

A Critical Discourse Analysis of Empathy in Biden's Speeches Supporting Israel after Acts on October 7

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Abstract

Empathy is, as a prosocial act, encompasses understanding and sharing other people's emotions to give an emotional support. Though empathy is common , analysis such topic has not yet received its due attention from a discourse perspective. Hence, in terms of Biden's speeches supporting Israel after acts on October, this paper tries to answer the following : What are the categories of empathy that Biden utilizes ? What are the most and the least utilized categories? What are the strategies of empathy in those speeches? What are the most and the least implemented strategies? Consequently , in terms of Biden's speeches , the paper aims to specify categories of empathy, pinpoint the most and the least utilized categories, uncover the strategies of showing empathy and finally, determine the most and the least implemented . To achieve the aims, an eclectic model is followed from van Dijk's (2006,200)and Fairclough's(1989)models. It is concluded that Biden employs four categories of empathy in his speeches .They are Perspective-taking,Fantasy, Empathic concern and personal distress. Perspective taking is the most common one in addition to empathetic concern. Both help Biden achieve his aim of showing empathy towards Israel. Personal distress is the least used one due to the idea that the president tries to prove that what he says is related to truth rather than mere feelings.As for the strategies, Biden implemented Compassion, Victimization, Presupposition, Lexicalization, and Number Game. Lexicalization is the most employed strategy Its recurrence gives the discourse its force by using effective words. Next , presupposition asserts that what is said is presumed knowledge or common sense. Finally, Victimization and number game are the least used strategies.

Keywords :critical discourse analysis, Biden's speeches , empathy, Van Dijke model, Fairclough's model, empathy categories.

تحليل خطاب نقدي للتعاطف في كلام بايدين الداعم لاسرائيل بعد احداث السابع من اكتوبر

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المستخلص

ان التعاطف، كفعل اجتماعي إيجابي، يشمل تفهم ومشاركة الآخرين مشاعرهم لتقديم الدعم العاطفي لهم . وعلى الرغم من شيوع التعاطف، إلا أن هذا الموضوع لم يحظ بعد بالاهتمام اللازم من ناحية تحليل الخطاب. ومن هنا، وفيما يتعلق بخطابات بايدن الداعمة لإسرائيل بعد أعمال تشرين الأول/أكتوبر، تحاول هذه الورقة الإجابة على ما يلي: ما هي اصناف التعاطف التي يستخدمها بايدن؟ ما هي الاصناف الأكثر والأقل استخداماً؟ وما هي استراتيجيات التعاطف في تلك الخطابات؟ ما هي الاستراتيجيات الأكثر والأقل توظيفاً؟

وبالتالي، فبالنسبة بخطابات بايدن المعنية، تهدف الدراسة إلى تحديد اصناف التعاطف، وتحديد أكثر هذه الفئات وأقلها توظيفاً في كلامه، والكشف عن استراتيجيات إظهار التعاطف، وأخيراً تحديد أكثر وأقل تلك الاستراتيجيات استخداماً. ولتحقيق الأهداف، استخدم البحث نموذجاً انتقائياً من نموذجي فان دايك (2006)، (200) وفيركلاف (1989). وخلصت الدراسة إلى أن بايدن يستخدم أربعة اصناف من التعاطف في خطابه. وهي أخذ المنظور، والخيال، والقلق التعاطفي، والانزعاج الشخصي. يعتبر اتخاذ المنظور الأكثر شيوعاً بين اصناف التعاطف بالإضافة إلى الاهتمام التعاطفي. وهذا يساعد بايدن على تحقيق هدفه المتمثل في إظهار التعاطف تجاه إسرائيل. وان الانزعاج الشخصي هو أقل الفئات احتمالاً، نظراً لفكرة الرئيس التي تحاول إثبات أن ما يقوله مرتبط بالحقيقة وليس مجرد مشاعر. أما بالنسبة للاستراتيجيات، فقد وُظف بايدن التعاطف، والتضحية، والافتراضات المسبقة، والاستراتيجية المعجمية، ولعبة الأرقام. وكانت الاستراتيجية المعجمية هي الإستراتيجية الأكثر استخداماً والتي غالباً ما تتكرر لإعطاء اللغة قوتها من خلال استخدام الكلمات المؤثرة. ثم تأتي استراتيجية الافتراض للتأكيد على أن ما يقال هو معرفة مفترضة أو منطق سليم. أخيراً، فإن لعبة الأرقام والتضحية هي الأقل استخداماً بين الاستراتيجيات.

الكلمات المفتاحية: تحليل نقدي للخطاب ، خطابات بايدن، التعاطف، نموذج فان دايك، نموذج فيركلاف، اصناف التعاطف

1.1.Preliminary Remarks

Broadly , giving people full attention, and being curious about their lives or interests are images of empathy that is something , in the general sense, positive . Yet, in some cases , this can be exploited in one way or another to denote positive self-presentation or to sustain in interpersonal relations interests especially when it occurs in political situations .Lately, acts on October 7 lead to many implications that many political statements are presented . President Biden has his own points impeded in his speeches . The speeches on such issue have their own impacts locally and internationally as they express the standpoints he adopts.

One of the perspectives that Biden tried to present is the empathy towards Israel ,a topic that has been studied in teaching , psychology and in various areas yet, to some extent, but has not been given its due attention in terms of linguistics specifically , critical discourse analysis. To bridge this gap, the current paper is conducted to answer the following : What are the types of empathy that Biden utilizes in his speeches after October 7 acts?What are the most and the least categories of empathy involved in those speeches ?What are the strategies of empathy in Biden’s speeches in question?What are the most and the least strategies of empathy involved in those speeches ?

To achieve the aims, the paper employs an eclectic model from van Dijk’s (2006,200) and Fairclough’s(1989)models. It conducts both qualitative as well as quantitative analyses.

1.2.The Meaning of Empathy

Empathy means “the vicarious experience of another's emotions” (Lazarus, 1991). It is a sort of other oriented state pertinent to different terms . Empathy is also referred to as a group of responses to another “that are more other-focused than self-focused, including feelings of sympathy, compassion, tenderness, and the like” (Batson, 1991, p. 86). Empathy, or understanding and vicariously sharing other people’s positive emotions, is pertinent to prosocial acts (e.g., giving,helping and or/emotional support), quality of life, closeness, positive affect, trust, and relationship satisfaction (Morelli, et al. ,2015:61).

1.2.1.Categorizations of Empathy

According to Sinclair et. al., (2016:2), empathy can be categorized into:

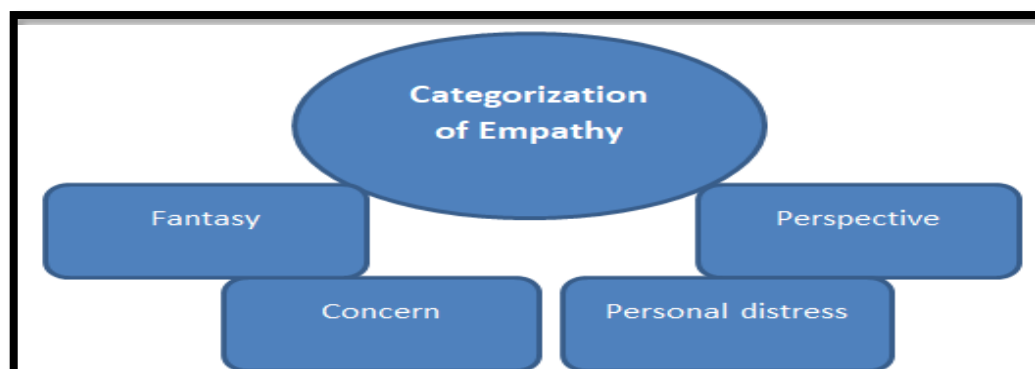
1. Engaging suffering.
2. Connecting to and understanding the person.
3. Emotional resonance: putting oneself in the patient’s shoes.

Likewise, it is conceptualized in terms of four elements(Vieten,et al.2024 :4) :

1. Perspective-taking (i.e., taking others’ point of view).
2. Fantasy (i.e., imagining or transposing oneself into others’ feelings and actions).
3. Empathic concern (i.e., accessing other-oriented feelings of sympathy or concern).
4. Personal distress (i.e., or unease in intense interpersonal interactions).

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Figure(1) Categorization of Empathy

2.Methodology

2.1.Stages of Analysis

Fairclough (1989:109)presents three stages of analysis: text analysis (description),discourse practice(interpretation)and the socio-linguistic practice (explanation).

1.Text Analysis (Formal Properties): Formal manifestations of strategies like**Vocabularies:** i.e., the wording that is not ideologically free. **Grammar:** i.e. structural features of the text ,like Mood i.e., Indicative , interrogative or declarative((Young, 1984:77).;and Modality (e.g. the degree of certainty its truth or falsity);or under some sort of obligation to behave in some way).In legal document " shall "for example like must" shows mandatory intent even though used for establishing requirement and condition(Kroeger, 2005:147)., and Text Structure:This phase takes into its consideration text structure in terms of thematic structure which is for Brown and Yule(1996: 134)the "relative prominence" that arises from thematization, is the way discourse is staged . It plays a significant role both in the process of interpretation and subsequent recall.

2.Discourse Practice(Interpretation):i.e., strategies of ideology are interpreted . Fairclough (1992: 78) refers to discourse practice as "processes of text production, distribution and consumption. They involve:

a. Lexicalization : i.e., the portrayal of other people's behavior using derogatory terms e.g.,"terrorism," "demolish," " inciting hatred," "gangs," and so on (Van Dijk, 1995,p.154). A range of words is used to emphasize various ideas in a variety of contexts (Van Dijk, 2006a,p.77).

b-Number Game: it emphasizes the objectivity and enhances credibility. e.g.,
- It would open the floodgates again, and presumably the £200 million a year cost that was estimated when the legislation was introduced (Van Dijk, 2006a: 79).

c-Victimization i.e., mentioning bad incidents or stories about us(van Dijk , 2006b: 739) to portray the in-group as victims. This means telling "horrible stories about in-group explaining the reason as the other group(Van Dijk,2012:20),and norms and principles are not adhered to or upheld (Van Dijk, 1993,p. 111).

Hence,(Dijk (2006a,p.84), in-group members portray themselves as e.g. :
- Since taxpayers must pay for immigration laws, they are frequently portrayed as the real victims of these regulations, particularly low-income and elderly people (van Dijk, 2002, p. 84).

d-Presupposition : i.e., presenting knowledge as though it is widely shared or known. It is a well-known tool to highlight representation as common sense e.g.,:
- Muslims worldwide are afraid that Western political, religious, and sexual liberties are contagious(Van Dijk,1995,p.157).Four types of presupposition are:

1. Existential presupposition what is assumed to be present 2- Factive presupposition used to denote facts, words such as, regret, glad, odd, know, realize and aware ,3. Non-factive presupposition i.e., what is assumed not to be true e.g., verbs like imagine and pretend are used . , and 4-Structural one i.e., Sentence structures are assumed to be true used to view knowledge as presumed (to be true) and hence to be recognized as valid by the listeners (Yule, 1996:25-8).

e- Compassion: For Batson(1991)empathic distress co-exists and competes with compassion in reprisal for another's suffering.In sum, feelings of sadness for others' misery and an attempt to help them (Van Dijk, 1995) .

3-Discursive Practice (Explanation):This encompasses the explanatory notes of ideologies. In terms of the current paper , this means showing empathy .To sum up, the framework of the analysis of the study can be shown in Figure (2) below.

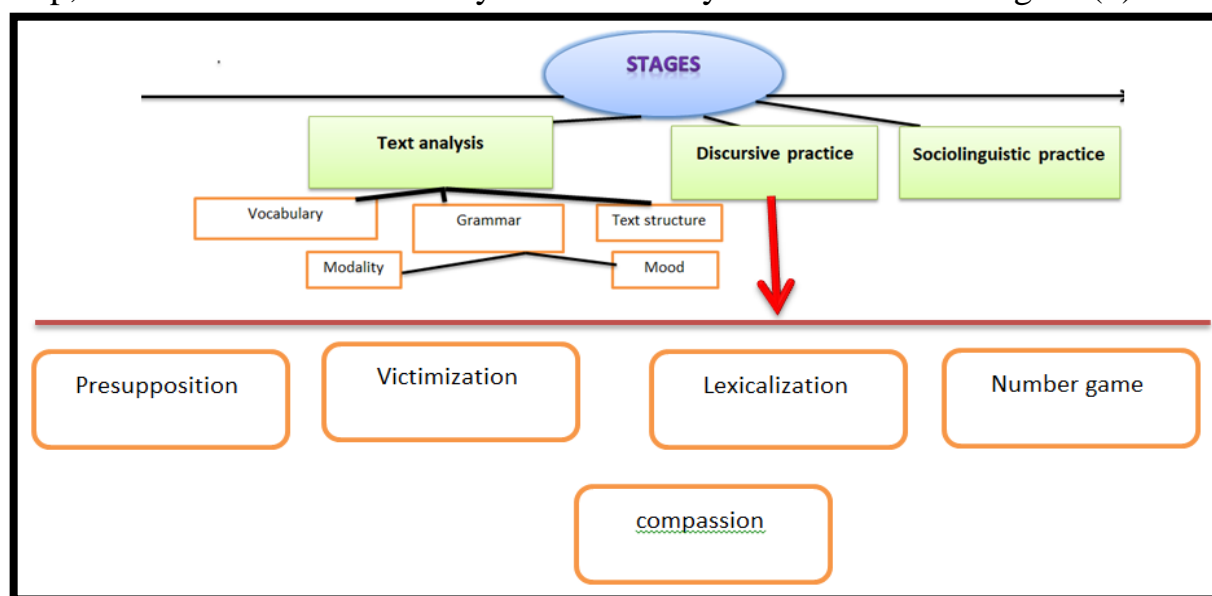


Figure (2)Framework of Analysis(depending on Fairclough (1989) ,and Van Dijk(1995, 2006a, and 2006b).

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3.Data of the study

This section talks about the data of the study in terms of its collection, description and the contextual factors that govern the data and its analyses(whether qualitative or quantitative).

3.1.Data collection :data are selected from the web sources 1 and 2 wherein they are available and authentic (see websource1 and 2).Collecting them is based on their having empathy on Israel after acts on October 7.

3.2.Data description : Data in this study encompass Biden's speeches. They are two to five pages in length. The topic in all involves president sympathized Israel

3.3.Contextual factors: Following Hyme's (1974: 59)model, those factors are to be explained. Thus , speeches are delivered in the period 2023-2024.Biden talks to the Americans in the Whitehouse. In his speech, the key is serious, the Act sequence is composed of paragraphs. The channel is oral, the norms are the rules of communication between a president and his fellow citizens, genre is political speech, and finally ,the end is to persuade people that Israel is a victim .

4. Data Analysis

Pursuing its aims ,the paper in this section introduces data analysis both the qualitative and the quantitative ones.

4.1.Qualitative analysis

Endeavouring to achieve the first aim, the study starts with the qualitative analysis of choosing representative extracts, explaining their meaning , determining the strategies. Finally, pinpointing sympathy involved.

Extract1

“On Oct. 7, terror attacks have triggered deep scars and terrible memories in the Jewish community. Today, Jewish families worried about being targeted in school, wearing symbols of their faith walking down the street, or going out about their daily lives.”

President Biden talks about terrorist acts on October 7 that have left the Jewish people with dreadful memories and bad effects . Jewish families were at unease about being singled out in school, about their daily lives, or about wearing religious symbols while being in the streets.To explicate, he utilizes words like “deep scars” and “terrible memories” , and “worried”to depict his empathy .Thus , he assesses pathetic concern toward the Jewish.The mood is indicative and modality is to show certainty.They both serve the speaker's intention of saying

that what he mentions is certain. "terror attacks " are presented as the theme for their importance in discourse.

As for the discursive practice , the strategy of victimization is employed to show Israel as scared , worried and living in distress. Furthermore, presupposition is utilized in the sense that attack is taken for granted as "terror". Hence, according to Biden, there is terror attack rather than any other sort of other attack. This deepens his feeling of empathy .

Extract 2

But sadly, for the Jewish people, it's not new. This attack has brought to the surface painful memories and the scars left by a millennia of antisemitism and genocide of the Jewish people".

Expressly, Biden shows his sadness . Thus, for him, , though, it is nothing new to Jews, yet this attack brings bitter memories and wounds from centuries of antisemitism and Jewish genocide. He employs words or phrases like "sadly", "painful memories and the scars", and "antisemitism and genocide" which have to be taken into consideration as they involve empathy. As for the mood it is indicative and modality is used to describe the situation as if it is a truth.

In terms of the discursive practice ,the strategy of compassion is implemented due to the feeling of sadness reflected in the use of the words "sadly" and , "painful", and thus , the category of empathy here, is empathy concern. In addition, the employment of those expressive words and other words as well, like "attack",, "antisemitism and genocide" are dedicated to depict the severity of the other side and empathy towards Israel. Furthermore, the in-group(the Jewish) are made victims of the attacks and massacre i.e., they are shown as victimized .

Extract 3

" You know; the world has seen appalling images: thousands of rockets in the space of hours raining down on Israeli cities... Hamas terrorists crossing into Israel killing not only Israeli soldiers, but Israeli civilians in the street, in their homes. Innocent people murdered, and wounded, entire families taken hostage by Hamas just days after Israel marked the holiest of days on the Jewish calendar. It's unconscionable."

In the above- mentioned extract, the President presents images that are – according to him, horrifying. As such, empathy here, is perspective that

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illustrating Biden's opinion on the situation. He mentions the situation using the indicative mood ascertaining what happens , with a truth –based modality.

To elaborate ,the discursive practice involves employing words , that in turn , denote lexicalization strategy . Hence, “appalling” suggests severity, “terrorists” ,” killing” qualify Hamas, “ Innocent” “murdered”, “ wounded”, “ hostage” describe the Jewish, and above all , the situation is described as “ *unconscionable*”. Consequently, forceful lexemes portray empathy. The last two lines depict the utilization of the victimization strategy wherein the Jewish are made victims on the uttermost level. However , factive presupposition “you know” is found to characterize the situation as a fact or presumed knowledge.

Extract4

" The people of Israel lived through one such moment this weekend. The bloody hands of the terrorist organization Hamas — a group whose stated purpose for being is to kill Jews. This was an act of sheer evil. More than 1,000 civilians slaughtered — not just killed, slaughtered — in Israel. Among them, at least 14 American citizens killed."

Here, empathy is realized via perspective-taking i.e., taking the point of view that considers the other side “Hamas” as “bloody hands” that “kill” and “slaughtered” in a “sheer evil” way . As such , these words are so expressive that they qualify the terror that the Jewish people live in. The indicative mood with the modality assure the certainty of the situation according to the speaker. Concerning the discursive practice, lexicalization and victimization help the addressees visualize the situation and depict Biden as a man who empathizes the Jewish . Moreover, number game appears twice in the words “More than 1,000 civilians” and “14 American” emphasizing the disastrous situation .

Extract5

Think about October 7th — the Jewish holiday where you read about the death of Moses. A tragic story of a profound loss to an entire nation. A death that could have left he- — a helpless — hopelessness in the hearts of the entire — of an entire nation.”

To elaborate , Biden talks about the day of conflict describing it as “tragic” and to amplify , the word “entire” is added and repeated to exaggerate the idea of destruction. All in all, the words, the mood and modality serve to ascertain the truthfulness of the situation. Lexicalization is present in most if not all extracts with the vivid words portraying the seriousness of the situation e.g., “ *tragic*” , “ *a*

profound loss". " *death*", " *hopelessness*". Due to all this, the Jewish are victimized as being totally affected by the hazardous situation.

Extract6

The terrorist group Hamas has slaughtered, as has been pointed out, over 1,300 people — and it is not hyperbole to suggest “slaughtered” — “slaughtered” — and — including 31 Americans as part of that. And they’ve taken scores of people hostage, including children.

As has been noted, Hamas is shown as terrorist organization that killed over 1,300 individuals, including 31 Americans. The President does not consider it hyperbole to say that , as for him, they "slaughtered" them. Additionally, according to him, they have kidnapped numerous individuals, including minors.

The words that help President Biden achieve his purpose, are "terrorist" which is repeated in the previous extracts , and "slaughtered" , which has been repeated in this extract three times. All those words with the indicative mood and the modality assert the truth according to him. Additionally, those words qualify Hamas . Thus, the discursive practice embraces the strategy of lexicalization that is asserted by showing that he is not exaggerating . Besides, number game strategy using the expressions "over 1,300 , and, " including 31 Americans , and "scores of people" to magnify the so-called disaster. In addition, presupposition is made concerning Hamas as "terrorist" and the phrase "*as has been pointed out*" to be a presumed knowledge that is already known . On the whole , all those discursive practices suggest empathizing Israel .

Extract 7

"They're — committed evils that — and atrocities that make ISIS look somewhat more rational. You know, Americans are grieving with you. They really are. And Americans are worried. Americans are worried because we know there's — this is not an easy field to navigate what you have to do."

In pursuit of the President's above- mentioned speech, Hamas has committed crimes and horrors that give ISIS a bit more logical appearance. he mentions that Americans are mourning alongside Israel. They truly are. Americans are also concerned because they are aware that navigating this subject is so difficult.

Feeling the others' misery and putting oneself in their shoes is a sort of empathy that is called "Fantasy" (i.e., imagining or transposing oneself into the feelings and actions of others). Here, the President and the Americans are depicted as feeling the suffering of Israel . To clarify, words employed "committed evils", "atrocities" characterize Hamas as hazardous evil. The mood and modality again serve to ascertain the reality . As regard , the discursive practice, lexicalization strategy has its effects when Biden says "committed evils" that made "atrocities" showing that people in America are "grieving" , and "worried" as well . Similarly, the expression

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“You know,...” depicts the presupposition of shared knowledge to lead to the thinking that it is something taken for granted .

Extract 8

"Infants in their mothers' arms, grandparents in wheelchairs, Holocaust survivors abducted and held hostage — hostages whom Hamas has now threatened to execute in violation of every code of human morality. It's abhorrent. The brutality of Hamas — this bloodthirstiness — brings to mind the worst — the worst rampages of ISIS. This is terrorism.

To describe the situation , Biden mentions the events, hence, according to his speech, holocaust survivors kidnapped and held captive, infants in their mothers' arms, grandparents in wheelchairs, hostages that Hamas has now threatened to execute in defiance of every human morality. For Biden ,this is disgusting, and it is the worst . The most horrific rampages of ISIS — are brought to memory by the ferocity and bloodthirstiness of Hamas . This is an act of terrorism.

This amplification of empathy towards Israel is made as if it is true by resorting to utilizing the words “Holocaust”, “violation”, “abhorrent”, “The brutality “blood-thirstiness” “ the worst rampages” and “ terrorism are all joined to portray Hamas as criminal. Likewise,it denotes empathy toward Israel by implementing the expressions ““Holocaust survivors”, “abducted and held hostage” . Along with mentioning infants, the bloody picture is exaggerated. Hence, lexicalization is made crystal clear. As such, victimization of Israel is introduced in a vivid way. Compassion strategy is also exploited in showing the mothers and their infant and the hostages wherein negative feelings of hatred for such acts are explained .

Extract 9

In Israel, I saw a people who are strong, determined, resilient and also angry, in shock and in deep, deep pain.The actions of Hamas terrorists don't take that right away.

To assure his empathy with Israel ,Biden claims that he witnessed people who were outraged, shocked, and in excruciating agony, but they were also strong, adaptable, and determined. He thinks that Hamas is , the terrorist according to him, does not act in such way immediately.

However,in this extract, empathy is obvious throughout putting oneself in others' shoes feeling their agony “deep pain”. Expressive words like “” strong, determined, resilient and also angry, in shock and in deep, deep pain” assess the description of the situation. Along with words , indicative mood with the modality assert the idea that the matter is taken as something real. Introducing the theme

when he mentions “In Israel,...” , Biden ascertains that he focuses on the Jewish people. Lexicalization , as the previous words show, is effectively made . Factive presupposition is utilized through the words “I see...” to portray the matter as if it is something real. Victimization strategy is evident in portraying people in austere sadness and in shock . This is obvious in the words “angry, in shock and in deep, deep pain”.

4.2. Quantitative Analysis

This subsection deals with the quantitative analysis which is conducted for the purpose of the results of the qualitative analysis. To specify, it deals with the frequencies and percentages associated with each category of empathy , the most and the least used categories. In addition, it endeavours to determine the most and the least strategies in the speeches in question.

Upon calculating the frequencies of the strategies, it becomes evident that certain categories /strategies are employed , and there some categories /strategies that are more frequently employed than others .

As such, though with various percentages , Biden exploits four categories of empathy. They are : Perspective-taking (i.e., taking the point of view of others), Fantasy (i.e., imagining or transposing oneself into the feelings and actions of others), Empathic concern (i.e., accessing other-oriented feelings of sympathy or concern), and finally, personal distress (i.e., or unease in intense). Concerning the most and the least ones , the analysis has shown that the empathy category of showing perspective taking is the most frequently utilized one . This category scores 8 , which means it has the percentage of 33%. Then , the category of empathetic concern comes next. Hence , this category occurs 7 times i.e., 29% of the categories implemented. In the third place, the category of fantasy transposing occurs . It points to putting yourself in others’ shoes. Hence, it recurs 5 times which means it has the percentage of 21. Finally, Personal distress (i.e., or unease in intense about others’ suffering) scores 4, to achieve 17%. Thus, it is the least used category . Table(1) below explains all the frequencies and percentages.

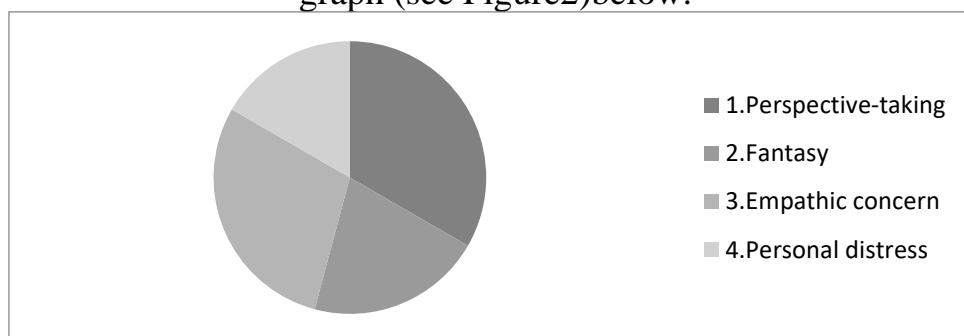
<i>Category</i>	<i>Frequencies</i>	<i>Percentages</i>
1.Perspective-taking	8	%33
2.Fantasy transposing oneself into the feelings	5	%21
3.Empathic concern accessing other-oriented feelings	7	%29
4.Personal distress	4	%17
Total	24	100%

Table(1)Frequencies and percentages of Empathy Categories in Biden’s Speeches

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However, these frequencies and percentages can be explained throughout a graph (see Figure2)below.



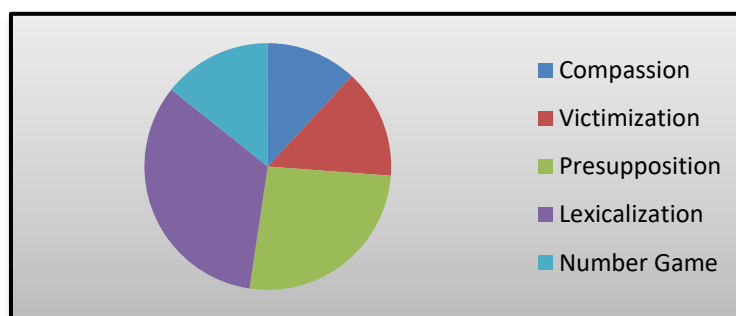
Figure(2) a Graph of Sympathy Categories in Biden's Speeches

Finally, Personal distress is drawn as the least one of the strategies . However, Table (2)below show the frequencies and the percentages of the strategies.

<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Frequencies</i>	<i>Percentages</i>
Compassion	5	% 12
Victimization	6	% 14
Presupposition	11	% 27
Lexicalization	14	% 33
Number Game	6	% 14
Total	42	% 100

Table(2)Frequencies and percentages of Empathy Strategies

As far as the strategies are concerned , it appears that Biden implements the following strategies: Compassion, Victimization, Presupposition, Lexicalization, and Number Game. There is a variety in their distribution. Thus, it has been shown that lexicalization is the most employed strategy recurring 14 times with the percentage of 33%. , Next , the strategy of presupposition comes with 11 frequencies . This means that it achieves 27% of the employed strategies. Then, both victimization and number game appear to recur 6 times which means that their percentage is 14%. Finally ,compassion scores 5 i. e., its percentage is 12%.



Figure(3) A graph of empathy strategies in Biden's speeches

3.3.Results and Discussions

Though with various percentages ,Biden exploits four categories of empathy to show concern with the Jewish. Those strategies are :Perspective-taking, Fantasy, Empathic concern and finally, personal distress. The analysis has shown that the empathy category of showing perspective taking is the most common one .This seems to be the preferred category . Then , the category of empathetic concern, with the category of fantasy transposing follows . These help Biden achieve his aim of showing empathy towards Israel. Finally, Personal distress is the least one of the strategies due to the idea that the president tries to prove that what he says is related to truth rather than mere feelings. Thus, the first aim (i.e., pinpointing the categories of empathy and determining the most and the least employed category)is achieved.

As far as empathy strategies are concerned , it appears that Biden implemented the following: compassion, victimization, presupposition, lexicalization, and number game. They are variously distributed .Thus, it has been shown that lexicalization is the most employed strategy that recurs again and again to give the language its force through using effective words. Next , the strategy of presupposition comes to assert that what is said is presumed knowledge or taken for granted . Then, both victimization and number game appear to recur less . Finally , compassion is the least strategy. As such , the aims of determining the strategies and identifying most and the least employed ones , are achieved.

4.Conclusions

Depending on the conducted analyses , the study concludes the following:

- 1-Empathy is as a group of responses that are other-focused including feelings of sympathy, compassion, ...etc. with the aim of emotional support.
- 2-Though with various extents ,Biden exploits four categories of empathy to show concern with the Jewish.Those are Perspective-taking, Fantasy, Empathic concern and finally, personal distress.
- 3-The analysis has shown that category of perspective taking is the most common category of empathy .This seems to be the preferred category . Then , the category of empathetic concern, with the category of fantasy transposing follows . These categories help Biden achieve his aim of showing empathy towards Israel. Finally,

A Critical Discourse Analysis of Empathy in Biden's Speeches Supporting Israel after Acts on October 7

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Personal distress is the least one of the categories due to the idea that the president tries to prove that what he says is related to truth rather than mere feelings.

4- As far as the strategies are concerned , it appears that Biden implemented the following strategies: Compassion, Victimization, Presupposition, Lexicalization, and Number Game. They are variously distributed .

5-Thus, it has been shown that lexicalization is the most employed strategy that recurs again and again to give the language its force through using effective words. Next , the strategy of presupposition comes to assert that what is said is presumed knowledge or taken for granted . Then, both victimization and number game appear to recur less. Finally , compassion is the least utilized strategy.

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