predictable elements. Consequently, variability in duration due to language redundancy is strongly related to variability associated with prosodic prominence.

(Lieberman, 1963:55) has observed that less predictable elements in utterances tend to be articulated more carefully and more slowly than more predictable elements. For example, "nine" in the utterance "I would like nine please" is longer and more carefully articulated than "nine" in the well-known proverb "a stitch in time saves nine". This provides an

efficient way of ensuring that elements with low levels of language redundancy are produced for a longer period of time and perhaps with more salient acoustic characteristics. Another way of ensuring that elements with low levels of language redundancy are recognized correctly would be for speakers to produce all elements in an utterance with maximal duration and clarity. However, producing speech in this way would be highly inefficient compared to producing more predictable elements with reduced duration and effort.

A distinction is usually made between the words "text" and "discourse". Nourmuhammadi (1988:88) defines a text as "the formal properties of a piece of language. A text is regarded as an exemplification of the operation of the linguistic code at an intra-sentential level." This means that a text is a combination of sentences as formal linguistic objects. The use of such a sentence combination is what is referred to as discourse. Texts are better studied in terms of their own features. One may think that because it is a combination of sentences, it should carry the characteristics of a sentence. The fact though holds that both forms can be represented by the dictionary. Researchers such as Grellet (1981) Lee (1995), Little, Devitt, & Singleton (1989) generally consider an authentic text as a text originally created to fulfill a social purpose in the language community for which it was intended. According to this view; novels, postcards, telegrams, advertisements, travel brochures, tickets, timetables, and telephone directories written in the target language for the genre-intended target language audience can all be considered as authentic texts, since they all constitute language in action within a specific time.

Cowan (1976) and Mackay (1979) both cited in Goodman (1986) also argue that good readers take advantage of the natural redundancy found in authentic texts, using it to help them reconstruct the entire text even if they have learned only a portion of the graphic material. Moreover, according to Johnson (1982), the normal redundancy within authentic texts is likely a factor in helping L2 learners come to understand unfamiliar words without too much disruption in their overall understanding of the text.

The process of communication, involves the speaker in the process of encoding the information which he wants to communicate (the message) in a linguistic sign. The linguistic sign, termed 'signal', is then sent through a channel of communication to the hearer who receives the signal and decodes it to obtain the information (the message) sent by the speaker.

This process may be represented in the following diagram:

Speaker → encoding → signalchannel → signal → received

Decoding → Message received by the speaker.

Such a model of communication would be economical, but it would not be efficient because it lacks means of overcoming 'noise'. Noise refers to anything that might impair the quality of the signal while it is passing through the channel of communication. This includes the actual noise in spoken language, bad handwriting and misspelling in written language, and any other cause of distraction. All these factors which may affect the signal while it is travelling in the channel are termed noise. This is why an efficient model of communication allows for such cases of noise and a linguistic sign is given only part of its capacity. The actual information carried by a signal is less than its maximum potential

capacity. The difference between the actual capacity and the maximum potential capacity of a model of communication is termed redundancy. Redundancy is built in a language to meet the problem of noise through the availability of constraints.

2.2 Redundancy as a Stylistic Device in the News Media

Briefly, redundancy can play different roles, all tending towards a better understanding of speech or text comprehension between the speaker's and the listener's needs in a specific context. Some of the functions of redundancy as indicated by Nourmuhammadi (1988:103) are as listed below:

- a) One of the major functions of redundancy is allowing a sort of storehouse of possible new lexeme by the non-saturation of all potential (statistically "legal") combinations of phonemes to form words.
- b) Redundancy can also facilitate listening, understanding and speakers' synchronization through a progressive check of what has been produced and received.
- c) It can act as a security system for hypo-articulated speech (elision) through the predictability it confers on the elements of the message and as an error-correcting device.
- d) Redundancy generates complexity in linguistic systems by the imposition of constraints and asymmetry to the functional structures.
- e) Finally, it confers compensation (flexibility) on synchronic and diachronic aspects of the language, maintaining or shifting redundancies from level to level.

Two rather formal names used to refer to redundancy are *prolixity* and *logorrhea*. This is often done with manipulative intent.

- a) To confuse and mislead the audience.
- b) To disguise the actual nature of a proposition or fact (euphemism)
- c) To persuade in politics or religion. In such cases it is often also fallacious. All of these forms of redundancy can be used intentionally for positive artistic or rhetorical effect, frequently for humorous purpose, and for a number of other non-manipulative purposes. So their appearance in speech or writing is not automatically a fault. In some other cases, though the reverse is the case, the writer or speaker is totally not aware of the linguistic damage being done to his/her discourse but feels in total control of the communication, with long strings of already uttered synonyms lacing a suddenly lengthy discourse.

Newspapers are made up of a number of narrations given directly by the reporters who are experts at reporting and analyzing discourse. Often, the written presentation would entail large collection of redundancy due to its narrative nature, but the writer does this in order to contextualize his message and aid comprehensions for the reader. This may entail lexical, phrasal or wholesome redundancy as the writer may choose.

The reporter has the linguistic authority to use redundancy as well as other linguistic forms to aid comprehension on the part of his readers. There is, though on the reader's part, the general ability to make predictions about the nature of discourse based on his/her previous linguistic experience. But in addition, the wide range of frequencies found in even speech signal presents the reader with far more information than we need in order to recognize what is being presented.

A tolerance of redundancy is claimed by Langacker (1991:364), cited in Hoche, (2008:116) to be constructive and productive. Redundancy can be thought of as the encoding of one piece of information more than once, a phenomenon which can be found at all levels of language.

Some African languages avoid redundancy; Yoruba for example, has its form of pluralization, using the numeral base (surface markers of plurality).

The important point is that some degree of redundancy is, in fact, desirable in any system of communication. Whatever medium is used for the transmission of information it will be subject to various unpredictable physical disturbances, which will obliterate or distort part of the message and thus lead to the loss of information. If the system were free of redundancy, the information lost would be irrecoverable. The distortion produced in one's handwriting by writing in a moving train can contribute to 'noise'. The hasty editing of a news article can be referred to as noise. "Misprints" are one of the effects of noise in the "encoding" of the writing language. They are frequently noticed by the reader because the redundancies of most written sentence are high enough to counteract the distorting influence of random errors.

"Noise" can be taken to include any source of distortion or misunderstanding, probably attributable to the imperfect performance of the speaker and hearer or to the acoustic conditions of the physical environment in which the utterances are produced.

2.3 Redundancy within Varying Linguistic Units (Phonological, Lexical, Syntactic and Semantic)

Agreement is almost unanimously considered an expression of redundancy where the same feature (mostly grammatical) is repeated across different elements that are syntactically linked. Features that express agreement have also been interpreted as discontinuous signifiers bearing the same function (Martinet, 1985: 60-61). The predictability of agreement features in a language does in fact allow speakers to reconstruct (if necessary) deleted portions of the speech chain. From a set of samples from *The Name of the Rose* by Umberto Eco in its original Italian and French translations measuring redundancy from gender and number agreement, we obtain the following. (Chiari, 2002: 285):

At the syntactical level, artificial languages have often dealt with word order issues. Word order manifests different degrees of distributional redundancies depending on restrictions on sequences. Against free word order in artificial languages are those who suggest that free order would necessarily imply a case system that is generally perceived as a complex learning feature of languages. The presence of restrictions determines distributional redundancy at the syntactic level, by limiting the number (a frequency) of possible combination of the elements of the inventory.

Constraints in the sequence of elements determine distributional redundancy, which can manifest itself in phonotactic restrictions, morphological processes, and syntactic rules among others. For instance, distributional redundancy manifested by phonotactic constraints is due to the conditional probabilities governing phoneme sequences (whether we view them as rule-governed or driven by use, thus representing statistical tendencies).

This kind of redundancy is the patterning of clustering of phonemes within a language, mainly at the syllabic level. This form of redundancy has also been noted by Brosnahan and Malmberg (1970: 177) at the phonetic level as a possible explanation of how speakers and listeners can communicate despite ordinary elisions by using the internalized knowledge of those patterns governing co-articulation and sound sequences in each natural language.

Some forms of syntactic redundancy find their manifestation in morphological entities and at outright syntactic positions. Syntagmatic redundancy is represented by phenomenon like government. Functional redundancy is represented by agreement, pronoun reduplication and double negation.

Functional redundancy, which originates from sequential constraint, can be found at the morphological level (for example, in restrictions governing the application of affixes to a base) and at the syntactic level in word order, and also as Guiraud (1968: 164) noted, in the mere expectation of a noun following the sentence:

“Yesterday I went to play”

“Went” is redundant because it holds two units “go” and “past tense”. It is redundant because the user of the English language has a prior knowledge of its composition.

Syntax, in Guiraud’s words, does not exist without redundancy. The most evident manifestation of this sort of redundancy is government, where an element takes a determined category from another element in the syntactic construction (even though,

unlike in agreement, different categories are presented by the two elements). Government provides predictability to the sequences.

In writing, redundancy is a kind of verbose communication. Man is vocal; he uses his body for gestures of many kinds, he conveys information by facial expressions but he has extended some of these techniques by adding other dimensions. Speech can be conveyed beyond the immediate context, this is though not possible in writing without the presence of some level of redundancy which is arguably not redundant. In simple analysis the sender starts with a thought, put it into language. The receiver perceives the language and thus understands the thought. Language is not only necessary for the formation of thought, but it is part of the thinking process itself, Bolinger (1975:236) cited in Broughton, Brumfit, Flavell, Hill and Pincas (1981: 27).

2.4 Types of Redundancy in Syntactic Constructions

Generally speaking, redundancy is made manifest in two facets; tautology and pleonasm. Tautology is perhaps the most familiar of redundancy occurrence. Tautology means to say something at least twice, making one part of the phrase, superfluous. If someone was trying to describe how annoying a person was, they may say: *They were more annoying than a wasp stuck in a window, more annoying than locking your car keys in the car and more annoying than their computer crashing mid way through an assignment.* Although all three examples convey the same feeling, one would have sufficed. But by using diverse repetitions, the speaker's meaning is intensified.

Sometimes tautology, or redundancy in phrases, is used for no effect and then the result is just wordiness in the language. Pleonasm is a more general form of redundancy than

tautology but used for similar reasons. However, pleonasms are also found when the grammar of a sentence makes certain words unnecessary. This occurs in English and the colloquial phrasing of “off of” as in “the singer off of that TV programme is now in a West End show”. Both words are not needed.

Further, pleonasm can serve as a redundancy check. If a word is unknown, misunderstood, or misheard, or the medium of communication is poor, for example - a wireless telephone connection or sloppy handwriting; pleonastic phrases can help ensure that the entire meaning gets across even if some of the words get lost during the action. Some pleonastic phrases are part of idioms, like "safe haven" and "tuna fish" in English. They are so common that their use is unremarkable, although in many cases the redundancy can be dropped with no loss of meaning.

When expressing possibility, English speakers use pleonastic expressions such as; *it may be possible* or *maybe it's possible*, where both terms (verb *may*, adverb *maybe* and adjective *possible*) have the same meaning. In languages such as French or Romanian, only one term is used in a single expression.

In a satellite-framed language like English, verb phrases containing particles that denote direction of motion are so frequent that even when such a particle is pleonastic, it seems natural to include it. For example, "enter into".

Satellite-framing are typological descriptions of how verb phrases in different languages describe the path or the manner of motion, respectively. Manner of motion refers to a type of distinct motion described by particular verbs, for example, running, tumbling, sliding, walking, crawling, etc. Path of motion refers to the direction of the movement:

movement into, out of, across, etc. These two concepts can be encoded in the verb as part of its root meaning, or in a separate particle associated to the verb (a satellite).

Languages are considered verb-framed or satellite-framed based on how the motion path is encoded. English verbs use particles to show the path of motion ('run into', 'go out', 'fall down'), and its verbs usually show manner of motion. Thus English is a satellite-framed language.

Verb-framing and satellite-framing involve the addition of some semantic elements, such as Motion, Path, Figure, Ground, Manner or Cause. Satellites are not of a particular syntactic category, but stand in a particular grammatical relation to the verb. They are characterised as 'immediate constituents of a verb root other than inflections, auxiliaries, or nominal arguments. They are assumed to be related to the verb root as modifiers to a head (sister to the verb). A verb root together with its satellite, then, forms one constituent, the 'verb complex'.

Satellite-framed languages (SFLs) such as English (lexicalisation) are characterised as having a large collection of verbs of motion, which additionally convey Manner or other co-Event meanings but which do not encode Path. At the same time, these languages have a large collection of satellites. Two examples are stated below:

- a. The bottle floated into / out of / away from / to the cave.
- b. The bottle floated down / up / out / away.

Verb-framed languages (VFLs), on the other hand, such as Spanish (lexicalisation), typically express Path (but not Manner) on the verb.

Some pleonastic phrases, when used in professional or scholarly writing, may reflect a standardized usage that has evolved over time; or a precise meaning familiar to specialists, but not necessarily to those outside that discipline. Such examples as "null and void", "terms and conditions", "each and all" are part of legally operative language that are often drafted into legal documents. A classic example of such usage was that by the Lord Chancellor (1864), Lord Westbury, in the English case of *ex parte Gorely*, when he described a phrase in an act as "redundant and pleonastic". The fact that this phrase in itself was a pleonasm is something which probably had not escaped the learned judge, and could be suspected to be evidence of a particularly Victorian legal sense of humour. Although this type of usage may be favoured in certain contexts, it may also be disfavoured when used gratuitously to portray false erudition, obfuscate, or otherwise introduce unnecessary verbiage. This is especially so in disciplines (such as the natural sciences) where such imprecision may introduce ambiguities.

In addition, pleonasms can serve purposes external to meaning. For example, a speaker who is too terse is often interpreted as lacking ease or grace, because, in spoken and signed language, sentences are spontaneously created without the benefit of editing. The restriction on the ability to plan often creates much redundancy. In written language, removing words not strictly necessary sometimes makes writing seem stilted or awkward, especially if the words are cut from an idiomatic expression.

On the other hand, as is the case with any literary or rhetorical effect, excessive use of pleonasm weakens writing and speech because superfluous words distract from the content. Writers wanting to conceal a thought or a purpose obscure their meaning with

verbiage. William Strunk Jr. has advocated concision in *The Elements of Style* (1918:22)

when he says:

A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a drawing should have no unnecessary lines and a machine no unnecessary parts. This does not require that the writer make all his sentences short or that he avoids all detail and treats his subjects only in outline. Yet, one has only to look at Baroque, Mannerist, and Victorian sources for different opinions.

Syntactic pleonasm occurs when the grammar of a language makes certain function words optional. For example, consider the following English sentences:

"I know you are coming."

"I know that you are coming."

In these constructions, the conjunction *that* is optional when joining a sentence to a verb phrase with *know*. Both sentences are grammatically correct, but the word *that* is considered pleonastic in this case.

It rains.

Rains. (Pragmatically this may be accepted but not as a sentence)

In *it rains*, *it* fills the subject function, but it does not contribute any meaning to the sentence. The second sentence, omits the pleonastic *it*, and it is marked as ungrammatical although no meaning is lost by the omission. Two more striking examples of French pleonastic construction are the word "*aujourd'hui*" translated as *today*, but originally meaning *on the day of today*, and the phrase "*Qu'est-ce que c'est?*" meaning *What's that?* or *What is it?*, while literally it means *What is it that it is?*

A phrase may have words which add nothing, or nothing logical or relevant, to the meaning. In *I'm going down south*, South is not really *down*, it is just drawn that way on maps by convention. *You can't seem to face up to the facts. He entered into the room. What therefore God hath joined together, let no man put asunder. Where are you at?*

An expression like *tuna fish*, however, might elicit one of many possible responses as: the sentence will simply be accepted as synonymous with *tuna* used instead. It will be perceived as redundant (and thus perhaps, illogical, ignorant, inefficient, dialectal, odd, and/or intentionally humorous). It will imply a distinction. A reader of *tuna fish* could properly wonder: "Is there a kind of *tuna* which is not a fish? There is, after all, a dolphin mammal and a dolphin fish." This assumption turns out to be correct, as a *tuna* can also mean a prickly pear and *tuner* is pronounced essentially the same in some dialects of English. It will be perceived as a verbal clarification since the word *tuna* is quite short, and may, for example, be misheard as *tune* followed by an aspiration. This is a good reason why careful speakers and writers should beware of pleonasms, especially with cases such as *tuna fish*, which is normally used only in some dialects of American English and would sound strange in other variants of the language, and even odder in translation into other languages.

A similar situation is *ink pen* instead of just *pen* in the southern United States where *pen* and *pin* are pronounced similarly. Note that not all constructions that are typically pleonasms are so in all cases, nor are all constructions derived from pleonasms themselves pleonastic examples:

"Put that glass over there on the table" could, depending on room layout, mean "Put that glass on the table across the room, not the table right in front of you". If the room were laid out like that, most English speakers would intuitively understand that the distant, not immediate table was the one being referred to. However, if there were only one table in the room, the phrase would indeed be pleonastic. Also, it could mean, "Put that glass on that certain spot on the table"; thus in this case it is *not* pleonastic. "I'm going way down South" may imply I'm going much farther south than you might think if I didn't stress the southerliness of my destination but such phrasing is also sometimes jokingly used pleonastically when simply "south" would do. It depends upon the context, the intent of the speaker/writer, and ultimately even on the expectations of the listener/reader.

Morphemes, not just words, can enter the realm of pleonasm. In some cases, redundancy in meaning occurs at a syntactic level above the word, such as at the phrase level:

"It's déjà vu all over again."

"I never make predictions, especially about the future."

The redundancy in these two well-known statements is used deliberately, for humorous effect. But one does hear educated people say "My predictions about the future of politics" for "my predictions about politics", which are equivalent in meaning. While predictions are necessarily about the future (at least in relation to the time the prediction was made), the nature of this future can be subtle ("I predict that he died a week ago"—the prediction is about future discovery or proof of the date of death, not about the death itself). Generally, "the future" is assumed, making most constructions of this sort pleonastic. Yogi Berra's humorous quote above about not making predictions isn't really a pleonasm, but rather an ironic play on words.

Redundancy can also be inherited by one language from the influence of another, and are not pleonasm in the more critical sense, but actual changes in grammatical construction considered to be required for "proper" usage in the language or dialect in question. Irish English, for example, is prone to a number of constructions that non-Irish speakers find strange and sometimes directly confusing:

"I'm after putting it on the table."

("I (have) put it on the table". This example further shows that the effect, whether pleonastic or only pseudo-pleonastic, can apply to words and word-parts, and multi-word phrases, given that the fullest rendition would be "I am after putting it on the table".)

"Have a look at your man there."

"Have a look at that man there"; an example of word substitution, rather than addition, that seems illogical outside of the dialect. This common possessive-seeming construction often confuses the non-Irish enough that they do not at first understand what is meant. Even "Have a look at that man there" is arguably further doubly redundant in that "Look at that man" would convey essentially the same meaning.

This construction originates from the application of Irish Gaelic grammatical rules to the English dialect spoken in varying particular forms throughout the Island.

In many cases of semantic pleonasm, the status of a word as pleonastic depends on context. The relevant context can be as local as a neighbouring word, or as global as the extent of a speaker's knowledge. In fact, many examples of redundant expressions are not inherently redundant, but can be redundant if used one way, and are not redundant if used another way.

This brings us to a less general concept of syntactic redundancy. Some scholars have had this concept divided into four parts types (Hornings, 2001) while other scholars have had syntactic redundancy divided into more types but with similarity to the under listed types.

The two types of syntactic redundancy are:

- I. Distributional redundancy; and
- II. Functional redundancy.

2.4.1 Distributional Redundancy

Readers make good use of the inherent redundancy of language, the existence of alternative cues that suggest the meaning of what is on the page. Distributional redundancy helps us to recognize a word on the basis not only of its individual letter but also of our knowledge of the shape, sound, syntactic context, grammatical position and semantic context. A common feature of distributional redundancy in text passages is that it reminds readers of what they have read and announce what they are about to read. It places redundant entries prominently at the beginnings or endings of paragraphs where readers who skim are more likely to notice it. To ensure that elliptical readers catch the most important information in a report is to include the information in well-written sectional headings. These headings may be both elliptical and redundant: elliptical in syntax if they take the form of terse (brief) phrases rather than complete clauses, and redundant in the sense that the information in a heading is repeated elsewhere in the text in the section it heads and perhaps also in a table of contents compiled from the headings in the body of the text. This, however, is a form of functional redundancy as well,

implying that the different forms of redundancy have a meeting point. A typical illustration is given in this extract from *Time magazine*:

Whatever the political masters required of them they unfailingly delivered. Smash Saddam's army? Check. Crush the Shiite Mahdi army? Check. Wrest Fallujah from the Sunni insurgency-twice check and check. Make friends with the same insurgents to defeat al- Qaeda? Check.

The first sentence:

“Whatever the political masters required of them they unfailingly delivered” is ambiguous in itself, but it can stand alone. The presence of other connected sentences which are strings connected to the initial sentence thus generates the redundancy. It is a distributive expression of the task that “their political masters” asked them to undertake.

The emphasis of “check” attached to each entry adds more to the distributive nature of the redundancy. It thus appeared more obvious.

“Smash Saddam’s army? Check.”

“Crush the Shiite Mahdi army? Check.”

“Wrest Fallujah from the Sunni insurgency- twice check and check.”

“Make friends with the same insurgents to defeat al-Qaeda? Check.”

The writer presents a continuous repetition of “check” five (5) times for the purpose of emphasis. Putting this in the scope of ellipsis and substitution, the sentence may conveniently read: “Whatever the political masters required of them, they unfailingly delivered. Check. ” Or “Whatever the political masters required of them, they unfailingly delivered. Smash Saddam’s army? Crush the Shiite Mahdi army? Wrest Fallujah from the

Sunni insurgency. Make friends with the same insurgents to defeat al- Qaeda? Check", where the "check" here reflects the accomplishment of the entire task given.

Another illustration can be noted from the Time magazine also:

That noise you heard around the across country last week was the sound of Americans going about their usual business: doing their jobs, tending to their kids, following the world series-instead of watching the O.J Simpson trial.

Here, the author takes the liberty of creating the redundancy by listing out what he believes to be the business of the Americans ("doing their jobs, tending to their kids, following the World Series") as opposed to "instead of watching the O.J Simpson trial"

The most common types of syntactic redundancy are distributional syntactic redundancy and functional syntactic redundancy.

2.4.2 Functional Redundancy

According to Keith Grant-Davie (2003:41), redundancy does not necessarily mean wordiness, repetition, restatement; it can entail irrelevant additions or non – meaningful addition. The drawback is that it reduces efficiency and adds weight to a string of sentences. Functional redundancy thus embarks on the elimination of such field or units in a syntactic string. It equally looks at each linguistic unit in the sentence and their functions. It can therefore be said that redundancy is built into the language, but it is also true, as Smith points out, that readers can only take advantage of that redundancy on the page if they have the relevant background knowledge. Put in another way, there is no utility in redundancy in the text if it does not reflect something the reader knows already, whether it involves the visual, orthographic, syntactic, or semantic structure of written language. Redundancy, in other words, can be equated with prior knowledge. In making

use of redundancy, the reader makes use of non-visual information, using something that which is already known to eliminate some alternatives and thus reduces the amount of visual information that is required. The more readers already know about the subject-matter and the rules of language, the less they need to rely on gathering information off the page. So, redundancy can be said to occur both in the text and in the reader's knowledge.

Another application of functional redundancy in text is to integrate visual aids with texts. A well-integrated illustration will have an informative heading and perhaps a caption too, providing essential explanations for readers who look at the figures before reading the text. And if readers arrive at the illustration by way of the text, they will likely be able to interpret the illustration more efficiently if the surrounding text discusses it.

Functional redundancy deals with the relationship of individual, independent unit in the sentence to other units within the sentence; it looks at the semantic values of sentences in juxtaposition to themselves. It is believed to be the meeting point of semantic redundancy and syntactic redundancy. A common example of functional redundancy is observed in the advertisement of *Raid*, an insecticide sold in Nigeria:

“Raid kills insects dead”

“Kills”, a verb, should not be described by an adjective whose meaning is identical.

If *Raid* kills insects, it is only logical to know that they will be dead. Thus this form of syntactic redundancy rings and re-rings the message. This is a typical illustration of an application by English as a second language user.

These are other examples of functional redundancy in user by ESL speakers:

“These is the books he requested for yesterday”

The presence of “these” and “books” makes “is” a redundant entry because the relationship of functionality between all plural marker is not complete.

“He was a great leader when I met him. He had not yet become the premier of Northern Nigeria.”

Bearing in mind the relationship of functionality, this extract from *Sardauna* can be presented as “He was a great leader when I met him and had not yet become the premier of Northern Nigeria.”

Another illustration from the same magazine is, “It was while as finance chief that her political talent began to shine brightly.”

The conjunction “that” can be removed for not being overtly functional and the sentence will still run and be grammatical and communicative. “It was while as finance chief, her political talent began to shine brightly.” Bearing this in mind in the same vein, the verb “shine” and its qualifier “bright” do not necessarily have to come in together to achieve grammaticality, as illustrated below:

“It was while as finance chief, her political talent began to shine.” The same message will be passed.

Functional redundancy derives from constraints in the language that determine a specific statistical profile within the texts produced generally in the English language. It lets the readers predict different portions of the written language by accessing their competence about the language pattern and its numbering system. It is usually manifest in verbs, nouns, number, pluralization, articles, and figures (Dressler, 1969).

Some examples are as follows:

“There are forty pairs of sandals in the box”

In the above illustration, the pluralized form of the verb “are” , the word “forty” and the plural marker in the word “sandals” are believed to be redundant. Another illustration can be noted in this extract from *Time Magazine*:

"Obama's strategy review is essentially a waste of time, that the president has to go, has to go with the 40,000 troop option".

The sentence above is comprehensive but there are two statistical markers within the sentence, “40,000” and “troop”. The latter unit is usually tagged redundant. Thus in the sentence above, “troop” is redundant.

2.5 Redundancy and other Fields

In translation, how much redundancy a translated text should contain is a question that the translator has to answer after taking several relevant factors into consideration. He should be aware that without redundancy, the reader of a translation may find it difficult to receive the original message.

The form of the supplemental contextual information varies.

(Waller and Darley, 1978), (Pierce and Beekam, 1985), and others have utilized verbal description and pictorial representations as context.

In most studies of context as a facilitator of sentence comprehension, the contextual information was provided before or after the test sentences. There are frequent references to within-sentence semantic redundancy as a facilitating technique. It was shown that providing linguistic context in the form of increased redundancy in a sentence improves the aphasic persons' comprehension. Aphasic subjects performed better when sentences contained two words that were semantically related and presented than when the sentences contained only one critical word. All three types of redundant sentences were

comprehended better than their non-redundant counterparts. These results held even though the redundant sentences contained more words and were syntactically complex. Not only did the presence or absence of redundancy make a difference, the amount of redundancy was also a factor. Accompanying the name of an object with its strong verb associate was more beneficial than accompanying it with a weak verb associate, although both cases were beneficial. The redundancy acted as facilitators for the aphasic patients when added to the name or to the strong verb associates. It appeared that words not easily comprehended in isolation can act as facilitators when accompanying another word more central to the meaning of the item.

The fact that additional semantic information facilitated the aphasic subjects' comprehension meant that the redundant semantic information was not truly semantic redundancy, or was unnecessary to the aphasic group.

Importantly, when there is 100% level of accuracy for some data, then it becomes a suspect. It was predicted that in the non-redundant condition, the sentences with weak associates would be less easily comprehended than those with object names or with strong associates. However, there was no difference between comprehensions of the sentence containing object names and those with words that are strongly associated with the object. The strong verb associates were apparently so closely associated with the names that had as strong a referent to the object as the name itself. This study was similar to the Gardner, Albert and Weintraub (1975) which are all studies on the effect of redundancy on the comprehension in aphasia. The study by Gardner et al has been cited by Darley (1982), Marshal (1981) and Pierce (1986) among others cited in Flower (2001: 55) for the facilitative influence of sentence redundancy. Clinically, it is of interest that

aphasic persons who are impaired in single-word comprehension are able to derive more meaning from the presence of two related lexical items than from just one. Single word comprehension is usually a focus of early treatment. For some patients, redundancy can be built into early treatment steps to increase the comprehension of single words spoken alone and then moved to the word in a semantically redundant utterance. (Pierce, 1986 cited in Flower, 2001:59) has suggested that comprehension of a word in isolation may be more difficult than in a contextually supportive sentence. He also questioned the efficacy of the traditional word-sentence-paragraph treatment method.

According to Hoche (2008:16), the amount of redundancy found in languages differ, but it is estimated that an average of 40–50 percent redundancy is required for maximum efficiency. Redundancy is found not only in words, but also in larger units like texts and discourse. Note the following example:

The Prime Minister of Britain, Tony Blair, left for the United States to attend the conference.

In this text the “Prime Minister of Britain” and “Tony Blair” refer to the same person.

One of these expressions could be omitted probably at the expense of specificity,

ii. The Prime Minister of Britain left for the United States to attend the conference.

iii. Tony Blair left for the United States to attend the conference.

(i), (ii), and (iii) contain roughly the same information, but (I) uses more redundancy than either (ii) or (iii).

Of more value, therefore, is the type of redundancy represented by (I) above, which may be termed “textual redundancy”, where the speaker/writer may choose to use it or leave it out. Viewing this argument from a contextual point of view, it can be duly held that the

text in (iii) above is not redundant if the name of the Prime Minister is not known. It therefore holds that redundancy is inevitable and consequently justifiable. It is equally justifiable to say that (I) is not redundant but necessary contextualization for a reader without the knowledge of who the Prime Minister is.

A translated text often requires more redundancy than the original text. The reason for this is that the new reader needs additional background or contextual information to understand the text properly, since the original text was written for a reader usually more familiar with the context, and therefore considerable contextual information may be left out.

The translator should decide how much of this “background knowledge” must be included as redundancy and what part of it should be left out as unnecessary for the comprehension of the translated text.

For example, (iii) above expects that the reader of the translated text may need additional information about “Tony Blair”; and here comes the role of redundancy. Another illustration on L1 users of English language from *New African magazine* (p. 6):

However, the main fact here is that African slave traders did not ship their people to Europe and the Americas. The foreigners did! The main reason they came to Africa was for that purpose – to ship the African slaves.

Here (*The main reason they came to Africa was for that purpose-to ship the African slaves*) are two independently redundant entries by the writer, and one re-echoes the other. The string of sentences are generally grammatical. Another illustration can be taken from the same magazine (p. 67):

... *My Africa legacy is not about setting huge goals for myself... it is about thoughtfully considering how the choices I make today will affect the impact that I have on Africa tomorrow.*” The redundant entry here can be gotten from the second part of the sentence: “*It is about thoughtfully considering how the choices I make today will affect the impact (that) I have on Africa tomorrow.*” Then the sentence will read as “*it is about thoughtfully considering how the choices I make today will affect the impact I have on Africa tomorrow.*”

Many languages with inflection, as a result of convention, tend to inflect more words in a given phrase than actually needed in order to express a single grammatical property. This is a concept referred to as over inflexion. Take for example, the German, *Die alten Frauen sprechen*. Though the first word in the phrase is a definite article, the grammatical number of the entire phrase is plural. This is because the German language dictates that the attributive adjective, *the*, should appear before the noun which is our subject and the verb undertaken by our subject; all must also express and agree in grammatical number. However, not all languages are quite redundant. Some will omit inflection for number when there is an obvious numerical marker. An example is Hungarian which does have a plural marker, but would express “flowers”, as “two flower”. The main contrast between Hungarian and other tongues such as German or even English (to a lesser extent) is that expressing plurality when already evident is not optional, but mandatory, neglecting any of these rules results, in an ungrammatical sentence. As for number, our aforementioned German phrase is over-inflected for grammatical gender.

Every language can work at expressing the meaning of another language, which will somehow result in redundancy. There is usually a distinction between the meanings built in and the meanings that must be thought about and expressed. In the above sense, different languages predispose their speakers to “think” differently, i.e. to direct their attention to different aspects of the environment. Translation here is not simply a matter of seeking other words with similar meaning but of finding appropriate ways of saying things in another language. Very often, the segments of reality which are structurally built into one language may have to be ignored in another language, Braun (2001).

There are many languages in which the forms of words (of nouns, pronouns or verbs) have to be appropriate to singular and plural number, and speakers are unable to avoid observing the distinction depending on the destination; the contact between the speakers. The nature of the subject matter or field is also determined by context which is external to the participant(s).

Learning to acquire the pronunciation habits of a foreign language, however, involves a large number of new recognition skills. Hearing correctly is not always easy and one is handicapped not only by his lack of control of the new sound structure, but by his probable lack of the knowledge of the new language in general.

All areas of sound are important. Although separate sounds can be isolated, the characteristics shown in isolation will not be the same as the ones in the context of neighbouring sounds and the overall structure of the utterance, Braun (2001:50).

2.6 Theoretical Framework

Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1985:859- 860) give the crux upon which the theoretical framework of this thesis is based. They are of the view that the application of

reduction is largely a function of syntax. Whatever grounds there may be in any given case for expressing oneself with maximum explicitness, there are generally strong preferences for the most economic variant. Some other things being equal, language users will follow the maxim “reduce as much as possible”. For example:

“Raid kills insects dead”

Creating an S+V+O+A structure, the adjunct is an adverbial expression of the verb that has gone before. As such, it is an overt statement of the verb “kills” that has gone before. “Dead” can comfortably be taken out of the statement and it will still be meaningful. There are equally strings of other adverbs that will not be repetitive but rather expressive as presented below:

“Raid kills insects certainly”

“Raid kills insects particularly”

It is equally in the nature of reduction as a cohesive device in a text to recover back in totality the form that has been reduced from the original sentence. This entails a total recoverability from the context of the text.

There are two forms of reduction: substitution and ellipsis. Ellipsis involves a reduction whereby the structure of a sentence is abbreviated avoiding any form of redundancy. Substitution involves a replacement of a marker in the sentence probably with a pronoun as shown in the conversation below:

A: Have you spoken to Bob?

B: I have not yet spoken to him.

The noun form “Bob” has been replaced by a suitable pronoun form - “him”. (An example of substitution).

The same example can be used to illustrate the use of ellipsis:

A: Have you spoken to Bob?

B: I have not yet (spoken to Bob). The portion placed within the bracket is elided from the discussion thus presenting the response as “I have not yet”.

Ellipsis is marked with the sign Δ

It is a rule that both ellipsis and substitution have to be recoverable to some degree. This does not always hold as a constant truth for substitutions. In the words of Quirk et al (1985:862), there are two types of textual recoverability: anaphoric and cataphoric. These are both forms of situational recoverability. It entails the information that has gone before and the one after and the immediate context of the discourse. While anaphoric referent points at some antecedent that had gone before, cataphoric referent points at an antecedent that is to come after the ellipsis or substitution. Anaphoric referent are more common than cataphoric ones. Structural recoverability works on the structure of the text: actually omission and its possible recovery bearing in mind its situational recoverability.

Structural recoverability can be illustrated using ellipsis as given below:

“It is strange (that) nobody heard the noise”

“It is strange Δ nobody heard the noise”

The concept of recoverability is not crucial to the aspect of substitution, since most cases of substitution can only be interpreted based on information that uniquely predict their intended referents.

Substitution can take the forms of personal pronouns, reflexive pronouns, possessive pronouns, demonstrative pronouns, definite adverb of time or place, indefinite pronouns, pro-predicates, pro-compliment and adverbs of process.

2.7 Other Theories that are Applicable to Redundancy

2.7.1 The Smooth Signal Redundancy Hypothesis

It holds that:

A. There is an inverse relationship between language redundancy and acoustic redundancy (as manifested by syllable duration).

B. Prosodic prominence smoothens signal redundancy by controlling syllabic duration.

To help clarify part (B) of the hypothesis, it is useful to compare what could be regarded as a traditional view of prosodic implementation with the model suggested by this hypothesis. There is an inverse relationship between language redundancy and acoustic redundancy (as manifested by syllable duration). The inverse relationship improves communication by spreading information more evenly across the speech signal, yielding a smoother signal redundancy profile. Prosodic prominence is a linguistic means of achieving smooth signal redundancy. Prosodic prominence increases syllable duration and coincides, to a large extent, with unpredictable sections of speech, and thus leads to a smoother signal redundancy.

The results of linear regressions carried out between measures of redundancy, syllable duration and prosodic structure in a large corpus of spontaneous speech confirm: (1) an inverse relationship between language redundancy and duration, and (2) a strong relationship between prosodic prominence and duration. In English, prosodic prominence structure is the means with which constraints caused by a robust signal requirement are expressed in spontaneous speech.

The relationship between redundancy and prosodic prominence is clearly imperfect, however. For example, many English words have non-initial lexical stress despite the fact that their initial syllables may be difficult to predict. Phrases regularly exhibit default "broad" focus stress patterns in which nuclear phrasal stress falls near the end of the phrase (Cruttenden, 1986; Ladd, 1996), regardless of the predictability of the words which bear nuclear stress. These examples suggest an independent role for prosody in the speech production process.

It is proposed that speakers use prosodic prominence as a means of implementing an inverse relationship between language and acoustic redundancy so that the resulting signal redundancy is smooth throughout an utterance. On this view, the imperfect correspondence between prominence structure and redundancy is a reflection of both the indirect way in which redundancy influences the acoustic signal and learned language-specific conventions about stress placement.

2.7.2 The Morpheme Structure Rule

The Morpheme Structure Rules was first given a clear theoretical foundation In THE MORPHEME STRUCTURE RULES USED by Halle (1959) to predict redundant phonological information in morphemes. Phonological redundancy is believed to exist because each language exhibits systematic constraints on its phoneme sequences so that not all sequences of phonemes form possible morphemes in language. Morpheme structure rule covers the intimate relationship between the phonological redundancy of a language and the constraint it exhibits on the phoneme sequences in its morphemes.

In spite of the improvement in the morpheme structure rule theory, there were other motivations for introducing a new formal device, MORPHEME STRUCTURE

CONDITIONS, to replace morpheme structure rules. Morpheme structure conditions are to be preferred over morpheme structure rules.

A distinction derived from the information theory and applied to the analysis of the range of features used in making linguistic contrasts. A feature of sound is redundant if its presence is unnecessary in order to identify a linguistic unit. For example, the contrast between the /p/ and /b/ phonemes of English in /pin/ v /bin/ may be defined in terms of voicing muscular TENSION and ASPIRATION but only one of these features is necessary at a time to decide the contrast involved. And once this decision has been made the other features would be seen as reluctant.

Projection can also create redundancy, Burrst... not bust as in homophones or close homophones. Similarly, this principle may apply to the analysis of grammar and semantics in terms of redundancy, in that both the subject and verbs are marked for singularity or plurality. As illustrated in: the boys are home, the boy is home.

In generative linguistics, the routine of redundancy has been formalized in terms of rules (redundancy rules) which simplify the form of description. Any feature which can be predicted on the basis of other features is said to be redundant.

In generative syntax, the lexical redundancy rules apply to such processes as sub-categorization (thus simplifying the feature specification of a syntactic CATEGORY) and WORD-FORMATION (enabling one WORD-CLASS to be DERIVED from another).

2.7.3 The Katz Theory

In this broad-ranging work, Jerrold Katz has two major objectives: the first, which takes up most of the text, is to show how a type of intentionalism can avoid the criticisms of

Wittgenstein, Quine, and their followers. The second is to argue for a non-naturalist approach to philosophy in general (with emphasis on linguistics, logic and ethics).

Katz's approach builds on a foundation of "folk semantics", the idea that we commonly speak about meanings and their relationships (for example, synonymy, antonym, ambiguity, redundancy, similarity in meaning, meaningfulness, and meaninglessness) that such talk need not entail or assume any particular conclusions about the ontology or epistemology of meaning and that any semantic theory should try to explain these "facts" about meaning. His argument is that only an intentionalist approach succeeds in doing so. He accepts that Fregean theories are vulnerable in the ways that have been asserted by various critics. He believes that a form of intentionalism can be put forward that does not suffer from the same weaknesses. Katz criticizes Frege for having falsely joined semantics and logic in his analysis of analyticity and necessary truth, that is, for not maintaining a sufficiently sharp distinction between sense and reference, Palmer (1976:70). In semantics, the issue is more complex: what might appear to one person as a totally unnecessary (thus redundant) use of a word or phrase, may, to someone else, provide an additional nuance.

Group of words in the lexicon can be semantically related by being members of a set known as a semantic field. On a very general and intuitive level, we can say that words in a semantic field, though not synonymous, are all used to talk about the same general phenomenon. The notion of a semantic field can be extended intuitively to any set of terms with a close relation in meaning, all of which can be subsumed under the same

general label. Redundancy is based on both formal grammatical and lexical collocational possibilities.

A system of features has been purposed by J.J. Katz and J.A. Foder in “The structure of a semantic theory” as the basis for defining words. They used as an example the word BAHCELOR in its various senses, with each of the meaning symbolized by a different path on a tree like the one below:

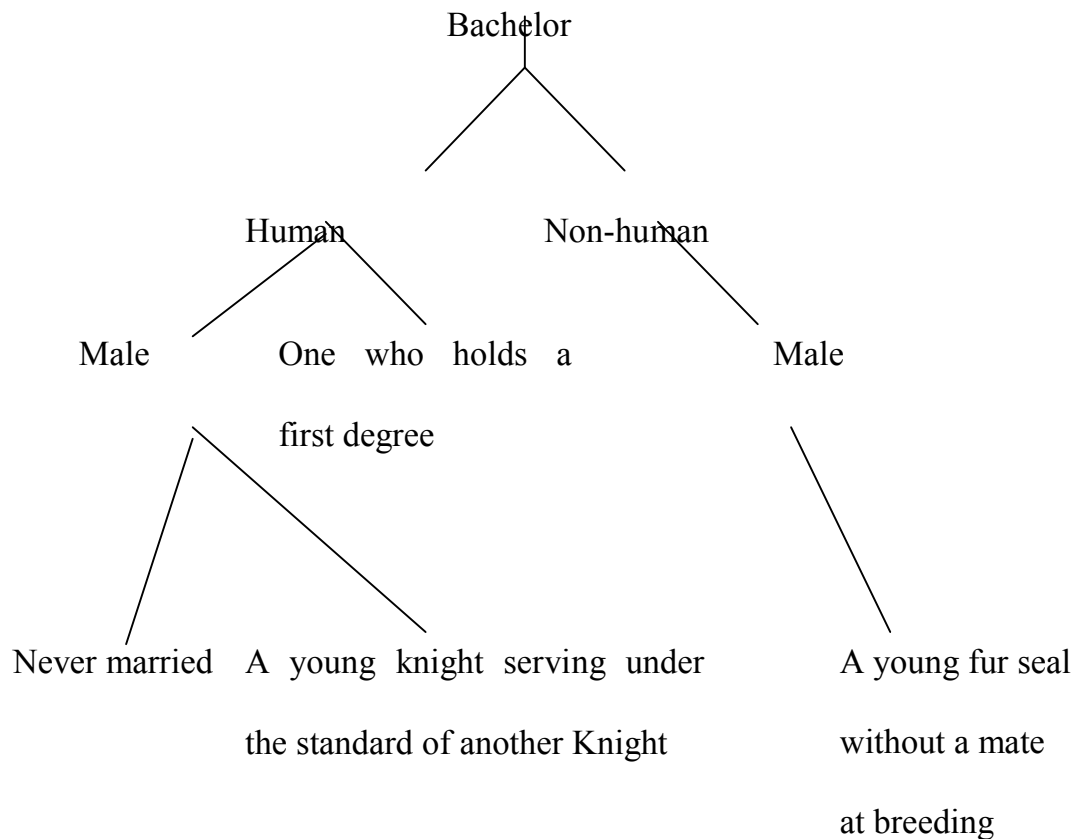


Figure 2: The various senses of the word BACHELOR

The system proposed here illustrates clearly the concept of word meanings made up of features that contribute an element to the whole. This entails syntactic and semantic features respectively. Semantic features are not sharply distinguished from syntactic features. We can say only that semantic features do not affect the form of other words in the sentence as syntactic features do. Redundancy may be a flow of the sentence, rather than of just a phrase. For example, “She killed him dead” like in the combination of the verbs ‘killed’ and ‘dead’.

2.8 A Case for and Criticism of Redundancy

2.8.1 A Case for Redundancy

Redundancy is an important factor in grammar. Most words which are mainly grammatical in functions are redundant to a high degree. It is though not true that redundancy is totally equated with the unnecessary. When the discourse is transitory and evanescent, the addressee is unable to span the whole sentence to ascertain its structure. Therefore, there is need for the redundant items to serve as structural signal. Redundant items are omissible in English sentences because the English word order is grammatically distinctive.

The Redundancy rule enables one to avoid repetition in each lexical entry of redundant or predictable information. Such a statement of lexical relationship would capture essentially the same set of facts as the deep structure treatment. But without any mention of the level of the deep structure, it can be abandoned not because it is not deep enough to handle all the facts but because it is deeper than necessary, thus providing adequate and more than sufficient information.

Again, the total rhythmic shape of a word may provide an important clue to its recognition. An utterance will provide a large complex of pointer for the listener to interpret, but a great part of this information will be necessary or redundant as far as the listener's needs are concerned to insist upon exaggerated circulation. Indeed, certain obscurations of quality are and have for many centuries been a characteristic of English. Redundancy is often required by grammar, as in the case of the inflectional use of '-s' with verbs and nouns. In other cases, it is used for effect and the usual effect is emphasis, for example: 'drinkable wine'.

Some people can apparently read a newspaper and listen to a radio programme at the same time and get the points from both sources of information. If we know what is coming we have, in a sense, already understood it before we hear it. We can also make predictions which are much less specific but still helpful as they prepare us for what follows (Abott et al, 1981:62). For example many words and phrases used to link sentences and clauses lead us to expect that the next thing we hear or read will be a reason (because), a contrasting statement (but, however), a result (so, therefore), an addition (also, not only that), a rebranding (in other words, that is to say), or an example (for instance). In speech, we get additional cues from intonation and stress.

In our own language, we have learned to recognize a number of factors which reduces the possibility of occurrence of any one linguistic item. Elements such as syntactic relationships, sequences of words and combinations of frequency, clichés and conversational tags and formulas have in some way been tended to in most languages.

In order to reduce to manageable proportion the amount of information in any one sound sequence, each language has developed a certain amount of redundancy. It has been

estimated, for instance, that the English language is fifty percent redundant (Abott et al, 1981). Where this redundancy is eliminated, the human organism could not absorb information at the rate at which it could be emitted in normal speech or writing. Efficient listeners never 'switch off' completely because they have learnt that occasionally their predictions are wrong.

2.8.2 Criticism

Logically, redundancy is bad grammatically and should be avoided. For instance, one word repeating the same semantic information found in the text. The phrases that so often fall under criticism as redundancy, in fact, fall into several classes. Some examples include: old adage, mental telepathy, consensus of opinion, foreign words: Pin number, VAT tax.

Understanding the stream of speech involves understanding the vocabulary, grammar and contextual meaning. Unlike the native speaker who relies on meaning via redundancy in his Languages to balance out the normal interference of noise, imperfect transmission of sounds, or muffled articulations, the foreign learner struggles with the whole of the language at the same time, not nearly with a few novel sounds or words, this is on some level dependent on the proficiency of the individual.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

The work is a descriptive study, a method which Walden (2004:14) refers to as a quantitative collection of data. He says a descriptive study is taken in order to ascertain and be able to describe the characteristics of the variables of interest in a study situation.

It works with what the data shows and depicts what is going on in our data.

This approach is used because it looks at language use at a particular time and the syntactic structure as used within newspapers. This is a textual analysis from which the redundant elements within the text are analyzed.

In the previous chapter we had looked at different theoretical frameworks that have been postulated in relation to redundancy. They ranged from those that are applicable to syntax, phonology and semantics. It equally puts into cognizance those that go beyond the areas listed above. The most appropriate for this study is Quirk R., Greenbaum S., Leech G. and Svartvik J.,'s (1985) theory of Ellipsis and Substitution.

3.1 Method of Data Collection

The research instrument used are Written records, they entail Newspapers from the archives covering a period of three years. Reports in Newspapers take varying forms ranging from narratives, informative, entertainment among others. There has been no addition or subtraction from the contents provided in the Newspapers.

3.2 Nature of Data

The data used in the analyses of the work have been generated from 10 Newspapers each from the 6 geopolitical regions, making a total of 60 newspapers. A total of 100 data were collected from these newspapers and 15 redundant samples were selected for analyses in the research. The newspapers were picked randomly within the span of three years ranging from 2008 -2010 respectively.

The table below represents the distribution of the newspapers among the six geo-political regions:

| Newspaper | Geopolitical region |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| <i>This Day</i> | North Central |
| <i>Daily Champion</i> | South East |
| <i>Vanguard</i> | South South |
| <i>New Nigeria</i> | North West |
| <i>Tribune</i> | South West |
| <i>Daily Trust</i> | North East |

3.3 Framework

Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik (1985:859- 860) will be the theoretical framework for this thesis. They are of the opinion that reduction is largely a function of syntax. They gave two types of reduction namely: ellipsis and substitution.

Ellipsis isn't like any other form of omission because it has some peculiar features. Such features are discussed below:

- I. The elided words are precisely recoverable. The contextual recoverability may be cataphoric or anaphoric. The example below can be represented cataphorically or anaphorically.

“If he works hard, I wouldn’t have to (Δ)”

It can take either of the forms below as a conversation between two interlocutors.

- a. You ought to speak to James about his laziness.
- b. If he works hard I wouldn’t have to (speak to James about his laziness Δ)

The second option could be:

- a. James is rather obnoxious and his work is on a down trail for it. Do speak to him, please.
- b. (He is Δ), if he works hard, I wouldn’t have to.

There are also the cases of simultaneous ambiguity: “The suspect agrees to selling a car from a garage but he can’t remember which (Δ).”

The ambiguity arises from the fact that one can’t tell if it is “a car” or “the garage”.

- II. The elided construction is grammatically defective and this is illustrated in the example below:

- a. “Henry IV was a great king, she though made some grave mistakes”
- b. Henry IV was a great king (she though made some grave mistakes Δ). The relationship between the noun “Henry IV” and the suppose pronoun referent “she” is defective.

The relationship of grammatical defection can also be shown in the following:

- a. She is the queen.
- b. (she is Δ) the queen

- III. The insertion of the missing word results in:

- a. The same grammatical sentence and the same meaning as the original one.
- b. The missing words are textually recoverable.
- c. The words may be present in the text in almost the exactly or almost the same form.

Quirk et al (1985) gave a tabular presentation of the above:

| a | b | c | d | e | |
|---|---|---|---|-----|---|
| + | + | + | + | + | 1) I am happy if you are (happy Δ). |
| + | + | + | + | - | 2) She sings better than I can (sing Δ). |
| + | ? | - | + | (+) | 3) She works harder than him (*work). |
| + | + | + | - | 0 | 4) (I am) glad to see you. |
| - | + | + | + | - | 5) (Since he was) } angry, he stalked out. {(being) } |
| + | ? | + | - | 0 | 6) I believe (that) you are wrong. |
| - | + | - | - | 0 | 7) The man (that/who/whom) I saw was half asleep. |
| - | ? | - | - | 0 | 8) Houses (that/which are) owned by Mr. Smith... |
| - | - | - | - | 0 | 9) The door opened and (then/after/that)... Mary entered. |

KEY

- + The criterion is satisfied.
- The criterion is not satisfied.
- ? There is doubt about the criterion's satisfaction.
- (+) With the required grammatical changes, the criterion will apply
- 0 The criterion is not applicable.

Table: Criteria for ellipsis.

In the application of the theoretical framework of ellipsis and substitution, it is important to note that ellipsis involves total removal of a given part of the sentence while substitution entails the replacement of a part of a sentence with another grammatical element that fits into the position.

3.4 Model for Data Analyses

The data will be analyzed in two forms with a tabular presentations followed by explanations. The discussions will be based on the two types of syntactic redundancy.

| samples | Text | Present Redundancy | Feature of Deliberate /unintended redundancy | Type of Redundancy | Type of reduction |
|----------------|--|--|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sample 1 | “Leadership is responsibility. That was another thing that Chilean development brought out in bold relief. Luis Alberto Urza, foreman of the miners, was the last to be rescued more than 22 hours after the first man was pulled out. Manuel Gonzalez, leader of the six-man team, was the last to come out of the mine after the entire operation. They behaved like a good captain, we must never abandon a sinking ship till the last man is evacuated. This is a vital lesson for leaders all over the world, particularly in Africa. Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility. It is in considering others before oneself.” | “Leadership is responsibility... Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility.” | deliberate | Distributional | Substitution |
| Sample 2 | “ <i>Saturday Sun</i> found that some of the mammy markets are still keeping to Dambazau’s order of closing the mammy market at 6pm, saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja to for a reversal to what it used to be.” | “... Saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja to for a reversal to what it used to be.” | accidental | Functional | ellipsis |
| Sample 3 | “However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet. No they must not be. All we are saying is that while all necessary investigation- by the relevant committee of the House and the EFCC-are going on, the House must discharge fully its primary responsibility of making laws that will advance our society and fix many of the broken sectors of our national life.” | “” However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet. No they must not be.” | deliberate | Distributional | ellipsis |

Table 1

“Leadership is responsibility. That was another thing that Chilean development brought out in bold relief. Luis Alberto Urza, foreman of the miners, was the last to be rescued more than 22 hours after the first man was pulled out. Manuel Gonzalez, leader of the six-man team, was the last to come out of the mine after the entire operation. They behaved like a good captain, we must never abandon a sinking ship till the last man is evacuated. This is a vital lesson for leaders all over the world, particularly in Africa. Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility. It is in considering others before oneself.”

The above text can be elided to be either of the following:

1. Leadership is responsibility, sacrifice, it is in considering others before oneself.
(Δ)
2. Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility and it is in considering others before oneself. (Δ)
3. Leadership is sacrifice, responsibility and in considering others before oneself.
(Substitution).
4. Luis Alberto Urza, foreman of the miners, was the last to be rescued more than 22 hours after the first man was pulled out. Manuel Gonzalez, leader of the six-man team, was the last to come out of the mine after the entire operation. They behaved like a good captain, we must never abandon a sinking ship till the last man is evacuated. This is a vital lesson for leaders all over the world, particularly in Africa.

The contextual recoverability is anaphoric, though the paragraph was opened with the sentence “leadership is responsibility”, it had to be explained further and resounded. Some feature of conjunction is portrayed in 1 and 2 with the addition of the conjunction “and”. At the end of the elision, the sentence is basically grammatical and can stand on its own. In the fourth sentence, recoverability is cataphoric and reflects “responsibility, sacrifice and consideration”.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

4.0 Introduction

The chapter treats the presentation, analyses and interpretation of data. This is done in two forms: The tabular presentation and discussion of the data.

4.1 Presentation and Analysis of data

The data are presented in tabular forms. The table contains a total of six columns as follows: sample numbers, extracted texts for analysis; the paragraph where the samples for analyses are taken from, the present redundancy from the forgoing paragraph, the features of deliberate or unintended redundancy in the text for analyses, the types of redundancy present in the text and the type of reduction used for the analyses of the text.

The samples on the table will be presented according to the types of reduction; ellipsis or substitution it depicts. The redundant element in each sentence is underlined.

| samples | Text | Present Redundancy | Feature of Deliberate or unintended redundancy | Type of Redundancy | Type of reduction |
|---------|---|--|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | <p>“<u>Leadership is responsibility</u>. That was another thing that Chilean development brought out in bold relief. Luis Alberto Urza, foreman of the miners, was the last to be rescued more than 22 hours after the first man was pulled out. Manuel Gonzalez, leader of the six-man team, was the last to come out of the mine after the entire operation. They behaved like a good captain, we must never abandon a sinking ship till the last man is evacuated. This is a vital lesson for leaders all over the world, particularly in Africa. <u>Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility. It is in considering others before oneself.</u>”</p> | <p>“Leadership is responsibility...leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility.”</p> | <p>Deliberate (grammatical, repetition)</p> | <p>Distributional redundancy</p> | <p>Ellipsis and Substitution</p> |
| 2 | <p>“<i>Saturday sun</i> found that some of the mammy markets are still keeping to Dambazau’s order of closing the mammy market at 6pm, saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja <u>to for</u> a reversal to what it used to be.”</p> | <p>“... Saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja <u>to for</u> a reversal to what it used to be.”</p> | <p>Accidental (ungrammatical, double preposition)</p> | <p>Functional redundancy</p> | <p>ellipsis</p> |
| 3 | <p>“However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet. <u>No they must not be</u>. All we are saying is that while all necessary investigation- by the relevant committee of the House and the EFCC-are going on, the House must discharge fully its primary responsibility of making laws that will advance our society and fix many of the broken sectors of our national life.”</p> | <p>“However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet. <u>No they must not be.</u>”</p> | <p>Deliberate (grammatical, repetition)</p> | <p>Distributional redundancy</p> | <p>ellipsis</p> |
| 4 | <p>“I am not aware of lawmakers holding nocturnal meetings anywhere to fashion out any solution in the face of eventuality. Neither is there any group canvassing a position for the president of the senate, senate Mark. “(sic)<u>for the avoidance of doubt, the President of the senate, Senator Mark, has remained</u> on the same page with the President Yar’Adua ; his family and our great party, the peoples democratic party (PDP), and we shall not be</p> | <p>“Neither is there any group canvassing a position for the president of the senate, senate Mark. “(sic)<u>for the avoidance of doubt, the President of the senate, Senator Mark</u>”</p> | <p>Deliberate (grammatical, repetition)</p> | <p>Distributional redundancy</p> | <p>Substitution</p> |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| | distracted rabble rousers.” | | | | |
| 5 | This partnership, he said has led to a two-day working visit by officers of American Customs who were in the country last weekend to inspect the operations of NCS in order to render assistance. Deniyi explained that American Customs was in Nigeria for inspection and assessment of NCS operations for it to identify loopholes and define strategies to fix those areas detected. | “American Customs who were in the country last weekend to inspect the operations of NCS in order to render assistance. Deniyi explained that American Customs was in Nigeria for inspection and assessment of NCS operations for it to identify loopholes and define strategies to fix those areas detected.” | Deliberate (grammatical, repetition) | Distributional redundancy | Ellipsis and substitution. |
| 6 | <u>I hurt... and the pain runs deep. I hurt because the dream of the Nigeria my father left me on Aba Road in kano on the first day of October 1960 seems now like a jaded treasure. I hurt yes I hurt because I grew up believing the things of the later rain, things of the future were bound to be greater than those of yesterday yet I live in the Nigeria in which indicators have been southbound and the quality of life and the life expectancy is less today than was the case a few years ago. I do hurt indeed but I am held up by the fact of a greater gift from my father; the gift of faith and trust in the indomitable nature of the human spirit which can triumph over all adversity.</u> | “I hurt... and the pain runs deep. I hurt because the dream of the Nigeria my father left me on Aba Road in kano on the first day of October 1960 seems now like a jaded treasure. I hurt yes I hurt because I grew up believing the things of the later rain, things of the future were bound to be greater than those of yesterday” | Deliberate (grammatical, repetition) | Distributional redundancy | Ellipsis |

| | | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|---------------------------|----------|
| 7 | Together we can. Together we must hand our children a nation of integrity and prosperity in peace and concord. Together we can few can cause dry bones to get up and walk and the phoenix to arise from the ashes of a broken nation and flock with eagles. But it cannot be about wishful thinking and waiting. Three years ago i became “unemployed” to dedicate my energies to working those who seek change, that Nigeria may be transformed. I became “unemployed” so that tomorrow millions will find employment and their dignity. I know now that I know that together we must breathe new life into this land. Together we can... but I have gone out in search of the enemy of progress in Nigeria and finally I have found him. | Together we can... | Deliberate (grammatical repetition) | Distributional redundancy | Ellipsis |
| 8 | According to the corps member, she boarded a painted cab at Arab contractors junction, utako, Abuja on her <u>was</u> to Dutse-Alhaji, when she noticed a cripple crying loud, while two other ladies watched him. | Abuja on her was to Dutse-Alhaji, when she noticed a cripple crying loud, while two other ladies watched him. | Accidental (ungrammatical, wrong use of verb “was”) | Functional redundancy | Ellipsis |
| 9 | In addition to equipping the Nigerians towards deploying internet in advertising,Oghenekaaro also revealed that Nigeria can borrow a leaf from Cannes, a city she described as ‘a small city but has used festival to attract people to it’ she observed that beyond the various festivals that take place in the city, Cannes has no other major source of income generation. <u>Nigeria she explained can borrow a leaf from the festival city by developing the various towns and cities that are naturally endowed for tourism. Places like yankari games reserve,obudu cattle ranch,jos plateau among many other beautiful sites.</u> | Nigeria can borrow a leaf from Cannes | Deliberate (grammatical, repetition) | | Ellipsis |

| | | | | | |
|----|---|--|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 10 | <p><u>The lover, a 62-year-old father of three</u> was arrested to explain the circumstances surrounding the death of <u>her</u> lover. As at yesterday (Wednesday), when Daily Champion went to the police station, <u>the old man</u> was still in detention while <u>his</u> family members were busy trying to make arrangement for the burial of the deceased. Daily champion however sought the views of many people on why <u>the wife</u> of a devout muslim would lie to <u>his husband</u> in order to elope with a lover to commit adultery.</p> | <p>“The lover, a 62-year-old father of three was arrested to explain the circumstances surrounding the death of her lover.” “Daily champion however sought the views of many people on why the wife of a devout muslim would lie to his husband”</p> | <p>Accidental (ungrammatical, absence of noun pronoun relationship)</p> | <p>Functional redundancy</p> | <p>Substitution</p> |
| 11 | <p>“Like a British resident in Nigeria, Ian Runter who was returning from <u>is</u> first visit to the resort aptly put it, “Obudu is Nigeria’s best kept secret” noting further that, “the resort is a true gem of Nigeria.”</p> | <p>Like a British resident in Nigeria, Ian Runter who was returning from is first visit to the resort</p> | <p>Accidental (ungrammatical, absence of noun (subject) pronoun relationship)</p> | <p>Functional redundancy</p> | <p>Substitution</p> |
| 12 | <p>Charges per metre of trenches are not fixed. It all depends on how many people are available for work. When the season becomes a disadvantage, the workers’ bargaining power is weakened. During the dry season, there are many hard-workers in the FCT and we often go for 20 days or more without work. When this happens, others borrow money from those who are lucky to be employed somewhere,” <u>he said. Alternatively, he said,</u> due to the tedious nature of the work, “we have specific places where we eat. Each of us has a permanent place where he eats. During hard times, we often negotiate to feed and pay later. “There is no way all of us will lack job at the same time therefore, we always borrow money from one another.”</p> | <p>When this happens, others borrow money from those who are lucky to be employed somewhere,” he said. Alternatively, he said, due to the tedious nature of the work, “we have specific places where we eat. Each of us has a permanent place where he eats. During hard times, we often negotiate to feed and pay later. “there is no way all of us will lack job at the same time therefore, we always borrow money from one another.”</p> | <p>Deliberate (grammatical, repetition)</p> | <p>Distributional redundancy</p> | <p>Substitution</p> |

| | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|
| 13 | Chief Gbagi, a hotelier in Effurun <u>and</u> a governorship candidate in the 2007 general election, <u>who</u> took journalists round his house and said <u>that</u> the rumour was borne out of joblessness of many people <u>who are idle, adding anybody who had job to do will not find time to peddle rumour.</u> | the rumour was borne out of joblessness of many people who are idle, adding anybody who had job to do will not find time to peddle rumour. | Deliberate (grammatical, repetition) | Distributional redundancy | Ellipsis |
| 14 | It must be stated <u>that</u> blaming the electoral misdeeds on Iwu, Soyinka has advertised himself as more partisan than we think of him. The truth is that Nigeria's electoral misfortune predates Iwu's INEC. Was it Iwu that conducted the 1983 election in which the NPN won with 'moonslide' margin? <u>Was it Iwu that</u> conducted the 1999 election and 2003 both of which were adjudged flawed by the number of votes cast in some states outnumbering the registered voters. <u>Was it Iwu that</u> conducted the sham called local government elections across the country? <u>Again, was it Iwu that</u> annulled the 1993 presidential election and made it inconclusive with dastardly bloody outcome? | Was it Iwu that conducted the 1983 election in which the NPN won with 'moonslide' margin? Was it Iwu that conducted the 1999 election and 2003 both of which were adjudged flawed by the number of votes cast in some states outnumbering the registered voters. Was it Iwu that conducted the sham called local government elections across the country? Again, was it Iwu that annulled the 1993 presidential election and made it inconclusive with dastardly bloody outcome? | Deliberate (grammatical, repetition) | Distributional redundancy | Ellipsis |
| 15 | The call for a national honour for Alhaji Umaru Mutallab is unconscionable. It is insulting to the sensibility of 150 million Nigerians <u>and</u> a total disregard for decency and good judgment. There is nothing honourable about the infamous call for the award of a national honour <u>to Mutallab, the father.</u> The reason adduced are not only frivolous but a conscious attempt to ridicule Nigerians. In a country where truth is a scarce commodity, it becomes a thing of applaud when someone tells the truth to save his own neck and that | It is insulting to the sensibility of 150 million Nigerians and a total disregard for decency and good judgment. There is nothing honourable about the infamous call for the award of a national honour to | Deliberate (grammatical, repetition) | Functional and distributional redundancy | Ellipsis and Substitution |

| | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|
| | of his family members. | Mutallab, the father. | | | |
|--|------------------------|-----------------------|--|--|--|

Table 2

4.2 Discussion and Interpretation of Data

The discussion and interpretation of data are done using Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech and Svartvik's (1985) theory of Reduction. There are two processes of reduction namely; ellipsis and substitution. The analyses will be based on the different forms of reduction, indicating whether the redundancy present is anaphoric or cataphoric. It will equally state the type of redundancy used in each text to be analyzed. It is a rule that both ellipsis and substitution have to be recoverable. In the words of Quirk et al (1982) there are two types of textual recoverability: anaphoric and cataphoric. These are both forms of situational recoverability; it entails the information that has gone before, the information after and the immediate context of the discourse. While anaphoric referent points at some antecedent that had gone before, cataphoric referent points at an antecedent that is to come after the ellipsis or substitution. Anaphoric referents are more common than cataphoric one.

4.2.1 Analyses of texts for Ellipsis.

A total number of twelve (12) texts in the samples have features that can be elided. Bearing in mind that ellipsis is marked with the sign Δ , elided texts must always be recoverable, unlike substitution where recoverability isn't a constant.

Recoverability of grammatical parts of a text in ellipsis can be anaphoric and or cataphoric, that is, it could have gone before in a preceding sentence or it is in a following sentence.

Text 1 for ellipsis:

Leadership is responsibility. That was another thing that Chilean development brought out in bold relief. Luis

Alberto Urza, foreman of the miners, was the last to be rescued more than 22 hours after the first man was pulled out. Manuel Gonzalez, leader of the six-man team, was the last to come out of the mine after the entire operation. They behaved like a good captain, we must never abandon a sinking ship till the last man is evacuated. This is a vital lesson for leaders all over the world, particularly in Africa. Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility. It is in considering others before oneself."

The above text can be elided to be either of the following;

1. Leadership is responsibility, sacrifice, it is in considering others before oneself. (Δ)
2. Leadership is sacrifice. It is responsibility and it is in considering others before oneself. (Δ)
3. Leadership is sacrifice, responsibility and in considering others before oneself. (Substitution).
4. Luis Alberto Urza, foreman of the miners, was the last to be rescued more than 22 hours after the first man was pulled out. Manuel Gonzalez, leader of the six-man team, was the last to come out of the mine after the entire operation. They behaved like a good captain, we must never abandon a sinking ship till the last man is evacuated. This is a vital lesson for leaders all over the world, particularly in Africa. (Δ)

The contextual recoverability is anaphoric, though the paragraph opens with the sentence "Leadership is responsibility". It had to be explained. Some feature of conjunction is portrayed in 1 and 2 with the addition of the conjunction "and". At the end of the elision, the sentence is basically grammatical and can stand on its own. In the fourth sentence, recoverability is cataphoric and reflects "responsibility, sacrifice and consideration".

Text 2 for ellipsis:

“Saturday sun found that some of the mammy markets are still keeping to Dambazau’s order of closing the mammy market at 6pm, saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja to for a reversal to what it used to be.”

“...saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja to for a reversal to what it used to be.”

The sentence with the redundancy present in it is totally ungrammatical due to the presence of two prepositions “to and for” to have one of them elided will result in a more grammatical sentence, in this case though there is no reasonable grammatical yardstick for recoverability since it will throw the sentence Back into an ungrammatical status. It is though necessary to look at the suitability of each of the prepositions in the required slot.

1. “...saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja to a reversal to what it used to be.” (Δ)
2. “...saying they are yet to receive an order from the Army Headquarters in Abuja for a reversal to what it used to be.” (Δ)

Sentence 1 resulted in an ungrammatical construction thus the most likely elided for will be the second sentence. Since it is a functional redundancy, it looks at the functionality of both entries in the sentence.

Text 3 for ellipsis:

“However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet. No they must not be. All we are saying is that while all necessary investigation- by the relevant committee of the House and the EFCC-are going on, the House must discharge fully its primary responsibility of making laws that will advance our society and fix many of the broken sectors of our national life.”

“However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet. No they must not be.”

1. However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet.
2. No they must not be. (Δ)

It is justified to have the second sentence elided since it is a direct reflection of the first sentence. It is a reaffirmation of what has gone before. the paragraph will not function adequately if it is started with the second sentence.

“No they must not be. All we are saying is that while all necessary investigation- by the relevant committee of the House and the EFCC-are going on, the House must discharge fully its primary responsibility of making laws that will advance our society and fix many of the broken sectors of our national life.”

Both sentences are grammatical except that the second one has an anaphoric recoverability which can be attained only in the first sentence. Thus sentence two will be elided to provide a new paragraph thus:

“However we do not think the allegation should be swept under the carpet.. All we are saying is that while all necessary investigation by the relevant committee of the House and the EFCC are going on, the House must discharge fully its primary responsibility of making laws that will advance our society and fix many of the broken sectors of our national life.”

Text 4 for ellipsis:

“This partnership, he said has led to a two-day working visit by officers of American Customs who were in the country last weekend to inspect the operations of NCS in order to render assistance. Deniyi explained that American Customs was in Nigeria for inspection and assessment of NCS operations for it to identify loopholes and define strategies to fix those areas detected.”

Two sentences can be obtained from the forgoing paragraph:

1. This partnership, he said has led to a two-day working visit by officers of American Customs who were in the country last weekend to inspect the operations of NCS in order to render assistance.
2. Deniyi explained that American Customs was in Nigeria for inspection and assessment of NCS operations for it to identify loopholes and define strategies to fix those areas detected.

The second sentence is a much more explicit purpose for which the “America customs” are in “Nigeria”. Equally the “he” referred to in the first sentence was explicitly mentioned in the second as “Deniyi”. Thus, the first sentence cataphorically referred to in the second, while the second is anaphorically pointed to in the first. It is more logical and communicative to elide the first sentence since the nature of the pronoun “he” and the nature of “assistance” are unambiguously mentioned in the second.

Text 5 for ellipsis:

“I hurt... and the pain runs deep. I hurt because the dream of the Nigeria my father left me on Aba Road in kano on the first day of October 1960 seems now like a jaded treasure. I hurt yes I hurt because I grew up believing the things of the later rain, things of the future were bound to be greater than those of yesterday yet I live in the Nigeria in which indicators have been southbound and the quality of life and the life expectancy is less today than was the case a few years ago. I do hurt indeed but I am held up by the fact of a greater gift from my father; the gift of faith and trust in the indomitable nature of the human spirit which can triumph over all adversity.”

The distributional redundancy in the text above revolves around the “hurt” of the writer, the core of its message is resident in “the dream of the Nigeria my father left me on Aba Road in kano on the first day of October 1960”. Thus the paragraph can be broken down into the following sentences:

1. I hurt... and the pain runs deep.
2. I hurt because the dream of the Nigeria my father left me on Aba Road in kano on the first day of October 1960 seems now like a jaded treasure.
3. I hurt yes I hurt because I grew up believing the things of the later rain, things of the future were bound to be greater than those of yesterday yet I live in the Nigeria in which indicators have been southbound and the quality of life and the life expectancy is less today than was the case a few years ago.
4. I do hurt indeed but I am held up by the fact of a greater gift from my father; the gift of faith and trust in the indomitable nature of the human spirit which can triumph over all adversity.

The different sentences all point back to his “hurt” and “his father”. It is then logical to elide sentences 1,3 and 4 thus, there is the presence of anaphoric reference in sentence 3 and 4 pointing back to sentence 2 and a cataphoric reference in sentence 1 pointing inwards to sentence 2. Thus when the text is elided it will read:

1. I hurt because the dream of the Nigeria my father left me on Aba Road in kano on the first day of October 1960 seems now like a jaded treasure. (Δ)

Text 6 for Ellipsis:

“Together we can. Together we must hand our children a nation of integrity and prosperity in peace and concord. Together we can - cause dry bones to get up and walk and the phoenix to arise from the ashes of a broken nation and flock with eagles. But it cannot be brought about by wishful thinking and waiting. Three years ago i became “unemployed” to dedicate my energies to working with those who seek change that Nigeria may be transformed. I became “unemployed” so that tomorrow millions will find employment and their dignity. I know now that I know that together we must breathe new life into this land. Together we can... but I have gone out in search of the enemy of progress in Nigeria and finally I have found him.”

1. Together we can.
2. Together we must hand our children a nation of integrity and prosperity in peace and concord.
3. Together we can few can cause dry bones to get up and walk and the phoenix to arise from the ashes of a broken nation and flock with eagles. But it cannot be about wishful thinking and waiting. Three years ago I became “unemployed” to dedicate my energies to working those who seek change, that Nigeria may be transformed.
4. I became “unemployed” so that tomorrow millions will find employment and their dignity.
5. I know now that I know that together we must breathe new life into this land.
6. Together we can... but I have gone out in search of the enemy of progress in Nigeria and finally I have found him.

The paragraph can be broken into the sentences listed above. The paragraph is filled with distributional redundancy. It echoes what the writer believes can be achieved. The elided part will be sentence 1 the following parts of sentence 3 “Together we can few can cause dry bones to get up and walk and the phoenix to arise from the ashes of a broken nation and flock with eagles.” Sentence 5 and the following part of sentence 6 “Together we can...” the elided sentence will then read:

1. Together we must hand our children a nation of integrity and prosperity in peace and concord. But it cannot be about wishful thinking and waiting. Three years ago I became “unemployed” to dedicate my energies to working those who seek change, that Nigeria may be transformed. But I have gone out in search of the enemy of progress in Nigeria and finally I have found him. (Δ)

This being the crux of the paragraph, there are thus varying degrees of anaphoric and cataphoric relationships in the paragraph.

Text 7 for Ellipsis:

“According to the corps member, she boarded a painted cab at Arab Contractors Junction, utako, Abuja on her was to Dutse-Alhaji, when she noticed a cripple crying loud, while two other ladies watched him.”

The redundancy present in this text is functional in nature, thus to a large extent making the sentence ungrammatical. The presence of the verb “was” in the sentence in relation to a destination has not grammatical relationship. If the “corps” member was boarding a cab to a given destination, then the word that collocates more with the other words in the sentence will be “way”.

Thus, the new sentence will read:

“According to the corps member, she boarded a painted cab at Arab contractors junction, utako, Abuja on her way to Dutse-Alhaji, when she noticed a cripple crying loud, while two other ladies watched him.”

This though will include a total new introduction to the sentence and it will be an elided piece.

But if the sentence is presented as;

“According to the corps member, she boarded a painted cab at Arab contractors junction, utako, Abuja to Dutse-Alhaji, when she noticed a cripple crying loud, while two other ladies watched him.” (Δ)

Text 8 for Ellipsis:

“In addition to equipping Nigerians towards deploying internet in advertising, Oghenekaaro also revealed that Nigeria can borrow a leaf from Cannes, a city she described as ‘a small city but has used festival to attract people to it.’ She observed that beyond the various festivals that take place in the city, Cannes has no other major source of income generation. Nigeria, she explained can borrow a leaf from the festival city by developing the various towns and cities that are naturally endowed for tourism. Places like Yankari Games Reserve, Obudu Cattle Ranch, Jos Plateau among many other beautiful sites.”

There are two sentences in this paragraph that are basically passing the same message though using different syntactic constructions:

1. In addition to equipping the Nigerians towards deploying internet in advertising, Oghenekaaro also revealed that Nigeria can borrow a leaf from Cannes, a city she described as ‘a small city but has used festival to attract people to it’. She observed that beyond the various festivals that take place in the city, Cannes has no other major source of income generation.

2. Nigeria, she explained, can borrow a leaf from the festival city by developing the various towns and cities that are naturally endowed for tourism. Places like Yankari Games Reserve, Obudu Cattle Ranch, Jos Plateau among many other beautiful sites.

The crux of this text is the “borrowing a leaf from Cannes”” though the first sentence explains what “Oghenekaro” requires of Nigeria; borrowing of a leaf from Cannes, the second sentence provides us with two vital information;

- a. That Oghenekaro is a female because of the use of “she”.
- b. That she explained what Nigerian will be using to achieve this change; “by developing the various towns and cities that are naturally endowed for tourism. Places like yankari games reserve, obudu cattle ranch, jos plateau among many other beautiful sites.” This reflects the leaf to be borrowed the development of these locations to meet the Cannes standard.

Thus, a more elaborate part to use for this ellipsis will be eliding the first sentence and retaining the second in this distributional redundant paragraph. At last the elided form will read:

1. Nigeria, she explained, can borrow a leaf from the Festival City by developing the various towns and cities that are naturally endowed for tourism. Places like the Yankari Games Reserve, Obudu Cattle Ranch, Jos Plateau among many other beautiful sites. (Δ)

Text 9 for Ellipsis:

“Chief Gbagi, a hotelier in Effurun and a governorship candidate in the 2007 general election, who took journalists round his house said that the rumour was borne out of joblessness of many people who are idle, adding that anybody who had job to do will not find time to peddle rumour.”

This paragraph can be elided as:

1. “Chief Gbagi, a hotelier in Effurun, a governorship candidate in the 2007 general election, took journalists round his house and said the rumour was borne out of joblessness of many people.” (Δ)

Text 10 for Ellipsis:

“It must be stated that blaming the electoral misdeeds on Iwu, Soyinka has advertised himself as more partisan than we think of him. The truth is that Nigeria’s electoral misfortune predates Iwu’s INEC. Was it Iwu that conducted the 1983 election in which the NPN won with ‘moonslide’ margin? Was it Iwu that conducted the 1999 election and 2003 election both of which were adjudged flawed by the number of votes cast in some states outnumbering the registered voters? Was it Iwu that conducted the sham called local government elections across the country? Again, was it Iwu that annulled the 1993 presidential election and made it inconclusive with dastardly bloody outcome?”

This text contains the following sentences:

1. It must be stated that blaming the electoral misdeeds on Iwu, Soyinka has advertised himself as more partisan than we think of him.
2. The truth is that Nigeria’s electoral misfortune predates Iwu’s INEC.
3. Was it Iwu that conducted the 1983 election in which the NPN won with ‘moonslide’ margin?

4. Was it Iwu that conducted the 1999 election and 2003 election both of which were adjudged flawed by the number of votes cast in some states outnumbering the registered voters?
5. Was it Iwu that conducted the sham called local government elections across the country?
6. Again, was it Iwu that annulled the 1993 presidential election and made it inconclusive with dastardly bloody outcome?"

The sentences all have one feature in common, "Iwu" and a running question "was it Iwu?" The last three sentences also have a given action attached to the question "was it Iwu that conducted". Thus the crux of this paragraph centres on "Iwu" and the "conducted" elections. This text can be elided to be:

1. It must be stated that blaming the electoral misdeeds on Iwu, Soyinka has advertised himself as more partisan than we think of him. The truth is that Nigeria's electoral misfortune predates Iwu's INEC. Was it Iwu that conducted the 1983 election in which the NPN won with 'moonslide' margin, the 1999 election and 2003 both of which were adjudged flawed by the number of votes cast in some states outnumbering the registered voters and the sham called local government elections across the country or annulled the 1993 presidential election and made it inconclusive with dastardly bloody outcome? (Δ)

Though, there was the introduction of the conjunction "and" and "or", the sentence can all be recoverable and returned to its former redundant position.

Text 11 for Ellipsis:

“The call for a national honour for Alhaji Umaru Mutallab is unconscionable. It is insulting to the sensibility of 150 million Nigerians and a total disregard for decency and good judgment. There is nothing honourable about the infamous call for the award of a national honour to Mutallab, the father. The reason adduced are not only frivolous but a conscious attempt to ridicule Nigerians. In a country where truth is a scarce commodity, it becomes a thing of applaud when someone tells the truth to save his own neck and that of his family members.”

The text above can be elided and substituted and we will have:

1. The call for a national honour for Alhaji Umaru Mutallab is unconscionable. It is insulting to the sensibility of 150 million Nigerians, a total disregard for decency and good judgment. There is nothing honourable about the infamous call for the award of a national honour to Mutallab. The reason adduced are not only frivolous but a conscious attempt to ridicule Nigerians. In a country where truth is a scarce commodity, it becomes a thing of applaud when someone tells the truth to save his own neck and that of his family members. (Δ)

In the above elided text, the conjunction “and” was removed. Hence we know from the text that “Alhaji Umaru Mutallab” is the same “Mutallab” being referred to and he is the father of the other “Mutallab” thus restating it is overstating it when economy of words can construct a totally comprehensive string of sentences.

Text 12 for Ellipsis:

“Charges per metre of trenches are not fixed. It all depends on how many people are available for work. When the season becomes a disadvantage, the workers’ bargaining power is weakened. During the dry season, there are many hard-workers in the FCT and we often go for 20 days or

more without work. When this happens, others borrow money from those who are lucky to be employed somewhere,” he said. Alternatively, he said, due to the tedious nature of the work, “(sic)We have specific places where we eat. Each of us has a permanent place where he eats. During hard times, we often negotiate to feed and pay later. “There is no way all of us will lack job at the same time therefore, we always borrow money from one another.””

In the above paragraph, the redundant elements have anaphoric referents. It had been mentioned in the sentences that had gone before. The writers repetition of the same message in a different syntactic construction does not change its redundant status. In dealing with redundancy in this text, firstly we know it is a distributional kind of redundancy and the following unredundant text can be recreated:

1. Alternatively, he said, due to the tedious nature of the work, “We have specific places where we eat. (Each of us has a permanent place where he eats.) (Δ)
2. During hard times, we often negotiate to feed and pay later. (“There is no way all of us will lack job at the same time. Therefore, we always borrow money from one another.”) (Δ)

4.2.2 Analyses of text for Substitution

In analyzing the sentences below, it is important to note that the feature of recoverability is not strictly applicable to substitution as it is to ellipsis.

Text 1 for Substitution:

“I am not aware of lawmakers holding nocturnal meetings anywhere to fashion out any solution in the face of eventuality. Neither is there any group canvassing a position for the president of the senate, senate Mark. “(sic)For the avoidance of doubt, the President of the senate, Senator Mark, has remained on the same page with President Yar’Adua ; his family and our great party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), and we shall not be distracted rabble rousers.””

In the above sentence, there are many grammatical and functional justification for the first entry of “the president of the senate, senate Mark”. For one, that there is a president at the senate is not a clear cut justification; that he is in the person of Senator Mark. The article might be read also outside of the context of the discourse, but the only way its own original context can be referred back to is in relation to the clear explanation of every part of the sentence that maybe ambiguous outside of context. Subsequent reference to the senate president can thus be left as “the President of the senate” since within the same context of discourse, there cannot be two senate presidents or it will be clearly elaborated that one is the “former” and the other “the incumbent”. Since there was no such mention made here, it is then only normal to assume that the aforementioned is the same as the latter. A substituted version of this sentence will read;

1. I am not aware of lawmakers holding nocturnal meetings anywhere to fashion out any solution in the face of eventuality. Neither is there any group canvassing a position for the president of the senate, Senator Mark. “(Sic) he has remained on the same page with the President Yar’Adua; his family and our great party, the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), and we shall not be distracted by rabble rousers.

Text 2 for Substitution:

“The lover, a 62-year-old father of three was arrested to explain the circumstances surrounding the death of her lover. As at yesterday (Wednesday), when Daily Champion went to the police station, the old man was still in detention while his family members were busy trying to make arrangement for the burial of the deceased. Daily champion however sought the views of many people on why

the wife of a devout muslim would lie to his husband in order to elope with a lover to commit adultery.”

In the text above, we have two contrasting issues of functional redundancy where markers are used against the wrong genders. The text to be analyzed has the following issues of redundancy:

1. The lover, a 62-year-old father of three was arrested to explain the circumstances surrounding the death of her lover.
2. Daily Champion however sought the views of many people on why the wife of a devout muslim would lie to his husband in order to elope with a lover to commit adultery.

The first sentence has as its subject “The lover, a 62-year-old father of three”. What stands out here is that he is a “father” thus he must be male. In considering the pronoun forms that address this subject, it will be linguistically correct to pick markers for male that fits into the object position, but the text had “her” lover used in this position. It is redundant since it does not function as the correct pronoun marker, it is equally ungrammatical. Pronoun markers for male gender are; “he”, “him”, “himself”, “his”. Thus, after substituting the female marker below the sentence will read:

1. The lover, a 62-year-old father of three was arrested to explain the circumstances surrounding the death of his lover.

Secondly, the other sentence will read;

2. Daily champion however sought the views of many people on why the wife of a devout muslim would lie to her husband in order to elope with a lover to commit adultery.

Text 3 for Substitution:

“Like a British resident in Nigeria, Ian Runter who was returning from is first visit to the resort aptly put it, “Obudu is Nigeria’s best kept secret” noting further that, “the resort is a true gem of Nigeria.”

In the above text, there is the use of functional redundancy. When words are used out of place in a sentence they result in redundancy. In the sentence below, reference was made to “a British resident in Nigeria, Ian Runter” “who was returning from is first visit to the resort”. In the above sentence a verb was used as a grammatical pointer to the person of “Ian Runter”. When this is substituted it will read:

1. Like a British resident in Nigeria, Ian Runter who was returning from his first visit to the resort aptly put it, “Obudu is Nigeria’s best kept secret” noting further that, “the resort is a true gem of Nigeria.

Text 4 for Substitution:

“The call for a national honour for Alhaji Umaru Mutallab is unconscionable. It is insulting to the sensibility of 150 million Nigerians and a total disregard for decency and good judgment. There is nothing honourable about the infamous call for the award of a national honour to Mutallab, the father. The reason adduced are not only frivolous but a conscious attempt to ridicule Nigerians. In a country where truth is a scarce commodity, it becomes a thing of applaud when someone tells the truth to save his own neck and that of his family members.”

In analyzing the sentences below it is important to note that when a word, an action has gone before and it is repeated it is seen as redundant and overstated. In the above text there is a mention of a “Mutallab”, who had in that article been presented as the father of another “Mutallab”, the article is basically about the father being considered for a national award.

The justification for the substitution here is simply because the person of the “Mutallab” had been mentioned, his status is obtainable from the introductory part of the text thus “Mutallab, the father” can be substituted for “him”. The sentence will then read;

1. The call for a national honour for Alhaji Umaru Mutallab is unconscionable. It is insulting to the sensibility of 150 million Nigerians and a total disregard for decency and good judgment. There is nothing honourable about the infamous call for the award of a national honour to him. The reason adduced are not only frivolous but a conscious attempt to ridicule Nigerians. In a country where truth is a scarce commodity, it becomes a thing of applaud when someone tells the truth to save his own neck and that of his family members.

“Him” here being a proper pronoun to refer to the older “Mutallab” and presented in an object position.

CHAPTER FIVE

FINDINGS, SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

5.0 Introduction

This chapter discusses the findings of this study, gives a summary of the work and recommends areas for further study.

5.1 Findings

From the analysis of fifteen texts extracted from six Nigerian national dailies, the study has looked at the incidences of redundancy in these editorials, explored them for their redundancy and examined them for deliberate and accidental selections.

The study has shown that redundancy can be positive and negative. These positive and negative features narrow down to how the writer uses his diction. The words, phrases and clauses were the writers' medium of actualizing the message within a given context. Of paramount importance are the types of redundancy and their individual uniqueness. The study was able to ascertain that distributional redundancy adheres to all forms of grammaticality and it was used by the writers intentionally. Hence it is a style employed by reporters. It was also observed that English language is to a high degree, a very redundant language. The L1 users equally perceive redundancy differently from the L2 users. The native speakers see all verbose entry as redundant. The native speakers equally know that the English language is 50% redundant, as such redundancy is a feature of the English language (Shannon, 1951:12). The non-native speakers who use it as a second language do not necessarily have complete command of the rules of application of the

language. It is clear that functional redundancy looks at the structural units and how it relates to neighboring units. It can deduce ungrammatical combinations and thus stands as a check for ungrammaticality. It looks at the relationship of units that are grammatically accepted against each other. It studies the relationship of verb to the noun: subject verb agreement. “The local communities that are largely cattle farmers” “the local communities” in this entry functions grammatically with the verb “are” but functional redundancy sees it as “is + verb” and thus perceives it as two distinct entities. It is at this point that the natural redundant nature of the English language comes to play in syntax for the native English speaker.

Redundancy aids contextualization, this is achieved via distributional and functional redundancy respectively. To some degree, this function is carried out more with functional redundancy. For example in, “the ten pots of roses” “ten” “pots” and “roses” are redundant due to the plural markers attached to each word. Simply put, the sentence is not the same with “the pots of roses”.

It can be noted that distributional redundancy has the aesthetic value of repetition which makes it poetic in nature. This repetitive nature helps the writer to keep the central information within the text. It is important to note that some writers do not know how to adequately put this feature to use thereby creating long stretches of verbose sentences. Functional redundancy looks at the norms of the English language; it sticks to the constraints: rules of the language which is believed to be 50% redundant in itself. Redundancy helps in the contextualization of discourse and as such helps the readers filter the data hitting the STM against the LTM thus enhancing comprehension on the

part of the reader and achieving the objectives of the writer, this makes language what it is; a creative tool and a medium of communication.

Accidental redundancy in newspaper editorials is ungrammatical in nature. It is the result of the writer's inability to work within the laws of grammatical formation which is the foundation of redundancy. All communication rest upon the possibility of choice, or selection from a set of alternatives, meaningful, in one of the senses; a linguistic unit of whatever level, has no meaning in a given context if it is completely predictable in the context. Information Content varies inversely with probability. The more predictable a unit is, the less meaning it becomes. Writers on style believe that clichés are less effective than more original turns of phrase.

A certain degree of redundancy is essential in order to counter act noise. Noise here constitutes the environment of the reader, the handwriting used, the lighting effects where the text is being read, the voice or accent of the speaker among other factors. It should be noted that redundancy is often objectionable only when two words causing it occurs within a relatively short sketch.

The English language presents us with a striking display, its lexicons establishes an instance of redundancy as a 'liability' and yet it is precisely the liberal use of redundancy that provides linguistic expressions with an extraordinary measure of "reliability".

In the context of ordinary language, redundancy is said to exist whenever there is an excess or superfluity of anything. The excess may be parts of rules, of words more than the normal, the required, the usual, and the specified. It is useless, superfluous, needless terms which are variously employed to define redundancy.

Redundancy entails the property of having more structure than is minimally necessary. A bridge for example needs a certain number of components if it is to stand, in practice however, the structure of the bridges is redundant. Thus if one structure were to fail, the others would still be enough to ensure that it remained standing. Similarly, in languages a certain number of elements are needed to distinguish each word from others. But the structures in which these elements are combined are redundant. Thus if an individual element is indistinct, they may still be correctly understood. For example, if a subject is plural the verb must normally agree with it, in that sense every element is to some degree predictable from those that accompany it. The dangers of misunderstanding are effectively removed.

A text become redundant when it represents or involves information that readers already have, either because they knew the information before reading the text or because it was presented earlier in the text. This though shows that coherence and readability requires a certain level of redundancy and redundancy is a natural feature of any language.

The presence of overlapping information or coherence ties between sentences creates redundancy which contributes to the coherence of a text by adhering to the norms of the text, thus presenting readers with new information in the content of familiar and given information. For a text to be readable there must be some overlap of information within the text and some overlap between the text and the readers' prior knowledge. The more easily readers can relate new information to what they already know the more easily they can understand and retain that information.

5.2 Summary and Conclusion

This study has attempted to view redundancy in its accidental and deliberate forms in 6 Nigerian newspaper editorials. The research is divided into five chapters. Chapter one is the introductory part of the work, chapter two is used to review related literature, chapter three focused on the methodology used for analysis, chapter four holds the discussion and interpretation of the data and chapter five concludes the work.

The study began with a background look at the concept of redundancy and general perception of the concept. It equally looked at the human retention capability, i.e the way the brain views new concepts and puts it in a storage facility within it. The chapter one further talks about the purpose and delimitation of the study. In chapter two, we reviewed some literature which served as guide for the analyses and interpretation of the data.

Chapter three discusses the methodology adopted for the work. A hundred newspaper editorials were gathered from sixty newspapers, fifteen extracts were randomly picked for analyses. The analytical procedure used was that of Quirk R., Greenbaum S., Leech G. and Svartvik J.,’s concept of Reduction (Ellipsis and Substitution). The choice was due to the structural, contextual and grammatical strength innate in their theory for the analyses of redundancy; it takes in every stage of communication.

Chapter four concentrated mainly on the analyses of the data and its interpretations. The data were analyzed in a six-column-tabular form while the discussion and interpretation of data was done under two distinct headings, namely: distributional redundancy and functional redundancy.

Chapter five concludes the discussion with the findings of the study, a summary and conclusion.

The study has made an effort to show that redundancy can also be seen from positive perspective and is in fact a stylistic device in newspaper editorials. The study has looked at how the human STM relations with its LTM and with the help of redundancy enhance contextualization. The study has equally shown the different types of redundancy and their degrees of application in the various texts.

It furthermore emphasized the place of context in determining a successfully application of distributional and functional redundancy respectively.

The study in a long run supports the relevance of context in its right application, function and position in newspaper editorials since a degree of redundancy is required when the communicator is not present to give stage to stage explanation of his message to each reader. The degree of redundancy in written material far surpasses those in spoken discuss due to the absence of the writer at the venue(s) where the newspapers will be read. This study support the stance that redundancy is a necessary facet in human communication either in its written form or the pictorial and sign forms of functional redundancy. However, this study was only narrowed to a particular aspect of redundancy studying being the syntactic aspect and it involved just one theory; reduction. There are other aspects of redundancy not covered, interested researchers can look into the area of phonology or semantics and can try the application of katz theory, morpheme structure among others listed in chapter two.

The English language presents us with a striking display, its lexicons establish an instance of redundancy as a ‘liability’ and yet it is precisely the liberal use of redundancy that provides linguistic expressions with an extraordinary measure of “reliability”.

It is another means by which writers connect to the readers in a text. Redundancy in language allows the reader's inductions to be more stable by presenting more salient evidence upon which comprehension is based, this statement does not always hold as true.

Without a certain degree of redundancy in language readers/hearers would be in danger of losing the meaning, particularly when they do not give the language their full attention. The ESL can gain a level of mastery where he/she can use the English language as a native speaker would thereby having a total command of the language and thus using all its beautiful facet. National dailies can also be adequately edited before going into print, since some of these redundancy can be avoided to a great degree. English as a language can come alive when used properly; it shows its aesthetics and captures the imaginative ability of the reader.

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