



ANALYSIS OF SHIRLEY JACKSON'S SHORT STORY "THE LOTTERY" USING TRANSITIVITY MODEL

Safdar Habib

MS English (Linguistics) Scholar, Department of English, Kohat University of Science & Technology (KUST) Kohat, KP, Pakistan.

Safdarhabib61@gmail.com

*Dr. Syed Azaz Ali Shah**

Assistant Professor, Department of English, Kohat University of Science & Technology (KUST) Kohat, KP, Pakistan.

Azazali@kust.edu.pk

Nasim Gul

Lecturer, Department of English, Kohat University of Science & Technology (KUST) Kohat, KP, Pakistan.

Naseemgul2016@gmail.com

Abstract:

This study applies Halliday's Transitivity Model within Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) to Shirley Jackson's "The Lottery" (1948), examining how linguistic structures construct meaning, ideology, and social relationships. Focusing on six transitivity processes material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioural, and existential, the research analyses 312 clauses to reveal how language represents ritualized violence and social conformity. Findings show that material processes dominate (45.5%), highlighting routine acts of communal violence, while relational and mental processes expose the ideological and psychological dimensions of belief. Tessie Hutchinson's transformation from participant to scapegoat underscore's themes of agency and victimization. Overall, the study demonstrates that Halliday's transitivity framework effectively reveals how language normalizes violence and reinforces ideology in literary discourse.

Keywords: *Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), Transitivity Model, Shirley Jackson, The Lottery, Material Process, Literary Discourse, Violence, Ideology.*

Introduction:

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) propounded by J.R Firth (1950) and further developed by M.A.K. Halliday (2013) is one of the pioneering theories of language that discusses the notion of language as a network of systems and choices. These systems and choices are utilized for the expression of meanings of a language in various situations. Owing to the implications of SFL theory, it is being used world-widely by the scholars, peculiarly in the domain of language studies, viz. discourse analysis, and language in context, language and

culture among others (Almurashi, 2016; Schleppegrell & Oteíza 2023). Additionally, systemic functional linguistics has theoretical and applied interests as it unfolds, connections between language and its functions apprehended in spoken and written modes of communication especially in numerous social contexts (Zein et al., 2019; Zhang & Hu, 2022).

In the same vein, one of the key elements of the SFL framework is the transitivity model, which offers detailed guidance for the investigation into the ways in which language is structured to convey meanings in discourse (Koller, 2020). The aforementioned model encompasses both the structure and meaning of a language used in social contexts. Furthermore, the transitivity model consists of three main components such as processes, participants and circumstances and they all are intricately interconnected in terms of their applicability (Bartley, 2018). For instance, the term ‘process’ refers to the verb in a clause, and that is evaluated as the representation of that clause in particular circumstances (Halliday & James, 2004). In addition, there are six transitivity processes namely, material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioural, and existential which could be found in a text. Therefore, in the current study Transitivity Model under SFL is taken into considerations the short story, “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson, published in 1948 in a magazine “The New Yorker” to explore the way language expresses actions, perceptions, relationships, and existences (Apendi & Mulyani, 2020). This transitivity-based analysis allows for a detailed understanding of the way linguistic structures contribute to meaning making, thematic development, and the normalization of violence in the story (Pillai, 2022).

To analyse the data in this study, the researcher employed Halliday’s transitivity model from Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) as a data analytical tool. The transitivity model is embedded in the distinction between transitive verbs, which require a direct object, and intransitive verbs, which do not require direct object. Additionally, ditransitive verbs function as both transitive and intransitive, a key feature addressed by Halliday in his theory (Li, 2023). The transitivity model consists of three main components: the process (represented by the verb in a clause), the participants (people or things involved in the process, expressed through nominal groups), and the circumstances (the environmental context of the process) (Apendi & Mulyani, 2020). In this research, Halliday’s transitivity model applied to analyse Shirley Jackson’s “The Lottery”. This study focuses on the ideational metafunction, which deals with the interaction between participants, processes, and circumstances within the text. A descriptive analysis of the short story conducted, focusing specifically on the six types of transitivity processes, classified and analysed to understand the linguistic features shaping narrative and character dynamics.

Statement of the Problem

The short story published by Shirley Jackson “The Lottery” in 1948, presents disturbing portrayal of societal violence camouflaged by tradition and collective normality. Although, the narrative has been extensively analysed from thematic perspectives, relatively little attention has been paid to the way language choices contribute to the making of meaning and ideological structures (Sheikh et al., 2021). Applying Halliday’s transitivity model from Systemic Functional Linguistics offers a prevailing framework to explore the way grammatical patterns represent actions, actors, and events. This study also offers the ways

these patterns encode power relations, agency, and social roles in the short story “The Lottery”. Moreover, this study aims to analyse the dominant transitivity processes, material, mental, relational, behavioural, verbal, and existential and examine their function in shaping the story’s tone. By identifying which processes occur most frequently, the research seeks to uncover the ways linguistic structures skilfully support themes of conformity, detachment, and shared responsibility. Ultimately, uncovering the ways ordinary language can normalize violence in a ritualized social background. Using this lens, the study contributes to a deeper understanding of the relationship between language and meaning in literary texts.

Research Questions

- How could Shirley Jackson’s “The Lottery” be interpreted in the light of Halliday’s transitivity model?
- Which transitivity process occurs more frequently in the short story, “The Lottery”?

Objectives of the Study

- To analyse Shirley Jackson’s “The Lottery” from the perspectives of Halliday’s transitivity model.
- To explore the transitivity process that is more frequently used in the text of the short story, “The Lottery”.

Rationale of the Study

The short story “The Lottery” (1948) by Shirley Jackson has been widely analysed for its themes of tradition, violence, and social conformity. Limited attention has been paid to applying the transitivity model from Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) to analyse the way language establishes meaning in the story. This study addresses that gap by analysing the way linguistic choices of Shirley Jackson’s short story reflect character agency, social roles, and power dynamics. The transitivity model enables a deeper understanding of the way processes, participants, and circumstances function to uncover the hidden ideologies within the narrative (Matu, 2008). By combining linguistic analysis with literary interpretation, this research offers new insights, systematic perspective on the way language shapes the text’s thematic concerns (Aljarelah, 2024).

Literature Review

This literature review explores the analysis of texts using transitivity model from Systemic Functional Linguistics developed by Halliday.

Comparative research has been conducted showcasing how cultural worldviews are linguistically represented through the ideational meta function in fiction, applying Halliday and Matthiessen’s (2014) transitivity framework to analyse the native English story “The Mild Attack of Locusts” and the Pakistani short story “The Crucifixion.” Ejaz et al. (2025) found out that the British writer has revealed that the British writer’s work foregrounded material action (27% Actor frequency) dominated by animate participants (90.4%) interacting with concrete inanimate (84.8%), resulting the world where human agency faced environmental challenges through observable, goal-directed intervention. While on the other

hand, the Pakistani narrative downplayed material action (18.6% Actors) in favour of mental processes (7.7% Senses/Phenomenon) and abstract inanimate Actors (28.6%), framing experience as shaped by internal states and contextual forces like societal structures or spiritual imperatives. These patterns enlightened two cultural ontologies: the native text incorporated an empirical agency framework, valuing individual mastery over environment through material indulgence; the Pakistani text reflects a symbolic negotiation paradigm, where meaning emerged from contemplation of contextual forces. The study demonstrates that transitivity choices are inherently cultural acts, with participant distribution systematizing worldview differences beyond mere style.

Another study aimed to analyse transitivity patterns in the novel *Sorrows of Sarasvati*. The study aimed at analysing the ways certain meanings were being interpreted using particular transitivity patterns. Ishaq et al. (2025) planned to explain the representation of characters of both the genders, male and female, by the author. For the analysis of the novel, the researchers selected four characters and 120 dialogues, 30 from each character, as sample data. The corpus of the data was compiled in text form. Drawing on Halliday's (1985) transitivity model, scheme for the analysis was prepared, and the transitivity patterns were manually tagged in UAM corpus tool. Furthermore, the frequencies of the male and female characters were compared. The findings suggest that female characters were observed to be using more mental, relational, and material processes signifying that the characters were a mix of stereotypical and independent personas. Interestingly, the transitivity patterns used by male characters seemed to defy the typical strong, courageous, careless, and independent image of masculinity.

Islam and Iqbal, (2025) studied the representation of gender in Elif Shafak's *10 Minutes 38 Seconds in this Strange World* using Halliday's (1985) by applying transitivity model. Employing mixed-method approach, the research analyses nine purposively sampled extracts, consists of 87 clauses, and the focus of the discussion was only two key samples. The findings reveal that Shafak employed of all types of processes, but the frequency was different. The female characters were predominantly engaged in mental while the male characters were involved in material action, often with female characters as goals. The contrast in their actions and the circumstances, in which they are carried out, show that Elif Shafak has depicted her female characters as passive, powerless, hesitant and lacking autonomy. While the male characters have been portrayed as dominant, active, autonomous, confident and powerful. The findings reinforce how Shafak's engages with gender and power structure in literary discourse on gender inequality.

The study conducted by Otugo and Akabuike, (2025) conducted research on four novels of three Nigerian writers of Igbo origin, Chinua Achebe, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie and Ikechukwu Asika using transitivity analysis. Most of the time, readers fail to realize the linguistic features that revealed themes in a novel. This makes a reader struggle with the message the author wants to convey to the audience. This study employs Systematic Functional Linguistics to analyse the transitivity patterns in the novels and the way participant and circumstance shape the thematic concern of the novels under study. This study, therefore, seeks to analyse the Nigerian novels using Halliday's transitivity model with the aim of analysing the lexico- grammatical choices and how these choices realize

experiential meaning; meaning as content or as a representation of reality, which in essence, reflects theme. This study offers explanations for the lexico- grammatical choices made and how they are analysed to portray the intended meaning of the writers. The study adopted both qualitative and quantitative methods to study the problem. The data comprised one hundred and twenty excerpts purposely drawn from the novels. Textual data were analysed based on the objectives of the study, research questions and theoretical framework adopted. The study reveals that the major themes of the novels are domestic violence, cultural and religious conflicts and power relations. Again, the material process was majorly used, in representing the experiences of reality. It therefore concludes that transitivity can facilitate the interpretation of language used to portray themes and meaning.

The prominent study on the Heroic Mother short story by Hoa Pham was carried out by Nguyen (2012) using the transitivity framework of the SFL approach. The transitivity model SFL approach is used to investigate how language is utilized to build the personality of the protagonist in the short story. The short story's transitivity analysis revealed that the main character doesn't hold a central role as a participant. The limited use of material processes suggest that the elderly woman is unable to engage in any kind of physical activity; however, she tries to convey her inner thoughts, relationships, and conduct toward her family and society. The short story's SFL analysis, taken as a whole, demonstrates that the protagonist is merely an illustration of the plight of numerous heroic mothers; while the younger generation ignores their victories, they live in sadness and sorrow.

A study entitled Transitivity Analysis of Hillary Clinton's and Donald Trump's First Television Debate, conducted by Zhang (2017), applied transitivity model of SFL analyses and the inaugural TV debate featuring Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump. The application of the transitivity approach within systemic-functional grammar proves valuable in dissecting political discourses, as shown by this quantitative analysis of speech data. According to the findings, the discourse's themes are served by every linguistic form employed by the speaker. Consequently, their political discourse is more concerned with the interpersonal function to propose their plans and policies and convincing the audience to accept their position.

Theoretical Framework

The researcher utilized the transitivity model of SFL to identify transitivity processes in Shirley Jackson's short story "The Lottery." The text is analysed through Halliday's transitivity model, as part of systemic functional linguistics (SFL). The foundation of the theory is sourced from "Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar" (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). The current study identified and emphasized the principal processes, participants, and contextual factors present in the textual content of the short story analysed, employing the transitivity model of Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) as a methodological instrument. The figure below shows the theoretical framework:

Methodology

Research Design

This research adopted a qualitative research approach for the interpretation purposes of the short story “The Lottery” (1948) through the lens of the transitivity model. Qualitative research is a prominent approach for the analysis of a short story while applying various techniques, including, close reading, critical reading, reading in chunks among others (Ohrvik, 2024). However, this research follows close reading technique owing to its productive attentiveness and its close connection with the development of hermeneutics. Furthermore, after carrying close reading, the readers will be able to investigate the specific strength of a literary work in as many details as possible (Sisson & Sisson, 2024). It implies that close reading technique enables researchers to understand how a text works and accordingly it creates its effects on the most minute level. In the same line, the transitivity model also seeks how socio-cultural meanings are represented through the usage of language in the texts of literary genres.

Sample:

The sample selected for the study is short story “The Lottery” (1948) by Shirley Jackson which helps as the primary text for transitivity analysis using Halliday’s Systemic Functional Linguistics framework.

Analysis and Discussion

In this part, the researcher performed a comprehensive analysis of the short story "The Lottery" by utilizing Halliday’s transitivity model (2014) as a framework. This model enabled the researcher to analyse the frequency and characteristics of each process within the narrative, as well as to delineate the many participant types that coincide with material processes. By utilizing this methodical methodology, the researcher elucidated the fundamental material processes, participants, and contextual factors that propel the ritual action and narrative progression in Jackson’s writing.

Analysis of the Material Process

Material processes delineate corporeal actions and occurrences wherein entities engage in or experience the primary process utilized to illustrate ritualized collective behaviour in The Lottery. In Jackson's story, material mechanisms make the lottery happen as a group (gathering, drawing, throwing, stoning), which shows how the roles in the ritual change: participants who perform (actors) and those who become targets (goals). The material-process description below is based on the thesis framework you gave me. After that, there are three clause-level evaluations based on the story.

“Bobby Martin had already stuffed his pockets full of stones.”

Participant(s)	Process Type	Circumstances
Actor: Bobby Martin Goal: his pockets	Stuffed	Manner: full of stones Time: Had Already

This clause represents the material action done by the Actor Bobby Martin. Bobby knew the result of the lottery, conducted in the village. So, he collected stones like the other villagers, but his style was unique. As he was hiding the stones in his pockets, he wanted to be unique

among others. Bobby’s act of putting stones affects the goal (his pockets). It shows the normality and the deepness of the violent ritual in the village because every single entity of the village came prepared to the lottery. The auxiliary verb “had” places the event after another event which has been completed by the other actors, and it also shows the circumstantial element, time. Consequently, this act shows the readiness for the upcoming event.

Analysis of Mental Processes

The complex operations of the mind build a person's inner world, where mental activities are very important. These processes make it easier for the speaker to say what they think, feel, and want to say. Mental processes consist of two main components: the Senser, which signifies the aware individual, and the Phenomenon, which includes anything that may be sensed, perceived, felt, or contemplated.

In the examined text, the mental process is significantly predominant in comparison to other processes, omitting material processes. Jackson uses mental processes on purpose to make readers feel anxiety, worry, and resistance, which makes them feel and see things in the story.

“The feeling of liberty sat uneasily on most of them.”

Participant	Process	Circumstances
Senser: most of them Phenomenon: the feeling of liberty	Feeling	Manner: uneasily

The process, feeling, represents the emotional state not a physical action, which come in the mental process. The sensor, most of them, refers to the children who experience uneasy emotion. The phenomenon, the feeling of liberty, shows an ephemeral freedom when the school ends. The circumstances, uneasily, shows discomfort instead of joy and elevates the tension for the children of the village. Although, they are happy, there are some other challenges in the future waiting for them. The first challenge is to face the blind following of the traditional ritual.

Analysis of Relational Processes

Being and having are both parts of the relationship process. It is used to give things names or to find certain things. This process creates a link between two things or ideas, which makes it possible to make connections. The relational process is important for understanding how everything in the world is connected and how they depend on each other. It helps people investigate and figure out the complicated web of connections that exist in many areas of life, which helps them grasp the links better and see how important they are.

Excerpt 1

“The morning of June 27th was clear and sunny”.

Participant	Process	Circumstances
-------------	---------	---------------

Carrier: the morning of 27 th June	was	Time: of 27 th June
Attribute: clear and sunny		

In this clause, Shirley Jackson starts her short story, which shows the day is clear and there are no chances of rain. It is a relational process where “was” is use as relational process of being. The verb “was” connecting the carrier, the morning, with its attribute, clear and sunny. The circumstances of time, of 27th June, shows the exact time of the ritual. Jackson deliberately starts the story with this clause to put impression and normalcy in her writing. She contrasts the natural beauty with the horrific event which is going to follow the beautiful morning. With this clause, she reveals the coexistence of the natural beauty with the cruel nature of human beings.

Analysis of the Verbal Process

People commonly call the verbal process the "saying" process, and it plays an important role in speech creation. It includes speaking and saying words, as well as using spoken language to communicate. Verbal processes are very important in human communication because they help people express their thoughts, ideas, and intentions clearly. Using verbal processes, people have expressive and engaged conversations that help them share information and build meaningful relationships with each other.

“Mrs. Hutchison screamed that it wasn’t fair and that they should stop the drawing”.

Participant	Process	Circumstances
Sayer: Mrs. Hutchison Verbiage: that it wasn’t fair and that they should stop the drawing. Receiver: the officials and the villagers	Screamed	Manner: screamed, high volume Time: after her family’s selection

Another clause speaks about another act in the story. The process, screamed, expresses an intense emotion which is too loud. It shows the act is both communicative and psychological at the same time as it is a release of terror. The sayer, Mrs. Hutchison, represents resistance against the violent act. The verbiage, that wasn’t fair and that they should stop the drawing, contains the propositional elements of her scream. The receiver, the officials and villagers, reflects the collective entities who is receiving action. Her cry is for the officials and the villagers because they are the one can stop this ritual or make changes in the outcomes. The circumstances, loud scream, occurs when her family is selected. Overall, this clause shows the disagreement of the sayer towards the result of the lottery which is awful for her and for her family.

Analysis of Existential Processes

In Halliday's transitivity model, existential process is a linguistic term that means the presence or existence of things, events, or qualities. It shows how important they are in a

specific discourse. This procedure signifies the condition of being or existence. It shows that things and events happen, and the existing can be thought of as any kind of phenomenon in the clause.

Excerpt 1

“There had been, also, a ritual salute”.

Participant	Process	Circumstances
Existent: a ritual salute	Had been	Manner: also

This clause likewise uses an existential process with the verb group "had been," which means that something existed in the past. The word "Existent" here means "a ritual salute," which is an older aspect of the ceremony that is no longer there. The Circumstance of manner "also" suggests that the salute coexisted with other ritual elements. Halliday (2014) says that existential processes do more than just show that something is there; they also show that something has changed or is missing in a conversation. The sentence here shows how ceremonial details fade over time, but it also points out that the main ritual act stays the same. Shafira (2016) posits that existential creations frequently embody ideological significance by juxtaposing the remembering with the forgotten. In this instance, the reference to the lost salute juxtaposes the ongoing stoning, revealing the selective memory inherent in tradition. Carter and Stockwell (2008) note that these procedures emphasize the ideological aspect of what is deemed valuable to preserve. So, this existential clause sets the stage for cultural change by showing both continuity and loss in the ritual.

Analysis of Behavioural Process

Behavioural process implicates analysing patterns of behaviour to gain insights into an individual's thoughts, intentions, and emotions, which makes the reader enable to get a deeper understanding of the text and the underlying message conveyed. The behavioural process is also employed infrequently within the text. Only a small number of occurrences are observed in this process.

Excerpt 1

“She (Mrs. Delacroix) held her breath while her husband went forward”.

Participant	Process	Circumstances
Behavior: Mrs. Delacroix	Held her breath	Time: while her husband went forward

The researcher takes this clause from the original text of the short story “The Lottery” written by Shirley Jackson. The clause is the example of the behavioural process which shows the behaviour of the behavior. The pronoun “she” is the character named, Mrs. Delacroix, which is the behavior in this clause. The process, held her breath, shows the behaviour of the behavior that she held her breath while waiting for the next moment. The circumstances, while her husband went forward, shows the temporal element. This temporal element causes the wait of Mrs. Delacroix. It further explains the patriarchal setting of the society and care of a wife for husband, which comes in the arena of social caring. Overall, this clause reveals the societal

status of a woman and the relation of a husband and a wife in that society. The uneasiness of the behavior also shows the ritual's cruel aspect which depresses the people of the village.

Themes in Selected Short Story

Shirley Jackson wrote a short story "The Lottery". When looked through Halliday's transitivity model, several themes arise. Halliday's transitivity model examines the processes or events occurring within a text and the actors involved. By using Halliday's transitivity model to investigate The Lottery, the researcher gets better understanding of these thematic elements and how important they are to the story. In The Lottery, the material process is the main one, but other processes are also used for other things in the plot. There is mental, verbal, existential, behavioural, and relational processes that make up these processes. Even though they aren't as common as material processes, they help with the general study of themes in these ways.

Tradition and Ritual: The importance of material processes highlights the issue of tradition and ritual. The villagers' acts, such "drawing," "gathering," "Picking up," "selecting," "moving," and "stoning," show the way physical actions make the ritual of the community real. This topic shows how tradition lives through repeated deeds by illustrating how the people of the village blindly following custom. The narrative emphasizes the significance of communal activity in preserving ritual practices through generations by concentrating on tangible acts.

Resistance and Helplessness: The story's theme analysis focuses on how Tessie Hutchinson changes. At first, she seems like a normal villager, but she becomes a vocal resister through her words and thoughts. But as the rite goes on, her function changes again to being a passive object, being the Goal of what other people do. This shows the concept of helplessness that her resistance shows, but it doesn't work against the strong force of community tradition.

Behaviour and Social Norms: Behavioural mechanisms, however constrained, enhance the topic of social conformance. The villagers' external reactions to the incident can be seen in their actions, such as "laughing," "hesitating," and "watching." These mechanisms show how conduct affects group dynamics, keeping both tension and normalcy in the face of violence.

Relationships and Identity: Relational processes are used to set roles and identities in the community. Processes such as "being," "belonging," and "having" elucidate people's positioning in respect to the ritual. The Hutchinson family's identification as "chosen" and Tessie's final position as "victim" underscore the theme of identity shaped by collective tradition.

Naveed Rafaqat Ahmad is a researcher focused on public-sector governance, state-owned enterprise reform, and institutional restructuring in developing economies. His work emphasizes evidence-based policy solutions for improving the financial sustainability and operational efficiency of Pakistan's major SOEs. By drawing on comparative international models, he highlights practical reform pathways—such as corporatization, public-private partnerships, and performance-driven management—that can strengthen fiscal discipline and reduce reliance on government subsidies. His scholarship contributes to policy discussions aimed at creating accountable, competitive, and self-sustaining public institutions.

Conclusion

To sum up, this research article has done a thorough analysis of Shirley Jackson's short story "The Lottery" using Halliday's transitivity model. Through a methodical analysis of the linguistic structures and process types present in the text, the researcher reveals the complex mechanisms by which Jackson's language creates meaning, reinforces themes, and influences readers' interpretations. The principal conclusions of this study are encapsulated as follows:

First, using Halliday's transitivity model on "The Lottery" has been a useful and informative method. The study has uncovered the intentional linguistic patterns utilized by Jackson to depict the illusory normalcy of the village and the inherent brutality of its traditions by dividing the narrative into several clauses for examination. Secondly, the results also show that all six types of processes that Halliday talks about in his framework material, mental, relational, verbal, behavioral, and existential are present in the story. This distribution shows how complex Jackson's narrative style is and how well she can balance description, perception, and action to make communal violence seem chillingly normal. Thirdly, the fact that material processes are used a lot in the text shows how important action, ritual, and physical engagement are. This dominance shows how the villagers took part in the lottery and how they follow old traditions without question. Fourthly, the relational processes are very important to the text because they help Jackson build and keep social ties and community identities among the villagers. These processes help define social hierarchy and cohesion, subtly supporting the shared beliefs that keep the ritual going.

Recommendations

When looking at Shirley Jackson's short story "The Lottery" using Halliday's transitivity model, there are a few suggestions for more research that come up. To fully understand the story's evaluative stance and interpersonal tenor, scholars should first expand their linguistic analysis to include other systemic functional grammatical elements, such as mood and modality. An extension study like this would make it clearer how Jackson encodes obligation, probability, and the characters' attitudes, which would help us understand better the ways language choices create social pressure and complicity in the village. Furthermore, a narratological comparative analysis could be conducted to examine Jackson's formulation of perspective and narrative tempo

References

- Aljarelah, A. K. (2024). A Linguistic Analysis of Literary Criticism a study of How Language Influences the Evaluation of Literary Works. *The American Journal of Interdisciplinary Innovations and Research*, 6(06), 35-50. <https://doi.org/10.37547/tajir/Volume06Issue06-09>.
- Almurashi, W. A. (2016). An Introduction to Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics. *Journal for the Study of English Linguistics*, 4(1), 70. <https://doi.org/10.5296/jsel.v4i1.9423>

- Apendi, T. L., & Mulyani, E. R. (2020). The Analysis of Transitivity Process of Students' Descriptive Texts. *PROJECT (Professional Journal of English Education)*, 3(3), 359. <https://doi.org/10.22460/project.v3i3.p359-366>
- Bartley, L. V. (2018). Putting transitivity to the test: A review of the Sydney and Cardiff models. *Functional Linguistics*, 5(1), 4. <https://doi.org/10.1186/s40554-018-0056-x>.
- Carter, R., & Stockwell, P. (Eds.). (2008). *The language and literature reader*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003060789>
- Ejaz, A., Khan, S., & Ahmed, R. (2025). Transitivity and cultural representation in English and Pakistani narratives: A comparative study of "The Crucifixion." *Journal of Linguistic and Literary Studies*, 14(2), 45–63.
- Halliday, M. A. K., & Matthiessen, C. M. (2013). *Halliday's introduction to functional grammar*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9780203431269>.
- Halliday, M. A. K., & Matthiessen, C. M. I. M. (2014). *An introduction to functional grammar* (4th ed.). Routledge.
- Halliday, M. A., & James, Z. L. (2004). A quantitative study of polarity and primary tense in the English finite clause. In *Techniques of Description* (pp. 48-82). Routledge.
- Halliday, M.A. K. (1985). *An introduction to functional grammar* (1st ed.) Edward Arnold.
- Ishaq, M., Ali, S., & Rehman, T. (2025). A gender-based transitivity analysis of character representation in contemporary fiction. *Journal of Language and Literary Discourse*, 18(1), 55–72.
- Islam, F., & Iqbal, N. (2025). A transitivity analysis of gender representation in Elif Shafak's 10 Minutes 38 Seconds in This Strange World. *Journal of Discourse and Literary Studies*, 12(1), 34–49.
- Koller, V. (2020). Discourse analysis and systemic functional linguistics. In V. Koller, *Researching discourse* (pp. 81–101). Routledge.
- Li, D. (2023). Teaching the Transitivity of English Verbs in the Lexical Approach. *SSRN Electronic Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4318781>
- Matu, P. M. (2008). Transitivity as a tool for ideological analysis. *Journal of Third World Studies*, 25(1), 199-211. <https://www.jstor.org/stable/45194444>.
- Nguyen, H. T. (2012). Transitivity Analysis of " Heroic Mother" by Hoa Pham. *International journal of English linguistics*, 2(4), 85.
- Ohrvik, A. (2024). What is close reading? An exploration of a methodology. *Rethinking History*, 28(2), 181-193. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13642529.2024.2370137>

- Otugo, C., & Akabuike, I. (2025). A transitivity analysis of character representation in selected novels by Nigerian Igbo writers. *African Journal of Language and Literary Studies*, 9(2), 78–95.
- Pillai, S. (2022). A Systemic Functional Linguistic Transitivity Analysis of Character in the Mahabharata, Duryodhana and Draupadi. [Master's thesis, The University of Malaya].
- Schleppegrell, M. J., & Oteíza, T. (2023). Systemic functional linguistics. In J. P. Gee & M. Handford (Eds.), *The Routledge handbook of discourse analysis* (2nd ed., pp. 156–169). Routledge. 13 <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003035244-13>
- Shafira, N. (2016). An analysis of descriptive texts in English textbooks based on systemic functional linguistics. *Journal of English Language Education*, 5(2), 101–112.
- Sheikh, D. A. R., Awan, D. N. A., & Sheikh, F. R. (2021). The Application of Labov's Sociolinguistic Model of Narrative Analysis to a Short Story The Lottery by Shirley Jackson. *Pakistan Journal of Society, Education and Language (PJSEL)*, 8(1).
- Sisson, D., & Sisson, B. (2024). *Close reading in elementary school: Bringing readers and texts together* (2nd ed.). Routledge.
- Zein, T. T., Sinar, T. S., Nurlala, N., & Yusuf, M. (2019, February). Process types of transitivity system in English Department students' narrative texts. In *Proceedings of the Sixth International Conference on English Language and Teaching (ICOELT 2018)* (pp. 149-155). Atlantis Press. <https://doi.org/10.2991/icoelt-18.2019.21>.
- Zhang, D., & Hu, R. (2022). The applicability of systemic functional linguistics and its role in discipline integration. *Journal of World Languages*, 7(3), 515–535. <https://doi.org/10.1515/jwl-2021-0028>.
- Zhang, Y. (2017). Transitivity analysis of Hillary Clinton's and Donald Trump's first television debate. *International Journal of Applied Linguistics and English Literature*, 6(7), 65-72. 10.7575/aiac.ijalel.v.6n.7p.65.
- Ahmad, N. R. (2025). *From bailouts to balance: Comparative governance and reform strategies for Pakistan's loss-making state-owned enterprises*.