

# A Lexical Analysis of American and Non-American Political News

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## Abstract

This study examines lexical choice used in news reports reporting the protests against Donald Trump. 20 news articles were selected from CNN and Al Jazeera between November 9, 2016 – January 1, 2017. This paper narrows the scope down to the content words: nouns, adjectives, reporting verbs, and action verbs. The results come out that nouns referring to the President are mostly used, while the adjectives are mostly used to describe the demonstrations. Moreover, the negative tone of nouns and adjectives such as riot and nasty are occasionally used by Al Jazeera, but hardly used by CNN. For verbs, both CNN and Al Jazeera used neutral reporting verbs more than strong reporting verbs. At the end of this paper, the recommendations together with the discussion covered 2 aspects which are anti-Americanism and commercialization are stated.

## 1. Introduction

Language is a core of communication since it is a medium to establish and maintain the relationship among people. Therefore, to choose the most proper language depending on the situation in which that communication occurs is the key point of effective communication. Nowadays, many linguists apply the words *style* and *register* to describe the way language changes depending on situational factors. The academic battle toward the definition of style and register is in the area be concerned by many scholars for a long time. However, some scholars (Biber and Conrad 2009, Crystal and Davy 1969 and Fowler 1971) state that style is more like alternative defined by the speaker/writer's perspective, while register refers to varieties of language with respect to its uses which mainly defined by specific situations (Biber and Conrad 2009, and Crystal 1991).

This paper primarily focuses on the lexical choice used in political news reports under the theme of the protests against President Donald Trump. Moreover, the scopes of the study are also narrowed down to the time durations of the protests, and news agencies. It is the fact

that every register has its own linguistic features which are different from other kinds of register either by vocabulary, or by sentence structures, and these differences make its language special. News reporting is no exception. In this paper, the term news report refers to the information about some issues which have recently happened, and the report of the events appearing in newspapers, on television or radio (Anaeto 2009, Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary 2008, and Reah 2002). According to the characteristics and purposes of news, journalists are expected and trained to use specific language in order to attract the big audience. However, newspaper publications are just business like other kinds of business that should be profitable (Fowler, 1991). Thus, some journalists lack to keep their articles in the neutral way by expressing their attitudes toward the particular events in the article as Bukhari (2015) states that "Newspapers are considered as a strong mean of presenting social and national issues in terms of their own ideological perspectives." Therefore, the background of writer is considered as one of the significant factors which can influence the way they select lexical choice in order to grab the attention from their target reader differently.

Due to the effect of different agencies mentioned above, CNN and Al Jazeera are selected to analyze on how the background of writer can shape readers' opinion. Uncontrollably, the first questions that come to mind are why CNN and Al Jazeera? Why not BBC and Al Jazeera? It is because this study narrows its scope down to American and non-American news agencies. Basically, both CNN and Al Jazeera bring their cultural uniqueness and perspectives to readers through the transmission of language. CNN which American primarily watch, and Al Jazeera which proudly present itself as the voice of the Middle East are used. According to the impact of different backgrounds, this study seeks to investigate the way journalists select words used in their articles, and then to analyze how different backgrounds affect the lexical choices.

## 2. Objective of the Study

The overall objective of this study is following:

To investigate the lexical choice used in political news between American and non-American news agencies.

### 3. Research Question

This study is intended to find answers to the following question:

What lexical choice is used in political news by American and non-American news agencies?

### 4 . The Language of News Report

The language of newspaper has been a subject of investigations for many linguists because of its importance. For instance, news is considered as one of the most widely-read types of written text. Besides, different discourse brings its differences to present the information, so the language of the news report is distinctive in many ways. Moreover, Ghadessy 1988, and Timuçin 2010 also point out that audiences and purposes matter the way journalists use different language and style as well. In this study, the language used in political news is primarily concerned, and as the purpose of news is different, so is the language. However, the language used in the political news report also shares something in common with a whole type of news report.

To begin with word choice, the smallest unit of language used in news, Bell 1991, and Pape and Featherstone 2008 (as cited in Pajunen, 2008) point out that the reporting verbs are normally used to express a writer's perspectives toward the statement, while some excessive reporting verbs such as *claim* and *agree*, colloquial words, and expressions should be avoided except in quotation. Moreover, the headlines of news article are not commonly written in the structure of a full sentence. That's why modified noun phrases are heavily used in the headline (e.g. "*Protesters outside Trump's first thank you rally: I will not stand for you*"). According to Pajunen, some functional words such as articles and finite forms of verbs are omitted in the headlines (2008). In the body paragraphs, passive sentences are less used when compared to active sentences because passive constructions are longer and less lively than the active one. However, the passive constructions are commonly used in headlines due to the concept that the most important information should be put at the very first part of the phrases or sentences (e.g. "*Duck kicked by horse in driving accident*") (Mardh, 1980). The lead can be considered as the most important part of the newspaper because it is the summary of the whole story. Therefore, lead is not needed to be expressed in just one single sentence, but it should be as short as possible (Bell 1991, and Pajunen 2008). To focus on quotation and reported speech

constructions, Pajunen (2008) points out that “quotations make a news article livelier, more colorful and more authentic.” As reported in Jukanen’s work (1995), direct and indirect speech constructions are the dominant feature of hard news due to the large amount of use.

## 5. Methodology

20 news articles reporting the protests against President Donald Trump from CNN and Al Jazeera are analyzed in this study. It is interesting to study how the same event is presented differently since the selected articles from both news agencies have their own distinctive style to present. Moreover, 20 news articles focusing on the protest were selected from 2 periods; post-election period (November 9, 2016 – January 19, 2017), and during-presidency period January 20, 2017 - January 31, 2017). Since the objective of this study is to investigate the lexical choice used in political news between American and non-American news agencies, therefore the data are analyzed by focusing on the lexical choice used in news report from both new agencies.

## 6. Data Analysis

### 6.1 Noun

NOUN	Post-election period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. The President	30%	26.5%
2. The President's supporter	8.5%	1%
3. The President's opponent	18%	35%
4. Demonstration against the President	28%	26.5%
5. The President's policy	15.5%	9%
6. The President's statement	0%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 1. Nouns used in CNN and Al Jazeera in post-election period

Noun is commonly used to refer to the a person, place, thing, idea, action or quality. In this study, nouns can be classified into 6 types based on their meanings, as shown in the following:

(a) Nouns referring to the President: *Trump, President-elect, the real estate mogul Trump, President-elect Donald Trump, Donald Trump, Candidate Trump, Republican*

*presidential candidate Donald Trump, The Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump, The Republican leader, Republican Donald Trump, President Donald Trump and President*

(b) Nouns referring to the President's supporter: *supporter, government, cabinet, authority, republicans, and spokeswoman*

(d) Nouns referring to the President's opponent: *protester, demonstrator, activist, perpetrator, crowd, Americans, marcher, attendee, group, participant, anarchist, and opponent*

(e) Nouns referring to the demonstration against the President: *protest, walkout, riot, demonstration, rally, march, incident, and gathering*

(f) Nouns referring to the President's policy: *policy, campaign, ban, authority, program, position, stance, order, move, and action*

(g) Nouns referring to the President's statement: *statement, rhetoric, language, and comment*

According to Table 1, Al Jazeera mostly uses nouns referring the President's opponent. It indicates that during post-election period, Al Jazeera's articles are mainly focused on the protesters rather than the President or the demonstrator, as shown in the headlines, lead and body paragraphs. Al Jazeera reports the protests as the international events; therefore, they tends to emphasize on people who take the action not just to report the overall situation, as in:

(1) *Protesters vow to fight Donald Trump presidency* (November 2016, by Renee Lewis, Al Jazeera)

(2) *Civil rights group tracks nearly 900 cases of assaults, intimidation, and harassment in 10 days after election win* (December 2016, by Ryan Rifai, Al Jazeera).

On the other hand, nouns referring to the President or addressing terms are frequently used by CNN. Moreover, nouns used to name the President can be classified into 3 groups which are proper nouns, title positions, and common nouns referring to Trump as in (3), (4), and (5), respectively:

(3) *The protests came a week after the election of Donald Trump, who's said that deporting millions of undocumented immigrants will be a top priority once he takes office* (November 2016, by Catherine E. Shoichet and Azadeh Ansari, CNN).

(4) *While President-Elect Donald Trump hosted his first "thank you" tour rally since the election, chants of "love trumps hate," echoed in the cold Cincinnati air Thursday night outside of the US Bank Arena* (December 2016, by Elizabeth Landers, CNN).

(5) *Overnight, about 5,000 people protested the real estate mogul's victory outside Trump Tower, authorities estimated. They included pop star Lady Gaga, a staunch Hillary Clinton supporter* (November 2016, by Max Blau, Euan McKirdy and Holly Yan, CNN).

As shown in example (3) and (4), CNN tries to write a news article in a more neutral way because the nouns referring to the President used in CNN's articles are mostly used in the form of a proper noun and a title position. Moreover, there are many articles released by CNN during one month of protest, possibly, the forms of nouns are used only to report the situation of what happened, not intently reveal the perspectives of Americans toward the protest.

However, as shown in (5), *the real estate mogul* is used and probably refers to the identity of business man of Donald Trump before he is elected. The world of business and politic are distinct. In business world, money is the President while in the political world, people are the President. CNN, however, uses *the real estate mogul* to refer to the President which shows some sense of negative perspective toward their own President. However, if the readers know the reasons behind the protest that Americans do not protest against Donald Trump because he was a business man, but because of his immigration policy.

NOUN	During-presidency period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. The President	29%	29.4%
2. The President's supporter	10%	3.3%
3. The President's opponent	12%	16.4%
4. Demonstration against the President	13%	27.2%
5. The President's policy	27%	18.7%
6. The President's statement	0%	2.2
7. The opponent's statement	9%	2.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 2. Nouns used in CNN and Al Jazeera in during-presidency period

Moving to the during-presidency period, CNN still uses nouns to refer to Donald Trump, as well as Al Jazeera that both changes their focus from the protestor to the President, properly due to the fact that during this time the main focus of the people is on Donald Trump's inauguration.

Moreover, as shown in Table 2, both CNN and Al Jazeera begin to use nouns referring to the opponent's statement because at this period, protesters announced their statement against Trump's immigration ban, as in:

(6) "President Trump's war on equality is already taking a terrible human toll. This ban cannot be allowed to continue," said Omar Jadwat, director of the ACLU's Immigrants' Rights Project, in a statement (January 2017, by Al Jazeera Staff, Al Jazeera).

## 6.2 Adjective

ADJECTIVE	Post-election period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. Describing the President's opponent	33%	14%
2. Describing the demonstration against the President	63%	43%
3. Describing the President's policy	4%	29%
4. Describing the President's statement	0%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3. Adjectives used in CNN and Al Jazeera in post-election period

Adjectives are words used to describe or modify a person, place, thing, idea, action or quality. (e.g. a noun or a noun phrase). Moreover, adjectives are commonly used in news reports due to the characteristics of news reports which are clear, concise, and catchy. Therefore, the main function of adjectives is to add the detailed information for the nouns they modify.

As shown in Table 3, the adjectives can be divided into 4 main types based on the meanings of nouns that they modify. The 4 types of adjectives are in the following:

(a) Adjectives describing the President's opponent: *enthusiastic, anti-Trump, strong, violent, vocal, peaceful, angry, and upset*

(b) Adjectives describing the demonstration against the President: *peaceful, anti-Trump, violent, passionate, energetic, heal-in, dangerous, unlawful, and noisy*

(c) Adjectives describing the President's policy: *left leaning, harmful, nasty, racial, controversial, nascent, un-American, and discriminatory*

(d) Adjectives describing the President's statement: *lewd, controversial, sexist, xenophobic, and discriminatory*

Table 3 indicates the results that CNN and Al Jazeera mostly use adjectives to modify demonstration against the President, while the number of nouns used to name the demonstrations is smaller than the President. Indeed, using proper names or title names to refer to Donald Trump can lead the audience to a clear understanding about to whom the noun refers without the necessity of adjectives. On the other hand, both CNN and Al Jazeera use common nouns referring to the demonstrations such as pretest and rally, therefore adjectives are mostly used to add the detail to those nouns, as in:

(7) *A predominantly Latino group of about 300 high school students walked out of classes on Wednesday morning in Los Angeles and marched to the steps of City Hall, where they held an energetic rally* (November 2016, by Al Jazeera Staff, Al Jazeera).

ADJECTIVE	During-presidency period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. Describing the President	0%	21%
2. Describing the President's opponent	0%	14%
3. Describing the demonstration against the President	75%	14%
4. Describing the President's policy	25%	30%
5. Describing the President's statement	0%	21%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 4. Adjectives used in CNN and Al Jazeera in during-presidency period

As well as the post-election period, CNN uses adjectives to describe the demonstrations more than kinds of nouns in during-presidency period. In contrast, Al Jazeera bends their interests from the demonstrations to the policies as shown in Table 4. Importantly, the adjectives Al Jazeera used to describe Trump's policy are all negative adjectives, possibly, because the protested policies are about Muslim ban, and Al Jazeera is the Middle East news agencies. Therefore, Al Jazeera intentionally uses negative adjectives as shown in the following to reveal their negative opinion toward the order.



(8) *Tara Raghuveer, a 24-year-old national immigrant rights organiser with Make the Road New York, told Al Jazeera about un-American orders* (January 2017, by Al Jazeera Staff, Al Jazeera).

Moreover, during this period, adjectives used to describe the President: *right-wing* and *new*, are mostly used by Al Jazeera, as in:

(9) *The protests against right-wing US President Donald Trump have been held in cities across the United States, including in New York City and Washington, DC* (January 2017, by Al Jazeera Staff, Al Jazeera).

### 6.3 Reporting verb

REPORTING VERB	Post-election period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. Neutral reporting verbs	99%	96%
2. Strong reporting verbs	1%	4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 5. Reporting verbs used in CNN and Al Jazeera in post-election period

To inform the public is the most obvious and general purpose of news in politics. In other words, news tells people about things they would not otherwise know. News is a written work reporting on events, in other words, news is the second-hand fact, opinion, argument, and announcement. Therefore, it is impossible not to use reporting verbs in news reports.

Reporting verbs found in selected articles can be divided into 2 main types which are neutral reporting verbs and strong reporting verbs based on the writer’s opinion toward others’ ideas. According to Ibrahimova (2016), neutral reporting verbs indicate a neutral attitude towards the event, while strong reporting verbs show a strong belief of the writer about the correctness of the message. Apart from 2 main types of reporting verbs, reporting verbs also indicates many aspects of meanings, including

- 1.) **Presentation:** *said, told, noted, pointed out, described, announced, and reported*
- 2.) **Addition:** *added*
- 3.) **Agreement:** *confirmed*
- 4.) **Belief:** *claim*
- 5.) **Disagreement and questioning:** *accuse*

6.) Evaluation and examination: *blame*.

According to Table 5 and Table 6, the results show that neutral reporting verbs are obviously used from CNN and Al Jazeera more than strong reporting verbs in both periods, probably due to the purpose of the news that language used in news reports should be written objectively and without bias, either by selection or transmission.

The reporting verbs “say” and “tell”, classified into the neutral type referring to the presentation, are the most frequently used among other reporting verbs by CNN and Al Jazeera. It contains the meaning of what is actually said by speaker, as in:

(10) She said she's optimistic about rebuilding the Democratic party, and especially Bernie Sanders new leadership role on the left (December 2016, by Elizabeth Landers, CNN).

(11) "The system clearly isn't working and we need to start something different," Lillith said as she held a sign saying: "#NoMorePresident" (November 2016, by Renee Lewis, Al Jazeera).

Moreover, one of the neutral reporting verbs that is “confirm” is found in Al Jazeera’s articles, and it indicates the reliability of the source provided by the speaker, as in:

(12) Speaking to reporters on Saturday, a senior US administration official confirmed that the restrictions will affect legal permanent residents, known as green card holders, on a case-by-base basis (January 2017, by Al Jazeera Staff, Al Jazeera).

REPORTING VERB	During-presidency period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. Neutral reporting verbs	95%	100%
2. Strong reporting verbs	5%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 6. Reporting verbs used in CNN and Al Jazeera in during-presidency period

Apart from neutral reporting verbs, there is a small number of strong reporting verbs (e.g. blame, accuse, and announce) used in both periods, as in the following:

(13) It also blamed Trump for running an election campaign "marked by incendiary racial statements and the stoking of white racial resentment" and "opening wounds of division" in the country (December 2016, by Ryan Rifai, Al Jazeera).

However, the Table 6 shows that there is no strong reporting verbs used in Al Jazeera's articles in the during-presidency period, probably due to the topic of the articles where Al Jazeera writes the articles just for reporting the situation, not for showing their beliefs toward the event.

#### 6.4 Action verb

ACTION VERB	Post-election period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. Gathering	20%	33.3%
2. Demonstration (Physical)	50%	42.2%
3. Demonstration (Verbal)	24%	20%
4. Negotiation	6%	4.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 7. Action verbs used in CNN and Al Jazeera in post-election period

Action verbs are words used to describe the actions or behaviors. The main purpose of the news is to report the events, therefore using action verbs is unavoidable. As shown in Table 7 and 8, action verbs used throughout the selected articles from CNN and Al Jazeera can be classified into 4 main groups based on its meaning, as shown in the following:

(a) Action verbs referring to the gathering: *gather, fill, join, attend, pick up, pack, throng, take part, sweep, float, track, affiliate, take, and amass*

(b) Action verbs referring to the physical demonstration: *march, protest, rally, demonstrate, and walk out*

(c) Action verbs referring to the verbal demonstration: *chant, yell, shout, proclaim, invoke, and blare*

(d) Action verbs referring to the negotiation: *demand, ask, voice, and call for*

According to the purpose of the protest, Stekelenburg and Klandermans state that the key of protest are grievances such as the feelings of inequality, deprivation, or injustice (2013). Therefore, the articles should be focused more on the negotiation between the protesters and the government. Surprisingly, Table 7 indicates that during post-election period, both CNN and Al Jazeera tend to use action verbs referring to physical demonstration more than other kinds of

action verbs. It can be interpreted that action verbs referring to physical demonstration are used frequently because of the time duration. CNN and Al Jazeera released the news articles reporting about the emergency protests in the United States, which took place immediately after an announcement of Trump's election victory. Therefore, the news reports are mostly written to report the events rather than making the negotiation or giving reasons of the protest, as in:

(14) *New York University students were among the first to walk out Wednesday* (November 2016, by Shoichet and Ansari, CNN).

(15) *On the East Coast, protests occurred in Washington DC, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, while on the West Coast demonstrators rallied in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Oakland in California besides Portland* (November 2016, by Al Jazeera Staff, Al Jazeera)

ACTION VERB	During-presidency period	
	CNN	Al Jazeera
1. Gathering	33%	53.5%
2. Demonstration (Physical)	67%	29%
3. Demonstration (Verbal)	0%	3.5%
4. Negotiation	0%	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 8. Action verbs used in CNN and Al Jazeera in during-presidency period

According to Table 8 that shows the action verbs used in the during-presidency period, the results come out with the fact that CNN still uses action verbs referring to the physical demonstration more than other kinds of action verbs. On the other hand, Al Jazeera mostly uses action verbs of gathering, as in the following:

(16) *In heavily Democrat Washington DC, hundreds of Trump opponents and a few of his supporters gathered by the White House, chanting in support of immigrants and against the president-elect* (January 2017, by Shafik Mandhai, Al Jazeera).

In Al Jazeera, the number of the action verbs reporting the verbal demonstrations significantly decreased from 20% to 3.5% in during-presidency period, whereas the action verbs referring to the negotiation obviously increase to 14% during the second period. With the evidend that Trump's policies about the immigration ban was officially announced after he

sworn in as the US president, the news articles, consequently, are mostly focused on the policies, and the way the protesters call for their right, as in:

(17) *Protesters at Monday evening's gatherings demanded that the government withdraw its invitation in light of Trump's decision to ban citizens of seven Muslim-majority countries from entering the United States* (January 2017, by Shafik Mandhai, Al Jazeera).

Moreover, Table 8 also indicates that CNN did not use action verbs referring to the verbal demonstrations and the negotiation in the during-presidency period. The results show that because the protests took place in the United States, which is the base of CNN International, CNN had to release the news articles reporting the same event every day. Therefore, CNN used only the action verbs to report the incidents throughout the country, for instance gathering, and the physical demonstrations.

## 7. Discussion

The discussion of this study covered 2 major aspects which are anti-Americanism and commercialization will be analyzed here.

Firstly, the negative words such as *riot*, *perpetrator*, *nasty*, and *racist* indicate the sense of anti-Americanism of Al Jazeera, the news agency in the Middle East. However, it does not come as a surprise after some words show the sense of anti-Americanism because the United States are obviously opposed by Muslim people. Moreover, because Middle East people have a very violent political history, they have a strong political ideology towards the inequality of Muslim immigration.

Secondly, CNN is considered as the commercial news agency due to the fact that the use of lexical choice can indicate capitalist ideology and commercialization of the company. CNN always toned down the language used in the articles. For instance, CNN used the neutral words such as *protest* and *demonstration* to identify the demonstration, while Al Jazeera used some negative word such as *riot* which means a violent disturbance to refer to the demonstration. Possibly, the major reason is the readership of CNN is uncontrollable. For this reason, CNN has to tone down the words in its articles in order to access a large number of audience. Even though, there are many news agencies try to challenge the dominant role of CNN, CNN still remains as the leader nowadays. Therefore, the journalists of CNN have the sense of professionalism and responsibility to their reader. To be the best seller, CNN journalists

probably wrote the news articles in a more neutral way to avoid an obvious bias since political news deals with people who strongly have different perspectives.

## 8. Conclusion

This paper has tried to examine the lexical choice used in news reports under the theme of the protest against President Donald Trump focusing on 2 time durations; the post-election period and the during-presidency period. It narrowed the scope down to content words which are nouns, adjectives, reporting verbs, and action verbs.

In all, it was discovered that nouns were used to name 7 aspects, which are 1) The President 2) The President's supporter 3) The President's opponent 4) Demonstration against the President 5) The President's policy 6) The President's statement and 7) The opponent's statement. According to the results, CNN's articles mostly focused on the President rather than the demonstrations or the protesters in both periods with 30% in post-election period and 29% in during-presidency period. On the other hand, Al Jazeera focused on the protesters more than the President with 35% in total during the post-election period. However, in during-presidency period, Al Jazeera changed their interests from the protesters to the President with 29.4% because the main focus of the reader was on the President's inauguration.

There are 4 main types of adjectives found in 20 articles during post-election period including, 1) Describing the President's opponent 2) Describing the demonstration against the President 3) Describing the President's policy and 4) Describing the President's statement. Moreover, in during-presidency period, Al Jazeera started using adjectives to describe the President. According to the results, it is obvious that both CNN and Al Jazeera mostly used adjectives to describe the demonstration against the President with 63% and 43% respectively. Moreover, the results shown that Al Jazeera's articles in the during-presidency period focused on the policy because adjectives describing the President's policy were frequently used with 30% in total. While Al Jazeera bended their focus to the policy, CNN still mostly focused on the demonstrations as the using of adjectives increases from 63% to 75% in the second period.

Obviously, news is the second-hand discourse, therefore, it is impossible not to use reporting verbs in news reports. There are 2 main types of reporting verbs found in the articles; 1) neutral reporting verbs and 2) strong reporting verbs. According to the results, the neutral reporting verbs were mostly used by CNN and Al Jazzera in both periods comparing with the

strong reporting verbs. Moreover, according to the results, there is no strong reporting verbs found in Al Jazeera's article in the during-presidency period, while there is a small number of strong reporting verbs used by CNN with 5% in total.

There are many action verbs found in 20 articles which can be classified based on its meaning into 4 main types; 1) gathering, 2) physical demonstration, 3) verbal demonstration and 4) negotiation. During the post-election period and the during-presidency period, CNN's news articles reported the incidents about what happen in the incident and where the protest take place, so action verbs referring to physical demonstration were mostly used with 50% and 67% respectively. Similarly, Al Jazeera also focused on action verbs referring to physical demonstration with 42.2% in the first period. However, in the during-presidency period, they used a large number of action verbs referring to the gathering which is 53.5% in total. It has to be noted that in the during-presidency period, CNN did not use any action verbs referring to the verbal demonstration, and the negotiation in their articles.

## 9. Recommendation

Based on the above conclusion, the following recommendations are made:

9.1 The lexical choice must be considered together with its context. Only with this study, the lexical choice cannot be used to understand the implied meaning of the whole context. The further research should always take the context analysis into consideration.

9.2 With the limited time and other factors, this study is just a primary study of the lexical choice used in news reports. The classification of content words will probably not be presented as the complete language pattern used in the news register. Other types of discourse can be put out in the further study.

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