

Lexical Density and Readability of Joe Biden's Victory Speech

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ABSTRAK

Keterbacaan dan kepadatan leksikal pidato Joseph Robinette Biden Jr., yang lebih sering disebut sebagai pidato kemenangan kemenangan Joe Biden, menjadi fokus penelitian ini. Tujuan penelitian ini yaitu menganalisis kepadatan leksikal dan keterbacaan pidato kemenangan Joe Biden. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain penelitian campuran kuantitatif dan kualitatif. Sumber utama data penelitian ini adalah pidato Joe Biden untuk memenangkan pemilu. Instrumen pengumpulan data menggunakan kuesioner. Teknik analisis data yaitu analisis dekriptif kualitatif dan kuantitatif. Hasil penelitian yaitu ada 852 kata isi dan 990 kata tata bahasa. Teks ini mengandung kepadatan leksikal sebesar 46,2, yang menempatkannya pada klasifikasi kepadatan leksikal tinggi. Teori Beverly, q (1988), menyatakan bahwa skor keterbacaan adalah 64,23 yang berarti standar, terdapat 142 kalimat, 1842 kata, dan 2833 suku kata. Pengaruh pidatonya terhadap kepadatan leksikal dan keterbacaan menunjukkan bahwa ia menggunakan kata-kata yang mudah dipahami oleh pendengar karena mengungkapkan banyak rasa syukur dan kebahagiaan. Ceramahnya juga mencerminkan karakter Biden yang senang memuji, penuh harapan, berani, dan tidak fanatik sehingga dipuja oleh masyarakat Amerika dan mengantarkannya menjadi pemimpin Amerika.

ABSTRACT

This research focuses on the readability and lexical density of Joseph Robinette Biden Jr.'s speech, more commonly referred to as Joe Biden's victory speech. This research aims to analyze the verbal density and readability of Joe Biden's victory speech. This research uses a mixed quantitative and qualitative research design. The primary data source for this research is Joe Biden's speech to win the election. The data collection instrument uses a questionnaire. Data analysis techniques are qualitative and quantitative descriptive analysis. The research results were 852 content words and 990 grammar words. This text contains a lexical density of 46.2, which places it in the high verbal density classification. Beverly's theory, q (1988), states that the readability score is 64.23, which means that standard, there are 142 sentences, 1842 words, and 2833 syllables. The influence of his speech on lexical density and readability shows that he used words that listeners easily understood because they expressed a lot of gratitude and happiness. His speech also reflected Biden's character, who loves to praise, is full of hope, is brave, and is not fanatical. Hence, the American people admired people, which led him to become America's leader.

1. INTRODUCTION

It is believed that oral communication or correspondence is more effective than written language at conveying significance to the audience. The representation of a language within a composing framework is known as a composed language (Desnita et al., 2021; Dunbar et al., 2006). A novel, short message service (SMS), a new form of communication in which people can use written language instead of spoken daily language, like in a newspaper, is an example of this type of communication between the author and the reader (Buck et al., 2021; Kuncoro & Husnurrosyidah, 2015). A text becomes testing to comprehend when the lexical thickness goes up to degree. The degree of not set in stone by the particular lexical things involved and their conveyance in the linguistic construction (Eom & Papi, 2022; Nasseri & Thompson, 2021). In written language, the term "lexical density" has an effect on a text and helps determine the complexity of the words. In a text evaluation, the term "lexical density" is used to describe the degree of lexical items or content words (things, activity words, descriptors, and modifiers) to the total number of words (Liu, 2023;

Susoy, 2023). Moreover, it is important to separate lexical things from linguistic words or capability words, like pronouns, relational words, conjunctions, assistant action words, and a few modifiers.

Discourse is the outflow of somebody considerations and sentiments by articulate sound. People in a country prefer to express themselves through speech, particularly when they are in positions of authority and inspire others, such as the president or figures of inspiration, also referred to as political speech (Cummins et al., 2020; Novedo & Linuwih, 2018; Ziashahabi et al., 2020). They can without much of a stretch pass the data on through discourse, allowing audiences to comprehend the message they are attempting to convey and the society at large to comprehend it (Ghazanfari et al., 2016; Made et al., 2020). Political discourses, which are a subgenre of the genre-colony of diplomatic communication, amplify the global communication goal of convincing the crowd to acknowledge he's comprehension speaker might interpret the situation and to help the speaker's philosophically one-sided perspectives and strategy suggestions (Bali et al., 2020; Danvers, 2021). This indicates that, in addition to military, commercial, and social collaborations, political speeches delivered in a formal setting are a form of diplomatic communication. In addition, audiences frequently accept a nation's political viewpoint and policy during political speeches (Dang, 2018; Dementyev, 2016). The importance and lexical thickness of Joe Biden's victory talk, who came out on top in the competition to turn into the following leader of the US, are examined in this study. Before becoming the 47th Vice President of the United States, President Biden gave a lengthy speech to Delaware in the United States Senate (Cole, 2018; Ma'yuuf & Hasan, 2021; Wahyuningsih & Nirmala, 2020). Except for the text at the upper transitional level, three of the four perusing texts had a high lexical thickness, according to the investigation (Islamiyah & Fajri, 2019; Strauß et al., 2022). As text levels increased, there was little proof of an improvement in lexical clarity and thickness.

There was little evidence of a connection between associations between text levels, comprehensibility, and lexical thickness. In like manner, Joe Biden's victory speech was the primary investigation source and data in this paper. There were numerous options for speeches of victory, but the ones with a lot of terms were chosen because Biden got the highest number of votes, more than 81 million ever reported by other media in a US presidential election. Therefore the aims of this study is to analyze the verbal density and readability of Joe Biden's victory speech.

2. METHOD

This study utilized a blended technique plan, which consolidates a subjective and quantitative way to deal with information assortment and examination (Creswell & Pioano Clark, 2007). In order to answer the research questions and achieve the study's goals, blended strategy configuration can provide precise and comprehensive information. Research has recently adopted the practice of combining quantitative and subjective approaches (Bryman, 2016). The primary source of this study's data is the speech that Joe Biden gave to win the election. When Mr. Biden downloaded it from washingtonpost.com conveyed the talk in his victory day. The data in this audit consist of conditions, sentences, and semantic words for evaluating lexical things (content words) and lexical density. The lexical density and readability are determined through data analysis. The specialist used intuitive models like the Miles, Huberman, and Saldana model to break down the review's data.

The process of selecting was known as data condensation, concentrating, reducing the data in all of documents, interview transcripts, written field notes, and other empirical materials in the corpus (body) by simplifying, abstracting, or transforming it (Miles et al., 2014). The cycle can be in kind of picking, centering, improving, abstracting and developing. The process of selecting the best or most suitable data is known as selecting. From Joe Biden's victory speech transcription, a clause with content words and grammatical errors was selected for analysis during this process. Then centering intended to give specifically consideration to the reasonable information. Here, center around the statements which was contained substance words and syntactic words to ensure that it was truly reasonable as the information. Working on connected with the rearrangements of the information. It is referred to as making the analysis of the data simpler. It is utilized because the research may lose data that are not utilized in this study and solely concentrate on data that are utilized, to make it simpler to classify them into each type. The researcher organized them into tables that corresponded to each level of readability and lexical density.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Result

The Victory Speech of Joe Biden and Its Lexical Density.

There were a moves toward dissect the lexical density of Joe Biden's Triumph Discourse. The researcher determined the lexical items containing the content words after obtaining the information by

obtaining the speech script from a website, Subsequent to getting the information by downloading the discourse script from a site, the specialist specifically the thing, descriptor, action word, and modifier acknowledged of Joe Biden's triumph discourse. It is in accordance with the strategy for deciding the lexical density. Examples of the information regarding the words that were grouped into the substance words can be seen in [Table 1](#).

Table 1. Lexical Density of Joe Biden Victory Speech

Part of Sentence	Excerpt
Sentence 1	<i>My fellow Americans, and the people who brought me to the dance: Delawareans.</i>

From [Table 1](#) as pronouns, the terms "my," "who," and "me" were distinguished. Additionally, the conjunction was identified as the word and. The word "to" was classified as a preposition, while "the" was classified as a determiner. So from the sentence 1, it tends to be reached a determination that it contains seven linguistic capabilities. The second data is show in [Table 2](#).

Table 2. Lexical Density of Joe Biden Victory Speech

Part of Sentence	Excerpt
Sentence 7	<i>They've delivered us a clear victory, a convincing victory, a victory for we, the people.</i>

Base on [Table 2](#), the words "they," "us," and "we" were classified as pronouns from data 2, while "ve," which stands for "have," was classified as an auxiliary. The words a and for were classified as determiners and prepositions, respectively. It tends to be made a determination that from the information 2 that sentence 7 contains nine syntactic capabilities. Furthermore, it is important to separate lexical things from syntactic words or capability words like pronouns, relational words, conjunctions, assistant action words, numbers, and determiner. Based on how firmly the lexical things (content words) have been pressed into the syntactic design and which content words are generally significant for making sense of data, lexical density is a proportion of the density of data in any section of a text. The example information for the words that were named content words can be seen in [Table 3](#).

Table 3. Lexical Density of Joe Biden Victory Speech

Part of Sentence	Excerpt
Sentence 7	<i>They have provided us with a convincing, crystal-clear victory for we</i>

Base on [Table 3](#), the words "they," "us," and "we" were classified as pronouns from data 2, while "we," which stands for "have," was classified as an auxiliary. The words a and for were classified as determiners and prepositions, respectively. From data 2, it is possible to conclude that sentence 7 contains nine grammatical functions.

The researcher counted the absolute number of both substance words and linguistic capabilities following the identification of the grammatical functions and the content words. The total number that the researcher found is show in [Table 4](#).

Table 4. The Sorting of Joe Biden's Speech's Content Words

Noun	Adjective	Adverb	Verb
427	124	65	236
Total Sentence	142	Total words	852

From [Table 4](#) show total of 142 sentences, the aforementioned table reveals that 427 words were identified as "things," 124 words recognized as descriptors, 65 words recognized as modifiers and 236 words distinguished as action words. [Table 5](#) displays the data's classification as grammatical items.

Table 5. Classification of Joe Biden's Speech's Grammatical Functions

Preposition	Pronoun	Conjunction	Auxiliary	Numbers	Determiner
257	324	94	154	18	143
Total Sentence		142	Total Words		990

Base on [Table 5](#) show that 257 words were identified as prepositions out of the total of 142 sentences, Pronouns were found in 324 of the words, conjunctions were found in 94, As can be seen in the table above, There were 154 words found to be auxiliaries, 18 words found to be numbers, and 143 words found to be determiners. The lexical density was measured using Ure's method after these two steps were completed successfully. The measurement of the text's lexical density yielded a result of 46.2 percent, as can be inferred from this. With respect to estimation, assuming the number outperforms 40%, it represents higher lexical thickness, in any case of understanding trouble. According to Ure's research, spoken texts had a lexical density of under 40%, while composed texts had a lexical density of 40% or more. Lexical density was 46.2% in this text. According to Ure's study from 1971, this text exceeds 40%, indicating that the Victory speech by Joe Biden is extremely lexically dense.

Readability of Joe Biden's Victory Speech

Consists of the number 142 sentences of Joe Biden's Triumph Talk Content actually read. The researcher then counted how many words there were. 1842 words were successfully identified from the 142 sentences that had been identified. The examiner used manual technique for counting the words. Then at that point the expert count the amount of syllables of the words. The syllable information test is show in [Table 6](#), and [Table 7](#).

Table 6. Readability of Joe Biden's Victory Speech

Part of Sentence	Excerpt
Sentence 3	And I think, I think Senator Coons is there (<i>And-I Think, I-think-Se-na-tor-Coons-Is-There</i>)

Table 7. Readability of Joe Biden's Victory Speech

Part of Sentence	Excerpt
Sentence 27	She has dedicated her life to education (<i>She-Has-De-Di-Ca-Ted-Her-Life-To-E-Du-Ca-Tion</i>)

Base on [Table 6](#), it is found 11 syllables were identified from the data in sentence three above. Then from [Table 7](#), there are 13 syllables were recognized. The specialist dissected the information by counting the quantity of syllables and utilizing the Flesch Perusing Simplicity coherence equation to decide the grade level. The specialist then described the outcome and provided clarification regarding clarity level. utilizing the Flesch Reading Ease Readability Formula to determine the reading text's grades. This condition evolved into the most popular and tried-and-true recipe. The Flesch perusing ease condition is utilized in the examination. The message contains about 142 sentences, 1842 words and 2833 syllables, according to researchers Flesch's readability formula takes that into account. After utilizing Flesch's formula above to calculate the Reading Ease Score, the next step in the analysis is to calculate reading ease on a scale of 1 to 100, with 0 to 30 representing "very difficult," 50 to 60 representing "fairly difficult," 60 to 70 representing "standard," 70 to 80 representing "fairly easy," 80 to 90 representing "easy," and 90 to 100 representing "very easy." [Table 8](#) might make the description easier to understand.

Table 8. The Translation Table for Tissue Perusing Straightforwardness Score

Description of Style	Flesh Reading Ease Score	Average Sentence Length in Words
Very Easy	90 - 100	8 or less
Easy	80 - 90	11
Fairly Easy	70 - 80	14
Standard	60 - 70	17
Fairly Difficult	50 - 60	21
Difficult	30 - 50	25
Very Difficult	0 - 30	29 or more

The Flesch Reading Ease Formula was used by the researcher to determine the readability of each text after counting the ASW and ASL. Base on [Table 8](#) for text 2 was 64.23, showing that the portrayal of style is Standard because of its 60-70 Flesch Perusing Simplicity Score. In addition, the mean was determined for each and every noun, verb, adjective, and adverb in [Table 9](#).

Table 9. Lexical Assortment of Things, Action words, Modifiers and Qualifiers Mean

	Nouns	Verbs	Adjectives	Adverbs
Total Numbers	427	236	124	65
Mean	427/142 = 3.00	236/142= 1.66	124/142= 0,87	65/142= 0.45

Base on [Table 9](#) the lexical variety of nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs received mean scores of 3.00, 1.66, 0.87, and 0.45, respectively. These findings demonstrate that readers with lower levels of proficiency use the most frequently used words, for example, things and action words, all the more oftentimes. There is a penchant for less proficient peruses to use the language. These distinctions are steady with the possibility of language capability, which holds that better language knowledge is characterized by a higher lexical density and variety.

Discussion

The purpose of this paper is one of them to examine the effect of lexical thickness on language execution and the limitations of using recorded spoken text which was scripted and delivered by Joe Bidden, in his victory speech, the President of the United States of America. The outcome of this assessment shows that this text had 46.2% lexical density. As per Ure's review from 1971, this text surpasses 40%, demonstrating that Joe Bidden's Triumph discourse is profoundly lexically density. Lexical density is a term that is used in text analysis. According to previous study lexical density is the term that is used the most frequently to describe the ratio of content words, which include nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs, to the total number of words ([Eom & Papi, 2022](#); [Nasseri & Thompson, 2021](#)). Additionally, other study gives more detail clarification about the lexical density. State that lexical density is the ratio of the number of running words to the number of lexical items ([Liu, 2023](#)). Because lexical items can be made up of multiple words, he uses the term "lexical items" rather than "lexical words." Phrasic verbs like "stand up," "take over," and "call off" are all examples of "single lexical items."

When compared to a text that contains many function words (such as conjunctions, prepositions, interjections, pronouns, and the counting of words), a text with a high extent of lexical things or content words contains more data. To put it another way, according to previous study a text's lexical density is a measure of how difficult it is for readers to comprehend the text and how much information it contains ([Gizatulina et al., 2020](#)). A text is considered to have a lower lexical density if it contains more grammatical than lexical elements. On the other hand, a text is considered to have a high lexical density if it contains more lexical than linguistic things.

Joe Bidden Speech Script consisted more items from the lexicon than from the grammar, therefore it can be categorized to the high lexical density text ([Kusuma et al., 2020](#); [Yayuk, 2018](#)). The previous research entitled readability and lexical density: a contextual analysis of English reading material done by previous study ([Liu, 2023](#)). Other study found that there was a contradictory between the methods proposed. Initially, it was demonstrated using Ure's formula that the lexical record of the four texts went from Text 4's lowest value of 45.5% to Text 2's highest value of 53.8%, which was higher than the typical number of 40% ([Durbahn et al., 2020](#)). The measurements strategy show that the average thickness of composed language went from 3 in Text 4 to 4.8 in Text 2 ([Orchard et al., 2020](#); [Pawlak, 2013](#)). To wrap things up, the Flesch Perusing Straightforwardness Scale uncovered that while Text 1 was moderately basic for understudies to peruse, Texts 3 and 4 were incredibly difficult, with Text 2 being the most difficult.

The main implication of this research is to provide deeper insight into how political communication, especially victory speeches, can be measured through aspects of lexical density and readability. This can help researchers and practitioners understand effective political communication strategies. In addition, this research can provide an understanding of the extent to which language style and lexical density in political speeches can influence the public's understanding and perception of the message conveyed. However, this research also has the limitation that this research may not fully consider the unique context of a particular victory speech. Political speech can be influenced by many factors, such as the political situation, social circumstances, and specific issues of the time.

4. CONCLUSION

Regarding approximation, if the number exceeds, it represents a higher lexical density, if there is a comprehension problem. The lexical density of spoken text is less than 40%, while the lexical density of composed text is at least a figure of 40%. The finding for text 2 indicates that the stylistic description is Standard as indicated by a Flesch reading simplicity score of 60-70. Variation of nouns in the lexicon, verbs, adjectives and adverbs each of them has obtained an average score respectively. This finding suggests that common people or writers themselves with lower levels of proficiency use the words that are used the most,

like nouns and verbs, more often. There is a propensity for perusers who are less able to use the jargon. Reader's proficiency is affected by lexical density, and overall reader's performance is affected by lexical variation.

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