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A Corpus-Based Halliday's Transitivity Analysis of 'To the Lighthouse'

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ABSTRACT

This study explores transitivity in the novel "To the Lighthouse" (1927) by Virginia Woolf as one of the methods of clause analysis in the ideational meta-function of language. The transitivity analysis was carried out by using AntConc 3.5.7 corpus analysis tool software, through which the text of the novel was first tagged and then analysed. This was clause analysis and all the types of processes, participants and circumstances were investigated. The research is for language researchers to analyse and interpret text of different genres of literature.

Keywords: Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG), transitivity analysis, To the Lighthouse, corpus linguistics, Ideational Meta-function

Introduction

Corpus Linguistics

This study falls under the domain of Corpus Linguistics. The divergent and modern field of Corpus Linguistics is particularly centred on the computer-aided textual analysis based on the large sets of databases of texts. Corpus Linguistics provides the interface for the processing of naturally occurring language via computers and language analysis software programs. The accessibility of these aids enables to process and analyse the collection of data both qualitatively and quantitatively in a systematic way (McEnery & Wilson, 2001). Corpora are generally comprised of million to billion words which are based upon naturally occurring spoken or written language. It is analysed through the use of specialized software programs in a computer with the features of tagging and concordance programs (Hunston, 2002).

Background of the Study

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) was developed by Halliday in the 1960s. It is the study of language in relation to its functions and social settings. SFL treats language and its grammar as a meaning-making resource. It also claims the inter-relation between form and meaning (Halliday & Hasan, 1985). Halliday (1975) stated that language is developed in relation to three types of social functions. Halliday (1978) referred to these functions as 'meta-functions' that are known as, ideational, interpersonal, and textual functions. Halliday (2014) pointed out that these three functions occur in a language simultaneously. The ideational meta-function construes experience

in the terms of what's going on around and inside us. It construes the inner and outer experience. It further involves the system of transitivity. Halliday (1981) defined transitivity as one of the methods of clause analysis which expressed a specific variety of ideational meanings. The main function of the clause is to signify experience in order to describe events and states of the inner and outer world in the mind of a person. Transitivity involves three components which are known as the process, participants and circumstances. As shown in the diagrammatic presentation:

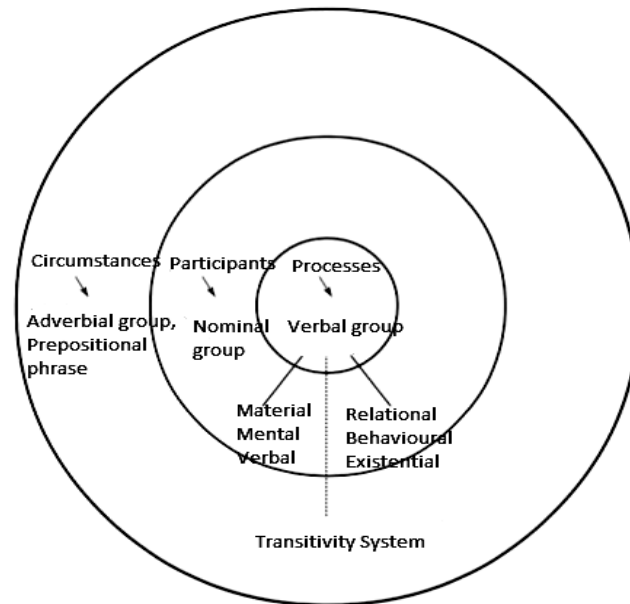


Figure 1. Components of transitivity

The processes are construed by the verb. The participants enact various roles involved in the process as well as the circumstantial elements (Halliday, 1985). Table 1. represented the types of process with their meanings and associated participants as well.

Types of Process

Types of Process	Categories of Meaning	Functions of Participant
Material	Act of Doing (go, come, give)	Actor, goal, recipient, client
Mental	Experiencing, Sensing (think, feel, seeing)	Sensor, phenomenon
Verbal	Act of Saying (said, tell, argue)	Sayer, verbiage, receiver, Addressee
Relational	Being, becoming (be, become, has, own)	Carrier, Attribute, Possessor, Possessed
Behavioural	Act of Behaving (laugh, smiling, staring)	Behaviour
Existential	Existing (there, exist, occur)	Existent

Purpose

The main purpose of the study is to analyse the experiential meanings encoded in the language of the novel and to explore writer's style of fiction narrative text.

Significance of the Study

Language is a social phenomenon to interpret what is being said. In the Ideational function of language, transitivity analysis is quite advantageous to understand the experiential meanings of the text in a coherent way. Transitivity is considered as a useful system to explore the ways in which language construct ideologies, themes and meanings. It is an essential system of construing the human experience of the inner and outer world encoded in language. This research might be substantive for language researchers and stylisticians to analyse and interpret written texts of different genres of literature. The research unlocks new vistas for the researchers to examine various genres of literature to investigate the discourse and style with the corpus-based methodologies.

Problem Statement

The interrelated nature of language and ideational or experiential metafunction, it may have a specific effect on the language used in the novel.

Research Questions

- What are the frequent elements of transitivity appear in the text of the novel?
- How does transitivity analysis reveal experiential meanings in the language of the novel?
- How the participants and circumstances enact various functions involved in the process?

Review of Literature

SFL is viewed as a resource of meaning-making and a system of interlaced meaningful choices in language. The theory of transitivity is considered as a foundation of semantic initiation of experience in which the speaker particularly inscribed his experience (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). However, it is the most substantial theory by Halliday which prescribed language as an experience of speakers.

The implication of the theory of SFL and transitivity is not new in the researches of stylistics and critical discourse analysis. Transitivity analysis has been used to explore the phenomenon in which language structure produces various meanings and ideologies which are not usually explicit for the readers (Mehmood, 2014). Halliday (1974) is known as the initiator of transitivity analysis. In the study of Golding's novel 'The Inheritors', he analysed the frequencies of the transitivity syntactic structure in the development of the novel's theme. Opara (2012) found transitivity analysis significant to find themes in the narrative discourse. It reveals how the character construction is done through the language choices by the discourse makers. The results of the research revealed that the themes are subjugated by the positive character. Nguyen (2012)

applied the transitivity theory to a short story ‘Heroic Mother’ by Hoa Pham to identify and describe how the main character’s personality is depicted and represented through the use of language. The findings revealed that the linguistic choices in transitivity played an important role in character construction and enabled the reader to understand the main character in a coherent way. Hamdache (2016) conducted the corpus-based discourse analysis of the U.S. State Department by using transitivity theory, intended to find out the ambivalence between the speech and actions through the discourse of the U.S. State Dept. The result revealed that the U.S. is willing to fight ISIS only as a part of a coalition and is under no obligation to commit. Cunanan (2011), applied transitivity system on a literary text ‘Old Mrs Grey’ by Woolf to analyse linguistic choices. The research also highlights that transitivity permits the readers to access a persona’s stream of consciousness.

As compared to previous researches, this study was attempted to observe dissimilar data. This research is delimited to explore the experiential meanings in the language of novel with the implementation of transitivity analysis. The research deals with corpus-based analysis through the use of AntConc corpus tool.

Research Methodology

The research was based on a mixed-method approach. The quantitative method involved the procedure of determining the frequencies of the word occurrences, whereas qualitative method was implied to interpret the results.

The study was based on a descriptive type of research. This type of research helps in understanding the underlying reasons for a phenomenon. The descriptive method provides a natural picture of a situation (Burns & Grove, 2003).

The collection of corpora included novel of Virginia Woolf entitled as, ‘*To the Lighthouse*’ (1927). The novel is written in a narrative technique, known as Stream of Consciousness (SOC). The researcher used the convenient sampling in this research which is a non-probability sampling technique in which the subjects are selected because of their accessibility, and feasibility to the researcher (Burns & Grove, 2003). The researcher took clauses from the first chapter of the novel to identify the components of transitivity including; functions of participants and circumstantial elements.

Theoretical Framework

The research was based on the theory of SFL which sees language as a meaning-making source. It is based on the idea that language is seen as a system of meanings. Halliday (1985) distinguished three meta-functions known as; ideational, interpersonal and textual function. These are considered to be the property of all languages to shape and organize meanings. The ideational meta-function is distinguished into two components that are the experiential and the logical, which included transitivity which further enables to construe the human experience of the inner and outer world by configuring it into clauses (Halliday, 2014). It interprets the world of experiences into a manageable set of processes. Transitivity is considered to be an important semantic phenomenon,

which affects not just the verb but also its participant and the circumstance (Halliday, 1985). The diagrammatic presentation is:

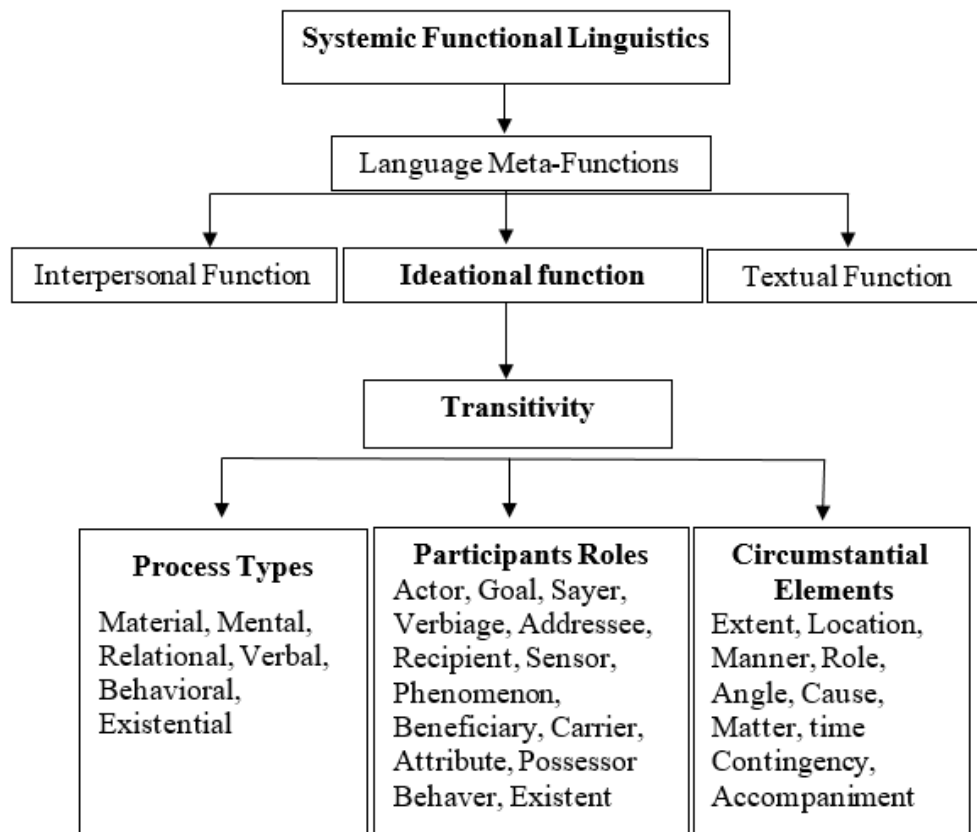


Figure 2. Theoretical Framework

Research Instrument

The instrument which was used in this research was AntConc corpus analysis toolkit (3.5.7 version) to check the frequencies and concordances of the word occurrences appeared in the text of the novel.

Data Analysis

The procedure involved the following; the text of novel was first tagged and then analysed through the software. The Word List was checked thoroughly to identify the high-frequency words as well as their concordances. At first, the frequencies of process types were noted. Further, these were identified and categorized manually into each type of process. Furthermore, the percentages were calculated. Secondly, the segmentation of clauses was done and then the functions of participants and circumstances were assigned to these manually.

Data Analysis

Results

The software program revealed the occurrences of 6686 word-types and 70755 word-tokens in the text. The word list was checked and the high-frequency words were identified in relation to the context according to the types of process. The words were categorized manually under each type of process. The frequencies of each process were identified and noted with the rank number through the software. The frequencies of the six types of processes found in the novel are enlisted as follows.

Table 1. Frequency list of Material Process

Rank no	Material Process	Frequencies
93	Go	96
94	Came	95
95	Come	94
146	Going	63
148	Sat	63
159	Stood	58
167	Sitting	56
181	Took	51
196	Got	45
207	Gone	43
209	Left	42
227	Put	37
235	Done	36
242	Take	36
250	Standing	35
275	Began	29
278	Get	29
279	Give	29
289	Help	28
292	Passed	28
293	Raised	28
294	Taking	28
303	Need	27
328	Gave	24
329	Happened	24
331	Held	24
338	Changed	23
341	Dead	23
342	Fall	23
357	leaves	22
365	Laid	21

367	Lost	21
380	Does	20
385	Painting	20
389	Turning	20

Table 2. Frequency list of Mental Process

Rank no	Mental Process	Frequencies
36	Thought	303
44	Like	18
63	felt	155
84	see	103
108	Knew	88
145	Thinking	64
223	Know	38
126	Saw	72
128	Wanted	72
161	Liked	57
184	Think	49
195	feeling	45
199	Seen	45
206	Feel	43
216	Love	40
220	Heard	39
223	Know	38
237	Find	36
245	Want	36
262	Remembered	33
265	Wondered	33
303	Need	27
307	Wished	27
312	Supposed	26
343	Found	23
367	Lost	21
370	Seeing	21
372	Silent	21

Table 3. Frequency list of Verbal Process

Rank no	Verbal Process	Frequencies
27	Said	424
78	Say	115

155	Saying	60
228	Tell	37
137	Asked	66
308	ask	26
323	Told	25
353	Called	23
361	Speak	22

Table 4. Frequency list of Behavioural Process

Rank no	Behavioural Process	Frequencies
295	Talk	28
333	Laughed	24
348	Talking	23
350	Watch	23
69	Looked	141
198	Reading	45
261	Read	33
76	Looking	120
106	Look	89

Table 5. Frequency list of Relational Process

Rank no	Relational Process	Frequencies
8	Was	1364
13	Had	934
30	Be	369
40	Were	293
41	's	293
55	Have	190
30	Been	166
65	Is	151
77	Made	115
74	Seemed	130
181	Took	51
208	Make	43
313	Turn	26
317	Kept	25
98	Own	94
131	Are	70
142	Being	65

256	Became	33
258	Has	33
316	Having	25
98	Own	94

Table 6. Frequencies of Existential Process

Rank no	Existential Process	Frequencies
29	There	385

Table 7. Sum and Percentages of the types of Process

Types of Process	Material	Mental	Verbal	Behavioural	Relational	Existential
Sum of Frequencies	1341	1573	798	526	4564	385
Percentages	14.5%	17.1%	8.6%	5.7%	49.6%	4.1%

The statistics are displayed in the following graph.

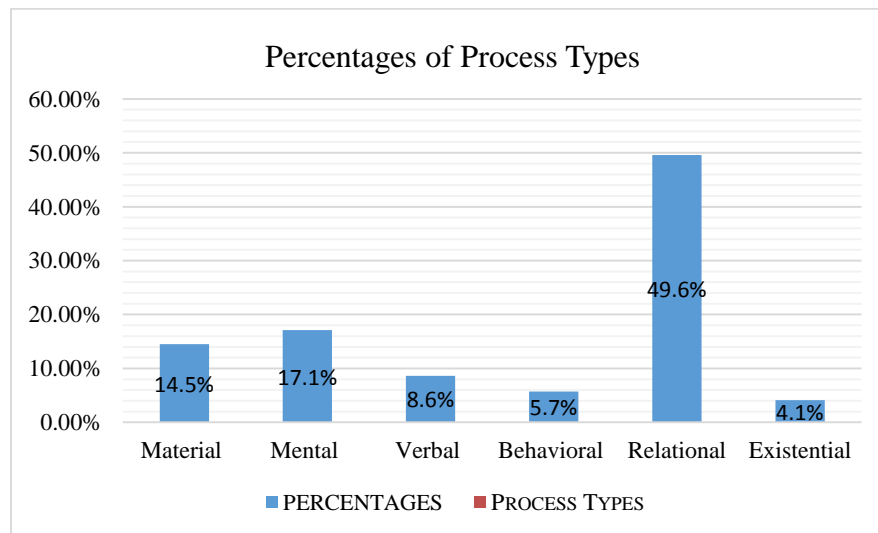


Figure 3. Percentages of Process types

Result and Findings

The result shows the domination of relational process in text of the novel. Relational process is the frequent type found in the text with 49.6%. Relational process leads the chart whereas mental process ranks at second most frequent process found in the text with 17.1%. Material process found with 14.5%, verbal with 8.6%, behavioural with 5.7% and the existential process rank last with 4.1%.

The clauses which consist of relational processes generally serve to characterize and identify the process of having and being. This type of process establishes a relation of sameness between two entities. It defines entity in terms of manner, time and location. It represents possession that one entity owns another entity (Halliday, 2014). Thus, it serves to establish possession and relationship among personas of the novel. On the other hand, material process is the process of doing and happening of actions and events. These processes are concerned with experiences of the material or outer world. So, it represents the doings, happenings and actions of personas depicted in the novel. Conversely, mental process is concerned with human experience of inner world of their own consciousness. It represents conscious inner experience including; cognition, perception, and affection. The occurrence of mental process signifies persona's inner world of consciousness depicted in the novel. While 'stream of consciousness' (SOC) is defined as the continual flow of thoughts, feelings and perception in conscious mind. It signifies inner and outer world experiences of personas (Cunanan, 2011). SOC represents personas internal (mental) and external (material) world experiences which are encoded in the language of novel (James, 1980). Verbal process is concerned with the act of communication. It represents the conscious activity of speaking, arguing, telling and saying. Behavioural process represents physiological and psychological activities. Lastly, the existential process represents what exists in the world where participants are termed as existent. The orientation and setting of a narrative text are often predominated by 'existential' and 'relational' processes. Though the main events are dominantly construed by the material process. Thus, all types of process are evolved in distinctive grammatical properties (Halliday & Matthiessen, 1985). All these processes (verb of actions) construes different actions, activities and experiences encoded in language of the novel.

Transitivity Analysis

The segmentation of clauses was done to analyse the functions of participants and circumstantial elements. The transitivity analysis of the clauses is presented as follows.

Clause no 1. "Yes, of course, if it's fine tomorrow," said Mrs Ramsay.

(Woolf, 1927: 1)

"Yes, of course,	it	's	Fine	tomorrow,"	said	Mrs Ramsay.
Verbiage	carrier	Process	Attribute	Circumstance: time	Process	sayer

Clause no 2. "But you'll have to be up with the lark," she added. (Woolf, 1927: 1)

You	have	Be	up with she the lark,	added
Possessor	Process	Process	attribute	Actor
				Process

Clause no 3. It was fringed with joy. (Woolf, 1927: 1)

It	was	Fringed	with joy
Carrier	process	Process	Circumstance: accompaniment

Clause no 4. "But," said his father, stopping in front of the drawing-room window, "it won't be fine."

(Woolf, 1927: 1)

said	his father, stopping in front of the drawing- room window,	It	won't	be	Fine
Process	sayer	carrier		Process	Attribute

Clause no 5. Had there been an axe handy, a poker, or any weapon that would have gashed a hole in his father's breast and killed him, there and then, James would have seized it.

(Woolf, 1927; 1)

had there	been	an axe handy, a poker, or any other weapon	That would have	gashed	a hole in his father's breast and	killed	him, James	Seized
			goal				actor	Process
carrier	Process	Attribute	actor	Process	goal	Process	goal	

Clause no 6. "What he said was true."

(Woolf, 1927: 2)

What	he	said	was	true
	carrier		process	attribute
Verbiage	Sayer	process		

Clause no 7. It was always true.

(Woolf, 1927: 2)

It	was	Always	true
carrier	process	Circumstance: time	attribute

Clause no 8. "But it may be fine—I expect it will be fine,"

(Woolf, 1927: 2)

it may	be	Fine	I	expect	it	Will	be	Fine
carrier	Process	attribute			carrier		Process	attribute
			sensor	mental	Phenomenon			

Clause no 9. Said Mrs Ramsay, making some little twist of the reddish brown stocking she was knitting, impatiently.

(Woolf, 1927)

said	Mrs Ramsay	making some little twist of the reddish brown stocking she was knitting, impatiently
process	sayer	Circumstance: manner

Clause no 10. For how would you like to be shut up for a whole month at a time, and possibly more in stormy weather, upon a rock the size of a tennis lawn?

(Woolf, 1927)

For how would	you	like	to be	shut up for a whole month at a time, and possibly more in stormy weather,	upon a rock the size of a tennis lawn
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circumstance: extent	sensor	process		phenomenon
			process	circumstance: time
				circumstance: location

Clause no 11. How would you like that?

(Woolf, 1927)

How	would	you	Like	that
circumstance: manner		sensor	process	phenomenon

Clause no 12. She asked, addressing herself particularly to her daughters.

(Woolf, 1927)

She	asked	addressing	herself	particularly	to	her	daughters
sayer	process			verbiage			
		Process	Goal	circumstance: manner		circumstance: accompaniment	

Clause no 13. She added, rather differently, one must take them whatever comforts one can.

(Woolf, 1927)

she	added	rather	one	must	take	them	whatever	comforts	one can
sayer	process	Circumstance: manner			verbiage				
			goal		process	goal			

Clause no 14. "It's due west," said the atheist Tansley,

(Woolf, 1927)

It	's	due west,	said	the atheist	Tansley,
	verbiage		process	sayer	
carrier	process	Attribute			

Clause no 15. Holding his bony fingers spread so that the wind blew through them,

(Woolf, 1927)

holding	his	spread	so that	the	blew	through
	bony			wind		them,
	fingers					
process	goal	process	circumstance: cause	actor	process	circumstance: cause

Clause no 16. For he was sharing Mr Ramsay's evening walk up and down, up and down the terrace.

(Woolf, 1927)

for	he	was	sharing	Mr	walk	up and down	up and down
				Ramsay's			the terrace
				evening			
			beneficiary				
	goal		process	goal	process	circumstance: manner	circumstance: location

Clause no 17. That is to say, the wind blew from the worst possible direction for landing at the Lighthouse.

(Woolf, 1927)

That	is	to say,	the	blew	from	the	at the
			wind		worst	possible	Lighthouse
					direction	for	
					landing		
	goal		actor	process	Circ: location		Circ: location
		process	process				

Clause no 18. Yes, he did say disagreeable things, Mrs Ramsay admitted;

(Woolf, 1927)

he	did	say	disagreeable	Mrs	admitted;
			things,	Ramsay	
sayer		Process	Verbiage	sayer	process

Clause no 19. It was odious of him to rub this in, and make James still more disappointed;

(Woolf, 1927)

It	was	odious	of	to rub	this	and	James	still
			him		in,	make	more	disappointed;
							but	
Carrier	process	Process	Circ: role	process	goal	process	Goal	

Clause no 20. But at the same time, she would not let them laugh at him.

(Woolf, 1927)

but at the	she	would not	let	them	at
same time,				laugh	him
Circ: time	actor		process	goal	

Clause no 21. "The atheist," they called him; "the little atheist.

(Woolf, 1927)

"the atheist,"	they	called	him; the little
			atheist
actor		process	goal

Clause no 22. "Nonsense," said Mrs Ramsay, with great severity.

(Woolf, 1927)

Nonsense	said	Mrs	with great
		Ramsay	severity
verbiage	Process	sayer	Circ: manner

Clause no 23. Who did not feel the worth of it, and all that it implied, to the marrow of her bones!

(Woolf, 1927)

who	did not	feel	the worth of	to	the
			it, and all	marrow of	her bones!

		that	it
		implied,	
sensor	Process	phenomenon	Circ: angle

Clause no 24. She turned with severity upon Nancy.

(Woolf, 1927)

she	turned	with severity	upon Nancy
actor	Process	Circ: manner	Circ: accompaniment

Clause no 25. He had not chased them, she said.

(Woolf, 1927)

He	had not	chased	them,	she	said
		Verbiage		sayer	process
actor		process	goal		

Clause no 26. He had been asked.

(Woolf, 1927)

He	had been	Asked
Addressee		Process

Clause no 27. They must find a way out of it all.

(Woolf, 1927)

They	must	find	a way	out of it
				all
actor		process	goal	Circ: cause

Clause no 28. There might be some simpler way, some less laborious way, she sighed.

(Woolf, 1927)

There	might	be	some simpler	some	less	she	sighed
			way,	laborious			
			way,				
		goal				actor	process

process	Circumstance: manner	Circumstance: manner
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Clause no 29. When she looked in the glass and saw her hair grey, her cheek sunk, at fifty, she thought,

(Woolf, 1927)

When	she	looked	in the glass and	saw	her hair grey,	her cheek	sunk,	at fifty,	she	thought,
						phenomenon			sensor	process
Circ: time	actor	process	Circ: location	process	goal	actor	Process	Circ: Time		

Clause no 30. She might have managed things better—her husband; money; his books.

(Woolf, 1927)

she	might	managed	things better,	- husband;	her money; his books
actor		process	goal		goal

Clause no 31. But for her own part, she would never for a single second regret her decision, evade difficulties.

(Woolf, 1927)

But for her own part	she	would never for a single second	regret	her decision,	evade	difficulties
Circ: cause	sensor		process	phenomenon	process	goal

Clause no 32. "There'll be no landing at the Lighthouse tomorrow," said Charles Tansley,

(Woolf, 1927)

There'll	be	no landing at the Lighthouse	tomorrow, said	Charles Tansley
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	verbiage		Process	Sayers
process	Process	Circ: location	Circ: time	

Clause no 33. Clapping his hands together as he stood at the window with her husband.

(Woolf, 1927)

clapping	his hands together as	he	stood	at the window	with her husband
process	goal	actor	process	Circ: location	Circ: accompaniment

Clause no 34. He had said enough.

(Woolf, 1927)

he	had	said	enough
sayer		process	Verbiage

Clause no 35. She wished they would both leave her and James alone.

(Woolf, 1927)

She	wished	that	they	would both	leave	her and James alone
sensor	process			phenomenon		
			actor		process	goal

Clause no 36. She looked at him.

(Woolf, 1927)

She	looked	at him
sensor	process	Circ: location

Clause no 37. He was such a miserable specimen, the children said.

(Woolf, 1927)

He	was	such a miserable specimen,	the children	said,
carrier	process	attribute		
			sayer	process

Clause no 38. He couldn't play cricket; he poked; he shuffled. (Woolf, 1927)

He	couldn't	play	cricket;	he	poked;	he	shuffled
actor		Process	goal				
				actor	process		
						actor	process

Clause no 39. He was a sarcastic brute, Andrew said. (Woolf, 1927)

He	was	a sarcastic	Andrew	said
		brute,		
	Verbiage		sayer	process
carrier	Process	Attribute		

4.3.1 Functions of Participants

Functions of Participants	Number of participants involved	Percentages
Actor	21	19.4%
Goal	21	19.4%
Beneficiary	1	0.9%
Sensor	8	7.4%
Phenomenon	7	6.4%
Sayer	15	13.8%
Verbiage	11	10%
Addressee	1	0.9
Carrier	11	10%
Attribute	11	10%
Possessor	1	0.9%
Total	108	100%

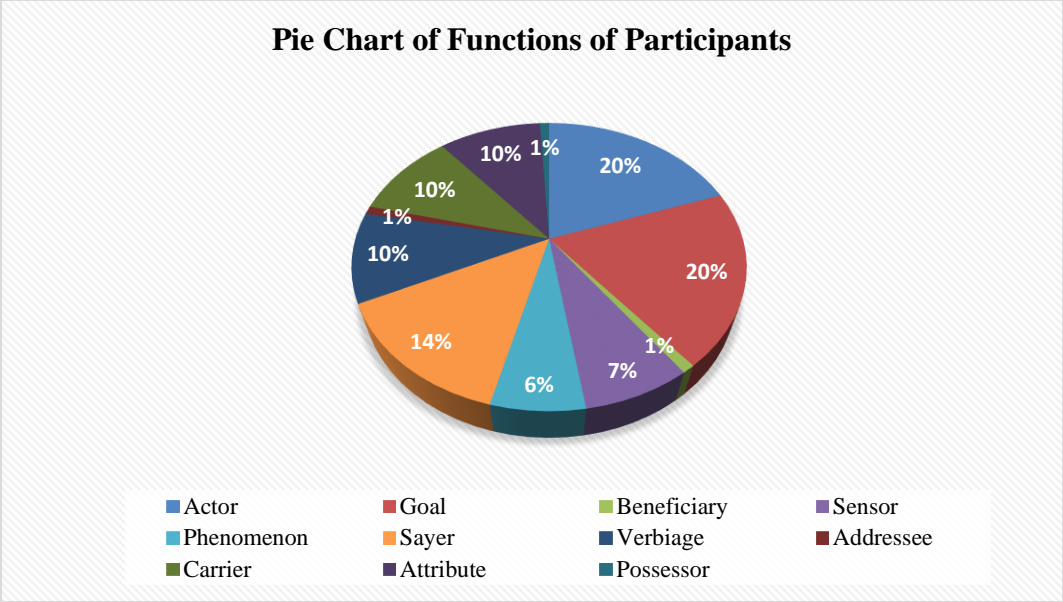


Figure 4. Functions of Participants

Results and Interpretation

‘Actor’ and ‘goal’ are the leading functions of participant occurred in the text with 20%. The second most leading function is ‘sayer’ with 14%. ‘Verbiage’, ‘carrier’ and ‘attribute’ come about with 10%. ‘Sensor’ occurs with 7% and ‘phenomenon’ with 6%. ‘Beneficiary’, ‘addressee’, and ‘possessor’ come about with the least percentage of 1%. These are the results of the analysed functions of participants that occurred in the text. Halliday (2014) added that these participants enact various roles and functions in association with the material process to represent experiences, actions and activities of physical world like going, sitting, taking, giving etc. ‘Actor’ is someone who is the doer of an action in a clause whereas ‘goal’ is that which is affected by verb in a clause. ‘Actor’ enacts as a subject while ‘goal’ as an object in a clause. ‘Beneficiary’ enacted as a recipient in a material clause. According to Halliday and Matthiessen (1985), ‘sensor’ is one the functions of participant which is associated with mental process or clause. ‘Sensor’ involved in the mental activities including sensing, reacting, and perceiving of ‘phenomenon’ which included conscious activities like seeing, hearing, feeling, thinking etc. In a verbal clause or process, ‘Sayer’ is the participant who involved in the communicating activities while ‘Addressee’ is the recipient of the verbal activity. And ‘Verbiage’ is the about what is being said. ‘Carrier’ is one of the functions of participants which is associated with relational clause or process. ‘Carrier’ enact in a clause like having an ‘attribute’ a certain quality. While ‘possessor’ enacts as a being who owns an entity. All these functions of participants represent human agency, experiential activities of doing, happening, saying, sensing, being, having, etc. These functions also express the experiences of personas in the novel.

Elements of Circumstances

Circumstantial Elements	Number of circumstances	Percentages
Location	8	22.8%
Time	7	20%
Manner	9	25.7%
Extent	1	2.8
Cause	4	11.4
Role	1	2.8
Accompaniment	4	11.4
Angle	1	2.8
Total	35	100%

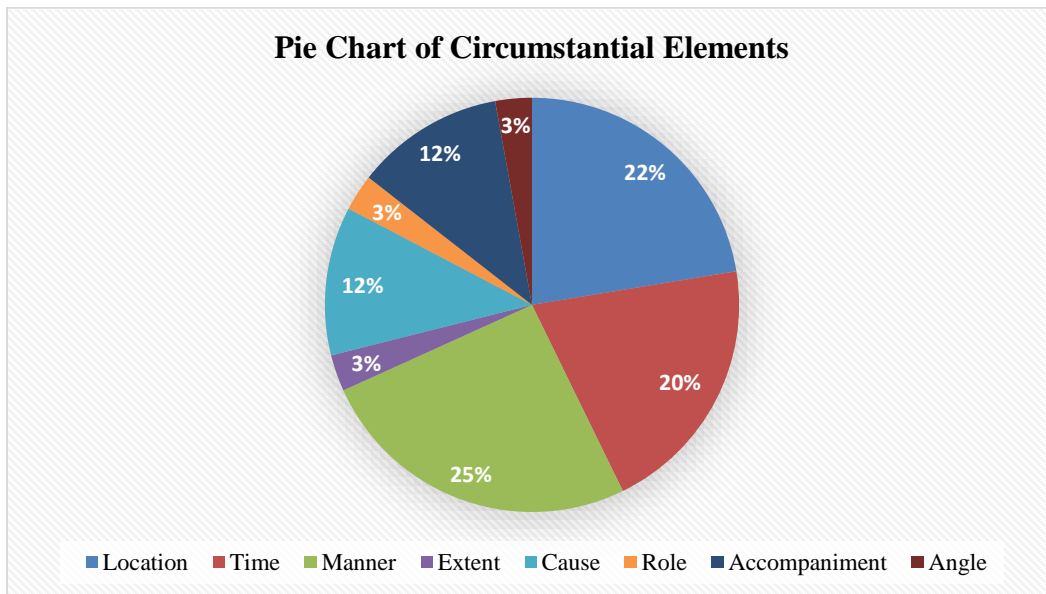


Figure 5. Elements of Circumstances

Results and Interpretation

The leading circumstantial element is ‘manner’ with 25%. The second most occurred circumstance is ‘location’ with 22%. The third number is ‘time’ with 20%. ‘Cause’ and ‘accompaniment’ come about with 12%. The ‘role’, ‘extent’ and ‘angle’ come about with 3% in the text. Circumstances are usually realized by adverbials, adjuncts and prepositional phrases. The circumstantial elements are associated with process to represent the situation, events, time, location and manner. These elements represent that when, where and how an action occurred and took place. They are

generally answered with a wh-question. These are helpful to understand setting and orientation (Halliday, 2014).

Discussion and Conclusion

The ideational meaning assists the expression of content in the language about the experience of inner and outer world. Transitivity construes the world of experience into manageable set of processes where each process provides a specific domain of experience as a figure of a specific kind. The results of the research show that the system of transitivity can analyse the text effectively. Transitivity is a unique concept in the analysis of the representation of reality. It enables us to analyse and represent the same situation and event in different ways. The reader can uncover the thoughts of personas through transitivity analysis as well as identify ‘who does what to whom’ which assists to understand the text (Halliday, 2014). The study analysed the experiential meanings encoded in the language of the novel and explored narrative style of fiction written in Stream of consciousness through transitivity analysis. The results are significant and represented experiences of personas. In the Ideational meta-function, the system of transitivity is quite advantageous to construe the meanings of the texts in a comprehensible way. Transitivity is considered to be an essential concept to investigate the phenomenon in which language constructs meanings and themes. This is a unique concept of interpreting the human experience in terms of their inner or outer world. Transitivity is best known for the method of clause analysis. It can unveil the internal and external experiences of a human. The transitivity system is dealt with the transmission of the world view of the character or persona depicted in the narrative text in order to present their experiences. It is generally known as representing human experience. It construes the material and the mental world. Transitivity analysis helped to unfold the experiences of the characters through processes in the form of their doing, sensing, behaving, interaction, verbal responses, and relationships among entities. The involved participants in the process experience the phenomenon of processes and enact various functions and roles such as the actor, doer, sensor, addressee, sayers, behavior, carrier, possessor, existent, etc. The circumstances are often associated with the processes which represent the situations, manner, time, accompaniment, and events, etc. Thus, transitivity is an aid to interpret and understand the clauses effectively.

Delimitations of the Research

The research is delimited to explore only one meta function which is the ideational function of language. However, it can be conducted on other meta-functions as well. The research is confined to explore one aspect of Ideational function which is known as transitivity. Although, the research can be done on other aspects and features of meta-functions. The corpus size is delimited to just one novel so more novels can be added to extend corpora.

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