

UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION, WINNEBA

**SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF NEWSPAPER HEADLINES IN
GHANA**



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**SYSTEMIC FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF NEWSPAPER HEADLINES IN
GHANA**



**A Thesis in the Department of Applied Linguistics,
Faculty of Foreign Languages Education and Communication,
submitted to the School of Graduate Studies in partial fulfilment**

**of the requirements for the award of the degree of
Master of Philosophy
(Applied Linguistics)
in the University of Education, Winneba**

JULY, 2020

DECLARATION

STUDENT'S DECLARATION

I, Tetteh Pratt Derrick, declare that this thesis with the exception of the quotations and references contained in published works which have all been identified and duly acknowledged, is entirely my own original work, and it has not been submitted, either in part or whole for another degree elsewhere.

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

SUPERVISOR'S DECLARATION

I hereby declare that the preparation and presentation of this work was supervised in accordance with the guidelines for supervision of thesis as laid down by the University of Education, Winneba.

NAME OF SUPERVISOR:

SIGNATURE:

DATE:

DEDICATION

To my parents - Mr. John Kwetey and Alice Darley.



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Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen (1 Timothy 1:17).

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“The LORD bless you and keep you;

the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious unto you;

the LORD turn his face towards you and give peace.” Amen (Numbers 6:24-26, NIV).

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| Contents | Pages |
|---|--------------|
| DECLARATION | iii |
| DEDICATION | iv |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENT | v |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | vi |
| LIST OF TABLES | ix |
| LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS | xii |
| ABSTRACT | xiv |
| | |
| CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 1.0 Introduction | 1 |
| 1.1 Background of the Study | 1 |
| 1.2 Statement of the Problem | 4 |
| 1.3 Operational Definitions of Terms | 8 |
| 1.4 Objective of the Study | 8 |
| 1.5 Research Questions | 9 |
| 1.6 Hypothesis | 9 |
| 1.7 Limitation | 9 |
| 1.8 Delimitation | 10 |
| 1.9 Significance of the Study | 10 |
| 1.10 Structure or Organization of the Study | 12 |
| | |
| CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW | 13 |
| 2.0 Introduction | 13 |
| 2.1 Conceptual Review | 13 |

| | |
|---|-----------|
| 2.2 Theoretical Framework | 24 |
| 2.3 Empirical Studies | 33 |
| 2.4 Conclusion | 51 |
| CHAPTER THREE: METHODOLOGY | 52 |
| 3.0 Introduction | 52 |
| 3.1 Research Approach and Design | 52 |
| 3.2 Research Site | 53 |
| 3.3 Research Population | 53 |
| 3.4 Sampling and Sampling Technique | 54 |
| 3.5 Research Tool and Data Collection Procedure | 54 |
| 3.6 Data Analysis Procedure | 56 |
| 3.7 Ethical Considerations | 57 |
| 3.8 Conclusion | 57 |
| CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS | 58 |
| 4.0 Introduction | 58 |
| 4.1 Analysis of Sentential Newspaper Headlines | 58 |
| 4.2 Phrasal Newspaper headlines and their Correspondent Elliptical Elements | 113 |
| 4.3 The Structure of the Clause and Clause Complex | 121 |
| 4.4 The Concept of Voice in the Newspaper Headlines | 128 |
| 4.5 Elliptical Elements in Newspaper Headlines | 133 |
| 4.6 Grammatical Metaphor in the Newspaper Headlines | 141 |
| 4.7 Summary of Chapter Four | 145 |



| | |
|--|------------|
| CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION | 146 |
| 5.0 Introduction | 146 |
| 5.1 Summary of the Study | 146 |
| 5.2 General findings of the study | 147 |
| 5.3 Recommendations for Further Study | 156 |
| REFERENCES | 158 |
| APPENDICES | 166 |
| APPENDIX A | 166 |
| APPENDIX B | 167 |
| APPENDIX C | 168 |
| APPENDIX D | 169 |
| APPENDIX E | 170 |



LIST OF TABLES

| Table | Page |
|--|------|
| 4. 1: A Representation of the Relational Process <i>Needs</i> | 61 |
| 4.2: A Cleft Sentence Introduced with the Pronoun <i>It</i> | 66 |
| 4.3: <i>Wh</i> -cleft construction | 66 |
| 4.4: A Representation of the Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>Needs</i> | 67 |
| 4. 5: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>Needs</i> | 67 |
| 4.6: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Needs</i> | 69 |
| 4.7: Arguments admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Shows</i> | 70 |
| 4.8: Features of Finiteness | 71 |
| 4.9: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>Shows</i> | 72 |
| 4.10: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Donates</i> | 73 |
| 4.11: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Promises</i> . | 76 |
| 4.12: Arguments Admitted by the Process <i>Rocks</i> | 80 |
| 4.13: The Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>Rocks</i> | 80 |
| 4.14: Arguments admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Visits</i> | 81 |
| 4.15: Transitivity Hypothesis of <i>Visits</i> | 81 |
| 4.16: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Directs</i> | 82 |
| 4.17: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>Directs</i> | 82 |
| 4.18: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>SENT</i> | 83 |
| 4.19: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>SENT</i> | 85 |
| 4.20: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Calls for</i> | 87 |
| 4.21: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Calls for</i> | 87 |
| 4.22: Elements admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Calls for</i> | 87 |
| 4.23: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Calls for</i> | 88 |

| | |
|---|-----|
| 4.24: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Descends on</i> | 89 |
| 4.25: Elements Admitted by the Relational Process <i>is</i> | 90 |
| 4.26: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Calls for</i> | 90 |
| 4.27: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process <i>Stop</i> | 92 |
| 4.28: The Application of the Acronym NICE | 93 |
| 4.29: The Rendition of the <i>Operator</i> | 93 |
| 4.30: Elements Encoded by the Finite Operator <i>Is</i> | 94 |
| 4.31: A Declarative Structure Formed from the Interrogative | 94 |
| 4.32: The Implied <i>You</i> in the Imperative Structure | 96 |
| 4.33: The Reflexive in the Imperative Structure | 96 |
| 4.34: The Imperative Encoding a Question Tag | 97 |
| 4.35: The Imperative Encoding the Vocative | 98 |
| 4.36: Syntactic Elements encoded by the Imperative Material Process <i>Handle</i> | 103 |
| 4.37: Arguments Encoded by the Process <i>Accept</i> | 105 |
| 4.38: The Negative Imperative Structure | 107 |
| 4.39: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process <i>Extort</i> | 108 |
| 4.40: Participants Encoded by the Transitivity Process <i>Extort</i> | 110 |
| 4.41: Headwords of Phrasal Headlines with Post-modifiers | 112 |
| 4.42: Pre-modification and Post-modification of Heads in Phrasal Headlines | 113 |
| 4.43: Prepositional Phrase Newspaper Headline | 113 |
| 4.44: Ellipted Elements of the Phrasal Newspaper Headline | 119 |
| 4.45: Head of the Noun Phrase Premodified by a Sentence in Akan. | 120 |
| 4.46: Initial Position of Circumstance and Ellipted Verb Phrase | 121 |
| 4.47: One Word Imperative Sentence in a Clause Complex | 123 |
| 4.48: One Word Imperative Sentence in a Clause Complex | 124 |

| | |
|--|-----|
| 4.49: The Phenomenon of Expansion in Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). | 127 |
| 4.50: Unmarked Focus Passive Construction | 128 |
| 4.51: Optional end-focus Passive Construction | 129 |
| 4.52: The Material Process <i>Arrested</i> Encodes Circumstantial Adjunct | 131 |
| 4.53: <i>Get</i> -passive Construction | 132 |
| 4.54: <i>Be</i> -passive Transformation | 133 |
| 4.55: Ellipsis of part of embedded clause in the Newspaper Headline | 138 |
| 4.56: Nominal Grammatical Metaphor | 142 |
| 4.57: Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Verbs | 143 |
| 4.48: One Word Imperative Sentence in a Clause Complex | 126 |
| 4.59: Verbal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns | 144 |
| 5.60: Excerpts of Nominal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Verbs | 153 |
| 5.61: Excerpts of Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Verbs | 154 |
| 5.62: Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns | 155 |
| 5.63: Excerpts of Verbal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns | 155 |
| 5.64: Transitivity Processes and the roles of Arguments in the Newspaper Headlines | 156 |

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | | |
|---------|---|---|
| ADJ | - | Adjective |
| ADV | - | Adverb |
| ASV | - | Adverbial/Subject/Verb |
| AUX | - | Auxiliary |
| BOG | - | Bank of Ghana |
| CDA | - | Critical Discourse Analysis |
| CDD | - | Center for Democratic Development |
| CD-ROMs | - | Compact Disc Read-Only Memory |
| CDs | - | Compact Disc |
| DET | - | Determiner |
| DVDs | - | Digital Video/Versatile Disc |
| EFL/ESL | - | English Language as a Foreign/Second Language |
| GJA | - | Ghana Journalist Association |
| GOVT | - | Government |
| HV | - | Helping Verb |
| IDM | - | Isotopy-Disjunction Model |
| J.J | - | Jerry John (Former Head of State of Ghana) |
| LV | - | Lexical Verb |
| MOD | - | Modifier |
| MP | - | Material Process |
| NA | - | Not Applicable |
| NG | - | Noun Group |
| NICE | - | Negative/Inversion/Code/Emphasis |
| NP | - | Noun Phrase |
| NPM | - | Negative/Polarity/Marker |

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| NUM | - | Number |
| PA | - | Primary Auxiliary |
| PP | - | Prepositional Phrase |
| PRED | - | Predicator |
| Pre-M | - | Pre-modifier |
| PREP | - | Preposition |
| PROC | - | Process |
| ReP | - | Relative Pronoun |
| RP | - | Relative Pronoun |
| RQ | - | Research Question |
| SDGs | - | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SFG | - | Systemic Functional Grammar |
| SFL | - | Systemic Functional Linguistics |
| S-P-O | - | Subject/Predicator/Object |
| S-P-O-C | - | Subject/Predicator/Object/Complement |
| S-P-Oi-Od | - | Subject/Predicator/Indirect Object/Direct Object |
| SUBJ | - | Subject |
| SVC | - | Subject/Verb/Complement |
| SVO | - | Subject/Verb/Object |
| SVOC | - | Subject/Verb/Object/Complement |
| TO-INFI | - | To-Infinitive |
| UCC | - | University of Cape Coast |
| UNICEF | - | United Nations Children's (Emergency) Fund |
| US | - | United State |
| VG | - | Verb Group |
| VP | - | Verb Phrase |

ABSTRACT

A great deal of studies have been conducted using Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) particularly the Ideational Metafunction. Nevertheless, few of them have adopted Systemic Functional Grammar to investigate the syntax of newspaper headlines (Ansary, 2005; Ong,onda, 2016; Abdulameer, Noor and Nasser, 2019)). The Ideational Metafunction of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) by Halliday (1994) is employed to examine 60 Ghanaian Newspaper Headlines from 5 newspaper agencies. The purposive sampling technique was used to sample the data from the year 2018 to 2019. The analysis is situated within the general research paradigm of qualitative research approach which is applied to identify the structural types of Newspaper Headlines which are sentential (30 declarative, 4 imperative, 2 interrogative, 5 ellipted and 6 passivized) and 13 phrasal newspaper headlines. Based on a type of the six-transitivity processes whether Material, Mental, Verbal, Relational, Existential or Behavioural, the clausal elements and their functions were identified in the sentential newspaper headlines; the structure of the phrasal newspaper headlines together with the words that make up the structure and functions have been analyzed. Though the Declarative Newspaper Headlines reported education, finance, international news among others, they dominated political news items. The Imperative Newspaper Headlines were adopted by religious and political leaders to admonish and motivate the citizenry and congregants. To help create suspense and arouse the interest in sporting events, the Interrogative Newspaper Headlines were employed. The Phrasal Newspaper Headlines dominated political news. As part of Block Language, the Elliptical Newspaper Headlines omitted elements such as auxiliary verbs, articles, the dummy *there* with the verb *be*, noun group with relational auxiliary or relational processes in clause complex and part of the embedded clause (adjectival clause). The Passivized Newspaper Headlines, the Agentless Passive as against the Agentive Passive reported criminal cases which were undergoing investigations and arbitration of which the newspaper agencies could not pronounce judgment ahead of the police and judicial systems since such cases are generally based on allegations.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This research centres on Systemic Functional Analysis of Newspaper Headlines in Ghana. The overview of this scholarly work is the focus of this chapter. To serve as a sense of orientation, direction and purpose as far as this research work is concerned, the following segments would be discussed. These sections are the background of the study, statement of the problem, operational definition of terms, objectives of the study, research questions, limitation, delimitation, motivation for the study, significance of the study and organization of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

The role of newspaper headlines in newspaper publications is paramount. The application of this linguistic category is related to the various facets of writings concerning our cultural systems, religions, legal domain, education, politics, business and music. Critically speaking, newspaper headlines serve as a sense of arousing the interest of readers, a means of informing the citizenry, a platform for education and a medium of creating awareness. Through these headlines, the states or conditions of the various sectors of the economy are reflected as a way of shaping and molding decision-making processes in our communities, localities and societies. This presupposes that newspaper headlines play crucial roles in the development agenda of every nation or state.

There are several media networks within the jurisdiction and the geographical boundaries of Ghana which encompass newspapers, radio, and television. The media is important because it plays a singular role of informing, educating, and entertaining

the general public. During the time when Ghana gained her independence in the political year of 1957, the atmosphere of the various media assumed an intriguing, captivating and forward-looking dimension. The government's involvement in the media was more pronounced which led to an affiliation with foreign-owned press networks, for instance, the Daily Mirror Group which contributed significantly to the development of the media in Ghana and the country at large (Jones-Quartey, 1974). According to Twumasi (1985), both government and non-governmental media agencies operated concurrently. The electronic media particularly the radio was managed by the colonial government administering the nation at that point in time. In the year 1965, a television network was introduced by the government of the state (Ansah, 1985).

In the media history or antecedent of the nation, the private-owned media houses operated with less press freedom than the state-owned media specifically during the military regime of the country (Rockson, 1990). Ampaw (2004) sums up Ghana's media situation before 1992 thus:

Until the coming into force of the 1992 Constitution, and the advent of the Fourth Republic, Ghanaian society had not experienced a strong and developing media presence since independence. The birth of the Fourth Republic with its constitutional guarantee of media freedom and independence, brought about a radical change in the media landscape (p. 30).

The 1992 constitution safeguarded the freedom of the press which was a situation that formed the legal basis for the establishment of private media operation and broadcasting. According to Article 21 (1) (a) of the 1992 constitution "freedom of speech and expression, which shall include freedom of the press and the other media"

were protected. The constitutional backing of the media promoted and augmented the democratic dispensation of the country since the citizenry had the freedom to articulate their views and sentiments towards the various activities of the state. It is also clear that the provision of the constitution served as a springboard to the protection of the fundamental human rights and freedoms of the Ghanaian populace. In particular, Article 19 of the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.” The role of the media and for that matter newspaper headlines cannot be downplayed in the developmental programme of the nation. Issues of varied nature such as armed robbery, road accidents, fire outbreak, corruption, murder, kidnapping and child trafficking are abruptly broadcast in the various headlines of newspapers as they occur in order to trigger immediate attention and remedy.

Nir (1993) highlights the role of newspaper headlines in attracting the attention of the reader as well as provoking the reader to read the whole story. Considering the semiotics of headlines, Iarovici and Amel (1989) clearly mentions that headlines have double functions which are semantic function, regarding the referential text, and pragmatic function, which is about the reader or the receiver to whom the text is addressed at a particular time. The two functions operate simultaneously as the semantic function is found in and justified by the pragmatic function. Headlines mainly alert the reader or receiver about the content of the text. This identifies the pragmatic function of the headline which involves the semantic one. From the semantic dimension, the headline contributes to providing the meaning of the text to the audience. The headline functions by

performing a plurality of speech acts including urging, warning and informing. The paramount role of the (newspaper) headline is stressed as establishing a relationship between the writer and the reader and taking into consideration the background of the reader in order to relay the intended meaning to him or her. The semantic-pragmatic convergence in newspaper headlines reflects speech act elements such as warning, informing, persuasion and urging. This is an opportunity for readers to get abreast of issues in their environment and react to them.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

According to Creswell (2012), a research problem is a general educational issue, concern, or controversy which is addressed in research by narrowing the topic that is being investigated. Numerous mechanisms have been devised in communicating various news items through newspaper headlines. It is an undeniable fact that a great deal of works have been conducted as cited below and these scholarly works have identified a number of findings in relation with newspaper headlines. Nevertheless, analyzing newspaper headlines from Systemic Functional perspective could still be hypothesized to come out with a lot of intriguing and relevant findings which would be useful in the field of Linguistics. In view of the complexity of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), it is worth mentioning that the theory has a good deal of distinctive features which reflect many linguistic elements in any scholarly research that it is applied to. This is a situation which to a large extent has motivated and necessitated this research assignment. Taking into consideration the many aspects that SFG encompass and the various works conducted, there is a huge gap which needs to be filled. For instance, Taiwo (2014) uses the X-bar theory of Generative Grammar which was proposed by Chomsky (1970) to syntactically analyze lexical and

functional heads in Nigerian newspaper headlines from Nigerian national newspapers. The study collected data from Nigerian newspapers such as „The Punch“, „The Nation“, „Nigerian Tribune“, „Vanguard“ and „The Sun“. Taiwo“s work adopts a somewhat comparative approach to analyzing the headlines. He draws a dichotomy between two typologies of headlines which are phrasal headlines and sentential headlines. Based on the findings, the sentential headlines have more heads than phrasal headlines. Whilst both heads occur in the headlines, lexical heads have more projection than functional heads. The study emphasizes the fact that “a headline describes news story in a few words, informs quickly and accurately and arouses the readers“ curiosity” (Engerer, 2000, p. 48). It is clear that headlines go a long way in achieving economy of extremely important resources such as words, space and time in the playing of their roles of information, education and others. Another important point stressed by the study is the ability to use linguistic tools and rhetorical structures and interventions in the arousal and ignition of the readers“ interest and curiosity but holding a high level of accuracy. There is no denying the fact that newspaper headlines are effectively used to encapsulate a wide range of issues affecting people who live in a particular geographical setting (Nir, 1993; Iarovici and Amel, 1989). It becomes obvious that this work is not exhaustive of all the linguistic issues in the area of syntax, semantics and others. For instance, the aspect of the work that deals with the syntax of newspaper headlines has not absorbed all themes such as transitivity processes, mood types and tenses in that domain and beyond.

Headlines in Newspaper Editorials: A Contrastive Study which was conducted by (Bonyadi and Samuel, 2013) is another research paper relevant to the topic of this thesis. Editorial headlines are key in monitoring and directing readers' attention. This is a situation which, for instance, has led to an interface between intercultural rhetoric

analysis and teaching of English as a Foreign Language (EFL/ESL). The research paper conducts a contrastive textual analysis of headlines of „The New York Times“, and a Persian newspaper, „Tehran Times‘. The aims of the paper were to investigate the kind of textual and rhetorical strategies the two newspapers apply in publishing the ideologies to which they subscribe. The results showed that the two papers characterize a subjective attitude of the media towards the topic. The analysis of the data recorded some differences between the two headlines in terms of Presupposition, and Rhetorical devices. The research methodology adopted in the data collection and analysis is the non-random purposeful sampling. Some of the rhetorical devices that the findings recorded are parallelism, alliteration, metonymy, pun, testimonial, quotation out of context, rhetorical question, neologism, antithesis and irony (Bell 1991; Van 1988). As indicated earlier, numerous researches have been conducted on headlines but there are differences in theoretical framework, linguistic interfaces and pairings, data collection, sampling area and approaches. As a result of this gap, there are some issues that are not yet investigated in the field of Linguistics as far as analysis of newspaper headlines is concerned. To further investigate this domain of study, this research considers the problem, the syntactic structures, morphological and syntactic (morphosyntactic) compositions or elements and their corresponding functions in the structures of the newspaper headlines in Ghana. Moreover,

a research problem is a definite or clear expression [statement] about an area of concern, a condition to be improved upon, a difficulty to be eliminated, or a troubling question that exists in scholarly literature, in theory, or within existing practice that point to a need for meaningful understanding and deliberate investigation. A research problem does not state how to do

something, offer a vague or broad proposition, or present a value question (Bryman, 2007, p.5).

Specifically, considering the structure of newspaper headlines, this research seeks to investigate whether they are constructed using sentences (clauses) or phrases and which syntactic concepts are present in the structure of the newspaper headlines. The structure of Newspaper Headlines is worth investigating because they usually deviate from the orthodox sentence or clause structure. Their deviation from the normal sentence or phrase structure is based on the fact that Headlines employ features of Block Language which depends heavily on situational ellipsis and others. Since situational ellipsis thrives by deleting some linguistic elements in the structure, they shift from one rank to another. In view of the above, the group of words which are used in the formation of Newspaper Headlines poses a challenge as to which of the elements on the rank scale they encode. In terms of sentential newspaper headlines, they will be investigated further to reveal the kind of mood structures they admit- indicative (interrogative, declarative, exclamative) and imperative (Gerrot & Wignell, 1994). It must be stated that though some studies have been conducted in analyzing Newspaper Headlines, there is a gap in terms of the clausal elements of the newspaper headlines and their functions as well as the morphological composition of the phrasal newspaper headlines together with the functions played by the words in them (phrasal newspaper headlines). The gap in the studies contributes to grounding the problem of the study. In essence, the study will serve as a guide for people like students, linguists and media personnel in identifying the system of structures that could be adopted for composing headlines.

1.3 Operational Definitions of Terms

The research topic under exploration necessitates the definition of some related terms to facilitate the specific contexts in which the words are used. This goes a long way in promoting the meaning of the concepts, discussion and analysis of data, findings and the recommendations of the study. The definitions could also contribute to defining the parameters or the scope of the research.

1. **Systemic:** a repertoire or system of choices available during writing and utterances (Halliday, 1985).
2. **Functional:** analysis which emphasizes meaning in a Form and Function correspondence (Halliday, 1985).
3. **Newspaper Headline:** an explanatory title of a newspaper article which for instance, summarizes the main point for the reader (Danesi, 2008).
4. **Report:** an account of news presented by a journalist in print, broadcast, or internet form (Danesi, 2008).
5. **Reportage:** the use of a medium-print, broadcast, internet to present news. It may be a corpus of news or a style of reporting news items (Danesi, 2008).

1.4 Objective of the Study

The study has the following objectives:

1. To investigate the syntactic structures (forms) of the selected Newspaper Headlines in Ghana
2. To examine the roles played by the elements in the syntactic structures of the Newspaper Headlines
3. To analyze the syntactic concepts or categories that are derived from the Newspaper Headlines

1.5 Research Questions

This study will be guided by the following research questions:

1. What are the syntactic structures (forms) of the selected Newspaper Headlines in Ghana?
2. What roles do the elements in the syntactic structures of the newspaper headlines play?
3. What syntactic concepts or categories are derived from the Newspaper Headlines?

1.6 Hypothesis

Based on the range of newspaper headlines forming the data for the study, varieties of syntactic concepts and structures are anticipated to construe different semantic roles. The theoretical framework adopted for the exploration of the topic plays an astronomical role in this instance. The theoretical framework presents alternative syntactic and semantic approaches to examining the language of the newspaper headlines of the selected media houses in the country. It is also important to forecast that individual linguistic and stylistic uniqueness and distinctiveness of the various media personnel publishing from different walks of life will also contribute to the anticipated variations and perspectives in the findings of the study.

1.7 Limitation

Like any other scholarly enterprise, the research is plagued with a number of limitations which affect the findings and conclusions in one way or the other. It must be stated generally that this could emanate from the kind of research design; resources such as time and finance; data and theory adopted for a research work. In terms of this research, the system of data may pose a limitation to the findings and conclusions

since the number of newspaper agencies used in the data collection inhibits other interesting and unique features associated with the newspaper networks that are not featured in this research. To a large extent, the selected newspaper agencies are limited since not all the headlines on the variety of issues could be represented. In view of the factors cited above, the research is based on the writing style of the newspaper headline composers as against the other writing approaches and perspectives of the ones that were not used in this research.

1.8 Delimitation

“Every choice about what to count as a text for analysis is a choice not only about what to include but also about what to exclude” (Johnstone, 2002, p.12). In order to help in the realization of the objectives of the study, it is crucial to define its scope or boundaries. The research considers systemic functional analysis of newspaper headlines in Ghana. The data for the research are taken from the Daily Graphic, the Chronicle, the Daily Guide, the Daily Dispatch, and the Insight newspapers respectively. The choices would help achieve convenience, feasibility in the data analysis and to reflect the reality of the situations in the newspaper headlines. This implies that the data sampled could help achieve the objectives of the research in general.

1.9 Significance of the Study

This research is significant in diverse ways which include contribution to analysis in the direction of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). The study is intended to broaden and widen the parameters of knowledge and understanding of the theoretical framework which is applied. There is no denying the fact that the applicability and

relevance of the theory to a repertoire of linguistic domains like the construction of newspaper headlines is substantiated and justified by this research.

Also, this study would help establish the fact that language is a communication resource which makes available dynamic and paradigmatic situations. With the options presented by language, it becomes clear that there is no one-to-one correspondence between the form of a language and its function. In other words, a particular speech or communicative activity could be performed using two or more speech acts or linguistic tools.

Furthermore, the research goes a long way to help in the identification, description and prescription of the syntactic structures that are used in the realization of newspaper headlines and the meaning they portray to their readers. Undoubtedly, this is a condition which contributes immensely in bridging the gap between the field of Linguistics and Media studies. The descriptive and prescriptive nature of the framework furnish media personnel with effective mechanisms, writing and communicative skills in their reportage or publication of the issues emanating from the various aspects of the nation and beyond. This study helps in highlighting the fact that there is a strong correlation between scholarly investigations in the domain of Linguistics and that of Media studies. Through this work, the parameters of professionals and researchers, both neophyte as well as old would be widened and broadened in terms of the interface between Linguistics and Media scholarly analysis.

Moreover, considering the magnitude of lacuna in the literature on works conducted on newspaper headlines using Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), this research provides the platform for further studies to be conducted. There is still some aspects of the theory that are not applied to analyzing newspaper headlines. The three aspects

of the theoretical framework which are Ideational, Interpersonal and Textual form a whole complex structure with a repertoire of principles which could be investigated using newspaper headlines or other sources of data.

Finally, this research is relevant to second language learning especially, in the formal education setting. The rationale behind this assertion is that the study highlights some areas of language which are central to the course composition in the countries that study English Language as a second language. Some of these topics are the analysis of the transitivity processes, phrases, clauses and sentences.

1.10 Structure or organization of the Study

This study is sub-categorised into five chapters which are outlined below. The first chapter, which is the introduction, comprises the background of the study, the statement of the problem, the objectives of the study, the research questions, the significance of the study, the structure of the study and a conclusion to the first chapter. Chapter two comprises review of relevant concepts, related literature and the theoretical framework on which the study is based. Chapter three discusses the methodology adopted for the study whilst chapter four focuses on the analysis of data and discussion. The last chapter which is chapter five deals with the conclusion of the research work which highlights the findings of the study and some recommendations for future research.

CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.0 Introduction

This chapter makes provision for a review of a number of literature related to the topic under consideration. The chapter helps in the definition of the predominant concepts which serve as the basis and bedrock of the study. It is important to state that this chapter is categorized into Conceptual Review, Theoretical Framework and Empirical Review respectively. It expatiates focal concepts and scholarly dimensions related to Newspaper Headlines from a general perspective of Linguistics, particularly Syntax. These elements serve as the background and prelude to the designated theoretical framework and the repertory of scholarly works conducted in the domain of the study in order to provide a sense of guidance to this research.

2.1 Conceptual Review

2.1.1 Communication as related to Mass Media and Newspaper Headlines

Sometimes the concept of mass media is described as mass communication, hence it is mentioned in this section since it encompasses newspapers and newspaper headlines. The word „Communication“, which is etymologically connected to both “communion” and “community,” comes from the Latin word „communicare“, which means “to make common” or “to share” (Weekley, 1967, p. 338). Explaining this point further, DeVito (1986), establishes that communication is “a process or an act of transmitting a message from a sender to a receiver, through a channel and with the interference of noise” (p. 61). DeVito (1986) posits that “Communication is referred to as a process to emphasize that it is always changing, always in motion” (p. 239). Based on DeVito’s perspective, the concept under consideration entails a string of

activities. In view of this, the phenomenon could be considered more as a continuum, rather than remaining at a particular position. Anderson (1987) does share the definition of communication as a process and establishes that “The notion of process involves, at least, sometimes dimensions which means that the characteristics, causes, and consequences of some communication acts are subject to change over the life of the act” (p. 49). A key element in communication, then, is this concept of “change.”

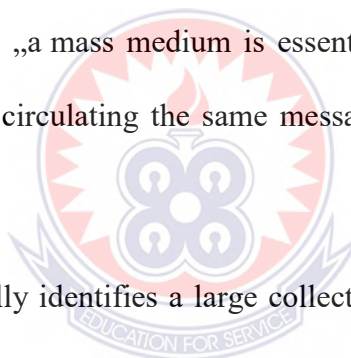
The definition of communication features the mechanism which is known as the channel employed in conveying information of interlocutors. The idea of „channel“ is the “vehicle or medium through which signals are sent” (Anderson, 1987, p. 52). This channel may convey the message visually or aurally, for instance. It can be the space between two people talking, an online discussion board, or a television set, among others. In terms of news items, newspaper headlines are employed as strategies and channels through which a longer story is presented in an abridged version to arouse readership, foster understanding and economize resources like time and space.

2.1.2 Defining Mass Media

The term mass media is the contracted form of mass communication media which is “usually understood as newspapers, magazines, cinema, television, radio, and advertising; sometimes including book publishing (especially popular fictions) and music (the pop industry), (O’Sullivan, Hartley, Saunders & Fiske, 1983, p.130). The mass media is vested with the function of sending information through radio, television, newspapers, periodicals, magazines and websites to numerous listeners, viewers and readers. Mass media influence lives of greater number of people than any other cultural institution. This is known within the domain of mass media as macro-level effects. This implies the crucial effects of the media on the mores of consumers

in their various communities. This function of the media is very essential since the media is encountered in almost every setting by diverse kinds of people-both young and old or illiterate and literate.

It largely shapes the lives of people in terms of their decision making in health, voting behaviour, academic orientation, religion among others. Policies of various governments and political parties are effectively relayed to the populace through newspapers and electronic media. The masses or audiences also have the opportunity to express their sentiments, opinions, needs, complaints and wishes to authorities or whom the information may concern. In fact, the impact of the mass media on our communities, localities and societies is astronomically omnipresent. According to Schramm (1949, p. 115) „a mass medium is essentially a working group organized around some device for circulating the same message, at about the same time, to a large number of people.“



The word *mass* technically identifies a large collection or aggregation of something, in this context, the large number of people affected by the activities of the mass media. This term frequents the domain of media and communications. Based on the semantic import of the word, it is considered derogatory since it is presumed that the ideologies, philosophies, worldviews, identity of individuals are somewhat largely subordinated to group identity or tenets.

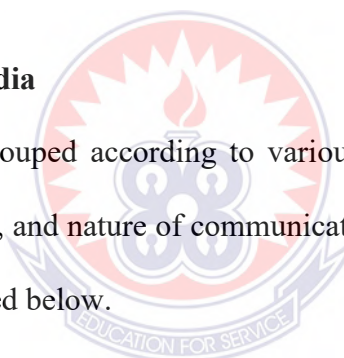
Another related concept which requires some space for consideration and explanation is mass society. According to the culture theory, this is a society made up of extremely great number of people, who are usually influenced by the mass media and governmental agencies, policies and programmes. Some of the major features of mass society are shown below: they have complex formal structures, they focus on large

audiences, they are public in their activities, they have heterogeneous audience, the relationship between media personalities and the audience is mediated and the audience play part in the mass culture (Denasi, 2008).

The mass society represents a community of people who are consumers of the news items published by the newspaper agencies. This population is made of voters, business men and women, students and others. Since these people form the target group or audience, the linguistic structures employed in the construction of newspaper headlines usually reflect the language of these discourse communities in order to boost demand and consumption. In essence, the newspaper agencies use words or phrases that various groups of people forming the mass society are familiar with.

2.1.3 Types of Mass Media

Mass media could be grouped according to various factors which include physical form, technology applied, and nature of communication process. The major categories of mass media are outlined below.



2.1.4 Print Media

Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the moveable metallic type in the fifteenth century was a fertile soil for the growth, proliferation and establishment of the print media. The printing press industry which cardinaly employs moveable types introduced a mechanism for the expansion of text production enterprise. The printing press inception period had an antecedent of exorbitant and expensive prices of books because the materials for printing them were affordable and accessible solely to the aristocrats, royal families and other people who fell within the high class of living. The augmentation of the printing business made books less costly so that a wider range of people could purchase. The increment in duplication of more copies of handy

texts led to a moment of innovation of modern newspapers. The Print Media includes newspapers, magazines, books and other textual documents. Newspapers and magazines are printed with an explanatory title cover which summarizes the main points of the stories published and these are described as headlines which form the source of data for this study (Denasi, 2008).

2.1.5 Electronic Media

Mass media that use electronic or electromechanical energy for transmission of messages are called electronic media. Major electronic media are radio, television, video and audio records, CDs and DVDs etc. Of these, radio and television messages are transmitted via air waves or radio signals. The process of transmitting messages via airwaves or radio signals is called broadcasting. The literary meaning of broadcasting is to scatter seeds over a broad area rather than in a particular place. Possibly because of the ability to spread messages to diverse audiences through radio waves results in the term broadcasting which is a technique that the mass media employ.

The historical background of electronic mass media concurs with Guglielmo Marconi's invention of radio which plays a very important function as long as the mass media is concerned. It is important to mention that before his successful first transmission or sending and receiving wireless signal in the 1920s, a Scottish physicist, James Clerk Maxwell and Mahlon Loomis, an American dentist had contributed in this vein respectively. The colonial powers like Britain and France made tremendous use of radio stations in African countries and other territories in the early years of the 20th century. Television broadcasting was also experimented in the 1920s but the tremendous application of television as a mass medium dated in the

1950s. Subsequently, the recording industry developed immensely in the Western World. Presently, the parameters of the electronic mass media has been developed and extended to other spheres including the internet. The major examples of electronic media facilities are radio, audio and video records, movies and television (Okunna, et al, 2002; Denasi, 2008).

2.1.6 New Media

Messages could be sent and received via online and digital mechanisms. The means employed in this case is computer mediated communication technology including various forms of computers together with wireless and handheld devices. The forms of communicating in the digital world include CD-ROMs, DVDs and World Wide Web. McQuail (1969) outlines a number of features of the new media, in his book, *Towards a Sociology of Mass Communications* which are useful in this scholarly analysis. Rafaeli & LaRose (1993, p. 277) noted that

Collaborative mass media systems, in which the audience is the primary source of media content as well as its receiver, represents a new and significant departure from mass media forms. They expand the very definition of mass media from “one-to-many” to “many-to-many” communication.

The activities of the electronic and print media are interwoven with the operation of the New Media. The programmes of the two major media: print and electronic are usually posted on the platforms of the new media which is known as social media which include Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and Twitter. For instance, newspaper headlines are usually published on these new media websites and platforms.

2.1.7 Functions of Mass Media

As mentioned earlier, mass media may have pervasive effects on our personal and social life but it plays essential functions in the lives of people. The role and scope of mass media in our societies include information, education, and entertainment.

According to Okunna, et al (2002), the information function of the Mass Media is instrumental in ensuring meaningful living of the members of a particular geographical identity. The mass media collect, store, process and disseminate news, data, pictures, facts, messages, opinions and comments which members of the public employ in analyzing educational, environmental, national and international issues. This situation effectively assists in appropriate decision making processes. The mass media convey pieces of information which are indispensable to every humanity in the world. The masses are informed about electioneering results, examination results, weather reports, current affairs, health issues, government programmes and policies, and so on by the mass media.

Also, in terms of the education function of the mass media, it is a well-organized body of knowledge which is directed towards specific aims and objectives. The media engage personalities of high magnitude of expertise from different sectors of the economy to share their knowledge, skills, experiences and credentials with the populace. These educative programmes of the mass media enlighten the public on key topics including health, education, road safety, politics, and sports.

All the various mass media entertain their audiences in so many ways. Newspapers and television stations, for instance, show cartoons or publish comics, puzzles, calculated programmes which help viewers and readers release stress after the arduous activities of work. Magazines make ample space for short stories, novels,

satires and cartoons for entertaining their audience. Audio-visual media such as television and radio provide a repertoire of entertainment programmes including sports and movies.

The functions of the mass media mentioned above materialize through the medium of headlines. Usually, from the perspective of the print media, the consumers of newspaper story items are motivated by the kind of headlines they see or hear from radio or television programmes. The writers of the stories employ words or linguistic structures that make the newspaper headlines appetizing, interesting and captivating enough to attract high readership. The means of making the newspaper headlines spicy, catchy and ornamented could promote reading-friendliness and patronage.

2.1.8 Newspaper Headlines

Headlines epitomize marquee news stories that are short statements which are found at the beginning of articles. They encapsulate the story and they present a portrait of the reality of the news item which is being published. Apart from the traditional function of the headlines which is incorporation of essential elements of a story, modern headlines are composed in order to instill curiosity, provoke interesting questioning, or to establish particular conclusions considering a story under consideration. News headlines serve various functions, including story summarization, interest generation, immediacy satisfaction, and attention direction (van Dijk, 1988).

2.1.9 Story (news) Summarization

Van Dijk (1988) stresses a cataphoric and an informative function of headlines which include summarizing the content of the news items they precede. In order to buttress and highlight the main idea, news items in the press usually have Headlines as well as

Lead which could be marked off by special printing type. Story summarization is a mechanism employed in Headlines to ensure elimination of surprises that may arise from the story. Media professionals use headlines as a means of relaying the information or message in a short and precise manner.

2.1.10 Interest Generation

News headlines are structured in such a way that they generate interest in a story as whole. News editors or journalists ensure that the stories they publish are read, by conveying interesting headlines to “lure” their prospective or target audience. It has been opined by communication experts that one of the main reasons local newspaper sites lack stickiness is flat headlines and these headlines are often without accompanying photos or multimedia elements. News headlines that are magnified and packaged with pictures and other multimedia elements are more arresting especially if the media persons exhibit high sense of creative use of language (van Dijk, 1988).

2.1.11 Immediacy Satisfaction

People who possess a low propensity to read news stories to the end could depend on headlines to satisfy an immediate need for information. Researchers explain that headlines play a role of optimization relevance by carrying a contextual effect at a reasonable cognitive price. Other people describe news headlines as an important part of how individuals take cognitive shortcuts when they encounter news. Like the inverted pyramid approach of news composition, headlines that highlight the most newsworthy information by bringing them first satisfy immediacy needs of the audience. The construction of headlines is meant to be extremely efficient for readers who have little time at their disposal (van Dijk, 1988).

2.1.12 Direction of Attention

Headlines usually summarize a story as well as highlighting a particular facets of a news story with the aim of directing attention of readers or listeners. Usually this approach is more effective in online news publications in trading a broader context for story specifics which could be achieved through quotations or details. One mechanism which is adopted in headlines that attempts to orient the attention of the audience is the possibility of distorting the main context or understanding of a news event. The main functions of headlines are not mutually exclusive since many headlines adopt strategies to generate interest, satisfy immediacy needs, summarize and direct attention as mentioned earlier. The headline is the first impression and a useful barometer and assessment for consumers of the information in the news item in general (van Dijk, 1988).

2.1.13 Types of Headlines Based on Functionality

The shapes and forms of headlines differ in so many ways. Traditionally, news headlines could be a summarization of the news story. However, the traditional way of publishing news outlets involves creativity and sensationalism in the headlines to help make them attractive and invoke the curiosity of the public-this is usually described as click bait in online news publication. One strength of sensational headlines is the potentiality to make the news content become more interesting, extraordinary and relevant than it would have been if the headlines were traditionally approached. In order to achieve this aim, headlines use features of warning, threat and passage of judgments about the story. These features make the story more personal and immediate (van Dijk, 1988).

van Dijk (1988) establishes an interpretation in terms of the functions of headlines which makes them assume autonomous units. To give prominence to headlines, they are visually highlighted through use of bolder and larger typing. There is a broad consensus concerning the twofold and competing functionality of headlines which are to inform and to persuade. The headline has the role of supplying the audience with the main information of the news item. The headline also serves as an opening and a vital aspect which does not only relay information of the story to the reader, but also persuades him or her to consume the whole item.

Therefore, newspaper headlines adopt a special style which is characterized by compactness of information and syntactic characteristics in their compositions. They also contain bold expressions, polarization, exaggerations and provocative wording, and appear in bigger print and sometimes in colour (Kronrod and Engel, 2001, p. 685)

The creation of headlines could be considered as usually containing three conflicting imperatives of surface economy, information and persuasion. These functional categories may be described as semantic functions when emphasis is placed on information transmission. The functional classification of newspaper headlines may be referred to as pragmatic functions since the headline is a socio-rhetorical communicative act which requires the reader to engage and interact with a text and social context as a means extracting meaning. On the subject of the functionality of newspaper headlines, Dor (2003) and Gattani (2005) present distinct analyses which complement each other and could be summed up as macro and micro functionality. Dor (2003), opines that newspaper headlines are the negotiators between stories and readers and have four functions: to summarize, to highlight, to attract and to select. Gattani (2005) proposes three broad macro headline functions: The informative

headline which serves as the background for a good idea about the topic contained in the news story; there is an indicative headline which addresses the internal framework of the news story and the eye-catcher headline- this is actually designed to attract and entice people to read the story (Gattani, 2005). The complementary dimension of analyzing newspaper headlines may be divided into umbrella and macro or micro functionality. The fact that headlines are “negotiators between the stories and the readers” maps unto the umbrella function of headlines (Dor, 2000, p. 720) whilst headline functionality as informative, indicative and eye-catching is associated with macro-functional level of Gattani (2005) which in turn leads to the four micro functions- to summarize, to highlight, to attract and to select as established by (Dor, 2000).

2.2.0 Theoretical Framework

This section of the literature review examines the theoretical perspective of the study. From the syntactic point of view, Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) is reviewed. The major elements forming the basis of the theory and related to this study are explained.

2.2.1 Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG)

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) seeks to provide an explanation and a description of „*meaning-making resources*“ (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004) employed in the enterprise of encoding language. The linguistic choices available during writings and utterances are presented in a systematic manner. These choices emanate from a collection of *systems* comprising *structures* which provide various approaches to realizing meaning (Bloor and Bloor, 2004) and our experiences of the world, of text types and socially- and culturally-bounded situations and boost the

schemata of the systems. van Dijk (1977), cited in (Brown and Yule's 1983) *Assumed Normality of the World* to emphasize the role of these experiences in distinguishing between different genres of texts (spoken or written). SFG is, therefore, a study of meaning construction through systems of lexicogrammatical adoptions within social and cultural contexts.

Scholars who have contributed immensely to modern linguistics like de Saussure (1916) have dichotomized paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations in language which parallel Halliday's system and structure. The paradigmatic phenomenon is associated with the different choices such as mood (declarative, interrogative, imperative and exclamative structures) and polarity (negativity or positivity). The syntagmatic relation or dimension refers to a defined prescription of sequence or arrangement of linguistic elements such as phonemes, morphemes, words, group of words that are combined to ensure communication. In SFG, this *chain* of elements is as a result of paradigmatic choices as mentioned in (Bloor and Bloor, 2004).

Aside the paradigmatic and syntagmatic distinctions, de Saussure (1916) distinguished between two aspects of language: *langue*, which represents the language system, and *parole*, the use of this system. Noam Chomsky embarked on a development of these two divisions, emphasizing language system as *competence* and not the use of language which is *performance*. He endeavoured to propound a „*Minimalist Programme*“ that forms the basis of transformational-generative rules. He establishes that grammar is independent of meaning though he does not debunk the fact that meaning is a social phenomenon. In this case, language is approached from the cognitive point of view as expounded in the transformative-generative enterprise with a „hard-wired“ grammar into the brain of a human being which explains the

universal basis of language acquisition and how biological factors contribute to language usage. Chomsky (1965) established an innatism approach to language as a tool for thought and not just communication (Thompson, 2004). Michael Halliday, on the contrary, supports Malinowski's view that ontogeny makes up phylogeny. In this vein, natural adult language and language acquisition can be explained based on social functions to foster the understanding of the evolutionary origins of language (Halliday, 1976). Malinowski, Firth and Halliday view language acquisition as a process which undergoes nature and nurturing (Bloor and Bloor, 2004). Learning a language is therefore seen as „learning how to mean“ (Halliday, 1975). Halliday adopts a descriptive approach of analyzing language in the form of finite system of rules which determines the appropriateness or inappropriateness as against Chomsky's prescriptive approach to language as correct or incorrect (Eggins, 2004). Chomsky supports the school of thought of Malinowski, Whorf and Firth which posits that language is shaped by cultural elements and the use of language reflects the world which is inhabited (Kress, 1976). The kinds of meanings found in a text are dependent on the relationship that exists between the *context of culture* (genre) and the *context of situation* (register) (Eggins, 2004), hence, sentential analysis should not be isolated from its social, cultural and situational contexts. As a result of this, the application of authentic texts and corpus data is characteristic of Systemic Functional Linguistics which is described as „extravagant“ grammar (Bloor and Bloor, 2004). Systemic Functional Grammar encompasses a giant theoretical framework which employs a multi-dimensional description of the organization of language and its linguistic perspectives which are predominantly based on the principal tenets of Halliday's three metafunctions of language. SFG is a fraction of an extensive theory of social semiotics including a system of meanings which forms a semogenic system and

approach to language known as Systemic Linguistics (Halliday, 2004). The term „systemic“ is associated with a sets of options from which a particular linguistic activity is performed and "functional" lays emphasis on meaning in context. The theory contrasts Formal Grammar which stresses word classes or parts of speech such as noun, adjective and verb elements, and barely pays attention to components above the individual clause as stipulated by Michael Halliday's Rank Scale and other linguistic considerations. According to Halliday, the grammar of language is composed of a finite set of prescriptive rules as well as a synthesis of both functional and structural approaches to analyzing language. Actually, systemic analysis of texts is done by parsing them (texts) into constituents and how different grammatical units are combined to construe different types of meanings. This descriptive framework is a broad one which encapsulates features of rhetorical mode and genre found in the generic structure, and logical, thematic, mood, and transitivity structures in relation to textual and non-textual features of cohesion and utility (Halliday,1985). In consonance with the Hallidayan perspective of grammar, there is a system of a great deal of options available to the user of language to select not in vacuo, but considering the context of speech situations dependent on stratal organization. The process of choice making is done by selecting from a group of interrelated options, nonetheless, from a great deal of independent systems that include register, semantics, lexicogrammar and phonology (Halliday, 2002).

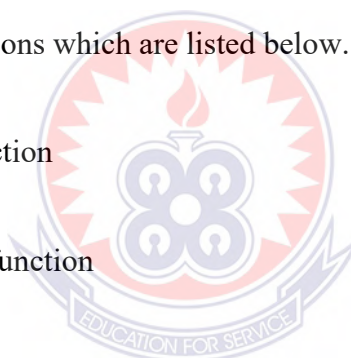
The background survey of SFG in the preceding pages of this section has expatiated issues that are relevant to the topic which is being analyzed. Some of the key issues that have been mentioned include the rank scale, context, semantics, phonology, lexicogrammar, paradigmatic nature of language and the minimalist programme which form the basis of Transformational Generative Grammar. The rank scale and

paradigmatic nature of language for instance, make the use of language assume options and makes choices available for the user of the language. In the same way, a composer of a newspaper headline may choose a phrasal or sentential headline as one of the elements in the paradigm to convey a particular message to his or her readers. Moreover, based on a particular structure, whether transformed into passive or not could be used in a specific context to relay a target semantic import embedded in a newspaper headline. All these could be achieved through lexicogrammatical configurations.

2.2.3 Metafunctions of Systemic Functional Grammar

The theoretical framework of Systemic Functional Grammar is categorized into three major parts or metafunctions which are listed below.

1. Ideational metafunction
2. Interpersonal metafunction
3. Textual metafunction



This research focuses on the Ideational metafunction, the concept of Transitivity together with Clause and Clause Complex which are all elements of Systemic Functional Grammar. The meanings of these aspects of the theory are presented below (Halliday, 2004).

2.2.4 The Ideational Metafunctions

The Ideational metafunction is divided into two parts namely experiential and logical metafunctions respectively. The experiential metafunction organizes experiences and understanding of the world in which the linguistic activity of speaking or writing is

produced. This implies the potential of language to construe figures in the world of reality with elements such as screenshot of a moving picture or pictures of a comic novel among others. In essence, it represents the potentiality to differentiate the elements or experiences of the universe into the following: Processes, Participants in these processes and the Circumstances in which the process occur.

The other aspect of the ideational metafunction extends beyond the experiences of the world in which speeches, writings and other communication phenomena occur. It organizes reasoning activities and processes based on the plethora of experiences of speakers or writers and audiences. It is the potential of language to construe logical links between figures or for instance, activities of participants. The logical involves mental process of observation, analysis, discussion, showing differences and similarities, drawing of conclusions among others. Through this, the chronology of occurrences and seasonal or from-time-to-time circumstances could be marked and detected. For example, this activity happened after that action happened or with more experiences or this happens every time this happens. The ideational metafunction is related to field aspects of a text or its subject matter and context of use. The three domains of field are Semantic domain, Specialization and Angle of Representation which are not directly related to the objectives of the current study (Halliday, 2004).

2.2.5 The Concept of Transitivity in Systemic Functional Grammar

The linguistic concept of transitivity as an aspect of Systemic Functional Grammar is related to the experiential metafunctions of language. It encompasses the overall grammatical resources which are used to construe real life diversity of experiences and happenings. In this case, the grammatical resources are engaged in various syntactic configurations involving Processes, Participants and Circumstances that

carry and convey a great deal of semantic implications (Martin, 2010; Halliday, 2004). The concept of Transitivity is relevant in terms of the system of Processes, Participants and Circumstances that the various Newspaper Headlines use to report their news items. This concept determines the structure of the Headlines since it forms the basis of its composition. Systemic Functional Grammar categorizes verbs into six Processes that admit Participants and Circumstances that in turn assume respective roles in the lexicogrammatical configurations that they appear. As part of the concept of transitivity, the Transitivity Hypothesis reveals more features of the kind of Process a Newspaper Headline licenses by transcending just the dichotomy between Transitive and Intransitive Verbs.

2.2.6 The Clause and Clause Complex in Systemic Functional Grammar

Systemic Functional Linguistic theorists have been interested also in examining elements like the Sentence which is found beyond the clause in the analysis of constituents on the Rank Scale. A Clause Complex is composed by linking clauses of equal or unequal status to each other in a logico-semantic configuration. The sentence could satisfy the structure of a clause complex which has a Head Clause or the Matrix Clause concatenated with Non-matrix or Subordinate clauses that function as a complementation. The concatenation of clauses in the clause complex could be categorized into two systems. They are **Taxis** and **Logico-semantic Relation**. The taxis is further parsed into **hypotaxis** or **parataxis** based on their degree of dependency. The **Logico-semantic Relation** is also divided into **expansion** and **projection** and other sub-divisions (Halliday, 2004). The data collected for this research would be analyzed to show how the various aspects of SFG, especially the concepts that are found in the Ideational Metafunction inform the newspaper headlines adopted.

2.2.7 Some merits of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG)

Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) thrives on some interrelated fundamental concepts that underpin Halliday's approach to grammar and how language is applied in real life context. These concepts include system, function or metafunction, rank scale and lexicogrammar. Taking into consideration the lexicogrammatical nature of language, the concepts of grammar and lexis are placed at two ends of the same continuum. There are some tenets of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) that makes the theory unique and distinctive and some of these are discussed in the following.

In SFG, grammatical analysis is approached broadly from a trinocular perspective which implies that systemic functional analysis is dependent on three distinctive levels. The tristratal model of SFG are (1) Discourse-Semantics, (2) Lexico-grammar and (3) Phonology and Orthography. Basically, the three levels or strata are semantics, phonology, and lexicogrammar. These perspectives, to a large extent help in the formation of a holistic approach to the use of language (Eggins, 2004). In newspaper headline production, meaning is achieved based on the kind of lexicogrammatical elements such as diction, phrases, mood types together with the kind of sounds produced by the words. For instance, a newspaper headline that produces rhythmic effect is likely to attract broader attention.

Also, the theory of Systemic Functional Grammar considers grammar as systemic not just rubrics or a set of rules. Based on the system of language, every grammatical structure contributes to creating a paradigm from which choices are made considering the function of language at a particular point in time and place. Language thus becomes a meaning potential. Some of the linguistic systems described include mood, agency and theme. The theory describes grammatical systems as a

composition of finite set of options as against lexical sets that form open systems. This implies that new members of the lexicon could be added to the language. The systemic nature of language could be at the lexical, phonological, grammatical and any other level. The perspective of SFG provides a broad base of language usage including newspaper headlines.

SFL attempts to understand mechanisms adopted in the utilization of language for various purposes and in contexts or scenarios. In this case, the theory serves as a commutative motivation in the enterprise of language learning. The theory serves as means through which language learners cultivate the attitude of using language depending on a particular scenario not just applying religiously grammatical rules. One strength of the theory in this case is that it enables the learner or the user of the language to dichotomize varieties of the language and the contexts in which a kind of language is applied. The options available in a system make it possible to observe the relationship that exists between form and meaning or function. This situation serves as an impetus for the interpretation of knowledge (Schleppegrell, 2004). It is undeniable that SFG provides fertile atmosphere for excellent performance in language learning in both formal and informal settings as well as general academic prowess. Beikoff (1996) emphasizes the applicability and success of functional grammar in teaching early literacy. There is no doubt that students of media and communication would find it interesting working with SFG, particularly the art of composing newspaper headlines and news items in general.

Moreover, it is important to mention the complementary potentiality of Systemic Functional Grammar. It flexibly operates within the scope of other dimensions of grammar like Traditional Grammar and Transformational Grammar to achieve its

goals. Based on the dynamic nature of the theory, it is applicable in reporting a composite of stories from diverse domains. Within the circles of the media, the repertory of structures proposed by SFG provide a great condition for composing newspaper headlines which are the point of consideration of the current study.

2.3 Empirical Studies

This part deals with the repertoire of researches conducted in the area where this topic is situated. A number of these works are reviewed at this juncture. Researchers invariably “systematically search, critique and combine the literature to demonstrate a gap in the existing research base taking into consideration their understanding of both the research and the methods previously used to investigate the area” (Aveyard, 2010, p. 1) or to “evaluate and interpret all available research evidence relevant to a particular question” (Glasziou, 2001, p. 1). In order to conduct a good research, it is incumbent to critically analyze a catalogue of relevant studies. A systematic review of works related to the topic which is being researched helps in organizing information about the methodologies, theories, data, findings, conclusions and recommendations of the previous studies. In this case, any gap which is found in the various works could be considered for further researches.

Zhang (2017) studies the topic *English Newspapers as Specimen: A Study of Linguistic Features of the English Newspapers in the 20th Century from Historical Linguistics*. The research surveys three aspects of language which are the lexical level, the grammatical level and rhetorical level. The paper proposes that the linguistic categories of English Language under review should be analyzed based on scientific, political, religious and other generic determinants (Ayto, 2002; Baugh & Cable, 1993; Cappon, 1991).

Using the qualitative approach, the researcher found a number of morphological patterns in the data employed for the survey. The morphological patterning is both concatenative and nonconcatenative in typology. Two fundamental types of morphological patterns which are concatenative morphology and non-concatenative morphology are identified. On one hand, concatenative morphology is the process where two morphemes are ordered one after another, for instance, affixation and compounding. Non-concatenative morphology on the other hand, covers other forms of morphological pattern which includes base modification, reduplication, conversion, etc. This type also extends to outside the realm of morphology. Some of these lexical features of English Journalism in the 20th century include the use of midget words or small words, affixations, compounding, and analogy as explicated by the American linguist, (Menschen,1980), in his book *The American language* which confirms what the data exhibited in the newspaper headlines used in analyzing this scholarly work. In the data are some distinctive grammatical features of English journalism in the 20th century. An American journalism analyst, Rene J. Cappon commends the British Newspaper, *The Economist*. He states that the good quality of *The Economist* is achieved by the conciseness with which the newspaper publishes. Most introductory parts have not more than 16 words on average, and the sentences in body of the newspapers average at 16-19 words (Cappon, 1991, p.51).

Rhetorical features of English journalism in the 20th century could be found in various metaphorical elements. The data being reviewed have a strong disparity with the topic being analyzed and for this reason the gap that is identified could be filled accordingly. Though both studies are conducted in the field of Linguistics, the work which is being reviewed is situated in the area of Semantics but the current one is predominantly syntactic. As it has been made clear, the economist newspaper

publishes with conciseness and this reflects in the construction of their headlines. In this case, the likelihood is that the clausal or phrasal elements that are used in the construction of the newspaper headlines may be rankshifted from higher ones to the ones with lower ranks (Halliday, 2004).

Alipour and Monjezi (2016) researches *English and Persian Sport Newspaper Headlines: A comparative study of linguistic means* citing (Lapsanska, 2006). The study is approached from the phonological, semantic, lexical and morphological perspectives respectively. The research cited Baddock (1988) which mentions that newspapers serves as a conducive context for language study. Newspapers employ language forms which are features of traditional language course materials but are useful in providing the language user with different communicative skills. This implies that newspaper headlines play a vital role in analyzing certain features and rudiments which underpin the context in which language is used within the domain of the mass media. The research establishes how newspapers or headlines could reflect language variety ranging from American English to British English or Ghanaian to Nigerian English or pidgin to creole or literal language to associative language or a blend of the varieties. The study stresses that the headlines of the newspapers aid in identifying, determining and defining the linguistic convention or the stylistic approach applied by the media professionals. It is apparent that the research analyzes data from many aspects of Linguistics: morphology, syntax, phonology, semantics and others. This makes the research a broad based one. Nevertheless, the likelihood that certain details are omitted is high because the various aspects of Linguistics addressed in the study compete for attention which may not be fairly distributed.

Newspaper headlines that characterize rhetorical devices provide effective linguistic tools for influencing and attracting the readers' attention (Shumin, 2006). Based on the various levels of Linguistics used in the study, some examples of the findings are outlined from semantic, phonological, morphological and syntactic perspectives respectively.

Semantically and phonologically, it is evident that the two factions, English and Persian media personnel are conversant with the rhetorical elements *rhythm* and *metaphor* which are adopted to help them compose the newspaper headlines with all vividness, clarity, conspicuousness, and catchiness in order to achieve high level of readability and patronage. The realization of the rhythmic and phonological effect in the research contributes to making the newspapers appealing to the senses particularly the auditory type. The use of devices such as assonance, alliteration, onomatopoeia, rhymes and other examples are crucial in creating sound effect. Apart from the application of rhetorical devices that appeal to the sense of hearing, the study emphasizes the use of *metaphor* from the semantic point of view in the composition of headlines in the data sampling areas, English and Persian media. As posited above, metaphors represent realities and not mere abstract phenomena or concepts as portrayed in the newspaper headlines. In essence, they help in bridging the gap between abstract things and concrete practical things in real life situations. Since the work under review is a comparative one and the data have shown some evidence of similarities between the settings in terms of the use of metaphorical language and rhythmic techniques, it is instrumental to mention some similarities that were found. There is no doubt that the semantic and phonological features of the work under review depend on some syntactic structures that the current research is interested in investigating.

In addition, morphologically and syntactically, (Kafi, 1984) explained that Persian language is made up of a fantastic capability, that is hardly evident in other languages. The Persian language has an active combinational potentiality of new words like *sabz poosh* (*wearing green*) which is a form of compounding. English sports journalists employed new words and phrases in newspaper headlines to catch the attention of their readers. The copious employment of linguistic categories such as new words and phrases in English and Persian languages by the sports media personnel in the headlines are meant to arrest, engage and maintain attention and interest of the readers in the sporting activities published in the newspapers. However, concerning differences recorded between the two groups, the findings showed that *alliteration*, *foreign words*, *idiomatic constructions*, and *personification* are more evident in the newspaper headlines of the Persians. Nevertheless, the English media dominated in the *formation of new words and phrases*, *hyperbole*, and *phrases* in their reportage or newspaper headlines.

Soler (2008) of Madrid, Spain employs the meaning theory to research *A metaphor corpus in business press Headlines* sampling data from three newspapers: *Financial Times*, *El País* and *El Mundo*, spanning from January to July, 2003. The study establishes that the worth of a text is not based on just the content but also how the text is organized together with its impact on readers (Goatly, 1997). It is established that textual assessment is not dependent solely on the arrangement of words or the syntactic makeup of the headlines but the implication or how effectively they convey meaning. In this context, syntactic and semantic interface is strategically achieved in the composition of the headlines to make them catchy and appealing in order to arrest and maintain the attention of the target audience. The composers of the headlines adopt all journalistic and stylistic mechanisms to attract the reader's attention in

portraying the attitude of the writer towards the story, to provide indicators of the current situation or emphasize the central idea of the article and its headline (Morley, 1998). In this guise, news reports are published with the greatest efforts made to deploy the overt or covert ideology by giving prominence to one aspect of the story rather than another (Bell, 1991) or by organizing news in the manner that allows for reordering, prioritizing and highlighting the events published. Koller (2004) posits that the application of certain metaphors in the headlines of any front page makes reporters define a topic, favour a specific conceptualization and persuade readers to share their metaphors. Some strengths are recorded by the research under review. One of them is that it helps in identifying the dichotomy that exists between contextual meaning of a word or multiword units and their basic meaning in the construction of newspaper headlines. Drawbacks to the research approach include the fact that any specific corpus sets limitations for its own scope or parameters. Small size corpus or large size corpus may trigger overuse or underuse of words or patterns therein. Based on the predominant qualitative approach employed, a great deal of syntactic elements or structures which are relevant to this research are registered: finite and non-finite structures in the headlines; verbless phrases for headlines; noun phrases; verb phrase and sentences.

The study by Tabe & Fieze (2011) does A Critical Discourse Analysis of Newspaper Headlines on the Anglophone Crisis in Cameroon. This research explores private and public newspaper headlines on the Anglophone crisis in Cameroon from a Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) point of view. The findings indicate how choice of words or vocabulary could be used to portray imposition, tension and dialogue. The data exhibited some traces of rhetorical questions used in the headlines sampled for the analysis. The research findings show inconsistency in how the media, government and

private newspapers approach the publication of the Anglophone crisis. The private newspaper headlines characterize words that show negative attitude to the government of Cameroon in order to create the impression that the incumbent administration has shown a deliberate refusal to show maximum interest in the crisis, and incapable of ensuring the security of the populace or the citizenry. Nevertheless, the Cameroon Tribune applies hedging strategies in its publication of the crisis as a way of reducing tension, fear and panic in the citizens so as to promote national cohesion, integration and unity. The state owned newspaper identifies and describes the Anglophone characters in the crisis as perpetrators or terrorists trying to interrupt with the peace and harmony of Cameroonians. The mass media exploits one of the distinctive features of Critical Discourse Analysis that is „power“ using language to shape the thinking faculty or cognitive perspective of Cameroonians on the Anglophone crisis.

The study states that news schemata ("superstructure schema") are structured following a specific narrative pattern that consists of the following: summary (headline and the lead paragraph), story (situation consisting of episode and backgrounds), and consequences (final comments and conclusions). These divisions of a news story which are arranged chronologically in terms of "relevance," to present the general message in the summary, the headline and the lead paragraph are crucial.

Also, the topic *investigating ambiguity in headlines of contemporary or Newspapers* is explored by (Gunnig, 2017) using the theoretical machinery of semantic theory in the analysis and interpretation of the data. The paper stresses lexical and structural ambiguity in the headlines which naturally and involuntarily create humour in the audience. The or b newspaper composer structures the headlines with the motive of entertainment which makes them amusing, comic and

funny. The corpus Linguistics approach is adopted in the data collection and arrives at the finding that the sources of ambiguity produced humorous and rhythmic effect. The research motivated and necessitated an attempt to put forward a scientific analysis of headlines that are humorous but inadequately investigated in the or b literature or Linguistic analysis. Fairclough (1995, p. 21) states that "headlines have distinctive syntactic properties, which make them a grammatical oddity". Newspaper headlines have a great deal of roles which prescribe their shape, content and structure, and they operate within a scope that limits the freedom of the writer (Reah, 1998). This implies that newspapers capture the story's content through economy of words and attract the readers' attention to the news publication through headlines as they appear on the frontage of the newspaper. The preliminary properties of language which all linguists would agree are that a semantic theory must explain: (1) the nature of word meaning and sentence meaning – as well as the relations between these, (2) ambiguity as a phenomenon of natural language, (3) relations between sentences of a language – synonymy, entailment, contradiction etc. Taking into consideration the theoretical framework, ambiguity could be realized at any of the levels of the Hallideyan Rank Scale, especially at the word or phrase or sentence level. As mentioned earlier, the 100 headlines in the corpus were subdivided into two categories: lexical and structural ambiguity. Considering the totality of 100 headlines, a majority of 66 percent was found to be ambiguous at lexical level, whilst the rest 34 percent represented structural ambiguity. The lexical items such as 'inn', n an' and p change meaning in their different interpretations. The frequency of lexical ambiguity has recorded higher appearances which characterize the or b newspaper headline writers to help in the rendition of effective communication and aesthetics in the domain of Linguistics. The morphosyntactic mechanisms employed are endorsed by

SFG which will reflect a good deal of these linguistic elements in the Ghanaian newspaper headlines being analyzed in this current study.

The research question of the paper by Bucaria (2004) is similar to the one analyzed from the Nigeria, Yoruba setting by (unn g , 2017). Both papers consider linguistic ambiguity but one in English language and in a specific register of newspaper headlines. This currently analyzed paper specifically examines lexical and syntactic ambiguity that result in sources of voluntary or involuntary humour. The study concentrated on a corpus of 135 newspaper headlines in English Language found on websites of some new media. The linguistic phenomena that contribute to the creation of more than one meaning in newspaper headlines are categorized into lexical, syntactic, and phonological ambiguity. The data were analyzed in terms of the disjunctive/ connector model (Attardo, 1994). This theory on the linearity of the Joke and the Isotopy-Disjunction Model (IDM) was first introduced by Greimas (1966) and critiqued by Attardo (1994). The model presupposes two moments in the disambiguation of a joke, where the passage from a first sense (S1) to a second sense (S2) opposed to S1 is introduced by the presence and interaction within the joke of a disjunctive and a connector, i.e. „any segment of text that can be given two distinct readings“ (Attardo et al., 1994, p. 28). It was detected that verbal jokes based on lexical ambiguity were the vast majority. Rhetoric devices, such as alliteration and rhyme and sensational phrases also resulted in ambiguity as a way of attracting the readers’ attention to newspaper headlines.

Furthermore, Taha (1983) maintains that structural or syntactic ambiguity occurs as a result of using carelessly constructed sentences which lack clarification in their sentence structure. Structural ambiguity is basically achieved based on how words are

configured in the various syntactic structures such as declarative sentences, imperative sentences, interrogative sentences and exclamative sentences. The possibility is that other grammatical categories like passivisation, fronting and embedding could create syntactic ambiguity depending on how words are put together. To analyze further, lexical ambiguity is defined by Oaks (1994, p. 378) as „a word with more than one possible meaning in a context“. On the part of phonological ambiguity as mentioned by Reah (1998), it is invariably found in the literary devices or rhetorical tools such as onomatopoeia, homophony, alliteration and rhyme. Though the source of data used by Bucaria (2004) is different from the sampling area of the current research, the findings of both research works could share some parallels, especially from the morphological elements or syntactic structures that leads to the realization of semantic elements like ambiguity in the newspaper headlines.

Another research work to consider is *Critical Discourse Analysis of online News Headlines: A Case of the Stoneman Douglas High School Shooting* (Lombardi, 2018). This study is a Critical Discourse Analysis of the language used in online news headlines to report the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting, which took place on February 14, 2018 in Florida, United States. The framework adopted to conduct the research is a combination of Critical Discourse Analysis which is a three dimensional-framework for studying discourse and a sociocultural approach, making the study to be approached from three different aspects but interrelated elements of discourse: (1) sociocultural practice, or the social and cultural context of gun ownership in the U.S.; (2) discourse practice and finally, (3) a linguistic analysis of the text itself, (Fairclough, 1989). The sociocultural aspect of gun in the United States is related to the mores or the conventions that guide the production, ownership, usage and the

benefits or hazards of it. It is apparent that as far as the mores or protocols concerning gun in the United States are concerned, the ownership and usage of gun have a legal backing, nonetheless, some people tend to abuse the right and freedom they have in using gun for security reasons. The abusive aspect of gun in the United State could be blamed for the shooting incident in that particular school.

According to the research, media reportages are expected to be done with high level of professionalism and circumspection but the research findings have recorded evidence of digression and deviation from this professional conduct. The third dimension becomes clear based the choice of linguistic elements and categories indicating the attitude of the media to the shooting incident at *Stoneman Douglas High School Shooting* as researched. The newspaper headlines in Ghana have reported similar incidents which may have similar attitude and approaches to incidents of this nature in terms the words, phrases and sentences used in the construction of news stories and their newspaper headlines. The approaches that the media adopted in reporting the incident reflect the dynamism and diversity of language as licensed by SFG which is the framework for this research. The American newspapers, like the Ghanaian newspapers, generally used either phrasal newspaper headlines or sentential newspaper headlines which could share some similarities with the structure of the newspaper headlines that are adopted for the current study.

Ninni (2017) analyzes the topic, *A Study of How British Tabloid Newspapers Construct Context*. The research aims at explaining the generation of implicatures in newspapers taking into consideration theoretical approaches in the field of pragmatics, such as Relevance Theory and Deixis. Some semantic and stylistic devices are employed which include anaphora, metaphor and metonymy. Three

British tabloid papers which are examined showed that the writers use brevity to keep detail information from the audience because they assume the readers are familiar with the phenomena mentioned or have encyclopedic knowledge of these issues. Anaphora is usually used in the tabloids as a mechanism to achieve brevity, variety and they are less repetitive in nature. The research states that reader familiarity together with metonymy, metaphor and deixis help in achieving reader meaning. Anaphora is largely considered as a semantic element of language that promotes cohesion and coherence, while metaphor and metonymy are usually regarded as semantic properties of language that enable writers and speakers to use language figuratively and creatively. Though metaphors are often thought of as a semantic property of language, they play instrumental role in Relevance Theory as a way of generating inferences. Dor (2003:695) claims: "...headlines are designed to *optimize the relevance* of their stories for their readers: Headlines provide the readers with the optimal ratio between contextual effect and processing effort, and direct readers to construct the optimal context for interpretation". According to Dor (ibid., p. 706), there are many ways to optimize the relevance in a headline; a summary is not the only way to do it. For example, presenting the story's most alluring element or the story's most appealing quoted statement can work just as well as a summary. Newspaper headlines hold a special place in news discourse. It is important to mention that the ways by which context is constructed in this research depends largely on linguistic structures such as phrase and sentences which serve as the basis for this current research.

Moreover, *The Impact of News Values and Linguistic Style on the Popularity of Headlines on Twitter and Facebook* (Piotrkowicz, Dimtrova, Otterbcher and Markert, 2017) is a research paper relevant to the topic under consideration. Dor (2003) posits

that the language of headlines has been given substantial attention, particularly what makes them distinctive from other text types, e.g. passive transformation, nominalization and deliberate ambiguity (Fowler 1991). A number of researchers are working on identifying how higher level concepts, such as sensationalism, or click-bait are captured in the headline language. This scholarly work analyses the headline language in terms of stylistic features and the linguistic expression of higher level concepts (news values features). Concerning news values features, high magnitude of inspiration is drawn from the news selection literature or body of knowledge. A relevant seminal work which recommends some news values as event properties influence the space assigned to an event by news outlets. Many scholars have contributed to the phenomenon of news values for news selection, for instance. The paper under review, explores the impact of news values on social media reception. News values taxonomies have been proposed by many researchers including (Bell 1991; Harcup and O'Neill, 2001). However, these taxonomies share some similarities. The second feature group – linguistic style – refers to wording based on a particular topic. An outline of some common features which are usually used include: ratios for various parts of speech and sentiment. Headline texts present their unique challenges. For instance, word-level sentiment rather than context sensitive state-of-the-art methods are usually employed due to the fact that headlines offer context. These challenges include syntactic and lexical simplicity which forgoes some words that could affect the meaning of the newspaper headlines negatively according to (Bell, 1995). This paper analyzes two types of headline characteristics –news values and linguistic style – and their impact on article popularity on the social media, Twitter and Facebook respectively. The news values such as Prominence and style features of brevity and simplicity have shown evidence of correlating well. Prominence,

proximity, and sentiment are also positive effects in terms of options to click on a headline by respondents in a survey involving many people. The two dimensions of the research question, News Values and Linguistic Style could have a significant correspondence, though not one-to-one, to the research topic of the current thesis because they contribute to how headlines are composed or structured (syntax) in order to reflect the meaning (semantics) intended for the audience.

Fornkwa (2015) applies Critical Discourse Analysis to analyze newspaper articles on the Cameroonian state budget. This work shares parallelism with Fowler and Hodge (1991) on the perception of the notion that there is hardly neutrality in the language of newspaper presentation and that language showcases and reflects reality as well as creating reality. In view of this, the reportages of media houses and publications have, for instance, social, economic and political orientation and motivation.

Furthermore, Gökhan (2016) applies Critical Discourse Analysis to analyze the ideologies of newspapers from different cultures. The study focuses on how western editors approach the attitude of Europe towards the influx of Syrians into the European Union and how the Turkish media reports the harsh situations that motivated the Syrians' journey to Europe. The findings have great implications for exploratory studies on the ideological characteristics of newspapers and their headlines. The researcher has the intentions of using the findings of the study to create a data-base for discourse studies in various language departments. This study is also essential in promoting students' reading ability as well as serving as a guide for EFL teachers in their attitude towards teaching reading. The study establishes that the ideologies of authors or reporters help to promote attentive reading, understanding or systematic analysis, if users of a particular language consciously or

unconsciously assert their own ideologies by means of language and communication (Van Dijk, 1985). The study compares and contrasts the headlines in various newspapers which are 6 German Newspapers, 10 English Newspapers, and 16 Turkish Newspapers and the corpora include 51 newspaper headlines from 7 English, 6 German, and 14 Turkish newspapers. The researcher seeks to find out ways of reporting the news of Syrian refugees in different newspapers. This is achieved by exploring the different perspectives of different newspapers through headlines. According to the study, Critical Discourse Analysis provides a description of how the same news item is represented in diverse newspapers from cross-cultural communities. It is obvious that English, German, and Turkish newspapers have done a special coverage of the news of Syrian war victims trying to move towards the borders of Europe. The usage of plain headline is a common practice in both national and international newspapers in English, German, and Turkish media. Whilst the western media (English and German) approach their report from the perspective of the negative impacts the Syrians may have on the European Union, the Turkish media portray the Syrians as victims of tragedy. The theoretical framework has provided the opportunity to clarify the ideologies or messages embedded in a particular text. Linguistic features of Headlines in presenting ideologies include topicalization, passivisation and information- these findings of the study are similar to the third research question of the current study. Apart from the structural aspect of the newspaper headlines, there are many syntactic concepts which promotes the messages meant to be sent by the newspaper corporations.

A study conducted by Abdulameer, Noor and Nasser (2019) applies Transitivity Analysis of Systemic Functional Linguistics by Halliday and Matthiessen (2014) to analyze 80 political articles in Eastern and Western online news. The study employs a

qualitative analysis to find out the answers for the next two questions: First, How the experiential meaning recognizes via the transitivity process in social actors' discourse in the Western and Eastern online news? Second, what are the differences or similarities in the discourse of social actors in Western and Eastern online news? The study adopts the documentation method to collect data from four online newspapers, from Eastern (Al JAZEERA, and THE STAR) and from Western news (THE GUARDIAN and NEW YORK POST). The news items are selected from 6th December 2017 to 13th May 2018. The main findings of the study show that verbal processes, material processes mostly predominate in the discourse of social actors in Eastern and Western online news. This predomination is followed by relational, mental and existential processes. It is obvious that the behavioural processes are hardly used by the social actors. The study better reflects the thinking manner, cultural features, attitude and judgments of the political environment in East and West.

The research work has presented data with a lot of maximization of its exemplifications through tables to promote easy understanding of the work in general. Nonetheless, it not clear where the linguistic structures like the words, phrases, clauses and sentences where sampled from. The news items that were employed for the study have various parts including headlines, lead or introduction, the main content and conclusion. These specific aspects depend on some syntactic structures to effectively contribute to the general understanding of the story. Newspaper headlines for instance, encode fewer words to perform their functions. In view of the difficulty in situating the data in a particular aspect of the news item, the findings may be somewhat generalizations and not responding to critical and specific issues in the research site. Since the work is situated in domain of political discourse, the work

could have highlighted some discourse and rhetorical structures that are admitted at the major stages of the story.

A scrutiny of the work reveals that there are no clear boundaries set between Traditional Grammar and that Functional Grammar in the discussion of the data as the work is approached from Systemic Functional perspective. Since the two schools of thought complement each other, it becomes extremely important to show the correlations that exist between the Systemic Functional syntactic elements and their Traditional Grammar counterparts. This is a situation which would help bridge the gap between the theories. One of the merits of the study is that the study has stressed the renditions of the various transitivity processes but the peculiarities and the uniqueness of the media houses are hardly obvious.

Roohani and Esmaeili (2010) uses data collected from 6th to 29th April in the year, 2010 sampled 320 newspaper headlines of which 160 headlines are from each of the two newspapers. The study is Contrastive Rhetoric (CR) research which addresses the way various text types and/or genres may differ across cultures and languages (Connor, 1996). This study attempts to characterize the linguistic structures of headlines in the sports section of two English newspapers: one non-Iranian (*The Times*) and one Iranian (*Tehran Times*). The analysis is done based on a 3-week corpus of the headlines. The various syntactic and lexical features of the headlines sampled from both newspapers are analyzed contrastively. Qualitative and quantitative analyses of the syntactic and lexical features indicate that the sports headlines of both newspapers share some similarities in terms of using dynamic and stative verbs, headline types (verbal and nominal), voice (passive and active), tense (simple past), aspect (present, progressive), and time (future), and functional types-statement, question, and command. Moreover, there are significant quantitative

differences in the types of headlines depending on whether they are simple, complex, and compound. Apart from the quantitative differences, there are variations in types of modification which are Pre-modification and Post-modification of noun groups in the headlines; type of nouns -proper, common, and acronym and exclamation type of headlines. It becomes apparent that the study has some implications on pedagogy.

Though the study used as high as 160 newspaper headlines, they are limited to some days in a particular month. The limitation on the space of time is possible to prevent the emergence of some linguistic features that the papers could have recorded. This is because the various media houses employ different strategies in reporting the diverse kinds of news items that they encounter. There is the likelihood that some stories were not recorded during that time of some months and so some linguistic structures would not be featured at all in the composition of the headlines. For instance, if no criminal offences were committed during the month under consideration, a great deal of relevant information that would motivate some linguistic elements would be lost. This could be one of the reasons for which preference is given to the usage of the active voice as against passive transformations which are characteristic of newspaper headlines. Apart from the passive construction, there is a range of linguistic information that the study could have discovered if the parameters of the time frame within which the collection of data is done is actually broadened. It is also important to mention that the use two newspaper agencies may not reflect the reality of the media landscape in the setting where the study was conducted. If the research site were widened, more findings would have been recorded. Nevertheless, the employment of both qualitative and quantitative features serve as confirmation and support to the findings of the research from the two dimensions or approaches.

2.4 Conclusion

A great deal of research works relating to the topic under consideration have been reviewed. Nonetheless, it is transparent that they hardly satisfy all the elements of the theoretical framework-Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) and the data opted for the current research. This is a condition which necessitates further exploration and investigation of the topic in order to ascertain its other perspectives and features. The general observation made based on the studies reviewed is that many of the researches are conducted in the area of Semantics and Critical Discourse Analysis (Bucaria, 2004; Osunnga, 2017; Taha, 1983). A few of the works reviewed approach analysis of newspaper headlines from Pragmatics perspective (Ninni, 2017). This presupposes that, for instance, the syntax of newspaper headlines requires more consideration so that more findings are made available in this regard. The need also arises to consider other factors such as methodology and theoretical framework adopted for analyzing newspaper headlines. Baddock (1988) points out a characteristic feature of newspaper headlines that are not found in general use of language. This implies that there is a source or kind of language discovered in the study which is not found in conventional language. This variety of language points to the uniqueness and the peculiarity of the language of newspaper headlines which contrasts usual and general use of language. Apart from all these, it is worth considering the languages that are used in the composition of the phenomenon which is being investigated. There is still a huge gap in terms of whether the language considered for the studies on newspaper headlines is international, dialectal or local.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the methodological approaches that are used for the study. It also explains how the study is conducted and how data are obtained as well as analyzed. It covers the following sub-headings: area of the study, research design, population for the study, sampling and sampling technique, data collection instrument, data collection procedure, data analysis, ethical considerations and conclusion.

3.1 Research Approach and Design

Predominantly, this research adopts a qualitative research approach. The qualitative research approach is suitable for analyzing newspaper headlines inasmuch as the setting of the data is situated in a real life situation. As a result of this, the research process is devoid of artificial elements but promotes credibility and true reflection of the reality of the research findings.

The research design adopted for the study is case study which is a qualitative research strategy that investigates a person, a group, events, periods, policies, institutions among others in a holistic manner and in a real life context. According to Kerlinger (1986, p. 279) “a research design is a plan, structure and strategy of investigation so conceived as to obtain answers to research questions or problems”. The planning as to how the study is conducted is determined by the typology of the research design(s). The approaches together with the length and breadth of the study is instrumental in this case. The researcher makes appropriate decisions in terms of the study design by considering factors such as definition of problem, objectives of the research and

financial issues. It is obvious that this section explains all decisions and mechanisms employed in undertaking a research in general (Sekaran, 2003). A great deal of factors including the research problem, research objective, the kind of research design, time frame and other resources are essentially considered and defined with clarity. This type of design ensures a holistic review of the Newspaper Headlines. It makes provision for in-depth understanding of the problem being reviewed and ensures a credible platform to examine the data extensively. The design also reduces chances of bias and helps in reflecting the reality of the data. As a case study, the study identifies its research site in the following.

3.2 Research Site

This identifies and defines the specific setting where the relevant data collected for the study is located. As far as this section is concerned, the boundaries within which the data collection is done is made clear. Research site identifies the setting from which the data for the research is collected. The data slated for the study are taken from the print media, specifically websites of five newspaper networks in Ghana. These newspapers are the *Daily Graphic*, the *Ghanaian Chronicles*, the *Daily Guide*, the *Insight* and the *Daily Dispatch* newspapers. Besides the fact that these sources mentioned above facilitate easy accessibility, a common rationale for these choices is that source credibility is highly achieved from the population that the data are collected.

3.3 Research Population

Polit and Hungler (1999, p. 37) refers to the population as “an aggregate or totality of all the objects, subjects or members that conform to a set of specifications”. The population actually presents the data from a broader perspective which needs to be

made definite and specific through the sampling and sampling technique of the study. The research population represents the totality of newspaper headlines in Ghana. Nevertheless, all the newspaper headlines could not be investigated due to a number of reasons which include time, finance and restrictions from the institution of study.

3.4 Sampling and Sampling Technique

The data sampling activity requires that it is performed with a high sense of purposiveness due to the sampling technique adopted as established by (Obeng-Appiah, 2015). Purposefully, the newspaper headlines (data) were selected from the years, 2018 to 2019 from the domains of politics, sports, religion, finance, health, education, foreign affairs and security. The sampling was done based on the identified categories of headlines such as politics, sports and security after they were downloaded online. One of the rationales of using purposive sampling technique is that it describes the sampling parameters of the pieces of data in terms, participants, settings, events, processes, among other factors. Twelve newspaper headlines each which are selected from five different newspapers are used for the study. The sampling technique also helps in focusing on particular characteristics of the population that are of great interest to the researcher. In all, 60 headlines are collected for the analysis. The data for this research enterprise were taken from the Daily Graphic, the Ghanaian Chronicle, the Daily Guide, The Daily Dispatch and the Insight newspapers respectively. The newspaper headlines were downloaded from the various websites of the newspaper corporations or networks.

3.5 Research Tool and Data Collection Procedure

Some scholars acknowledge the early work of Webb, Campbell, Schwartz, and Sechrest (1966) for adopting and pioneering several methods of data collection which

are characteristically and relatively unobtrusive and nonparticipatory. These methods of collecting data include document and artifact analyses which Goetz and LeCompte (1984) describes as things which people make or create. In this context, artifact does not imply the orthodox understanding of ancient, historical objects usually found underground. Artifacts include both artificial and natural objects that could be touched or handled and are used for performing daily routines and rituals. Some examples of artifacts are reading books, newspapers, magazines, furniture, bowls, décor, television, lamps and diaries. Guidelines for artifact collection are provided by Goetz and LeCompte (1984) identify four activities and guidelines for data collection in document and artifact analyses: "locating artifacts, identifying the material, analyzing it, and evaluating it." In relation with the topic of this thesis, the newspapers are located, the headlines are identified based on the purposive sampling technique, they are coded, analyzed and evaluated based on the research questions and the theoretical framework (p. 155). Hodder (1984) posits that artifacts help in interpreting and describing culture and cultural change, a theory of material culture. Content analysis of prose, cultural materials such as folktales, myths, and other literature. In addition, educational technologists could be a fraction of document-and-artifact category of qualitative methodology (Pelto and Pelto, 1978; Manning and Cullum-Swan, 1994). As part of the data collection, the newspaper headlines that are used for the study were downloaded from the various websites of the newspaper corporations, handwritten, typed and saved in the Google Drive account and Google mail account, dprattman6@gmail.com respectively. Specifically, the newspapers serve as a research tool which helped in sampling of the headlines.

3.6 Data Analysis Procedure

The data analysis is done based on the research questions and objectives of the study as well as the theoretical framework adopted for the study. In qualitative research, data analysis includes one of the crucial processes which involve aggregation of the pieces of data into smaller themes. This approach to analyzing the data provides a meaningful sense of orientation and direction at this juncture of the research work. Practically, after the newspaper headlines have been collected, scanned, organized and prepared for analysis, they are taken through a process known as coding. The concept of coding in this context is about organizing the data or the newspaper headlines into categories or themes. There are basically three approaches to coding which include development of codes or themes based on emerging information from the data (newspaper headlines), codes could also be predetermined to absorb the data where applicable and finally, a combination of both dimensions to which the study subscribes (Creswell, 2013). The predetermined approach is used in grouping the newspaper headlines into phrases and sentences which could be categorized into indicative mood (declaratives and interrogatives), on one hand and the imperative mood on the other hand. Also, the newspaper headlines that appear in the form of sentences would be investigated to ascertain whether they have undergone some grammatical or syntactic categories such as passivisation (voice) and ellipsis. Moreover, after the general structures of the newspaper headlines are identified, the **six transitivity processes** and **transitivity hypothesis** of SFG are employed to investigate the clausal or syntactic elements and their correspondent functions or roles in the newspaper headlines. Similarly, the syntactic composition and functions of the words used in the phrasal newspaper headlines will be investigated. Furthermore, the analysis would be conducted in a manner to encompass other relevant tenets and

components of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) adopted for the study. The approach to analyzing the data ensures validity, systematicness and logical presentation of the information in the research in general as noted that “valid analysis is immensely aided by data displays that are focused enough to permit viewing of a full data set in one location and are systematically arranged to answer the research question at hand” (Huberman and Miles, 1994, p. 432). The newspaper headlines would be analyzed to reflect the central issues, ideas, beliefs, and so on according to SFG and how the media had reported them. “Identifying salient themes, recurring ideas or language, and patterns of belief that link people and settings together is the most intellectually challenging phase of the analysis and one that can integrate the entire endeavour” (Marshall and Ross, 1995, p. 114). The discussion includes tables that are used to serve as adjuncts to the analysis in order to migrate the concepts and ideas from being abstract to concrete so as to promote brevity, clarity and simplicity.

3.7 Ethical Considerations

The headlines are carefully presented and analyzed as they were published and their sources credited accordingly in order to avoid changes in the wording and meaning as intended by the various newspaper editors.

3.8 Conclusion

This chapter has dealt with the methodological procedures which are the research design, research site, data size, data collection procedure, data collection tool and data analysis procedure of the study. Chapter four would analyze and discuss the research questions.

CHAPTER FOUR

DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSIONS

4.0 Introduction

In consonance with the research questions outlined for this study, this chapter analyzes the data collected for this research work. The analysis is performed using a triangular approach which draws a correlation among the research questions, the elements of the theoretical framework and the data.

RQ1. What are the syntactic structures (forms) of the selected Newspaper Headlines in Ghana?

RQ2. What roles do the elements in the syntactic structures of the newspaper headlines play?

4.1 Analysis of Sentential Newspaper Headlines

This section discusses newspaper headlines that are sentential in structure and these include the ones that grammaticalise the declarative mood, interrogative mood and imperative mood. The analysis would be done to showcase the relationship that exists between the structure (form) and function of the clausal elements in the newspaper headlines.

4.1.1 Declarative Newspaper Headlines

One of the sentential newspaper headlines employed by the newspaper networks is the declarative mood. This kind of headline has some distinctive features that makes it different from the other types like the imperative and interrogative. The following are the examples of the declarative newspaper headlines as sampled from the data.

1. Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics
2. DNA process begins as four families avail themselves.
3. GJA calls for stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists.
4. Rotary club Accra –Labone donates sanitary towels to Accra psychiatric Hospital.
5. Newly appointed dean promises to transform UCC Faculty of Arts.
6. Man, 30, arrested for incest
7. 5 reasons why eating crab is good for you.
8. Ghana wildlife descends on pangolin traffickers
9. Use of data is critical to achieving SDGS
10. Confusion rocks Tarkwa Midwifery school
11. UNICEF creates digital platform for youth to share ideas.
12. I’m a Missionary, Not Mercenary
13. Robbers shoot mobile money vender.
14. Foreign Minister visits Russia.
15. BOG directs Rural Banks to Minimum Capital.
16. Government holds African Green.
17. STORMING BREMPONG HOME WITHOUT COURT WARRANT WAS WRONG.
18. GHANAIS LIVING ABROAD SENT HOME US\$3.8BN IN 2018.
19. LUXEMBOURG PRIME MINISTETR VISITS MEXICO WITH GAY PANTER.
20. CELEBRITIES HAVE LITTLE INFLUENCE OVER HOW PEOPLE VOTE.
21. J.J. DECLINING RENAMING OF UDS AFTER HIM.

22. NATIONAL HOUSE OF CHIEFS BLAME POLITICIANS FOR GHANA'S WOES.
23. CHIEFS PREVENTING MINING ARE FLOUNTING GHANAIAN LAWS.
24. CUBA FIGHTS US SANCTIONS
25. CDD Rejects Proposed New Chamber for MPs
26. Teachers Defy GOVT
27. New Coup D'etat In Venezuela Failed
28. Ghana Armed Forces Warned Public
29. UNICEF Worried over Rising Child Groom Marriage

NOTE: the differences in the case of the letters in analysis are based on exactly how the headlines were published by the various newspaper agencies.

Analysis of Declarative Newspaper Headlines as part of research questions 1 &2

One of the declarative Newspaper Headlines is **The world needs men and women who cannot be bought.** This newspaper headline has some morphological and syntactic features which help in the realization of the Process, Participants and Circumstances as proposed by the Ideational Metafunction of Systemic Functional Grammar. These features are explained in the following.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| <u>The</u> | <u>world</u> | <u>needs</u> | <u>men</u> | <u>and</u> | <u>women</u> | <u>who</u> | <u>cannot</u> | <u>be</u> | <u>bought</u> |
| ART | NOUN | PRED | NOUN | CONJ | NOUN | RP | VERB | PHRASE | |
| | NP | PRED | | | NP | | | | |
| SUBJECT | | PRED | | | DIRECT OBJECT | | | | |
| POSSESSOR | PROCESS | | | | POSSESSED | | | | |

Considering the newspaper headline *The world needs men and women who cannot be bought*, the following analysis is done based on the category of the Process *needs*. The

newspaper headline is parsed using the structure below to reflect the possessor-possessive relationship.

Table 4. 1: A representation of the Relational Process needs

| Possessor/Carrier | Process | Possessed/Attribute |
|-------------------|---------|------------------------------------|
| The world | needs | men and women who cannot be bought |

The notions of not possessing (*lack, need*) and the notion of being worthy to possess (*deserve*) are encoded by the verb *needs*. The Process *needs* encodes the noun phrase *men and women who cannot be bought* which functions as the Direct Object and major Participant or Argument in the headline. Another focal Participant, the Subject is semantically and cognitively, a functional category which admits other clausal elements predicated to it. The prototypical subject is a primary Argument in the clause which has the strongest claim to the cognitive status of Topic. Who or what the clausal message principally concerns is the Topic. This implies that in finite, active and declarative clauses of „doing“, the Subject is encoded semantically as an Agent who or which carries out the action in the clause. Other roles aligned with the subject include the Affected in a passive clause, Experiencer in a mental process, Recipient in a passive clause among other semantic functions. This kind of *men and women* are needed to ensure the realization of the development agenda of the state. It is expected that *The world* should be an entailment of the *men and women* described or identified in the newspaper headline. The process admits two main participants or arguments that need further syntactic investigations. Since the valency of the verb is two (2) or the process is a bivalent type, it admits a Subject as a Possessor and Direct Object as a Possessed respectively as shown on the table (2) above.

4.1.2 Syntactic Features of the Subject (Possessor) *the World* in the Newspaper Headline

The Subject performs its syntactic function which is realized by its position, concord, pronominalisation and its reflection in question tags as used in clauses or sentences. Semantically, nearly all participant roles could be connected to the subject and cognitively, it is that clausal element which has the highest plausibility of functioning as Topic in a specific clause in context. Prototypically, the realization of the subject is based on a Noun Group (NG), together with a good deal of other linguistic elements even like clauses or sentence (Downing and Locke, 2006). The Newspaper Headline explains further the claims made above.

1. *The world needs men and women...*

As a declarative clause, the subject *The world is* present or overt unlike structures that are imperative or some imperatives. The Subject encodes a simple Noun Phrase which has a determiner *The* in a pre-modification position. The simplicity of the Subject is motivated by the fact that traditionally Newspaper Headlines are formed with fewer words to depict high magnitude of semantic import. The two-word-Subject has been used to represent people from different parts of the country and the world.

The relevance of the Subjects in the delivery of the information by the Newspaper Headline is crucial. The Subject in this case is a grammatical metaphor of people whose needs should be addressed. The Subject is a representation of people in the various sectors of the economy which should be manned with a certain caliber of people. The subject is an embodiment of the state of the country or the world at large. Through the use of the Noun Phrase, a reportage is delivered with the aim of informing the citizenry so that whatever is needed by the *The world* is addressed

accordingly. Through this Noun Phrase the current state of the world is known. The choice of the Declarative structure is suitable for the delivery of this information other than the Imperative structure. As mentioned earlier, the verb involves the Subject in a Carrier or the Possessor function and the Object in a Possessed function.

4.1.3 Syntactic and Semantic Features of the Direct Object *Men and Women who cannot be Bought*

Apart from the subject and the predicator, the Direct Object also assumes the position of one of the most central clause constituents. One of the crucial features of the Direct Object is that it occurs only in clauses that have transitive verbs such as *receive*, *buy* and *send*. Transitive verbs often accept one or two objects together with other clausal elements. These verbs appear in the following structures with their Objects: SPO (*carry*), type S-P-Oi-Od (*send*), and S-P-O-C (*find*) (Zandvoort, 1976; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973). The newspaper headline under discussion has the verb *needs* which features Direct Object which is italicized in the sentence or Newspaper Headline below.

1. The world needs *men and women who cannot be bought*.

The Direct Object, *men and women who cannot be bought* is possible based on the transitive verb (Relational Process) *need*. In this newspaper headline, the Participant which grammaticalises the Direct Object is a complex Noun Phrase which has the irregular nouns *men and women* as the head of the Noun Phrase (NP). The head has a post-modifier which is a Relative Clause which is an embedded clause. The concept of embedding is basically a phrase or a clause which is rankshifted so that it subordinately becomes part of an element of a clause, in this case the Object (Chalker and Weiner, 1994). Though Newspaper Headlines often employ constructions like

Agentive Passivisation to economize words, the Direct Object couldn't have been ellipted. The rationale behind the maintenance of that part of the Newspaper Headline is that it serves as an Attribute of the Subject *The world*. The Attribute describes what the subject should be composed of. The Direct Object *men and women who cannot be bought* comes right after the Possessive Process *needs* in the absence of an Indirect Object in the Newspaper Headline under consideration. The Newspaper Headlines depended on the Noun Phrases below which functions as the Direct Object to inform the readers on the current state of *The world* and what it should possess.

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| <u>men</u> | <u>and</u> | <u>women</u> | <u>who</u> | <u>cannot be</u> | <u>bought</u> |
| <u>NOUN</u> | <u>CONJ</u> | <u>NOUN</u> | <u>RP</u> | <u>AUX VERB</u> | <u>LEXICAL VERB</u> |
| <u>NOUN PHRASE</u> | | <u>SUBJ</u> | <u>VERB PHRASE</u> | | |
| <u>ANTECEDENT</u> | | <u>RELATIVE CLAUSE</u> | | | |
| <u>HEADWORD</u> | | <u>POST-MODIFIER</u> | | | |
| <u>NOUN PHRASE/ NOUN GROUP</u> | | | | | |

The analysis above presupposes that the whole structure functions as the Direct Object which could be generally described as a Noun Group (NG). This Noun Phrase describes the structure of the Systemic Functional Ideational Participant adopted in the composition of this newspaper headline.

Furthermore, the Direct Object could, generally speaking, be „promoted“ to assume the position of a subject in a corresponding passive construction. The promotion of the Direct Object to a Subject position is motivated by factors such as the need to highlight some information in the clause among others. The passivisation of the newspaper headline is done in the following.

1. The world needs *men and women who cannot be bought* (active).

2. *Men and women who cannot be bought* are needed by the world (Agentive passive).
3. *Men and women who cannot be bought* are needed (Agentless passive).

Through transformational relations in which the positions of the Subject and Object are exchanged, the passivisation enterprise is achieved. The Object *men and women who cannot be bought* now assumes the position of a Subject whilst the Subject now functions as an Object in a by-phrase which is known as agentive passive as in point (2) above. Conversely, the by-phrase is absent in point (3) which is described as agentless passive as explained by (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973). Usually, the by-phrase is excluded to achieve economy of words in Newspaper Headlines or if it is unknown or irrelevant. The active voice emphasizes the doer of the action and the passive voice emphasizes the recipient of the action in a particular structure. The passive constructions could also be another strategy for the publication of the news item in question.

Furthermore, through questions introduced with the *wh*-elements *Who(m)? What? Which? How much/ many?* and by *wh*-clefts, the Direct Objects could be tested for. A cleft sentence is used when one element of the original sentence is emphasized, often as a way of excluding other possibilities (Nelson, 2001). The grammatical element which is emphasized in a cleft construction is termed the *focus*. Cleft sentences are introduced with the pronoun *it*, and the verbal element usually takes the form of *be*. The pattern of a cleft sentence is presented with the newspaper headline under consideration in **Table 4.2**.

Table 4.2: A Cleft Sentence Introduced with the Pronoun *It*

| It | Be | Focus | Clause |
|-----------|-----------|---|----------------------|
| It | is | <i>men and women who cannot be bought</i> | that the world needs |

The cleft construction has helped in emphasizing an aspect of the headline which is the Object in that particular structure above and below. **Table 4.2** represents the traditional pattern of cleft construction and **Table 4.3** involves *wh*-cleft construction. Though there is a disparity in the structure between the two cleft constructions, the focus or the emphasis laid on the Object of the sentence is the same.

Table 4.3: *Wh*-cleft construction

| Wh-element | Be | Focus |
|----------------------|-----------|---|
| What the world needs | is | <i>men and women who cannot be bought</i> |

One distinctive feature of the *wh*-cleft construction is the introduction of the *wh*-element which combines with the element described as *clause* in the traditional cleft pattern. The other elements like the *be* and the *focus* are parallel in both constructions. As proposed by SFG, the two typologies of cleft construction create a paradigm from which a choice could be made in the newspaper publication depending upon the speech act or the function being performed.

4.1.4 Applying the Concept of Transitivity in SFG to this Newspaper Headline

From the semantic perspective, a prototypical Direct Object exhibits features of high-transitivity which involves a process of „doing“. In this case, the referent's state or location is somewhat affected. The Direct Object may assume various semantic roles including Instrument, Phenomenon which is experienced like pain, etc, Affected Locative and Range (Downing & Locke, 2006). Apart from the traditional approach to analyzing the concept of transitivity as verbs that admit objects and verbs that do

not, another further way is the „transitivity hypothesis.“ In this vein, the phenomenon is considered from the perspective of gradation, based on a number of factors. These factors are outlined in the following **Table 4.4** (Downing & Locke, 2006).

Table 4.4: A Representation of the Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process Needs

| ITEMS | FACTORS | INTERPRETATIONS |
|-------|---------------|---|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | 2 or more participants or 1 participant |
| B | KINESIS | action or non-action |
| C | ASPECT | telic (end-point) or atelic (no end-point) |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | punctual or non-punctual |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | volitional or non-volitional |
| F | AFFIRMATION | affirmative or negative |
| G | MODE | realis (declarative) or irrealis |
| H | AGENCY | Agent high in potency or Agent low in potency |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | Object totally affected or Object not affected |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Object highly individuated or Object non-individuated |

Downing & Locke (2006).

Now that the tenets of the transitivity hypothesis are established, the newspaper headline *The world needs men and women who cannot be bought* would be fed into it to ascertain how the various elements of the hypothesis are reflected. The transitivity table is shown below in **Table 4.4**. Where NA in the transitivity table below means not applicable.

Table 4.5: Transitivity Hypothesis for the Process Needs

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|-------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | NA | Non-action verb |
| C | ASPECT | NA | atelic (no end-point) |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | NA | non-punctual |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | Volitional | NA |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | realis (declarative) | NA |
| H | AGENCY | Agent high in potency | NA |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | Object totally affected | NA |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Object highly individuated | NA |

Though the Process under consideration accepts two Participants, a Subject and a Direct Object, it does not involve any particular action and so it does not satisfy the high transitivity features of Kinesis, Aspect and Punctuality. Apart from these features of low transitivity exhibited by the verb in the newspaper headline, all the other factors that determine high transitivity are present. This makes the verb used in the newspaper headline exhibit more features of high transitivity as stipulated by the hypothesis. The choice of the Simple Present Tense is suitable in the publication of the story. As a unique feature of Newspaper Headlines, the application of this tense makes the news item assume a state of currency, and urgency. The use of the Simple Present Tense helps influence public opinion as one of the crucial functions of the (Print) Media. The tense form of the verb also makes the Newspaper publication realistic and hypothetical.

4.1.5 The role of embedding clauses in realizing Participants in Ideational Metafunction

A critical look at the structure of the newspaper headline above reveals that the concept of embedding is applicable in this situation. The embedded clause *who cannot be bought* serves as a post-modification to the head of the Direct Object *men and women*. Though the Noun Phrase entails a whole clause embedded in the post-modification position, it is not analyzed as a subordinate clause to a main clause but it is an adjectival clause which helps in identifying the kind of *men and women* the world needs. Considering the structure of the Noun Phrase in general, a good deal of elements are embedded in the post-modification position. These elements include Prepositional Phrases (PP), *-ing* clauses, and *-ed* clauses (Downing and Locke, 2006). The headline is represented in the **table 4.6** below.

Table 4.6: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process Needs

| A | B | C |
|-----------|----------|------------------------------------|
| The world | needs | men and women who cannot be bought |
| SUBJECT | PROCESS | DIRECT OBJECT |

The sentence or newspaper headline under consideration contains various grammatical elements that require analysis. The various sentential constituents would first be identified and analyzed accordingly to reflect how they correspond to the elements of the ideational metafunction. The presence of the Embedded Clause or the Relative Clause in the structure of the Noun Phrase that functions as the Direct Object is crucial in the nature of the world which is expected to be developed since the current one lacks some attributes.

The example below is another newspaper headline which encodes the declarative structure.

2. Analysis across Africa shows how Social Media is Changing Politics

The declarative illocutionary force usually thrives on syntactic structures which include SV, SVO, SVC, SVOC, and ASV. Generally, the declarative encodes the two major elements in sentential analysis which are the Subject and Predicate. This newspaper headline is in the form of a simple sentence, which contains the Subject, *Analysis across Africa* which is a Noun Phrase, the Verb *shows* and a *wh*-interrogative clause which functions as a single grammatical units, Object. Generally, verbs are classified into a number of Processes as stipulated by Systemic Functional Grammar (Halliday, 1985). One of these classifications is the Mental Process which depicts processes of sensing. This category is further divided into processes of perception (seeing, hearing, etc.); processes of affection (liking, fearing, etc.) and processes of

cognition (thinking, knowing, understanding, etc.). The mental processes encode two participants which are the *senser* and the *phenomenon*. The *senser* is usually a conscious being or participant that is feeling, thinking, or seeing whilst the *phenomenon* is the thing which is felt, thought, seen or broadly speaking, the thing which is sensed or experienced (Downing and Locke, 2006). From the Newspaper Headline, the verb *shows* belongs to the cognitive category of mental processes. Semantically, the verb *shows* makes provision for or deposits a piece of information to the reading community of that respective newspaper. The verb is used to cite an empirical evidence to buttress a claim *how social media is changing politics*. The claim that provides the empirical evidence is adduced from the Noun Phrase (NP) *Analysis across Africa* which is one of the major Participants as proposed by the Ideational Metafunction of SFG. The mental faculty of the reading public of this particular newspaper is fed with the assertion in question using the Mental Process *shows* in the headline. The convergence between the Subject and the Sensor on one hand and the Object and the Phenomenon on other hand in the newspaper headline is represented in the **table 4.7** below.

Table 4.7: Arguments admitted by the Transitivity Process *Shows*

| Subject | Verb | Object |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Analysis across Africa | shows | how social media is changing politics |
| S | V | O |
| Sensor | Process | Phenomenon |

From the table is a representation of how the Process *shows*, which is a bivalent verb encodes the two Participants the Sensor (*Analysis across Africa*) and the Phenomenon (*how social media is changing politics*). Interestingly, the Object or the Participants is an embedded clause but functions as a grammatical unit. Further analysis of the newspaper headline is administered below.

Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics.

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| <u>NOUN</u> | <u>PREP</u> | <u>NOUN</u> | <u>VERB</u> | <u>RP</u> | <u>ADJ</u> | <u>NOUN</u> | <u>HV</u> | <u>LV</u> | <u>NOUN</u> |
| HEAD | POST-MOD | VERB | RP | MOD | HEAD | VP | | | NOUN |
| <u>NOUN PHRSE</u> | | <u>VERB</u> | <u>RP</u> | <u>NP</u> | | <u>VP</u> | | | <u>NOUN</u> |
| SUBJECT | | VERB | | | | OBJECT | | | |
| SENSOR | | PROCESS | | | | PHENOMENON | | | |

As part of the relational structure of the clause, the nucleus (verb) exhibits the features of finiteness. Scholars including Chomsky (1977, 1981), use [+tense] in their description of finite clauses, which could in turn be classified as [\pm past]. In some languages such as English, finite verbs form the locus of a repository of grammatical information. Other grammatical categories of a finite verb are *person* which are exemplified as 1st, 2nd, or 3rd (I/we, you, he/she/it/they); *number* e.g. singular or plural (or dual); *aspect* e.g. perfective or progressive; *mood*; e.g. indicative, subjunctive, imperative, and optative; *voice* i.e. active or passive; polarity which is a negative or positive marking category (Chalker and Weiner, 1994; Downing and Locke, 2006; Van-Valin and LaPolla, 1997; Burton-Roberts, 1975). The finiteness features of the sentence or the newspaper headline are indicated below in the **table 4.8**.

Table 4.8: Features of Finiteness

| No | Finite Element | Finiteness Feature |
|----|----------------|--|
| 1 | Tense | Present (shows) |
| 2 | Number | Singular (Analysis...shows) |
| 3 | Mood | Indicative (Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics) |
| 4 | Polarity | Positive (shows is used without words like not, never, no, hardly, scarcely, etc.) |
| 5 | Voice | Active (shows) |
| 6 | Person | Third Person Singular (Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics; It shows how social media is changing politics) |

(Downing & Locke, 2006)

The finite verb is a constant element which usually licenses a subject to form a finite clause. Nevertheless, in the cases of imperatives and elliptical structures which are also finite clauses, the subject is covert. The furtherance of the finiteness and transitivity of the Process or the Verb is performed using the transitivity hypothesis in the following.

4.1.6 The Transitivity Hypothesis is Applied to the Process *shows* as Used in the Newspaper Headline

Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics below.

Table 4.9: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process Verb *Shows*

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|-------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | NA | Non-action verb |
| C | ASPECT | NA | atelic (no end-point) |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | NA | non-punctual |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | Volitional | NA |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | realis (declarative) | NA |
| H | AGENCY | NA | Agent low in potency |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | NA | Object not affected |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Object highly individuated | Object not highly individuated. |

Though the verb *shows* is a transitive verb, it doesn't show all the features of high transitivity. Some features like Kinesis, Aspect, Punctuality and Agency which contribute to making the process highly transitive are missing in the transitivity table.

The newspaper headline below is an example of the declarative structure which is analyzed in the following.

3. Rotary club of Accra-Labone donates sanitary towels to Accra Psychiatric Hospital.

Van-Valin and LaPolla (1997) posits that it is crucial to do a morphosyntactic but not just syntax or just morphology in order to achieve certain linguistic details even at cross-linguistic level. The morphosyntactic composition of the clausal elements in the newspaper headline in question would be identified. Before this is done, the newspaper headline would be parsed into clausal elements as indicated in the **table 4.10 below.**

Table 4.10: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Donates*

| Subject (S) | Process | Direct object | Oblique/Prepositional Object |
|-----------------------------|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Rotary club of Accra-Labone | donates | sanitary towels | to Accra Psychiatric Hospital |
| S | V | Od | Prep. Object |

Considering the linear organization of the elements in a clause which is in consonance with the 'linear precedence' rules as posited by Van-Valin and LaPolla (1997), this particular headline exhibits a good deal of clausal constituents. The Material Process *donates* licenses two major Participant roles, an Actor and a Goal according to Halliday (1985b) in his work *An Introduction to Functional Grammar*. The Actor is encoded in a complex noun phrase, „Rotary club of Accra-Labone“ with its own syntactic constituents. According to Van-Valin and LaPolla (1997), the Noun Phrase (NP) as a single syntactic argument has a nominal nucleus or the head (club) that admits adpositional phrases as a post-modifier of the head (of Accra-Labone) which in this case is a Prepositional Phrase and *Rotary*, a pre-modifier of the nucleus. The (noun) phrases in the headline under consideration are analyzed morphosyntactically below.

Rotary club of Accra-Labone donates sanitary towels to Accra Psychiatric Hospital
 ADJ NOUN PREP NOUN NOUN VERB ADJ NOUN PREP ADJ ADJ NOUN
 ADJ NOUN PREP PHRASE VERB ADJ NOUN PREP ADJ PHRASE NOUN
PreM HEAD Post-MODIFIER VERB PM NOUN PREP NOUN PHRASE
NOUN PHRASE VERB NOUN PHRASE PREP NOUN PHRASE
 SUBJECT PROCESS DIRECT OBJ OBLIQUE

The preposition *to* licenses the NP „Accra Psychiatric Hospital“ in the newspaper headline; the NP is not only a function of the meaning of the verb *donates* but also the preposition *to*. It must be noted that unlike the verb *gives*, if the Material Process *donates* is used without the preposition *to*, a different meaning is realized all together considering the Participants it admits as a trivalent verb. The two verbs are juxtaposed in the following sentences.

- i. Rotary club of Accra-Labone *donates* sanitary towels to Accra Psychiatric Hospital.
- ii. Rotary club of Accra-Labone *donates* Accra Psychiatric Hospital sanitary towels*.
- iii. Rotary club of Accra-Labone *gives* sanitary towels to Accra Psychiatric Hospital.
- iv. Rotary club of Accra-Labone *gives* *Accra Psychiatric Hospital* *sanitary towels*.

As mentioned early on, the verb *donates* collocates with the preposition *to* so as to serve as an auxiliary in the realization of the concept of giving to the beneficiary *Accra Psychiatric Hospital*. In this context, the prepositions which license Objects are referred to as predicative adpositions whilst prepositions like *to* are used with the

lexical verb *give* which hardly license their Objects are described as non-predicative adpositions (Bresnan, 1982b) as cited by Van Valin and LaPolla (1981).

In consonance with transformational rules, the Indirect Object in the headline, “Rotary club of Accra-Labone *donates* sanitary towels to *Accra Psychiatric Hospital*” could assume a pre-core slot or position which is illustrated in the following.

i. To Accra Psychiatric Hospital Rotary club of Accra-Labone donates sanitary towels.

It is worth mentioning that there are some phrases which appear at sentence initial position but are different from the Argument which functions as the Oblique when it begins a clause. Firstly, the difference is found in the fact that the non-oblique phrases that appear in pre-verbal or pre-core positions are usually demarcated from their clauses through autosegmental features like intonation and break as well as punctuation mark, comma and secondly, if the non-oblique phrase plays the role of a semantic argument in a clause, there should be a pronoun which anaphorically refers to it in the same clause as established in (Van Valin and LaPolla, 1997).

As maintained by Downing and Locke (2006), adjectives have variety of origins based on the etymology of the word in question. The newspaper headline features adjectives that are derived from nouns (Accra), Greek or Latin origin (rotary, sanitary, psychiatric), which are used predicatively to modify the nouns, „club“, „towels“ and „Hospital“. These epithets form integral parts of the various noun groups or noun phrases that function as the core Arguments or Participants to help in the dissemination of the information contained in the newspaper headline to the target audience.

The analysis below shows another example of a declarative newspaper headline.

4. **Newly appointed dean promises to transform UCC Faculty of Arts.**

Table 4.11: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Promises*.

| SUBJECT | PROCESS | DIRECT OBJECT |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| Newly appointed dean | Promises | to transform UCC Faculty of Arts. |
| S | V | O |

Though this newspaper headline shares some morphological and syntactic similarities with *Rotary club of Accra-Labone donates sanitary towels to Accra Psychiatric Hospital* which was analyzed early on, there are some distinctive features in this particular one which needs to be investigated. The newspaper headline encodes a simple sentence with an S-V-O structure. Taking into consideration SFG's Ideational Metafunction, the Processes, Participants and Circumstances that make up this newspaper headline are investigated below (Halliday, 2002, Martin, 2010).

Newly appointed dean promises to transform UCC Faculty of Arts.

ADV ADJ NOUN VERB PREP VERB NG NOUN PREP NOUN
ADJ PHRASE NOUN VERB TO-INFI. NG NOUN ADJ PHRASE
MODIFIERS HEAD PROC COMPLEMTIZER COMPLEMENTATION
NOUN PHRASE PROC COMPLEMENT CLAUSE

SUBJECT PROC OBJECT

The Process used in the newspaper headline encodes Verbs of transfer (*give, lend*) and intended transfer (buy, get). These conform to the basic ditransitive pattern that has a Subject and two Objects which usually help in transferring goods or information from

one person to another. Moreover, this category of verbs accepts speech act verbs such as „offer“ and „promise“ (Downing and Locke, 2006). The Agent of transfer or intended transfer is the „Newly appointed dean“ who has the agenda of changing the state of the „UCC Faculty of Arts“ into a different condition. Though the headline is silent on the new state that the faculty is going to assume after the transformation, it adds up to the Agent of the transformation (Subject), and the current state of „UCC Faculty of Arts“ making the verb under consideration a trivalent type but the newspaper headline omits the third Participant since it is optional making it a bivalent verb.

Some present and past participles forms of verbs execute grammatical functions of adjectives as shown in this newspaper headline. Since SFG emphasizes cross-functionality of linguistic elements, these forms are recognized and accepted as adjectives. Morphologically, these adjectives are represented with concatenative features or suffixes *-ing*, *-en*, and *-ed* respectively. These Participial adjectives or Pseudo-participial adjectives include interesting, amazing, charming, disappointing, pleasing, animated, ashamed, assorted, sophisticated, spoken and written (Dykes, 2007; Downing and Locke, 2006).

Also, in Downing and Locke (2006), adverbs that are formed from adjectives through the addition of the suffix *-ly* belong to the category of adverbs described as derived adverbs. These adverbs include badly, happily, fairly, freely, slowly, proudly, honestly, cheerfully, sadly and warmly. They are usually described as adverbs of manner. The typology of adverbs captured in this case parallels the one employed in the headline, “*Newly appointed dean promises to transform UCC Faculty of Arts*”. As part of the noun phrase that encodes the subject of the sentence or the newspaper

headline, the derived adverb „newly“ qualifies the participial adjectival element „appointed“ which in turn pre-modifies the head of the noun phrase, „dean“. In Systemic Functional Grammar, these adjectives or epithets are key in contributing to the rendition of the Participants or Arguments that play various grammatical and semantic roles.

Institutionalized contexts like law, medicine, education and business sometimes encode Noun Groups (NG) as acronyms. These are initial letters which are pronounceable as words, or, if the pronunciation is not achieved, the initials of the words are used. Downing and Locke (2006) cites NATO: North Atlantic Treaty Organization, AIDS: Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, TEFL: Teaching English as a Foreign Language and VIP: Very Important Person as some examples. Zandvoort (1976) identifies these Noun Groups (NG) as abbreviations in the author's discussion of Word Formation Processes. The newspaper headline in question employs the Noun Group, „UCC“ probably to economize space and promote easy identification of the institution under consideration as it is usually done in Block Language of which newspaper headline is an example. This nominal contributes immensely to the encoding of the Noun Group (NG) leading to the realization of the Participants that the Transitivity Processes license.

It is incumbent to comment on the application of nonfinite clauses in encoding grammatical functions such as Subject, Object and Adjunct as established by Burton-Roberts (1961). As Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) promotes, apart from the traditional use of finite clauses that accept clausal functions, another optionality is encoded through nonfinite clauses. These clausal categories (clausal elements) could be realized by all five types of nonfinite clauses which are *to*-infinitive clauses, bare

infinitive clauses, *-ing* participle clauses, *-ed* participle clauses and Small Clauses. The newspaper headline digresses from the usage of the prototypical Noun Groups with finiteness but applies the non-finite element, *to transform UCC Faculty of Arts* functioning as the Direct Object as employed in the composition of the headline. This confirms the principle in Systemic Functional Grammar that there is no one-to-one correspondence between the form and function of the element on the rank scale (Halliday, 1985; Downing and Locke, 2006).

In addition, the form and function of the newspaper headline below grammaticalises the declarative structure is analyzed in the following.

The newspaper headline that follows is also an example of a declarative structure which is analyzed below.

5. Confusion rocks Tarkwa Midwifery School

According to the types of processes proposed in Systemic Functional Grammar, the newspaper headline above features the verb *rocks* which belongs to the material process category. Considering the valency of the verb, it is bivalent and as such actualizes two Participants which are Force and Affected. The participant described as Force accounts for natural phenomena such as earthquakes, lightning, electricity, avalanches, wind, tides and floods, which could affect human beings negatively. It is emphasized that psychological states including fear or joy and anxiety are entailment of these Participants. They are inanimate, and their power or energy cannot therefore be intentional. These Transitivity Processes could instigate a process but hardly control it. In the table below, the Process *rocks* actualizes *Confusion* as the Force and the Noun Phrase *Tarkwa Midwifery School* as the Patient or the Affected Participant.

Table 4.12: Arguments Admitted by the Process *Rocks*

| Confusion | rocks | Tarkwa Midwifery School |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Subject | Verb | Direct Object |
| Force | Material Process | Patient |

To further investigate the Transitivity Process *rocks* and its Participants, the Transitivity Hypothesis is employed.

Table 4.13: The Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process *Rocks*

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|--------------|----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | Action verb | NA |
| C | ASPECT | NA | Atelic(no end point) |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | NA | Non-punctual |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | NA | Non-volitional |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | realis (declarative) | NA |
| H | AGENCY | NA | Agent low in potency |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | NA | Object not affected |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Object highly individuated | NA |

The analysis on the table shows that the clause or the newspaper headline being considered is partially low or high in transitivity. The Material Process *rocks* does not satisfy some of the elements of High Transitivity such as Affectedness, Agency, Aspect, Punctuality and Volitionality. The process *rocks* does not license the transitivity features such as Agency, Punctuality and Volitionality because of the inanimate or non-human nature of the participant *Confusion* which functions as the Subject or Force in the newspaper headline.

In the declarative newspaper headline that follows, the clausal elements and their functions are analyzed.

6. Foreigner Minister visits Russia.

Another process to consider in the newspaper headline *Foreigner Minister visits Russia* is „visits“ which is also bivalent. It admits an Agent which is the Noun Phrase (NP) *Foreign Minister* and the Goal *Russia* in the form of a Locative as represented in the **Table 4.14** below.

Table 4.14: Arguments admitted by the Transitivity Process *Visits*

| Foreign Minister | Visits | Russia |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|
| Subject | Verb | Direct object |
| Agent | Material Process | Goal |

The clausal elements of the newspaper headline are investigated in order to ascertain its transitivity status and their functions. In fact, one of the instrumental features of this Material Process is that it possesses Volitionality since it is human. More of its transitivity features are analysed in the **Table 4.15** below.

Table 4.15: Transitivity Hypothesis of *Visits*

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | Action verb | NA |
| C | ASPECT | NA | Atelic |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | NA | Non-punctual |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | Volitional | NA |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | Realis (declarative) | NA |
| H | AGENCY | High in potency | NA |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | Affected | NA |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Individuated | NA |

Apart from the fact that it records low transitivity features in terms of Punctuality and Aspect, the verb *visits* exhibits high transitivity features in the other indicators in the transitivity table. This is a situation which makes it possess more transitivity intensity as compared with the low transitivity features. The high transitivity nature of the verb

visits contributes to the function of the Subject as the Agent or performer of the action in the newspaper headline.

7. BOG Directs Rural Banks to Minimize Capital

This newspaper headline adopts the Material Process *Directs* to admit the participants BOG as the Agent and *Rural Banks to Minimize Capital* as the Patient as represented in the **Table 4.16** below.

Table 4.16: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Directs*

| Bank of Ghana (BOG) | Directs | Rural Banks to Minimize Capital | |
|----------------------------|------------------|--|-------------------|
| Subject | Verb | Direct object | Complement Clause |
| Agent | Material Process | Affected/Patient | |

The Material Process *directs* encodes Direct Object, Rural Banks which is complemented with the Complement Clause *to Minimize Capital*. It is clear that the Process *directs* is performed by an animate entity or a human but the action is shifted to the institution BOG nevertheless the transitivity hypothesis reveals that the action of the verb is administered by a human being as shown in the **Table 4.17** and the elements the it actualizes.

Table 4.17: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process *Directs*

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | Action verb | NA |
| C | ASPECT | NA | Atelic |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | NA | Non-punctuated |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | Volitional | NA |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | Realis (declarative) | NA |
| H | AGENCY | High in potency | NA |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | Affected | NA |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Individuated | Partially low |

In addition to the above, the newspaper headline below is analyzed to reflect how it contributes to the form and functions of the elements in the declarative structure.

8. Ghanaians Living Abroad sent Home US\$3.8 billion in 2018

The material process *sent* is one of the verbs that is typically trivalent as used in the newspaper headline above. The complexity of this verb as employed in the headline is extremely high since it actualizes three participants, *GHANAIAN LIVING ABROAD*, *HOME* and *US\$3.8BN* as well as the Adverbial *IN 2018*. The participants and the circumstantial are represented in the **Table 4.18** below.

Table 4.18: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *SENT*

| Ghanaian living Abroad | Sent | Home | Us\$3.8bn | In 2018 |
|-------------------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| Subject | Verb | Locative | Direct Obj | Adverbial |
| Agent | Material process | Locative | Affected | Circumstance |

To justify the grammatical elements in the table above, the newspaper headline could be engaged in a passive construction. Since the verb encodes both Direct and Locative, it is the Direct Object which could be promoted to undergo a passive construction. One of the immediate rationales for which it is the Direct Object that directly receives the action of the verb and the element assumes the semantic function of a Locative. The promotion of the Direct Object to actualize the Subject or Theme or Topic is represented below. Likewise, the Adverbial *IN 2018* could move from clause final position to initial position in (3) below based on its mobility capacity and potentiality. According to the Ideational Metafunction, the adverbial *IN 2018* encodes the circumstances in which the process is performed.

1. *US\$3.8BN* was SENT (by GHANAISANS LIVING ABROAD).
2. *HOME was SENT *US\$3.8B* (by GHANAISANS LIVING ABROAD).
3. *IN 2018*, *US\$3.8BN* was SENT (by GHANAISANS LIVING ABROAD).

The construction at point (2) above is ungrammatical though in some cases it is possible to promote the Indirect Object or Locatives to become the Subject or Theme especially with the verb *give* as demonstrated below.

1. Rotary club Accra –Labone gives sanitary towels to Accra psychiatric Hospital.

In the newspaper headline above, both the Direct Object- *sanitary towels* and the Oblique Object *Accra psychiatric Hospital* could be realized as Subjects or Themes as indicated below.

1. *Sanitary towels* were given by Rotary club Accra –Labone.
2. *Accra psychiatric Hospital* was given sanitary towels.

As indicated, both objects have been transformed into Subjects or Themes based on the trivalent verb *give* as explicated in the points (5) and (6) above. The various structures whether declarative or passivized points to one of the principles of SFG which states that language has a paradigm or options from which the user could choose based on the function or the context that the language is applied. The transitivity analysis of the newspaper headline *GHANAISAN LIVING ABROAD SENT HOME US\$3.8BN IN 2018* is shown in the following in order to provide more information about the process (predicator) and the participants encoded in the newspaper headline.

Table 4.19: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process „Sent“

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|-------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | Action verb | NA |
| C | ASPECT | Telic | NA |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | Punctual | NA |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | Volitional | NA |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | Realis (declarative) | NA |
| H | AGENCY | High in potency | NA |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | Object totally affected | NA |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Individuated | NA |

It is apparent from the analysis that the verb *sent* possesses a high transitivity status. It has fulfilled all the criteria on the transitivity hypothesis table. The focus of the transitivity analysis is based on the Direct Object *US\$3.8BN* together with the material process *SENT* and the Agent of the action of the process *GHANAIAN LIVING ABROAD*. The high transitivity status is achieved by the participant *GHANAIAN LIVING ABROAD* which are human beings and possesses the features of Agency, Punctuality, Volitionality and others.

The form and function of the newspaper headline numbered (9) are analyzed below to show how help to answer the research questions 1 and 2.

9. GJA Calls for Stiffer Punishment for People who Attack Journalists

One exclusive feature about the verb phrase in this newspaper headline is that it encodes a preposition in a post-complementation position. This is a situation which makes it a prepositional verb. Prepositional verbs have some common features that make them unique in terms of their form. The Noun Group (NG) that follows the preposition admits an argument or a participant in the structure of the clause. The structure of the prepositional verb is in such a way that there is a preposition that is

connected to a particular verb which is usually described as a prepositional verb. In the absence of the preposition, the clause will be ungrammatically encoded or a different meaning will be construed. Prepositional verbs could permit an adverb inserted after the verb and a relative pronoun placed after the preposition. Moreover, some prepositional verbs engage their Objects as Subjects in a passive construction. It is also important to establish that, on one hand, if the language user pictures a blend between the verb and the preposition, the participant which comes after the preposition together with the verb is construed as Prepositional Object or the Oblique Object. On the contrary, if the verb in a prepositional verb is considered as a single lexical item, then the preposition plus the Noun Group (NG) becomes a Prepositional Phrase (PP) which functions as an Adverbial. In this case, the following structures (Verb+Direct Object) and (Verb+Adverbial) respectively are realized (Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976). The following newspaper headlines are used to expatiate the phenomenon of phrasal verbs, the Arguments they encode and their functions.

Considering the structure of the newspaper headline labelled table 4.20 below, the preposition *for* is viewed as attached to the verb *calls* and so the Noun Group (NG) *stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists* is encoded as Object of the prepositional verb *calls for*. In this context, the structure becomes (Verb+ Object) according to Quirk and Greenbaum (1976) moreover, Downing and Locke (2006) gives a subsidiary description as Oblique Object or Prepositional Object as shown in the **Table 4.20** below.

Table 4.20: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Calls for*

| GJA | calls for | Stiffer Punishment for People who Attack Journalists |
|------------|------------------|---|
| Subject | Prep. Verb | Prepositional Object |
| Agent | Mat. Process | Affected |

In terms of transitivity processes, the newspaper headline employs a material process which admits the Agent, *GJA* and another Participant, *Stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists* as the Affected.

The passive transformation of the headline further proves and authenticates the Noun Group *stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists* as an Object as represented in the table 4.21 below.

Table 4.21: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity PROCESS *Calls for*

| Stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists | Is Called for | (by GJA) |
|---|----------------------|-----------------|
| Subject/Theme/Topic | Passive Verb | Agent |

The second structure (Verb+Adverbial) thrives in a case where the verb in question is monovalent. This is the context in which the verb is used intransitively. The preposition *for* is now divorced from the verb *calls* and is attached to the Noun Group in order function as an Adverbial. The form, therefore, becomes (Verb+Adverbial). The adverbial is encoded as circumstantial according to Ideational Metafunction of Systemic Functional Grammar.

Table 4.22: Elements admitted by the Transitivity Process *Calls for*

| GJA | Calls | for stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists |
|------------|--------------|---|
| Subject | Prep. Verb | Adverbial |
| Agent | Process | Circumstance |

In both cases as considered in (Verb+Object) and (Verb+Adverbial) above, the implication is that the head of the Noun Group (NG), *punishment* is post-modified by the Prepositional Phrase (PP), *for people* which is in turn complemented or post-modified by the Adjectival Clause, *who attack Journalists*. This is an embedded clause which is related to the Noun Group *people* in a relationship of hypotaxis.

Moreover, the complexity of the Noun Phrase *stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists* makes it possible for it to encode both Direct Object and Indirect Object as represented in the following.

Table 4.23: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Calls for*

| GJA | Calls for | Stiffer Punishment | For People who Attack Journalists |
|----------------|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Subject | Prep Verb | Direct Object | Indirect Object/Oblique |

Once again, a means of realizing the Prepositional Object is when it appears after a Direct Object and it is mediated by a preposition which introduces the NG *people who attack Journalists*.

Another newspaper headline that is constructed with a Prepositional Verb is shown below. The newspaper headline makes use of the material process or dynamic verb *descends* which is complemented by the preposition *on*. If the preposition is taken from the verb, a different meaning would be construed as in “Ghana wildlife descends pangolin traffickers”. In this context, the material process *descends* denotes a physical movement from the top or summit of the „pangolin traffickers“ as if it were a mountain.

Moreover, **Table 4.24** shows the analysis of the declarative newspaper headline numbered (10) below.

10. Ghana Wildlife *Descends on* Pangolin Traffickers

Table 4.24: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Descends on*

| Ghana Wildlife | Descends on | Pangolin Traffickers |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Subject | Prep. Verb | Prep. Object |
| Agent | Material Process | Affected |

In the case of this newspaper headline, a legal action is taken against *pangolin traffickers*. As indicated in the table above, a Prepositional Object is actualized by the Prepositional Verb *descends on*. The theoretical framework, Systemic Functional Grammar and the data, newspaper headlines have shown the dynamic and paradigmatic nature of language depending on one perspective (context) or another. Apart from the traditional realization of the Participants in the newspaper headline, the Material Process *descend on* encodes them as Agent and Affected respectively.

The newspaper headline numbered (10) is analyzed and represented in the **Table 4.25** below to show how it answers the research questions 1 and 2.

11. Use of Data is Critical to Achieving SDGS

It is clear from the analysis that the newspaper headlines apply more of dynamic and material processes among the six transitivity verbs. However, the newspaper headline, *Use of data is critical to achieving SDGS* deviates from this norm of material process to employ other processes like the relational process. This category of processes expresses the notion of „being“. The process under consideration is encoded by linking verbs predominantly, *be* and *have* which assign tense and relate the Carrier to its Attribute, the Identified to its Identifier and the Possessor to the Possessed. Sometimes, verbs such as *lack* and *feel* actualize supplementary meanings (Downing

and Locke, 2006). From the data, the relational process *is* encodes its Subject, as the Noun Phrase *Use of data* as the Carrier of the Attribute, *critical to achieving SDGs*. The table below is a representation and an augmentation of what the newspaper headline characterizes.

Table 4.25: Elements Admitted by the Relational Process *is*

| Use of Data | Is | Critical to Achieving SDGs |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Subject | Verb | Subject complement |
| Carrier | Relational Process | Attributive |

From the table above, it is clear that the Attribute is a form of Subject complement which provides vital information about the Subject. This semantic role helps the newspapers and the media at large to perform their various functions including dissemination of information to their audience.

4.1.10 Other Newspaper Headlines that Encode the Declarative Structure

In the group of sentences indicated in **Table 4.26**, the clausal elements that make up the newspaper headlines are analyzed.

Table 4.26: Arguments Admitted by other Transitivity Processes in the headlines

| Subject | Verb | Object |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|
| CUBA | FIGHTS | US SANCTIONS |
| CDD | Rejects | proposed new chamber |
| Ghana Armed Forces | Warns | public |
| Osu cemetery | recycles | unmanned graves for new burial |
| SFG | condemns | coup attempt |
| Subject | Verb | Object |
| Agent | Material Process | Affected |

From the **Table 4.26** above, all the newspaper headlines adopt material processes which encode their participants as Agent and Affected respectively.

Uniqueness of Declarative Newspaper Headlines

One of the characteristic features of the Declarative Newspaper Headlines is the application of the **Historic Present** tense. Almost all the Newspaper Headlines are reporting events in the past but use the Simple Present Tense Processes such as *promises, donates, rocks, visits, directs, fights, rejects, and condemns* to report, for instance, political, education, finance and foreign affairs news. This approach of using the Simple Present Tense is described as **Historic Present** (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976; Downing and Locke, 2006). This tense heightens the dramatic force of the events that are being reported. It also creates a sense of currency, urgency and actuality. The Newspaper Headlines adopt this style of reportage to achieve reality in the pieces of information which are relayed to the (reading) public.

4.1.2 Newspaper Headlines in the form of Interrogative Structures

The Interrogative Structure is one of the Speech Acts the Newspaper Headlines employed in performing their functions. Some examples are cited and analyzed in the following.

1. Is customs a necessary evil?
2. Can Chelsea stop Liverpool?

Questioning could be performed using some autosegmental features like stress and intonation applied to the declarative structure apart from the traditional ways of grammaticalizing this communicative act. Usually, interrogative structures have two main types which are *yes/no* (polar) and *wh*-(non-polar) of which the latter precedes a *wh*-element. On one hand, the first type (polar) usually employs „operators“ at the beginning of a sentence or clause together with other clausal elements. Another

important function of the operators is that they carry polarity-negative and positive contrast which is essential in the determination of the finiteness of a clause in which they are found. On the contrary, in the *wh*-interrogative, the *wh*-word actualizes a missing information which the speaker wishes to know. This element could construe a syntactic function of a clause or be part of a group or phrase. The structure of each of the two types of interrogation are shown below. The *yes/no* (polar) interrogative is made up of **finite operator+subject+predicator with a question mark** whilst the *wh*- (non-polar) comprises ***wh*-word+finite operator+subject+predicator with a question mark** (Downing and Locke, 2006); Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976). Considering the newspaper headlines collected for this research work, the ones that fall under the *yes/no* (polar) interrogative are analyzed below.

Table 4.27: Arguments Admitted by the Transitivity Process *Stop*

| Finite Operator | Subject | Predicator | Object |
|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Can | Chelsea | Stop | Liverpool? |
| Finite Operator | Agent | Material Process | Affected |

The finite operator *is* in this newspaper headline marks present tense and positive polarity and other features of finiteness. The operator element exhibits four major distinctive properties which are not common to main or lexical verbs. They carry the „operations“ of **N**egation, **I**nversion, **C**ode and **E**mphasis. These operations have been described with the acronym NICE (Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976). The newspaper headlines are used to construe the operations in the following.

Table 4.28: Application of Acronym NICE

| No | Operation | Exemplification | Ill-forms with lexical verbs |
|----|------------------------------|--|---|
| 1 | Negation | <i>an''t</i> Chelsea stop Liverpool? | * Chelsea <i>stopn''t</i> Liverpool? |
| 2 | Inversion | <i>Can</i> Chelsea <i>stop</i> Liverpool? | * Chelsea <i>stop</i> Liverpool? |
| 3 | Code | Chelsea <i>can stop</i> Liverpool, if Liverpool <i>can''t</i> . | *Chelsea <i>stop</i> Liverpool, if Liverpool <i>stopn''t</i> |
| 4 | Emphasis(by tonic stress) | Yes, Chelsea <i>can stop</i> Liverpool. | *Yes, Chelsea <i>stop</i> Liverpool. |

The *operator* is a verbal element which is formed from primary auxiliary verbs, modal auxiliary verbs and the verb *do*. These verbs are able to take initial positions and for this reason they could function as operators in a Verb Group (VG). These verbs are shown in the **Table 4.29** below.

Table 4.29: The Rendition of the Operator

| Operator | Positive | Negative |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Primary Auxiliaries | am, is, are, was, were, have, has, had | am not, aren''t, isn''t, aren''t, wasn''t, weren''t, haven''t, hasn''t, hadn''t |
| Modal Auxiliaries | can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, might, ought | can''t, couldn''t, won''t, wouldn''t, shan''t, shouldn''t, may not, mightn''t, oughtn''t. |
| The „do“ operator | does, do, did | doesn''t, don''t, didn''t |

It becomes obvious that the usual arrangement of clausal elements in the declarative form changes in the interrogative structure. The operator appears first followed by the Subject in a particular sentence. This syntactic situation is known as subject-operator inversion (Van-Valin and LaPolla, 1997; Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976). Usually, the Subject is found between the operator which is an auxiliary verb (primary, modal and the verb *do*) and the lexical verb in the sentence. In some cases, the verbal element may be only one word as in the newspaper headline *Is custom a necessary evil?* Apart from the operator *is* in that particular newspaper headline, there is no any other verb which helps in bracketing the subject to form the

phenomenon of subject-verb invasion. The process (verb) in this case is the relational type which links the Subject *custom* and its complement or attribute which is the noun phrase *a necessary evil*. The headline is represented in the table below.

Is custom a Necessary Evil?

Table 4.30: Elements Encoded by the Finite Operator *Is*

| Finite Operator | Subject | Subject Compliment |
|--------------------|---------|--------------------|
| Is | custom | a necessary evil? |
| Predicator | NG | Noun Group (NG) |
| Relational Process | Carrier | Attribute |

Through the rules of transformation, inversion and transposition of the clausal elements in the newspaper headline, the production of the communicative act of interrogation or questioning is achieved. From the **table 4.30**, it becomes visible that the Subject complement (Attribute) *a necessary evil* appears at iconic final position but the relational process *is* and the subject (Carrier) *custom* are transposed. The sentence or headline in its traditional declarative structure encodes the same clausal elements at different clause positions. The declarative rendition is represented in the **Table 4.31** that follows.

Is custom a Necessary Evil?

Table 4.31: A Declarative Structure Formed from the Interrogative

| Subject | Verb | Subject Complement |
|---------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Custom | Is | a necessary evil |
| Carrier | Relational process | Attributive |

Peculiarities of the Interrogative Structure in the Newspaper Headlines

The Interrogative Structure dominates the reporting of sports news as shown in this study. The adoption of this structure is projected beyond the act of questioning and

answering. One the uniqueness of the Interrogative Structure is the arousing and igniting the interest as well as creating interest in the audience or readers. This speech act is also used as a tool to solicit public opinion of the sporting events unfolding in the country and beyond.

4.1.3 Imperative Newspaper Headlines

Some of the Newspaper Headlines are composed using the Imperative Structure. Examples of this Headline are listed below.

1. Don't extort money from drivers.
2. Watch and pray.
3. Let's handle our local vegetables and fruits hygienically.
4. Accept postings to rural communities Nana tells young doctors.

One of the newspaper headlines from the data is *watch and pray*. From the syntactic point of view, the newspaper headline under consideration has the structure of the imperative mood which is associated with the ideational metafunctions of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) in terms of how its elements are realized. This mood structure entails a number of features which make it distinctive and differs sharply from other clause types: declarative, interrogative and exclamative. In English Language, one of the most striking features of an imperative clause is that it doesn't have an overt Subject. The subject *you* is usually omitted but it is implied. The Subject *you* which is implied and stressed represents the members of a congregation being addressed in this particular newspaper headline. In an exhortation, the membership of the congregation was admonished by the leadership to *watch and pray*. The sentence now becomes *You, watch and pray*. The imperative contrasts with indicative and the subjunctive moods which have overt subjects. The **Table 4.32**

below explains the structure of the imperative mood as used in the newspaper headline under consideration.

Table 4.32: The Implied *You* in the Imperative Structure

| Covert subject | Imperative verb | conjunction | Imperative verb |
|----------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| <i>You</i> | Watch | And | Pray |

The subject is pragmatically understood to be the addressee. A confirmation is given by the presence of a reflexive pronoun (*yourself, yourselves*), a question tag (*will you*) or by a vocative (*you* as in *you people, you guys*). These features identified above are represented in the **Tables 4.33** and **4.34** below.

Table 4.33: The Reflexive in the Imperative Structure

| Imperative verb | Conjunction | Imperative Verb | Reflexive |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Watch | and | pray | <i>yourself</i> |

A connection is seen between the covert subject *you* and the reflexive feature of the imperative structure of the newspaper headline. Some concatenative morphological processes are employed to realize the reflexive form. The base form of the subject *you* undergoes a possessive transformation to become *your* and finally admits the reflexive marker *self*. Applying the concept of the reflexive to the newspaper headline from the data, the reflexive pronouns (*yourself, yourselves*) authenticate the assertion under consideration distinguishing between singular and plural respectively.

- a) (*You*), *watch and pray yourself* (Singular).
- b) (*You*), *watch and pray yourselves* (Plural).

In the first sentence, the addressee is singular and for that matter the singular form of the reflexive is employed, *yourself* which contrasts with *yourselves* which is used in the plural sense. Though the form of the implied subject which does not differentiate the concept of number is used, the reflexive forms clarify the grammatical numerical ambiguity created in this context.

Another way of confirming that the subject is the addressee is the application of the notion of question tag as mentioned by Algeo (1990). The newspaper headline is represented using the notion of question tag in the sentence and in the **Table 4.34** below.

- a) *You, watch and pray yourselves, won't you?*

The question tag takes the negative form *won't you?* since the structure is in the affirmative or positive. This presupposes that polarity is instrumental so far as tag questions are concerned.

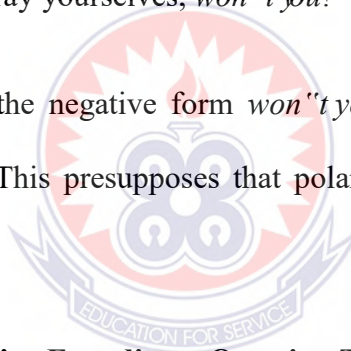


Table 4.34: the Imperative Encoding a Question Tag

| Imperative Verb | Conjunction | Imperative Verb | Question Tag |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Watch | and | pray | won't you? |

The covert subject *you* is confirmed again in the concept of question tag as shown in the **Table 4.34** above.

Since the theory of Systemic Functional Grammar makes provision for a paradigmatic system which makes a great deal options available in the use of language, the speaker could also have arrived at the structure or the headline below using the vocative which is less differentiated from the subject when its rendition makes use of the Indefinite Pronouns *someone, everyone, or a Noun Group*.

(c) *You children of God* watch and pray (vocative).

(d) *Someone* watch and pray yourself (vocative).

Apart from the beginning of the sentence, the vocative in the imperative structure may be at clause final position as in the **Table 4.35** below. This is a circumstance which makes the vocative possess mobility status or feature like some adverbials.

Table 4.35: The Imperative Encoding the Vocative

| Imperative verb | Conjunction | Imperative Verb | Vocative |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Watch | and | pray, | <i>you people</i> |
| Watch | and | pray, | <i>(guys or church)</i> |

The stressed *you* which is placed immediately before the imperative is often interpreted as subject and it is used to contrast the speaker or a 3rd person. As shown in the transcription, a distinction is made between the addressor and addressee through the autosegmental feature.

a) *You*, watch and pray (imperative).

[jú: wɒʃ ænd preɪ]

The above analyses have aided in identifying the Ideational elements used in the composition of the newspaper headline. Naturally, there is definitely someone who is praying and someone is listening to the prayer at a point in time. In the same way, there is someone who is expected to watch something or to be careful. The verbs admits participants but they have been used imperatively making their participants hidden, ellipted and covert.

4.1.3.1 The Verb in the Imperative Mood

The imperative features the base form of the verb and it grammaticalises request, command, order, exhortation, among other speech acts. These are some of the distinctive features of the sentence under consideration. Analyzing the imperative verb from the morphological perspective, it is the basic or the uninflected form of the verb. It is also described as the base form of the verb in base morphology because usually this form is the irreducible „core“ to which affixes are attached based on how the verb is used (Thakur, 2010; Chalker and Weiner, 1994; Downing and Locke, 2006).

Watch and pray.

The base form of *watch* and *pray* is employed in this linguistic encounter of the newspaper headline. It is clear that no affixes are attached to the form of the verb. The fact that there is no overt subject, hinders the inflections for Third Persons.

Structurally, it is crucial to emphasize that the imperative uses the base form of the verb without modals or helping verbs which are prerequisite to the realization of tense-aspect forms.

The grammatical status of the base form as non-finite is somewhat problematic and questionable. Functionally, the imperative is more associated with the finite form of a verb than the non-finite verb forms. Basically, the imperative could account for the features of finiteness which include polarity and number.

- a) [You] watch and pray [yourself].
- b) [You] watch and pray [yourselves].

The sentences *a* and *b* above have the covert subject and their correspondent reflexives present. The finiteness feature of number is clearly differentiated using the singular reflexive *yourself* and plural reflexive *yourselves* respectively. The sentence containing the singular form of the reflexive marks singular and the other marks plural with the reflexive *yourselves*. Concerning the concept of polarity which distinguishes negativity and positivity, negative makers such as *on''t* and *never* could be useful in the imperative constructions as shown below.

- a) *Never* watch and pray.
- b) *Don''t* watch and pray.

Though both examples above indicate polarity, the example two exhibits traces of emphaticness or emphasis because of the primary auxiliary verb *do* or the negative form *on''t*. With what have been discussed so far, it could be established that the imperative mood is more associated with the phenomenon of finiteness than that of infiniteness.

Morphologically, the imperative verb is indistinguishable from some declarative forms and for this reason it is possible that structural ambiguity is created between an imperative with a *you*-subject and a declarative with the same subject. The ambiguity is only nullified in speech, by stress on the imperative subject as shown below.

- a) *You* watch and pray (imperative).

[jú: wɒtʃ ænd preɪ]

- b) *You* watch and pray (declarative).

[ju wɒtʃ ænd preɪ]

Between the examples above, the subject in the imperative structure has the long vowel [ú:] which promotes and contributes to the stress laid on *you* in the imperative as against the one in the declarative form.

Moreover, an imperative verb phrase could include *do* for emphasis (e.g. *Do listen! Or Do be sensible*) (Downing and Locke, 2006:194). In linguistic analysis, this phenomenon is adopted when distinctive importance or prominence is given to a certain part of a sentence or clause. In other contexts, emphasis is achieved by marked focus; by unusual stress (for example, on an ordinary auxiliary verb); or by grammatical tools such as cleft or pseudo-cleft sentences, the use of *do* in declaratives (*I do apologize*) (Downing and Locke, 2006; Chalker and Weiner, 1994). Considering the data for this study, an exemplification is given below.

(h) *Do watch and pray.*

In the example above, though the verb *do* is used based on the concept of primary auxiliaries, it is more importantly employed to achieve emphasis in that particular context of the newspaper headline. Another significant feature would be tense-aspect relationship between the primary auxiliary verb and the lexical verb in a declarative construction. In the case of the declarative mood, the auxiliary verb could change from *do* to *does* to mark number with the subject that may be selected, apart from laying emphasis but in the sense of the imperative, it is always *do*.

4.1.3.2 Let's and Let us

Another feature of the imperative in English Language is the use of *et*'s to form a 1st person plural imperative with the implicit Subject *we*. Typically, it is used to suggest or urge a collaborative action involving both a speaker and addressee(s). It is also

used as a disguised order by speakers in authority. *Let's* is historically derived from *let us* and it is usually employed in very formal settings, including church services (Downing and Locke, 2006). It may be that *et's* is beginning to function as an unanalyzed pragmatic particle, as in non-standard *et's you and I do it*. The negative form of *et's* is *et's not*, although *on't et's* is also acceptable. The newspaper headline under consideration is analyzed based on this feature of the imperative.

- a) *Let's* watch and pray.
- b) *Let us* watch and pray.

Since this part of the data is connected to religious domain, the leadership of the congregation employs the collaborative effort or action to prepare both the leadership and the membership for the speech act of prayer. This linguistic feature or element is used to promote unity and solidarity in order to embark on the assignment of prayer. The speaker strategically issues a disguised order as a leader with authority but calculatedly becomes one of the recipients of the command. The fact that *let* and *us* are involved in a process of becoming *unanalyzed pragmatic particle*, goes a long way in contributing to bringing the two linguistic elements to form a unit. This process could be related to compounding and for that matter concatenative morphology and more importantly the particle could be employed in the performances of a great deal speech act functions. How the negative form applies to the data is shown below.

- c) *Let's not* watch and pray.
- d) *Let us not* watch and pray.

Considering the six transitivity processes, the verb *watch* belongs to mental process specifically, the group of verbs that come under perception. Usually, the mental process admits two participants making it a ditransitive verb with the participants, sensor-a conscious being and phenomenon-what is being sensed. Nevertheless, the verb *watch* in the newspaper headline has covert participants of which the sensor is you and phenomenon is seemingly an impending danger against which precautions should be taken. The verb *pray* is a speech act verb which belongs to the verbal category of the transitivity process. In this type, there is a Sayer who sends a piece of information to the Receiver. In the newspaper headline, *watch and pray*, the verb *pray* is used covertly and intransitively. The participant that the verb licenses could only be inferred based on the deep structure of the clause. One of the tenets of the proponents of Systemic Functional Grammar is that there is no one-to-one correspondence between the form or structure of language and how it is used. This means that SFG is not as rigid as Traditional Grammar but flexible and could be used in different context as in the various combinatory potentials in the preceding analyses. The newspaper headlines analyzed below have similar features (Downing and Locke, 2006; Halliday, 1994).

Another example of newspaper headline that encodes the Imperative Structure is investigated in **Table 4.36** below.

Let's Handle our Local Vegetables and Fruits Hygienically

Table 4.36: Syntactic Elements encoded by the Imperative Material Process

Handle

| Let's | Handle | Our local vegetables and fruits | Hygienically |
|-------------------------|---------------|--|---------------------|
| The particle <i>let</i> | Verb | Object | Adverb |
| The particle <i>let</i> | Mat. Process | Affected | Circumstance |

The newspaper headline above takes the form of an imperative structure but it is introduced with the particle *let* which precedes the nucleus (Van-Valin and LaPolla, 1979) or the process (Downing and Locke, 2006) *handle*. The material or dynamic process *handle* admits the Argument *our local vegetables and fruits* performing the function of a Direct Object or the Affected Participant. The verb *handle* actualizes the Adverb of manner *hygienically* which defines the Circumstance of the Process and complements the verb in a post-modification position or clause final position. Apart from the final position of the Adverb, it could also be placed at left-detached position of the clause (Van-Valin and LaPolla, 1979) or initial position (Downing and Locke, 2006). It is also possible to have this kind of Circumstantial Adjunct appearing in middle or medial position of the clause. The three positions of the Adverb are shown below.

1. *Hygienically*, let's handle our local vegetables and fruits (left-detached or initial position).
2. Let's handle, *hygienically*, our local vegetables and fruits (medial or middle position).
3. Let's handle our local vegetables and fruits *hygienically* (final position).

Van-Valin and LaPolla (1979) describes the final position of the Adjunctive Adverb as the periphery of the clause. Some adjunctive adverbs assume different positions because of their mobility capability based on a number of factors. The selection of the position is dependent on the type of Adverb used: circumstantial, modal, degree, etc.; the scope of the meaning of the Adverb-this is whether it affects the whole clause or part of it; the magnitude of emphasis laid, and the general information structure of the

clause (Downing and Locke, 2006). The structure of this newspaper headline is similar to what is represented below in **Table 4.37**.

Accept Postings to Rural Communities

Table 4.37: Arguments Encoded by the Process *Accept*

| (You) | Accept | Postings to rural communities |
|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Elliptical You | Process | Object |

The material process *accepts* admits two participants which are the Noun Phrase *postings to rural communities* which functions as the Object or the Goal. The other participant which functions as the Actor is the Covert Subject, *you*. The head of the Noun Phrase *postings* is post-modified by the Prepositional Phrase *to rural communities*. The elliptical *You* is one of the important distinctive features of the imperative mood. The newspaper headline captures the imperative structure as used by the speaker to admonish newly trained medical doctors to *accept postings to rural communities* to help save lives.

The imperative structures analyzed above provides another perspective from which production of language is executed based on factors such as preference, function, mode of discourse and contexts. This helps in promoting the principles of Systemic Functional Grammar which prototypically makes room for a system of options from which choices are made to administer a variety of linguistic functions.

Don't Extort Money from Drivers

One of the headlines that takes the form of the imperative sentence structure is *Don't extort money from drivers*. The lexical verb *extort* used in the headline above belongs

to the material process as postulated by Systemic Functional Grammar. In material processes, an Agent expresses an action or activity which is usually performed by a human. The agent possesses some features such as energy, volition and intention which are used to initiate, control and perform the action of the process. The effect of the action of material processes is that there is somewhat difference in properties, location among others of the Affected Participant. There is a second core argument which is someone or something which receives the action demonstrated by the verb in a particular clause. This participant is known as the Affected, Patient or Goal as mentioned early on (Downing and Locke, 2006). Taking into consideration the headline, the Patient is the noun phrase, *money from drivers*. Apart from the lexical verb *extort* in the verb phrase (VP) *on't extort*, there is an auxiliary verb *on't* which has a contracted negative polarity marker.

Generally speaking, the realization of the elements of the verb group (VG) may be based on lexical verbs: wait, come, rain, bring among others. The lexical verbs are sometimes used alongside auxiliary verbs which are sub-categorized into primary auxiliary verbs, modal auxiliary verbs and semi-modal auxiliary verbs. The primary auxiliary verbs comprises the verb „be“: *be, am, is, are, was, were, being and been*; the verb „have“: *have, has, had and having*; the verb „do“: *do, does, and did*; modal auxiliaries: *shall, should, will, would, can, could, may, might, must, and ought to*; semi-modals: *need, dare, and used to*. Sometimes, the Verb Group (VG) may be composed of lexical auxiliaries which include (1) *be able to, be about to, be apt to, be bound to, be due to, be going to, be liable to, be likely to, be certain to, be sure to, be to, be unlikely to, be supposed to*; (2) *have to, have got to and (3) had better, would rather, would sooner*). The two categories of verbs, primary and modal have limited number and this feature makes them form closed sets unlike lexical verbs which has

an open set. This implies that the latter could admit new members of this type of verbs through coinage and added to the lexicon from time to time. The primary verbs provide grammatical concepts of tense, aspect, person and number whilst the modal auxiliaries encode modal meanings including obligation, possibility, probability and necessity. It is imperative to mention that lexical verb elements double both lexical meaning together with grammatical meaning based on the context or the syntactic function of the verb (Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976). The structure of the verbal group (VG) in the headline, *Don't extort money from rivers* is primary auxiliary (PA) + negative polarity maker (NPM) + lexical verb (LV). Applying the method of substitution, the verbal group becomes *Do* (PA) + *n't* (NPM) *extort* (LV) as represented in the **Table 4.38** below.

Table 4.38: The Negative Imperative Structure

| Primary Auxiliary(PA) | Negative Polarity Maker (NPM) | Lexical Verb (LV) |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Do | n't | extort |

The verb in the imperative form appears in the base form without indicating morphological features that mark tense and aspect. Grammatically, the imperative is given a non-finite status but this is „somewhat problematic“. This is because from the functional perspective, it is more related to the finite form of the verb than the non-finite form. The Transitivity Hypothesis **Table 4.39** provides more information on the finiteness of the verb *extort* in the imperative form.

Table 4.39: Transitivity Hypothesis of the Process *extort*

| ITEMS | FACTORS | HIGH TRANSITIVITY | LOW TRANSITIVITY |
|-------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| A | PARTICIPANTS | Two participants | NA |
| B | KINESIS | Action verb | NA |
| C | ASPECT | Telic | NA |
| D | PUNCTUALITY | Punctual | NA |
| E | VOLITIONALITY | Volitional | NA |
| F | AFFIRMATION | Affirmative | NA |
| G | MODE | NA | Imperative |
| H | AGENCY | High in potency | NA |
| I | AFFECTEDNESS | Object totally affected | NA |
| J | INDIVIDUATION | Individuated | NA |

The imperative structure shares some similarities with the interrogative which „relates the speaker to the hearer and to the here-and-now, typically in face-to-face interaction“ according Downing and Locke (2006, p. 74).

Since the base of the verb is not different from some declarative forms, structural ambiguity may be created between an imperative with a *you*-subject and a declarative structure which has *you* as a subject. In such cases, the ambiguity could be resolved in utterance or speech by placing stress on the *you* used in the imperative as mentioned earlier.

Now that the nucleus (verb) of the clause or newspaper headline is established, the kind of syntactic constituents and the semantic roles they play will be analyzed. The headline adopts the imperative speech act or sentence structure. Overtly, the verbal element admits only one participant which functions as a Direct Object. Nevertheless, the participant that encodes the subject of the structure under consideration is elliptical in nature or covert which is the pronoun *you* (Van-Valin and LaPolla, 1979).

Pragmatically, the subject in imperative structures is construed as the addressee and could be represented and confirmed using a number of grammatical categories which include the following.

1. A question tag (*will you?*)

Don't extort money from drivers, *do you?*

2. A vocative (*you, you people, you guys*, used to address women as well as men)

You policemen, don't extort money from drivers.

3. The stressed *you* positioned immediately before the imperative is usually interpreted as Subject, and is typically used to mark a contrast with the speaker or a 3rd person.

You don't extort money from drivers.

Imperatives are usually used in encoding directives or orders, encouragement, urgent request, invitation and instructions. The application of the imperative, therefore, becomes indispensable in many facets of our lives including education, law, security, religion and business (Downing and Locke, 2006).

Since Systemic Functional Analysis lays emphasis on the interface that exist between „form“ on one hand and „function“ on the other hand, the structure of the noun phrase which functions as the Affected or the Patient is analyzed below.

money from drivers

NOUN PREP NOUN

NOUN PREP NOUN

HEAD PREP. PHRASE

HEAD POST-MODIFIER

NOUN PHRASE/AFFECTED

The analysis of the structure above considers *money from drivers* as a single grammatical unit which functions as a Direct Object. In this case, the group of words is classified as a Noun Phrase/Group which has the head *money* with the Prepositional Phrase (PP) *from drivers* as Post-modifier. The table below helps to graphically illustrate this point from this dimension where the verb *extort* encodes a Covert Subject *You* and *money from drivers*.

Table 4.40: Participants Encoded by the Transitivity Process

| SUBJECT | PROCESS | DIRECT OBJECT |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| (You) | don't extort | money from drivers |
| Covert Subject/Agent | Verb Phrase | Affected/Patient |

Peculiarity of the Imperative Newspaper Headlines

The Imperative Structure is mostly encoded in Newspaper Headlines from the religious and administrative or political domains. The speech acts performed by this structure include admonishment and encouragement. This particular speech act was employed by church leaders to admonish the congregation to *watch and pray* since these rituals are vital in the spiritual growth and welfare of the congregants. The police force of the country was admonished not to *extort money from drivers* since this attitude does not promote the law enforcement duty of the security agency. The newly trained health professionals were also admonished and encouraged to *accept postings to rural communities* to help promote the health needs of the country.

4.2 Phrasal Newspaper headlines and their Correspondent Elliptical Elements

Newspaper headlines form part of „block language“ which could be analyzed in accordance with the Hallidayan Rank Scale which structures language into morphemes, words, phrases, clauses and sentences (Halliday 2000, Burton-Roberts 1975). Specifically, the headlines that appear in the form of phrases would be discussed in this section. The concept of phrase is a linguistic category which is a group of words that performs the function of a particular word class-nouns, adjective, adverb among others (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976). Since many of the newspaper headlines have their finite verbs omitted, they end up becoming phrases instead of clauses. Some of the phrases are presented below.

1. No wrongdoings in the last referendum
2. RED FLAG OVER TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE
3. Parliament Democracy in last 26 years
4. Under-representation of women of governance and decision-making a democratic deficit
5. Whole sale removal of customs barriers and our security
6. For the foundation of church and country
7. Mass burial for 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital
8. Two Road Engineers in Trouble Over Bribe
9. FOCUS ON THE FIRST PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF AKUAPIM WHO HAD 62 OFFICIAL WIVES AND 147 CHILDREN.
10. GHANA MUST GO BAG-THE UGLY HISTORY.
11. DEATH THREATS Against Anti-Galamsey Crusader

Typology of Phrases

The Phrases are grouped based on their part of speech or word class. Generally speaking, the Newspaper Headlines are composed using Noun Phrases. Nevertheless, one Newspaper Headline grammaticalises Prepositional Phrase. Considering the structure of the Noun Phrase, the Newspaper Headlines could be grouped into three types based on the Head and how it admits pre-modification and post-modification in a hypotactic relationship respectively.

Newspaper Headlines that have Head plus Post-modification Only

Considering the structure of the noun phrase, the newspaper headlines below encode head of the noun phrase with a post-modification. This means that no element is found in the Pre-modification position of the noun phrase as shown below in the **Table 4.41**.

Table 4.41: Headwords of Phrasal Headlines with Post-modifiers

| No | Head | Post-modification |
|----|----------------------|--|
| 1 | Under-representation | of women of governance and decision-making a democratic deficit |
| 2 | FOCUS | ON THE FIRST PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF AKUAPIM WHO HAD 62 OFFICIAL WIVES AND 147 CHILDREN |

Newspaper Headlines that have Pre-modification, Head and Post-modification

In the set of newspaper headlines below, all the three aspects of the noun phrase are present. These elements of the noun phrase are Pre-modification, Head and Post-modification.

Table 4.42: Pre-modification and Post-modification of Heads in Phrasal**Headlines**

| No | Pre-modification | Head | Post-modification |
|----|------------------|-------------|---|
| 1 | DEATH | THREATS | Against Anti-Galamsey Crusader |
| 2 | Two Road | Engineers | in Trouble Over Bribe |
| 3 | Parliamentary | Democracy | in last 26 years |
| 4 | Mass | Burial | for 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital |
| 5 | No | Wrongdoings | in the last referendum |

The observation made is that majority of phrasal headlines are used in reporting political news. A few of them were used to report news from other sectors. Apart from the Noun Phrases which dominated the Newspaper Headlines, one Prepositional Phrase was featured in the Newspaper Headlines. The structure of the Prepositional Phrase is represented on the table below.

Table 4.43: Prepositional Phrase Newspaper Headline

| Modifier | Preposition | Complement |
|----------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| NA | For | the foundation of church and country |

The structure of the Prepositional Phrase (PP) has a modifier which is an optional element, a Preposition and complement which are both constant elements. The modifier which plays a semantic role of exactness or immediacy is absent in this particular Newspaper Headline which encodes a Prepositional Phrase.

The Newspaper Headlines that admit the structure of a Noun Phrase are analyzed below to show how different they are from the Prepositional Phrase (PP). The morphosyntactic analysis of these Noun Phrases in the Newspaper Headlines is done in the following.

1. No **wrongdoings** in the last referendum
2. RED **FLAG** OVER TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE
3. Parliament **Democracy** in last 26 years
4. **Under-representation** of women of governance and decision-making
5. Whole sale **removal** of customs barriers and our security
6. Mass **burial** for 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital
7. Two Road **Engineers** In Trouble Over Bribe
8. GHANA MUST GO **BAG-THE UGLY HISTORY**.

Parliament Democracy in last 26 Years

This newspaper headline encodes the structure of a Phrase which is one of the elements on the Rank Scale. As a Noun Phrase, the headline is structured with the head *Democracy* which is pre-modified with the adjectival *parliament* in a hypotactic relation and the prepositional phrase *in last 26 years* which functions as a post-modifier of the head of the Noun Phrase. The structure of the newspaper headline is analyzed below.

| | | | | | |
|------------|-------------|---------------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Parliament | Democracy | in | last | 26 | years |
| ADJ | NOUN | PREP. | ADJ | NUM | NOUN |
| ADJ | NOUN | PREP. | ADJ | ADJ. | NOUN |
| MOD | HEAD | <u>PREP</u> | <u>MOD</u> | <u>MOD</u> | <u>NOUN</u> |
| <u>MOD</u> | <u>HEAD</u> | <u>PREP. PHRASE</u> | | | |

NOUN PHRASE

Another newspaper headline which employs a phrase is expatiated in the following. Considering the surface structure (Chomsky, 1965) of the newspaper headline in question, it becomes photographic that the group of words lacks a finite verb which is

a crucial clausal element and engages the participants in an event or a process. Since the group of words lacks a finite verb or a predicator which is the nucleus of a sentence (Van-Valin and LaPolla, 1979), the group of words becomes a Noun Phrase. Nevertheless, the words *flag* and *over* help in creating a context to retrieve the Verb Phrase *is raised* from the structure which is ellipsed as it is customarily done in Block Language of which newspaper headlines are entailment. Firstly, the phrasal form of the headline is represented below.

RED FLAG OVER TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE
 ADJ NOUN PREP ADJ ADJ ADJ NOUN
MOD HEAD PREP. MOD MOD MOD HEAD
 NP PREP. NOUN PHRASE (NP)

4.2.1 The Newspaper Headline with the Ellipted Verb

Secondly, the headline containing the ellipsed verb grammaticalises the basic elements of a sentence which are Subject *RED FLAG* and Predicate (*IS RAISED*) *OVER*] *TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE* as represented in the following.

RED FLAG [(IS RAISED) OVER] TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE
 ADJ NOUN [(VERB) PREP] ADJ ADJ ADJ NOUN
MOD HEAD [(VERB) PREP] MOD MOD MOD HEAD
 NP VP PREP NOUN PHRASE (NP)
 SUBJECT VERB CIRCUMSTANTIAL ADJUNCT

Apart from the general demarcation of the sentence into Subject and Predicate, the Predicate is further parsed into a Process or a Verb Phrase *IS RAISED* and a Circumstantial Adjunct which is encoded by the Prepositional Phrase *OVER TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE*.

With the current structure of the newspaper headline, it also conforms to the pattern of passive construction which is realized in the verb raised. The Agent of the verb raised is actually ellipted. The type of passive construction applied in this context is the agentless passive construction. Nevertheless, a good deal of options are presented by the language and so a choice is made from the paradigm. The paradigmatic approach adopted by Systemic Functional Grammar is evident as the newspaper headline composers could choose between a phrase and an element with a higher rank like a sentence as done in this context.

The newspaper headline that follows could either be considered a phrase or a sentence if its ellipted verb is inferred and retrieved. In the first place, the structure of the headline is a Noun Phrase which has the head *burial* together with a pre-modifier and post-modifier as explained morphosyntactically below.

Mass burial for 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital

ADJ NOUN PREP NUM ADJ NOUN PREP ADJ NOUN

MOD HEAD PREP MOD MOD NOUN PREP MOD NOUN

NP PREP. PHRASE PREP. PHRASE

NOUN PHRASE

In the second structure, the Nucleus or the Verb Phrase *was organized* is restored and so the Newspaper Headline takes the form of a sentence. In this context, the Systemic Functional material process (*was*) *organized* admits three arguments: the Passive Subject *Mass burial*, the Prepositional Object *160 unclaimed bodies*, the Agent which is omitted in a passive *by*-phrase as well as the Circumstantial Adjunct *at police hospital*. The structural analysis of the Newspaper Headline is represented below.

Mass burial [(was organized) for] 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital

(D) ADJ NOUN [(HV LV) PREP] NUM ADJ NOUN PREP ADJ NOUN

(D) MOD HEAD [(HV LV) PREP] MOD MOD NOUN PREP MOD NOUN

NOUN GROUP [(HV LV) PREP] NOUN PHRASE PREP. PHRASE

SUBJECT VERB PHRASE PREP. OBJECT ADJUNCT

S V O A

In another newspaper headline, the newspaper agency does economy of words by omitting the verbal element in the structure below. The headline conforms to the traditional structure of the noun phrase with a head *Engineers* and a hypotactic pre-modification *Two Road* and post-modification *In Trouble over Bribe* of which the Prepositional Phrase *over Bribe* is hypotactic to the Noun *Trouble*.

Two Road Engineers In Trouble Over Bribe
 DET ADJ NOUN PREP NOUN PREP NOUN
DET MOD HEAD PREP NOUN PREP NOUN
MODIFIER HEAD MODIFIER MODIFIER
 COMPLEX NOUN PHRASE

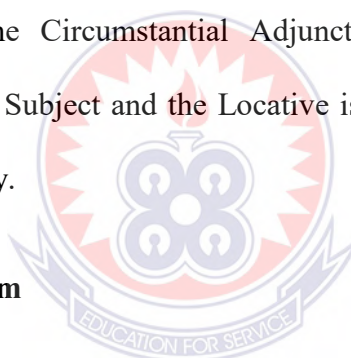
4.2.2 The headline “Two Road Engineers in Trouble over Bribe” with its Ellipted Verb

Based on the numerous newspaper headlines analyzed in this research work, it has been made clear that the linguistic concept of ellipsis or omission or deletion of some elements has been preponderantly used. Yet as mentioned earlier, taking into consideration the surface structure and collocation of words, some of the elements that are omitted for purposeful reasons could be restored. The structure suggests the omitted word considering the context of the Newspaper Headline. As Block Language prescribes, Newspaper Headlines depend on *historic present tense* for the realization of the Verb Phrase. With all these justifications, it becomes evident that the element

deleted in the Newspaper Headline composition might be the lexical or main verb *are* as indicated in the analysis below.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------|--------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Two | Road Engineers | (are) | In | Trouble | over | Bribe |
| DET | ADJ | NOUN | (VERB) | PREP | NOUN | PREP NOUN |
| <u>DET</u> | <u>MOD</u> | <u>HEAD</u> | (VERB) | <u>PREP</u> | <u>NOUN</u> | <u>PREP NOUN</u> |
| <u>MODIFIER</u> | <u>HEAD</u> | (VERB) | | ADJUNCT | | |
| SUBJECT | | (VERB) | | LOCATIVE | | |
| CARRIER | | PROCESS | | ATTRIBUTE | | |

This is a condition which makes the headline take the form of a declarative structure which actualizes the Subject *Two Road Engineers*, the Relational process *are* and the Locative Adjunct or the Circumstantial Adjuncts *In Trouble over Bribe*. The relationship between the Subject and the Locative is semantically realized as Carrier and Attribute respectively.



Attack on Press Freedom

The newspaper headline that follows has a head *Attack* and post-modifier *on Press Freedom* which is a Prepositional Phrase which is hypotactic to the head but does not have a pre-modifier. The Subject and Verb of the phrase could be retrieved as „There is“ so that the newspaper headline becomes “(There is) attack on Press Freedom” or “(There is an) attack on Press Freedom.” The dummy *there* together with the Relational Process *is* helps change the phrase to a sentence form. Although the two structures may not have tangible semantic differences, they provide options from which a choice could be made for the composition of the newspaper headlines. The newspaper headline in the phrasal form is analyzed below and then the sentential form follows.

Attack on Press Freedom

NOUN PREP ADJ NOUN

HEAD PREP MOD NOUN

HEAD PREP. PHRASE

HEAD POST-MODIFIER

NOUN PHRASE

Apart from the prototypical structure of the newspaper headline which is a noun phrase, another option in a sentential form is achieved if the ellipated elements are attached as shown in the **Table 4.44** below.

Table 4.44: Ellipted Elements of the Phrasal Newspaper Headline

| There | Is | (an) attack on Press Freedom |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Dummy <i>there</i> | Ellipted „is“ | Noun Phrase/Group |
| Obligatory Subject | Verb | Subject Complement |
| Carrier | Relational process | Attribute |

The dummy *there* does not play any semantic role but is just an Obligatory Subject which in that context becomes the Carrier if it naturally functions as a Subject. The ellipated Relational Process actualizes the Subject Complement as Attribute.

The newspaper headline that follows has some unique features which need to be digested. The Noun Phrase adopted for the composition of the newspaper headline cross-linguistically combines Akan, a member of the Kwa group of languages and English Language. The Ideational elements used in the newspaper headline are discussed below.

“KUM YEN PREKO” DEMO TODAY

VERB NG ADVERB NOUN ADVERB

IMPERATIVE CLAUSE NOUN ADVERB

PRE-MODIFIER HEAD MODIFIER

COMPLEX NOUN PHRASE

The phrase above could be rankshifted to become a sentence if the ellipped verb phrase *comes off* is retrieved. The Newspaper Headline, in this context, comprises a Subject, Verb and a Circumstantial Adjunct. These clausal elements are analyzed below in **Table 4.45**.

Table 4.45: Head of the Noun Phrase Premodified by a Sentence in Akan.

| “KUM YEN PREKO” DEMO | (Comes off) | TODAY |
|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Subject | Verb Phrase | Adjunct |
| Affected Subject | Material Process of Happening | Circumstantial |

Since the ellipped intransitive verb *comes off* encodes a Circumstantial Adjunct, the Adjunct could be moved to clause initial position based on its mobility feature. With the introduction of the Prepositional Verb Phrase *comes off* which was ellipped, the Material Process of Happening actualizes the semantic roles of Affected Subject, “KUM EN PREKO” DEMO and the Circumstance, TODAY. In this new structure of the newspaper headline, the Process, (*comes off*) is a monovalent one. It is important to mention that the Circumstantial Adjunct TODAY at left detached position or clause initial position in the newspaper headline is represented below in **Table 4.46**.

Table 4.46: Initial Position of Circumstance and Ellipted Verb Phrase

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| TODAY, | “KUM YEN PREKO” DEMO | (Comes off) |
| Adjunct | Subject | Verb |

The Newspaper Headline above could have been composed in this way as another option in the paradigm as proposed by Systemic Functional Grammar or Linguistics. The Subject is a Noun Phrase which is pre-modified with an imperative clause in Akan, “KUM E N PREKO” which literally, the clause means “just kill us”. This was a piece of information demonstrators relayed to the ruling government that it is better to kill Ghanaians than to make them experience a harsh and an unbearable socio-economic condition in the country. The analysis of this structure is analyzed in the following.

“KUMI E N PREKO” DEMO [comes off] TODAY
 Kill us just DEMO [comes of] TODAY.
 [kum yen prɛko deməʊ kʌmz ɒf tɔdeɪ]



4.3 The Structure of the Clause and Clause Complex

Watch and Pray

The Newspaper Headline which is being analyzed exhibits some features of the notion of Clause Complex though its structure is imperative and uses few words. Systemic Functional Linguistic theorists have keen interest in examining elements like the Clause and Sentence from a different dimension which is associated with Clause Complex which is composed by linking or combining clauses of equal or unequal status to each other in a logico-semantic configuration. The sentence as a linguistic element could satisfy the structure of a clause complex which has a Head Clause or Matrix Clause concatenated to one or more Subordinate clauses that function as a

complementation. The concatenation of clauses in the clause complex could be categorized into two systems namely, *Taxis* and *Logico-semantic Relation* (Halliday, 2004). The taxis is further parsed into *hypotaxis* or *parataxis* based on their degree of dependency. The Logico-semantic relation is also divided into „expansion“ and „projection“ and other sub-divisions. According to Mitchell (1985) the term „parataxis“ in this context is used in a very formal sense to imply a construction in which sentences or clauses are not subordinated to one another but they have equal status. On one hand, some clauses could be combined without conjunctions and they are referred to as „asyndetic parataxis.“ Such constructions may use punctuation marks including colon and semi-colon to show the relationship that exists between them. When conjunctions such as *and*, and *or* are employed in the combination of clauses, this is described as „syndetic parataxis“. On the contrary, „hypotaxis“ deals with the use of relative pronouns or subordinating conjunctions to join clauses that do not have the same status. Taking into consideration the concepts of parataxis and hypotaxis, the sentence structure of the newspaper headline *watch and pray* is analyzed below.

A critical look at the newspaper headline above reveals that a fraction of the concept of taxis is applicable in this case. As mentioned early on, the notion of taxis is further parsed into *hypotaxis* or *parataxis* based on the degree of dependency. In this context, the concept of parataxis is relevant because this is what shares direct relationship with the newspaper headline under consideration. The clausal relationship involved in this construction of the newspaper headline is the syndetic parataxis type which makes use of the conjunction *and*. The newspaper headline above could be divided into two simple sentences. These are represented with their implied or covert subjects below.

1. [You] watch.

2. [You] pray.

The parallelism that exists between the two sentences is indeed photographic. Both of them are simple sentences in the sense that they contain basically one idea each. Though the two sentences have fewer words, they are not dependent on each other. In other words, one does not have a matrix status and the other subordinated to it. Both sentences could be analyzed as two different independent sentences. As independent sentences the basic elements in line with the ideational metafunction are analyzed below in sentence 1 or in **Table 4.47** below.

Table 4.47: One Word Imperative Sentence in a Clause Complex

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| [You] | Watch |
| PRONOUN | BEHAVIOURAL PROCESS |
| COVERT SUBJECT | PREDICATE |

Syntactically, a sentence comprises a Subject and Predicate as well as punctuation marks. The sentence under discussion has only the verbal element which is *watch*. The number of elements that complements the verb depends on whether the verb is a monotransitive, ditransitive, complex transitive or an intransitive type. The Behavioural process *watch* is intransitive in this context and for this reason it does not admit an object. Apart from the imperative structure which somewhat employs fewer words, the typology of verb (intransitive) used has also contributed to the limited number of words used in the construction of the headline (Chalker and Weiner, 1994; Downing and Locke, 2006).

The other part of the newspaper headline based on the concept of parataxis is analyzed in the following. The clausal elements and the type of transitivity process are discussed below in **Table 4.48**.

Table 4.48: One Word Imperative Sentence in a Clause Complex

| You | Pray |
|----------------|----------------|
| PRONOUN | VERBAL PROCESS |
| COVERT SUBJECT | PREDICATE |

One of the major differences between sentence (1) and (2) is that in the former the verb *watch* is behavioural in nature but in the latter the verb belongs to the verbal category according to the transitivity processes. The other features and elements of the clause are common to both sentences.

4.3.1 The Semantics of Coordination in the Newspaper Headline „watch and Pray“

Linguistic elements such as words, phrases, clauses and sentences of equal status are combined and their meaning extended through the grammatical concept of coordination. Clauses can be conjoined when they are related in their meanings and are functionally parallel. The enterprise of linking is usually administered by the coordinators *and*, *or*, *nor*, *but* and *yet*. These linking words assume fixed positions at the clause boundary, unlike cohesive connectives such as *instead* and *actually* as well as other adverbials like *usually*, *often*, *sometimes* and *every day* (Downing and Locke, 2006). The semantics of the coordinator *and* which occurs in the Newspaper Headline *watch and pray* is discussed below.

4.3.2 Inferred Meanings of „and“ in the Newspaper Headline *Watch and Pray*.

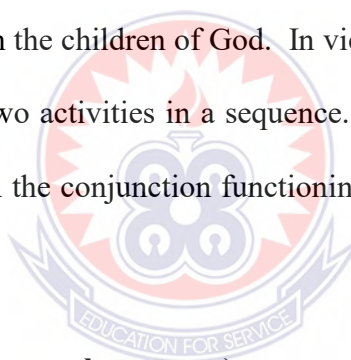
The conjunctions *and* is pragmatically interpreted, based on the context in which they are used. The coordinating conjunction *and* links two sentences or clauses *watch and pray* together. The role of this conjunction is instrumental in predominantly the enterprise of joining the two ideas embedded in the headline. The template provided

by Downing and Locke (2006) above or the semantic dimensions of the conjunction *and* would be applied to the headline *watch and pray*.

(1a) Watch *and* pray (simultaneity).

The use of *and* in the sentence above implies that both activities are performed at the same time. The speaker admonishes the congregation that they shouldn't only pray but the ritual of prayer should be done concurrently with watchfulness. This is a condition which would prevent them from being oblivious of any eminent danger or temptation that may come their way and combat that accordingly.

According to the narrative of the fall of man in Genesis 3:1, the devil is more cunning and crafty in dealing with the children of God. In view of this, the congregation is not advised to perform the two activities in a sequence. Based on this, the speaker could not use the message with the conjunction functioning as a temporal sequence as used in the sentence below.



(2b) *watch and pray* (temporal sequence).

Though the sentence structure has not changed, the meaning that could be construed in this case is different from the first one that denotes simultaneity. In this context, one activity is expected to follow the other in a definite chronology. The implication is that before prayer is performed, watchfulness must have been done already. In other words, to *watch* is a prerequisite for prayer to be effectively done. This sequential arrangement of the grammatical elements to produce this semantic effect is depended predominantly on the coordinating conjunction *and* and how it is used in this particular sentence or newspaper headline.

(1) *Watch and pray* (inclusion: time „while“)

The semantic function of *and* in this sentence is similar to that of simultaneity. In this case, the two concepts of watching and praying have intersection and convergence through the medium of time. The other meanings condition, cause-effect, and condition are not applicable and related to the newspaper headline *watch and pray*.

From the syntactic point of view, the headline under consideration has the structure of the imperative mood which is associated with the ideational metafunctions of Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) in terms of how is structured or formed. This mood structure entails a number of features which make it distinctive and differs sharply from the other clause types. Some of these distinctive features are outline below.

4.3.3 The Semantics of Clause Combining: Types of Expansion

Halliday (1985) proposed a classification relevant to coordinated and appositive clauses in which the first clause is expanded by the second one through **elaboration**, **extension** or **enhancement**. This semantic relation is also applicable to a main and a dependent subordinate clause, irrespective of the position the subordinate clause. In the phenomenon of **elaboration**, a clause could be used to expand another clause by providing more information in order to ensure clarification. By **extension**, the clause is expanded by another one through addition of new information which may give an alternative or exception. **Enhancement** is a type of expansion in which circumstantial elements of result, reason, among others complement the main clause (Halliday and Matthiessen, 2004; Downing, and Locke, 2006). In the data, there is a newspaper headline, “I’m a Missionary; not Mercenary”. This newspaper headline could be divided into two to reflect the element which is ellipted as shown below.

- (1) I'm a Missionary.
 (2) (I'm) not mercenary.

These two clauses or sentences are combined to show how they apply to the phenomenon of Expansion in Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG).

Table 4.49: The Phenomenon of Expansion in Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG).

| Expansion | Coordination or Apposition | Dependency |
|------------------|---|--|
| Elaboration | I'm a missionary; (I'm) not mercenary | I'm a missionary, (who is) not a mercenary |
| Extension | I'm a missionary but (I'm) not a mercenary | I'm a missionary (whereas others are mercenaries). |
| Enhancement | I'm a missionary and so (I'm) not a mercenary | I'm a missionary (because I'm) not mercenary. |

Considering the combination of clauses in the Newspaper Headline, the relationship between them is more of coordination than dependency. Since the newspaper headline adopts asyndetic relationship, the linking words are used as intervention measures to ascertain the various meanings that the resultant structures produce as shown in the **Table 4.49** above.

RQ3: What Syntactic Concepts or Categories are derived from the Newspaper Headlines?

Apart from the various structures and functions of clausal elements encoded by the newspaper headlines, the research question three (3) seeks to investigate syntactic categories which include Voice and Ellipsis.

4.4. The Concept of Voice in the Newspaper Headlines

Some examples of headlines from the data that employed passive construction are indicated below.

1. Gospel musicians urged to do music with good lyrics.
2. Cripple grabbed with parcels of weed (Indian Hem/marijuana).
3. Youth advised to be ambassadors of peace.
4. Man, 30, arrested for incest.
5. Former Western Regional Coordinator of Integrated Community Centre for Employable Skills killed.
6. Lawyer arrested for various criminal offences.

Two participants in a sentence could function as Subject or Theme (Topic) and Rheme respectively. This transformational category is achieved through the mechanism of active–passive voice alternative. According to Chalker and Weiner (1994), voice is a grammatical category that presents two alternatives of approaching the action of a verb. These two ways, the active and passive, have semantic implication because the Subject of an active verb is often the Actor or the Doer of the verbal action as in the verb. In the active construction, one the headlines has the Agent, *Robbers* which is mapped onto Subject and Theme/Topic, whilst the Affected *mobile money vender* which is located in clause final position receives a normal or an unmarked end-focus. Further analysis is done in the **Table 4.50** below.

Table 4.50: Unmarked Focus Passive Construction

| Robbers | Shoot | Mobile Money Vender |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Agent | Active verb (MP) | Affected |
| Subject | Active verb (MP) | Direct Object |
| Theme | Active verb (MP) | Rheme |
| Topic | Material process (MP) | Unmarked end-focus |

In terms of the Passive construction, there is a reversal of the correspondences that exist between the participants or arguments that map onto the Agent and the Affected or the other semantic renditions depending on the transitivity process used in sentence. This is represented in the Table 4.51 below.

Table 4.51: Optional end-focus Passive Construction

| Mobile Money Vender | Was shoot | [By robbers] |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| Affected | Passive verb (MP) | Agent |
| Subject | Passive verb (MP) | Adjunct |
| Theme | Passive verb (MP) | Rheme |
| Topic | Material process (MP) | Optional end-focus element |

The concept of active–passive alternative provides the avenue for users of the language in both spoken and written contexts to exploit the two main slots, clause initial and final occupied by the two core arguments in, for instance, the newspaper headline. It is clear that the two major participants are moved from one position to another so that „important new information“ is positioned at clause final slot, whilst „already known information“ is migrated to the clause initial slot of the headline. Factors that necessitate promoting one participant and demoting another may include the following: an element which is not Agent is desired as Theme/Subject/Topic; the Agent represents New information, so it is shifted to clause final position, and the Agent is ellided because it is not New (Downing and Locke, 2006).

The passive clause is hardly a mere reordering of the elements or particularly the participants in a clause. This issue of reorganization is motivated by topic promotion and demotion. In an active construction, the Subject which functions as an Agent maps onto the role of Topic in a given discourse. Downing and Locke (2006) establishes that the Topic is a vital argument of discourse in a clause. The Subject

stops performing the role of an Agent or the Topic and swaps role with another participant, particularly the Affected which assumes the role of Subject and Topic. Apart from the Affected realizing the role of the Topic, the Recipient could do same. The demotion and promotion of participants have some correspondences. Whenever the Agent (or Experiencer, or Sayer) is demoted, the (Affected, Recipient) becomes the next option for promotion to attain a Subject status (Downing and Locke, 2006). It is crucial to establish that the passive construction does not produce a variety of fronting or thematisation; a marked Theme, but a different unmarked Theme which is a participant Theme or the Topic. Other types of themes such as Circumstantial Themes and Textual Themes are optional elements that complement the core clause and have no role in the passivisation enterprise. Opting for a passive voice construction has a good deal of discourse motivations which include the following. The passivisation agenda helps in the removal of needless Given information; to manoeuvre vital information to clause final position; to create smooth links between clauses. This is a condition which helps ensure fluidity and clarity of information in the clauses of the headlines (Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973).

Considering the newspaper headlines above, *Lawyer arrested for various criminal offences* and *Man, 30, arrested for incest* have some features that the other headlines from the data do not possess. One of the features is found in the reason for which the *Lawyer* and *Man, 30* were arrested. In terms of Systemic Functions Linguistics, the reason for which the participants *Lawyer* and *Man, 30* were arrested is related to the Ideational metafunction which is in lined with the Circumstances in which the Passive Process *arrested* was conducted. The newspaper headlines are represented in the **Table 4.52** below.

Table 4.52: The Material Process *Arrested* Encodes Circumstantial Adjunct

| Lawyer | Arrested | For various criminal offences |
|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Man, 30 | arrested | for incest |
| Noun Group | Verb | Prepositional Phrase |
| Patient | Material Process | Circumstantial Adjunct |

In the newspaper headlines above, the Material Process *arrested* encodes the Circumstantial Adjuncts *for various criminal offences* and *for incest* which are both Prepositional Phrases (PP). The ellipsis of the Agent which is usually found in a *by*-phrase passive construction makes the verb *arrested* a quasi-intransitive verb.

According to Downing and Locke (2006, p. 254), „informativeness“ plays an essential role in the maintenance of the Agent which appears in a *by*-phrase in a passive construction. In the headlines listed in (1) to (5), the *by*-phrase is omitted for a number of reasons. Apart from the fact that newspaper headlines employ fewer words in order to achieve economy, brevity and catchiness, some of the agentive phrases could be inferred since they are generic. Considering the headlines in examples (2), (4) and (6) respectively, the processes *grabbed* and *arrested* suggest that these actions are usually carried out by „the police“, a Noun Group which functions as the Agent. In the other headlines, the concept of informativeness is made applicable where vital pieces of information such as *good lyrics* from gospel musicians, youths as *ambassadors of peace* and *killed* or the act of killing are highlighted at the expense of the agentive *by*-phrase in (1), (3) and (5) correspondingly. The *end-focus* and *end-weight* of these pieces of information denote their newness and the need to place premium on them by representing them in the passive construction. The rationale behind the choice of the agentless passive in the newspaper headline in point (5) may be the complex nature of the noun phrase (NP) which functions as the Subject of that particular sentence. The complexity of the Affected Participant *Former Western Regional Coordinator of*

Integrated Community Centre for Employable Skills is heavier and occupies more space and this could be a reason for sacrificing the Agentive option. As far as this research is concerned, it is obvious from the headlines that the agentless variety of passivisation is copiously employed from the options available as against the agentive passivisation (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973).

Apart from the above categorization of passivisation, the linguistic phenomenon in question could be divided into the-*get* passive and *be*-passive (Downing and Locke, 2006, p. 256). The difference between the two passive transformations is that the former combines the verb *get* with other elements of the clause whilst the latter depends on the verb *be* and other elements of the clause to encode the passivisation enterprise. The two perspectives are represented in **Table 4.53** with exemplifications from the data of this research work.

Table 4.53: Get-passive Construction

| Subject | <i>get</i> -element | Noun Group(NG) | Lexical Verb | By-phrase |
|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Mobile money vender | (got) | (himself/herself) | Shot | (by robbers) |
| Affected | (got) | Subject Referent | Process | (Agent) |
| Theme | (got) | VP Intruder | Passive Verb | (Rheme) |

In this kind of construction, there is emphasis laid on the Subject of the *get*-passive and the effect of the action of the process on it. On the other hand, the *be*-passive has a different form mapping onto different functions. The structure is shown below.

Table 4.54: *Be*-passive Transformation

| Subject | Auxiliary Verb (AV) | Lexical Verb (LV) | Optional <i>by</i>-phrase |
|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Mobile money vender | (was) | Shot | (by robbers) |
| Affected Theme | (was) | Process Passive Verb | Agent Rheme |

According to Aarts (2001) the main verb in a clause or sentence is obligatory but auxiliaries are optional. The optionality feature of the auxiliary verb in passive constructions is a striking feature of newspaper headlines or other media headlines.

4.5 Elliptical Elements in the Newspaper Headlines

As an example of Block Language, Newspaper Headlines are composed using fewer words to send a good deal of intended message to the public. Ellipsis is used as a tool to achieve this aim. Some examples of Newspaper Headlines that the study identifies include the following.

1. I'm a Missionary, Not Mercenary
2. Two Road Engineers in Trouble over Bribe.
3. J.J DECLINING RENAMING OF UDS AFTER HIM- NO BIG DEAL.
4. CHIEFS PREVENTING MINING ARE FLOUNTING GHANAIAN LAWS.
5. "KUM EN PREKO" DEMO TODA

The phenomenon of optionality in Newspaper Headlines is directly related to the concept of ellipsis. Through the intervention of ellipsis, some linguistic elements of the clause which are recoverable could be omitted. The elliptic information could be recovered from two sources which are linguistic co-text (textual) and social (situational) context. More importantly, situational ellipsis is applied in what is known as „block language“. This variety of language includes newspaper headlines,

telegrams, notices, titles, headings, labels, advertisements and other announcements. The omission of some linguistic categories particularly determiners and auxiliary verbs in the Newspaper Headlines is justified and authenticated by the style adopted in this kind of language (Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973). There are types of ellipsis based on the linguistic element which is omitted. In this case, there could be nominal ellipsis, verbal ellipsis, epithet or adjectival ellipsis among others which are analyzed in the following.

Verbal Ellipsis in the Newspaper Headlines

In the headlines below, the potential verbal elements that are ellipited are found in the brackets in the Newspaper Headlines below.

1. Gospel musicians (are/have been) urged to do music with good lyrics.
2. Cripple (is/has been) grabbed with parcels of weed (Indian Hem/marijuana).
3. Youth (are/have been) advised to be ambassadors of peace.
4. Man, 30, (is/has been) arrested for incest.
5. Former Western Regional Coordinator of Integrated Community Centre for Employable Skills (is/has been) killed.
6. Lawyer (is/has been) arrested for various criminal offences.
7. Two Road Engineers (are/have been) in Trouble over Bribe.

From the examples in Verbal Ellipsis, it becomes clear that almost all the elements that are omitted are auxiliaries which are optional elements in this context of the Newspaper Headlines. Nevertheless, in example (7), the omitted elements main verbs though they have the same form as some of the auxiliaries.

Nominal Plus Verbal Ellipsis in the Newspaper Headlines

As stated earlier, Newspaper Headlines as part of „block language“ usually omit passive auxiliary verbs as indicated in the brackets above. The Newspaper Headlines adopt the linguistic concept of ellipsis to achieve economy of resources like words to help convey or disseminate information in a catchy, precise and easy-to-read manner.

Apart from the ellipsis involving the passive auxiliary verbs above, there is another element of ellipsis which is associated with the newspaper headline *'m a Missionary, Not Mercenary* in which the coordination of two clauses encodes ellipsis of the subject of one of the clauses which is joined to another of which they are co-referential. Though the clauses of this newspaper headline are asyndetically formed, the ellipsis of the subject and verbal element, *'m* in the second clause is still a possibility as shown in the following.

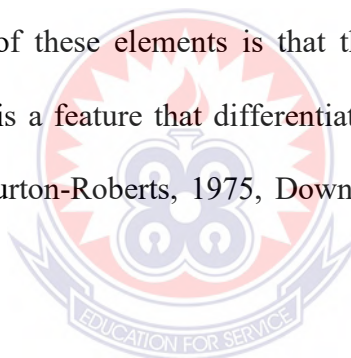
1. I'm a Missionary, Not Mercenary
2. I'm a Missionary but (I'm) not Mercenary.

Actually, the ellipsis encompasses the subject of the coordinated clause and the auxiliary verb in that particular newspaper headline. It is important to mention that this kind of ellipsis of the subject and the verb is not possible in clauses that are joined with subordinators or subordinate clauses. The structures below are considered to elaborate on this point.

1. *I'm a missionary whereas (others are) mercenaries.
2. *I'm a missionary because (I'm not) mercenary.

The ellipsis of the subject and the primary auxiliary verb renders the newspaper headline ungrammatical because the relationship between the clauses is not coordinated or apposed but dependency (Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1973).

Moreover, in the Newspaper Headline *No wrongdoings in the last referendum*, a kind of situational ellipsis is possibly recorded. In this case, the ellipsis under consideration is related to the *dummy elements*. These are lexical elements which do not carry any semantic import and as result of this, they cannot act as arguments as part of the Ideational metafunction. In English Language, for instance, the dummy elements are *it* and *there*. In other words, they are described as *expletives* or *pleonastic* elements. One distinctive feature of these elements is that they are encoded syntactically in subject positions which is a feature that differentiates them from the Locative *there* and the referential *it* (Burton-Roberts, 1975, Downing and Locke, 2006; Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976).



Making reference to the newspaper headline in question, *No wrongdoings in the last referendum*, the dummy *there* together with the linking verb (Relational Process) *are* and also in another context, the lexical verb *are* omitted. This kind of construction is prototypically associated with situational ellipsis in which the subject and sometimes, the verb are covert. The elliptical but retrievable part of the newspaper headline is shown below.

1. *(There are)* No wrongdoings in the last referendum.
2. **(There is)* No wrongdoings in the last referendum.

The pleonastic or expletive elements mark concord based on the nature of complementation they encode. The structure in (5) grammaticalises the plural relational process *are* because of the compound noun *wrongdoings* which is plural and for this reason, the structure in (6) becomes ungrammatical. It must be stated that in both cases, the scope of negation, (Quirk and Greenbaum, 1976) covers from the negative maker to the end of the original Newspaper Headline.

The analysis of ellipsis in newspaper headlines has shown that sometimes in writings or speeches, some of the elements of the Ideational metafunction could be omitted yet meaning would be achieved. The omission or inclusion of a Participant, Process or Circumstantial unit in accordance with SFG's Ideational Metafunction is relative and dependent on the context in which the language is applied as proposed by Systemic Functional Grammar in general.

Ellipsis of Nominal plus Verbal elements in Adjectival or Epithet Clause in the Newspaper Headlines

There is an ellipsis of an aspect of an embedded clause which functions as an adjectival in some of the headlines. The embedding, according to (Downing and Locke, 2006) is a mechanism by which the content and the structure of a linguistic unit is expanded or widened. In the embedding, the clause which is subordinated to another clause or a group functions as a constituent. An illustration using a newspaper headline from the data is done below in **Table 4. 55**.

(1) **CHIEFS PREVENTING MINING ARE FLOUNTING GHANAIAAN LAWS****Table 4. 55: Ellipsis of Nominal plus Verbal elements in embedded clause in the Newspaper Headline**

| CHIEFS | (who are) PREVENTING MINING | ARE FLOUNTING | GHANAIAAN LAWS |
|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Head | Embedded Clause/adjectival clause | Verb Phrase | Direct Object |

The **Table 4. 55** shows the elliptical part of the embedded clause (*who are*) which post-modifies the head of the noun phrase *CHIEFS* which could also be described as the antecedent. As indicated below, the antecedent and the embedded clause or the adjectival clause form the Subject or Agent of the verb phrase *are flouting* which is material process. Since the process *flouting* is a participant verb, it encodes the noun phrase *GHANAIAAN LAWS* as a Direct Object or the Affected. The elements of the clause employed in the composition of the newspaper headline are analyzed below.

CHIEFS (who are) PREVENTING MINING ARE FLOUNTING GHANAIAAN LAWS.

| <u>HEAD</u> | <u>POST MODIFIER/EMBEDDING</u> | <u>AUX. MAIN VERB</u> | <u>PRE-MOD HEAD</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| SUBJECT | | VERB PHRASE | OBJECT |
| AGENT | | MATERIAL PROCESS | AFFECTED |

The elliptical element provides a definite definition of the *CHIEFS (who are) FLOUNTING GHANAIAAN LAWS*. The post-modifier or the embedded clause is described as internal linguistic elements as against external ones (Huddleston and Pullum, 2005). It must be established that the fact that some elements are ellipted and others maintained in some cases makes language dynamic and paradigmatic. The dynamism and paradigm available in language create so many options and perspectives from which the user could adopt with respect to which Ideational elements are positioned in post-modification position of the Noun Group. These post-

modification elements are usually restrictive or non-restrictive. The restrictive post-modifier units have the feature of being imbedded in the structure of the Noun Group and help in the identification and definition of the referent of the Noun Group which could appear with other referents in a particular sentence. The non-restrictive units are hardly imbedded in the structure of the Noun Group. They function by adding supplementary information to a defined referent and usually demarcated by commas unlike the restrictive post-modifiers. The former are described as integrated whilst the latter are classed as supplementives. The newspaper headline in question admits the restrictive type of post-modification or embedding unit. Apart from the *-ing* non-finite clause which is adopted by this particular newspaper headline, other embedding or post-modifier units include relative clauses, *-en* clauses, prepositional phrases, adjectival groups, circumstantial clauses, appositive Noun groups, verbless clauses and complement clauses (Downing and Locke, 2006).

Ellipsis of Article in the Newspaper Headlines

One characteristic feature of the Newspaper Headlines is the ellipsis of Article. Usually, when these elements are omitted, though the structure of the noun phrase is affected, the meaning of the Newspaper Headline is still maintained. Some examples of ellipsis of Article in Newspapers Headlines are provided below in the brackets.

1. (a) Cripple grabbed with parcels of weed.
2. (a) Man, 30, arrested for incest.
3. (a) Former Western Regional Coordinator of Integrated Community Centre for Employable Skills killed.
4. (a) Lawyer arrested for various criminal offences.
5. (a) DNA process begins as four families avail themselves.

6. I'm a Missionary; Not (a) Mercenary.
7. (a) Foreign Minister visits Russia.
8. (a) New Coup D'étal In Venezuela Failed.
9. (a) Newly appointed dean promises to transform UCC Faculty of Arts.

Since the omission of Article in this context affects the structure of the noun phrase, this type of ellipsis could be described as Nominal Ellipsis. It is obvious that the kind of article which is usually omitted is the Indefinite Article.

Ellipsis of the *by*-phrase in Agentless Passive Construction in the Newspaper Headlines

Another type of ellipsis which is peculiar to the Newspaper Headlines is the one involving the *by*-phrase in agentless passive construction. Allegations of theft, murder and other criminal offences are usually reported with the Agentless Passive as against the Agentive Passive transformation. This is because such cases need investigation by the Police and arbitration by the Law Courts vested with the constitutional rights to perform these functions. As these duties are being performed by the Police and the Law Court, the Mass Media has no right to pronounce verdict in any form hence the use of the Agentless Passive construction. Some examples of this ellipsis are listed below.

1. Cripple grabbed with parcels of weed (Indian Hem/marijuana).
2. Man, 30, arrested for incest.
3. Former Western Regional Coordinator of Integrated Community Centre for Employable Skills killed.
4. Lawyer arrested for various criminal offences.

Sometimes, the ellipsis is not motivated by criminal issues but emphasis is laid on the part of the Newspaper Headline that carries the semantic load or message. The Newspaper Headlines that encode this structure include the following.

1. Gospel musicians urged to do music with good lyrics.
2. Youth advised to be ambassadors of peace.

In the Newspaper Headlines above, what is intended to be emphasized is the fact that *Gospel musicians* should compose music with good lyrics and the *Youth* should promote peace.

4.6 Grammatical Metaphor in the Newspaper Headlines

At the time of the production of the Newspaper Headlines, the Ideational Metafunctional roles of noun groups, verb groups and attributes could shift from iconic or typical functions to what is known as Grammatical Metaphor. This implies that there is no one-to-one correspondence between the form of iconic linguistic elements and the semantic roles or function in the headlines. In this case, the typical grammatical elements could switch and swap roles as shown in the Newspaper Headlines below. The Grammatical Metaphors could be categorized based on the grammatical-metaphorization process. Some types are given below.

(1) Nominal Grammatical Metaphor in the Newspaper Headlines

This involves choice of words in which a particular word class has undergone nominalization in the lexico-grammatical configuration. Considering the syntax of the Newspaper Headlines, the words that are iconically verbs are made to take the form of nouns. Some examples are cited from the data.

Table 4.56: Nominal Grammatical Metaphor

| NO | Verbal Element | Nominalized Form |
|----|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | analyze | Analysis |
| 2 | Punish | Punishment |
| 3 | Under-represent | Under-representation |
| 4 | Post | Postings |
| 5 | Confuse | Confusion |
| 6 | Bury | Burial |
| 7 | Revolute | Revolution |
| 8 | Storm | Storming |
| 9 | Celebrate | Celebrities |
| 10 | Rename | Renaming |
| 11 | Coordinate | Coordinator |
| 12 | Influence | Influence |

The examples of Nominal Grammatical Metaphor are highlighted in the various Newspaper Headlines below.

1. **Analysis** across Africa shows how social media is changing politics.
2. GJA calls for stiffer **punishment** for people who attack Journalists.
3. **Confusion** rocks Tarkwa Midwifery School.
4. **STORMING BREMPONG'S HOME WITHOUT COURT WARRANT WAS WRONG.**
5. **CELEBRITIES HAVE LITTLE INFLUENCE OVER HOW PEOPLE VOTE.**
6. J.J DECLINING **REMAINING** OF UDS AFTER HIM- NO BIG DEAL.
7. **Under-representation** of women of governance and decision-making a democratic deficit.
8. Accept **postings** to rural communities-Nana tells young doctors.
9. Former Western Regional **Coordinator** of integrated community center for employable skill killed.
10. Mass **burial** for 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital.

(2) Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor in the Newspaper Headlines

In this group, words that are typically verbs are used as Adjectives in the newspaper headlines in **Table 4.57** below.

Table 4.57: Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Verbs

| No | Verbal Element | Adjectival Form |
|----|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Employ | Employable |
| 2 | integrate | Integrated |
| 3 | Appoint | Appointed |
| 4 | Propose | Proposed |

1. Former Western Regional Coordinator of **integrated** community center for **employable** skill killed.
2. Newly **appointed** dear promise to transformer UCC Faculty of Arts.
3. CDD Rejects **Proposed** New Chamber for MPs

Sometimes, the Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor could be realized through a shift from a Noun to an Adjective. This type is represented together with examples from the Newspaper Headlines below.

Table 4.58: Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns

| No | Noun | Adjective |
|----|------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Democracy | Democratic |
| 2 | Parliament | Parliamentary |
| 3 | Region | Regional |
| 4 | Africa | African |
| 6 | Office | Official |
| 7 | Nation | National |

1. Under-representation of women of governance and decision-making a **democratic** deficit.
2. **Parliamentary** Democracy in last 26 years.

3. Former Western **Regional** Coordinator of integrated community center for employable skill killed.
4. Government Holds **African** Green.
5. FOCUS ON THE FIRST PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF AKUAPIM WHO HAD 62 **OFFICIAL** WIVES AND 147 CHILDREN
6. **NATIONAL** HOUSE OF CHIEFS BLAME POLITICIANS FOR GHANA’S WOES.

(3) Verbal Grammatical Metaphor

In this case, linguistic items that are nouns are shifted to function as verbs. The **Table 4.59** and the list of Newspaper Headlines further explain this.

Table 4.59: Verbal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns

| No | Noun | Verb |
|----|---------|-----------------|
| 1 | Rock | Rocks |
| 2 | Minimum | Minimize |
| 3 | Attack | Attack |

Some examples Verbal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns are shown below.

1. **Attack** on press freedom.
2. BOG directs Rural Banks to **Minimize** Capital.
3. **Confusion** rocks Tarkwa Midwifery School.

This feature of the Newspaper Headline plays a very important role in its composition. Grammatical Metaphor makes available different dimensions through which Newspaper Headlines could be structured. This is a condition which confirms the tenet in SFG that language is systemic and paradigmatic. One word could shift from its typical usage to a metaphorical one based on the various word classes.

Sometimes, when linguistic elements encode Grammatical Metaphor, they are composed of fewer words than the iconic version. Though Grammatical Metaphor could lead to elongation of structures such as phrases, clauses and sentences, it contributes immensely to the economization agenda of Newspaper Headlines which admit the language of Block Language or Linguistics. The concept of Grammatical Metaphor is meant to take an absolute or emphatic or a categorical position but to promote the paradigmatic and systematic nature of language and its usage.

4.7 Summary of Chapter Four

This chapter has analyzed the data taking into consideration the research questions guiding this study. The analysis of the data is broadly divided into two though the research questions are three. The first two research questions which deal with the structure of the newspaper headlines, clausal elements that make up the structures and their functions. In terms of the structure, the newspaper headlines are divided into phrases and sentences. The Phrasal Newspaper Headlines are predominantly Noun Phrases with only one Prepositional Phrase whilst the Sentential Newspaper Headlines include Declarative Mood, Interrogative Mood and Imperative Mood. The structure of the Phrasal Newspaper Headlines are the ones with **Pre-modifier+Head+Post-modifier**; **Head+Post-modifier** and the Prepositional Headline has the structure, **Preposition+Noun Phrase +Complement**. Based on the kind of Transitivity Process the Newspaper Headlines adopt, different kinds of Participants and circumstantial roles are encoded. Among the six Transitivity Processes, the Newspaper Headlines employ more of Material Processes as against a few Relational Processes. Concerning the third research question, a number of syntactic concepts characterize the Newspaper Headlines. The syntactic concepts in the Newspaper Headlines include Ellipsis, Passivisation and Grammatical Metaphor.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSION

5.0 Introduction

The focus of this research is to analyze selected newspaper headlines from Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) perspective. The discussion of the data for this work has shown that Systemic Functional Grammar or Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) highlights the interface that exists between Form and Function as well as meaning encoded based on the context in which language is used. This chapter comprises a summary of the study, findings of the study together with recommendations for further studies.

5.1 Summary of the Study

The chapter one encompasses the background of the study, the motivation for the study, the problem statement of the study, the research questions among others. The second chapter considers the conceptual framework relevant to newspaper headlines; the theoretical framework which is Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) and lastly, a review of literature on newspaper headlines.

The chapter three of the study presents the methodology for the study. Relevant information concerning the data, the site for the data collection, data collection procedure, the data size and sampling technique used, and the research design used are provided. Chapter four deals with the analysis and discussion which answer the research questions of the study. The last chapter, (chapter five) captures the summary of the entire study, findings of the study and recommendations that would inform further studies in the area of linguistics and other scholarly domains.

5.2 General findings of the study

The analysis reveals that newspaper headlines admit a good deal of forms or structures which are connected to a repertoire of syntactic phenomena that in turn construe a number of functions. The newspaper headlines conform to the various elements of the rank scale and the ideational metafunction as stipulated by Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). The elements that the Newspaper Headlines construe are phrases, clauses and sentences. These syntactic categories established by the rank scale serve as the basis for the rendition and realization of further grammatical concepts including elliptical structures, passive constructions or transformations, mood structures, clause and clause complex and transitivity hypothesis processes: material process, mental process, relational process, verbal process and behavioural process.

System of Structures in Newspaper Headlines and their Uniqueness

In the following, the uniqueness of the structures of Newspaper Headlines and the news items that they were employed in reporting are outlined.

Sentential Newspaper Headlines

Though the Sentential Newspaper Headlines are used to report news items from different areas, it becomes obvious that they show some uniqueness and peculiarity in the dissemination of information. This is a situation which makes the Newspaper Headlines unique and distinctive in their specifications.

1. Declarative Mood

The Declarative Newspaper Headlines were predominantly employed in publishing information from the world of politics. It was observed that these headlines updated

their readers or the citizenry on the programmes and the activities of the various political parties. Other domains include education, finance and foreign affairs.

2. **Interrogative Mood**

The Interrogative Newspaper Headlines are mostly devoted to reporting news that pertain to sporting events. This speech act serves as a strategy to arouse the interest of the readers and creates suspense in them. This linguistic structure helps to throw the world of sports into an atmosphere of discussions and predictions as to the outcomes of the various matches that would be played.

3. **Imperative Mood**

The imperative structure is largely encoded in the reportages of news from the religious and administrative or political domains. The politicians or administrators, and religious leaders employ Newspaper Headlines that grammaticalise the imperative structure to admonish and encourage their audience. Some samples from the data are shown below.

1. Don't extort money from drivers.
2. Watch and pray.
3. Let's handle our local vegetables and fruits hygienically.
4. Accept postings to rural communities; Nana tells young doctors.

Phrasal Newspaper Headlines

Phrasal newspaper headlines are categorized into Noun Phrases (NP) and Prepositional Phrase (PP). Examples of the types of phrases are shown below.

Noun Phrase Newspaper Headlines

Noun Phrases with the structure **(Pre-modifier+Head+Post-modifier)**.

1. RED **FLAG** OVER TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE
2. Parliament **Democracy** in last 26 years
3. Mass **burial** for 160 unclaimed bodies at police Hospital
4. Two Road **Engineers** In Trouble Over Bribe

Noun Phrases with the structure (Head+Post-modifier)

1. **Under-representation** of women of governance and decision-making a democratic deficit
2. **FOCUS ON THE FIRST PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF AKUAPIM WHO HAD 62 OFFICIAL WIVES AND 147 CHILDREN.**

Prepositional Phrase Newspaper Headline

1. For the foundation of church and country

Prepositional Phrase with the structure **Preposition + Noun Phrase+Complement**

Abbreviations

One of the strategies applied in the realization of the Ideational elements, particularly the participants in the Newspaper Headlines is abbreviation. Some of the linguistic elements such as words and phrases, especially the Noun Groups are contracted in the Newspaper Headlines. There are several types of abbreviations which include clipping and acronym but the Headlines for the current study mainly feature what is known as **initialism**. This is when a string of letters-usually spoken in that manner-

formed from the initial letters of the (main) words of a phrase in the Newspaper Headlines. In essence, this is a kind of partial omission or ellipsis. The abbreviated words phrases are highlighted in the following.

1. **DNA** process begins as four families avail themselves.
2. **GJA** calls for stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists.
3. Newly appointed dean promises to transform **UCC** Faculty of Arts.
4. Use of data is critical to achieving **SDGS**
5. **UNICEF** creates digital platform for youth to share ideas.
6. **BOG** directs Rural Banks to Minimize Capital.
7. **J.J** DECLINING REMAINING OF **UDS** AFTER HIM- NO BIG DEAL.
8. **CDD** Rejects Proposed New Chamber for **MPs**
9. Teachers Defy **GOVT**
10. **UNICEF** Worried over Rising Child Groom Marriage

In **GOVT**, some part of the word is clipped as against the feature of initialism applied in the rest of the examples in the Newspaper Headlines.

Ellipsis in Newspaper Headlines

In terms of ellipsis, elements such as auxiliary verbs, articles, the dummy *there* with the *be*, noun groups with auxiliaries or relational processes in clause complex and an aspect of the embedded clause (adjectival clause).

Passivized Newspaper Headlines

Some Uniqueness of the Passivized Newspaper Headlines

One of the uniqueness of the Passivized Newspaper Headlines is to report the activities of the security force particularly the police force who are vested with responsibility of arresting as one of the means of enforcing the laws of the state. For this reason, these headlines encode the Agentless Passive which does not represent the Performer or Agent of the action of the material process for instance, *arrest*.

1. Cripple grabbed with parcels of weed (Indian Hem/marijuana).
2. Man, 30, arrested for incest.
3. Lawyer arrested for various criminal offences.

Another observation is that the Agentless Passive is adopted to report criminal cases like murder which might be undergoing investigation and arbitration. It is appropriate to use this kind of Passive so that the newspaper agencies do not pronounce the verdict or judgment ahead of the judiciary.

1. Cripple grabbed with parcels of weed (Indian Hem/marijuana).
2. Man, 30, arrested for incest.
3. Former Western Regional Coordinator of Integrated Community Centre for Employable Skills killed.

It is also observed that the Agentless Passive is used to admonish people. The newspaper headline lays emphasis on the receiver of the piece of advice given as shown in the examples below.

1. Gospel musicians urged to do music with good lyrics.

2. Youth advised to be ambassadors of peace.

The two types of passive constructions help in creating a system or paradigm from which choices could be made for linguistic functions taking into consideration context.

Auxiliary verbs and the agent in agentless constructions are usually omitted yet the meaning intended is maintained as indicated in the following.

1. Gospel musicians (are/have been) urged to do music with good lyrics.
2. Cripple (is/was/has been) grabbed with parcels of weed (Indian Hem/marijuana).
3. Lawyer (is/has been) arrested for various criminal offences.

Uniqueness of Tense, Aspect and time realizations in the Newspaper Headlines

Usually the **Simple Present form** of the verb is used in the Declarative Newspaper Headlines. As mentioned earlier, some examples of the Processes in the **Historic Present** forms are indicated below.

1. DNA process **begins** as four families avail themselves.
2. GJA **calls for** stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists.
3. Newly appointed dean **promises** to transform UCC Faculty of Arts.
4. UNICEF **creates** digital platform for youth to share ideas.
5. BOG **directs** Rural Banks to Minimize Capital.

The Base form of the Verb is Employed in the Imperative Newspaper Headlines

The base forms of the Imperative Headlines are highlighted in the following Newspaper Headlines.

1. Let's **handle** our local vegetables and fruits hygienically.
2. **Accept** postings to rural communities; Nana tells young doctors

The Word *be* is used to Indicate future Time

The examples below show the realization of the future time using the *be* form.

1. Paperless port process **to** increase customs person's lifespan.
2. Demonstration **to** rock GHANA
3. Teachers **to** write license exams before employment

Grammatical Metaphor Encoded in the Newspaper Headlines

In this case, the conventional grammatical elements could switch roles with one another as shown in the Newspaper Headlines. The categories of Grammatical Metaphor based on the grammatical-metaphorization processes are given below.

(1) Nominal Grammatical Metaphor in the Newspaper Headlines

This type involves choice of words in which a particular word class is made to undergo nominalization in the lexico-grammatical configuration. Considering the syntax of the Newspaper Headlines, the words that are iconically verbs are made to take the form of nouns. Some examples are cited from the data.

Table 5.60: Excerpts of Nominal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Verbs

| NO | Verbal Element | Nominalized Form |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | analyze | Analysis |
| 2 | Punish | Punishment |
| 3 | under-represent | under-representation |
| 4 | Post | Postings |

The examples are highlighted in the various Newspaper Headlines below.

1. **Analysis** across Africa shows how social media is changing politics
2. GJA calls for stiffer **punishment** for people who attack Journalists.
3. **Confusion** rocks Tarkwa Midwifery school.
4. **STORMING BREMPONG HOME WITHOUT COURT WARRANT WAS WRONG.**

Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor

In this group, word that are typically verbs are used as Adjectives in the newspaper headlines below.

Table 5.61: Excerpts of Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Vrebs

| No | Verbal Element | Adjectival Form |
|----|----------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Employ | Employable |
| 2 | integrate | Integrated |
| 3 | Appoint | Appointed |
| 4 | Propose | Proposed |

1. Former Western Regional Coordinator of **integrated** community center for **employable** skill killed.
2. Newly **appointed** dear promise to transformer UCC Faculty of Arts.
3. CDD Rejects **Proposed** New Chamber for MPs

Sometimes, the Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor could be realized through a shift from a Noun to an Adjective. This type is represented together with examples from the Newspaper Headlines below.

Table 5.62: Adjectival Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns

| No | Noun | Adjective |
|----|------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Democracy | Democratic |
| 2 | Parliament | Parliamentary |
| 3 | Region | Regional |

1. Under-representation of women of governance and decision-making a **democratic** deficit.
2. **Parliamentary** Democracy in last 26 years.
3. Former Western **Regional** Coordinator of integrated community center for employable skill killed.

(2) Verbal Grammatical Metaphor

In this case, linguistic items that are nouns are shifted to function as verbs. The table and the list of Newspaper Headlines further explain this.

Table 5.63: Excerpts of Verbal Grammatical Metaphor formed from Nouns

| No | Noun | Verb |
|----|---------|-----------------|
| 1 | Rock | Rocks |
| 2 | Minimum | Minimize |
| 3 | Attack | Attack |

Some examples of this kind of Grammatical Metaphor are outlined in the following.

1. **Attack** on press freedom.
2. BOG directs Rural Banks to **Minimize** Capital.
3. **Confusion** rocks Tarkwa Midwifery School.

Summary of Transitivity Processes and the roles of Arguments they Encode in the Newspaper Headlines

Table 5.64: Transitivity Processes and the roles of Arguments in the Newspaper Headlines

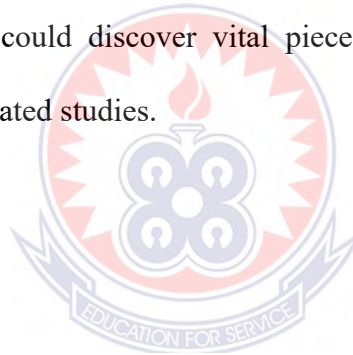
| Process | Example | Participants | Circumstance |
|------------|--|--------------------------|--------------|
| Possessive | The world needs men and women who cannot be bought | Possessor+Possessed | NA |
| Relational | Use of data is critical to achieving SDGS | Carrier+Attribute | NA |
| Relational | Is customs a necessary evil? | Carrier+Attribute | NA |
| Mental | Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics | Sensor+Phenomenon | NA |
| Material | Rotary club Accra –Labone donates sanitary towels to Accra psychiatric Hospital. | Agent +Affected+Oblique | NA |
| Material | Confusion rocks Tarkwah Midwifery school | Force+Patient | NA |
| Material | Foreigner Minister visits Russia. | Agent+Goal/Locative | NA |
| Material | BOG directs Rural Banks to Minimize Capital | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | GHANAIAN LIVING ABROAD SENT HOME US\$3.8BEN IN 2018 | Agent+Locative+Affected | Circumstance |
| Material | Ghana wildlife descends on pangolin traffickers. | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | CUBA FIGHTS US SANCTIONS | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | CDD rejects proposed new chamber | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | Ghana Armed Forces warns public | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | Osu Cemetery recycles unnamed graves for new burial | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | SFG condemns coup attempt | Agent+Affected | NA |
| Material | Let's handle our local vegetables and fruits hygienically | Elliptical You +Affected | Circumstance |

5.3 Recommendations for Further Study

The current study applying Systemic Functional Grammar or Linguistics (SFG/L) is situated in the domain of Block Language, specifically newspaper headlines in Ghana. It is an undeniable fact that there are boundaries, parameters and limitations set for this research enterprise. The implication is that an exhaustive and a watertight analysis is hardly conducted by this study. In view of this, the following areas could be considered for further studies or research ventures.

1. Analysis of electronic media headlines in Ghana
2. A comparative analysis of newspaper headlines in Ghana and Britain or America
3. Semantic analysis banner headlines in Ghana
4. Multimodal analysis of Newspaper Headlines in Ghana
5. Textual Metafunctional analysis of Newspaper Headlines

A great deal of findings could be unearthed if the domain which is investigated is approached from other angles of linguistic or the interfacing of two or more aspects (morphosemantic, sociocultural, etc.) of Newspaper Headlines or any other media headline. It is also important to mention that the kind of theoretical framework adopted for a research could discover vital pieces of information or concepts in Linguistics and its associated studies.



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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

HEADLINES FROM DAILY GRAPHIC

| No | Headlines From Daily Graphic |
|-----------|--|
| 1 | Analysis across Africa shows how social media is changing politics |
| 2 | DNA process begins as four families avail themselves. |
| 3 | GJA calls for stiffer punishment for people who attack Journalists. |
| 4 | Under-representation of women in governance and decision-making a democratic deficit. |
| 5 | Rotary club Accra –Labone donates sanitary towels to Accra psychiatric Hospital. |
| 6 | Don't extort money from drivers. |
| 7 | Parliamentary Democracy in last 26 years. |
| 8 | Former Western Regional Coordinator of integrated community center for employable skill killed |
| 9 | Newly appointed dean promises to transform UCC Faculty of Arts. |
| 10 | No wrongdoings in the last referendum |
| 11 | Man, 30, arrested for incest |
| 12 | Teachers argued to encourage students to excel |

APPENDIX B

THE GHANAIAN CHRONICLE

| No | The Ghanaian Chronicle |
|----|--|
| 1 | Paperless port process to increase customs personnel lifespan. |
| 2 | 5 reasons why eating crab is good for you. |
| 3 | Wholesale removal of customs barriers and our security. |
| 4 | Let's handle our local vegetables and fruits hygienically. |
| 5 | Teachers to write license exams before employment. |
| 6 | Youth advised to be ambassadors of peace. |
| 7 | ACCEPT POSTINGS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES |
| 8 | RED FLAG OUR TEMA AKOSOMBO RAIL LINE. |
| 9 | For the foundation of church and country. |
| 10 | Ghana wildlife descends on pangolin traffickers |
| 11 | Is custom a necessary evil? |
| 12 | Use of data is critical to achieving SDGS |

APPENDIX C

THE DAILY GUIDE

| No | The Daily Guide |
|----|---|
| 1 | Gospel musician urged To Do Music with Good Lyrics. |
| 2 | Mass burial for 160 unclaimed bodies at Police Hospital. |
| 3 | UNICEF creates digital platform for youth to share ideas. |
| 4 | I'm a Missionary, Not Mercenary |
| 5 | Robbers shoot mobile money vender. |
| 6 | Two Road Engineers In Trouble Over Bribe. |
| 7 | Foreign Minister visits Russia. |
| 8 | BOG directs Rural Banks to Minimize Capital. |
| 9 | Government Holds African Green. |
| 10 | Cripple Crabbed With parcels of weed. |
| 11 | Confusion rocks Tarkwah Midwifery School |
| 12 | Attack on press freedom |

APPENDIX D

DAILY DISPATCH NEWSPAPER

| No | Daily Dispatch Newspaper |
|----|---|
| 1 | STORMING BREMPONG HOME WITHOUT COURT WARRANT WAS WRONG. |
| 2 | GHANAIAN LIVING ABROAD SENT HOME US\$3.8BEN IN 2018. |
| 3 | Can Chelsea stop Liverpool? Not caps? |
| 4 | Luxembourg PRIME MINISTETR VISITS MEXICO WITH GAY PATNER. |
| 5 | CELEBRITIES HAVE LITTLE INFLUENCE OVER HOW PEOPLE VOTE. |
| 6 | J.J DECLINING REMAINING OF UDS AFTER HIM- NO BIG DEAL. |
| 7 | FOCUS ON THE FIRST PARAMOUNT CHIEF OF AKUAPIM WHO HAD 62 OFFICIAL WIVES AND 147 CHILDREN. |
| 8 | NATIONAL HOUSE OF CHIEFS BLAMES POLITICIANS FOR GHANA'S WOES. |
| 9 | CHIEFS PREVENTING MINING ARE FLOUNTING GHANAIAN LAWS. |
| 10 | GHANA MUST GO BAG-THE UGLY HISTORY. |
| 11 | Osu Cemetery Recycles Unnamed Graves |
| 12 | SFG CONDEMNS COUP ATTEMPT |

APPENDIX E

THE INSIGHT NEWSPAPER

| NO | The Insight Newspaper |
|----|---|
| 1 | CUBA FIGHTS US SANCTIONS |
| 2 | CDD Rejects Proposed New Chamber for MPs |
| 3 | Teachers Defy GOVT |
| 4 | New Coup D'etat In Venezuela Failed |
| 5 | Ghana Armed Forces Warn Public |
| 6 | Demonstration to rock GHANA |
| 7 | "KUM EN PREKO" DEMO TODA |
| 8 | UNICEF Worried over Rising Child Groom Marriage |
| 9 | DEATH THREATS Against Anti-Galamsey Crusader |
| 10 | LAWYER Arrested For Various Criminal Offences |
| 11 | GHANA NOW FIRST CLASS BORROWER |
| 12 | Fifteen Basic Schools Study Under Trees in Pru |