

**Republic of Iraq
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
University of Anbar
College of Education for Humanities
Department of English**



A Pragmatic Analysis of Intensifiers in Political Interviews

**A THESIS
SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL OF COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION FOR HUMANITIES-UNIVERSITY OF ANBAR IN
PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE
DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE
AND LINGUISTICS**

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1443 A.H.

2021 A.D.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

((إِنَّا نَحْنُ نَزَّلْنَا الذِّكْرَ وَإِنَّا لَهُ لَحَافِظُونَ))

صدق الله العظيم
[سورة الحجر، ٩]

**In the Name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most
Merciful**

**((Surely We, Ever We, have been sending down
the Remembrance, and surely We are indeed
Preservers of it))**

Allah Almighty Has Spoken the Truth

{Surah Al-Hijr, 9}

Translated by (Ghali, 2008)

I certify that this thesis, entitled "**A Pragmatic Analysis of Intensifiers in Political Interviews**" written by **Ahmed Jiad Zidan**, has been prepared under my supervision at the Department of English, College of Education for Humanities, University of Anbar in partial fulfilment of requirement for the degree of Master of Arts in the English Language and Linguistics.

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I also certify to observe accuracy in the evaluation, and not only examining the general framework of the thesis and the method of scientific research to ensure intellectual integrity, and not to destroy the national unity and national cohesion and to ask the researcher to delete offensive paragraphs and phrases, and otherwise, I bear all the legal consequences, For this I signed:


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Date: 2021/10/12

DEDICATION

To The Members of My Family
To My Friends and Classmates

Acknowledgements

All words of thanks and praises are due to Allah, the Almighty. I sincerely express my deepest gratitude and respect to my supervisor Prof. Dr. Muslih Shwaysh Ahmed under his supervision the present work has been carried out. I heartily thank him for his invaluable guidance, constructive remarks, scientific observations, and patience throughout the writing of this thesis.

I would like to extend my gratitude and respect to Asst. Prof. Dr. Marwan Khadim Muhammad / Head of English Department, College of Education for Humanities, Anbar University, for his valuable effort and support. I also extend my thanks and gratitude to Asst. Prof. Dr. Jumaa Qadir and Asst. Prof. Dr. Hutheifa Yousif for checking the examples cited in chapter four. I respectfully offer my thanks to Asst. Prof. Dr. Ala'a Ismaeil, Asst. Prof. Dr. Imad Haif, Dr. Fuad Mohammed, and all the staff of the English Department, College of Education for Humanities, for their support and encouragement.

Many thanks are also extended to my colleagues, Abdulqadir, Yassir, Firas, Sattar, Taha, Omar, Mothana, and Raad, for their help and encouragement. I should not forget to thank the librarian staffs of both college of Arts/ University of Baghdad and the central library of AL-Mustansiriyah University for their kind cooperation.

Abstract

The present study is concerned with English intensifiers as a linguistic means of intensification. They are a complex phenomenon. This complexity is related to the definition and classification of intensifiers. The present study has been conducted to find very comprehensive classifications of intensifiers in order to analyze them pragmatically in a systematic framework and have a general picture of the pragmatic functions of the intensifiers in political interviews. These pragmatic functions are determined by the modification of both illocutionary force and speech acts, the degree of expressivity and involvement, and showing the effect of intensifiers on the other pragmatic functions.

The aims of the study are the following;(i) investigating the use of intensifiers in political interviews, (ii) examining how politicians use the intensifiers in their political interviews, and (iii) investigating the upgrading and downgrading scales in the political interviews by using intensifiers. According to these aims, it is hypothesized that;(i) politicians in their interviews frequently use intensifiers, (ii) they use intensifiers in their political interviews for a specific intended meaning as a way, for instance, to express the degree of their feelings, beliefs, and attitudes of persuasion, agreement or any other pragmatic functions, and (iii)there are intensifiers that belong to the upgrading scale and others to the downgrading scale.

In order to achieve the aims of this study, the researcher selected three political interviews to analyse pragmatically the intensifiers used by the politicians involved. The intensifiers are identified depending on the classifications of Quirk et al.'s (1985) and Lorenz's (1999) & (2002). Three models are adopted for the analysis of the pragmatic functions of these intensifiers to conduct a systematic pragmatic analysis. They are: (a)Cacchiani (2007) for expressivity and involvement, (b)Bazzanella et al. (1991), Cacchiani (2009) and Holmes (1984) for the analysis of modification for;

(i) illocutionary force (ii) speech acts, and (c) Urbanova (2003) for boosting and attenuating other pragmatic functions. According to the aims and the models of the analysis, the study was qualitatively designed based on the qualitative content analysis procedure. It is only quantitative to identify the individual and the total use of intensifiers in each interview. According to data analysis and discussions, the study has been found out that politicians use different types of intensifiers for various purposes. It has been found that intensifiers that express undistinguished emotion and the modal meaning, and those used in the content/discourse oriented are higher in frequency than other tendencies. Moreover, it has also found that the intensifiers of both types, amplifiers and downtoners, have been used to modify the dimensions of the illocutionary force of speech acts. According to the findings of the data analysis, the study has significantly concluded that the use of intensifiers might be regarded as a powerful tool used by politicians to get the audience's intentions, to prompt their feelings, and to achieve their aims and interests. This leads to adding that intensifiers are not randomly used by politicians, but they are used as a purposeful means of communication.

The findings and conclusions arrived at validate the hypotheses and realize the aims of this study.

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List of Abbreviations

H

Hearer

Deg.

Degree Adverbial

Adj_d

Descriptive Adjective

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In human communication, intensification is regarded as a common phenomenon, and there are numerous devices used to achieve the effect of intensity. According to Labov (1985), there are various linguistic devices of intensity, including adverbs of intensity, superlative forms, metaphors, aspects to express intensity, quantifiers used intensively, repetition, prosodic contrast, negative concord, inversion, etc. Intensifiers are the best means for the intensification. In a broader sense, the term intensifier is used as an adverbial modifier of adverbs, adjectives, verbs, participles, quantifiers, prepositional phrases, and nominal expressions (i.e., nouns, noun phrases, and pronouns), which scale downwards and upwards from the assumed norm. Quirk et al. (1972: 438) define intensifiers as a set of adverbs which “have in common a heightening or lowering effect on some unit in the sentence”. It is also defined as a linguistic term that “makes no contribution to the propositional meaning of a clause but serves to enhance and give additional emotional context to the word it modifies”(Napoli et al.,2017:102). Intensifiers increase the effect of a verb by using an adverb that strengthens or weakens the emotional content of the word. Partington (1993: 178) states that “the importance of intensification in the communicative process is that it is a vehicle for impressing, praising, persuading, insulting, and generally influencing the hearer’s reception of the message”. This means that intensifiers are regarded as the best means to modify the elements as a way to express psychological states such as the degree of beliefs, feelings, or attitudes to show other pragmatic functions such as the degree of agreement, assurance, persuasions

and so on. Intensifiers are the linguistic devices that denote modification, degrees of emphasis, and force to other linguistic categories (Greenbaum,1996: 142). Alexander (2003: 150) indicates that intensification refers to the process by which an adverb modifies adjectives. Similarly, Milroy and Milroy (1997, 52) add that any conveyed message can be intensified and emphasized by means of adverbs such as: *very, too, exactly, so, only, probably, highly, totally, almost, much, quite, perfectly* and many others. Intensifiers tend to develop rapidly to constitute an open class of words (Ito and Tagliamonte, 2003: 257). Radden and Dirven (2007: 151) refer to intensifiers as the modifiers that qualify a given word according to the degree of intensification, such as adjectives, adverbs, and verbs.

Intensifiers are used to suggest to the audience how they should feel. When the audience hears the emotion named in the adverb, he/she automatically begins to feel that way. In English grammar, an intensifier is a word that emphasizes another word or phrase as an adjective or adverb. Intensifying adjectives modify nouns, whereas intensifying adverbs commonly modify verbs, gradable adjectives, and other adverbs.

1.2 Problem of the Study

In order to be able to explore the pragmatic features of intensifiers, it is necessary to find a precise definition and classification of them. However, there are different points of view about the definition of the term intensifier and its classification. This causes confusion and creates a problem concerning with the study of those intensifiers.

English intensifiers are regarded as a pervasive phenomenon that can modify not only the adjectives and adverbs, but also the verbs and nouns. They are also considered a very complex phenomenon since the existence of such complication would be in their forms and their classifications. From a semantic perspective, the

meaning of intensifiers varies from one element to another. Their meaning is gradable from a high to a low degree. The effect of such variation in their intensity is different from one person to another. Therefore, this study is conducted to focus on these problems by finding a very comprehensive taxonomy in order to analyze such linguistic devices pragmatically. Additionally, the reason for selecting intensifiers as a pragmatic study is that most of the previous studies are focused only on the syntactic and semantic features, whereas the pragmatic studies of intensifiers are to some extent limited and unsystematic. In other words, a great number of linguists' studied focused on intensifiers syntactically and semantically. One may say that there is no pure pragmatic study of intensifiers in political interviews. Thus, this study is conducted to bridge this gap and to be the first attempt in this regard.

1.3 Aims of the Study

The study aims at:

- (i) investigating the use of intensifiers in political interviews.
- (ii) examining how politicians use the intensifiers during political interviews.
- (iii) investigating upgrading, and downgrading scales in political interviews by using intensifiers.

1.4 Hypotheses of the Study

It is hypothesized that:

- (i) politicians in their interviews frequently use intensifiers.
- (ii) they use intensifiers in their political interviews for specific intended meaning as a way, for instance, to express the degree of their feelings, beliefs, and attitudes of persuasion, agreement/ disagreement, or any other pragmatic functions.
- (iii) there are intensifiers that belong to the upgrading scale and others to the downgrading scale.

1.5 Limits of the Study

The reason behind selecting political interviews in the current study is that the intensifiers contribute in political interviews more than on other materials. Hence, the selection of material from political interviews offers the advantages of being in the public domain and can be easily analyzed and verified. This study is only confined to analyze intensifiers as adverbs in political interviews in regard to pragmatic functions and any other linguistic devices such as those related to phonology (e.g., stress, pitch) and those which are related to syntax (e.g., exclamation, double negative) or any of those that are related to paralinguistic devices (e.g., gestures, facial expressions) will be excluded from this study.

1.6 Significance of the Study

The current study is important because it can help researchers get a better understanding of how intensifiers are used in political interviews. The researcher believes that a systematic study of intensifying adverbs in political interviews would be a good attempt to contribute to this area of study. It is significant for those who study linguistics in general and pragmatics in particular. It is also significant to those who are concerned with the analysis of the political interviews as well. Besides the understanding of the pragmatic functions of intensifiers in interview is crucial to interpreting what is being said. Thus, the current study may serve as a guideline for those who are interested in political interviews. Additionally, intensifiers play a significant role in oral communication due to their flexibility and variability, besides being more functional than lexical inteties. It would be important to study the pragmatic functions of intensifiers beyond the syntactic and semantic concerns.

1.7 Procedures of the Study

The procedures of the present study are:

1-choosing certain English political interviews to analyse pragmatically the intensifiers found in them.

2-pointing out the intensifiers included in each interview to be analysed.

3-analyzing and discussing the findings of the analysis of intensifiers of each interview.

4- drawing conclusions, recommendations, and further studies based on the findings arrived at in this study.

1.8 The Model Adopted

The study adopts two classifications of intensifiers, Quirk et al. (1985) and Lorenz(1999) and (2002), only to find out and classify the type of intensifiers. The following three models are adopted for the pragmatic functions of intensifiers, (1) Cacchiani (2007), who analyzes intensifiers in regard to their degrees of *expressivity* and *involvement*, (2) *modification*, as a second pragmatic function, is analysed in the light of (i)Bazzanella et al. (1999) for illocutionary force modification, to explore the role of intensifiers in the mechanism of modification of the illocutionary force, and (ii)Holmes (1984) and Cacchiani (2009a) for modification of speech acts. To them, the modification of speech acts can be divided into: a *modal meaning* which depends on the speaker's attitude to the ideas in a given context and an *affective meaning*, which in turn depends on the speaker's relation to the addressee in a given context. However, the modification of speech acts either reinforces one's face (i.e., social image) or affects it. Furthermore, if the modification affects or threatens such a face, the intensifiers

may mitigate or aggravate the result of speech acts to the speaker. In order to know the reasons or purposes of the modification of speech acts from the assuming norms, the study adopts the (3) Urbanva's (2003) model as a way to identify other pragmatic functions such as the degree of certainty, uncertainty, agreement and so on in the case of speaker, hearer or content/discourse oriented in order to draw a systematic pragmatic picture for the study. The above models will be discussed in details in chapter three of the study.

CHAPTER TWO

THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 Introductory Remarks

This chapter consists of four main sections. The first section is mainly concerned with pragmatics which includes its definitions, speech acts theory, the taxonomy of speech acts, and the pragmatic approaches of intensifiers. The second section is concerned with an overview of English intensifiers: their definitions and classifications from different points of view, besides other phenomena related to intensifiers. The third section deals with political interviews, which includes origin, history, definitions, and the language which is used in political interviews. The last section presents an overview of previous studies that are related to the current study.

2.2 Pragmatics

Pragmatics is a relatively new discipline within the framework of linguistic studies. Several definitions have been proposed to define pragmatics. These definitions may be differed according to the different viewpoints that are given by the scholars. The present usage of the term ‘pragmatics’ is attributable to Morris, who defines it as a part of his theory of semiotics along with semantics and syntax, describing it as the study of “the relationship of sign to interpreters”. Thus, he sees pragmatics as the use of language by users in real situations because he defines it from the interpreters’ point of view (Morris, 1938:6). Wales (2014:335) also indicates that pragmatics is used to study “the relation of signs to interpreters”. Huang (2007:2) defines pragmatics as “the systematic study of meaning by virtue of, or dependent on, the use of language”. He also states that implicature,

presupposition, speech acts, deixis, and reference are the central components of inquiry of pragmatics. Ariel (2000:1) also mentions that pragmatics is the area which “studies the relationship between language and rules of using it”. It consists of topics such as deixis, speech acts, context, conversational implicature, and presupposition.

2.2.1 Speech Acts Theory

Leech (1983:13) indicates that there is a strong relationship between pragmatics and its component speech acts. He mentions that speech act is one of the important area in pragmatics. Archer et al. (2013: 35) state that the speech act is the cornerstone of pragmatic since it is the major part. Scholars of philosophy were interested not only in the idea of descriptive language in the real world, but with the idea of how we use language in the real world. The British philosopher Austin is regarded as the father of this theory through a series of lectures which were delivered in 1955 and gathered after his death in 1962 as a book named 'How to do things'.

Huang (2007:119) points out that after the death of Austin, the idea of speech act is refined, systematized, and developed by his Oxford pupil, the American philosopher John R. Searle. Searle about this idea published his famous book named ‘Speech Acts’. Furthermore, he puts a slogan, “saying is (part of) doing, or words are (part of) deeds”.

Levinson (1980:5) states that the speech acts theory is the topic which attracts several scholars from different fields of knowledge. Bruner (1975) and Bates (1976), cited in Levinson (ibid), state that psycholinguists, for instance, have argued that the acquisition of speech acts may be preconditioned for the acquisition of the language. Levinson (1983:374), on the other hand, adds that the study of

some pragmatic areas such as the speech acts and their uses and social deixis are contributed with other disciplines such as sociolinguistics, then Levinson(ibid.) adds that the relation between pragmatics and psycholinguistics is represented by the cognitive psychology and other theories such as theories of language processing and production. Moreover, Levinson (1980:226) also mentions that the literary critics also looked to the theory of speech acts and regarded it as a way of clarifying the textual subtleties. Furthermore, he adds that philosophers have been looked at the speech acts theory as a topic which has a potential application, for instance to “the status of ethical statements”. However, linguists have looked at this notion as a way to explain the problems which are related to other linguistic fields such as syntax, semantics, second language learning, and others. Meanwhile, the pragmaticians regarded this notion as a central phenomenon for presupposition and implicature, and they confirmed that this notion must be accounted in any pragmatic theory.

2.2.1.1 The Components of Speech Act

Austin (1962) introduces in his collective lectures three components of speech act which are locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary. Huang (2007:127) states that the locutionary act means “the production of a meaningful linguistic expression”, the illocutionary act means “the action intended to be performed by a speaker in uttering a linguistic expression, by virtue of the conventional force associated with it, either explicitly or implicitly”, and the perlocutionary act refers to the effect of an utterance on the addressee.

Sassen (2005:34) mentions that “Searle follows Austin in claiming that the speech act is the basic unit of communication”, Sassen (ibid.) also states that Searle presents four components of speech act. They are the following.

(i)The utterance act: According to Searle (1969), this act refers to the production of words (morphemes and sentences).

(ii)The propositional act: this act is constituted when a speaker refers or predicts in an utterance.

(iii)The illocutionary act: What the speaker does with expressions in relation to the listener.

(vi)The perlocutionary act: The effect of illocutionary actions, such as the behaviour, ideas, or beliefs on the listeners.

It can be noted that Searle's components of illocutionary and perlocutionary acts are identical with those presented by Austin, whereas the utterance act and the propositional act have no concord with those of Austin's components in names. Sassen (2005:35) distinguishes between utterance and illocutionary acts; the utterance act refers to the one which is performed or uttered without illocutionary or intention to mean anything, whereas the illocutionary act refers to the actions which have a conventional force performed by speakers.

2.2.1.2 Speech Acts Taxonomy

As mentioned above, the British philosopher John Austin is regarded as the pioneer of the speech acts theory. He gave a primary classification to this notion. His classification is primary since it contains several points of weakness, and it needs to be revised. Later, it is complemented and developed by Searle. Huang (2007:132) states that Austin classified speech acts into five categories which are named Verdictives, Exercitives, commissives, Expositives, and Behabitives. However, this classification was criticized by Searle when he stated that Austin's classification was for English illocutionary verbs, not for illocutionary acts

(Mey,2001). Searle (1969,1975) attempts to organize a systematic classification of speech acts. He presents an alternative classification. His classification depends on a number of dimensions suggested by him. The dimensions which are based on his classification are illocutionary point, direction to fit word to the world, and the sincerity condition (psychological states) (Searle,1976). According to Searle (ibid.) and Archer et al. (2012: 39), it is noted that Searle's classification has the same number of basic categories of illocutionary acts as Austin's; the following five classes are mentioned below:

1-Representatives (contain most of Austin's Expositives): According to Searle (1976:10), the purpose of this class is to commit the speaker to something that is true. This class is to fit 'word to the world' and express the degree of belief in it as a psychological state. The speech acts of this class are stating, suggesting, boosting, complaining, claiming, concluding, and deducing.

2-Commissives (Austin's commissives): The purpose of this class is to commit the speaker to some future course of action. The intention is the sincerity condition of this class, and the directives show the world to words fit. The examples of speech acts of this class are promises, pledges, and vows.

3-Directives (contain most of Austin's directives): The purpose of this class is an attempt by the speaker to get the listener to do something. The directives show the world to words fit. Want (or wish or desire) is the sincerity condition. The functions of this class of speech acts are asking, ordering, commanding, requesting, begging, pleading, praying, entreating, inviting, permitting, and advising.

4-Expressives (contain most of Austin's Behabitatives): The illocutionary purpose of this class is to express the speaker's psychological states towards the listeners. The directives fit of the word to world or world to word is not found in this class

since the existence of fit in this class is presupposed. The types of speech acts of this class are thanking, congratulating, apologizing, condoling, welcoming, and deploring.

5-Declaratives (contain most of Austin's Verdictives). The illocutionary purpose of this class is to influence the immediate changes in those current state of affairs. The directives of this class show the corresponding of both the words to world and world to words. The successful performance relies on extralinguistic institutions or to institutionalized performance. There is no psychological state expressed in this class. The examples of speech acts of this type are bidding in the bridge, declaring war, excommunicating, firing from employment, and nominating a candidate judges to sentence offenders.

2.2.1.3 Speech Act Modification

Cacchiani (2009b:32-35) defines intensifiers in terms of syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic perspectives. Syntactically, she states that intensifiers occur in emphasis next to the predicate (i.e., head). They can modify adjectives (e.g., very nice), noun phrases (e.g., absolutely nothing), adverb phrases (e.g., far beyond), prepositional phrases (e.g., much to his surprise), and verb phrases (e.g., absolutely deny). They can contribute to all five classes of speech acts. They increase the complexity of the items that they modify. Semantically, intensifiers can express the semantic role of degree either upward (e.g., very, extremely, bloody) or downwards (e.g., rather, a bit, little). Pragmatically, intensifiers violate the maxim of quality since the information in focus is considered to be more relevant. Furthermore, syntactically, intensifiers lack scope variability, but they are still used semantically, whereas pragmatically, they present new information.

Intensifiers vary not only in their intensification, but also in expressiveness, register, degree of involvement of the speaker, and the degree which can be contributed to modify speech acts (e.g., rather brilliant, extremely brilliant, absolutely brilliant). The intensifiers show the degree of intensity of the illocutionary point of all five speech acts. The illocutionary point is one of the seven components of the illocutionary force. Searle and Vanderveken (1985:37-38) state that there are only five illocutionary points for five speech acts, for instance, the illocutionary point of assertives is to show how things are whereas the expressives are to express feelings and attitudes. The intensification shows the inner states, judgments, evaluation, and involvement to a different extent. Cacchiani(2009b:34-35) states that the intensification has equivalent to upgrading or downgrading the epistemic comment of the speaker or commitment to the truth of his argument, which results in modification of speech acts. She presents two examples of the intensification of the assertives and expressive classes

A-“You are bloody mod”.

B- “Thanks for the help, everybody, you’re all bloody marvelous, are you?”

It can be noted that in sentence (A), the speaker shows the intensity and modifies the negative adjective to make his position clear. The intensifier ‘bloody’ is regarded as a signal of a strong commitment to the truth and personal emotional involvement. It is used to reinforce the degree of criticism which leads toward aggravation. Whereas, the intensifier ‘bloody’ in the sentence (B), which is added to a positive adjective, reinforces the degree of commendatory as well as making the evaluation of the speech act positively that leads toward the mitigation of the speech acts. It can be understood that the modification of the speech act starts from the illocutionary point either upward or downward; in turn the intensification of the

illocutionary point means the modification of the illocutionary force of the speech acts since it is the major component of the illocutionary force.

2.2.1.4 Illocutionary Act

Crystal (2011:236) defines illocutionary as “a term used in the theory of speech acts to refer to an act which is performed by the speaker by virtue of the utterance having been made”. It differs from locutionary (the act of saying) and perlocutionary (the effect act has on the hearer).

An Illocutionary act is defined by Searle and Vanderveken (1985:1) as “the minimum units of human communication”, statements, questions, commands, promises, and so on, which are regarded as an example of this notion. Whenever someone utters an utterance in an appropriate context and intention, he attempts to perform one or more illocutionary acts. The illocutionary force and propositional content are the important components of the illocutionary acts. Two utterances, such as “you will leave the room”, and “Leave the room!”, have the same propositional content, namely, “leave the room,” but they have two different illocutionary forces, the first illocutionary force for prediction and the second for order. Accordingly, Levinson (1983:245) states that “the illocutionary force and the propositional content are detachable elements of meaning”. He presents four utterances as follows.

- A. “I predict that you will go home”.
- B. “Go home”.
- C. “Are you going to go home?”
- D. “I advise you go home”.

It can be noted that the four utterances share with same propositional contents, namely that you will ‘go home’, but they have different illocutionary

forces (A) for prediction, (b) for ordering (c) for the asking, and (d) for advising.

2.2.1.5 Propositional Content

Peetz (1972: 183) states that the propositional content is “an expression used by Searle to what is common”, for instance, “I assert that John Smith shut the door”, “John Smith shut the door”, and “Did John Smith shut the door?”, it can be noted here that they have the same propositional contents namely, “John Smith shut the door”.

Lyons (1995), Cruse (2004), and Huang (2007) make differences between truth value and truth condition. Huang (ibid.:1720) states that “the notion of truth value is associated with that of proposition, and the notion of truth condition is linked to that of sentence”. According to Cruse(ibid.), if a sentence has a truth value, it can be evaluated as true or false, but if it doesn’t have a true value, it cannot be assessed, whereas truth condition refers to the conditions under which the statement is true. According to these aspects, Cruse (ibid.:20) defines the propositional content as “those aspects of the meaning of a sentence which determine whether a statement the sentence is being used to make in particular situation is true or false”. Furthermore, he mentions if there are two sentences with identical propositional, the content will yield statements with the same truth value, but with different propositional content will yield a statement with opposite truth value.

2.2.2 Illocutionary Force

The illocutionary force is an important component of the illocutionary act. It is one of the components that can analyze the illocutionary act. According to Searle and Vanderveken (1985:12), each illocutionary force has seven

interrelated components, which include (1) illocutionary point, (2) degree of strength of the illocutionary point, (3) mode of achievement of that point, (4) propositional content conditions, (5) preparatory conditions, (6) sincerity conditions, and (7) degree of strength of the sincerity conditions. This study is interested in two components of the illocutionary force, namely, the degree of strength of the illocutionary point and the degree of strength of the sincerity conditions. Fedoryuk (2019:2) states that the contribution of intensifiers in developing and establishing the illocutionary force and the intensifying degree of these two components is significant. Searle and Vanderveken (1985:12), on the other hand, regard illocutionary point as the most important component of the illocutionary force, and it is basic, and they define it as “the point or purpose which is related to each type of illocutionary act”. This means that the internal point of the statement is to commit people how thing is, the internal point of the promise is to commit the speaker to do things, and the internal point of the command or order is to commit the people to do thing. Searle and Vanderveken (ibid.) point out that different illocutionary acts may have the same illocutionary point, but the degree of the strength is different, for instance, if the speaker requests/insists on doing something, the illocutionary point may be the same, but the degree is different, the degree of request is less strong than insisting. Additionally, Searle and Vanderveken (ibid.) add that in performing an illocutionary act with the content of propositional, the speaker expresses a particular psychological state with that content, but the degree of the same psychological state can also be expressed with a different degree and strength of the sincerity condition.

2.2.2.1 Establishing and Developing of the Illocutionary Force

Fedoryuk(2019:4) indicates that increasing the degree of the strength of the illocutionary point and the sincerity condition is manifested by the lexical intensifiers (e.g., quite, really)or adverbial intensifiers(e.g., extremely), emphatic 'did', and phraseological intensifiers (e.g., like hell, hard, very quickly, 'like the dickens' which mean furiously or very much). All these devices are led to intensity of the language. According to Burgoon et al. (1975:241), intensity is defined as “language indicating degree and direction of distance from neutrality”. Fedoryuk (2019:2) finds out that the intensifiers and the phraseological intensifiers serve as “an instrument used by individuals in order to attain certain communicative goals, or in other words, it conveys the speaker pragmatic meaning”. The pragmatic meaning refers to the communication intent of the speaker. Schiffrin et al. (2001:59) define the pragmatic meaning as the “message the speaker intends to convey in uttering the sentence”. Searle and Vanderveken (1985) describe the speaker's intention in producing the utterance as the illocutionary force of a speech act. According to Fedoryuk (2019:2), the intensifiers and phraseological intensifiers in the field of discourse are regarded as the basic pragmatic markers or signals of the illocutionary force. They help to establish and develop the illocutionary force of speech acts.

Fedoryuk (2019:3) distinguishes the utterances with and without intensifiers; for example, the speaker who says 'I really felt sorry for you' to express the intentional state of regret directed to someone is different from other utterances without intensifiers such as 'I felt sorry for you'. It can be noted that both illocutionary forces have the same point, but differ in degrees of strength, the degree of illocutionary point and the sincerity condition in the first utterance is

expressed with a greater degree of strength than it is expressed in the second utterance. The speaker uses the intensifier ‘really’ to increase and establish the illocutionary force and to convince the hearer of the truth of the expressed propositional content. Then, Fedoryuk (ibid.) distinguishes two utterances, one of them has the lexical intensifier ‘very’ and the other has phraseological intensifier ‘as hell’ as below:

-“He is very angry. I was afraid he might lose his control”.

-“He is angry as hell. I was afraid he might fly off the handle”.

Accordingly, the result shows that the degree of the strength and the sincerity condition with phraseological intensifiers ‘as hell’ is greater than that with the lexical intensifier ‘very’. It can be understood from the previous examples that the intensifiers have the main role in the intensity of the language, which led to developing and establishing the illocutionary force of the speech acts. This means that these devices have a pragmatic orientation depending on their intensity on the semantic degree.

2.2.2.2 The Reasons Behind Modification of the Illocutionary Force

There are two basic reasons for the modification of the illocutionary force. “firstly, to convey modal meaning or the speaker attitude to the content of the proposition, and secondly, to express affective meaning or the speaker’s attitude to the addressee in the content of utterance” (Holmes, 1984:348-9).

The intensifier is one of the linguistic devices which is used by speaker to express the precise degree (e.g., certainty). Holmes (1984:348) states that the speaker in doubtful situation may use the downtoners to express his psychological states, which are related to uncertainty and unwillingness. On the other hand, when the speaker is aware that the addressee is in a doubtful

situation, he/she may use the amplifiers as a linguistic device to boost his/her speech act and express the degree of certainty in order to convince the addressee. Holmes (1982:9) also adds that the speakers who do not modify their speech by such communication will be incompetent, overbearing, aggressive, rude, or unfeeling. Furthermore, she adds that the amplifiers devices may be used to strengthen the utterance to express the degree of agreement or disagreement, reassurance or denial, whereas the downtoners may be used to soften the degree of accusations, criticism, or disagreements. Urbanova (2003:28) also mentions that the uncertainty, lack of specification, etc. are the most common reasons for modification in the case attenuation whereas, certainty, solidarity, etc., are the most common reasons for the modification in the case of accentuation or boosters.

Intensifiers are used to reinforce or mitigate different types of speech acts, in the case of mitigation, Fraser (1980: 341) defines mitigation as “the reduction of certain unwelcome effects which a speech act has on the hearer”. Lakoff (1975: 53-54) uses the term “hedges” instead of mitigation and describes three uses;(1)- to express the sense that the speaker is uncertain about what he/she is saying, (2)- to mitigate the possible unkindness or unfriendliness of the statement, and (3)- to avoid being unladylike by making an assertion at all. Therefore, the modification of the illocutionary force is crucial in language specially in conversations. In this way, the speakers attempt to select a particular type of intensifier to express their psychological states and their attitude to their listeners.

2.2.3 Pragmatic Phenomena Related to Intensifiers

Intensifiers, according to Bühler (1934), are expressive vehicles of intensification since they are indexical of the speaker. The semantic features of the intensifiers can identify the type and degree of expressivity. Cacchiani (2007) states that there are two functions that can be found in using the intensifiers as a modifier degree to show the expressive degree. It is indexed in the mind of the speaker. Brehan and Davidse (2016), cited in Cacchiani (2017:4), state that the meaning of intensity is a process of shifting from concrete to abstract or from objective to subjective expressive. It can be understood that this process of transition is made from the literal or semantic meaning of intensifiers, the meaning which can be measured objectively to the abstract meaning or intended meaning, the meaning which expresses the inner states and cannot be measured objectively. Intensifiers have a main role in resulting in other phenomena such as irony, hyperbole, persuasion, and manipulation as below:

2.2.3.1 Irony

Dressler & Barbaresi (1994:421) state that an intensifier can be used as a means of irony. According to them, if the use of an intensifier doesn't express the psychological states or if there is a clash between the meaning of the intensifiers and the actual value of the speech situation, the resulting irony will be inevitable. Barbe (1995:24) presents an example to show the role of intensifiers in causing irony. Accordingly, he presents the following utterance "you are a real winner", the utterance is uttered when the speaker criticizes the addressee, and the addressee has not done anything, or he has been a victim or loser. Here, the intensifier 'real' is superfluous, and its role is interpreted as irony. He (ibid.) also adds that in the case

of deleting of intensifier ‘real’ from the utterance “you are a winner”, this utterance would not be understood as ironic.

Dressler & Barbaresi (1994:421-2) state that the polarity dimension between the meaning of the intensifier and the actual value of the speech situation has various degrees. The larger degree between the precise degree of reality and its description on the scale, the greater irony will result, for instance, when speaker (A) complains about the light breeze as the following:

Speaker (A)-“What a wind!”

Speaker (B)- “Sure, it’s a real tornado”.

It can be noted that speaker (B) uses the intensifier “real” as an interacting to result in a greater irony.

2.2.3.2 Hyperbole

Greenough (1929:300) mentions that “strong feeling demands strong words”, i.e., the linguistic devices that are used to express the strong feeling. Intensifiers as linguistic devices are regarded as the tools of any speaker who wants to persuade or convince the addressee with the validity of his own point of view (Benzinger,1973:13). Mahmood (2015:25) claims that “hyperbole is a linguistic phenomenon”, Other scholars as Burgers et al. (2016:165) also mention another property that “hyperbole is a pragmatic phenomenon”. This means that the real-word, such as the intensifier can be interpreted as hyperbole in the utterance. Mahmood (2015) adds that intensifier as a linguistic device contributes to developing the hyperbole. Therefore, intensifiers are regarded as a good tool in making the meaning of the speaker enthusiastic. The hyperbole occurs when the speaker describes things with upmost or lowering degree of exaggeration as a description for something impossible. Cacchiani (2007:11) classifies the predicate-

intensifier collocations according to high or less grammaticalization, which can combine with other adjectives or adverbs in order to express an intensification with a different degree as a way to result in a hyperbole phenomenon (e.g., extremely funny, screamingly funny, absolutely marvelous). Claridge (2010:107) states that the repetition is accompanied by an intensifier. Furthermore, he states that the intensifiers ‘absolute(ly)’ and ‘really’ are mostly found with ‘hate’ and ‘nothing’ to produce conventional forms of hyperbole as in the following:

-“I really really hate love bites”.

- “Is the Secretary of State’s policy still to do absolutely nothing?”

2.2.3.3 Persuasion

Lakoff (1982: 28) describes persuasion as the “attempt or intention of one party to change the behaviour, feelings, intentions, or viewpoint of another by communicative means”. Grigsby (2009:45) defines persuasion as “nonphysical power in which the agent using power makes its use of power clear and known to the agent over whom power is exercised”.

Persuasion can be achieved through a variety of linguistic devices; the intensifiers are one of these devices. Zhang et al. (2019: 50) refer that linguistic devices such as intensifiers (e.g., very, extremely) serve the purpose of persuasion perfectly specially with the TV show which requires speaker to battle over the others. Then, intensifiers are the best tool for boosting or attenuating utterances. Since the use of intensifiers shows the level of confidence with which a speaker is constructing their claim. Hyland (2000), cited in Zhang et al. (2019:5), claims that the intensifiers such as (overly, extremely, very) which lead to boosters “allow speakers to convey a sense of conviction”. Zhang et al. (2019: 49) also state that intensifiers are used to amplify a proposition. Hyland (2005: 52) demonstrates that

intensifiers enable the speaker to “head off conflicting views and express their certainty in what they say”. Then, Hyland (ibid.) adds, “by closing down possible alternatives, boosters emphasize certainty and construct rapport by marking involvement with the topic and solidarity with an audience, taking a joint position against other voices”. Hu and Cao (2011: 2796) point out that “skillful manipulation of hedges and boosters” indicates a speaker’s “epistemic stance towards propositional content”, and marks him/her “as a competent member of the discourse community”. Zhang et al. (2019:96) illustrate that intensifiers which are used for strengthening scalar words can enhance the force of their persuasion. Hyland (2005) and Lakoff (1982) regard intensifiers “as effective weapons to win the battle by increasing the coaches’ persuasive powers”.

2.2.3.4 Manipulation

Akopova (2013) defines linguistic manipulation is a power exercised by one person upon another or a group of people through speech in order to achieve a certain goal as a result of changing a behavior of the addressee. Grigsby (2009:45) classifies manipulation as “nonphysical power in which the agent using power conceals the use of power”.

Manipulation can be either person-oriented when it is directed towards the listener by the interlocutor or society-oriented when it is generalized and directed to the group of people. The ways of influencing one person to another explain the similarity between persuasion and manipulation.

On the other hand, Grigsby (2009:53) distinguishes between manipulation and persuasion. It is stated that if manipulation is successful, this means that “the agent over whom power is exercised generally is unaware that power has even been used”. The difference is in the case of exercising power in persuasion and

manipulation. In persuasion, you will feel it, but in manipulation, you do not feel it “because you do not know anything has happened”.

Furthermore, persuasion is concerned with truth, whereas, manipulation is not concerned with truth. The linguistic devices such as intensifiers can be a means of resulting in the manipulation power. As illustrated, the intensifiers are used to express the psychological states of the speaker, but when the speaker exaggerates in using them, and there is a clash between what is said and the reality as a way to change the behavior of the others and to mislead, victimize or fool someone in order to achieve a certain goal. In this way, the intensifiers will be the best means in resulting this theory.

2.2.4 Pragmatic Approaches of Intensifiers

Intensifiers have received a detailed investigation in the semantic fields, but pragmatically they were not given more attention. Some scholars such as Brown & Levinson (1987), Blum-Kulka et al. (1989), Bazzanella et al. (1991), Cacchiani (2007), Cacchiani (2009a) & Holmes (1984), and Urbanova (2003) made attempts to study the pragmatic features of intensification oriented to the intensifiers itself as clarified below.

2.2.4.1 Brown & Levinson (1987): Intensification in Politeness Strategies

Brown & Levinson (1987) relate intensification to politeness strategies. They (1987:24) state, “some acts are intrinsically threatening to the face and thus require ‘softening’”. The threatening to the face can be avoided by developing politeness strategies through employing specific linguistic devices as a way to be more polite. The intensification of both downtoners and amplifiers can be used in some of the politeness strategies such as the following:

(a)strategy 2: Exaggerate (interest, approval, sympathy with H). This strategy is done by using the exaggerated stress, intonation, some aspects of prosodic, and intensifying modifiers (Brown & Levinson, 1987:104).

(b)strategy 3: Intensify interest to H. It is done by using ‘vivid present’ in reported conversations (e.g., and I say this...), direct quoted speech instead of indirect reported speech as it is in the use of tag question (e.g. ‘you know?’), and other techniques related to exaggeration and overstatement, (ibid.:106).

(c)strategy 4: Use in-group identity markers. It consists of in-group usages of address forms (e.g., second personal plural pronoun, diminutives ‘a little’), dialect, slang or jargon, and ellipsis, (ibid.:107).

(d)strategy 5: Seek agreement. It is done by repetition, raising of ‘safe topic’ (e.g. ‘weather’ is the safe topic for everyone), and emphatic agreement (e.g., yes, uhuh, really), (ibid.:112).

(e) strategy 6: Avoid disagreement. It is done by using token agreement, pseudo-agreement, and hedging opinion, (ibidi:113).

(g) strategy 11: Be optimistic. It is associated with cooperative strategy, optimistic expressions (e.g., token tag), and minimization (e.g., a little, a bit), (ibid.:126).

The study excludes the other strategies such as 1, 7,8 ,9, and 10, since they are not relevant to the pragmatic intensification. However, the above strategies are done by using the intensification devices in general, and they are not more specific by using intensifiers. For example, strategies 2, 3, and 6 are related to the pragmatic intensification and resulting a positive politeness. Most of the linguistic devices that are used in such strategies are related to the intonation, stress, and other aspects of prosodies in the case of 2 strategies, and the intensifiers can be

used as a technique in the exaggerated facts as 3 strategies. Moreover, ‘avoiding of disagreement’ can be used as the 6 strategies. All these strategies can be used for the positive politeness. strategies 4, 5, and 11 define off-record. These strategies are possible only in clear communicative intention to the act or in the case of the if the speaker needs to do face threaten act, but he wants to avoid the responsibility for doing it. He can do it by leaving up off record to the receiver to decide how to understand it. Moreover, strategies 4 and 5 are related to conversational implicatures by understating and overstating, respectively. In these cases of understating and overstatement, other linguistic devices than intensifier are used to indicate the scaling up, such as (e.g., tall, good, nice) or exaggerating devices in the case of an overstatement.

2.2.4.2 Blum-Kulka et al. (1989): Downgraders and Upgraders in Requests and Apologies

Blum-Kulka et al. (1989) describe various types of intensification devices such as upgraders and downgraders that are served for increasing and decreasing the impact for request.

There are ten subcategories of ‘upgraders’ among of which there are four relevant to pragmatic intensification, namely,

- 1) Intensifiers: e.g., “The kitchen is in a terrible mess”.
- 2) Expletives: e.g., “Why don’t you clean that bloody mess up?”
- 3) Time intensifiers: e.g., “You’d better move your car right immediately!”
- 4) Lexical uptoners: e.g., “Clean up that mess!” (Blum-Kulka et al., 1989: 285-286)

Whilst among the tent category of downgraders, three are relevant to pragmatic intensification, namely,

- 1) Understaters: e.g., “Could you tidy up a bit?”
- 2) Hedges: e.g., “kind of”.
- 3) Downtoners: e.g., “perhaps”. (Blum- Kulka et al.,1989: 284)

As for apology intensification, it can use any intensifying expression within the illocutionary force representing device, as in 'I'm very sorry'.

To sum up, all two approaches discussed above are concerned with intensification in a broader sense; they are not more specific concerning on the analysis of English intensifiers. Dressler & Barbaresi (1994: 420) state that the approach which proposed by Blum-Kulka et al. does not provide a systematic framework and Brown-Levinson’s politeness strategy, on the other hand, does not apply when politeness is not related with pragmatic intensification. Furthermore, the pragmatic intensification of the above approaches is based on the other linguistic devices such as the phonological devices which are used as intensification tools in some strategies, and these devices are excluded from this study.

2.2.4.3 Bazzanella et al. (1991): Illocutionary Force Modification

Bazzanella et al. (1991: 67–69) examine modification of the illocutionary force, and they distinguish a number of dimensions across the illocutionary force of a speech act can be upgraded or downgraded. It is important to notice the following points that concern the dimensions of illocutionary force:

- 1) Propositional content
 - (i) The precision /indeterminacy of the propositional content

Precision of the propositional content makes the illocutionary stronger while indeterminacy makes it weaker.

(ii) The augmentation/ diminution in propositional content, i.e., quality or quantity, of the propositional content expressed in the illocutionary act.

With augmentation and diminution, what is upgraded or downgraded may be quality or quantity.

2) Upgrading or downgrading of expression of speaker's inner states

The speaker's inner states involve upgrading or downgrading of his expression.

3) "Modal roles" of the participants

Bazzanella et al. (1991) adopt the "modal roles" of the participants as the third dimension of the modification of the illocutionary force. However, this study replaced "preparatory conditions" instead, since the three sub-dimensions which are mentioned below, namely, the speaker's power, obligations assigned to the addressee, and speaker's commitment, are actually the elements of the preparatory conditions.

(i) Upgrading or downgrading of expression regarding speaker's power

This dimension includes the lowering or emphasizing of the Speaker's power, authority, capacity, etc. This means that there are other factors or conditions that are treated in this dimension. So, this dimension is excluded from the study.

(ii) Upgrading or downgrading of expression regarding obligations assigned to addressee. The illocutionary force may be downgraded or upgraded or by softening or emphasizing the obligations assigned to the addressee.

(iii) Upgrading or downgrading of expression regarding speaker's commitment

The speaker's commitment or obligations can be downgraded or upgraded of their content so as to mitigate or reinforce the illocutionary force.

4) Perlocutionary goals

(i) Strength of the speaker's attempt to achieve the perlocutionary object.

The illocutionary force can be downgraded or upgraded by lowering or showing emphasize interest in the intended perlocutionary goal.

This approach helps to look at the role of the English intensifiers in the modification of the illocutionary force, and at the same time, it helps to explore some other dimensions unidentified by Bazzanella et al. (1991).

2.2.4.4 Cacchiani (2007): Expressivity and Involvement

Lorenz (2002:143) states that the more 'unusual' or 'novel' word in a given linguistic function, the more expressive it will be perceived. The same idea is stated by Cacchiani (2009b:33) when she treats the intensifiers as a renewal process, and they are developed from other grammatical categories specially from those adverbs ending by -ly. She also presents two simple equations "the higher the degree expressed, the more expressive the intensifier; the more grammaticalized the intensifier, the less expressive". Cacchiani(ibid.) illustrates that by the following three intensifiers, the intensifier 'extremely' is regarded as a highly grammaticalized intensifier, and semantic intensification is added to the degree of its element to reinforce the speaker's involvement and commitment to the truth, but not to the emotional quality of its utterance. However, intensifier like 'thumpingly' which is related to the telic category, expresses a strong, undistinguished emotional reaction of the speaker, as well as its norm is overreached. By contrast, non-telic intensifiers like 'stunningly' corresponds to 'surprise' is regarded as a highly grammaticalized intensifier, but its gradual is lost in semantic expressive. According to the underlying intensification pattern and grammaticalization scope, Cacchiani (2007:10)

presents three categories of intensifiers according to their type and degree of expressivity and speaker's involvement and commitment:

- (a) Still subjective (i.e., personal): the intensifiers of this type are used to express the personal emotion to the message that needs to send.
- (b) Undistinguished emotions: the intensifiers of this type add nothing to the emotional quality of the utterance; rather, they serve to reinforce or attenuate the existing emotional content of the element.
- (c) Specific emotions: the source of intensifiers of this type is expressed via non-telic and semantic-feature-copying intensifiers such as 'bitterly' in 'bitterly disappointed'.

2.2.4.5 Holmes (1984) & Cacchiani (2009a): Modification of Speech Acts

Holmes (1984) & Cacchiani(2009a) point out that the mitigation, as well as intensifiers, are very important concepts in the study of pragmatics. They can be considered as a linguistic device, and they have a relation to the communicative strategies for modifying the speech act as boosting or attenuating.

They can be used as a strategy for strengthening or softening all five classes of speech acts. Their effects are either welcome to the hearer or not. The concepts boosting and attenuating can be modified by an alternative linguistic device which is intensifiers (amplifier and downtoners). There is a variety of linguistic devices such as intensifiers that can be used to modify the illocutionary force of all classes of speech acts. Mitigation, on the other hand, includes the weakening rather than the strengthening, whereas intensifiers have a general phenomenon for both strengthening and weakening the illocutionary force of the speech acts (Holmes ,1984).

Holmes (1984: 351-64) also states that there are different linguistic devices that can be used to intensify the illocutionary force of the speech acts, such as prosodic devices, syntactic devices, discoursal devices, and lexical devices. The latter is subdivided into three subclasses which are the speaker-oriented, hearer-oriented, and content-oriented for both boosting and attenuating the illocutionary force of the speech acts. However, this study is supposed to take not all these devices, since the prosodic devices, which include the contrastive volume as well as the fall-rise intonation pattern which are related to the suprasegmental phonology, the phonological devices are excluded from this study. Furthermore, the syntactic devices include the interrogative structure, exclamations, and the tag statements, which are also excluded from this study since these devices are related to the syntactic structures, and their intensification of such devices cannot be measured objectively as the classification that is presented by Quirk et al. (1985). The third kind of linguistic device is discoursal devices which include some linking signals (e.g., besides, furthermore) and other devices that can be described as metapragmatics devices for both boosting and attenuating illocution. This study will include some of them and exclude the linking signals.

The last one is the lexical devices. As illustrated above, it is subdivided into three subclasses, among the devices which are used in these subclasses are intensifiers which will discuss in the next section (2.2). According to Cacchiani (2009a:235-236) distinguishes between reinforcement, mitigation, and aggravation. She claims that there is not a matter of face-work in the case of reinforcement type. However, the mitigation type results the act of speech is less risky for the speaker, and aggravation results act of speech is riskier for the speaker.

Cacchiani (2009b:34) claims that “intensifiers also differ not only in their degree of intensification, but also in expressivity, register, degree of speaker’s involvement and extent to which they may contribute speech act modification”. Intensifiers contribute and modify the illocutionary force of all five classes of speech acts which are developed by Searle. The modification involves both the increasing and decreasing of the illocutionary force. Examples of the contribution of the intensifiers in all five classes of Searle’s classification of the speech acts as the following:

- (1) Representative class: “I am quite sure it is a day-school”.
- (2) Expressive class: “Really you are amazingly pretty”.
- (3) Commissive class: “I solemnly promise I won’t be late home today”.
- (4) Directive class: “Does he accept our idea absolutely?”
- (5) Declarative class: “I warned you to be really, really careful about making sure”

It can be noted that the degree of strength in the examples (2), (4), and (5) mentioned above are different from (1) and (3). The intensifiers (really, repetition of really, absolutely) are classified as amplifiers types which are used to increase the intensity of the elements that are modified, whereas, (quite, solemnly) are labeled to the downtoners type of intensifiers which are used to decrease the intensity of the elements which are modified.

Furthermore, Archer et al. (2012:44-45) clarify that the speech acts such as thanking, apologizing, and greeting whose acts are used to express as a routine for ritualized or ceremonious functions and their forms are mostly fixed such as “thank you” and “I am sorry”, Archer et al.(ibid.) confirm that even these fixed forms can be modified by intensifiers when a person wants to be more friendly and involvement specially when the offensive for example is serious. The

speaker attempts to select a specific intensifier word to modify the forms and to express his psychological state, for instance, the speaker uses “Thank you very much indeed”, and “I am so sorry” or “I am terribly sorry” instead of “Thank you” and “I am sorry”.

2.2.4.6 Urbanova (2003): The Pragmatic Functions of the Intensifiers

The present study starts to deal with the semantic explanation of the modification of the illocutionary force of speech acts. The modification of the speech act by the intensifiers has a pragmatic function. Hence, the semantic classification of the intensifiers has a parallel dichotomy, namely attenuation and accentuation. Attenuation is weakening the illocutionary force, whereas accentuation is strengthening the illocutionary force. This dichotomy has a pragmatic function. The pragmatic function of the attenuation is oriented towards the elimination of the conflict in communication, while the accentuation is oriented towards the establishment of solidarity and mutual agreement.

Urbanova (2003:67) states that the differences between attenuation and accentuation should be classified according to the gradient of the illocutionary force gradation which reflects the degree of commitment to the content by the speaker.

The switching from attenuation to accentuation means the switching from a weak to a strong commitment to the content of the message, for instance:

“I am quite sure” → “I am extremely sure”

The degree of certainty is transferred from weak (uncertainty) to strong(certainty).

The expressive and conative are considered the primary or the crucial functions in face-to-face conversation.

To add more, the expressive meaning is defined by Lyons (1995:44) as “the kind of meaning by virtue of which speakers express rather than describe, their beliefs, attitude and feelings”. This means that the expressive function is related to the speaker to express the psychological states, whereas, the conative function, as Kanaza (2020: 48) stated, is related to the addressee. If the utterance of the speaker motivate the addressee to do something, then it is named as a conative function.

Urbanvo (2003:67) presents several types of functions which are related to accentuation, such as emphasize, assurance, markers of agreement, subjectively of judgment and opinion, a marker of the degree of a certain quality, and markers of topicalization. Furthermore, Urbanova (2003:60) presents twelve types of functions which are related to the attenuation; they are the following; negative politeness, assumption, unspecified reference, detachment, depersonalisation, self-evaluation, non-commitment, conversational gambit, after thought, positive politeness, sarcasm, and contradiction.

This study will exclude the functions that the intensifiers don't play a main role in producing them.

2.3 Intensifiers in English

2.3.1 Terminology

Many studies in English and other languages have attempted to investigate the meaning or function of intensifiers as a group or as individual intensifiers. It can be

noted that different scholars have used different terms for intensifiers in terms of terminology. The term ‘intensifier’ is called ‘adverb of degree’ in the perspective of the most traditional grammarians such as Eckersley (1976), Kelly (1948), Kruisinga (1932), and Sweet (2014). It is ‘degree words’ or ‘degree modifiers’ in Bolinger (1972). Biber et al. (1999) use the term ‘degree adverbs’. Francis (1958), on the other hand, uses the term ‘qualifier’. It is ‘adverbials of degree’ in the perspective of Thomas (1965). Allerton (1987) names it as ‘degree intensifiers’ and Paradis (1997) as ‘degree modifiers, while Quirk et al. (1985) use the term ‘intensifier’. Quirk et al. (1985: 589) use the term “intensifier” to refer not only to means that increasing the intensification of the elements that are modified but also include the means that decrease the intensification of the elements that modified. In other words, this term is used to refer to both 'amplifiers' and 'downtoners'. The term ‘intensifier’ and its classification that are given by Quirk et al. (1985) are treated as standard grammars of English; so, this term will be used since Quirk et al.’s classification is adopted in this study.

2.3.2 Intensifiers in the Perspective of Three Schools Grammars

Different points of view about the description and classification of English intensifiers are presented by the traditional, structural, and transformational grammarians.

2.3.2.1 Traditional Grammarians' Point of View

From the traditional points of view, the term intensifier is classified as a subclass of adverbs. The traditionalists distinguished them from the mass of adverbs according to their meaning. Intensifiers are treated as adverbs of degree since they try to express “to what degree” or “to what extent” an action is attained or performed.

According to traditional grammarians such as Eckersley (1976), Kelly (1948), Kruisinga (1932), and Sweet (2014), intensifiers are words that modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs. Fowler (1860:366) defines and classifies the adverbs of degree semantically rather than structurally. His definition depends on sharing meaning rather than grammatical function, and his classification aims to answer the question “How much?”. He (ibid.) considers adverbs of degree as the following: much, little, too, very, mostly, nothing, any, anything. It is obvious from his classification that the adverbs of degree are classified semantically rather than structurally. For instance, it can be seen that the words ‘very’ and ‘nothing’ may be similar semantically, but they belong to different syntactic classes in most of their uses. Furthermore, Brown (1851:403) defines and classifies the intensifiers as ‘adverbs of degree’ are those which answer the questions ‘How much?’, ‘How little?’ or to ‘the idea of more or less’. His definition and classification are the same as that of Fowler. His classification seems well-organized, and the subdivisions are clearer. The following table shows the sub-divisions of adverbs given by him (ibid.:403):

Table (1) Subcategories and Exemplification of Intensifiers in Brown (1851)

Excess or abundance	Quality or sufficiency	Deficiency or abatement	Quantity in the abstract
Much, More, Too, Very, Greatly, Chiefly, Principally, Mainly, Generally, Entirely, Full, Fully, Completely, Perfectly, Wholly, Totally, Altogether, All, quite, clear, stark, Exceedingly, excessively, Extravagantly, intolerably, Immeasurably, inconceivably, Infinitely	Enough, Sufficiently, Completely, Perfectly, Adequately, Proportionally, Equally, so, as Even, just, exactly, precisely	Little, Less, Least, scarcely, Hardly, scanty, Scantly, merely, barely, Only, but, partly, partially, Nearly, almost, Well-nigh, Not quite	How (meaning in what degree), However, Ever so, Something, Anything, Great, Or any other nouns of quantity used adverbially

It can be noted that the traditionalists' view of the identification of the intensifiers is inadequate since they syntactically lumped the intensifiers with general class of adverbs. It is not obvious whether they do so to make their classification less complicated or whether they fail to notify that some words have double parts of speech, for instance, Long (1961:53-4) mentions that some adverbs are classified in meaning, and they fall into several syntactic classes or have double parts of speech such as 'very', 'pretty', and 'real' which could be classified as intensifiers with meaning as in 'very high', 'pretty late' and in an informal way 'real new' and on the other hand they could be classified as adjectives as in 'very man', 'pretty girl' and 'real mahogany'.

Another example is presented by LaPalombara (1976:185-186), the word 'greatly' has a double element, and semantically it leads to confusion area since this word can belong to either the adverb class or to the subclass adverb of degree:

"He wished greatly for a vocation". (adverb)

"He was greatly unhappy". (adverb of degree)

2.3.2.2 Structural Grammarians' Point of View

The classification of traditional grammarians is not enough since they only depend on meaning, and it is criticized by structural grammarians. According to the standpoint of structural grammarians, the intensifier needs to be classified structurally. So the structuralists define and classify the term intensifier in a way entirely different from traditional grammarians. To them, intensifiers should be classified according to their form, position, and function.

The American scholar Fries (1952: 42-94) considers intensifiers as a subgroup under class 4 (adverbs), which he calls words of "quality", "extent" or "degree". He (ibid.) states that all the words which belong to adverbs of degree can

be put in the position of (e.g., very) immediately before class 3(adjectives) or class 4(adverbs). Then, he lists some of these adverbs of degree, such as ‘really, quite, pretty, fairly, and very’, which came before adjectives. After that, he adds a list of words such as ‘more or less, less, really, almost...etc.’, which come before class 4 (adverbs). In addition to that, he mentions that most of these words appear not only in position before adjectives, but also before adverbs and vice versa.

Roberts (1958:166) defines the term intensifiers as “a structural group like very, pretty, rather, somewhat, fairly, really, more, most or quite which pattern before adjectives or adverbs”. Then, he examines the intensifiers’ position. He clarifies that the intensifiers share the same position of adverbs as the following ‘He is very sick’, ‘He was quietly sick’. For this reason, sometimes intensifiers lumped together with other adverb groups, but there are significant differences because intensifiers do not pattern with verbs as adverbs; for instance, it can be said ‘He acted quietly’, but it can’t be said ‘He acted very’. A few words of intensifiers such as ‘fairly’ are excepted from that, for instance, ‘He acted fairly’ as an adverb, and ‘He acted fairly dishonestly’ as an intensifier.

Furthermore, Roberts (1956:51) distinguishes adjectives and adverbs from nouns by using intensifiers since they don’t pattern with nouns and verbs, for example:

1. “He is a criminal lawyer”.
2. “They arrested some criminals”.

Accordingly, it can be noted that the word ‘criminal’ can be used as an adjective and as a noun. The intensifiers (e.g., very) can be added to a sentence (1) to signal that the ‘criminal’ in this sentence is an adjective, but the intensifiers

don't pattern with the sentence (2) since the word 'criminal' in this sentence is a noun.

A. "He is very criminal".

B. "*They arrested some very criminal".

Schwab (1967:35) indicates that adjectives can be distinguished from verbs specially those which end with the inflectional morpheme -ing or -ed. This phenomenon can be illustrated as the following:

"Our guest was entertaining".

This sentence is ambiguous since the word 'entertaining' may be an adjective or verb; therefore, by placing the intensifiers (e.g., very) before 'entertaining', the ambiguity will be removed since the intensifier will make it an adjective, not a verb.

Francis (1958:278-87) presents a similar definition to Fries, but he used the term 'Qualifier' as an alternative term for an intensifier. He used the term qualifiers to show the function and degree of both adjectives and adverbs. According to him, qualifiers are classified into two groups; adjective qualifiers and adverbs qualifiers. He listed the most common of English qualifiers such as; very, quite, rather, pretty, might, somewhat, a bit, a little, so, too, more, most, less, least, enough, indeed, real and awful, the last two are more formal in spoken English. Moreover, he adds another list which depends on regional and social dialects such as; that, some, right, plenty, wonderful, powerful, darn(ed), damn(ed), and other swear words.

2.3.2.3 Transformational Grammarians' Point of View

As regards the viewpoint of the transformational grammarians, it can be noted that some grammarians don't acknowledge the term intensifier as a structural class or any of class at all. It can be noted again that there is no work which considered such type of adverb as a kind of degree. Although Jacobs and Rosenbaum deal with adverbs of manner only as a signal for adjectives and adverbs but their treatment is to show the function structurally.

However, other transformational grammarians such as Chomsky (1965), Thomas & Kintgen (1974), Jacobson (1977), and Liles (1971) acknowledge the existence of intensifier, and there is an agreement in their considerations of intensifier as an optional element in the phrase structure rule as they occur in both adjective and adverb phrases. Liles (1971:15-6), for instance, defines it as an optional element such as *very*, *extremely*, *rather*, etc., which occurs in adjective phrase. He adds that an intensifier can occur with both adjectives and adverbs. It is added to adjectives to form an adjective phrase, and it is added to adverbs to form adverb phrase.

Furthermore, Liles (*ibid.*) claims that intensifiers do not occur with all adverbs, for instance, the adverbs of place are not accompanied by intensifiers such as; 'they are here' but not '*they are very here or there'.

Finally, the transformational grammarian Thomas (1965:170-1) defines adverbials of degree as an optional element preceding any descriptive adjectives. Thus, it can be noted that degree adverbials are abbreviated (*deg.*) are an optional part preceding of the descriptive adjectives which are abbreviated (*adj_d*) for example:

- a- "Henry is young".
- b- "Henry is very young".

The descriptive adjective ‘young’ in both examples is an attribute to Henry, and the intensifier word ‘very’ in sentence (b) indicates the degree of the descriptive adjective ‘young’.

Thomas (ibid.) thinks that the intensifiers can be derived from a PRO form; to SOME DEGREE. He denoted that pro-form would lead to two sub-types:

(i) Single word intensifiers such as very, quite, etc.

(ii) Prepositional phrases inferring degree such as; to an extreme degree, to an obvious degree, and to some degree.

It can be understood that the pro-form of a single word is derived from the prepositional phrases like those which are mentioned above. Thus, the intensifier such as ‘extremely’ is derived from the prepositional phrases as in the following examples:

-“George is (deg.) tall”.

-“George is (to some degree) tall”.

-“George is (to some degree(s) tall”.

-“George is to degree (which is extreme) tall”.

-“George to an extreme degree tall”

According to transformational grammarians’ rules, the words ‘to some/an Degree’ are deleted and replaced with a single word intensifier ending with {-ly} to give:

“George is extremely tall”.

It can be noted that transformational grammarians don’t treat the intensifiers deeply, and they regard them as an optional term because of their complexity.

2.3.3 Other Approaches to the Classification of Intensifiers

Although the current study follows Quirk et al.'s (1985) classification and the hybrid classification of both Quirk et al. (1985) and Lorenz (1999) & (2002), but there are other approaches to the classification of intensifiers which differ from that of Quirk et al. (1985) such as the following:

2.3.3.1 Bolinger (1972)

Bolinger, in his book "Degree Words" (1972:17), defines the term intensifiers as "any device that scales a quality, whether up or down or somewhere between the two". According to him, these devices are multifarious. He classified them semantically in the same way of Quirk(1985). Four classes of intensifiers can be distinguished according to the region of the scale that they placed and the direction in which they point (upwards, downwards, or both) as the following:

- (i)Boosters: upper part of scales, looking up, e.g., terribly, perfect.
- (ii)Compromisers: middle of the scale, often trying to look both ways at once, e.g., fairly, rather.
- (iii)Diminishers: lower part of the scale, looking down, e.g., little, indifferent.
- (iv)Minimizers: the lower end of the scale, e.g., bit.

2.3.3.2 Quirk et al. (1985)

Quirk et al. (1985:589) study intensifiers in more elaborated ways not only as a semantic term but as a syntactic, which include features, position, and function terms. Quirk et al. (ibid.) state that the intensifiers are adjuncts which refer to the intensity scale, which may have a high or low point of intensity. They classify them semantically into two subclasses: (A) amplifiers and (b) downtoners.

(A) Amplifier scale upwards from an assumed norm. They are further subdivided into (i) maximizers and (ii) boosters.

(i) Maximizers which can indicate the upper extreme of the scale.

(ii) Boosters which indicate a high degree or point on the scale.

(B) Downtoners scales that have a lowering effect on the force of the gradable verbs. Furthermore, they can be divided into four groups (i) Compromisers, (ii) Diminishers, (iii) Minimizers, and (iv) Approximators.

(i) Compromisers which have slight lowering scales.

(ii) Diminishers which scales downtoners.

(iii) Minimizers which also scale downtoners.

(iv) Approximators which used to express approximation to the force of verbs.

It can be noted that Quirk et al. classify the intensifiers into main types and subtypes, Whereas Bolinger has considered the subtypes as main types. Therefore, Quirk et al.'s classification can be regarded more comprehensive and more elaborated than that of Bolinger (1972). Hence, Quirk et al.'s classification will be adopted in this study.

2.3.3.3 Allerton (1987)

Allerton (1987:19), like other linguists, presents an alternative classification for degree modifiers. His classification is based on the occurrence of a degree modifier with an adjective. More precisely, it is based on the semantic consideration and the notion of gradability in the occurrence with an adjective. He distinguishes four types of modifiers. They can be summarized as shown below:

1-Scalar modifiers: This type indicates different parts of the mental scale of the assessment of degree, which ranges from high, down, to zero. The order of this type includes boosters, moderators, diminishers, and zeroiers. They contain most of Quirk et al.'s (1985) boosters, diminishers, compromisers, and minimizers such as infinitely, extremely, very, pretty, rather, not very, not at all.

2-Telic modifiers: This type is related to the actual degree of modified element to the degree required for a specific place and purpose, it below or above that mark, narrow or wide that margin. They consist of easily, barely, only just, hardly, virtually, nearly, not quite, and nowhere. This list contains most of Quirk et al.'s approximators and minimizers.

3-Absolutive modifiers: This type indicates the degree of the modified items for superlative degrees such as absolutely, utterly, totally, entirely, etc., which are combined with a superlative degree of adjective. This type is the same as Quirk et al.'s maximizers.

4-Differential modifiers: This type refers to the difference of degree between the items being described and some referent points. It includes far, much, a lot, marginally, slightly, a bit, etc., which occur with what he refers to as “differential adjective complex”. This list is combined with an adjective in a comparative degree (more/-er/less/, too). This type is also mentioned by Quirk et al., but not as a separate category of intensifiers. It seems more marginal than the three central categories mentioned above.

Although this classification is more economical than that for Quirk et al. (1985), it is excluded from the study for three reasons; firstly, this classification is based on the occurrence of intensifiers with adjectives only which results a classification with complicated links. Secondly, this classification is based on the semantic

features that correspond to the name of groups which are different from that of Quirk et al.'s classification which is distinguished according to the intensifying effects of elements. Finally, the four groups are not interrelated.

2.3.3.4 Paradis (1997)

Paradis'(1997) work is influenced by the internal structure of the previous classifications such as Bolinger (1972), Quirk et al. (1985), and Allerton (1987). Firstly, Paradis (1997) postulates that the degree modifiers from five different paradigms, which are 'maximizers', 'boosters', 'approximators', 'moderators', and 'diminishers' which express more or less of the same degree. It can be noted that 'maximizers', 'boosters', 'approximators', and 'diminishers' are the same of that in Quirk et al. (1985) and Bolinger (1972), and the 'moderators' are the same of that in Allerton (1987). Secondly, Paradis (ibid.) grades these five categories from strongly reinforcing modifiers to strongly attenuating modifiers. The terms 'reinforcers' and 'attenuators' are parallels to Quirk et al.'s amplifiers and downtoners. This means that Paradis is strongly influenced by Quirk et al. (1985). Thirdly, Paradis (1997) distinguishes two dimensions, namely Scalar modifiers and totality modifiers. According to Paradis (1997:3), the former "indicate{-s} a range on a scale of the gradable property expressed by the adjectives they modify and are in that respect unbounded". They include items such as *very*, *terribly*, and *fairly*. While the latter one, on the other hand, "relate{-s} to a definite and precise value of the property", since they include items such as *completely*, *absolutely*, and *almost*. The intensifiers of each group have both reinforcing and attenuating effects on the item they modify. According to the table given below (2), it can be noted that the scalar modifiers contain boosters, which have a reinforcing effect, and moderators and diminishers, which function as attenuators. Totality modifiers, on the other hand, contain reinforcing maximizers and attenuating approximators.

Table (2) Classification of Degree Modifiers by Paradis (1997)

DEGREE	TOTALTY MODIFIERS	SCALAR MODIFIERS
REINFORCER	Maximizers e.g completely	Boosters e.g., very
ATTENUATOR	Approximators e.g., almost	Moderator, e.g., rather Diminisher, e.g., slightly

Although Paradis’s classification is strongly influenced by Quirk et al., but her classification is designed on the occurrence of degree modifiers with adjectives. Whilst, Quirk et al.’s classification is designed on the occurrence of intensifiers with adjectives, adverbs, verbs, nominal, and prepositions. Paradis (1997:84) illustrates that her classification is based on the cognitive approach inspired by scholars such as Lakoff (1987), Langacker (1987), Tylor (1989), and Cruse & Togia (1996), and she assumes that “meanings of linguistic expressions arise by the activation of conceptual patterns in the cognitive system”. Paradis categories the collocation of adjectives and the types of degree modifiers into three classes such extreme, limit, and scalar adjectives. However, there is a difference in interpretation of extreme and scalar adjectives in one hand, and limit adjectives on the other hand. Paradis (1997:57) mentions that the interpretation of ‘limit’ adjectives is the same for all people, but it is different from one person to another with ‘scalar and extreme’ adjectives, for example, the meaning of the limited adjective ‘dead’ is the same for all persons, whilst, ‘good’ is good for one person and may be ‘bad’ for another person. Due to these complications and confusions factors, this classification was excluded from the study.

2.3.3.5 Lorenz (1999) & (2002)

Lorenz (2002:144) regards intensifiers as “a heterogeneous set, consisting of two classes namely; closed-system items such as’ much, rather, quite, well and

very', and open-class items adverbs like 'highly, fairly, terribly, horrifically or absolutely', then, he states that the innovation occurs in the open class of 'ly-intensifiers'. Lorenz (ibid.) presents his classification of intensifiers depending on adverbs that co-occur with adjectives. This classification is based on semantic classification since semantic classification is determined whether the intensifiers are semantically weak ones which cannot contribute to the meaning of the adjective which occurs with, but it only modifies the degree of certain gradable adjective or semantically rich intensifiers that can perform in addition to the degree modification, other functions are like: value judgment, truth attestation and so on. As a result, he classifies five types of adverbs which collocate with adjectives and function as intensifier namely 'scalar' to express degree only and those which have in addition degree modification. They have additional meaning such as 'modal', 'evaluative', 'comparative' and 'semantic feature copying', then, Lorenz (1999:95-133) reorders the intensifiers of each category according to Quirkian et al.'s (1985) system. This means that this classification is regarded as a hybrid classification.

(i) The semantic category 'scalar'

This type is the least semantically marked of the five categories. Its function expresses nothing but the notion of 'intensity' scaling an adjectival quality upwards or downwards. This category falls into two sub-sets:

A. Adverbs indicate a particular 'degree' or 'extent,' by a denotation such as 'completely, entirely, extremely, fully, highly, largely, totally, wholly or widely'. The members of this group can be identified by their adjectival forms, which their bases fit into the linguistic frame 'to a/ the... degree/ extent', for example, 'to a large degree' is functionally equivalent to 'largely'.

B. Adverbs which also stand up to the ‘to a/ the . . . degree/ extent such as *‘absolutely, fairly, modestly, perfectly, terribly, thoroughly or very’*, , whose scalar meaning is only acquired and they have all undergone delexicalization, for example, there is nothing ‘modest’ about being modestly positive.

(ii) The semantic category ‘Evaluative’

Huang (1975:61) claims that the adverbs of this type are used to express an assessment. Evaluative adjective modifiers are considered the most powerful resource of innovation type. This type consists of adverbs which, besides their scaling, they express a judgmental notion on the side of the speaker. This category is divided into two subtypes:

A-Adverbs function intensifiers express a ‘telic’ evaluation, that presupposes three norms whose evaluation is related to the speaker’s expectations in the case of number and quality of adjective, ‘suitability’ which indicates to “enough to reach or just the right degree”, ‘overly’ which indicates to “exceeded to reach”, and ‘extravagantly’ which indicates to “shortage of a given norm”, (Lorenz, 2000:149).

B-Adverbs function intensifiers that express an “open”, non-telic evaluation, (Lorenz, 1999:112-114). This type can be further subdivided into three subsets:

(1b) Non-Telic Positive Evaluators include *terrifically, fantastically, fabulously, spectacularly, brilliantly, beautifully, elegantly, exquisitely, delicately, wonderfully, sweetly, comfortably, prettily, incredibly, amazingly, unbelievably, and breathtakingly*

(2b) Non-Telic Neutral Evaluators consist of *reasonably, seriously, understandably, and justifiably*

(3b) Non-Telic Negative Evaluators include *terribly, awfully, disgustingly, ludicrously, ridiculously, horribly, severely, violently, notoriously, brutally, hopelessly, and painfully.*

(iii)The Semantic Category “Modal”

Lorenz (2002:150) claims that the modal adverbs attempt to express the extent of the speaker’s willingness to attest the truth of a proposition and focus on an adjectival quality. The Modal Inventory is a rich resource because it comprises:

A. Adverbs express a high degree of certainty or high commitment by the speaker, such as *actually, clearly, decidedly, definitely, doubtless, essentially, exactly, genuinely, necessarily, obviously, patently, plainly, positively, precisely, really, seriously, simply, sincerely, surely, truly, undeniably, or undoubtedly.*

B. Adverbs express certain degrees of reserve or low commitment by the speaker, such as *allegedly, apparently, not exactly, not necessarily, not really, possibly, practically, presumably, probably, seemingly, supposedly, and virtually.*

(iv)The Semantic Category ‘Comparative’

Lorenz (ibid.) mentions that this type of intensifiers is a minor resource for innovation. Like the telic subclass of the Evaluative Items, it is limited to one lexical set, namely that of ‘comparison’. The intensification of this category is achieved by comparing the referent with its rivals or equals, for example, when it refers to someone as ‘particularly attractive’, it is meant that we find them very attractive and more than other people.

(v)The Semantic Category ‘Semantic Feature Copying’

Lorenz (ibid.) illustrates that this category of intensifying adverbs deserves at least cursory treatment, namely the 'semantic feature copying'. This type concerns

adverb-adjective collocations where the adverb shares or copies a substantial part of the adjective's meaning to achieve intensification.

Lorenz (ibid.:148) points out that the intensification of this category may take one of the following:

(i) Copying Conceptual Meaning: Enhancing and Reducing Force,

Lorenz (1999) points out that, for example, 'easily' contains the feature of 'Feasibility' that is also inherent in its collocates comprehensible, accessible, and readable. Furthermore, it reinforces it: 'easily comprehensible' is more 'comprehensible' than unmarked comprehensible.

(ii) Copying (almost) all Features: It refers to the whole lexical meaning of the modifier that is encapsulated in that of the adjective, for example, the collocation in 'serenely peaceful' implies serene, much in the same way as honest implies scrupulous in 'scrupulously honest'.

(iii) Copying Collocative Meaning (Emotive Boosters): It refers to a number of idiosyncratic boosters which tend to collocate with states of mind, emotion or health such as *badly* needed/injured, *deeply* insulting/disappointed/ interested /rooted/impressed/involved, *fiercely* /opposed, and *warmly* /welcome.

2.3.4 Other Phenomena of Intensifiers

2.3.4.1 Accumulation of Intensifiers

It is most convenient to say that some intensifiers can be accumulated, whether in grammatical or less grammatical ways. Bolinger (1972:56) confirms this phenomenon and supports it with the following examples to point out the grammatical accumulation.

“It is more objectionable”.

“It is much more objectionable”

“It is too much more objectionable.

“It is far too much more objectionable”.

“It is so far too much more objectionable”.

It can be noted that the degree of intensity is different from the sentence that has one intensifier from the others which have multiples, and the latter is less grammatical.

And the later (less grammatical) such as:

“It is damned obviously careless”.

The reason for the accumulation of intensifiers is that some of them can occupy a position before class 3 (adjectives) and class 4 (adverbs) together, a large group of intensifiers can be given in one sentence, (Fries,1952:94). The most common one of accumulation is when the intensifiers are accumulated with a comparative degree or another intensifier ‘too’.

“It is much *newer*”

“It is somewhat *too* long for this space”.

Other intensifiers such as ‘ever’ are accumulated with a superlative degree in a postmodification place, (Boliger, 19972:57).

“The play was his best *ever*”.

Furthermore, the meaning of others is fused to some extent in accumulation such as “all too, only too, all the more, none the less, a little a bit, quite a bit..... etc.”

2.3.4.2 Combination of Intensifiers

Biber et al. (1999:536-538) state that there are two special types of adjectives that can be repeated in combination either to increase or to serve the intensity. This can be clarified as shown below:

(i) They mention that the identical adjectives in a comparative degree can be conjoined by “and” in order to increase the comparative degree of the adjectives, for instance, “funnier and funnier” is expressed to increase the degree of funny. Furthermore, they also mention that more than one is possible, for example:

“People who go to acid house parties are getting younger and younger”.

“See the branches get smaller and smaller and smaller”.

(ii) The other combinations are presented by ‘good and...’ And ‘nice and ...’ to combine with other adjectives. These adjectives ‘good and ...’ and ‘nice and’ serve to intensify the degree of the second adjectives. Bolinger (1972:56-57) states that ‘good and ...’ is used with adjectives for generalization, and ‘nice and....’ is used for quality.

“I’ll do it when I’m good and ready”.

“The water was nice and hot –just for tea”.

“This room is nice and warm”.

2.3.4.3 Repetition of Intensifiers

Quirk (1972:295) mentions that some intensifiers can be repeated indefinitely for an intensive degree, for example, very very.... much sooner, /much much.... more careful, / So so much better, and /so very very much better

He also claims that the comparative whether when inflected –er or as periphrastic more- of both adjectives or adverbs can be premodified by amplifying type of intensifier like, ‘so very much sooner’, and ‘so very much better’

He also adds that the repetition is permissible only for the first intensifier and those which follow the intensifier ‘so’, for example, ‘far far more carefully’, ‘so very very much better’, but not in ‘*very much much better’.

The degree intensifier ‘very’ may be posited as a premodifier of the superlative degree to increase the degree of intensity. In this way, the determiner as a premodifier for both ‘very’ and superlative is obligatory such as ‘They are working the very least they can’.

2.3.4.4 Homonyms of Intensifiers

Greenbaum(1973), Quirk (1972), Knowles (1974), and Quirk et al.(1985) state that many intensifiers that are related to groups to amplifiers and downtoners include all the minimizers, the compromisers include “enough and sufficiently” , the boosters included “a lot , a good deal ,and a great deal" and finally the diminishers which include “ a little, least, somewhat, and to some extent” are also used to denote a measure of quantity or of time duration or time-frequency. Accordingly, several uses of ‘a lot’ in the following sentences.

“I like them a lot” (‘to a great extent’ - booster type of amplifier)

“I paid him a lot for his work” (‘a large amount’ — quantifier)

“I see him a lot” (‘often’ — time-frequency)

“I slept a lot last night” (‘a long time’ - time duration)

Quirk et al. (1985:602) argue in all these uses, a lot can serve as a response to the question of how much? However, the frequentative can be a response to a’ how

often' question ('How often do you see him?'), and the durative to a 'how long' question ('How long did you sleep last night?').

These uses can lead to ambiguities as in the following sentences:

"They scarcely listened to him". ['to a minimal extent' - minimizer intensifier; or 'rarely' - frequency]

"Did the singers please you enough last night?" ['to a sufficient extent' - booster intensifier; or 'sufficiently often' - frequency; or 'for a sufficiently long time' - duration].

2.4 Political Interviews

2.4.1 Politics

Sarmah (1997:1-3) states that the term politics was the subject of the famous work of Aristotle. According to his famous statement, "Man is a political animal" Aristotle is known as the Father of Political Science. The modern term political "originally is derived from the Greek concept 'Polis', which means the "city state". Accordingly, the term 'Politics' was a subject including all the activities and affairs of the 'city state'. In addition. Greek regard 'Politics' as a total study of all human being's activities that concern man, society, state, morality...etc. (Gaus & Kukathas,2004:304). Gruenert (1974:2) regards the term politics as "activities and institutions related to state or organization". Lasswell and Lienes (1949:8), on the other hand, regard the term as moderate "the viewpoints", or according to Nimmo (1987:6) to moderate "the negotiation of the power and social conflicts". Furthermore, the term 'politics' is regarded by Shapiro (1982:1-3) as a political action. To clarify the reason behind this, Shapiro states, "when one makes choices

one starts by choosing a word”, then he adds that the person who controls the discourse will control the society since, according to Shapiro, “politics is discourse and discourse is politics”.

2.4.1.1 Political Language

There are two orientations in defining politics in traditional and discourse studies; firstly, politics is seen “as a struggle for power”. Secondly, politics is seen “as cooperation and resolve clashes of interest over money, influence, liberty, and the like”, (Chilton, 2004:3). Chilton (ibid.) gives another difference to these two orientations, which are ‘micro’ and ‘macro’ levels. Jones (1994: 5) demonstrates that micro-level is related to the nonphysical power, which includes persuasion, manipulation, and so on, which are kinds of linguistic action. The macro level, on the other hand, is related to the physical power, which includes age, gender or it is characterized as a type of discourse such as parliamentary debates, and broadcast interviews. It can be noted that there are different types of power are used in these orientations. Some of them are related to physical power such as age, gender, social status, and so on, and others are related to nonphysical power such as persuasion, manipulation, bargaining, and so on.

2.4.2 Interviews

The earliest definition of interview is recorded in (1514) by Oxford English Dictionary. Accordingly, this term is derived from the French term "entre voir" (meaning in the sight of) and refers to a “meeting of persons face-to-face, especially one sought or arranged for the purpose of formal conference at some point”, (Clayman & Heritage,2002:26). Clayman et al. (ibid) also mention that the word 'interview' came to have a new and more topical sense in the nineteenth century and with the rising of modern journalism. Webster (1976:781) defines an

interview as “a conversation, or questioning, for the purpose of eliciting information for publication,”. Morris and Chenail (2013:233) claim a more recent definition of the interview is “To talk with or question so as to elicit statements or facts for a publication, particularly in response to a member of the press”. Morris et al. (ibid.) explain interviews in social science, accordingly, it is described as a technique for one person (the interviewer) in order to obtain particular information from another (the interviewee) by using questions and answers then they elicited as a way of relating”. Macaulay (2004), cited in Arif (2013:3), defines the term interviews as “an asymmetrical discourse which privileges the interviewer and gives him the right to ask questions”. This definition refers to the interview as a conversation among two or more people. Furthermore, the interview is differed from discourse in the case of there is a specific relationship between the interviewer and the interviewee.

2.4.2.1 Types of Interviews

Interviews can be classified according to channel and medium. In the case of the channel, there are two types: journalistic and broadcast interviews, whereas, in the type of medium, there are five types: face-to-face interview, telephone interview, video conference interview, email interview, and synthetic interview. The broadcast interview and face-to-face interviews are preferred in this study since the journalistic interviews in their editing are more flexible. Here, the reporters will cut an expression, a phrase and occasionally polish the printed version more than the original interview. However, broadcast interviews cannot be edited with that accurateness. As illustrated in (2.3.4),intensifiers can accumulate at less grammatical forms to show the high degree of intensity, so, in the journalistic interviews, this form of accumulation will be polished or removed by the editors, in this case, the journalistic interviews are not preferred. In the type of

medium, the face-to-face interview is more preferable than several reporters talk with one person since the single story will be lost. Face-to-face interview offers the maximum opportunity to establish trust. According to Schiffrin (1994:145) and Lauerbach (2007:1392), there are different types of interviews, such as political news interviews whose main purpose is to gather information and celebrity talk show interviews whose main purpose is to entertain the audience in addition to gathering information. Regardless of the variations, there are two important characteristics that any kind of interview seems to have them;

“Firstly, all incorporate the discourse practice of questioning and answering which, on a structural level, yields question-answer sequences, with or without expansions. Secondly, all are characterized by the same role distribution, all having an interviewer as a representative of a media organization and an interviewee”. (Lauerbach, ibid.)

2.4.3 Political Interview

Arif (2013:4) distinguishes two major types of interviews: the highly structured interview which is used primarily in academic settings for qualitative analysis, and the political interview which is conducted by a journalist and published in the media on television, radio, or newspapers. The media's political interview is crucial in this study. Hannan (1986), cited in Scannell (1991:77), defines it as “one of the most important ways in which the political debate is conducted”. Hannan regards the interview as the key way in which the audience perceive the leaders and present themselves on the political interviews on television or on radio.

Garvey and Rivers (1982:157) give a difference between the television and radio interview in the case of audiences. The audience of the radio will notice the physical device of the interviewee, such as the tone of voice or the length of time which takes to answer the question by the interviewee. On television, the audience can notice the facial expressions and body language of the interviewee. The camera

can help the audience a view of the subject's face or hands that even the interviewer does not get during the interview. Holmes (1984:350) states that the kinesics and paralinguistic devices such as Gestures, body posture, facial expression, hesitations, pauses, and tone of voice which may modify illocutionary force. However, this study excludes these devices and focuses only on linguistic devices (e.g., intensifiers), which is the topic of this study. Thus, there is no problem in selecting the data on television or on radio.

Political interviews are highly organized speech events. Lauerbach (2007:1393) describes participants (interviewer and interviewee) of the political interviews which takes place on television or radio station. The interviewer is a professional expert and journalist, the interviewee, on the other hand, is a politician who may represent his party. The interviewer has specific roles such as controlling the dialogue, introducing the interviewees and setting the agenda since the interviewers ask the questions. They are always in the more dominant, initiating stance, creating a high conversational expectation for the interviewee to answer. The interviewee, on the other hand, should also pay attention to questions that the audience wants to know. In one-on-one interviews, there is a more or less adversarial interview with an argumentation structure where politicians defend their standpoints against interviewers as well as representing their critical audience. Wilson (1990:18-19) assures that the "politicians use words and sentences in an emotive manner; it is part of their aim to create a feeling of solidarity, to arouse emotions such as fear, hate or joy". This indicates that the politicians use a variety of linguistic strategies to modify the illocutionary force of their utterances in order to show their degree of involvement and expressivity. These linguistic instruments allow politicians to express their opinions, standpoints, and arguments in order to manipulate and persuade potential voters. Additionally, these devices help

politicians to be more confident and convincing in front of their audience. Blum-Kulka (1983:133) presents two features to this type of interview, (a) The division of labor between the interviewers and the interviewee is clear, and (b) A well-established set of implicit norms governs the behavior of the interviewer and the interviewee during the interview. Blum-Kulka (ibid.) states that the political interviews are similar in some points to the lessons in a classroom. (i)The discourse flow is highly organized and takes place within fixed time, and (ii) the speaker (teacher or Interviewer) in the interview and in the classroom is officially in charge. Whereas, the difference between the interview and the classroom is that the lessons in classrooms are kept and conducted behind closed doors while the political Interviews are clearly public affairs.

2.5 Previous Studies

The aim of presenting some previous studies on intensifiers is to gain a good insight into the role of this linguistic device in political interviews, to know how the researchers deal with intensifiers, and how they undertake to get benefit from the conclusions of the previous studies. The examination of the previous studies includes their aims, hypotheses, data, and important conclusions. These studies are presented in chronological order to show the similarities or differences between them and our present study.

2.5.1 AL-Akkam (1983)

AL-Akkam (1983) in his thesis “An Analytic Study of Intensifiers in the New English Course for Iraq” , that this study aims to find out the errors which are committed by Iraqi pupils in using of the intensifiers and to identify the category of intensifiers and the reasons behind the occurrence of those errors. Moreover, it aims to posit solutions to these problems. This study hypothesizes that Iraqi pupils

misuse English intensifiers in both skills speaking and writing as a result of the interference between Arabic and English and the complexity of the intensifiers in the English system. The study depends on a test presented to groups of Iraqi pupils included in the study. The most important conclusion is that some errors which are committed by Iraqi pupils have resulted from the negative transfer of the intensifiers from the mother tongue to the target language, i.e., interference. Other errors are due to the complexity of intensifiers in the English language system.

2.5.2 Sultan (1990)

Sultan (1990) in his thesis “Degree adverbials in standard English and standard Arabic: A contrastive study”, that this study aims to carry out a contrastive study of degree adverbials between English and Arabic and to point out the similarity and difference between them. It also aims to identify the difficulty which faces the Arab learners in learning the adverbials of the English language. The study hypothesizes that when there are points of similarity in the form, position, and meaning of the adverbials of degree between standard English and standard Arabic are regarded less or no difficulty will face the Arab learners in learning the adverbials degree of Standard English. However, when there are points of difference, the difficulty of learning adverbials degree is expected.

The study has concluded the following:

1. Generally, the adverbials of degree are employed by both English and Arabic languages to give more information about the degree of intensity, in other words, they are regarded as a universal phenomenon. Additionally, in both languages, the adverbials of degree are regarded as a complicated group of words. The major source of difficulty in the learning of the adverbials degree is the interference between the mother tongue of the learners, i.e., Arabic and English.

2-In the case of similarity, the syntactic features of both languages regard adverbials degree as an optional element except in a few cases; however, in the semantic points of view, the adverbials degree in both languages are either amplifiers or downtoners, and the semantic function of both languages are for modification.

2.5.3 McManus (2012)

McManus (2012) in the study “English Degree Modifiers: A Diachronic Corpus-based Study of the Maximizer Class” , that aims to provide detailed individual accounts of the development of seven intensifiers as a maximizers type, namely (*absolutely, completely, entirely, perfectly, quite, totally, and utterly*). The study attempts to investigate the diachronic properties of the degree modifier of English maximizer as a whole. Thus, the study hypothesizes that intensification is a more productive area in the fields of syntactic and semantics changes. It is considered that the degree modifiers as renewal process are developed over time. It is also hypothesized that the intensity of a certain degree modifier is waned or changed over time as the frequent uses or its originality wears out leading it to be gradually replaced by another one. This process is a “renewal process”. The model adopted in the analysis of this study depends on Quirk et al. (1985) as standard grammar, Allerton (1987), and Paradis (1997). The study concludes that most of these modifiers are developed from different sources, e.g., *absolutely, completely, and perfectly* are argued that their development is the case of “native adverbialization”, however, the degree modifier “entirely” is likely loan from other French languages, and it is concluded that all seven-degree modifiers inherently denote “completeness”. So, the reason for borrowing these completeness modifiers is to express the high degree of intensification since only the newcomer one, or unusual one conveys that degree.

2.5.4 Sardabi (2015)

Sardabi (2015) presented a paper entitled “Gender Differences in the Use of Intensifiers”. This study aims at investigating the use of intensifiers in the speech of Persian language in high school and university students. The study hypothesizes that women’s speech is different from the speech of men. Hence, the study depends on the semi-conversation interviews which are conducted on four groups of students. They are female university students, female high school students, male university students, and male high school students. The study concludes that women used intensifiers twice more than men.

2.5.5 Al-Shammari (2016)

Al-Shammari (2016) in her thesis “A semantic and pragmatic study of Intensifiers in Ten American Presidential Election Texts”, that this study aims to explore the semantic functions and pragmatic impact of intensifiers on political texts. Moreover, it aims at distinguishing the differences between political speeches and political interviews in using intensifiers. This study hypothesizes that in political texts, intensifiers are used to express semantic functions and to show how politicians deliberately use these intensifiers as a way to impact their audiences. Accordingly, they contribute in the modification of the illocutionary force of the utterances. Moreover, it is hypothesized that in a political interview, there is more variety of intensifiers than that in political speeches since the speeches in political interviews are spontaneously and freely. The models that are adopted in this study are Quirk et al. (1985) and Lorenz (2002) at the semantic level, Cacchiani (2007), Cacchiani (2009), and Holmes (1984) at the pragmatic level. This study has found that politicians use intensifiers (amplifiers /downtoners) to give a certain degree of credibility, importance, and involvement to the value of their propositions in order

to affect their audience. This study also concludes that there is a variation and the frequent uses of the intensifiers in political interviews are more than in political speeches. Furthermore, it found that politicians avoid using more frequent evaluative intensifiers because they are aware that they do not speak as an individual person but on behalf of their party or their coalition.

2.5.6 Nycova (2018)

Nycova (2018) in the thesis “Distribution of Intensifiers in Adjective and Adverb Phrases: A Corpus-based Study” , that this study aims to describe the use of intensifiers in adjective and adverb phrases and to compare their distribution in two different registers in spoken language and academic discourse. The aims of this study attempt to answer two hypotheses; the first hypothesis is that intensifiers are used more often in spoken language than that in academic discourse. And the second hypothesis, which is based on Quirk et al.(1985) confirms that the intensifier ‘utterly’ tends to modify adjectives with negative connotations while an intensifier with the same class such as ‘perfectly’ tends to modify an opposite adjective with a positive connotation. The study depends on three models, which are Quirk et al. (1985), Allerton (1987) and, Paradis (1997). The study concludes that amplifiers are used much more than downtoners by the speakers. It has been found that the frequent use of intensifiers as modifiers for adjectives is more than that for adverbs that are correspondent with Biber’s (1999) claim. Other conclusions are nearly corresponding to the hypothesizes, but there is a little difference in the occurrence of the intensifiers with adjectives and adverbs in both registers of spoken and written discourse.

2.5.7 Zhiber et al. (2019)

Zhiber et al.(2019) present a paper entitled “Intensifying adverbs in the English language”. The main aim of this article is to look at the frequent uses of intensifiers in colloquial and newspaper English. The study hypothesizes that the frequent use of intensifiers in written discourse is less than that in spoken discourse. Additionally, the article relies on the comparative study between spoken and written discourses regarding the use of intensifiers. Depending on data analysis, it is concluded that the frequent use of intensifiers in spoken discourse is more than that in written discourse. Furthermore, it is seen that the frequent use of intensifying adverbs in spoken discourse is three times more than that in written discourse. The reason for this, according to Zhiber et al., is the decline of the intensification which is greater when the formality of the register is increased (e.g., Written discourse) and vice versa.

2.5.8 Salman (2019)

Salman (2019) wrote a paper entitled “A Pragmatic Analysis of the Use of Intensifiers in Charles Dickens’ Hard Times”. The study examines the use of intensifiers by Charles Dickens in Hard Times and it attempts to explore the pragmatic functions as well as the aesthetic impact of using intensifiers in this novel. This study hypothesizes that: personal intensifiers represent a low ratio in this Victorian novel since the people in the Victorian era were like machines without human feelings. The intensifier is deliberately used by the novelist to influence his audience. The models adopted in this study are Cacchiani (2007) for expressivity and involvement, and Holmes (1984) and Cacchiani (2009a) as an eclectic model for the modification of the speech acts. At the end, the study concludes substantially that the use of intensifiers tends to describe the downside

and misery of people in the Victorian period when such use pushes the story forward in order to distinguish how societal, economic and political situations influence the manner in which the novelist uses intensifiers.

2.5.9 Discussion of the Previous Studies

Concerning the present study, it is different from the previous studies which have been mentioned above. The first research by AL-Akkam (1983) has focused on the linguistic analysis of intensifiers in both skills written and spoken. It has been found that one of the reasons behind the errors committed by pupils is the complexity of the English intensifiers. The second research by Sultan (1990) has focused on the contrastive study of degree adverbials in English and Arabic. It has been found that there are similarities and differences in using adverbials degree such as the optional use regarding them, the modification element for semantic function as well as their classification which is either amplifier or downtoner. The third study by McManus (2012) has focused on the diachronic properties of some degree modifiers. It has been found that the intensity of some degree modifiers is changed over time as the result of the renewal process. The fourth study by Sardabi (2015) has dealt with the gender differences of using intensifiers. It has been found that the frequent use of intensifiers by women is more than men. The fifth study by AL-Shammari (2016) has focused on the pragmatic and semantic impacts on political texts spoken and written. The data focus on presidential politics. This means that this study deals with the high-level status. It has been found that the frequent use of intensifiers in political interviews is more than that in political speeches. The sixth study by Nycova (2018) has investigated the occurrence of the intensifiers with the adjectives and adverbs and the frequent use of the intensifiers with spoken and written discourse. It has been found that the frequent use of intensifiers with adjectives is more than that of adverbs. It is also found that users

of spoken language tend to utilize intensifiers more than academic discourse. The seventh research by Zhiber et al. (2019) has investigated the frequent use of intensifiers in spoken and written discourses. It has been concluded that the frequent use of intensifiers in spoken discourse is more than written discourse in three times. The eighth previous study by Salman (2019) has dealt with the pragmatic study of intensifiers in a literary work in the Victorian era. It has been found that the writer of this novel tends to use the intensifiers to reflect the radical situation of this novel and to show his personality in using the intensifiers as a way to reflect the aesthetic impact for the readers.

It can be noted that English intensifiers have attracted the attention of many scholars because of their versatility and capacity for rapid change. It is clear that a number of researchers have studied English intensifiers syntactically and semantically or pragmatically and semantically. In recent years, it can also be noted that there are some scholars who have concentrated and paid more attention to the study of the English intensifiers in the form of the perspectives of grammaticalization, contrastive studies, gender difference, and so on. However, the pragmatic studies of English intensifiers are very few and they are to a certain extent limited. According to the researcher's knowledge, the result shows that there is a lack of pragmatic study of intensifiers in political interviews. Thus, the present study attempts to present a systematic study of English intensifiers in political interviews.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introductory Remarks

This chapter attempts to draw the scientific procedure for this study. Thus, this chapter is designed to identify the method that will be applied in this study and to select the process of gathering data and the way of analyzing the data collected. It consists of research design, data collection, data analysis procedures, and model for the data analysis of the study.

3.2 Research Design

Newman & Benz (1998), cited in Creswell (2009:1), state that “qualitative and quantitative approaches should not be viewed as polar opposites or dichotomies; instead, they represent different ends on a continuum”. The study is conducted to identify the types and frequency of intensifiers in each interview and to show their effect on the utterances, speakers, and hearers oriented as a way to show their pragmatic functions. The frequent use of intensifiers is needed to know their types and individual subtypes in each interview as well as to show the differences of using intensifiers in each one. This means that this research is qualitative more than quantitative, and the frame of this study is based on using words more than numbers; thus, it is conducted by ‘qualitative method research design’.

More precisely, the qualitative method is based on the content analysis of the data collection. According to Singh and Ramdeo (2020:237), content analysis is “a research tool used to determine the presence of certain words, themes, or concepts within some given qualitative data”. Conceptual analysis and relational content analysis are the two most common forms of content analysis. The existence and

frequency of concepts in a document are determined by conceptual analysis. Whereas, the rational analysis progresses the conceptual analysis further by examining the relationships among concepts in a text.

As illustrated above, these types will be conducted according to the classifications of intensifiers and the models adopted in this study. The study will follow Quirk et al. (1985) and Lorenz's (1999) & (2002) to identify the type of intensifiers in the utterances of the interviews. Then it will adopt three models to analyze intensifiers pragmatically, Cacchiani (2007) is for the first pragmatic function of intensifiers 'expressivity and involvement', Bazzanella et al. (1991) for 'the illocutionary force modification', Cacchiani (2009a), and Holms (1984) are mixed together for the 'speech acts modification', this is the second pragmatic function of intensifiers, and Urbanova (2003) for the other pragmatic function of amplifiers and downtoners.

3.3 Data Collection

The data were collected from the political interviews, which are composed of three interviews from the internet website. The primary purpose is to show the pragmatic functions of intensifiers according to the three adopted models. Before downloading the data concerned with the interviews from the websites, the researcher has followed several techniques in collecting data as follows:

- (i)The researcher selected the websites after several visits and made sure that these websites are international and reliable.
- (ii)The researcher downloaded the interviews directly in order to identify the linguistic devices without modification.

(iii)The researcher purposefully picked the three interviews from among several interviews after checking that the interlocutors used the intensifiers in their interviews.

(iv)The researcher identified the utterances that have intensifiers in each interview in order to analyze them pragmatically. These utterances have been given numbers.

3.4 Data Analysis Procedures

The researcher sums up the process of analyzing the data collection according to the models adopted in several steps: Firstly, collecting and identifying the existence and the type of the intensifiers that were used by the politicians in their interviews. The classifications of Quirk et al. (1985) and Lorenz (1999) & (2002) were adopted to implement this procedure. In addition to that, these classifications are useful to identify the literal meaning of the intensifiers in order to understand their intended meaning. Secondly, after collecting and classifying the intensifiers, the analysis followed the first model by Cacchiani (2007) to show the first pragmatic function of intensifiers, namely, 'expressivity and involvement'. This model is used to categorize the intensifiers into three groups; those which express personal emotion, those undistinguished, and those that have specific emotion. Thirdly, the second pragmatic function will be achieved by Bazzanella et al. (1991) for the role of intensifiers in modification of the illocutionary force, and the combination of two models, Cacchiani (2009a) and Holmes (1984), to show the role of intensifiers in modification of speech act either boosting or attenuating. Fourthly, the study followed the Urbanova (2003) to achieve other pragmatic functions which are related to the speaker-oriented, hearer-oriented, and content/discourse oriented.

3.5 Data Analysis in the Present Study

The study was conducted by the content analysis of the qualitative method. According to Singh and Ramdeo (2020: 237), when using content analysis, “researchers can quantify and analyze the presence, meanings, and relationships of such certain words, themes, or concepts”. By using this type of method, the researcher achieved the purposes of the study namely the frequent use of intensifiers by politicians, i.e., how the politicians use the intensifiers in the interviews and scaling system of intensifiers. All these aims can be obtained by applying the following models to the three political interviews. Regarding the identification of the types of speech acts of the political interviews involved in this study, the researcher himself identifies these types. After that, the analysis and identification of these speech acts are given to two specialists in pragmatics to validate the accuracy of speech acts identification.

No objection was made by the researcher to the identification as shown in (Appendix D, p: 176).

3.5.1 The Model Adopted

An eclectic model is used in the analysis of the current study. The study is based on two classifications of intensifiers at the semantic level and three models at the pragmatic level.

3.5.1.1 Quirk et al.’s (1985) Classification

Quirk et al. (1985) classify intensifiers into two subclasses: **amplifiers** and **downtoners**. Amplifiers are further divided into **maximizers** and **boosters**. Quirk et al. (ibid.) define downtoners as items that have a generally lowering effect on the force of the verb or predication, and many of them apply a scale to gradable

verbs. Downtoners are further divided into **approximators**, compromisers, diminishers, and **minimizers**.

Table (3) Subcategories and Classification of Intensifiers in Quirk et al. (1985)

intensifiers	Subcategories & Definition	Examples
Amplifiers	Maximizers: which denote the upper extreme of the scale.	the intensifying use of most, absolutely, quit, altogether, completely, entirely, extremely, fully, perfectly, quite, thoroughly, totally, utterly, in all respects', horribly.
	Boosters: which denote a high degree, or a high point on the scale	the intensifying use of more, badly, deeply, bitterly enormously, far, greatly, heartily, highly, intensely, much, severely, so, strongly, terribly, violently, well-, a great deal, a good deal, a lot, by far; exclamatory how
Downtoners	Approximators: are used to express approximation to the force of verbs.	almost, nearly, practically, virtually, as good as, all but
	Compromisers: have slight lowering scales	kind of, sort of, quite, rather, enough, sufficiently, more or less
	Diminishers which scales down toners and roughly means to a small extent	(i) mildly, partially, partly, quite, slightly, somewhat; in part, in some respects, to some extent; a bit, a little, least (of all) (ii) merely, only, simply, just, but,
	Minimizers also scale down toners but have negative maximizers, meaning (not) to any extent	Negative: barely, little, hardly, scarcely Nonassertive: at all, a bit in the least, in the slightest,

3.5.1.2 Lorenz (1999) & (2002)

Lorenz (2002:144) classifies five types of adverbs which collocate with adjectives and function as intensifiers, namely ‘scalar’, ‘modal’, ‘evaluative’, ‘comparative’, and ‘semantic feature copying’.

(i) The semantic category ‘scalar’

This category falls into three sub-sets:

- a) The intensification of this type of adverbs is derived from adjectives which already have a scalar lexical meaning, e.g., largely (to a large extent).
- b) Their degree meaning is acquired, and the items have all undergone delexicalisation, e.g., fairly (there is nothing fair). They do not express any additional meaning beyond that of their respective degree.
- c) The adverbs are considered in isolation to denote ‘share’ (partly, mainly), ‘range’ (generally), or ‘emphasis’ (utterly).

Lorenz (1999:97) rearranges this type according to Quirkian categories, and the scalar type read as follows:

Maximizers: *absolutely, completely, entirely, fully, perfectly,*

purely, thoroughly, totally, utterly, wholly

Boosters: *enormously, extremely, greatly, highly, immensely,*

increasingly, profoundly, widely

Compromisers: *fairly, generally*

Approximators: *largely, mainly, nearly, partly*

Diminishers: *mildly, modestly*

Minimizers: *barely, hardly, poorly*

(ii) The semantic category ‘Evaluative’: It includes all adverbs which their collocation ‘adverb-adjective’ can be paraphrased as “to a degree that I find adjective”, so that the speaker evaluation is introduced. This category is divided into two subtypes, the intensifiers which express (i)telic evaluation and (ii) non-telic evaluation. This type consists of adverbs which, besides their scaling, express a judgmental notion on the side of the speaker. Lorenz (1999:112) rearranges these adverbs as Quirkian scalar system as in the following:

Boosters: *terrifically, sweetly, breathtakingly, seriously, overly,*
terribly, severely, delicately, violently, disgustingly,
brutally, prettily, notoriously, comfortably, awfully,
extortionately, incredibly, exquisitely, hopelessly,
fabulously, amazingly, horribly, painfully, spectacularly,
beautifully, ludicrously, brilliantly, ridiculously, elegantly,
wonderfully, unbelievably, fantastically

Compromizers: *sufficiently, adequately, suitably, properly, reasonably,*
understandably, justifiably

Minimizer: *insufficiently*

(iii)The Semantic Category ‘Modal’: Modal adverbs are a productive source of innovation within the class of intensifiers. Lorenz (2002:150) states that the modal adverbs attempt to express the extent of the speaker’s willingness to attest the truth of a proposition and focus on an adjectival quality.

Lorenz (1999:101) rearranges the above modal according to Quirk et al.'s scalar system as the following:

Maximizers: *unquestionably, undoubtedly, truly, undeniably, genuinely, obviously, evidently, patently, simply, fundamentally, essentially, naturally, basically, clearly, objectively, plainly, inherently, intrinsically*

Boosters: *definitely, decidedly, really, overtly, positively, certainly, sincerely, actually*

Approximators: *virtually, practically*

Compromizers: *probably, apparently*

Diminishers: *possibly*

Minimizers: *supposedly, seemingly, not necessarily, not*

Exactly, not really

(iv) **The semantic category ‘Comparative’:** Adverbs achieve intensification by means of ‘peer comparison’, e.g., comparatively, especially. Lorenz (1999:115) classifies the items of this category according to their intensification by using Quirk et al.'s scalar system as the following:

Boosters: *eminently, especially, extraordinarily, uncommonly, unusually and particularly*

Compromisers: *comparatively and relatively*

Minimizers: *not especially, not particularly, not uncommonly.*

(v) **The semantic category ‘Semantic Feature Copying’**: This category is concerned with ‘adverb-adjective’ combinations where the adverb functions as a modifier which shares or copies a substantial part of the adjective’s meaning in order to achieve intensification. Lorenz (2002:148) divides the adverbs of this category according to their intensification into three subsets (i) Copying Conceptual Meaning, (ii) Copying (almost) all Features, and (iii) Copying Collocative Meaning (Emotive Boosters).

3.5.2 The Pragmatic Level: Cacchiani (2007), Bazzanella et al. (1991), Cacchiani (2009a), and Holmes (1984), and Urbonova(2003)

3.5.2.1 Cacchiani (2007): Expressivity and Involvement

Cacchiani (2007:10) presents three categories of intensifiers according to their type and degree of expressivity and speaker’s involvement and commitment:

(a.) Still subjective (i.e., personal), but relatively more rational evaluations (very, highly, easily). Most of the intensifiers of the modal adverbs are related to this category.

(b.) Undistinguished emotions: the intensifiers of this type include the following:

(i)- high-degree intensifiers like so (much) or really;

(ii)- completives like absolutely and totally;

(iii)- intensifiers of the complete and extremely high degree like focus markers (just, simply), taboo intensifiers (bloody), telic intensifiers (unbelievably).

(c.) Specific emotions, as expressed via non-telic polyfunctional intensifiers like ‘amazingly’, which convey idiosyncratic evaluations, and semantic-feature-copying intensifiers like ‘bitterly’ in ‘bitterly disappointed’ and ‘desperately’ such

as ‘desperately want’. Non-telic and semantic feature copying are related to Lorenz’s classification of intensifiers.

3.5.2.2 Bazzanella et al. (1991): Illocutionary Force Modification

This approach is presented by Bazzanella et al. (1991) to show the role of English intensifiers in both reinforcing or mitigating the illocutionary force from the perspective of Searle in 1 and 2 felicity of conditions and Bazzanella et al. in the third dimension and perlocutionary goals.

- 1) Propositional content
- 2) Speaker’s inner states (sincerity conditions)
- 3) Preparatory conditions
 - i. Speaker’s commitment
 - ii. Obligations assigned to addressee
- 4) Perlocutionary effects

3.5.2.3 Cacchiani (2009a) and Holmes (1984): Modification of Speech Act

Intensifiers can contribute to the modification of the speech act. As stated by Labov (1984), cited in Cacchiani (2009a:235), mentions that “intensifiers are just one out of several markers of (pragmatic) intensity”. In particular, if intensifiers convey a personal evaluation and involvement to various degrees, this is equivalent to enhancing the underlying conditions of sincerity, increasing the epistemic commitment of the speaker (i.e., commitment to the reality of his/her claim), and finally modulating the resulting speech act. According to Cacchiani (2009a:235-236), it is possible to draw a distinction between reinforcement, mitigation, and aggravation, in the case of reinforcement where it is not a matter of face-work as

the example (a), mitigation, where the resulting of the act of speech is less risky for the speaker as in (b), and aggravation where the resulting act of speech is riskier for the speaker as in (c)below:

- a. Scholarship is an entirely different matter. Some schools ...
- b. You're all bloody marvelous, you are.
- c. You're stupid, you are bloody stupid!

Holmes (1985) states that there are two different strategies for modification of the illocutionary force, namely boosting and attenuation. The strategy of boosting occurs by the use of what Quirk et al. (1985) call 'amplifiers', whereas attenuation occurs by the use of what Quirk et al. (ibid) call 'downtoners'. Holmes(1985) presents two reasons for modifying the force of the speech act: Firstly, to convey modal meaning or the attitude of the speaker to the content of the proposition. Secondly, to express affective meaning or the attitude of the speaker to the addressee in the context of utterance. Dascal (2003:153) points out that 'The modal meaning' of an utterance includes the speaker's expressed degree of certainty as to the truth of the proposition of the utterance. For example, the speaker may be hesitant about the validity of the information included in the proposition. Thus, he attenuates the force of this utterance by expressing uncertainty or irresponsibility for its validity as the following:

- I'm not at all sure Mary is coming (attenuating)

However, the expression of affective meaning has another explanation for modifying the illocutionary force that includes the speaker's attitude to the recipient. Dascal(ibid.) adds that both boosting and attenuating can be used to modify positively and negatively affective speech acts from any of the categories defined by Searle (1976) (such as directives, declaratives, commissives...etc.) as the following:

- Really you are amazingly pretty (boosting a positively affective speech act).
- You are kind of pretty in a way (attenuating a positively affective speech act).
- You are a bit of a fool you know (attenuating a negatively affective speech act).
- My God you are such a fool (boosting a negatively affective speech act).

As Cacchiani(2009b:34-35) states that the intensifiers have a positive and negative affect when they predicate with positive and negative elements respectively. Accordingly, the meanings of both the affective and the modal have other pragmatic functions to show the degree of certainty, uncertainty, assurance, agreement, or disagreement, this leads to adopt the next model. The following figure summarizes the modification process by using the adopted models in analyzing intensifiers.

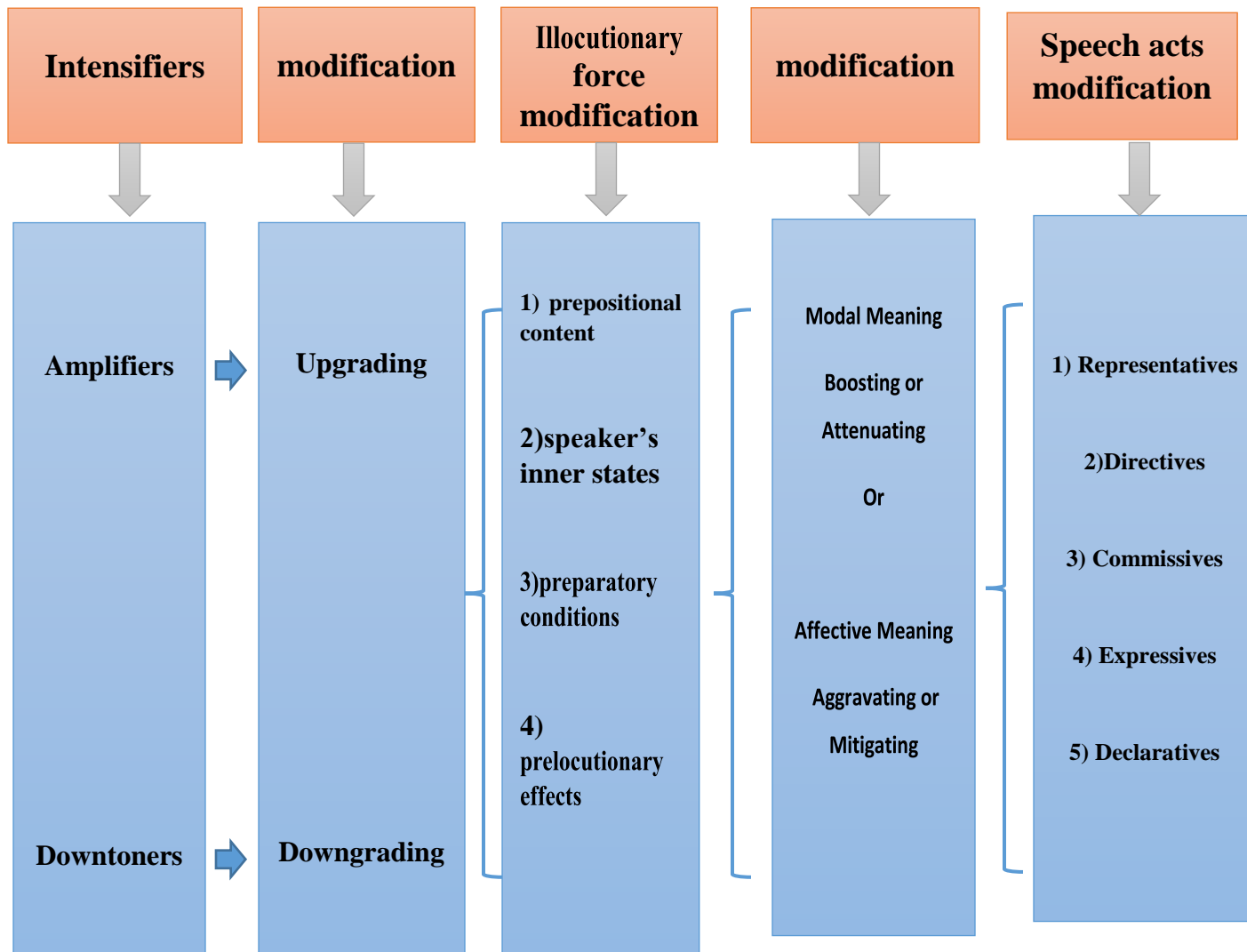


Figure (1) Framework of Speech Act Modification by Using Intensifiers

This figure summarizes the process of the modifications which is represented by Bazzanella et al. (1991), Holmes(1984) and Cacchiani(2009a). It serves to present a summary of the role of intensifiers in mitigating or reinforcing the illocutionary force through downgrading or mitigating various dimensions. Accordingly, the process of mitigation or reinforcement of the illocutionary force through intensifiers results in modifying the various kinds of speech acts either up by boosting or down by attenuating.

3.5.2.4 Urbanova (2003): Other Pragmatic Functions of Amplifiers and Downtoners

Intensifiers can be used as linguistic devices to modify the illocutionary force of individual speech act to show other pragmatic functions. Urbanova (2003) presents a dichotomy, namely, accentuation and attenuation. Accordingly, Attenuation, sometimes called hedging, is a manner that results in the “weakening of the illocutionary force in situations and primarily oriented towards the elimination of conflict in communication”. Accentuation, on the other hand, is sometimes called boosting, which is a manner which results in the “strengthen of the illocutionary force and primarily directed towards the establishment of solidarity and mutual agreement”. The utterances which are functions to attenuation and accentuation are a very vast subject, and it is not possible to include all of them in this study. The notion of accentuation occurs by the use of what Quirk et al. (1985) call ‘amplifiers’, whereas attenuation occurs by the use of what Quirk et al. (ibid) call ‘downtoners’. It can be understood that this model based on semantic meaning. Urbanova (2003:68) suggests another classification which is related to the relationship of boosting and attenuating with discourse meaning. She suggests that accentuation and attenuation can be classified into three groups as the following:

1-hearer-oriented

2-speaker-oriented

3- (a)-discourse-organizing (for accentuation)

(b)-content-oriented (for attenuation)

1. Hearer-oriented

In the case of accentuation, the use of a booster or intensifier in the case of a hearer is to place emphasis on the utterance in order to reflect his belief and certainty to the message. The pragmatic functions for this class are emphasers, assurances, and markers of agreement/understanding.

Whereas, the attenuation or the hedge means which is related to this group is used to express the pragmatic functions such as uncertainty or hesitation, unspecified reference, or vagueness. This category is identified by other linguistic devices such as *you know* , *as you know* , and *as you see*

2-Speaker-oriented

In the case of accentuations or the boosters which are used in this group, they are related to the subjectivity of the speaker and they show his attitude to the proposition. Urbanova (2003) suggests the following pragmatic functions that are related to this group:

a) assurances

This function is identified by the following devices: *I know, I believe, I can assure you, I'm sure, I'm certain, as I say, certainly, really, of course, obviously, surely, definitely, absolutely, and clearly*. Urbanová (ibid.) asserts that boosters of this category “express certainty and confidence of the speaker, their function is to increase reliability and truthfulness of the utterance meaning”.

b) agreement/understanding-showing boosters

This function is identified by the following devices such as: *exactly, right, yes, yeah, absolutely, it's true, that's true, I (totally) agree (with you), that's right, and*

fine. The boosting devices of this type “express understanding and positive stance to the message conveyed by the speaker” Urbanová(ibid.).

c) attitudinal boosters: This type is divided into two subcategories:

ci) attitudinal boosters expressing the degree of a certain quality

This function is identified by the following devices such as: *very, pretty, completely, absolutely, a lot, incredibly, totally, profoundly, fundamentally, extremely, increasingly, fully, exactly, really, and perfectly*. Urbanová (ibid.) clarifies that the boosting devices of this type “indicate the positive or negative quality and therefore reflect the attitude of the speaker towards the message”

cii) attitudinal boosters expressing beliefs

This function is identified by the following devices such as: *I think, I mean, and personally*. The boosters of this type “focus attention on the subjectivity of the speaker” Urbanová (ibid.).

The attenuators of this group, on the other hand, are used to express the speaker’s doubts and uncertainty in relation to the validity of the particular proposition. This study diagnosed some of the pragmatic functions which are proposed by Urbanova (ibid.), namely uncertainty or lack of certainty, assumption or consideration, hesitation, and unspecified reference or vagueness. This category is identified by other linguistic devices such as the utterance having the form the first-person singular pronoun I + a verb of cognition - *I suppose, I guess, I would hope, I think, I don’t think, I mean, and I assume*, and the adverb *perhaps*.

3-(a) Discourse-organizing (for accentuation)

Discourse-organizing boosters achieve the function of emphasizing parts of the utterance and making these parts more prominent in the context of utterance structure. Urbanová (2003:70) states that their functions are primarily textual and cohesive. This category is identified by the enumerative conjuncts' device such as *first(ly), second(ly), third(ly), one, two, finally* or other expressions like *first of all, actually, in fact, the point is, the trouble is, this is what I mean, in other words, by the way, frankly, particularly, the other thing is, the question is, another thing is, on the one hand ... on the other hand* as well as to *that pseudo-cleft sentences* and all instances of *repetition* were also included in this group of boosters because they 'are signals of importance and weight of the message to follow'.

(b)-Content –oriented (for attenuation): This category is related to the content of the message. The function of this group is to attenuate the speech act and indicate uncertainty, hesitation, and unspecified reference or vagueness as a way to make the utterance less prominent in the context of utterance's structure. This category which is found in the corpus includes: epistemic adverbs *probably, possibly*, and *maybe*, modal verbs *may, might, could*, and other expressions such as *well, sort of, kind of, more or less, in fact, quite, simply, relatively, just, actually*, etc.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introductory Remarks

This chapter sheds light on the pragmatic analysis of intensifiers as a way to show their functions in the interview. The data includes three political interviews. In this study, the researcher pragmatically analyzes a certain list of intensifiers in each interview as a way to indicate which types of intensifiers are used and which intensifiers are most commonly used besides their pragmatic features and their functions. The analysis will be based on two classifications and three models, as have been discussed in chapter three.

4.2 Data Analysis of the Three Political Interviews Adopted

4.2.1 Interview (1)

This interview is conducted in MSNBC News between the interviewer Rachel's and CIA Director John Brennan. The interview consists of (6765) words contains (98) adverbs as intensification used by the politician.

According to Lorenz's point of view, the intensifiers of this interview are given in four categories, the Evaluative items are not found, as shown in the following table.

Table (4) Categories and Frequencies of Intensifiers According to Lorenz.

categories	scalar	Semantic feature copying	Evaluative	Comparative	Modal	Total
frequency	75	5	0	4	14	98

Table (4) shows that the highest frequent use of intensifiers is within the scalar category, it occurs 75 times. Then, it is followed by the Modal intensifiers, which occur 14 times. The lowest frequency of intensifiers is in the category of semantic feature copy and comparative intensifiers, it shows only five times for the semantic feature copy, and four times in the comparative intensifiers.

According to Quirk et al. (1985) and Cacchiani (2007), the intensifiers' classification is shown in Table (5) below:

Table (5) Distribution of Categories and the Frequent Use of Intensifiers by Quirk et al. (1985) and Cacchiani (2007) in the First Interview

N	Intensifier	Quirk et al.(1985)	Cacchiani (2007)	frequency
1	Very	Booster	undistinguished emotion	19
2	Quite	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	6
3	sort of	compromiser	personal emotion	4
4	Currently	Booster	specific emotion	1
5	So	Booster	undistinguished emotion	5
6	Particularly	Booster	personal emotion	2
7	Only	Diminisher	undistinguished emotion	2
8	Really	Booster	personal emotion	6
9	at all	Minimizer	undistinguished emotion	8
10	Deliberatively	Booster	specific emotion	1
11	Just	Diminisher	undistinguished emotion	14
12	a little	Minimizer	undistinguished emotion	2
13	Rather	compromiser	undistinguished emotion	2
14	Knowingly	Maximizer	specific emotion	1
15	Well	Booster	undistinguished emotion	3
16	Totally	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
17	Successfully	Booster	specific emotion	1
18	Actually	Maximizer	personal emotion	4
19	Specifically	Booster	personal emotion	2
20	Widely	Booster	personal emotion	1
21	More	Booster	undistinguished emotion	2
22	kind of	compromiser	personal emotion	1
23	Absolutely	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1

24	Essentially	Maximizer	personal emotion	1
25	Constitutionally	Maximizer	specific emotion	1
26	Truly	Maximizer	personal emotion	1
27	Overtly	Booster	personal emotion	1
28	Least	Diminisher	undistinguished emotion	1
29	Pretty	Booster	undistinguished emotion	1
30	Critically	Booster	personal emotion	1
31	Much	Booster	undistinguished emotion	1
32	Nearly	approximator	undistinguished emotion	1
Total				98

This table shows that the interlocutors use different types of intensifiers. Thirty-two types of intensifiers are used in this interview. The most frequently used of intensifier is the booster *very* then the diminisher *just* then minimizer *at all* then the booster *really*, and the maximizer *quite*. The rest of the intensifiers have a low frequency.

4.2.1.1 Expressivity and Involvement

From Cacchiani's (2007) point of view, the intensifiers used by politicians have a different degree of expressivity and involvement. The table shows that the following intensifiers: *sort of, particularly, really, actually, widely, kind of, essentially, truly, pretty, specifically, overtly, nearly, and critically* are personal intensifiers. They show the intensity of the speaker's commitment towards the truth value of the element, for instance:

27- "And I *basically* told them, I can't help you with that and I'm not going to engage"

33-"I *really* am quite surprised and very disappointed in many of the Republican members of Congress".

35-“And I *truly* hope that it's going to happen sooner rather than later”.

It can be noted that the politician uses personal intensifiers to express his willingness to attest to the truth of a proposition and in order to show that he was more involved. While other intensifiers such as *very, quite, so, only, at all, just, a little, rather, well, totally, more, most, much, absolutely, and least* are undistinguished intensifiers. These types of intensifiers add nothing to the emotional quality, but they are used to indicating that the norm is reached or overreached and to make the elements that modify are boosting or attenuating, for instance;

21- “And this was a *very* intensive effort”.

26- “you actually did know *quite* a lot about the Russian operation influence and potential connections to the Trump campaign”

32- “I will *just* read you the lead”.

Other intensifiers such as *deliberately, knowingly, successfully, and constitutionally* are specific intensifiers, for instance:

Deliberatively, which implies a deliberative feeling.

9- “Some of them have been *deliberatively* divisive”

Knowingly which implies a knowing feeling.

20-“and those Americans who *knowingly* tried to collude, conspire”.

4.2.1.2 Modification

I-Illocutionary Force Modification

According to Bazzanella et al.'s (1991) viewpoint, intensifiers are used to modify various dimensions of the illocutionary force, as is shown below:

(A) The propositional content: the amplifiers and the downtoners types are used to modify the propositional content either up or down which leads to the modification of the illocutionary force accordingly, as the following:

(i) Upgrading the propositional content.

Boosters, maximizers, and minimizers are often used to upgrade the propositional content and along with reinforcing the illocutionary force, for example; The boosters '**very**', and '**so**' as in '**very strong**', and '**not so much to reclaim**' in the exchange (5) are used to upgrade the proposition content of the illocutionary force to show the degree of certainty to the hearer. Similarly, the booster '**so**' as in '**so cavalierly**', and '**so dismiss**' in (11) is used to upgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force to express the degree of certainty to the hearer. In addition to the use of the minimizer as in '**not quite shocked at all**' in (3) with negation to denote the low scale and at the same time to upgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force.

(ii)Downgrading the propositional content

The diminishers, approximators, and comprimizers are typically used to downgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force, for example, the diminisher '**just**' as in the phrase '**just another**' in (6), and the approximator as in '**nearly every living**' in (40) are used by the politician. In addition, the compromizer 'sort of' as in '**sort of turn back**' in (24) was also used by the

politician. However, all the above are utilized by the politician to downgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force.

(B) Speaker's inner states (sincerity conditions)

Generally, the amplifiers and the downtoners in this interview are used to upgrade and downgrade the speaker's inner states/sincerity conditions. For examples, the boosters '**very**', and '**really**' as in '**very, very selectively**' in exchange (8), and '**really am**' in (33), and the maximizer '**quite**' as in '**quite surprised**' in (33) are used to upgrade the sincerity or the politician's inner state as a way to pay positive face to the hearer. However, the diminishers '**only**' and '**just**' as in '**only once**' in (8), and '**just read**' in (32) are used by both the politician and the interviewer to downgrade their inner states of the illocutionary force.

(C) Preparatory conditions

According to this dimension, the study diagnoses two conditions. They are:

(i) Speaker's commitment

The usage of the amplifiers and downtoners types in this interview are not only scaling up or down from the assumed norm, but also serve to 'strengthen the speaker's commitment' or 'weaken the speaker's commitment'. In the case of strengthening the speaker's commitment to the expressed proposition, for example, the boosters '**so**' as in '**so many**' in (20), and '**really**' as in '**really just disappointed**' in (8) are used by the interlocutors to upgrade their commitment to the illocutionary force of speech acts. However, the usage of the diminisher '**just**' as in '**just tossing**' in (33) is to downgrade the politician's commitment to the illocutionary force.

(ii) Obligations assigned to addressee

Besides the modification of the speaker's commitment, the obligation assigned to addressee can also be modified with intensifiers to upgrade or downgrade the illocutionary force. So, it can be noted that the amplifiers type of intensifiers is used to upgrade this dimension of the illocutionary force. For example, the booster '**so**' as in '**so special**' in (8), and the booster '**very**' as in '**very specific**' in (46) are used by the interviewer to upgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force. However, the downtoner types in this sub-dimension can downgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force. For example, the diminisher '**just**' as in '**just want**' in (47), and the compromizer '**kind of**' as in '**kind of prospect**' in (33) are used by the interviewer to downgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force.

(D) Perlocutionary effects

Whilst intensifiers are used to upgrade or downgrade other various dimensions of the illocutionary force stated above, the perlocutionary effects themselves can also be modified in weaker and stronger ways. For example, the amplifiers type of intensifiers as the booster '**very**' as in '**very much**' in (1), and the maximizer '**actually**' as in '**actually did**' in (26) are used by the interviewer to upgrade the desired perlocutionary effect of the speech acts. However, the downtoner types of intensifiers such as the compromisers '**sort of**' and '**kind of**' as in '**sort of leads**' in (24), and '**kind of prospect**' in (33) are used to upgrade the desired perlocutionary effect.

II. Modification of Speech Acts

According to Holmes (1984) viewpoint, it can be noted that most of the intensifiers are used to convey a modal meaning in that the speaker wants to express his attitude to the proposition:

3- “I am not *quite* shocked at all the appalling things that Mr. Trump has done”. (boosting the commissive speech act of refusal)

4- “These are *quite* frankly very frightening times”. (boosting the directive speech act of warning)

8- “Do you have a sense of why the president thinks you're *so* special?” (boosting the directive speech act of asking)

8-“I think has *really* just disappointed millions of Americans, which I’m trying to give voice to” (boosting the expressive speech act of giving an opinion)

5- “Well, I think as you can imagine, a number of lawyers have reached out to say that there is a *very* strong case here, not so much to reclaim mine but to prevent this from happening in the future”. (boosting the representative speech act of claiming)

However, there is only one utterance which has the intensifier ‘*very*’ for the affective meaning. It is used by the interviewer to the politician Mr. Brennan for example:

1-“Thank you *very* much for being here tonight” (boosting positive the expressive speech act of Thanking)

Depending on Cacchiali ‘s(2009a) viewpoint, it can be noted that most of the intensifiers in the interview are used to reinforce the speech acts to convey and make the utterances more confident and reliable. However, there is only one utterance which contains the intensifier ‘*very*’ used by the speaker to boost the expressive speech act of thanking positively and resulting a mitigation effect. As it

is illustrated in the table (6). The following table shows the distribution of intensifiers with different types of speech acts.

Table (6) Distribution of Intensifiers in Modifying Speech Acts in the First Interview

Speech acts	Maximizers	boosters	approximizers	comprimizers	diminishers	minimizers
Thanking		1				
refusing	1					3
asserting	5	15		1	4	1
warning	1				1	
justifying	1	5		1	4	1
claiming	1	3			1	
telling		1				
arguing		3				
stating	1	3			1	1
reporting		3		1		1
predicting		1				1
Asking	2	5		2	1	1
guessing		2	1			
Giving opinion	1	2			1	
concluding		3				
accusing	1					1
Telling	1				1	
hoping	1					
assuming					1	1
Asking for permission					1	
confessing				1		
agreeing				1		
frequency	16	47	1	7	16	11

Table (6) clarifies the distribution of different categories of intensifiers in different speech act types. The amplifiers are used instead of downtoners to modify the speech acts of thanking, arguing, and telling. And the downtoners are used instead of amplifiers types to modify the speech acts of assuming, asking for permission, confessing, and agreeing. It is also pointed out that the boosters' types of intensifiers are the most popular types of amplifiers for modifying different speech acts such as asserting, justifying, and asking. The other types of intensifiers reveal the lowest distribution in modification. The diminisher types of downtoners, on the other hand, have the most frequent use in modifying various types of speech acts such as asserting and justifying. The other downtoners show the lowest distribution in modification.

4.2.1.3 Other Pragmatic Functions

According to Urbanova's (2003) point of view, it has been found that intensifiers in the text convey both accentuating and attenuating. Intensifiers which express boosting or accentuating are more than that in attenuation function. The following table shows the frequent use of booster intensifiers in three groups:

Table (7) Boosters' Classification and their Distributions in the Interview with their Frequencies

Booster	Total
Speaker-oriented	17
Hearer-oriented	7
Discourse-oriented	39
Total	63

In the light of this interview, the table shows the category of the discourse-oriented booster which is the most frequent type used in the interview. Boosters in this category occur in 39 instances in total. Then, they are followed by speaker-oriented boosters. Their level of occurrence is slightly smaller, with just 17 instances. Finally, the least frequent use of boosters according to their contribution

to discourse meaning is hearer-oriented boosters, it is found only 7 times in the whole interview.

It has been found that in the case of the speaker-oriented type, the speaker uses intensifiers to show his/her opinion to the proposition and attempt to show the positive or negative attitude to the addressee. The speaker aims to affect the opinion and the attitude of the listener and to show other pragmatic functions as a way to persuade him, for instance:

3-“I’m not *quite* shocked at all the appalling things that Mr. Trump has done”.

Brennan, in this utterance, uses the intensifier ‘**quite**’ as an attempt to boost the negative quality of the utterance to express his attitude toward the message.

8-“but I did it *very, very* selectively”

The politician uses the booster ‘**very**’ as an attempt to express his certainty and confidence to increase the reliability and truthfulness of the message.

34- “*Absolutely*. It would be”.

The intensifier ‘**absolutely**’ in this utterance is used to express the understanding and positive stance to the message by the politician in order to show his agreement.

8- “I guess the way that I imagine this might go is that there might be something that you know or that he knows that you know that might be making him *particularly* angry or *particularly* nervous”

The intensifier ‘**particularly**’ in this utterance is used by the speaker to express subjectivity in his attitude and to increase his beliefs to the proposition.

As regards the other intensifiers which are related to the hearer-oriented in this interview, it has been found that some of them are used to direct the attention of the hearer in order to emphasize the relevant part of the utterances, for instance, in the exchange:

45- “But, you know, the term "follow the money" is *very, very* important one”

It can be noted that the hearer uses the intensifier ‘*very*’ in the utterance to make one part of the utterance more prominent than the other parts of the message; as a result, to reflect the degree of certainty.

The rest of the intensifiers which are related to the discourse-oriented serve the function of emphasizing a particular part of an utterance, for instance:

3-“Not to support me, but to support the principle that security clearances are something that’s *very, very* solemn and sacred”

As a result, it has been found that the politician Brennan wants to manipulate or affect the opinion and attitude of the interviewer by attempting to show his positive attitude to the interviewer, subjectivity of the opinion, understanding, and agreement. He aims at persuading the audience that he is the appropriate person for the job that he exercises.

In addition to accentuating, the attenuating functions are also used in this text. The following table shows the frequent use of the intensifiers which have the main role in attenuating. Attenuators are classified into three groups:

Table (8) Attenuators’ Classification and their Distribution in the Interview with their Frequencies

Attenuator	Total
Speaker-oriented	13
Hearer-oriented	5
Content-oriented	17
Total	35

The above table shows that the attenuators of the content-oriented are the most commonly used during the interview. They occur 17 times in the whole interview. Then, they are followed by speaker-oriented attenuators. They are used 13 times. The least frequent use of attenuators according to their contribution to discourse meaning is hearer-oriented attenuators. They appear only five times in the whole interview.

It has been found that the speaker uses some intensifiers as a way to show his opinion to a particular proposition, for example:

3- “I’m not quite shocked *at all* the appalling things that Mr. Trump has done”.

The minimizer ‘**at all**’ is used by the politician to express the degree of a certain quality which reflects his attitude toward the message.

6- “I think this is *just* another example of Mr. Trump trying to frighten and intimidate others”.

The intensifier ‘**just**’ is used by the interviewer as a linguistic device to express his doubts and uncertainty about the message of the politician.

6- “The other people on the so-called enemy's list now, I think this is *just* another example of Mr. Trump trying to frighten and intimidate others. But I can tell you, having worked in the national security and intelligence community for many, many years. These are not the type of people who are bullied or intimidated by someone of the likes of Mr. Trump”.

The intensifier ‘**just**’ is used by the politician in the utterance to decrease his certainty and reduce his responsibility for the claims which are presented by the interviewer when she said, “Congressman Elijah Cummings has suggested and

other observers have suggested that even though the president has the right to sort of handle security clearances as commander”.

Other intensifiers on the text, on the other hand, are used by the hearer to express his opinion to the message which presents by the speaker, for example:

9- “you were stark and even a *little* bit scary in your criticism of his behavior. You said it rose to treason”.

The intensifier ‘**little**’ is addressed toward the hearer as a way to reduce his certainty and to decrease the degree of scariness in his criticism and behavior.

The most of intensifiers that function as attenuators are used in the case of content-oriented as a way to express unspecified reference by the speaker which leads to vagueness in his expressions, for example:

8- “But it seemed like day after *day*, week after week, month after month, things *just* got worse”.

The diminisher ‘**just**’ in this exchange is used by the politician as a way to attenuate the degree of negative ideas and make his message less prominent.

44- “it’s *sort of* the orbit of individuals that are associated in one way or another with Mr. Trump”.

The intensifier ‘**sort of**’ is used by the politician since he doesn’t want to talk about himself, so he uses it to show his uncertainty about the content of the message which leads to unspecified reference.

It was found that the attenuator types of intensifiers are used by the interlocutors on the speaker-oriented to convey their hesitations or assumptions, while on the hearer-oriented attenuators to convey their uncertainty, in addition, on the content-oriented attenuators to reduce their responsibility about their claims.

4.2.2 Interview (2)

This interview is conducted in **NPR** in the program ‘All Things’ between the interviewer Michel Martin and Former President Barack Obama. This interview talks about Obama’s new book entitled ‘A Promised Land’, 2020 election results, racial hostility in America, and the role he played when he was a president. The interview consists of (6035) words which contains (105) adverbs as intensifiers used by the participants.

According to Lorenz point of view, the intensifiers of this interview are classified into five categories.

Table (9) Categories and Frequencies of Intensifiers According to Lorenz

categories	scalar	Semantic feature copying	Evaluative	Comparative	Modal	Total
frequency	87	1	3	1	13	105

The table shows that the high frequent use of intensifiers is in the scalar category. They occur 87 times. Then, they are followed by the Modal intensifiers, which occur 13 times. Next, the evaluative intensifiers, which take place only three times. Whilst, the other categories show the lowest frequent use of intensifiers, as in the case of semantic feature copy and comparative intensifiers.

According to Quirk et al. (1985) and Cachiani (2007), the intensifiers’ classification is as given in table (10) below.

Table (10) Distribution of Categories and the Frequent Use of Intensifiers by Quirk et al. (1985) and Cacchiani (2007) in the Second Interview

N.	Intensifiers	Quirk et al. (1985)	Cacchiani (2007)	Frequency
1	Just	Diminisher	undistinguished emotion	28
2	a little	Diminisher	undistinguished emotion	4
3	Deeply	Booster	specific	2
4	sort of	Compromiser	personal	4
5	More	Booster	Undistinguished emotion	11
6	Fully	Maximizer	Undistinguished emotion	1
7	immediately	Booster	specific	1
8	Well	Booster	Undistinguished emotion	1
9	Really	Booster	Undistinguished emotion	6
10	Actually	Maximizer	personal	3
11	Only	Diminisher	Undistinguished emotion	1
14	Very	Booster	Undistinguished emotion	6
15	So	Booster	undistinguished emotion	9
16	Ultimately	Booster	specific	1
17	Probably	Compromiser	personal	1
18	Obviously	Maximizer	personal	2
19	Necessarily	Maximizer	personal	1
20	Nearly	Approximizer	personal	1
21	Particularly	Booster	personal	1
22	in part	Diminisher	undistinguished emotion	1
23	Enough	Compromiser	personal emotion	3
24	Almost	Approximator	undistinguished emotion	1
25	Pretty	Booster	undistinguished emotion	2
26	Much	Booster	undistinguished emotion	3
27	Too	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
28	kind of	Compromiser	personal	5
29	Absolutely	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
30	Completely	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	2
31	Entirely	Maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
32	Highly	Booster	personal	1
Total				105

Table (10) shows that the participants use different types of intensifiers. Thirty-six types of intensifiers are used in this interview. The most frequent use of intensifiers is the diminisher *just* then the booster *more* then followed by the boosters *very* and *so*, and the booster *really*, and the compromizer *kind of*. The rest of intensifiers have a low frequency.

4.2.2.1 Expressivity and Involvement

According to Cacchiani's (2007) point of view, the intensifiers used by the politician have a different degree of expressivity and involvement. The table shows that most of the intensifiers such as *just, partly, more, fully, well, really, certainly, only, very, so, a little, clearly, in part, almost, pretty, much, too, absolutely, completely, and entirely* express undistinguished emotion. These types of intensifiers have no effect on the emotional quality, but they are used to indicating when a scalar has been reached or overreached, and indicate whether the elements that modify are strengthening or weakening the existing emotional content, for example;

8-“where you *just* keep on kicking the football and not learning from experience that is going to be pulled out from under you”

22-“Even having said that a lot of people are *very* discouraged right now”.

24- “And yet the news is *completely* dominated during this period by an *entirely* bogus assertion by what I called at the time, a carnival barker”.

The use of such intensifiers in this interview enables the interviewer or interviewee to express the required force of the emotional content of the utterances to the listener.

However, the following intensifiers, such *as, sort of, actually, probably, obviously, necessarily, nearly, enough, particularly, kind of and highly*, are personal since they illustrate how strongly the speaker feels about the truth value of the element. These intensifiers are used by the interviewers to express their own psychological states to the elements that they modify, for instance:

2-“I told her the other day, it's **kind of** weird how good you've gotten at this thing”.

7- “And we **actually** heard it with our reporters in the field over election night, there were people saying, I will never recognize Joe Biden as my president, which certainly has to sound familiar to you”.

25- “that I was **particularly** good at all the aspects of public life”

It can be noted that the interlocutors use personal intensifiers to express their willingness to confirm the truth of a proposition in order to show that they are more involvement.

The rest of the intensifiers such as *deeply, immediately, and ultimately* are used by the interlocutors to express specific emotion, for instance:

5- “since we were in the middle of two wars to get *immediately* briefed on what was happening in Afghanistan and Iraq”

Here, ‘**immediately**’ suggests an immediacy response

10-“I think, is the best example where we had a big and what proved *ultimately* successful stimulus package”.

‘**ultimately**’ suggests an ultimate response

22- “But a lot of people are *deeply* discouraged in this country”.

The intensifier ‘**deeply**’ implies a very strong emotional response.

4.2.2.2 Modification

I-Illocutionary Force Modification

According to Bazzanella et al.'s (1991) point of view, the intensifiers of both types, amplifiers and downtoners, are used to upgrade or downgrade the dimensions of this approach, as shown below.

(A)The propositional content: the intensifiers of this interview can modify the propositional content either up or down with the modification of the illocutionary force as the following:

(i) Upgrading the propositional content

The intensifiers of the following boosters, maximizers, and minimizers are often used to upgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force, for example; The booster '**deeply**' as in '**deeply divided**' in (4), and booster "**really**" as in '**really hurt**' in (8) are used to upgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force. Similarly, the booster '**more**' as in '**more seriously**' in (5), and the booster '**very**' as in '**very careful**' in (8) are also used to upgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force to pay positive face to the hearer.

(ii) Downgrading the propositional content

In this dimension, the following downtoners; diminishers, approximators, and comprimizers, are typically used to downgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force, for example, the diminisher '**just**' as in the phrase '**just one**' in (4), and the approximator '**almost**' as in '**is almost**' in (17) are used by the politician. In addition, the compromizer '**sort of**' as in '**sort of decry**' in (24) is also used by the politician. However, all the above downtoner types are utilized by

the politician to downgrade the promotional content of the illocutionary force and to express the positive face to the hearer.

(B) Speaker's inner states (sincerity conditions)

The intensifiers of both types, amplifiers and downtoners, are used to upgrade and downgrade the speaker's inner states/sincerity conditions. For examples, the amplifiers types such as the maximizer '**fully**' as in '**fully briefed**' in the exchange (5), and the booster '**very**' as in '**very careful**' in (8), are used to upgrade the inner state of the politician as a way to pay positive face to the hearer. However, the diminishers type like '**just**' and '**a little**' as in '**just accepting**' in (6), and as in '**a little bit later**' in (10) are used by the politician to downgrade their inner states of the illocutionary force and pay positive face to the hearer.

(C) Preparatory conditions

The study diagnoses two conditions according to this dimension. They are:

(i) Speaker's commitment

The interlocutors use both the amplifiers and downtoners types in their interview as a way to either 'strengthen the speaker's commitment' or 'weaken the speaker's commitment'. In the case of strengthening of the speaker's commitment of the illocutionary force, the interlocutors, for example, use the boosters '**more**' as in '**talk more**' in (5), the booster '**so**' as in '**so important**' in (19), and the booster '**pretty**' as in '**pretty spry**' in (22) for upgrading their commitments to the illocutionary force of speech acts. However, the usage, for example, the diminisher types such as '**just**' as in '**just going to**' in (17) by the politician, and '**just younger**' in (22) by the interviewer for downgrading their commitments to the illocutionary force.

(ii) Obligations assigned to addressee

Besides the modification of the above sub-categories, the obligation assigned to addressee can also be modified to upgrade or downgrade the illocutionary force. The amplifier types are used by the interlocutors to upgrade the obligation. For example, the booster type such as ‘**very**’ as in ‘**very discouraged**’ in (22), and the maximizers like ‘**actually**’ as in ‘**actually heard**’ in (7) are used by the interviewer to upgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force. However, the usage of the downtoners type, on the other hand, is to downgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force. For example, the usage of the diminisher ‘**a little**’ as in ‘**a little more**’ in (3) by the politician, and the compromizer ‘**kind of**’ as in ‘**kind of seriousness**’, and ‘**kind of reality**’ in (24) by the interviewer are to downgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force.

(D) Perlocutionary effects

The intensifiers of both types, amplifiers and downtoners, are used by the interlocutors can also upgrade or downgrade the perlocutionary effects of the speech acts. For example, the booster type such as ‘**more**’ in ‘**more open**’ in (22), and ‘**so**’ as in ‘**so much**’ in (26) are used to upgrade the desired perlocutionary effect of the speech acts. However, the downtoners type of intensifiers, on the other hand, are used to downgrade the perlocutionary effects of speech acts such as the diminisher ‘**just**’ as in ‘**just keep**’ in (8) by the politician which is used to upgrade the effect of the perlocutionary.

II. Modification of Speech Acts

According to Holmes (1984), and Cacchiali’s (2009a) points of view, the researcher has noted that the majority of intensifiers which are used in this

interview express a modal meaning, implying that the speaker intends to share his opinion and attitude on the proposition. The intensifiers which function as a modal meaning are used by the interlocutors to express various degrees either to boost or attenuate different categories of speech acts, for instance:

5- “President Trump is refusing to concede, and he's refusing to even to cooperate with the transition. How do you understand that? What do you think that is? Some people are calling it a tantrum, other people take it a lot *more* seriously. How do you understand it?”

It can be noted that the interviewer uses the booster ‘**more**’ to boost the representative speech act of telling

6- “each of us have some responsibilities to start thinking carefully about not being *so* gullible and just accepting whatever it is that we're seeing pop up on our”

Obama uses the booster ‘**so**’ to modify the commissive speech act of refusing.

8- “Well, we're *just* gonna keep on doing this”.

The politician uses the diminisher **just** to attenuate the commissive speech act of promising.

11-“Now, part of it I have to cut myself and my team a *little* bit of slack,we had *so* much stuff coming at us at one time. Right?”

Obama uses various types of intensifiers, the diminisher ‘**a little**’ to modify the commissive speech act of promising, and the booster ‘**so**’ to modify the directive speech act of asking.

11- “You have to admit that Trump evoked something similar, albeit with different people *obviously* different people to some degree, but why do you think that is?”

The interviewer uses the maximizer obviously to boost the representative speech act of arguing.

It can be noted that most of the intensifiers in the interview are used to reinforce the speech acts to convey and make the utterances more confident and reliable

However, only two utterances contain the intensifier 'so' for their affective meaning. Interlocutors use it for exchanging their speeches to boost the expressive speech act of thanking positively and resulting a mitigation effect, such as:

26-“Mr. President, thank you *so* much for speaking with us”.

It was great to talk to you. Thank you *so* much.

Table (11) below shows the distribution of various kinds of intensifiers with different types of speech acts in this interview.

Table (11) Distribution of Intensifiers in Modifying Speech Acts in the Second Interview

Speech acts	maximizers	boosters	approximizers	comprimizers	diminishers	minimizers
Giving opinion	2	3			2	
asserting	2	13	1	4	7	
requesting		1				
stating		5			1	
clarifying		2	1	1	5	
justifying	1	6			3	
arguing	2	3		1	2	
denying		2				
concluding	1					
reporting		3		2	2	
refusing		1		1	1	
promising		1			2	
thanking		2				
informing		1			2	
questioning	1			2		
agreeing	1					
telling	2				1	
offering					1	
accusing		1			2	
warning					1	
probing					2	
asking		1		1		
frequency	12	45	2	12	34	

The above table (11) demonstrates the distribution of various intensifier categories in different speech act types. As illustrated above, the amplifiers instead of downtoners are used to modify the speech acts of giving an opinion, requesting, denying, concluding, thanking, and agreeing. And the downtoners instead of amplifiers types are used to modify the speech acts of offering, warning, asking, and probing, and the other types of amplifiers show the lowest frequent use in modification. It is also shown that the boosters types of intensifiers are the most popular types of amplifiers for modifying different speech acts such as asserting, justifying, and stating. Whilst the diminisher types of downtoners are the most frequent use in modifying various types of speech acts such as asserting, justifying, and clarifying. While the other types of downtoners show the lowest frequent use of modification.

4.2.2.3 Other Pragmatic Functions

In the light of Urbanova's (2003) model, this interview includes intensifiers which express both accentuating and attenuating effects. Intensifiers with a boosting or accentuating function are more active than those with an attenuation function. The following table shows the frequent use of booster intensifiers in each three groups.

Table (12) Boosters' Classification and their Distributions in the Interview with their Frequencies

Booster	Total
Speaker-oriented	22
Hearer-oriented	8
Discourse-oriented	27
Total	57

The table illustrates that the category of the discourse-oriented boosters is the most frequent type used in this interview. They occur in 27 instances in total. Then speaker-organizing boosters come next. They appear in 22 instances. The least frequent use of boosters according to their contribution to discourse meaning is the hearer-oriented boosters, which appear only eight times in the whole interview.

In the case of the speaker-oriented, it has been found that the speakers use intensifiers to express their perspective on the proposition to convey a favorable or negative feeling to the addressee. As a means of persuasion, the speaker attempts to influence the listener's viewpoint and mood by displaying such pragmatic features, for instance:

16- “Look, there's a reason why a big emphasis of my foundation, the work that I *really* want to be doing for the next 20 years, is investing in the next generation of leadership”.

The intensifier ‘**really**’ indicates that Obama wants to show a higher degree of assurance and to be more emphatic. Additionally, ‘**Really**’ has a positive effect since it is used by him to modify and express his willingness to serve not only the political leadership, but also in other areas such as civilian leadership and criminal justice reform.

20- “that I think is a conversation that you started to see for the first time being addressed *more* honestly than any time in my lifetime, which makes me hopeful”.

Obama uses the booster ‘**more**’ to focus attention on the subjectivity of the speaker. And it makes the utterance highly assertive as a way to show involvement and persuasiveness.

22-“when I look at my lifetime — and I'm gray, I'm getting older, but you know, I'm not ancient, I'm still *pretty* spry — and you think about the changes that took place”

The intensifier ‘*pretty*’ is used by the politician to indicate his positive attitude to the message. It is also used to increase the certain quality to the message who wants to send.

Whilst, intensifiers which are related to the hearer-oriented on the interview, they are used to direct the attention of the hearer in order to emphasize the relevant part of the utterances, for instance:

20-“We don't like talking about the fact that if you grow up in a certain ZIP code, you're *much* less likely to be able to get a good education, you're *much* less likely to be able to be part of the networks that allow you ultimately to get a good job, you're *much* less likely to”.

Obama repeats the same booster in the three related utterances as a way to put emphasis on the importance of the three utterances for the hearer. In addition, they are utilized by Obama since the interviewer raises doubt regarding the authenticity of a certain utterance, and he requests verification. Furthermore, they are used by Obama to give the listeners a deeper understanding of the responses of those who provide a hand to the political issues.

The rest of intensifiers which are related to the discourse-oriented show up the function of emphasizing a particular part of an utterance, for instance:

13- “where people put *so* much, invested *so* many of their dreams and hopes into getting me elected”

20- “but it *really* raises a broader question, which is why is it that we're still living in a society in which such inequities exist”.

The speaker uses these kinds of intensifiers in this area to emphasize particular elements of speech, most notably, these intensifiers which make a piece of information more prominent within the utterance structure. It is a technique for amplifying the illocutionary force of speech acts by making impersonal comments on the truth of the proposition of utterances.

As a result, it has been found that the interlocutors use the intensifiers as an amplifier type as a way to indicate a high degree of involvement in the interactional process. The number of both speaker-oriented and hearer-oriented boosters is considerably lower than the group of discourse-oriented boosters. This means that the politicians want to reduce their responsibility for their claims and they attempt to put or increase the degree of the illocutionary force of the speech acts in the case of content-oriented rather than in their own personality.

In addition to accentuating, the attenuating functions are also used in this interview. The following table shows the frequent use of the intensifiers which have the main role in attenuating. They are classified into three groups:

Table (13) Attenuators’ Classification and their Distributions in the Interview with their Frequencies

Attenuator	Total
Speaker-oriented	22
Hearer-oriented	3
Content-oriented	23
Total	48

Table (13) shows that the most frequent category of attenuators in the interview is a content-oriented area, which occurs in 23 instances in total. They are

followed by speaker-oriented area, however, their frequency of occurrence is significantly lower, since we have only 22 instances. The hearer-oriented area is the least frequent kind of attenuators; it occurs only three times in the whole interview.

3-“I cannot claim to have cultivated a new hobby, partly because I was busy finishing the book up until a couple of months ago. And then we had this campaign that I had to participate in *a little* more than I had anticipated. So, who knows? I may start up something”.

In this utterance, Obama uses ‘**a little**’ as a way to soften his speech as a way to send an unspecified message to the interviewer and the audience.

11-“I think is *just* celebrity for celebrity's sake and all the pomp and all the sizzle and not much of the steak, but”

In this utterance, Obama uses the diminisher ‘**just**’ as a way to attenuate the utterance in order to make the utterance less prominent to express his doubts and uncertainty in relation to the validity of this proposition.

22- “That fever, as you said, that's been a defining feature of a lot of our life. And the good news is, and it was reflected this summer, when you look at every indicator, every survey, if you *just* anecdotally look at popular culture, the younger generations are *less* impacted by those attitudes, are carrying around less of that baggage”.

This utterance points out that Obama uses these intensifiers as hearer-oriented area in order to send a positive message to the listener by softening the illocutionary force of the speech acts.

2- “I have to say Michelle is not just starting to knit. She's become this extraordinary knitter, which, I told her the other day, it's *kind of* weird how good you've gotten at this thing. She's making sweaters and scarves and caps and”

In this utterance, Obama uses the compromizer ‘**kind of**’ in the content-oriented area as a way to modify the element that is described in the content and make the content more softening to show a positive message.

10- “But most people had no idea that the reason the teachers in their schools hadn't lost their jobs or that folks were still working in construction, repairing roads in their communities that that was because of the Recovery Act. They *just* thought, “Well, this is *just* politicians wasting money on a bunch of pork projects”

This utterance illustrates that Obama by using the diminisher ‘**just**’ on the content-oriented area as a way to depict negative idea for the content message and to make structure of the utterance less prominent.

24- “Some of the same people who later on would *sort of* decry Donald Trump and his *very* flimsy attachment to the truth were the same people who gave Donald Trump a big platform during this period”.

Obama uses the compromizer ‘**sort of**’ to show a negative message in the content message and increase the degree of the negative meaning by following the booster ‘*very*’ as a way to show the sarcasm at that people.

It has been found that the attenuators on the Speaker-oriented area express assumption and hesitation of the speaker since it may be indicated that the politician is not sure about information or he deliberately hides the information by using these devices. Or sometimes, he does it since some information is confidential and cannot be disclosed to the public. Whilst the attenuators on Hearer-oriented, on the other hand, express uncertainty that is addressed towards

the hearer. This type of attenuators is not so frequent since politicians concentrate more on attenuating the content-oriented of their messages and not on the hearer-oriented.

4.2.3 Interview (3)

This interview is conducted in BBC news between the interviewer Laura Kuenssberg and the conservative leader and Prime Minister Boris Johnson. In this interview, the Member of Parliament discussed his Brexit strategy and defended his right to privacy, as well as his character and political past. The interview consists of (4038) words contains (82) adverbs as intensification used by the participants.

According to Lorenz viewpoint, the intensifiers of this interview are shown in four categories. Their frequencies are also given.

Table (14) Categories and Frequency of Intensifiers According to Lorenz

categories	scalar	Semantic feature copying	Evaluative	Comparative	Modal	Total
frequency	56	0	1	1	24	82

Clearly, the table shows that the high frequent use of intensifiers is in the scalar category, it occurs 56 times. Then, it is followed by the Modal intensifiers, it occurs 24 times. The lowest frequent of intensifiers is in the case of evaluative and comparative intensifiers. It shows only one time in each category.

Depending on Quirk et al.'s (1985) and Cachiani's (2007) classification of the intensifiers, this interview includes the intensifiers found in Table (15) below with their frequencies.

Table (15) Distribution of Categories and the Frequent use of Intensifiers by Quirk et al. (1985) and Cacchiani (2007) in the Third Interview

N.	Intensifiers	Quirk et al. (1985)	Cacchiani (2007)	Frequency
1	Absolutely	maximizer	undistinguished emotion	2
2	Probably	compromizer	undistinguished emotion	1
3	More	booster	undistinguished emotion	4
4	Actually	maximizer	personal emotion	10
5	Really	booster	undistinguished emotion	7
6	Obviously	maximizer	personal emotion	1
7	Very	booster	undistinguished emotion	14
8	Just	diminisher	undistinguished emotion	7
9	Plainly	maximizer	personal emotion	1
10	Broadly	maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
11	Basically	maximizer	personal emotion	1
12	at all	minimizer	personal emotion	1
13	kind of	compromizer	undistinguished emotion	4
14	Particularly	booster	personal emotion	1
15	So	booster	undistinguished emotion	7
16	confidently and seriously	booster	undistinguished emotion	1
17	Totally	maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
18	Simply	maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
19	most	maximizer	undistinguished emotion	2
20	a bit	diminisher	undistinguished emotion	4
21	Almost	approximator	undistinguished emotion	1
22	Enough	compromizer	personal emotion	1
23	Possibly	diminisher	personal	2
24	Partly	approximator	undistinguished emotion	2
25	Highly	booster	personal emotion	1
26	Only	diminisher	undistinguished emotion	3
27	Too	maximizer	undistinguished emotion	1
Total				82

The table shows that the participants use different types of intensifiers. It is about twenty-seven types of intensifiers which are used in this interview. The most frequent use of intensifiers is the booster *very* then the maximizer *actually*, and

then followed by diminisher *just* and booster *so*. The rest of intensifiers have a low frequency.

4.2.3.1 Expressivity and Involvement

Adopting Cacchiani's (2007) model, the above table illustrates that the participants use different types of intensifiers that have different degrees of expressivity and involvement. The table shows that most of the intensifiers such as *absolutely, probably, more, really, very, just, broadly, at all, most, so, confidently(very) and seriously, totally, simply, a bit, almost, partly, only, and too* express undistinguished emotion. These intensifiers add nothing to the emotional quality, but they are used to indicate a specific degree to the elements that are modified specially when a scalar has been reached or overreached, and to indicate whether the elements that modify strengthen or weaken the existing emotional content, for example;

1-“We are *absolutely* serious about coming out and the key things that you got to do are to take the bits of the current withdrawal agreement, which is dead, take the bits that are serviceable and get them done”.

2-“I think on both sides of the Channel there's a *really* different understanding of what is needed”.

5-“LK: It's what people want, but that's *very* different to what people get, Boris Johnson”.

14- “You've got to understand, Laura, listening to what I *just* said, that is not where I want us to end up”.

23- “LK: But you seem to care about privacy, but you seem to care about your privacy *so* much that yesterday a photographer”

The interlocutors use both main types of intensifiers according to the Quirikean system concerning amplifiers and downtoners as a way to increase or decrease the elements that are modified, but without personal or specific emotion that is added to the modification.

The rest of intensifiers in this interview, such as *actually, obviously, plainly, basically, kind of, particularly, enough, possibly, and highly* are subjective. In other words, these intensifiers are personal in that they reflect the speaker's own assessment and judgment on the modification of the elements, for instance:

3- "we need *obviously* for both sides to come together; they've not got 29 Brexit MEPs in Strasbourg".

10- "But what you're *basically* saying is 'we'll cross our fingers because I think the situation is different so we could get a deal done'".

11- "There are plenty of checks that you can do away from the border if you had to do them without any *kind of* hard infrastructure at the Northern Ireland frontier".

12- "We *actually* helped to invent it".

37- "The Guardian - *highly* reputable newspaper - ran a whole subsection in which people promised to flee the land or at least the city if I became mayor, eight years later most of them were still there"

It is noted that the scaling of intensifiers has a different level upwards and downwards. In other words, they can be used to scale the speaker's attitude toward the propositional substance of the utterance upwards or downwards, reinforcing or minimizing it. This means that the intensification in this interview is held on two levels at the propositional level and at the subjective level. At the propositional level, when the interlocutors use intensifiers for undistinguished emotion, they are

merely used to show the emotional content, whereas, at the subjective level, the interlocutors use the intensifiers to be personal in character and illustrate specific involvement on the part of the speaker.

4.2.3.2 Modification

I-Illocutionary Force Modification

According to Bazzanella et al.'s (1991) perspective, the amplifiers and the downtoners types are used to upgrade or downgrade the various dimensions of the illocutionary force, as it is shown below.

(A)The propositional content: The intensifiers of this interview play the main role in modifying this dimension either up or down, and with this modification the illocutionary force is either upgraded or downgraded accordingly, as in the following:

(i) Upgrading the propositional content

The propositional content of the illocutionary force can be upgraded by the intensifiers such as boosters, maximizers, and minimizers. For example, the politician and the interviewer use the booster type such as '**more**' as in '**more affordable**' in (27), and the minimizer '**at all**' as in '**not true at all**' in (10), which are used to upgrade the propositional content of the illocutionary force to either pay positive face or increase the degree of the certainty to the hearer.

(ii) Downgrading the propositional content

Besides the upgrading of the propositional content, this dimension can also be modified down by the use of the downtoners types such as; diminishers, approximators, and comprimizers. The usage, for example, of the compromizer types such as '**properly**' as in '**properly protected**' in (1) by the politician, the

approximator such as ‘**almost**’ as in ‘**almost seems**’ in (30) by the interviewer, and the diminisher such as ‘**a bit**’ as in ‘**a bit left**’ in (36) by the politician is clearly seen. They are used to downgrade the promotional content of the illocutionary force as a way to express the positive face to the hearer.

(B) Speaker’s inner states (sincerity conditions)

The occurrence of the upgrading and downgrading of the speaker’s inner states/sincerity conditions is by the intensifiers of both types amplifiers and downtoners. For examples, the amplifiers types of intensifiers such as the maximizer ‘**absolutely**’ as in ‘**absolutely serious**’ in the exchange (1), the booster ‘**more**’ as in ‘**more difficult**’ in (1), are used to upgrade the sincerity conditions of the politician as a way to pay positive face to the hearer. However, the diminishers ‘**just**’ and ‘**possibly**’ as in ‘**just said**’ in (14), and as in ‘**possibly can**’ in (34) are used by the politician to pay positive face to the hearer and to downgrade his inner states of the illocutionary force.

(C) Preparatory conditions

The study identifies two conditions according to this dimension. They are:

(i) Speaker’s commitment

The amplifiers and downtoners types of intensifiers are served to either ‘strengthen the speaker’s commitment’ or ‘weaken the speaker’s commitment’. It can be notified that the interlocutors, for example, use the amplifiers types such as the boosters like the maximizers ‘**absolutely**’, ‘**actually**’, and ‘**too**’ as in ‘**absolutely serious**’ in (1), ‘**actually all**’ in (29), and ‘**too long**’ in (38) for the upgrading their commitments to the illocutionary force of speech acts. However, the use of the downtoners types such as the diminisher ‘**just**’ as in ‘**just do**’ in (23) is used to downgrade the politician’s commitment to the illocutionary force.

(ii) Obligations assigned to addressee

Besides the upgrading and downgrading of the speaker's commitment, the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force, can also be modified to upgrade or downgrade by using various types of the intensifier. For example, the booster '**really**' as in '**really be**' in (16), and the booster '**so**' as in '**so much**' in (23) are used by the interviewer for upgrading her obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force. However, the downtoner types such as the diminisher '**just**' as in '**just wish**' in (6), and the compromiser '**enough**' as in '**lucky enough**' in (32) are used by the interviewer to downgrade the obligation assigned to addressee of the illocutionary force.

(D) Perlocutionary effects

The intensifiers cannot only modify the dimensions of the illocutionary force, but they can also upgrade or downgrade the effect of the perlocutionary of the speech act. For example, the amplifiers type of intensifiers such as the booster '**very**' in '**very carefully**' in (3), and '**very different**' in (12) are used to upgrade the desired perlocutionary effect of the speech acts. However, the dtoners type of intensifiers such as the diminisher '**just**' as in '**just always**' in (36), the compromiser '**kind of**' as in '**kind of hard**' in (11) are used to upgrade the effect of the perlocutionary of speech acts.

II. Modification of Speech Acts

According to the perspectives of Holmes (1984) and Cacchiai (2009a), the majority of intensifiers used in this interview convey a modal meaning, indicating that the speaker wants to share his viewpoint and attitude on the proposition. Interlocutors use intensifiers, which have a modal meaning, to convey certain scalar either to boost or attenuate different types of speech acts.

1-“I would make sure that we have a plan that will convince our European friends and partners that we are *absolutely* serious about coming out and the key things that you got to do are to take the bits of the current withdrawal agreement”.

In the above utterance, Boris uses the maximizer ‘*absolutely*’ to boost the representative speech acts of asserting

1-“I think the money is *more* difficult”.

At the same exchange, Boris uses the booster ‘more’ to boost the representative speech act of guessing.

6-“But if you want to be prime minister you have to tell people how, you can't *just* wish it to be true”.

In this utterance, the interviewer uses the diminisher ‘*just*’ to attenuate the representative speech act of arguing.

11- “There was a *very* good report just today by Shanker Singham and many others looking at the modalities of how to do this”.

The booster ‘*very*’ is used by Boris in this utterance to boost the assertive speech act of asserting.

16-“would you *really* be willing as prime minister to face the consequences of no deal which could mean crippling tariffs on some businesses?”

The booster ‘*really*’ is used to boost the directive speech act of asking that is directing from the interviewer to the interviewee.

22- “But my key point though is that the minute you start talking about your family or your loved ones, you involve them in a debate that is it is *simply* unfair on”.

The maximizer '*simply*' is used by Boris to boost the representative speech act of disagreeing.

28-“Why do *so* many Conservatives worry about you sticking to your word or being careless with the truth?”

The interviewer uses the booster '*so*' to boost the direction speech act of asking.

However, there are only two utterances that contain the intensifier '*very*' for the affective meaning. It is used in the context by the interviewer to prime minister Boris as in the following utterance:

39-“LK: Thanks *very* much. Thank you *very* much indeed”. (boosting the expressive speech act of Thanking).

According to Cacchiali (2009a), the majority of intensifiers in the interview are used to strengthen the speech acts to convey and make the utterances more confident and reliable; nevertheless, there are only two utterances that include the intensifier '*very*', which is used by the speaker to boost positively the expressive speech act of thanking, thus resulting in a mitigating impact. Table (16) demonstrates the distribution of intensifiers with various types of speech acts in this interview.

Table (16) Distribution of Intensifiers in Modifying Speech Acts in the Third Interview

Speech acts	Maximizers	Boosters	Approximators	Compromisers	Diminishers	Minimizers.
guessing		1				
Arguing	3	2			1	
asserting	3	15	2	1	3	
clarifying		2				
Giving opinion	1	1		1		
justifying	2	6		1	1	
accusing	1	1	1		5	
disagreeing	1					
denying	1			1		
Stating	3	1				
Asking	1	3		2	3	
promising	1	1			1	
suggesting	1					
thanking		2				
refusing	1					
predicting		1				
agreeing	1					
disagreeing	1					1
reporting					2	
Frequency	21	35	3	6	16	1

This table illustrates the distribution of different types of intensifiers in modifying different types of speech acts. As shown, the amplifiers instead of downtoners are used to modify the speech acts of thanking, guessing, disagreeing, stating, suggesting, predicting, and agreeing. And the downtoners instead of amplifiers types are used to modify the speech acts of reporting and disagreeing. It is also shown that the boosters' types of amplifiers are the most popular types of amplifiers for modifying various types of speech acts such as asserting, justifying, and asking. The other types of amplifiers show the lowest ratio in modification. The diminisher types of downtoners, on the other hand, have the most frequent use in modifying different types of speech acts such as accusing, asking and, asserting.

While the other types of downtoners show a low ratio of distribution in modification.

4.2.3.3 Other Pragmatic Functions

According to Urbanova’s (2003) model, it has been found that intensifiers express both accentuating and attenuating functions throughout the text. Intensifiers that are used with a boosting or accentuating function are more active than those with an attenuating function. The following table summarizes the frequent use of intensifiers which boost the elements in three groups: speaker-oriented, hearer-oriented, and discourse-oriented.

Table (17) Boosters’ Classification and their Distributions in the Interview with their Frequencies

Booster	Total
Speaker-oriented	16
Hearer-oriented	13
Discourse-oriented	27
Total	56

According to the interview, this table reveals that the category of the discourse-oriented booster is the most frequent type used in this interview. These intensifiers occur in 27 instances. Then, they are followed by speaker-oriented boosters. Their level of occurrence is not so frequent; it shows only 16 instances. The least frequent use of boosters according to their contribution to discourse meaning is hearer-oriented boosters, it shows a slight difference from that in speaker-oriented. It is only 13 times in the whole interview.

As discussed previously in this study, boosters may serve a variety of pragmatic functions throughout political interviews. Urbanová (2003:72-73) distinguishes several functions such as emphasize, assurances, degree of

agreement and certainty, and the subjectivity of judgment and opinion. All these functions occur in the case of speaker, hearer, or discourse oriented.

In the case of speaker-oriented, it can be noted that the interlocutors use various types of intensifiers to show the previous functions in this interview, for instance:

1- “we are *absolutely* serious about coming out and the key things that you got to do are to take the bits of the current withdrawal agreement”

In this utterance, Boris uses the maximizer ‘absolutely’ as a way to increase the degree of a certain quality of the utterance to express his attitude and the attitude of his party toward the message.

3- “we need *obviously* for both sides to come together; they've not got 29 Brexit MEPs in Strasbourg”

The maximizer ‘*obviously*’ in this utterance is used by Boris to express his certainty and confidence in order to assure the audience about the truthfulness of his message.

18- “Of course that's right Laura. It's not just up to us, it's up to the other side as well. And there is an element of course, a *very* important element of mutuality and co-operation in this”.

This type of boosting device is used by the prime minister to increase the degree of agreement and to express understanding and to show his positive stance to the message conveyed by him.

1- “I think the money is *more* difficult”.

2- “I think on both sides of the Channel there's a *really* different understanding of what is needed”.

These types of boosters, '*more*' and '*really*' are used by Boris to increase his beliefs and express his subjectivity in order to make the utterance highly assertive to show his involvement and persuasiveness.

The most frequent function of boosters in this interview is the content-oriented emphasis, for instance:

3- "They're watching this *very* carefully"

7- "Well, they do *actually*, in *very* large measure they do".

31- "But *so* often people worry that you're just a bit scrappy with the truth"

37- "The Guardian - *highly* reputable newspaper"

This type of boosting device is used to emphasize various parts of the message and pieces of information in a given utterance.

The main reason behind the highest level of occurrence of this function can be interpreted as a deliberate attempt by politicians to emphasize some parts of their utterances over the others, thus making the message more understandable and clearer to listeners.

The lowest frequent use of emphasis is related to the hearer-oriented. In this interview, the hearers use the intensifiers with different degree to emphasize their message that they want to send, for instance;

8- "LK: But as one big solution to the Irish border question which as you suggest is **absolutely** at the root of this, there is no solution ready right now".

10- "But what you're *basically* saying is"

10- "You're not giving us anything concrete that *actually* suggests it's possible".

11- "you have a *very* different outcome"

37- “And you *really* think you can do that when some people see you as the *most* divisive politician?”

It can be noted that both the interviewer and the prime minister use the different types of amplifiers that function as a booster as a way to direct attention to the hearer and emphasize specific parts of the message, which supports the hearer to concentrate on the speaker’s utterances.

In addition to accentuating, the attenuating functions are also used in this text. The following table shows the frequent use of the intensifiers which have the main role in attenuating. They are classified into three groups:

Table (18) Attenuators’ Classification and their Distributions in the Interview with their Frequencies

Attenuator	Total
Speaker-oriented	6
Hearer-oriented	8
Content-oriented	12
Total	26

The above table shows that intensifiers that function as the attenuators of the content-oriented are the most commonly used during the interview. They occur 12 times in the whole interview. Then, they are followed by hearer-oriented attenuators. Their level of occurrence is smaller, with just 8 instances. Finally, the least frequent use of attenuators according to their contribution to discourse meaning is speaker-oriented attenuators, which appear only 6 times in the whole interview.

In the case of content-oriented, the pragmatic functions of the attenuators in this area are used by the interlocutors to make their content’s message less prominent as a way to send specific pragmatic functions, for instance;

4- “There is no *kind of* deal without the backstop, an insurance policy for Northern Ireland”

12- “and why do you think they would do that when if the UK had *just* walked away from a deal that has taken them three years to put together?”

36- “but it was about huge parts of Britain feeling that they didn't have the same advantages, the same care, the same love, as London and the southeast, and that they were being *a bit* left behind”.

37- “And Jeremy Corbyn *only* understands one half of that. He's *only* interested in taxation and spending”.

It can be noted that the interviewer and the prime minister use different kinds of downtoners that function as attenuators or as a linguistic device that are used by the interlocutors to increase the attenuators that are related to the content of message as a way to indicate the degree of uncertainty and evasiveness of the speaker.

The second most frequent function of attenuators in this interview is hearer-oriented devices, for instance:

21- “Can you *just* tell us what happened at your partner's home a couple of nights ago?”

The interviewer uses the diminisher 'just' as a way to soften the illocutionary force of utterances to express positive politeness.

6- “But how do you do that? Because you're right - everybody wants a solution to this. But if you want to be prime minister you have to tell people how, you can't *just* wish it to be true”.

31- “you're just *a bit* scrappy with the truth”

32- “If you're lucky *enough* to become prime minister, will you be a different *kind of* politician?”

The linguistic devices such as the diminisher ‘*just*’ in the utterance (21) , ‘*a bit*’, given in (31), and compromizer ‘*enough*’ and ‘*kind of*’ found in (32) are used by the interlocutors in the case of hearer-oriented as a way to express uncertainty that is specified towards the hearer. This type of attenuator is not so frequent since the interviewer and the prime minister concentrate more on the linguistic devices that are related to the content of their messages and not on the hearer or speaker so much.

The lowest frequent use of attenuator is related to the speaker-oriented. In this interview, the speakers use the intensifiers with a different degree to soften their message that they need to send, for example:

14- “You've got to understand, Laura, listening to what I *just* said, that is not where I want us to end up”.

34- “I think because of the failures of the political class, lost a sense of purpose and lost perhaps *a bit* of a sense of self belief”.

The linguistic devices of these utterances are used by the interlocutors as a way to express the speaker’s doubts and uncertainty in relation to the propositions.

4.3 Findings of Data Analysis

1-It has been found that the politicians involved in these interviews highly use the Scalar types of intensifiers, then they are followed by the modal intensifiers. However, the frequency of the other categories is clearly low.

2-The most common intensifier used in these interviews is the booster ‘*very*’.

3-The intensifiers of both amplifiers and downtoners are used by the politicians and the interviewers in all interviews. But it can be seen that the politicians tend to use amplifiers about twice the number of intensifiers compared to those of downtoners.

4-The intensifiers that express undistinguished and personal emotions are also used by the politicians, but the tendency is with that of undistinguished one.

5-The intensifiers of both types are used to modify various dimensions of illocutionary force of speech acts.

6-The politicians engaged in these interviews use the intensifiers of both types: amplifiers and downtoners for the modal meaning as a way to strengthen and weaken the illocutionary force of speech acts.

7-The intensifiers used in the affective meanings have the lowest frequent use in all interviews. It can be found in only one or two utterances in the whole interviews.

8.Only the amplifiers type of intensifiers is used for the affective meanings by the interlocutors.

9-As mentioned above, the lowest frequent use of intensifiers is in the case of affective meanings for mitigation type. However, the aggravation type is shown zero in all interviews.

10-The frequent use of intensifiers that function as boosters is more than the frequency of intensifiers function as attenuators. This tendency is clear with the politicians who are in a low social distance. It is found that the number of frequencies of intensifiers as booster device is about twice the number of those used as an attenuator.

11-The frequent use of intensifiers used by the politicians in the discourse or content-oriented of both booster and attenuator functions is higher than that of speaker or hearer-oriented in all interviews.

12-The number of intensifiers used in the speaker-oriented is higher than the number in the hearer-oriented in all interviews.

13- It has been found that the attenuators types of intensifiers are used by the politicians in three areas; speaker, hearer, and content orientations

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STUDIES

5.1 Conclusions

The study has come up with the following conclusions:

1-The scalar type of intensifiers is used by the politicians to tell the listener that what is being said is sincerely vouched for. Its function expresses nothing but the notion of ‘scalars’ scaling an adjectival quality upwards or downwards. It is used by the politicians to make sure that a certain utterance is emphasized and understood by the listeners. This conclusion realizes the first aim of the present study.

2-The booster ‘very’ is the most commonly used in the three English interviews as a way to boost different types of speech acts, but it doesn’t indicate the maximum degree of intensifiers. It is merely used to indicate ‘high degree’ but not ‘very or extremely’ high degree. It can be concluded that there are two interpretations when the politicians use it either to hide extremely degree of intensification intentionally or they do not completely make sure about the intensification of a particular utterance. Additionally, it is used since it is the easiest way to strengthen the element that is modified .So, this conclusion realizes the first aim of the study.

3-The politicians use amplifiers as a booster function as a way to support their message and make it more prominent to the listeners. The amplifier’s type is used by politicians when there is certain doubt about a particular message which was raised by the addressee, as well as to draw his/her attention to the main issues that the speaker wants to emphasize. This conclusion realizes the third aim of the study.

4-The study has significantly concluded that the use of intensifiers might be regarded as a powerful tool used by politicians to get the audience's intentions , to prompt their feelings, and to achieve their aims and interests. This leads to adding that intensifiers are not randomly used by politicians, but they are used as a purposeful means of communication. This conclusion realizes the second aim of the present study.

5- The reason behind the most common use of the intensifiers is those which express undistinguished emotional content. This type is merely used to boost or attenuate the exciting emotional content of the utterance. In other words, this type is used by the politicians to modify their proposition, but without personal emotion. However, the low number of intensifiers used in the case of the personal emotion indicates the low degree of subjectivity of politicians to the utterances that are modified.

6.The intensifiers of both types, amplifiers and downtoners, are not only used to upgrade or downgrade the quality or quantity of the scaling and showing the mechanism of modification but are also used to show the interpersonal functions such as conveying the speaker's commitment or attitude toward the propositional content or the addressee. This leads to add that the interrelation between pragmatics and psycholinguistics is not only shown through cognitive psychology or the theories of language process or production but also through these devices since these devices(intensifiers) pragmatically have interpersonal functions and express the psychological states as well.

7-The politicians use most of intensifiers to convey the modal meaning or their attitude to the propositions. The modal meaning is only used to boost or attenuate the speech acts by both the speaker or the addressee. The speakers boost their speech acts when they might be aware that the hearers are doubtful or hesitant

about a certain proposition. However, they use the attenuating devices when they might become doubtful about the validity of the information of the proposition.

8-The low number of intensifiers used to convey the affective meaning by politicians is resulted from not being able to speak about their own private life. Their speech is actually authorized by their party and their coalition. More precisely, they don't talk about their individual life, but as a representative for their parties or governments. Additionally, using intensifiers to indicate the affective meaning of the mitigation type by the politicians means that there is a positive face-work which is restricted only in these utterances.

9-The reason for the disappearance of the use of intensifiers to convey the aggravation type of affective meaning is that the language of most political interviews that are conducted between the interviewer and the politicians is more polite than that in debate interviews among politicians. Thus, the negative face-work is also disappeared in this type of interviews.

10-The illocutionary force of speech acts such as thanking, welcoming, and greeting are only modified by the amplifiers type of intensifiers since these types of speech acts express the inner states of the speaker.

11-The politicians deliberately use intensifiers specially the amplifiers, as a booster function. This type is used to express psychological states such as the degree of beliefs, feelings...etc., as a way to increase the degree of certain pragmatic functions such as the degree of certainty, assurance, agreement and so on. It is used purposefully to influence the listeners' reception of the message. However, the politicians who are in low status use intensifiers as an amplifier type more than those in a high status since the power of speech of those in the high status is stronger than those in the low status, and their speech is not modified by

such linguistic device a lot. This conclusion realizes the second aim of the present study.

12-The reason behind the most frequent use of intensifiers in the case of content or discourse oriented is to reduce the responsibility of politicians for their claims. It is very difficult to determine if the politicians really do not want to express their own attitudes, or they can not talk about their own individual opinions since they represent their own party or a certain group of people. So, they use intensifiers in this area more than in the case of speaker/hearer-oriented.

13- The number of intensifiers in the case of hearer-oriented is considerably lower than the group of speaker-oriented. The use of intensifiers in speaker-oriented is to indicate a certain degree of involvement in his/her interactional process. Moreover, the speakers attempt to show that they recognize what is important and why they modify this issue than the addressee as a way to strengthen their position in front of the other.

14-The attenuators type of intensifiers is used on the speaker-oriented as a way to express the assumption and hesitation of the speaker, which may be an indication that the politician is uncertain or that he withholds some information. It is very difficult to determine that since it is not known whether the politician really does not know the information or he deliberately withholds it. Or sometimes, he does it since some information is confidential and cannot be disclosed to the public. Hearer-oriented attenuators, on the other hand, express uncertainty that is addressed towards the hearer. This type of attenuators is not so frequent since politicians concentrate more on attenuating the content-oriented of their messages and not on the hearer-oriented.

5.2 Recommendations

In light of the conclusions arrived at in 5.1, the following recommendations are given.

1-This study has only dealt with intensifiers that structure as adverbs. However, there are other intensive devices that are related to phonology (e.g., stress, pitch), syntax (e.g., exclamations, double negatives, reflexive pronouns, shifted word order, and other grammatical transformations), and so on. It is recommended to undertake these devices as a way to include all linguistic devices of intensification.

2-The researcher of this study recommends to take into account social factors (e.g., gender, age) in the analysis of using intensifiers since these factors have an effect on the distribution of certain individual intensifiers which are different from one person to another with respect to these factors.

3-It is also recommended to take into account that using intensifiers is not only different by sex or age, but also with external factors such as regional differences and the level of education.

4-It is to be taken into consideration that intensifiers in political interviews do not deal with diachronic studies of intensifiers; rather, they deal with synchronic studies of intensifiers.

5.3 Suggestions for Further Studies

The following suggestions are found to be suitable for further suggestions.

1- A contrastive study of using intensifiers in English and Arabic political interviews.

2-Analysis of intensifiers in the corpus of Shakespeare's plays and other work in the present day; A diachronic study.

3-A comparative analysis of using intensifiers in British and American English in the language of children's short stories.

4-A sociolinguistic study of intensifiers in British English.

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Appendices

Appendix (A)

The interview between the interviewer Rachel Maddow and CIA Director John Brennan.

1-RACHEL MADDOW: This interview tonight with John Brennan will be his first live TV interview since the president took this action.

Director Brennan, thank you very much for being here tonight. So, I know you have choices about where to be. Thanks for being here.

JOHN BRENNAN, FORMER CIA DIRECTOR: Thanks, Rachel, for having me on.

2-MADDOW: So, you were CIA director from 2013 to January of 2017.

BRENNAN: Right.

3-MADDOW: You were President Obama's counterterrorism and homeland security adviser. You were 25 years as a CIA officer before that. You have been through some stressful situations in your life. How has it been the past couple days since the president singled you out for attack and punishment in this way?

BRENNAN: It's fine. As far as I'm concerned personally, I'm fine. It's not unexpected. He had signaled something like this would happen. Nobody, though, got in touch with me from the White House or CIA since it was first noted that my security clearance was under review. I learned about it when somebody called me to say that Sarah Huckabee Sanders was announcing at the podium that these clearances were revoked. Again, I was not shocked for a couple reasons. One, there's a heads up. But, secondly, I'm not quite shocked at all the appalling things that Mr. Trump has done. And so, I think this is an egregious act that it flies in the face of traditional practice, as well as common sense, as well as national security. I think that's why there's been such an outcry from many intelligence professionals. Not to support me, but to support the principle that security clearances are something that's very, very solemn and sacred and they never, ever should be used for political purposes, either to grant friends those clearances or to revoke clearances of your critics.

4-MADDOW: With three decades experience at the CIA and all of your other government service, clearly, you're familiar with clearances, with the processes around clearances, including the processes that exist inside the government for revoking them for cause. When the president first signaled that he might go after your security clearance, did you expect that the CIA would then be put through its paces in terms of the normal procedures for how these things go, that they would write a memo and evaluate whether you had behaved in any way that would justify this action? Did you expect that it would go through channels?

BRENNAN: Well, if these were formal times, I would have expected it. But these are not normal times. These are quite frankly very frightening times. So, I didn't expect any adherence to process, any adherence to the steps and measures and regulations that exist by order. I think Mr. Trump has demonstrated time and time again that he believes that just because he has the

authority to do these things, that he has, in fact, the right to do it irrespective of what is truly the appropriate thing to do.

5-MADDOW: And appropriate is a general word there. Congressman Elijah Cummings has suggested and other observers have suggested that even though the president has the right to sort of handle security clearances as commander in chief, there are executive orders that supposedly guide the way these things are handled. Congressman Cummings has suggested overtly that it may be illegal what the president has done. Congressman Schiff, who's the top Democrat on intel, has suggested the same thing. Are you considering legal action or do you think you have a legal right to exert against the president's actions here?

BRENNAN: Well, I think as you can imagine, a number of lawyers have reached out to say that there is a very strong case here, not so much to reclaim mine but to prevent this from happening in the future.

6-MADDOW: Uh-huh.

BRENNAN: And so, I am thinking about what it is that I might want to do. At this time, I'm trying to make sure that the principle is what is going to be defended and supported, and this is something that should not be repeated. The other people on the so-called enemy's list now, I think this is just another example of Mr. Trump trying to frighten and intimidate others. But I can tell you, having worked in the national security and intelligence community for many, many years, these are not the type of people who are bullied or intimidated by someone of the likes of Mr. Trump.

7-MADDOW: There is a list. They are former senior -- one current, currently serving Justice Department official.

BRENNAN: Bruce Ohr (ph). Yes.

8-MADDOW: And there's actually some news about him tonight that I want to get your reaction to. Just broke in the last hour or so. But among this list, you appear to be first. The president is threatening to revoke everybody else's security clearances. He acted against you. Do you have a sense of why the president thinks you're so special? Why he has, why he's started with you. I mean -- and I don't know, I guess I don't know if I'm asking about something personal. I guess the way that I imagine this might go is that there might be something that you know or that he knows that you know that might be making him particularly angry or particularly nervous.

BRENNAN: I don't know what it is that is motivating Mr. Trump to focus on me at first. I met Mr. Trump only once at Trump Tower in early January 2017 when we briefed him on the intelligence community assessment on Russian interference in the election. That's the only interaction I've had with him ever. Now, I have been outspoken and I'm sure that my outspokenness and some of the things that I have said have, you know, irritated him. I wish I didn't have to say these things. And it's one thing to have policy differences or substantive differences with presidents and I had them in the past with previous presidents. What really gets under my skin is Mr. Trump's lack of decency, integrity, honesty and his lack of commitment to this country's well-being and national security. Mr. Trump is motivated by whatever is in the best interest of Mr. Trump. That has been for many decades. I was hoping that he was going to

change once he assumed the solemn responsibilities of the office of presidency. That's why for my first year I sometimes spoke out when he was in front of the agency's memorial wall and spoke about the size of his inauguration crowd, but I did it very, very selectively. I gave him a year. I said, maybe he is going to adapt and change. But it seemed like day after day, week after week, month after month, things just got worse. He did not live up to I think what Americans expect of the president of the United States, to speak with great forcefulness but to do it with integrity and honesty. Mr. Trump, time after time, I think has really just disappointed millions of Americans, which I'm trying to give voice to. And so, I know a lot of people think a former intelligence official shouldn't be doing this. I don't consider what I'm doing as political at all. I never registered as a Republican or a Democrat, you know, for my entire life. But I feel such a commitment to this country's security and its reputation. And I'm the son of an immigrant and my father taught me and my siblings early on just how important it is that we take as very special the privilege of being born an American citizen. And, so, when I see what Mr. Trump is doing, basically trashing the reputation of his country worldwide and the way he has treated Americans, fellow Americans, how he refers to them, the divisiveness, the incitement, the fueling of hatred and polarization. This is not what this country is about.

(AUDIO GAP)

9-MADDOW: -- over the centuries, over the generations, some of them have been terrible jerks, if you read the right history books. Some of them have been deliberately divisive. Some of them have -- had terrible ideas or treated people in their personal lives or even in political life in egregious ways. Your criticism of President Trump is -- rises above that type. Despite what you just articulated here. You've gone further than that. After Helsinki, you were stark and even a little bit scary in your criticism of his behavior. You said it rose to treason.

BRENNAN: I said it was says nothing short of treasonous.

10-MADDOW: In this current controversy, that specific comment has been singled out by a number of people as a comment that may be by you crossed the line. That was maybe in -

BRENNAN: Crossed what line? Freedom of speech?

(CROSSTALK)

11-MADDOW: No, I'm not saying that you don't have a right to say it. But do you stand by that consideration and can you explain? Can you elaborate what you mean by treasonous? It's a very serious allegation.

BRENNAN: I know what the Russians did in interfering in the election. I have -- you know, I'm 100 percent confidence in what they did. And for Mr. Trump to stand on that stage in Helsinki, with all the world's eyes upon him and to basically said he wouldn't -- he doesn't understand why would the Russians interfere in the election, he's given Mr. Putin, the Russians, a pass time after time after time, and he keeps referring to this whole investigation as a witch-hunt, as, you know, bogus, as you know -- and, to me, this was an attack against the foundational principle of our great republic, which is the right of all Americans to choose their elected leaders. And for Mr. Trump to so cavalierly so dismiss that, yes, sometimes my Irish comes out and in my tweets and I did say that it rises to and exceeds the level of high crimes and misdemeanors and nothing short

of treasonous because he had the opportunity there to be able to say to the world that this is something that happened. It should never, ever happen, again. And if Russia tries at all to do it, they're going to pay serious price for it. I don't expect Mr. Putin to acknowledge it. He is -- you know, he's going to deny, deny, deny. But for the president of the United States to continue to prevaricate on this issue, I think, does a great injustice and a disservice to the men and women of the intelligence law enforcement community and does a great disservice to the citizens of the United States. And that's why I said it was nothing short of treasonous. I didn't mean that he committed treason. But it was a term that I used, nothing short of treasonous.

12-MADDOW: But you didn't mean that he committed treason, though?

BRENNAN: I said it was nothing short of treasonous. That was the term I used, yes.

13-MADDOW: That's the -- if we -- if we diagram the sentence, nothing short of treasonous means it's treason. I mean, the reason -- the reason I'm bringing this out is because when you say, I know what the Russians did and when you -- knowing what the Russians did, observing the president's behavior, you go to the word "treason" suggests that you think the president may be --

BRENNAN: The president --

14-MADDOW: -- serving a foreign country rather than our own.

BRENNAN: Well, yes. I think he has crossed the line repeatedly in terms of his failure to fulfill the responsibility of the office. And to look Putin square in the eye and say, this should never, ever happen again.

15-MADDOW: Do you think that he is knowingly serving the interest of the Russian government instead of the U.S. government?

BRENNAN: You know, I scratch my head a lot. I'm puzzled over why Mr. Trump acts this week with such obsequiousness to Mr. Putin. I don't -- I don't know. And I'm not going to try to pretend that I know. But there is something that is very disconcerting, very worrisome about how an individual who occupies the Oval Office interacts with Mr. Putin. I'm a great advocate of improving relations between Moscow and Washington, don't get me wrong. I was a strong supporter of that during the Obama administration. And I went -- I stuck my neck out a number of times particularly on Syria to say, no, we need to be able to work with the Russians to be able to bring this mass carnage to a halt. But time after time, the Russians, you know, would feign sincerity better than anybody I've ever know, but I do believe we need to get this behind us. I don't want this to, you know, roil the waters forever. But we need to have a president who is going to acknowledge this and make sure that he is able to then move on.

16-MADDOW: How do we get this behind us? I mean, you're suggesting that there's things that we do not yet know that have not yet been adjudicated or laid fairly before the American people about the president and his connection with what happened to Russia. Do we need to know that in order to move on or should we decide to move on before we know?

BRENNAN: It's called the Mueller investigation. It's called the duly appointed special counsel who has given the mandate to investigate what Russia did in terms of interference in our presidential election. And who might have been working in support of Russian objectives. And

who might have committed a crime in that process. And that's why Robert Mueller is a real national treasure. He needs to be able to continue with this investigation unimpeded.

17-MADDOW: Mueller's indictment about the GRU, about Russian military intelligence lays out in black and white, in great detail an alleged criminal conspiracy to illegally sway the U.S. election. It's named conspirators, it describes what they did. There was agreement among multiple actors to pursue an aim and then they took actions in pursuit of that aim.

So, they've defined a criminal conspiracy existing in the world.

BRENNAN: On the part of a foreign government, which you need. A foreign government.

18-MADDOW: Yes.

BRENNAN: Yes, excellent (ph).

19-MADDOW: But because that conspiracy has been defined, what would an American have to do to be considered part of that conspiracy? All right, if you've got a foreign conspiracy orchestrated by a foreign government, what does it mean to have an American abetter? What does it mean for an America -- I mean, we talk -- the word collusion is become, you know, refrigerator poetry.

BRENNAN: Yes.

20-MADDOW: And it's used by anybody for any reason and oftentimes incoherently. But what would amount in your mind, to intelligence terms, to an American being a part of that conspiracy, the one that's been defined by Robert Mueller already?

BRENNAN: Yes, and I will leave it to the lawyers and the courts to decide whether something is criminal or not. But in my mind, it requires someone to knowingly support the efforts of a foreign government to interfere in U.S. domestic politics and especially an election. And so, any American who was working with the Russians, or working with intermediaries who are working with the Russians, and those Americans who knowingly tried to collude, conspire and to work with them in order to advance their political objectives here in the States, I think that rises to the level of conspiracy. Now, a lot depends on what Robert Mueller has been able to uncover. Maybe there's none of that. And in my op-ed in "The New York Times" when I said Mr. Trump's claims of no collusion are hogwash, it's because there is collusion I think in open sight now because -- so many things I learned since I lost office because of what has appeared in the press. You know, the Trump Tower meeting with Don Jr. and others. And I also when I was CIA director, I didn't know that it was the day that Mr. Trump basically gave a public call to the Russians to find Hillary Clinton's e-mails, matter of fact (ph), the same day that the GRU was actively looking for it. So, there is collusion in plain sight. But I don't know whether any of that rises to the level of conspiracy and whether any of that conspiracy rises to criminal liability for that conspiracy.

21-MADDOW: You described in detail before Congress, an open -- it's open setting congressional testimony last spring that in the summer of 2016, you at CIA were alarmed by, said your radar went up about the number of contracts between Russian officials and U.S. persons at a time that Russia was mounting this interference campaign. When you say that your radar went up about that, did you radar go up about that just because it appeared that the Russian operation had as a component of that operation the engagement

of Americans toward that end or was it specifically because of the people, the Americans, the specific U.S. citizens who those Russians were targeting? What was it that put your alarm up?

BRENNAN: Well, first, I knew that it was a very intense Russian effort to interfere in the election, number one. Number two, I am well aware and have a lot of experience in observing what the Russians will do to try to suborn American citizens, to get Americans to this to work for them. And this was a very intensive effort. And, so, as I said in my op-ed, myself and Jim Comey and Mike Rogers are going to say (ph), we talked about the importance of making sure that our radar, our collection radar was up so that we had early indications or be able to uncover any effort on the part of the Russians to work with American citizens, the American citizens were reaching out to the Russians, as well, to see what they could get, see if they could any dirt on Hillary Clinton. So, my radar was going because I knew the Russians were engaged in this effort and I was aware of contracts with American citizens that may have been totally innocent on the American citizens' part and maybe they weren't betting at all.

22-MADDOW: Was it clear to you that those contacts with American citizens were part of the operation? That it was part of the way that Russia was trying to accomplish its objectives?

BRENNAN: I was very concerned and aware that the Russians were trying to leverage U.S. citizens in order to achieve their objectives in the presidential election.

23-MADDOW: While you were in office as CIA director before you left on inauguration day, did you conclude that U.S. persons were successfully leveraged in that effort?

BRENNAN: No. No. And that's why I said in open testimony that I was concerned about these contracts because people will go down a treasonous path, sometimes very unknowingly, and they got a very hot water and deep water and then they, in fact, cannot extricate themselves because the Russians are very clever at getting people in positions of potential kompromat, compromising positions that they then cannot sort of turn back. So, when I left office on January 20th of 2017, I had unresolved questions in my mind if any of those U.S. persons were working in support of the Russian efforts.

24-MADDOW: And those were referred, those concerns about specific U.S. persons refer to the FBI.

BRENNAN: Right. We call it incidental collection in terms of CIA's foreign intelligence collection authorities. Any time we would incidentally collect information on a U.S. person, we would hand that over to the FBI because they have the legal authority to do it. We would not pursue that type of investigative, you know, sort of leads. We would give it to the FBI. So, we were picking things up that was of great relevance to the FBI and we wanted to make sure that they were there so they could piece it together with whatever they were collecting here domestically here. Again --

25-MADDOW: So, it's an intelligence sharing operation between --

BRENNAN: Right. We put together a fusion center at CIA that brought NSA and FBI officers together with CIA to make sure that those proverbial dots would be connected.

26-MADDOW: Let me ask you about one other thing that happened during your tenure as CIA director and I don't believe you've ever been asked about this before. Several weeks before the election in 2016, the early fall of 2016, I know, personally, that two well-respected reporters here at NBC approached you and asked you about a story that they were chasing, concerning then candidate Donald Trump and connections he might have to Russia and the Kremlin. You were approached by these reporters. They were asking for either on the record or off the record guidance from you on that story, and they say you told them, I don't think I can help you with that. I don't think I can help you with this. I can't confirm it. I don't have that for you, I can't help you. So, you wouldn't confirm any of it, you offered no help. This was September of 2016. It sounds like at that time that, you actually did know quite a lot about the Russian operation influence and potential connections to the Trump campaign. The press was coming to you with these queries. I know they at least were coming to you from (INAUDIBLE) from within this building. What -- was that of interest to you that the press seemed to be on to some of this and how did you handle that press interest?

BRENNAN: Yes. Well, I don't think I have been asked this question on a news show. But, in fact, I informed the Senate Intelligence Committee about this in my closed testimony over the past year and a half. Yes, it was in September. And two journalist, noteworthy members of the media asked me if I had heard about a document or a report about -- that contained some salacious information related to Donald Trump.

27-MADDOW: Were they specifically asking about the supposed -- the alleged sex tape or -

BRENNAN: They were talking about that and they used some of those descriptors. Didn't go into great detail but they led me to believe that it was related to some things that might have happened in Moscow. I didn't confirm or deny anything for various reasons. One is that I don't talk to American journalists about U.S. persons ever. Number two, much less talk about a U.S. presidential candidate to journalists. And it was later that year when, in December, was the first time I had ever put eyes on the so-called Steele dossier that I recalled the conversation I had with those two members of the media. And said, oh, this must be what they're talking about because they said this was widely circulating among the media and the press, this document, this report and these rumors and whatever else. And I basically told them, I can't help you with that and I'm not going to engage. But it was subsequent to that that I connected the dots then and said they must have been talking about what ultimately referred to as the Steele dossier. I didn't see that dossier until December. There are a lot of people out there, including members of Congress, who claimed I told Senate majority leader, minority leader at the time, Harry Reid, about it in August or September. That is, you know, that is false.

I did not have eyes or information on that --

28-MADDOW: Until after the election

BRENNAN: Until after the election. That's right.

29-MADDOW: Before it was published in January, but after the election in November.

BRENNAN: Right. It became a hot topic of debate within CIA, NSA and FBI and DNI about whether or not to take that dossier into account when the intelligence community assessment was

done. We decided no because there's no way we could substantiate it. It wasn't in an intelligent document. So, it was appended to it but not taken into account at all as the intelligence community assessment was done and was completed.

30-MADDOW: The president has made a specific, on the record allegation against you on that specific topic. There's also a little bit of breaking news about the security clearance fallout after the president revoked your security clearance this week. Please, stick with us. Former CIA Director John Brennan is my guest. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

RACHEL MADDOW, MSNBC HOST: Joining us, once again, for his first sit down interview since President Trump revoked his security clearance in an unprecedented move this week is former CIA Director John Brennan.

Director Brennan, thank you, again, for being here.

JOHN BRENNAN, FORMER CIA DIRECTOR: Sure.

32-MADDOW: I want to ask you about this breaking news we had tonight from "Washington Post." you can see the headline here White House drafts more clearance cancellations demanded by Trump. I will just read you the lead. The White House has drafted documents revoking security clearances of current and former officials whom President Trump has demanded be punished for criticizing him or for playing a role in the investigation of Russian interference in the 2016 election, according to senior administration officials. Trump wants to sign, quote, most, if not all of them, said one senior White House official who indicated that communication aides including Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders and Bill Shine, the new deputy chief of staff, they have discussed the optimum times to release them as a distraction during unfavorable news cycles. Here's the part about you. The senior White House official acknowledged that the step taken this week against John Brennan had been prepared in late July when Sanders first said Trump was considering it. But the decision to take that step was made this week to divert attention from nonstop coverage of a critical book released by fired Trump aide Omarosa Manigault Newman. Consideration is being given to holding other prepared documents in reserve for similar opportunities in the future. Do you have any reaction to learning that that, according to a White House official, is why the president took this action against you this week?

BRENNAN: No, other than this is just another demonstration of his irresponsibility in terms of holding that office. Just because he has these authorities, and he does -- he can revoke, you know, and he has revoked my clearances and others, and just the way he can give pardons out. But -- and I'm not a lawyer, but I know there is a question about whether or not there is corrupt intent terms of doing this. And so, I think this is a thing that lawyers and courts and others are going to be looking at in terms of whether Mr. Trump is going to be doing any of this to obstruct justice or try to silence critics, whatever. But the fact that he's using a security clearance of a former CIA director as a pawn in his public relations strategy, I think, is just so reflective of somebody who, quite frankly, don't want to use this term maybe, but he's drunk on power. He really is. And I think he's abusing the powers of that office. I think right now this country is in a crisis in terms of what Mr. Trump has done and is liable to do. And so, are the Republicans on

the Hill who have given him a pass, are they going to wait for a disaster to happen before they actually find their back bones and spines to speak up against somebody who clearly, clearly is not carrying out his responsibilities with any sense of purpose and common sense from the stand point of a national security?

33-MADDOW: When you raised that kind of prospect, what kind are you envisaging?

BRENNAN: I don't know. I mean, look, we're just tossing around these things right now. What happens if he wants to do something on the foreign front in terms of some type of military adventure? You know, the wag-the-dog scenario as a way to distract attention, as things get increasingly tough for him and the waters get choppy, how desperate is he going to become? What else is he going to do in order to distract attention? And so, I really am quite surprised and very disappointed in many of the Republican members of Congress. A lot of them who I know well and respect, but for whatever reason, they are turning a blind eye and making excuses for someone who doesn't deserve to be given this type of leash with the authorities of the office of the presidency.

34-MADDOW: The authority that he is exerting here is, again, an untested one because the president -- no president has ever been known to use a security clearance like a weapon this way, the revocation of a security clearance this way. One of the other things that's discussed in the breaking news from "The Washington Post" tonight is that there's particular concern expressed even within the White House about the president's statement today that he intends very quickly to strip the clearance of a current Justice Department official Bruce Ohr. Some people have suggested that depending on Mr. Ohr's actual job is at the Justice Department right now, stripping his security clearance might actually effectively be a way of firing him, if he needs a security clearance to do his job.

BRENNAN: Absolutely. It would be.

35-MADDOW: Is the president exercising a new authority here to essentially fire people, disable people from being able to do their jobs, even if he's constitutionally unable to fire that official?

BRENNAN: I think he's out of control. He is, has the steering wheel of the American vehicle in his hands. And he's veering wildly right now. He's trying to preserve and protect himself. And, so, what more demonstration do you want some when things get really, really bad? I'm glad that if his revoking my security clearance is going to wake some people up. Look at all the people who have come and spoken out. You know, the icons of a national security intelligence community over the past several decades saying enough is enough. And so, when are the members of Congress and the Republican Party going to say enough is enough? This country is more important than Mr. Trump. This country is more important than party affiliation. I'm waiting for it. I'm hoping for it and I truly hope that it's going to happen sooner rather than later.

36-MADDOW: Because the president has overtly today raised this prospect of going after this current Justice Department official, his security clearance, raised a question for me as to whether he might do that to the attorney general, who he has criticized in unsparing terms, this week calling him not a real attorney general or to the deputy attorney general who oversees the Mueller investigation or to FBI Director Chris Wray.

BRENNAN: Or Bob Mueller or the team of investigators there.

37-MADDOW: Yes.

BRENNAN: Yes.

38-MADDOW: That was raised publicly by former DNI James Clapper this week. I wondered what you thought about that.

BRENNAN: Well, I think it just demonstrates that anything is possible with Mr. Trump in the Oval Office. That he has the authorities. And he can yank the security clearances of basically anybody he wants. I think it is subject to challenge. But if he decides to yank the challenges tomorrow or the investigators working on this special counsel's effort, they're not going to be -- have access to classified information they need to do their jobs. So, again, how desperate is he going to get? And do the Republicans really want to have to clean up after a disaster or do they want to stop this before it becomes disastrous? It's their choice. And if things become disastrous, it's going to be on their shoulders, on their conscience.

39-MADDOW: You have said that since you left the CIA, you have returned to the agency several times, specifically to review materials in order to prepare yourself for congressional testimony for questioning by congressional staffers. Will the loss of your clearances affect your ability to do that?

BRENNAN: I've returned to the CIA twice to talk about -- well, in support of my congressional testimony. I had to go back and read the files, just to make sure I was able to respond to their questions. One other time, a CIA senior official asked me to come in to talk about things and that was with using my security clearances, so I could talk freely about things. Another time, Director Pompeo when he was there, every year, the director of CIA usually invites back former directors to give them updates on what's happening in the CIA, as well as some substantive briefings. I have never gone into CIA to ask for any type of briefing. I've never gone in there to access any type of computer. So, again, I'll be fine. But -- and I don't want to get anybody in CIA in trouble, you know, in terms of their reaching out to me. I think there has been a chilling effect on the part of what Mr. Trump is doing and his characterization of me that, I think, CIA officers are pretty reluctant to be found out that they, you know, consulted me about a matter.

40-MADDOW: With now every -- nearly every living director and former director of the CIA speaking out in support of you today

BRENNAN: In support of the principle of security clearances not being political tools.

41-MADDOW: And also in support of you personally. Personal praise and support for you there, too. Even among former officials who say they don't always agree with your criticism of the president. They support you and reject any allegation that you've mishandled your security clearance in any way, with 60 former CIA officials joining their own letter today and joining, this is becoming a larger issue, not a smaller one in terms of the public debate on this matter. Speaking of the public debate on this matter, can I chain you to the desk for one more second?

BRENNAN: Sure.

42-MADDOW: All right. We'll be back with former CIA Director John Brennan. Thank you.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

43-MADDOW: Joining us, once again, for his first sit down interview since President Trump took the unprecedented step of revoking his security clearance is former CIA Director John Brennan.

Thank you, again, Director Brennan.

BRENNAN: Thanks, Rachel.

44-MADDOW: In your op-ed this week of "The New York Times", you said one of the questions that remains to be answered now is how many members of Trump Incorporated attempted to defraud the government by laundering and concealing the movement of money into their pockets. What does Trump Incorporated mean there? It seems like you're making an organized crime reference.

BRENNAN: Yes. Well, it's sort of the orbit of individuals that are associated in one way or another with Mr. Trump. Rick Gates has already admitted to doing this. Paul Manafort is now -- his trial is now to the jury, who is being charged with those types of extensive criminal activities. So, the use of, you know, financial transactions is a way to move money surreptitiously. You know, I don't know who else that is associated with Mr. Trump, but you're talking about the former campaign manager and a former deputy campaign manager. I think -- you know, Mr. Trump over the years, I think has, you know, associated himself with some individuals of some, you know, questionable business practices. So, all I'm saying is that as a result of the investigation that Mr. Mueller is doing, those financial transactions are a critically part -- important part of the investigative process.

45-MADDOW: Is there a money element to the Russia operation to influence the election? There are some banking and money moving allusions, seemingly not on a large scale in the Mueller indictment in terms of how the Russia operation unfolded. As far as you know and as far as you can tell us, is there a financial component to that that may be helpful either in an investigative way or in terms of understanding the scale of the crime?

BRENNAN: Well, I know that the Russians have used financial transactions in previous efforts overseas to try to influence the outcome of election and I talked about this with Jim Comey quite a bit, to make sure that our radar and antenna were up in terms of what types of monies might be moving as part of this Russian effort, to suborn U.S. persons. Maybe they were not at all, in fact, connected with the campaign. But, you know, the term "follow the money" is very, very important one, whether or not you're pursuing organized crime or you're pursuing some type of counterintelligence operation. And so, I wouldn't be surprised at all if the special counsel has uncovered a number of those or some financial transactions that do speak to Russia's efforts.

46-MADDOW: I have one last very specific thing to ask you. You were -- you were CIA director through the election and through the transition. Your last day ended at noon inauguration day. There have been published reports that some of the same elements of the Russian influence from the campaign were actually employed for a new purpose during the transition, once Trump had been elected and was serving as president-elect, was standing up to the new administration. There have been published reports that during the transition, Russian efforts were redirected to try to sway the selection of some of the president-elect's cabinets, specifically, basically, the Russian boots were repurposed to start

trying to block Mitt Romney as a potential secretary of state and to cheer lead for the eventual choice Rex Tillerson. You were CIA director at the time those things allegedly were happening. Can you comment on that at all?

BRENNAN: Russian efforts to influence American politics in the aftermath of the inauguration on January 20th of 2017 did not stop with election day in November. They continued throughout the course of those months between election day, inauguration day, in order to do whatever they could to ensure that whatever happened in American politics in 2017, 2018 and beyond was going to be as favorable to them as possible.

47-MADDOW: Director Brennan, I just want to underscore one point that you made in our initial segment which is that you said you are considering potential -- the possibility of legal action in terms of your security clearance revocation?

BRENNAN: It would be with the eye towards preventing this type of abuse by Donald Trump in the future, not to reclaim mine. Although this is the first time in 38 years I haven't had a security clearance. I am very concerned about the future generation, the current generation of intelligence officers. It was a privilege every day of my life to be a part of this community that kept this country, this wonderful country strong and safe, and I don't want to ever allow a politician or someone in the Oval Office to just so cavalierly toss around national security and security clearances. So, I will fight on behalf of those who still have their clearances.

48-MADDOW: Director Brennan, I have disagreed with you publicly and privately on a number of serious policies --

BRENNAN: And look forward to talking about those issues in the future.

49-MADDOW: I look forward to talking about this, too. But I want to tell you, for all my disagreements with you on a number of different policy matters, I have profound and earnest respect for your service. So, thanks.

BRENNAN: Thank you. Thanks, Rachel.

50-MADDOW: Director John Brennan of the CIA, 25 years CIA officer and four years as CIA director, stripped this week of his security clearance by the president.

Something unprecedented happens almost every day. You would think that would be a blessing in the news business, sometimes it feels like a curse.

Appendix (B)

The Interview between the Interviewer Michel Martin and the Former President Barack Obama.

1-Michel Martin: So thank you for having us. Thank you for receiving us here at your office, which is amazing.

Former President Barack Obama: It's wonderful to have you.

2-Have you developed any interesting COVID habits? Like some people are gardening. Mrs. Obama indicated she was learning to knit. Some of us who would kill any plant have somehow managed to manage a garden this year. Not talking about anybody in particular, just hypothetically. How about you?

I have to say Michelle is not just starting to knit. She's become this extraordinary knitter, which, I told her the other day, it's kind of weird how good you've gotten at this thing. She's making sweaters and scarves and caps and —

3-OK. But what about you?

I cannot claim to have cultivated a new hobby, partly because I was busy finishing the book up until a couple of months ago. And then we had this campaign that I had to participate in a little more than I had anticipated. So, who knows? I may start up something.

4-Well, let's talk about the campaign. How do you understand the election results? I mean, by that I mean, Joe Biden and Kamala Harris win the White House, but Republicans make gains in the House. And in fact, Republicans now control more state legislatures than at any point in U.S. history. They control both legislative houses in 32 states. And of course, we are speaking at a time when there are more than 10 million COVID cases in the United States, 240,000 people have died. This is as, just as we are speaking now. Yet 70 million people voted for the incumbent who presided over all this. So what do you think going on here? How do you understand it?

Look, I think there's no doubt that the country is deeply divided right now. And, you know, when I think back even to my own first presidential election in 2008, the country didn't feel this divided, what some people have called the great sort in which you have a combination of a political, cultural, ideological, in some cases, religious and geographical divide that seems to be deeper than just differences in policy. A lot of that I think has to do with changes in how people get information. I've spoken about this before, I write about this in my book. If you watch Fox News, you perceive a different reality than if you read The New York Times and that didn't use to be as stark because you had local newspapers and you had people overlapping in terms of where they got information. But now partly because of social media and sort of the echo chamber, a lot of the people who voted for Donald Trump do not believe that in fact COVID was mishandled, contrary to the facts that now you or I might assert, those aren't the facts that they accept. And I think that until we can start having a common baseline of facts from which to discuss the direction of the country, we're going to continue to have some of these issues. Now part of it is also the fact that the Republican Party — because you mentioned state legislatures — Democrats tend to now be primarily in metropolitan areas, not just cities, but surrounding

suburbs, metro areas and Republicans are spread out more in less densely populated rural areas. That gives them a huge advantage automatically in the Senate. It gives them a big advantage with respect to state legislative races and even gives them some advantage in congressional races. So, Joe Biden can win by 5 million votes in the popular vote, but because of how those votes are distributed, Democrats are going to be at a disadvantage. All of which means that I am thrilled that Joe and Kamala have won. I believe that they will restore a bunch of norms — respect for science, respect for facts, respect for rule of law that I think have been breached over the last four years — but some of the bigger challenges in bringing the country together, that's going to be a project that goes beyond just one election.

5-I want to talk more about that at the end of our conversation, but as we are speaking now, President Trump is refusing to concede, and he's refusing to even to cooperate with the transition. How do you understand that? What do you think that is? Some people are calling it a tantrum, other people take it a lot more seriously. How do you understand it?

I take it seriously. I don't think he'll be successful in denying reality. And you're starting to see a few Republican elected officials go ahead and say, "Look, Joe Biden has been elected and we need to move on in the transition." I'm distressed that you haven't seen more Republican leadership make this clear because the amount of time that's being lost of in this transition process has real-world effects. Look, we're in the middle of a pandemic. We're in the middle of an economic crisis. We have serious national security issues. And as I describe when I was elected for all the differences that I had with George W. Bush, he and his administration could not have been more gracious and effective in working with us to facilitate a smooth transition. And since we were in the middle of a big financial crisis, at that point, my ability to get fully briefed from a Hank Paulson, my abilities — since we were in the middle of two wars — to get immediately briefed on what was happening in Afghanistan and Iraq, what terrorist threats were out there that meant we hit the ground running and allowed us to be more effective in our responses. And so, it is yet one more example of how Donald Trump's breach of basic democratic norms is hurting the American people.

6-So I'm not going to ask you what advice you'd give to Joe Biden, because presumably you would tell him yourself, but you're a proponent, you've always been a proponent of people power. Is there something that you think citizens should be doing right now?

Well, look, getting a handle on this public health issue is going to require all of our cooperation. It's been tough for the American people because they haven't been getting one clear set of guidelines and information, and all of us, no matter how well-informed or conscientious we've been, have at times been confused with a bunch of conflicting notions of how we should be dealing with this. I think priority No. 1 — and I'm confident Joe will do this. He's got Ron Klain as chief of staff who was my point person for dealing with the Ebola crisis, understands this stuff. All of us as citizens need to work and get behind a clear plan for getting this pandemic under control. Because if we can get the pandemic under control, the economy then is in a position to start bouncing back. But beyond that, what I think all of us as citizens are going to have to do is to really start examining what can each of us do, whether it's at the local level, in our own families, to step back from the demonization of each other, the bitter partisan divides that we're seeing, and ask ourselves: What role can we play in rebuilding social trust? And look, it's a hard thing to do. And again, I don't want to make mass media as the boogeyman. But, when you look at these information silos in Facebook and other social media and the rabbit holes that

people are following, the denial of facts, the belief in wild conspiracy theories like QAnon getting real traction, each of us have some responsibilities to start thinking carefully about not being so gullible and just accepting whatever it is that we're seeing pop up on our phones.

7-To that end, I was struck in reading the book by the parallels of this moment with when you took office, your first months in office were spent, as you said, focusing on economic recovery, H1N1, remember that, developing the Affordable Care Act, and President-elect Biden starts with a similar set of challenges: a global health crisis, an economic crisis that flows from sort of that health crisis. He also has a similar commitment to being bipartisan. And as with your presidency, it does seem that there's an effort to deny him legitimacy as with your presidency. And we actually heard it with our reporters in the field over election night, there were people saying, I will never recognize Joe Biden as my president, which certainly has to sound familiar to you.

Right.

8-And I think that the lesson that some people are going to draw from your experience is don't do it: This idea of being bipartisan is a fool's errand and that the only thing that really works is expanding your base, keeping it fired up and trying to take it all. I mean, how do you respond to that?

I think it's fair to conclude from my experience in '08, '09, 2010 that we should always reach out to try to get bipartisan cooperation because the Democrats are not going to have a supermajority in the Senate. They're not going to be able to break filibusters routinely. And so if you want to get some stuff done, Joe Biden is going to have to work with some Republican colleagues in the Senate. But I think it is a fair critique to say that if you are seeing constant obstruction just for the sake of obstruction, where there doesn't seem a desire to cooperate even on issues or policies that Republicans previously themselves promoted as happened during my presidency — I'm very careful to remind everybody that the model for the Affordable Care Act was a plan that Mitt Romney had successfully passed with Ted Kennedy in Massachusetts. And when I start talking about climate change issues, I describe how the cap-and-trade system was a policy that George H.W. Bush, a Republican, had implemented in solving other environmental issues. If you start getting a sense that it is just a pure power play, then you don't want to be Lucy and Charlie Brown, where you just keep on kicking the football and not learning from experience that is going to be pulled out from under you. But I think that there is a way to reach out and not be a sap. There's a way of consistently offering the possibility of cooperation, but recognizing that if Mitch McConnell or others are refusing to cooperate, at some point, you've got to take it to the court of public opinion. The issue, the challenge that I discovered in 2009, 2010, is that an obstructionist strategy oftentimes is not punished by voters in the polls. And so, one big piece of advice I'm going to have for not just Democrats but anybody who just wants to see a functioning effective government is you're going to have to stay involved, not just in this election where we had record turnout — you gotta stay involved all the way through the midterms. Because [what] really hurt us was Mitch McConnell, John Boehner, discovered that they could block everything, throw sand in the gears, and then were rewarded in the midterms. And so their attitude was "Well, we're just gonna keep on doing this" and they did it throughout my presidency.

9-Do you feel that you played some role in that? Is there something you would've done differently?

You know —

10-And the success of that — not, not in their decision-making now, but the success of that strategy being the "party of no," as was so commonly said.

When I look back, it was interesting, while I was writing the book. I mentioned this in certain passages. In my first couple of years in office, I think I had a unwarranted faith that if we did the right thing and implemented good policies, then people would know. And we didn't sell it hard enough. Now, part of it I have to cut myself and my team a little bit of slack — we had so much stuff coming at us at one time. Right? We had the worst financial crisis in history. We have the banks about to go under, we had the auto industry about to go under, we had two wars, we still had a very active Al-Qaida. And so, as we used to call it, we're drinking from a firehose. And so we didn't have time to do a bunch of victory laps or carefully stage PR campaigns around what we did. The Recovery Act, I think, is the best example where we had a big and what proved ultimately successful stimulus package. But most people had no idea that the reason the teachers in their schools hadn't lost their jobs or that folks were still working in construction, repairing roads in their communities that that was because of the Recovery Act. They just thought, "Well, this is just politicians wasting money on a bunch of pork projects." So I guess one piece of advice that I would give Joe that I think he will internalize 'cause he was there and helped preside over the Recovery Act is there is no such thing as building a better mouse trap and people will suddenly show up. You have to constantly market and explain what you are doing, and we figured that out but a little bit later than we probably should have.

11-That leads me to my next question, is the other thing and reading the book is that it reminded me of the personal connection that people felt with you. Like you'd see it on the campaign. It's not just that people wanted to get close to you and touch you, they wanted to give you things. They wanted to give you their service medals. They wanted to give you their lucky charms. You have to admit that Trump evoked something similar, albeit with different people — obviously different people to some degree, but why do you think that is? And it does make me wonder whether there was something about our system that may or may not be broken that requires this sort of outsized personality or personal connection with people. You say in the book, the most important things you did were things that nobody saw, but maybe is that possible that that's not true, that they've got to see it to believe it or something. I mean, I am curious about your take on why it is that people seem to react to some people, different people but people reacted to Trump in the same way. They want it to be next to him.

I do think that because we're not in a parliamentary system, because unlike places like Great Britain where you separate out the head of state from the head of government — you've got the queen, who's the ceremonial, figurehead and symbol of the country and then you've got a prime minister who's grinding away and just doing policy. Here those roles are combined and the president ends up being not just the chief executive of the federal government but also is expected to be a cheerleader, pastor, coach, entertainer. And some of that is how dominant media now is in getting people elected. And what that means is that if you are able to make a connection with people, through television and now the Internet, you can get a lot of power even if you're not necessarily paying a lot of attention to what's happening from a governance perspective. That was true with Ronald Reagan. That was true with others. The question then is, alright, let me put it this way, I think the big difference between a Ronald Reagan and Donald

Trump is at least Reagan presided over an era where he still understood it was important to have people around him who knew what they were doing and were paying attention, to running the government. What you saw over the last four years with Donald Trump, I think is just celebrity for celebrity's sake and all the pomp and all the sizzle and not much of the steak, but --

12-But nearly 70 million people voted for him. So, the question becomes, is there something broken that needs to be fixed?

Well, I think what it indicates is the degree to which it's important for us not to place all our eggs in a presidential basket.

13-And who's the "we" in that sentence?

The American people. You know when I look at — and I discussed this in my book — I was obviously, thrilled, humbled and moved by, the connection that you describe, particularly in that first campaign, right, where people put so much, invested so many of their dreams and hopes into getting me elected. I could not have won had it not been for that passion and spirit that people invested in me. But as I note during the book, there's a danger in thinking this is just about one person as opposed to this is about government across the board: members of Congress and governors and state legislators and district attorneys. Because we start thinking that just one person can solve all these problems, when in fact, by design our democracy disperses power across the board.

14-But what's going to persuade people to think that way?

Well –

15-You are still a cultural figure. Look, I found this at the Target is a card. It's a greeting card. I found this last week. You still have a big footprint in the culture and by every indication, so will Donald Trump. So what would persuade people to look to other structures to dissipate the power? I mean, you talk about in the book over and over again, how you tried to not make yourself the center of everything.

Yeah

16-And you are telling us that that didn't work.

Well I think part of it is investing more in getting folks to pay attention downstream. Look, there's a reason why a big emphasis of my foundation, the work that I really want to be doing for the next 20 years, is investing in the next generation of leadership. And not just political leadership, but you know, civic leadership, people who are working on climate change, people who are working on criminal justice reform, because that's where a lot of the change is going to happen. I think one of the best examples for me was the whole issue of criminal justice reform. We saw this summer how powerful it was to see all these young people and some not-so-young people of every race and creed across the country, march after the George Floyd killing. And a lot of people are still asking me sometimes: "Why didn't all that get fixed? We had a Black president." Well, one of the reasons is, and I've done a lot of work with some of the activists reminding them the vast majority of criminal law is state law. The vast majority of criminal law enforcement and policing and decisions are local and state. And so who are district attorneys are, who's appointing police chiefs, etc. That matters. I think you're starting to see greater awareness among the younger generation that those things are important. We just have to remind them

more. But look, there's no doubt that the presidency is still going to matter. And it is important for those who want to lead the country in a progressive direction have to think about how do you market your ideas because this is a culture that is used to a lot of salesmanship on TV.

17-We have to talk about the role that race played in your presidency. The book is filled with a lot of joy. I mean, it has to be said, a lot of joy, a lot of wonderful moments where you figured out who you were, what your purpose was, when you found your family and grew your family. But it's also filled with a lot of frustration and pain. And a lot of the pain in that book does center on how the fact of your being the first Black president affected the country in some ways that were positive in some ways that clearly were not. I mean, to this day, there are some progressives who say that you laid the groundwork for the Trump era in part because of something you couldn't control, which is racism, and something that you possibly could have. It's just things weren't changing fast enough. So, the question I'd have for you is what, what would break the fever? I mean, it's almost as if it's a fever, it's like a virus that just keeps recurring. What would change that in your view?

Here's one thing I never believed, right, was the fever of racism being broken by my election. That I was pretty clear about. I never subscribed to the: We live in a post-racial era. But I think that what did happen during my presidency was yes, a backlash among some people who felt that somehow, I symbolized the possibility that they or their group were losing status not because of anything I did, but just by virtue of the fact that I didn't look like all the other presidents previously. But, you know what? You also had a majority of the American people who seemed to say either, it's a good thing that we've broken this barrier, or "I'm just going to judge this guy by whether or not my life's getting better." And you had a whole generation of kids who grew up not thinking it was weird or exceptional that the person who occupied the highest office in the land was Black.

18-It is remarkable though, and you say in the book, I think this was suspected at the time, but you confirm it in the book that the one event that caused the biggest single drop and your support among white voters — bigger than would come from any single event during the eight years of your presidency — was when you commented upon the arrest of the Harvard professor Henry Louis Gates as he was trying to get into his own home in Cambridge. He got into it with a Cambridge police officer who was called by a neighbor to check on the situation. He apparently cussed out the police officer, the police officer wound up arresting him. After an hourlong press conference on health care policy, you commented on this.

Yeah

19-And this is the single biggest event that caused a drop in white support in your eight years. What, how do you, what does that say?

Well, as I write it, particularly when you start looking at police issues, and that's why I think what happened this summer with George Floyd was so important, where you saw at least some shift in the general population in recognizing that there's real racial bias in how our criminal laws are applied and how policing operates in this country. But what I realized was that nothing touches a nerve more in terms of the relationship between the races in this country than issue of policing.

20-And why is that?

Because I think the police are given a task in our society of keeping a lid on communities that are suffering from broader injustices. And we don't like talking about those broader systemic injustices. We don't like talking about the fact that if you grow up in a certain ZIP code, you're much less likely to be able to get a good education, you're much less likely to be able to be part of the networks that allow you ultimately to get a good job, you're much less likely to get good social services in those areas. And that's not the police's fault. That's society's fault, but we like to distance ourselves from those responsibilities, lay it on the police to say: Just keep it away from us. And when you start seeing as a consequence of that failure to address deeper inequalities, the inevitable tensions, conflicts that pop up, then we're confronted with stuff that we don't like discussing and talking about. And the issue of the particular event between the police officer and a Black person who's interacting with them becomes the focal point, but it really raises a broader question, which is why is it that we're still living in a society in which such inequities exist. And that I think is a conversation that you started to see for the first time being addressed more honestly than any time in my lifetime, which makes me hopeful. But during my presidency, again and again, I think there was a tendency to want to say, even among those who felt good about having a Black president, we don't want to open up all this big can of worms. You know, we want to kind of say, "Alright, this is progress and so let's just look forward and let's not look back."

21-You know, you don't acknowledge being disheartened by that. You allude to it and you ask after the whole beer summit people — remember you invited Officer Crowley and you invited Professor Gates. You got down and had a beer with the vice president, now President-elect Joe Biden, you had a beer, and your senior aide Valerie Jarrett came to check on you later that day and you asked like, "How are my folks doing? How are the staff taking this?" And she said that some of the young Black staffers are kind of just a little discouraged.

Right.

22-And you said, "Well, what about?" "They don't like seeing you put in this position." And you said, "What, me being Black or me being president?" And you had a laugh about it. And you write about these things with a lot of equanimity, which I think people would associate with your no-drama, Obama sort of character. But a lot of people are deeply discouraged in this country. A lot of people are very disheartened by what they see, these open displays of racial hostility. Do you have some thoughts about that? And I don't think it's just younger people. I think a lot of older people, even if you had acknowledged as you just said that you never said you thought the society was post-racial. I think all kinds of analysts were jumping up and down when you were elected saying, "It's not post-racial, it's not, it's structural, it's not fixed, it's not all fixed, that's too much to put on one person." Even having said that a lot of people are very discouraged right now. And I wonder if you see that and I wonder what you would say to them.

Absolutely. There are times where I am sad, where I'm angry, where I'm hurting, where I feel obliged to buck up my wife or my daughters when we see not just the kinds of shocking injustice is as we saw with George Floyd, but also when you see elected officials, people in positions of responsibility not simply ignore dismiss these things but actually seem to suggest that it's OK. Yeah, I think it is completely understandable to feel discouraged and hurt and upset. I think the

reason that I don't plunge into despair probably has to do with the fact that I tend to take a long view on things. You know, when I talk to Michelle or my daughters about these issues, I have to remind them I was 6 years old when the Supreme Court determined that it was unconstitutional for states to say that my parents couldn't marry. I mean, the Beatles were already the biggest musical group on Earth when anti-miscegenation laws are finally deemed unconstitutional [in] this country; it wasn't that long ago. And so, when I look at my lifetime — and I'm gray, I'm getting older, but you know, I'm not ancient, I'm still pretty spry — and you think about the changes that took place in my lifetime. Not just me being elected president. Michel, you being on a national broadcast as a lead journalist. That just didn't happen. Now that's not considered exceptional. Our kids can aspire to things that our parents certainly couldn't, and so that is not a cause for complacency, but it does give me some perspective. It would surprise me if you didn't have a big cross-section of the country that was still carrying around a bunch of baggage and still a little disturbed by the advances that African Americans had made. It would surprise me if changing demographics and the growing Latino population didn't scare a certain segment of this population, just because I know enough about American history to know that that's always been a fault line in American history. That fever, as you said, that's been a defining feature of a lot of our life. And the good news is, and it was reflected this summer, when you look at every indicator, every survey, if you just anecdotally look at popular culture, the younger generations are less impacted by those attitudes, are carrying around less of that baggage. Not none of it. There are white kids who were attracted to crazy white nationalist stuff on the Internet. But generally speaking, our kids' generation, you talk to them, and their attitudes instinctively are more open and not just on racial issues but on gender issues, on sexual orientation issues. And that is why I tend not to despair, but I still take it seriously because what I do know is that history doesn't move in a straight line. Attitudes can go backwards as well as forward. And all of us have to be vigilant in working as hard as we can to some of the better angels of our nature and put to rest some of the things that have been so destructive in American culture.

23-So a second volume is coming.

Yes.

24-This volume ends with the raid on the bin Laden compound, where you, after a long effort by the U S military and at your direction found Osama bin Laden and he was killed in that, in that raid. Why did you end there?

You know, I thought it was a good place to stop. Originally, I was going to end with, uh, my reelection. But then, and I can't take credit for this. It was actually a suggestion of Cody Keenan, one of my former speechwriters who had read my pages, my draft. And he pointed out that it with bin Laden what you have is not just sort of a culmination of a lot of the incredible counterterrorism work that our administration had embarked on and really going after al-Qaida. And not only was it an example of government at its most effective, cooperating across agencies to carry out a very difficult and dangerous operation, but it was also occurring at the precise same moment that the dominant news was around Donald Trump's assertion that I was not born in this country and him seizing on the birther movement. And so what I thought was this would be a good place to end the first volume because it indicates the contrast between the serious work of government and these incredible folks from the Navy SEALs to Bill McRaven, who's the head of our special forces and engineers, this incredible operation, the diplomats, the intelligence officers, everybody who's having to coordinate hundreds of people under the most severe stress

executing this incredible operation. And yet the news is completely dominated during this period by an entirely bogus assertion by what I called at the time, a carnival barker. And it wasn't just Fox News that was obsessed with this. Every major media outlet. Some of the same people who later on would sort of decry Donald Trump and his very flimsy attachment to the truth were the same people who gave Donald Trump a big platform during this period. And so I'm sitting at the White House Correspondents' dinner with Donald Trump in attendance, and that's all anybody cares about at the same time as I've got people risking their lives about to take off to go to the Abbottabad compound. And I thought that that was a good place to end the first volume because it describes a choice that I think we have as a country. And that is as I say in my preface, is not settled by one election. And that is: Can we take the incredible dedication, cooperation, patriotism focus that we applied in the bin Laden raid? Can we take that and apply that to reducing poverty among children? Can we take that to focus and sense of common effort around dealing with climate change? Can we take that to make sure that our economy works for everybody and not just a few, can we apply that kind of seriousness to our common public life? Or are we going to continue to be pulled into this kind of reality TV, phony controversies and seeing these big issues as just matter of sport, and we've got one team and the other team and they hate each other and we're just going to go at it and it becomes a spectacle. And as I said in my preface, I think that I place faith in this upcoming generation to make the right choice, but it is a choice that we're going to have to make.

25-Before we let you go. Who is this book for?

It's for your kids and my kids and the young people that I met, not just in this country but around the world, because part of the theme of the book is this contest of ideas. The way I describe it, these two visions: A vision that says that for all our differences, there is a common humanity and it is possible for us in a multiracial, multiethnic, highly diverse country and world, it is possible for us to see each other, understand each other and respect each other and work together. And then there's a contrasting idea that says we are a collection of tribes and we are inevitably at war and it's a zero-sum game, and that there are winners and losers and there's hierarchies of power and domination and subjugation. And it's not just in America, but it's around the world where those contrasting visions are duking it out. And the truth is that the vision of power and domination and subjugation, that's been the dominant. That's been the default of human societies for most of human history. This new way of doing things with democracy and individual rights and treating everybody as if they have worth and that have a voice in our government. That's new. It's an experiment that everybody's still watching. And so this book is for the generation that's coming up, these young people. I want them to understand that, in fact, they are going to be the ones who make the decision as to which way not only America goes, but the world goes, and that it is within their power to create a better world. And government is not something distant that happens to them, but it is something that they have a claim on and agency for and can shape and that's part of the reason why the arc of this volume starts with me as a young person and showing them that it's not like I was born inevitably to be president or that I was particularly good at all the aspects of public life, it was just that I hitched my wagon to something bigger and that I wasn't any different than them, and that if I can have an impact, they can, too.

26-Mr. President, thank you so much for speaking with us.

It was great to talk to you. Thank you so much.

Appendix (C)

The Interview between the Interviewer Laura Kuenssberg and Conservative Leader and Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

1-Laura Kuenssberg: So Boris Johnson what would you do on day one in Number 10 to make sure we leave the EU at Halloween?

Boris Johnson: I would make sure that we have a plan that will convince our European friends and partners that we are absolutely serious about coming out and the key things that you got to do are to take the bits of the current withdrawal agreement, which is dead, take the bits that are serviceable and get them done. And that is number one. The stuff about European Union citizens, the 3.2 million, they need to be properly protected. I wanted that done the day after the referendum, you may remember. Their rights should be enshrined in an unconditional way in UK law, number one. Number two, you should look at the various other things that you could do to make progress with the bits of the withdrawal agreement that we have. I think the money is more difficult. I think the £39bn is at the upper end of the EU's expectations, but there is it, it's a considerable sum. I think there should be creative ambiguity about when and how that gets paid over. The important thing is that there should be an agreement that the solution of the border questions, the Irish border, the Northern Irish border questions, and all the facilitation that we want to produce, to get that done. All those issues need to be tackled on the other side of 31 October during what's called the implementation period.

2-LK: But the implementation period, as it stands, is part of the withdrawal agreement and you've said that you wouldn't sign up to the withdrawal agreement and it's dead. Those two things can't both be true.

BJ: No, because you're going to need some kind of agreement and that's certainly what I'm aiming for in order, as you rightly say Laura, to get an implementation period. And I think, actually, that politics has changed so much since 29 March. I think on both sides of the Channel there's a really different understanding of what is needed. And on our side of the Channel we've got MPs in both the major parties who recognise that their parties face real danger of extinction at the polls and - you know - Labour went backwards in the recent council elections - unless we get Brexit over the line. And so I think there's going to be a willingness to move this thing forward.

3-LK: But what is it...?

BJ: On the other side of the Channel, obviously, where you know they're watching this very carefully and we need obviously for both sides to come together, they've not got 29 Brexit MEPs in Strasbourg. They have the £39bn that they're they're keen to get. And, frankly, they also want Brexit to be done.

4-LK: They want it done in the EU, but they do not want it done at any cost. And time and again whether it is Jean-Claude Juncker, President Macron, any EU leaders, they have been crystal clear. There is no kind of deal without the backstop, an insurance policy for Northern Ireland. So what evidence do you have you can get around that?

BJ: Because I think that it is what the gentlemen have also said and what people have also said in all European capitals - and of course, in the [European] Commission - is that nobody wants a hard border in Northern Ireland and indeed nobody believes that it will be necessary. And so what we need is to hold that thought, which is true, which is agreed amongst all.

5-LK: It's what people want, but that's very different to what people get, Boris Johnson.

BJ: And make sure that we reach the solutions they are achievable as both sides have said, as the Commission has said. The facilitations that can be reached, make sure that we deal with the solutions to the Irish border question and any other border questions because the Irish border question in microcosm stands for all the other facilitations that we'll around the EU.

6-LK: But how do you do that? Because you're right - everybody wants a solution to this. But if you want to be prime minister you have to tell people how, you can't just wish it to be true.

BJ: Let me tell you, there are abundant, abundant technical fixes that can be introduced to make sure that you don't have to have checks at the border. That's the crucial thing. And everybody accepts that there are ways you can check for the rules of origin, there are ways you can check for compliance with EU goods and standards, of our goods standards.

7-LK: But they don't exist yet.

BJ: Well, they do actually, in very large measure they do. You have trusted trader schemes, all sorts of schemes that you could put in to place.

8-LK: But as one big solution to the Irish border question which as you suggest is absolutely at the root of this, there is no solution ready right now.

BJ: You're right, Laura, that there's no single magic bullet. But there is a wealth of experience, a wealth of solutions. And what's changed now is that there is a real positive energy about getting it done.

9-LK: Where's your evidence for that?

BJ: Well, because I think on both sides of the Channel there's an understanding that we have to come out, but clearly Parliament has voted three times against the backstop arrangements that you rightly describe. And at present the UK, and any UK government, with this appalling choice of either being run by the EU whilst being outside the EU, which is plainly unacceptable, or else giving up control of the government in Northern Ireland. There is a way forward which I think, actually, to be fair all the candidates in the Conservative Party leadership contest broadly endorsed, which was to change the backstop, get rid of the backstop, in order to allow us to come out without this withdrawal agreement, and as far as I understand the matter, that is also the position of my remaining opponent.

10-LK: But Boris Johnson, everybody wants this to be sorted. Of course they do. Not least the public. But what you're basically saying is 'we'll cross our fingers because I think the situation is different so we could get a deal done.' You're not giving us anything concrete that actually suggests it's possible.

BJ: No that's not true at all, actually Laura.

11-LK: Well where's your evidence?

BJ: There was a very good report just today by Shanker Singham and many others looking at the modalities of how to do this. This is something that had been worked on extensively for the last three years. There are plenty of checks that you can do away from the border if you had to do them without any kind of hard infrastructure at the Northern Ireland frontier.

12-LK: But do you accept that your plan would require agreement from the European Union, political goodwill, and why do you think they would do that when if the UK had just walked away from a deal that has taken them three years to put together?

BJ: Several reasons. First of all, don't forget, that as I say they got the Brexit MEPs they don't particularly want. They want us out, they've got the incentive of the money. They've also got to understand, Laura, is what has changed and what will be so different is that the intellectual capital that had been invested in the whole backstop had really come from the UK side. We were

committed to it. We actually helped to invent it. We were the authors of our own incarceration. Take that away. Change the approach of the UK negotiators and you have a very different outcome.

13-LK: And if you can't do that?

BJ: And simultaneously of course, and you know what I'm going to say, the other tool, the other tool of negotiation that you should use, not only the incentives of getting this thing done, moving it over the line, getting the money across and all the rest, but you have the extra incentive of course that the UK will be ready to come out as you know on WTO terms.

14-LK: And if you cannot get the agreement that sounds like you're crossing your fingers, you are clear we would leave you would take us out at Halloween without a deal an absolute guarantee?

BJ: You have to be, of course, my pledge is to come out of the EU at Halloween on 31 October. And the way to get our friends and partners to understand how serious we are is finally, I'm afraid, to abandon the defeatism and negativity that has enfolded us in a great cloud for so long and to prepare confidently and seriously for a WTO or no deal outcome. You've got to understand, Laura, listening to what I just said, that is not where I want us to end up. It is not where I believe for a moment we will end up. But in order to get the result that we want, in order to get the deal we need, the commonsensical protraction of the existing arrangements until such time as we have completed the free trade deal between us and the EU that will be so beneficial to both sides. The commonsensical thing to do is to prepare for a WTO exit.

15-LK: But unless you can get that deal...

BJ: Now as it happens, by 29 March, a huge amount of work had been done and we had made great progress. There is still as you know some areas that need to be completed some things actually where the kind of level of preparedness is slightly sunk back again.

16-LK: And Boris Johnson are you, would you really be willing as prime minister to face the consequences of no deal which could mean crippling tariffs on some businesses? It could mean huge uncertainty over what on earth happens at the Northern Irish border. It could mean huge uncertainty for people's livelihoods and people's real lives. Now in the real world, as prime minister and I know you dispute how bad it would be, but are you willing to face the consequences of what a no deal might mean for the people of this country?

BJ: In the real world, the UK government is never going to impose checks or a hard border of any kind in Northern Ireland. That's just number one. Number two in the real world the UK government is not going to want to impose tariffs on goods coming into the UK.

17-LK: But it's not just up to the UK...

BJ: Hang on, I'm coming to that point...

18-LK: ... not just up to the UK?

BJ: Of course that's right Laura. It's not just up to us, it's up to the other side as well. And there is an element of course, a very important element of mutuality and co-operation in this. And we will be working with our friends and partners to make sure that we have an outcome that is manifestly in the interests of people, of businesses, communities on both sides of the channel.

19-LK: And you think you could get that through Parliament?

BJ: I do

20-LK: You think you could get a no deal through Parliament?

BJ: Well I do. I mean you've got to be very clear. I think Parliament now understands. That the British people want us to come out and to honour the mandate that they gave us. And I think that

MPs on both sides of the House also understand that they will face mortal retribution from the electorate unless we get on and do it. Again, what has changed since 29 March is that my beloved party is down at 17 points in the polls. Labour isn't doing much better as I say with superhuman incompetence Corbyn managed to go backwards in the recent council elections. People want to get this thing done. They want to get it done sensibly. They want to get it done in a way that is generous to European Union citizens in our country and I stress that is the first thing to do. And they want to get it done in a way that allows us to move on which is why I think people are yearning, their yearning for this great Incubus to be pitchforked off the back of British politics. They want us to get on with some fantastic things for this country. And that is what we want to do.

21-LK: OK, well let's move on because there are plenty of things we want to talk on. So let's move on. Can you just tell us what happened at your partner's home a couple of nights ago?

BJ: I... would love to tell you about all sorts of things Laura, but I've made it a rule over many, many years and I think you've interviewed me loads of times, I do not talk about stuff involving my family, my loved ones. And there's a very good reason for that. That is that, if you do, you drag them into things that, really, is, in a way that is not fair on them.

22-LK: But now you hope to be in Number 10, things are changing. Does your privacy mean more to you than the public's ability to trust you? Because part of trust is being open, it's being accountable, it's being transparent.

BJ: Yes I get that, I totally get that. But my key point though is that the minute you start talking about your family or your loved ones, you involve them in a debate that is it is simply unfair on them.

23-LK: But you seem to care about privacy, but you seem to care about your privacy so much that yesterday a photographer, or someone with a phone, just happened to stumble upon you in the middle of the Sussex countryside. I mean are you just trying to have this both ways?

BJ: Look, I repeat my my key point too which is that over many, many years, and you can look back at innumerable statements I gave when I was mayor, I just do not go into this stuff, and there's a good reason for it. But it's actually I think what people want to know is what is going on with this guy? Does he, does he, when it comes to trust, when it comes to character, all those things, does he deliver what he says he's going to deliver? And that is the key thing.

24-LK: Well let's look at your record then, let's look at that then. Because there are plenty of people even in the Conservative Party who worry that you do not stick to what you promise.

BJ: Well I think they're talking absolute nonsense. When I was mayor, when I became Mayor of London, when we said we would do something, we, I may say delivered not just x, but x plus 10.

25-LK: But you said you would keep all ticket offices, you closed every single one. You said that you would build more affordable houses - yes, you built more houses...

BJ: We did

26-LK: ... but the definition of affordable housing changed.

BJ: Oh, nonsense.

27-LK: You said you've done rough sleeping and the number went up.

BJ: We built more affordable homes than under Labour. When you talk about the Tube we increased capacity on the Tube by about 30%. The biggest investment in infrastructure that I

think the city has seen. I pledged to reduce crime. We reduced crime by about 20%. We reduced the murder rate which is a statistic that is very difficult to fudge, we reduced it by 50%.

28-LK: Then why do you think then, Boris Johnson, people worry about your character? Why do so many Conservatives worry about you sticking to your word or being careless with the truth? I mean you said only a few weeks ago, you would raise tax for the wealthiest in society then that became an ambition.

BJ: Hang on...

29-LK: You said you'd lie down in front of bulldozers at Heathrow and now you're wobbling. Most importantly, when it came to the British citizen Nazanin Zaghari-Radcliffe you put her in danger by being careless with the facts. Your words were used in evidence against her in an Iranian court. I think you've sometimes been careless with facts, careless with the truth.

BJ: No, look. Take Nazanin Zaghari-Radcliffe and the other very difficult consular cases that we have with Iran. I think, of course, people will want to point the finger of blame at me if they possibly can, but actually all that does is serve to exculpate, lift the blame of the people who are really responsible, who are the Iranian Revolutionary Guard. And if you look, talk about overachieving in the Foreign Office, we were told that we had to orchestrate, and we did, an international response to the poisonings by Russia in Salisbury, and we thought we would be lucky to get 30 Russian spies expelled around the world in support of the UK by other countries. We actually got 153 spies expelled around the world, I don't think there's ever been a diplomatic coup like.

30-LK: But Boris Johnson...

BJ: So don't look at what people say about me look at what I actually deliver.

31-LK: But so often people worry that you're just a bit scrappy with the truth, or [it] almost seems, sometimes, you enjoy offending people.

BJ: No, I don't enjoy offending people.

32-LK: If you are prime minister do you think it would be acceptable for a prime minister to say things like Muslim women in full veil look like bank robbers, or Commonwealth citizens are "flag-waving picanninies"? Do you think, if you move in to Number 10, will you change? If you're lucky enough to become prime minister, will you be a different kind of politician?

BJ: What I pledge to, you know, and what I think the people of this country want to hear, is I will be a politician who sticks by what I believe in. Yes, occasionally I may say things as I've said before that, causes offence, and I'm sorry for the offence and I'm sorry for the offence I caused, but I will continue to speak my mind because I think people deserve to hear what's going on in my head. They deserve to hear my approach to things. And you talk about my commitment to delivery. Actually look at the difficult things that I've taken on and and done. Nobody thought we could win in London either in 2008 let alone in 2012 when the Tory Party was actually 17 points behind in the polls and I overhauled that deficit. Nobody thought we could win the European Union referendum in 2016. And I played a role with others in getting that over the line.

33-LK: Why is it then do you think some people have doubts about you?

BJ: By the way, nobody thought the Olympic Games would be a huge success, and the Paralympic Games. I remember people writing them off, I remember people saying it was all going to be a fiasco. And they were a fantastic success.

34-LK: We're just, we're very much running out of time.

BJ: And if I have one message, forgive me, but I believe that we had amazing success when I was Mayor of London in using infrastructure, education, technology and bringing the greatest city on earth together and lifting people up across the city, closing the opportunity gap in London, giving people tools, whether it's better transport, better education, to take advantage of all the incredible things going on in this city. When I began we had four of the six poorest boroughs in London in the UK. After two terms, when I ended in London, there were none of the poorest 20 boroughs in the whole of the UK. The whole city came up and it was people on the lowest incomes who'd been helped by, by our living wage, who'd been helped by massive investment in public transport, who'd been helped by better education. It was they whose life expectancy had gone up the fastest and whose wealth had also increase. And I'm incredibly proud of that, incredibly proud of that. And what I want to do now, if I possibly can, and if I'm successful in this contest, and become leader and prime minister, what I really want to do is to bring our country together which has felt divided, which has felt a bit directionless, which has I think because of the failures of the political class, lost a sense of purpose and lost perhaps a bit of a sense of self belief. I want to bring this incredible country together to release the potential of the whole of the UK. That's what I want to do.

35-LK: Just one of the other people who was very closely involved in the Olympics, of course, was your opponent Jeremy Hunt. What do you make of Jeremy Hunt?

BJ: And I pay tribute to Jeremy and enjoyed working with him then as I enjoyed working with him in government and who knows, look forward to working with him in the future.

36-LK: What do you make of him? Today he's saying you're a coward.

BJ: Look, you know I just always invoke the 11th commandment of Ronald Reagan which is "thou shalt never speak ill of a fellow Conservative". And you know what I want to do is talk about my basic message which is to unite our country, bring the country together. Brexit was partly about objection to the one-way ratchet of European Union and democracy. Yes of course it was partly about immigration, but it was about huge parts of Britain feeling that they didn't have the same advantages, the same care, the same love, as London and the southeast, and that they were being a bit left behind. Well, that's an economic mistake. It's a political and it's a social mistake. We need to bring the country together. Infrastructure, education, technology. Give everybody the chance they deserve.

37-LK: And you really think you can do that when some people see you as the most divisive politician?

BJ: Believe me they said that in 2008 before I became Mayor of London. The Guardian - highly reputable newspaper - ran a whole subsection in which people promised to flee the land or at least the city if I became mayor, eight years later most of them were still there. Many of them had gone to work with me and I had higher approval ratings by far when I left my office as mayor than when I began. And I ran London, yes of course, I believe in the democracy of our country and yes of course we are going to get Brexit done by 31 October. But be [in] no doubt that at heart I am a centre-right progressive modern Conservative and I will govern from the centre right because that is from the centre because that is where you win. That is where the broad mass of the people are. They understand that you need a dynamic market economy to pay for fantastic public services and infrastructure. And you need fantastic public services and infrastructure, great NHS, great education, to enable business to have the confidence to invest. And Jeremy Corbyn only understands one half of that. He's only interested in taxation and spending. He has no care, no love, no interest for business and for the wealth creators on whom we all depend. And you've got to have that balance in your government.

38-LK: Well, we will see, if before too long, you'll be able to make that case to him across the despatch box.

BJ: Thank you.

39-LK: Thanks very much. Thank you very much indeed.

Appendix (D)

This appendix includes the evaluation of the two specialists in pragmatics regarding the identification of the types of speech acts of the political interviews involved in this study. The researcher himself has carried out the identification of the types of speech acts in the three interviews. This identification needs to be validated by certain experts in pragmatics. Thus, he has sent three interviews with the types of speech acts included to prove the accuracy of identification. The specialists are Assist. Prof. Dr. Juma' Qadir Hussein and Intr. Dr. Hutheifa Yousif Turki. They confirmed the correctness of the identification of the types of speech acts shown in the message sent by them given below.

Dear researcher

Your identification for the types of speech acts are correct. Go ahead resuming your analysis....

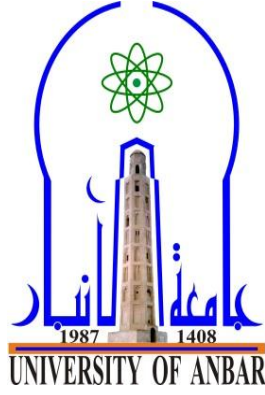
Asst. Prof. Dr. Jumaa'a Qadir Hussein

Dr. Hutheifa Yousif Turki

University of Anbar,

College of Education for Humanities,

Department of English



جمهورية العراق
وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي
جامعة الانبار كلية التربية للعلوم الإنسانية
قسم اللغة الإنكليزية

تحليل تداولي للمشددات في المقابلات السياسية

رسالة مقدمة

الى مجلس كلية التربية للعلوم الإنسانية - جامعة الانبار
وهي جزء من متطلبات نيل درجة الماجستير
في اللغة الإنكليزية وعلم اللغة

تقدم بها الطالب

احمد جواد زيدان خلف

بإشراف

الأستاذ الدكتور مصلح شويش احمد

١٤٤٣ هـ

٢٠٢١ م

الخلاصة

تهتم الدراسة الحالية بمشددات اللغة الإنجليزية كوسيلة لغوية للتكثيف وهي ظاهرة معقدة، ويرتبط هذا التعقيد بتعريف وتصنيف المشددات، وأجريت الدراسة الحالية لإيجاد تصنيف شامل للمشددات من أجل تحليلها تداولياً في إطار منظم والحصول على صورة عامة للوظائف البراغماتية للمشددات في المقابلات السياسية.

يتم تحديد هذه الوظائف البراغماتية من خلال تعديل كل من القوة الانجازية وأفعال الكلام ، ودرجة التعبير والمشاركة إلى جانب إظهار تأثير المشددات على الوظائف البراغماتية الأخرى.

ان أهداف الدراسة هي كالتالي :- (١)- التحقيق في استخدام المشددات في المقابلات السياسية. (٢)- دراسة كيفية استخدام المشددات في مقابلاتهم السياسية من قبل السياسيين. (٣)- دراسة الدرجات المشددة والمخفضة في المقابلات السياسية باستخدام المشددات. وفقاً لهذه الأهداف افترضت الدراسة أن: (١)- يستخدم السياسيون المشددات بشكل متكرر في مقابلاتهم. (٢)- يستخدمون المشددات في مقابلاتهم السياسية للحصول على معنى محدد مقصود كوسيلة -على سبيل المثال - للتعبير عن درجة مشاعرهم و معتقداتهم ومواقفهم من الإقناع، أو الاتفاق، أو أي وظائف تداولية أخرى. (٣)- هناك مشددات تنتمي إلى درجة التكثيف، و اخرى الى درجة التخفيف.

ولتحقيق أهداف هذه الدراسة اختارت الدراسة ثلاث مقابلات سياسية لتحليل المشددات التي يستخدمها السياسيون المعنيون بشكل تداولي ويتم تحديد المشددات اعتماداً على تصنيفات كويرك (١٩٨٥)، و لورنز (١٩٩٩) و (٢٠٠٢) ، ثم اعتمدت ثلاث نظريات لتحليل الوظائف البراغماتية لهذه المشددات لاجراء تحليل تداولي منظم كاكشيانى (٢٠٠٧) ؛ للتعبير والمشاركة، و بازينلا (١٩٩١) ، وكاكشيانى (٢٠٠٩) ، و هولمز (١٩٨٤) ؛ للتعديل (i) قوة الانجاز (ii) و افعال الكلام، و اوربنوفا (٢٠٠٣) ؛ لتشديد وتخفيف الوظائف البراغماتية الاخرى. ووفقاً لأهداف ونظريات التحليل، فقد تم تصميم الدراسة نوعياً بناءً على إجراء تحليل المحتوى النوعي. وكماً فقط من ناحية الاستخدام الفردي والكلي المتكرر للمشددات. وفقاً لتحليل البيانات والمناقشات ، وجدت الدراسة أن السياسيين استخدموا أنواعاً مختلفة من المشددات لأغراض مختلفة. لقد وجد أن المشددات التي تعبر عن المشاعر الغير مميزة والمعنى الشكلي، وتلك المستخدمة في المحتوى / الخطاب الموجه هي الأعلى والاكثر استخداماً من التوجهات او الميول الأخرى. علاوة على ذلك ، فقد وجدت أيضاً أن المشددات من كلا النوعين ، المضخمت والمخفضات ، استخدمها السياسيون لتعديل أبعاد قوة الانجاز لأفعال

الكلام. وبحسب نتائج بيانات التحليل، وفقاً لنتائج تحليل البيانات ، خلصت الدراسة بشكل واضح إلى أن استخدام المشدّدات يمكن اعتباره أداة قوة يستخدمها السياسيون للحصول على نوايا الجمهور ، ولإثارة مشاعرهم ، وتحقيق أهدافهم واهتماماتهم. يؤدي هذا إلى إضافة أن المشدّدات لا يتم استخدامها بشكل عشوائي من قبل السياسيين ، ولكنها تستخدم كوسيلة غرضية للتواصل.

إنّ النتائج والاستنتاجات التي تمّ التوصل إليها في هذه الدراسة تثبت صحة الفرضيات والأهداف.

الخلاصة

تهتم الدراسة الحالية بمشددات اللغة الإنجليزية كوسيلة لغوية للتكثيف وهي ظاهرة معقدة، ويرتبط هذا التعقيد بتعريف وتصنيف المشددات، وأجريت الدراسة الحالية لإيجاد تصنيف شامل للمشددات من أجل تحليلها تداولياً في إطار منظم والحصول على صورة عامة للوظائف البراغماتية للمشددات في المقابلات السياسية.

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