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A Systemic Analysis of Mood and Modality in a Political Text

*Prof.Dr. Hala Khalid Najim **

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1.Introduction:

Systemic Functional Grammar is concerned with sociological aspects of language. It views language as a form of functional behaviour which is related to the social situation in which it occurs. In other words, language is a resource for creating meaning rather than a set of rules.

Hudson (1970: 1) argues that SFG is to provide a framework within which the grammar of any natural language can be described. He states:

It defines the overall structure that grammars must have, by defining the kinds of categories that must appear in them and the way in which these are related to each other in the grammar; for instance, according to systemic theory, a grammar will define a large number of ‘features’ and a large number of ‘functions’, and these must be related to each other.

The British linguist Halliday views language as a form of ‘doing’ rather than as a form of ‘knowing’. He, then, gives a very high priority to the social aspects of language, while he gives a relatively low priority to psychological aspects of language (Berry, 1975: 22f). Describing his approach, Halliday (1994: 15)states:

.... it interprets language not as a set of structures but as a network of systems, or interrelated sets of options for making meaning. Such options are not defined by reference

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to structures; they are purely abstract features, and structure comes in as the means whereby they are put into effect, or realized.

This study is an investigation into the system of mood and modality of a political text from the perspective of Systemic Functional Grammar. It aims at finding out the types of clauses used by the Iraqi Prime minister Dr.Haider Al-Abadi by inquiring the mood system .

The paper also aims at exploring how interpersonal metafunction is made between the speaker and the audience , and the means for expressing modality in his speech .

This study is an attempt to answer the questions : Can language be established to persuade people ?.Can Systemic Functional Grammar be applied to Arabic Texts ?. It hypothesizes that certain kind of choices is made in the political speech to make it highly effective and to get the people persuaded . This paper also hypothesizes that Systemic Functional Grammar can be applied to Arabic texts. The paper adopted the Hallidayan Systemic Functional Grammar because of its emphasis on sociological functions rather than seeing language as a set of structures.

The structure of this paper is as follows: Section 1 is an introduction , Section 2 describes metafunctions of language in Systemic Functional Grammar. Section 3 is about modality in English .Section 4 tackles interpersonal metafunction in Arabic with its mood system . Section 5 introduces modality in Arabic . Section 6 deals with Al -Abadi`s speech. Section 7 investigates data analysis . Finally, Section 8 presents our conclusions.

2.Metafunctions in Systemic Functional Grammar

In Systemic Functional Grammar, language has three metafunctions: ideational, interpersonal and textual. Kress, (1976: 29), however, claims that these three metafunctions of language are manifested in the grammatical structure. In English, the clause is a realization of meaning derived from the ideational, interpersonal and textual metafunctions Metafunctions are distinguished from macrofunctions and microfunctions. Metafunctions are highly

generalized functions language has evolved to serve. Macrofunctions, however, refer to language use in early child; and finally, microfunction denote to functionally defined constituents like actor, action, goal (Matthiessen and Halliday, 1997: 21).

The ideational metafunction is concerned with the speaker's experience of the real world, including the inner world, i.e. the experience of the world around us and inside us. According to this metafunction, language provides a theory of human experience, and certain of the resources of the lexicogrammar of every language are dedicated to that function (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014: 29). This function can be reflected in the 'transitivity system'. Transitivity has three components which are concerned with construing our experience of processes such as (material, mental, relational); participants (actor, goal, carrier), and circumstances (time, location, manner).

As for the textual metafunction, however, it deals with construing experience and enacting interpersonal relations by depending on being able to build up sequences of discourse, organizing the discursive flow and creating cohesion and continuity (ibid.: 30). Halliday (1970: 143) argues that this metafunction enables the speaker or writer to construct 'texts' or connected passages of discourse that is relevant; and enables the listener or the reader to distinguish a text from a random set of sentences. This textual metafunction provides resources for presenting interpersonal and ideational meanings as information organized into text that can be exchanged between the speaker and the hearer (Matthiessen and Halliday, 1997: 22). At clause rank, the textual system is Theme. Thus, Theme is a resource for organizing meanings of each clause in the form of a message. In English, Theme is realized by initial position while Rheme is realized by non-initial position, e.g.

(1) She is beautiful.

Theme

We may distinguish between two types of clauses: those unmarked for theme, and those marked for theme (Muir, 1975: 98). A declarative clause, for example, in which the subject element (S) in initial position is unmarked for theme. However, in English, the

marked theme may occur in different positions of the elements of the clause. The Adjunct (A) may occur in clause-initial position.

(2) Tomorrow I am going to meet him .

The last metafunction is the interpersonal metafunction which will be discussed in detail because it is closely related to mood and modality

which are the main terms in our study.

2.1 The Interpersonal Metafunction

One of the purposes of communication is to interact with other people, simply because we use language to exchange meanings. In our daily life, we communicate to give information, to ask questions, and to make commands .Here, we talk about the interpersonal metafunction. It is concerned with the interaction between the speaker and addressee. Halliday (1970: 143) claims that language establishes social relations which include the communication roles created by language such as the roles of the questioner or the hearer, which we take on by asking or answering a question by means of the interaction between one person and another. This means that we enter into a number of interpersonal relationships to exchange meanings. Mood systems are choices between different roles which a speaker can select for himself and the hearer.

This will be the topic of the next section.

2.1.1. Mood

The grammar provides us with the resource for expressing the speech functions in a system referred to as Mood. The mood system organizes the various interpersonal relationships among participants (Matthiessen and Halliday, 1997: 14). It is the system by which the speakers argue about propositions, i.e., they give or ask information by means a question or a statement; and give offers or make a command by means of the imperative. In indicative mood, for example, the speaker gives information to the listener. In questions, however, the speaker takes the role of seeking information and requires the listener to take on the role of giving the information (Halliday, 1994: 68).

The clause chooses between indicative and imperative. The speaker who has chosen indicative make a choice between interrogative and declarative clause. The order of interrogative clause is Finite+Subject whereas that of declarative is Subject+Finite. In the interrogative clause, however, the speaker expects a verbal response from his hearer. Thus, the clause 'Has Ali come?' is considered an interrogative clause , while 'Ali has come.' is declarative. That is, the clause which has chosen indicative make a choice between interrogative and declarative. The speaker of a declarative clause has selected for himself the information role, while the speaker of a clause which has chosen the interrogative has selected the role of informed and for his hearer the informant. The clause which has chosen interrogative make a further choice between yes/no and wh questions;

(3) Did you see him.

(4) What is your name?

The clauses which chose wh/questions make a choice between wh/subject and wh/other. The speaker who has chosen wh/other makes another choice between wh/complement and wh/adjunct:

(5) Who attends the meeting?

(6) What did you buy?

(7) When shall you travel?

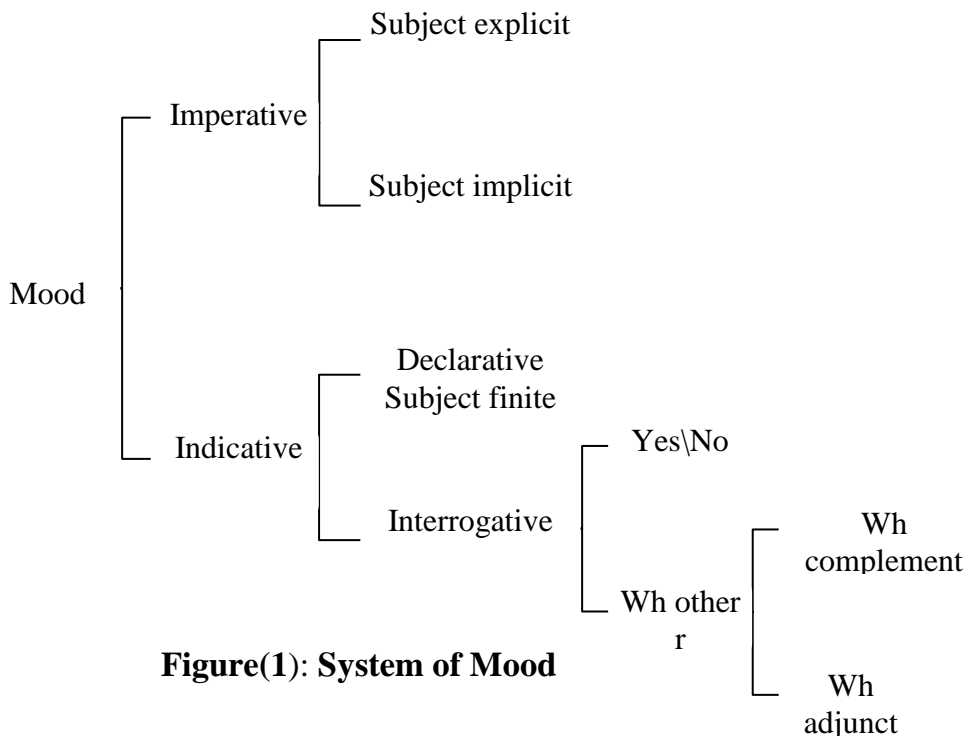
As for the imperative clauses, however, they make choices between subject explicit and subject implicit. The speaker who has chosen subject explicit is marked for person ,while that who has chosen implicit subject is marked imperative excludes himself from the action, while that who has chosen explicit is marked for polarity, e.g.

(8) a. You open the door!

b. Open the door/Do open the door!

The system of mood as adopted by Halliday and Matthissen (2004:135)

Can be shown in the figure below:



Figure(1): System of Mood

After Halliday & Matthissen (2014: 135)

It is worth noted that Mood is the basic element of the clause. It consists of two elements: Subject and Finite. Together, the Subject and Finite make up a component of the clause which is called Mood. It should be noted, here, that it is the presence and ordering of Subject and Finite that realizes mood choices. Let`s consider:

(9). He has written the report.(subject+ finite)declarative

(10).Has he written the report?(finite+ subject)interrogative

As shown above, this ordering plays a role in carrying out the

interpersonal functions of the clause as exchange in English. To quote

Halliday , (1994:76), “the Subject supplies the rest of what it

takes to form a proposition, namely, something by reference to which the proposition can be affirmed or denied. Different structures of declarative, interrogative ,and imperative clauses can be illustrated below:

The girl	had	played	Tennis
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue	

Figure(2): The Structure of a declarative clause

Had	the girl	played	tennis?
Finite	Subject	Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue	

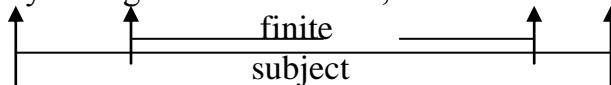
Figure(3): The Structure of an interrogative clause

Close	the door
Predicator	Complement
Residue	

Figure (4): The Structure of Imperative Clause

What helps us in identifying the subject in the clause is when we make a tag and see which element is recognized, for example :

(11) The boy has given her a book, hasn't he?



In the tag 'hasn't he', 'he' is a replacement for the grammatical subject which is 'the boy':

Halliday (1994: 72) claims that the label 'grammatical subject' implies a grammatical function whose only function is grammatical, whereas the subject in question is semantic in origin.

The Subject function can be realized by the nominal group ,the Finite is realized by the operators. These can be divided into two main groups: those that express tense such as (be, have, do, be as the marker of passive voice) and modal auxiliaries (can, may, could, might, must,etc.).

From an interpersonal perspective, we can say that the Subject is the

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entity that the speaker wants to make responsible for the validity of the proposition in the clause(Thompson,2014:55).That is ,if the subject remains the same, the same proposition will be kept. If the Subject is altered the exchange between the speaker and hearer will move to a new proposition.

In addition, Subject and Finite are combined forming one constituent which is called mood. The subject is the one on which the focus is upon. The finite element is the first functional element of the verbal group. In other words, it circumscribes it ; it brings the proposition down to earth, so that it is something that can be argued about . It relates the proposition to its context in the speech event(Halliday and Matthissen,2004:134). Structurally speaking, Finite is the operator of the Clause. If the clause has more than one auxiliary verbs, it is only the first that is finite:

(12). They may have finished their jobs.

They	may	have finished	their jobs
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue	

Figure(5): The structure of a declarative Clause with two auxiliaries

However, if the overt marker of the Finite is absent,i.e., there is only a lexical verb in the clause, it is the lexical verb itself is the Finite and Predicator. This is due to one thing, the Finite becomes explicit once we ask a question or make a tag :

(13)She cleaned the room quickly, didn` t she?

She	cleaned	the room	quickly	didn` t	She?
Subject	Finite/Predicator	Complement	adjunct		
Mood		Residue		Finite	Subject

Figure (6):The Structure of a Clause with a tag showing Subject and Finite

Furthermore, the Finite element expresses primary tense or modality, and also realizes a polarity feature. Let us consider the following examples :

(14)She was reading a novel.

(15) He will come to the party.

(16) He wasn` t at home.

In (14), the Finite element expresses past tense. The clause (15) shows modality. Polarity is expressed in (16)This can be shown in the figures below:

She	was	Reading	a novel.
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue	

Figure (7): Finite shows tense

He	will	come	to the party
Subject	Finite	Predicator	Adjunct
Mood		Residue	

Figure(8):Finite shows modality

He	wasn` t	at home
Subject	Finite Predicator	Adjunct

Figure (9): Finite shows polarity

In addition, Polarity can be expressed by adding explicitly (not, n` t) in relation to the positive. It may be also expressed by mood adjuncts such as never, barely, or hardly. Consider :

(17). She`s never visited them.

She	`s	never	visited	them
Subject	Finite	Mood adjunct	Predicator	Complement
Mood			Residue	

Figure(10)Mood Adjunct Expressing Polarity

To sum up, in English, the mood consists of subject which is a nominal group and the finite operator which is part of a verbal group, for example, in [He will come soon], ‘he’ is the subject and ‘will’ is the finite. The finite element is, then, one of the verbal operators which express tense or modality. This leads us to say that the subject and finite element that realizes the selection of mood in the clause .If we have Subject+Finite, it is a clause of a declarative mood, but if the order is Finite+ Subject , the clause will be of interrogative mood .

As for the meaning of the Subject and Finite, the subject is the entity that the speaker wants to assure the validity of the proposition of the clause,e.g.:

(18). John is writing a paper now.

It is ‘John’ in whom the achievement or failure of the proposition is vested. Thus, John is the one who is responsible for the functioning of the clause as an interactive action.

It is the subject that specifies the responsible element, while in a proposition this means the one on which the validity of the information is made (ibid.: 76). However, the function of the finite element is to make the proposition finite. That is, it makes the proposition something that can be argued about.

So far we have dealt with Mood, the rest of the clause that is not the Mood is termed the Residue. The elements that function in the Residue are: Predicator, Complement , and adjunct. The Predicator is realized by the verbal group apart from the operator .It indicates the validity of the proposition,e.g.:

(19) He painted the wall.

In (19), the predicator indicates that the proposition was valid in the past time. The structure will be illustrated below:

He	painted	the wall
subject	Finite/Predicator	Complement
Mood		Residue

Figure(11) : Predicator in the declarative clause

As for the Complement , it may be one or two:

(20) He likes music. (SPC)

(21) Jack gave Jane a book. (SPCC)

The last element in the Mood-Residue analysis is the adjunct.:

(22) She met him in the park.(SPCA)

3.Modality

Modality does not have the representational function to represent or refer to phenomena in the real world but it derives from the interpersonal metafunction. The Finite element expresses modality in addition to tense and polarity:

(23) We can ask him.

In (23), the operator "can" is the Finite the element and it expresses modality at the same time. Modality is of two types: Modalization and Modulation. Modalization deals with information, while modulation with good & services (Halliday & Matthissen, 2014: 177). Modalization has two terms of probability and usuality . . Modalization is related to information. It can either be probability (how likely it is to be true) or usuality (how frequently it is true. It should be noted , here, that if the commodity being changed is information, we refer to the utterance as a proposition; but if the commodity is goods-&-services, we will term the utterance by the proposal (Halliday & Matthissen, 2014:). Consider the following examples :

(24).He may visit you.(possibility)

(25).She often eats too fast.(usuality)

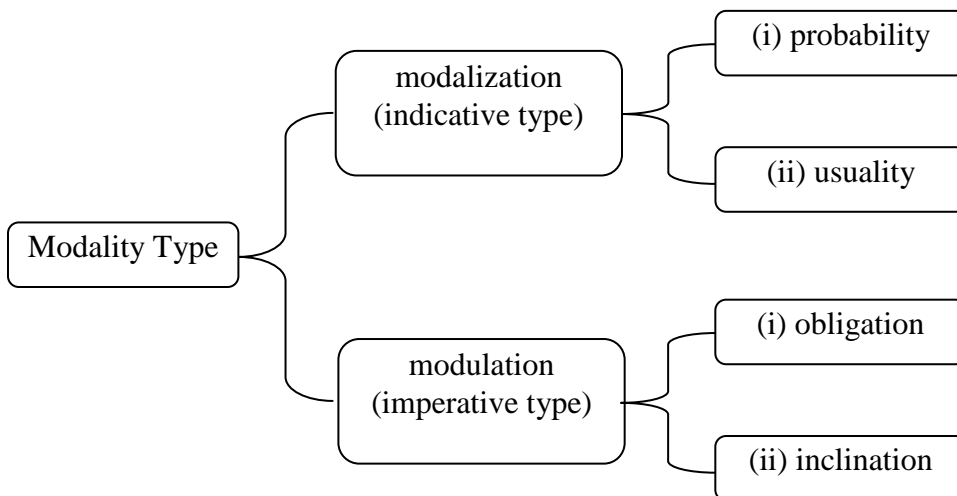
As for Modulation, it refers to the semantic category of proposals.

it is of two terms :obligation and inclination .

(26). You must come by 7o`clock.(obligation)

(27). I will give you my word.(inclination)

Types of Modality are given in the figure below :



Figure(12):System o Types of Modality

4. Arabic Interpersonal Metafunction:

By applying Functional Grammar to Arabic, we can say that interpersonal metafunction can be found in this language simply because we have exchanges between speakers and hearer . Within the interpersonal metafunction, the speaker takes on a social role in the speech situation. Thus, in declarative clauses, the speaker gives information, while in interrogative clauses, the speaker demands information from the hearer. In imperative clauses, however, the speaker demands something from the hearer. The system that reflects this metafunction is mood. This will be discussed below.

4.1 Mood:

It is the system in which the clause functions within the interpersonal strand of meaning. Halliday(2002:189) states :

"Language itself defines the roles which people may take in situations in which they are communicating with one

another, and every language incorporates options whereby the speaker can vary his (or her) own communication role"

In Arabic, speech functions are expressed by the mood system.

In

statements, for example, the speaker gives information and he demands

information from the listener. Turning back to Hallidayan Grammar, We can say that the Arabic clause chooses between indicative and imperative as in (28) and (29) respectively.

(28) . جاء محمد . (Mohammed came.)

(29). اقرأ الكتاب (Read the book!)

A further choice can be made between declarative and interrogative clauses. Thus(30) has chosen declarative, while(31) interrogative :

(30) . كتب الطالب الدرس. (The student wrote the lesson.)

(31) هل انهيت واجبك؟ (Did you finish your job?)

It should be noted that interrogation in Arabic can be either achieved by interrogation radicals as " هل " and " أ " or interrogation nouns such as "من", "ما", " أين ", " ", "كيف", "متى", "لماذا", "كم", (Ibn Al-Ansari, n.d.:182-204, Ibn Yaesh, n.d.:110, Al-Zamakhzari, n.d.:45 among others.)

The speaker of a declarative clause has selected for himself the information role, while the speaker of a clause which has chosen the interrogative has selected the role of demanding information. The clause which has chosen interrogative makes a further choice between closed interrogation :

(32) هل تتكلم الانكليزية؟ (Did you speak English?)

(33) من جاء معك؟ (Who came with you?)

As shown above, (32) chooses radicals of interrogation, while (33) chooses nouns of interrogation.

As for the imperative clauses, they make choices between explicit subject imperatives and implicit imperatives. It is to be noted here that speaker who has chosen explicit imperative include himself in the action by using the radical /la/ which is

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called /lam of imperative/; or ask someone by stressing the second person pronoun "انت" (you masculine), "انت" (you feminine), "انتما" (you dual masculine and feminine), "انتم" (you plural masculine), and "انتن" (you plural feminine):

(34) لنذهب الى المكتبة (Let`s go to the library.)

(35) انت انجز عملك (You, do your work)

(36) نظف غرفتك (Clean your room.)

As shown above, (34) and (35) chose explicit subject imperative, while (36) chose implicit subject.

Structurally speaking and by applying Functional approach, the mood system consists of Subject and Finite. Subject comes after the predicator if the clause is unmarked, and before the predicator if it is marked :

(37) رسم الولد اللوحة (The boy drew the picture.)

(38) الولد رسم اللوحة

اللوحة	الولد	رسم
Complement	Subject	Predicator/Finite
Residue	Mood	

Figure (13): Mood and Residue in an Arabic Clause

As for Finite element , it includes the particles and expressions as shown in the following figure:

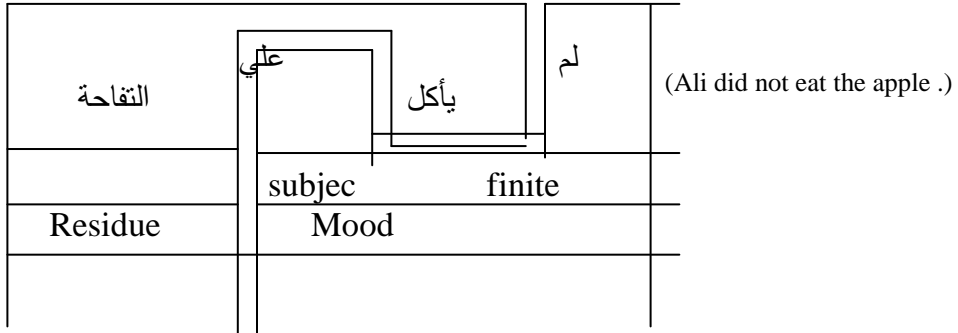


Figure (14): A structure of Arabic unmarked negative declarative clause.

This is clearly expressed in the marked pattern:

يأكل التفاحة	لم	علي	(Ali did not eat the apple.)
Residue	Finite	Subject	
	Mood		

Figure (15): Structure of marked negative clause.

As illustrated above, the particle ‘لم’ is utilized to negate the declarative verbal clause (يقرأ علي الكتب). So, it is functionally considered a finite element.

5.Modality in Arabic

In Arabic, different lexical words or expressions are utilized to express the basic meanings of modality. These meanings will be dealt with below.

The meanings of modality are certainty, possibility and probability. Certainty is expressed by either verbs such as يجب and ينبغي or expressions like لابد أن يكون, لابد أن تأكل e.g.

(39) لابد ان تأكل (You must eat.)

Possibility, however, is also expressed by either verbs such as يمكن, يحتمل or the particle قد:

(40) يمكنك ان تحل المشكلة (You can solve the problem.)

As for probability, it can be conveyed by verbs like يُظن، يرجح. Also, the prepositional phrases as من الأرجح، من المرجح and the constructions أغلب الظن are used. Consider these examples:

(41) من المرجح أن يصل الفريق غدا

(It is probably that the team will arrive tomorrow.)

However, the major meanings of modulation are as follows:

a. Ability: The verbs used achieving ability are يقدر، يتمكن، يستطيع

b. Willingness: The verbs used are يريد، يبغى, e.g.

(42) اذا تريد ان تذهب معنا (If you want to come with us)

c. Permission: It is used by means of imperative mood (Aziz, 1989: 85)

(43) يمكنك ان تأخذ سيارتي (You may take my car!)

6. Al-Abadi`s Speech

On September ,2nd 2016. Al-Abadi delivered his speech and claimed victory achieved by the military forces in the battles , especially the victory of liberating Al-Ramadi city.

The speech touched the responsibility of Iraqi people for cooperating with the military forces to set Iraq free from ISIS., the direction of the government to have economic growth ,and fighting the corruption in the country. Al-Abadi delivered an inspiring and moving speech in which he tries to touch the hearts of the Iraqis before their minds, especially at this stage which followed the achievement of victories over ISIS and the start of the reconstruction of destroyed cities He also wants his people to share him the idea there will be basic objectives for getting the country back and make it rise again.

7. Data Anaysis

Halliday & Matthissen (2004:107) state that the basic types of speech role are only two : giving and demanding . To make readers understand the purpose of Al-Abadi`s speech , mood and

modality analysis has been done , focusing on types used by the Iraqi prime minister and the means for expressing his ideas effectively. Meanings of modality have been discussed as well.

7.1 Mood

One of the main purposes of communicating is to interact with other people to establish and maintain social links with them (Thompson, 2014:45). The element that is significant to look at how the different mood choices are formed is called Mood (ibid:50). This component consist of subject and finite. As we have already mentioned in any communicative language, there are four main speech roles which are :giving information, demanding information, giving goods and services and demanding goods and services .

The analysis of data reveals that the indicative mood, with the structure Subject+finite, is the most frequent type of clauses. By statistics, out of (77) clauses of Al-Abadi`s speech, he used (75)declarative clauses of the indicative mood which represents(97.4%) , (2) of imperative clauses which are offers occupy (3.6%).

It can be said that the purpose of a speech ,and especially the political one is to give so many ideas to the audience , i.e. to give information in Hallidayan terms. By using indicative clauses, the addresser expresses messages to the audience .On one hand, he tries to convey certain messages. On the other hand , he tries to convince his people that he made so many things in order to bring the country up and make it flourish again . Furthermore, Al-Abadi wants to show his people that he is confident of his reforms and wants them to trust him to do what all Iraqis want to bring the country to safety. Consider the examples below:

(1) اطلقنا ثلاث حزم وتوجت بحزمة الاصلاحات الشاملة

(We launched three packages and culminated in a package of comprehensive reforms.)

(2) حصل اتفاق مع البنك المركزي

(An agreement was reached with the Central Bank.)

(3) اقول لكم بثقة تامة

(I tell you with complete confidence.)

The analysis also shows that Al-Abadi did not use imperative clauses in his speech, i.e, he did not give orders or commands directly but offered to do something and made a suggestion, conviction, and persuasion.

Halliday (2004:107) states that offer is the function in which the speaker requires something of the listener. This is a way of addressing to arouse the people's passion to feel safe and be optimistic ;and to call on them to work with him to overcome the difficulties and persuade them totake actions and change their attitude to build their country .Al-Abadi tries to reduce the difference between him and his people, so he doesn't make a command or an order but he offers them his suggestions smoothly. In this way, he inspires to his people .This can be illustrated in the following two examples:

(4) ادعو الى تغيير جوهرى

(I call for a substantive change.)

(5) ادعو في هذا الاطار مجلس النواب الموقر

(In this context, I call upon the distinguished House of Representatives.)

7.2 Modality

We have already stated that modality is of two types :modalization and modulation. Modality can be seen as constructing a kind of interpersonal "aura"of the speaker attitude around the proposition (Thompson, 2014: 70). Modality refers to the intermediate degrees between the positive and negative poles.(Halliday and Matthissen,2014:176). The analysis for the data shows that the speech has (8) with modalization and (6) clauses with modulation. Statistically speaking, Modalized clauses are (10.3%), wheras modulated clauses are (7.7%). .This leads us to say that modality is low in all the texts . It is to be noted that Al-Abadi avoided such types and didn't use them a lot because he wants to be objective and honest with his people .So, he didn't like to impose his only opinion or express his views on what is happening , but involve all of his people.

On one hand, the most adopted means for expressing modalization in Al-Abadi`s speech is the use of the Arabic "س"(will)which is normally used with the Arabic imperfect form and it is one of the means for expressing future time . The data reveals that the radical "س"“Will” is adopted for(8)times in the speech to predict the future and show determination . This use indicates that the proposition is valid for a time in the future by which Al-Abadi expresses his firm determination to move forward with the liberation of all the cities occupied by ISIS . The never-ending use of "will" gives the chance for the speaker to assure that the actions will be definitely done .This can be shown as the following examples:

(6) ستطلق استمارة طلب القروض الالكترونية

(The electronic loan application form will be launched.)

(7) ستظهر اثار هذه الخطوة خلال الايام المقبلة

(The effects of this step will appear in the coming days.)

(8) ستلغى الحلقات الزائدة كي تنصرف الدولة الى عملها الحقيقي

(The extra rings will be cancelled in order for the state to turn to its real work.)

On the other hand, the data disclose modulation ,and particularly ,obligation and ability. The speaker adopted the high degree of commitment to express his strong determination and call on the Iraqi people to take actions in order to be with him in fighting ISIS and the corruption. However, Al-Abadi uses a low value of modulation which is expressed in the meaning of ability in two places only in the text..

He uses words like "استطعنا" to show his ability to do things and convince the Iraqi people that they should believe in themselves that they have the ability to change the situation , and there will be always hope to make the country bright and progressive .Here are the examples:

(9) استطعنا ان نغير

(We could change.)

(10) يمكن بناء مدن متكاملة

(Integrated cities can be built.)

In addition, the Iraqi prime president uses the high scale of commitment to carry out a command. Certain phrases are

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adopted in this political speech four places to show Al-Abadi`s firm determination and call to his people to take actions :

(11) حين اضطر فيها عديد من الدول

(When a number of countries were forced.)

(12) وقد اضطرنا ذلك

(We had to.)

(13) لا بد لنا من الاستعانة

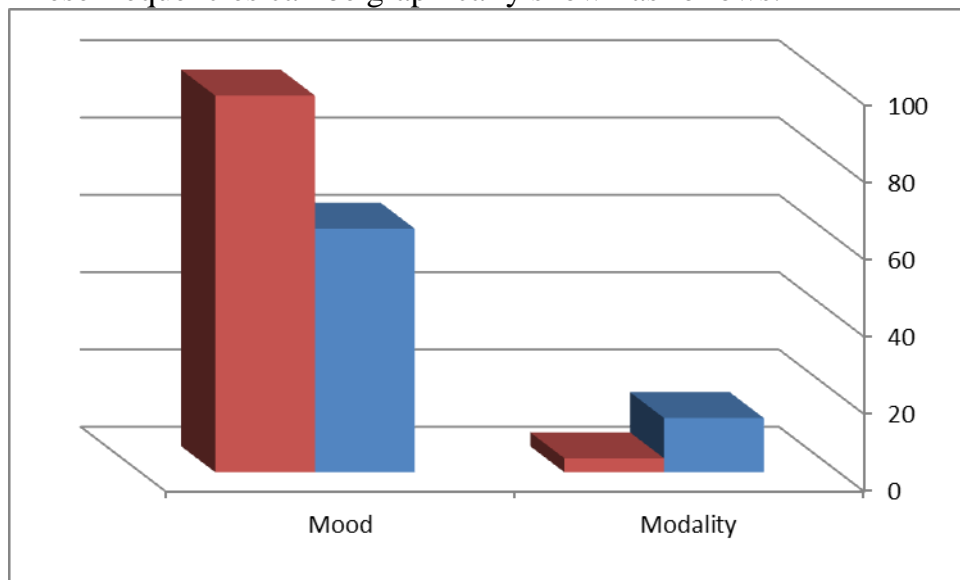
(We must use.)

The following table shows the frequencies of mood and modality in the text:

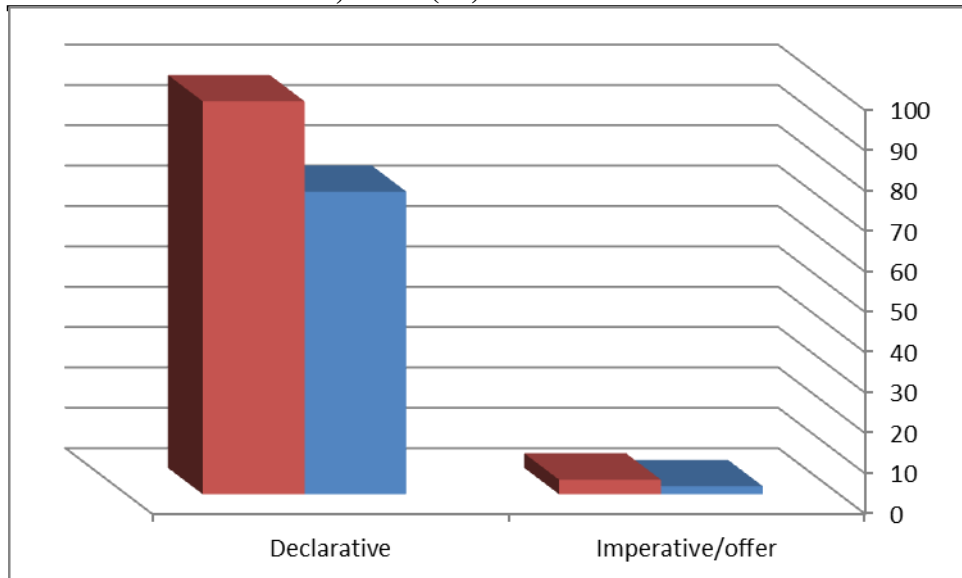
Mood	Modality	Total
63	14	77
97.4%	3.6%	100%

Table(1): Mood and Modality Frequencies in the text

These frequencies can be graphically shown as follows:



Figure(15):Mood and Modality in Al-Abadi`s speech



Figure(16):Declarative and imperative clauses in Al-Abadi`s speech

8.Conclusion and Recommendations

This paper investigates the mood and modality in the Iraqi Prime minister Al-Abadi`s speech. From the lexico-grammatical analysis of the data , it is shown that declarative clauses dominate his speech; imperative clauses with offer function come in the second position.

This means that the preferable type in a political text is the indicative mood. The speaker expresses his viewpoints on the situation in his speech to provoke the audience and call forth their emotions . He conveys his messages and makes them convincing by using this term of mood to attract positive reaction from the audience. It is noted that in such type of the text, the speaker gives information and demand services . Consequently, the Iraqi Prime Minister offers certain messages in an attempt to let his people share his proposals and follow his instruction .

It is equally noticed that modality is mainly expressed by the imperfect forms of Arabic verbs preceded by the radical "س" "will" which shows futurity. Other meanings of modality such as obligation and ability are used with low frequencies in Al-Abadi`s speech. This study proves that Systemic Functional

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Grammar can be applied to Arabic. This paper recommends the speakers to commonly use the declarative clauses in their speech to give messages and convince their audience so that they urge them to have faith in what they say .

Imperative clauses realizing offers as called by Halliday and Matthissen(2014:16) are recommended to be used in a political speech to shorten the distance between the speaker and the audience for the sake of persuasion and suggestion .

Concerning modality, the speaker`s firm determination and insistence actions can be expressed by the use of future tense. The phrases "بامكاننا", "من الممكن", and "باستطاعتنا" can also be used in a speech with the highest commitment to give faith to the audience in their abilities to change and cooperate with him so that the country rises and recovers.

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تحليل نظامي للصيغة النحوية والصيغة الموقفية* في نص سياسي

أ.د. هالة خالد نجم

المستخلص

تبحث هذه الدراسة في تحليل الصيغة النحوية والصيغة الموقفية في نص سياسي من وجهة نظر النحو النظامي . تم اختيار خطاب العبادي لإجراء التحليل. حاولت الدراسة ان تكشف عن انواع الصيغ النحوية التي استخدمها المتكلم في خطابه السياسي، في محاولة لرؤية مدى تطبيق هذا المنهج على النصوص العربية. يهدف هذا البحث الى دراسة وظيفة العلاقة الشخصية بين المتكلم والمخاطب ومعان. يفترض البحث ان العبادي استخدم انواعا معينة من الجمل ومعان معينة للصيغة الموقفية . تم تبني منهج هاليداي وماتيسن (٢٠٠٤). يستنتج الباحث ان الجمل الخبرية هي اكثر شيوعا في الخطاب السياسي في محاولة لإقناع المخاطب. كما ويستنتج انه تم استخدام اشكال معينة للتعبير عن الصيغة الموقفية.