



The Study of Various Errors of Language in Local News Items of English Newspapers of Southern Punjab

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ABSTRACT

Our media language needs to be improved. Press reporters, hosts, and anchors making so many grammatical errors is excruciating. They keep making mistakes on common stuff. When communication was limited to printing, spelling errors predominated. With electronic media sweeping the world, we see various problems besides spelling errors. Simply observe television broadcast tickers for errors. Typesetting before computers caused many spelling problems. With computerized word processors, there is no excuse. Readers are forgiving, so it is a rush to print. As for grammar, some of the text uses Indian English phrases that may be improper in British or American English. Sloppy grammar is another issue. Associated Press of Pakistan Lahore Bureau required me to write and edit news. I found various linguistic faults in Pakistan's foremost official news agency reporters. English newspapers have many errors. That led me to study newspaper inaccuracies. Objectives are to examine Southern Punjab English newspaper local news linguistic faults and to examine the causes of language faults in Southern Punjab English newspapers' local news. The local English newspapers were read. Various language errors were noted. The errors were categorized, and their repetition percentage was computed. Academic qualifications and journalism experience of journalists were collected. A total of 79 news articles from both publications were examined. The following graphs, including a diagram of a pie, bars, and various other graphs, show the proportion of errors that were discovered. According to Martin R. Maier's study, readers need to fix errors. Readers can report errors by email and a toll-free number in the New York Times daily. Pakistani publications need a similar approach so readers may correct errors. Unfortunately, none will recognize their mistakes and take such action.

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1. Introduction

Our media's use of language has been degrading over time. Seeing press journalists, hosts, and anchors make so many grammatical errors is agonizing. Even when it comes to commonplace items, they keep making mistakes. If communication channels were restricted to print media solely, a trend towards simple spelling mistakes would be avoided. At this time, whenever electronic media dominates the world, we also notice errors of various kinds alongside spelling mistakes. Observe the broadcast tickers that seem on television to spot the errors. It has become so normal to say 'Khudkash' instead of 'Khudkush' that if someone utters the word correctly, it is assumed that he has made a mistake in its pronunciation. Leaving aside the gross pronunciation errors, at least we are taught to speak one language. However, here in Pakistan,

Urdu and English are not spoken in their entirety. There are a lot of stunning synonyms once used in Urdu, which are largely becoming obsolete now. A few of our TV hosts and analysts use a variety of mixed language, which is replete with English idioms, and only a minority of Pakistanis understand it fully. The main issue raised by this discussion is whether language has any influence on how nations are formed, how they rise and fall, how they remain united or fragmented, or how they are guided. Do languages, as well as a specific language, have any bearing on these important issues? The conversation is over if the response is in the negative. The Quran says:

The Most Merciful. Created man. [And] taught him eloquence. (55:1, 55:3, 55:4). Moreover, We did not send any messenger except [speaking] in the language of his people. (14: 4)

Every contemporary civilized country in the globe has a highly fragile and thoughtful perspective on language. Around the world, some languages are on the verge of extermination, whereas others are flourishing. While a language's native individuals show no empathy for it, its culture dies. The more significant point to make here is that every developed country now uses its native tongue both as a formal tongue and as a form of instruction. By using its native speech for interaction and instruction, each industrialized nation has advanced in terms of progress. The ability to preserve and advance one's mother tongue constitutes a civil and fundamental right recognized by many countries. Additionally, linguistic staples (a common practice spoken languages) derived from different native languages have been granted the title of national speech or dialects in several developed countries. These connect languages are used by these countries to conduct their business.

1.1. The Problem Statement

The media's use of language is getting more and more abusive. Seeing the press, the media, hosts, and anchors make so many grammatical errors is agonizing. Even when it comes to commonplace items, they keep making mistakes. Newspapers are regarded as a very popular unofficial language-learning strategy. The outcomes of studying a language would undoubtedly be packed with errors and blunders with these many oversights. Before computerized typesetting, grammatical errors were frequent. In the era of electronic word machines, there truly is not any justification. The audience is understanding, so I think it was just hurrying to print. In terms of syntax, a few of the language uses words that are commonly utilized and comprehended in Indian English despite the fact that they might not be accurate in British or American English. In addition, grammatical mistakes are simply carelessness. Producing and revising news was Part of my position description while I was working at the Lahore Bureau of the Associated Press of Pakistan. Throughout the entire procedure, I developed several linguistic mistakes made by the media for Pakistan's top authoritative news agency. English newspapers were rife with errors and gaffes. That incident sparked my interest in carrying out studies about mistakes made in newspapers. After finishing my coursework, I began to develop my concept and created a proposal for the study. I restricted the study to the publications released compared to Southern Punjab to keep it focused. Just two English dailies, both of which had offices in Bahawalpur, had been distributed across each of the three sections of Southern Punjab (Multan, Dera Ghazi Khan, and Bahawalpur).

1.2. Research Questions

1. Does the vocabulary used in newspaper articles contain any mistakes?
2. Have you noticed any errors in subject-verb concordance in the media?
3. Do the publications contain any funding mistakes?
4. Are there any publications that have articles with punctuation errors?
5. Are there any press errors involving improper prediction?
6. Are there any pluralization-related mistakes in the newspapers?
7. Are there any mistakes in the publications caused by the impact of local languages?
8. What exactly are the highlighted causes of the different mistakes discovered?

2. Literature Review

This chapter explains the pertinent research and publications in pointing out errors and mistakes of media. It covers errors and mistakes committed in print media, social media, and electronic media. The chapter also talks about content analysis and errors in the English

language, which include errors in punctuation, capitalization, article, spelling, ing, and subject-verb agreement.

2.1. Print Media

Internet's Impact on the Printing and Publishing Market analyzed by (Bhuller, Havnes, McCauley, & Mogstad, 2023). according to them, causal proof for the impact of the web on the conventional printed media market through integrating extensive data obtained from the Norwegian media marketplace on publications movement, popularity, earnings, inputs of factors, and product features with conceivably exogenous variations in the accessibility and acceptance of internet access internet. Massive decreases in print viewers and movement were brought on by households embracing high-speed internet access, while sizable rises in news site readership were also brought on. Regardless of significant shifts in news reading habits from print to the internet, newspaper companies' earnings fell by nearly thirty percent. Newspaper companies replied by drastically reducing expenses, either by eliminating labor expenses or by shrinking the dimensions of newspaper sheets, as well as thereby preventing substantial financial losses. Research by Cornell et al. 2023/School, Learning, and Smarts: Gender Stereotypes as well as Learning throughout 80 Years of Americans Print Media, 1930-2009. Their case offers a unique chance to witness how ethnic gender system elements change concurrently with the reversal of a significant stratification arrangement. They monitor six stereotypes that earlier research connected to academic performance. According to their findings, the stereotypes that are most closely related to the fundamental distinctions among men and women in terms of commonality and geniality did not change. Just those who have learned to be language cautious through training and experience will notice subtler, less readily apparent linguistic errors. Most linguistic mistakes involve structural deviations. Due to a lack of language knowledge and comprehension, these mistakes occur. Linguistic errors include things like improper sentence structure, the omission of words that are necessary, incorrect verb tenses, and erroneous articles.

2.2. Electronic/Social Media

A hundred individuals from various corporate organizations were examined to verify the information from the business networking web page LinkedIn. The findings indicate that individuals who advanced to the position of Director within 10 years created 2.5 times fewer grammatical errors than their peers who did not advance to the producer within the same period. The evaluation demonstrates that grammatical errors can impede your ability to advance professionally. The ability to communicate effectively has always been crucial for success in career fields. The study clearly shows that individuals with better syntax and fewer errors attained the level of Director before their peers who created more errors. Individuals raise a stink when mistakes are made because they cannot tell the difference between "where" and "there." Even large corporations like McDonald's as well as Nike make errors in their articles and advertisements, and they are held accountable. The headline of "Error for the year was '60 Minutes' Benghazi," indicated by Craig Silverman, suggested the criteria for awarding an error's influence rather than its magnitude. The US Embassy in Benghazi, Libya, was attacked, according to a report that aired on "60 Minutes" in the last week of October. Dylan Davies, a former privacy contractor for the US State Division, is the author of the narrative. He described the happenings of the previous evening and what happened in his book regarding the occurrence, which was scheduled to be released.

Dylan Davies told lies on "60 Minutes" regarding events that occurred that night, which ultimately weakened the entire segment. The deceptions and imperfections in the story were exposed within a short period by the Washington Post and The New York Times, among others. The New York Times also revealed some information from the Federal Bureau of Investigations interview with Davies that was left out of "60 Minutes" on CBS News. It is unexpected to observe that a reputable television network neglected to double-check the accuracy of the information and did not confirm the credibility of the subject matter's sources. The report omitted the fact that Simon & Schuster, a CBS-owned sister business, was publishing Davies' book. The absence of publication was not mentioned in the "60 Minutes" regret that was broadcast throughout a later episode. (CBS News previously acknowledged this error, but not during the broadcast.)

2.3. Content Analysis

Working on TikTok for the general public as well as youth mental wellness was the responsibility of (McCashin & Murphy, 2023). TikTok is currently the social networking system

for kids and teens with the greatest worldwide expansion, but it has received very little interest from psychologists and psychiatric researchers. This is true despite the reality that social media sites have come under intense academic and public scrutiny for their possible negative effects on young people's psychological wellness as well as mental health, regardless of the contradictory results found in the research. Media content analysis is a specialized sub-set of content analysis, a well-established research methodology. The two disruptive innovations of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (IR4.0) that have caused significant changes in the market are artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain. The combination of AI and blockchain has enormous potential to develop new business models made possible by digitization, according to research by (Kumar, Lim, Sivarajah, & Kaur, 2023). The well-known study technique of content analysis has a specialized subset known as media-related analysis. Studies by Riffe and Freitag (1997); Yale and Gilly (1988) "stated that within the discipline of communication investigation, analyzing content became the most rapidly expanding method over the last fifteen to twenty years and discovered that the amount of content examines that appeared in Journalism as well as Mass Communication has increased significantly," are cited by Neuendorf (2002) in his description of content evaluation as "the elementary communication focused methodology" (p. 9). Based on 6.3% of every piece in 1971 to 34.8% in 1995, every quarter rises were practically a factor of six. By the middle of the 1980s, according to Fowler, content evaluation was covered in more than 84% of reporting master's level study techniques programs in the US. A wide variety of 'texts' are studied using analysis of content, including writing and advertisements in publications such as newspapers and magazines, as well as transcriptions of conversations and interviews utilized in clinical and social studies. Harold Lasswell established media analysis of content as a methodological approach to studying mass media in 1927, originally to study propaganda. Throughout the 1920s and 1930s, media evaluation gained popularity as a research technique for examining the rapidly growing communication material of films. According to Berelson (1952), content evaluation is a "research approach for the unbiased, structured, and quantitative assessment of the appear content of the interaction." This summary of the content evaluation is frequently utilized because it demonstrates the initial emphasis on quantitative analysis. Although frequently cited, this definition is lacking in several areas.

2.4. Comparing Qualitative and Quantitative Content Analysis

In the world of investigation, content analysis is extremely helpful. The text's verbal content, as well as its quantitative and qualitative examination, offer the researcher unique research for his work that Acharya (2022) will be analyzing. The two main theories used for qualitative or related research are linguistics as well as cognitive psychology, and they speak to the investigation of well-known concepts. Steps to carry out qualitative or related evaluations can also be helpful for content evaluation and investigation functions. In every situation, there are positives and negatives. There is a chance that various teams are coding constructs differently, which could produce results that cannot be verified through replication. We present results from two studies that used a construct that was previously reported. Since high inter-rater reliability could not be attained, this coding scheme cannot currently be replicated by other research groups. We draw attention to potential risks in this finding for those wishing to automate the identification of various academically pertinent concepts in LA by Kitto, Manly, Ferguson, and Poquet (2023) using machine learning (ML). In (2022), Gillam and Vears evaluated that a qualitative data analysis technique known as inductive content analysis (ICA), also known as qualitative content analysis, is especially suited for use in health-related studies, especially for relatively small-scale, straightforward studies conducted by health professionals enrolled in research-focused extent programs. Shoemaker and Reese (1996) note that media content is characterized by a wide range of phenomena, including the medium, production techniques, messages, sources quoted or referred to, and context, and they say that the task of content analysis is "to impose some sort of order on these phenomena to grasp their meaning." They continue: "Part of this ordering process consists of singling out the key features that we think are important and to which we want to pay attention. Researchers approach content in different ways, using different conceptual and methodological tools".

Quantitative content analysis collects data about media content such as topics or issues, the volume of mentions, 'messages' determined by keywords in context (KWIC), circulation of the media (audience reach), and frequency. Quantitative content analysis also should consider media form (e.g., visual media such as television use more sophisticated semiotic systems than printed text and, thus, are generally regarded as having a greater impact). Neuendorf (2002)

says: "What's important is that both content and form characteristics ought to be considered in every content analysis conducted. Form characteristics are often extremely important mediators of the content elements". Investigators who support combining qualitative and quantitative message analysis to understand the meanings of texts promote analyzing both latent and manifest content. The issue with quantitative content analysis, according to media scholars Newbold et al. (2002), is the degree to which quantitative indicators are taken into account, such as the level of meaning, social impact, and the like. Making decisions in this regard based solely on data from a statistical content analysis would be overly simplistic because there is no straightforward connection between media articles and their impact. "Behavioural content analysis is not always or necessarily conducted using quantitative or numerical techniques, but the two tend to go together. Similarly, humanistic content study naturally gravitates towards qualitative analysis." Reese and Shoemaker further note: "Reducing large amounts of text to quantitative data ... does not provide a complete picture of meaning and contextual codes, since texts may contain many other forms of emphasis besides sheer repetition".

Researchers who advocate analyzing latent as well as manifest content as a way of understanding the meanings of texts integrate qualitative and quantitative message analysis. Media researchers Newbold et al. (2002) note: "The problem [with quantitative content analysis] is the extent to which the quantitative indicators are interpreted as the intensity of meaning, social impact, and the like. There is no simple relationship between media texts and their impact, and it would be too simplistic to base decisions in this regard on mere figures obtained from a statistical content analysis". Pronouns are recognized by Campbell and Pennebaker (2003) and others as important language constructs that are the subject of qualitative text evaluation. Campbell and Pennebaker used latent semantic analysis to examine examples of writing from students and prisoners to look into the connection between linguistic techniques as well as physical health. According to Campbell and Pennebaker, the linguistic characteristic that best predicts better physical health is an upsurge in the degree to which participants applied pronouns (such as I, me, he, or she). Their findings suggested that pronoun flexibility is linked to better physical health. Overusing personal pronouns like I, me, and my can be a sign of egotism and self-centeredness.

3. Research Method

This chapter will provide information related to the research design of this work. It will also tell about the methodology used and tools for data collection. The chapter also accounts for the method used for the analysis of collected data.

3.1. Research Design

My investigation was qualitative. However, a quantitative analysis of the material was done. The research by Ayodele (1998) titled African Print Media Misuse of the English Definite Article 'The': A Content Analysis of Seven Nigerian Newspapers' Lead Items served as my guide. Exploratory research is a major component of qualitative research. It is used to uncover the underlying causes, beliefs, and motivations. It offers insights into the issue or aids in the development of ideas or theories for potential quantitative studies. Qualitative research additionally serves to delve deeper into the issue and reveal trends in thinking and opinions. Different unstructured or semi-structured approaches are used for gathering qualitative information. Focus groups (group discussions), one-on-one interviews, and participation/observations are a few typical methods. Typically, only a small sample size is used, and respondents are chosen to meet a predetermined quota. Here are some fundamental Qualitative Research traits:

1. Typically, the design depends on the social constructive paradigm.
2. By prior research experience, research problems are transformed into research questions.
3. Sample sizes can be as low as one.
4. Interviews, observations, and/or preservation (content) data are used in the data collection process.
5. The analysis is based on both the researcher's viewpoint and the information gathered.

The primary objective of the analytical process is to adapt and further develop the benefits of quantitative content analysis that have been established throughout communication science to qualitative-interpretive steps of analysis while maintaining their advantages. Any type

of recorded interaction can be the subject of (qualitative) content analysis. The English-language papers from the area were gathered and read. Several grammatical errors were identified. The proportion of errors that repeatedly occurred was calculated after categorizing the mistakes that occurred. Information was obtained regarding the journalists' educational background and journalism-related experience.

4. Data Analysis

In this chapter, we collected random versions of the two newspapers that were the only ones accessible and used those to talk about the analysis. They will be known as NP1 and NP2 whenever it is necessary because permission for employing their given names was not obtained. National Newspapers are referred to as NNP. Informal interviews of journalists and non-journalist staff of the newspapers were conducted to assess the reasons behind errors.

4.1. Discussion of Findings

The analysis covered 79 articles from both newspapers. The following graphs, including a pie chart, bars, and additional graphs, show the percentage of errors that were discovered.

Table 1: Percentage of Errors

Misconception	%Age
Punctuation	64.50%
Capitalization	30.40%
Subject Verb Agreement	43%
Article	7.60%
Other	60.70%

Figure 1: Percentage of Errors

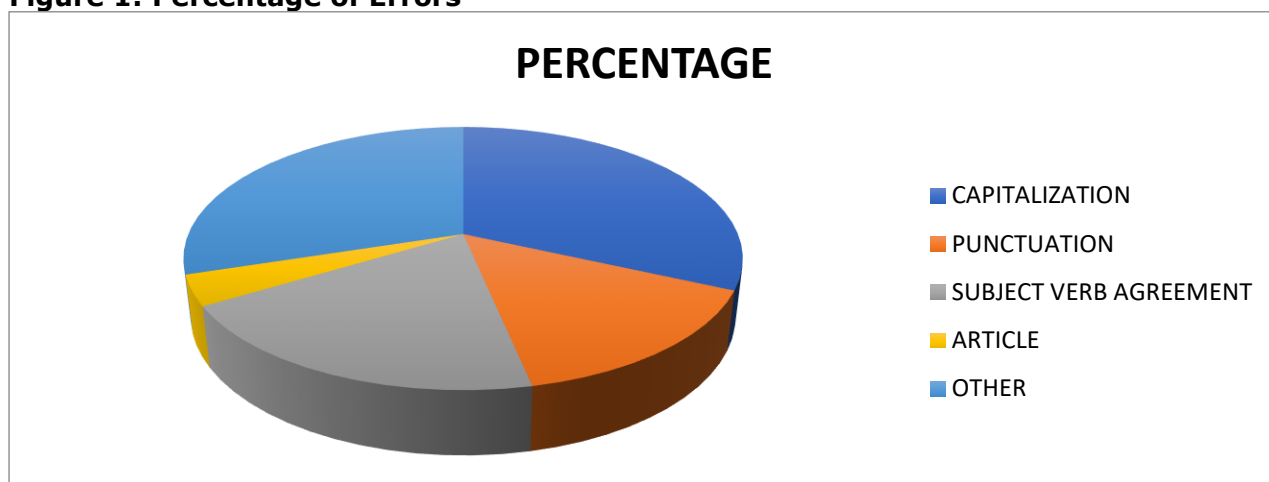


Figure 2: Bar Chart showing the Percentage of Errors

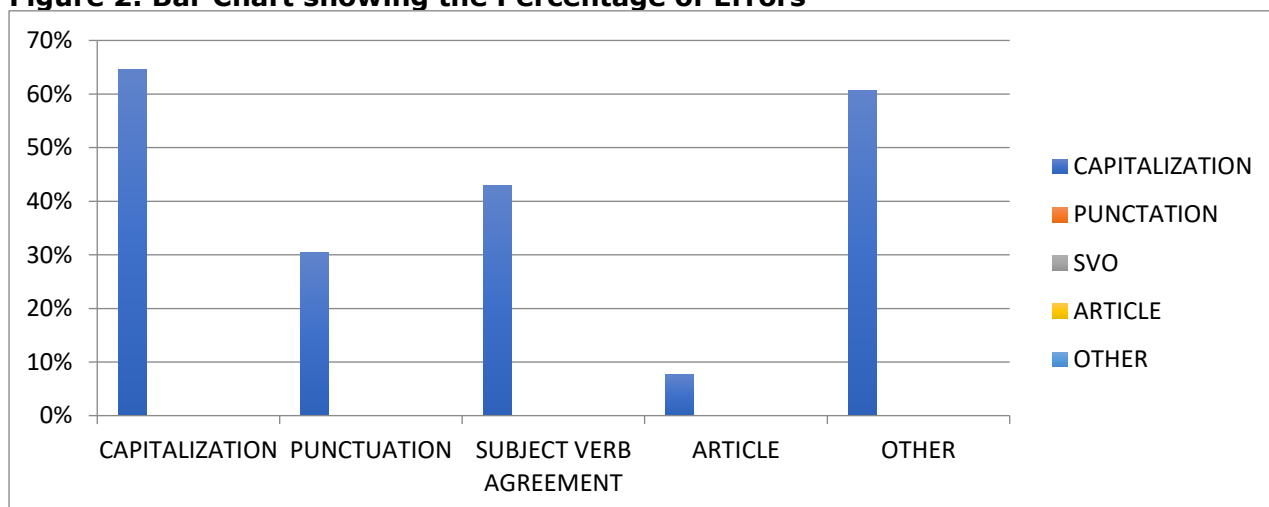


Figure 3: Bar Chart showing Errors of Capitalization

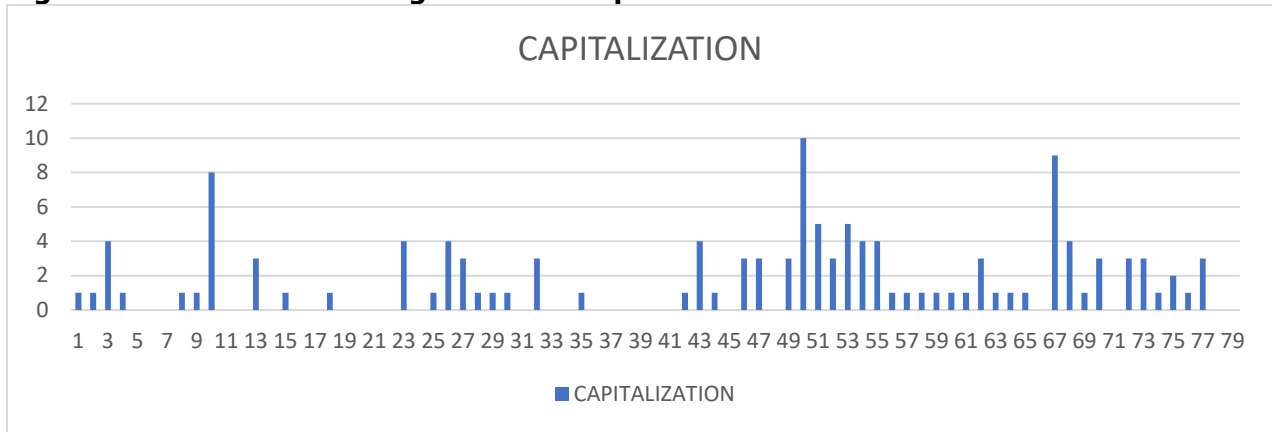


Figure 4: Bar Chart showing Errors of Punctuation

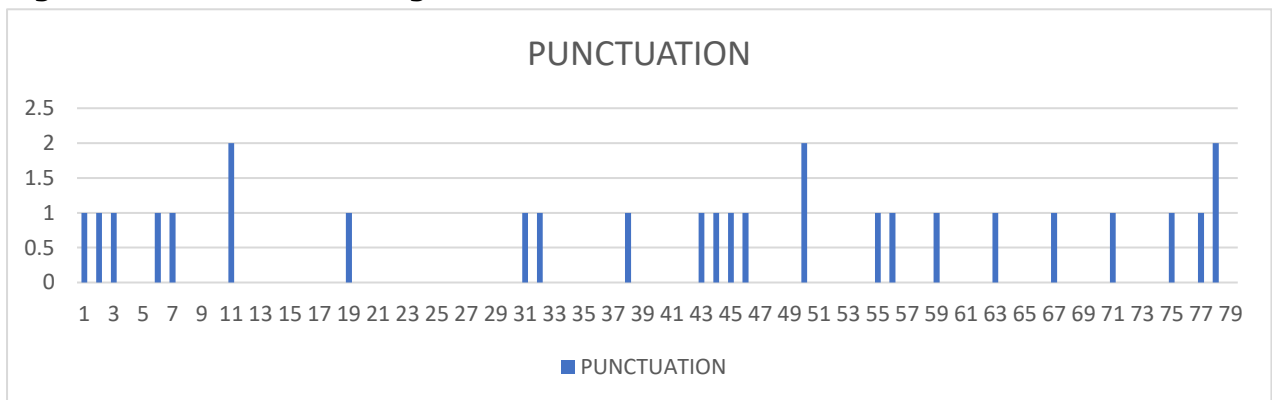


Figure 5: Bar Chart showing Errors of Subject-Verb Agreement

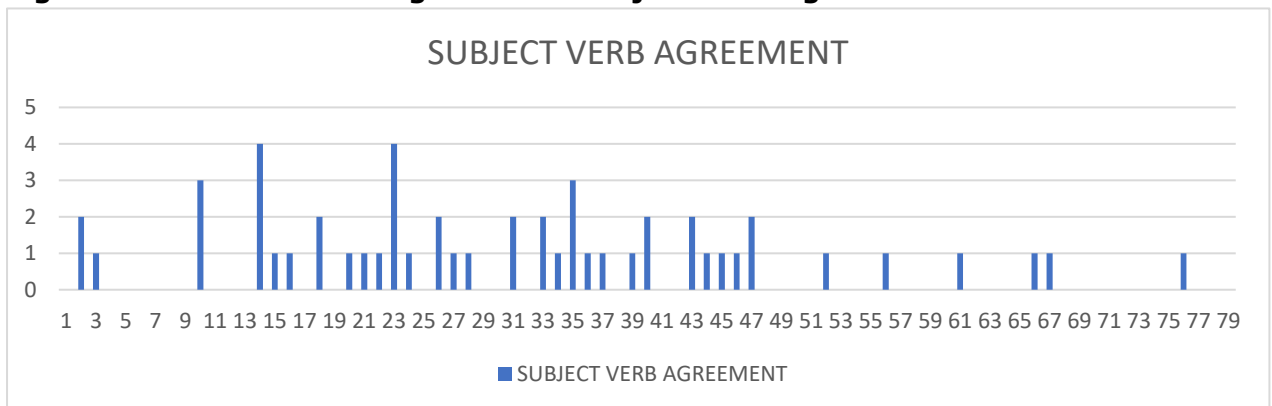


Figure 6: Bar Chart showing Errors of Articles

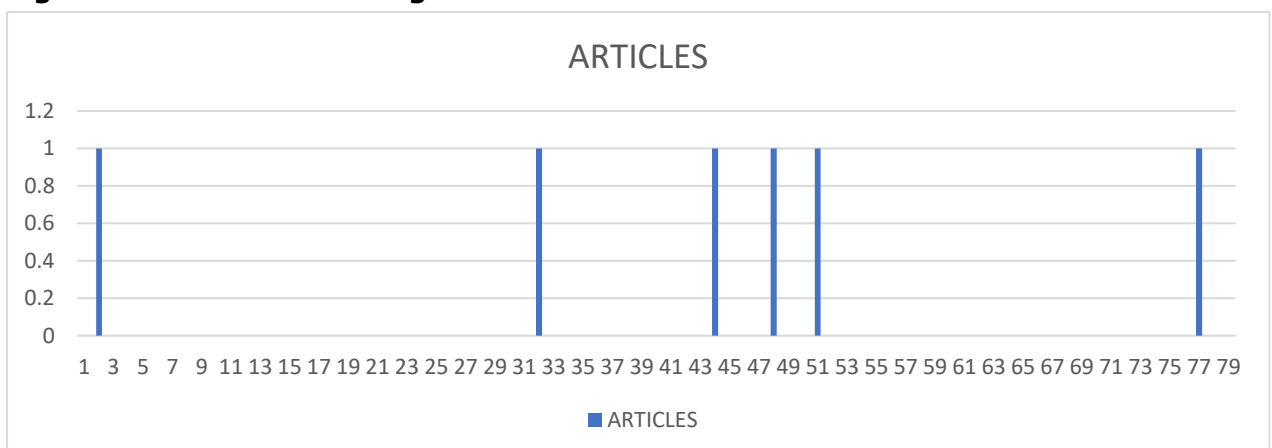


Figure 7: Bar Chart showing other Errors

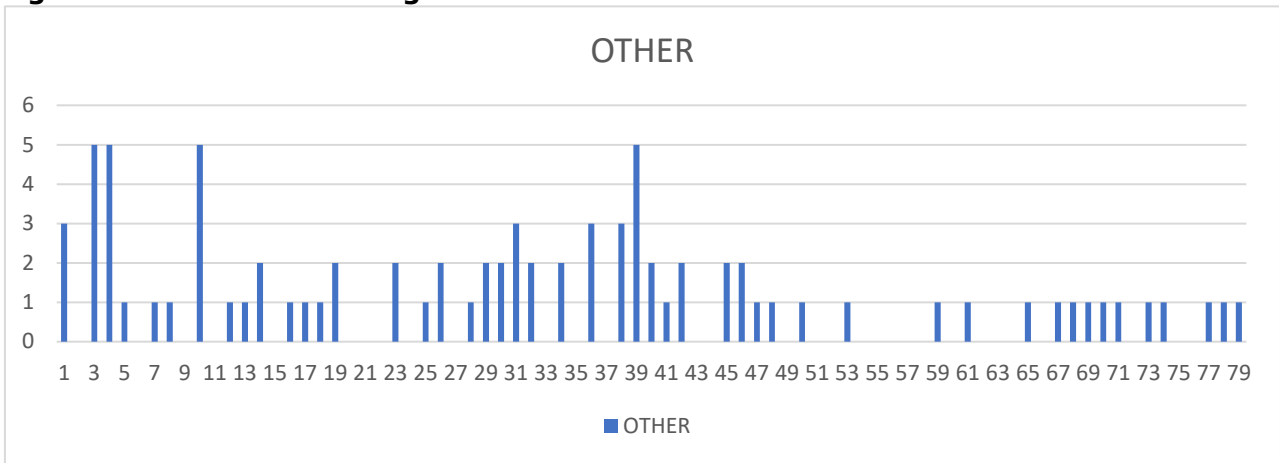


Table 1 reveals that punctuation problems were present in 64.50 percent of the referenced news items, whereas capitalization errors made up 30.40 percent of the mistakes that were made. There were mistakes in subject-verb conjugation in 43% of news stories. Although other errors have been identified in 60.70 percent of all the news items mentioned during the investigation, errors relating to publications made up just 7.60 percent of the total. These percentages are graphically shown in Graph 1 as a pie chart, whereas Graph 2 shows the presentation as bars. A bar graph with information regarding capitalization errors that occurred in the news articles cited is displayed in Graph 3. The information on punctuation problems is shown in Graph 4. The bars in Graph 5 illustrate the subject-verb alignment mistakes. The results of article mistakes are shown in graphs 6 and 7, respectively. The vast majority of inaccuracies were capitalization and punctuation-related, demonstrating a lack of understanding of the conventions for capitalization and punctuation use. Names of people, places, things, titles, organizations, and things that happened should have been capitalized. Sentences needed to be completed promptly. There were no commas to separate the sentences. An incorrect punctuation mark was employed before a clarification, enumeration, or list in place of the comma. Without supporting verbs, several phrases lacked coherence. In addition to using the wrong verb tenses, many phrases needed more subject-verb conjugation. No matter whether a noun was solitary or plural or what aspect the phrase was in, the verb form remained the same. Articles were frequently utilized improperly. Definable nouns were paired with indeterminate articles and vice versa. The absence of attention to detail while composing the news was evident in the spelling mistakes. Common nouns like "One" and "Coming" had incorrect forms. There needed to be better with the pluralization. Local newspapers were not the only ones to make mistakes; national English periodicals were also held accountable for this infraction. I was shocked to find mistakes in my research of the headlines for 30 news stories from major newspapers.

In newspapers, headlines are big, noticeable sections where errors are plain to see. However, these periodicals' proofreading professionals, as well as typing workers, exhibited neglect. The wrong use of vocabulary found was in 60 percent of news items. For example, the word "landslide" was used with wrong collocation. Similarly, the word use of the word "Sprinkle" is highlighted. There, 43 percent of news items were related to mistakes in the Sub-Verb Agreement. For example, the wrong form of the verb was used in 'the problem could be solved .'The same figure also highlights the missing helping verb in 'whom PTI gave the ticket .'Moreover, more than 30 percent of news items had errors in capitalization. For example, the incorrect capitalization of the words 'Campaign,' 'Coordination,' 'told,' and 'Community Development.' A similar example can be found in the word 'Unit,' which was not capitalized. Almost 65 percent of news items had errors related to punctuation. For example, the missing comma after the word 'Punjab .'Moreover, the highlights are missing punctuation at the end of sentence. A similar error was highlighted where the punctuation was missing, and errors related to the wrong use of prepositions were also found. For example, the use of incorrect prepositions. 'At' was used instead of 'to .'Similar examples are highlighted in other news items as well.

There were errors about the wrong use of pluralization. For example, the word 'collaboration' was pluralized where it was not needed. Similarly, it highlights the errors of wrong

pluralization of the word 'information's,' and there were examples where the influence of regional language(s) was found. On several occasions, the syntax of the sentence was not according to English grammar due to the influence of regional languages, including Urdu, Saraiki, and Punjabi. Some sentences were translated word-t-word from the regional language to English, which caused errors in the format and structure of the sentence. Negligence and lack of professional training and educational qualification are the main factors behind these errors. The typist, proofreader, reporter, sub-editor, and editor are all found guilty of committing errors.

5. Conclusion

Globally, and particularly in Pakistan, wherein a lack of competence, inadequate training, inadequate educational preparation, and carelessness are the primary causes of these errors and inaccuracies, the quality of language in English publications is deteriorating. The majority of mistakes are the result of poor language comprehension. Unstructured conversations with the staff of Southern Punjab's English newspapers indicated that the editors needed to be more qualified for the position and had no previous experience working for English newspapers; instead, they had previously written for Urdu newspapers and had switched to English as an experiment. While the editor of one newspaper holds a master's degree in a completely unrelated field, the editor of the other newspaper is a representative of an Urdu news channel. These periodicals need help finding employees, and those who do are merely recent grads. Just high school graduates work as computer technicians for the news, and they pay little attention to typing mistakes. They even need to use the software's integrated proofreading features. Currently, there is no reviewing system in place. There are not many reporters working for these newspapers. Newspapers use formal hand-outs from the Islamia University of Bahawalpur and the Directorate of Public Relations Bahawalpur to populate their pages with news that they have obtained from the internet. To conserve money, they have not even signed up for a news agency. The news articles that reporters or editors write are frequently found to be full of blunders. Given the severity of the mistakes made, they can be referred to as blunders.

The issue with reporting is that it requires neither a degree nor any kind of formal training to work as a newspaper writer. Due to the influence and influence that the media has, joining a media organization to obtain favors from that organization has become popular. However, media organizations take advantage of the circumstances and hire correspondents and journalists without conducting background checks or prior interviews. This allows media professionals without a background in journalism to use their pen, microphone, or camera versus anyone else. Professionalism and ethical standards in journalism are slowly disappearing. Despite having no official education or training, the seasoned journalists of English newspapers learned their jobs through diligence and dedication to their profession. Even though they encountered challenging circumstances, they never stopped trying to learn new things or adhere to journalistic standards when writing their news stories. Because they were dedicated to their work and concentrated on it, the newspaper's journalism ethics remained unaltered.

Businesspeople, rather than journalists, now control media organizations, and as a result, they are managed like businesses. Business practices have supplanted professionalism, and fake intellectuals have taken the role of journalists. The current media lack professionalism and have abandoned journalistic standards in the fight for ratings. Media organizations should work on morality and make sure that these rules of conduct are followed. Similar attempts by electronic media to report on terrorist occurrences had been seen before, but they fell short in the struggle for ratings. The conflict of "Breaking News" is shattering all rules of integrity and professionalism. To regulate the language and material in print media, there needs to be a regulating agency. Martin R. Maier's study revealed that the majority of newspapers constantly ask readers to correct errors and typically include a protruding static adjustment box. Regarding readers to provide modifications, The New York Times posts an anonymous phone number and email address each day. In Pakistani newspapers, an analogous system must be developed so that people can help with error correction. However, regrettably, no one is going to accept responsibility and make such a move.

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