Review Genre in Pakistani English Newspaper Discourse: A Multidimensional Analysis of Book Reviews and Film Reviews

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Abstract

The current study explores the functional dimensions of the review genre published in Pakistani English newspapers. In this regard, a corpus of the book and the film reviews was compiled by collecting data of 1.1 million words from six English dailies, i.e., *Dawn*, *Newsline*, *The Daily Pioneer*, *Pakistan Today*, *The Pakistan Times*, and *The Friday Times*. The data was analyzed by using the Multidimensional Analysis Tagger (Nini, 2015). MAT is designed on Biber's (1988) theoretical framework of multidimensional (MD) analysis. Due to some methodological reasons, the study focused only on the dimension D1, D3, and D5 to understand the cross-register variation in the book reviews and the film reviews. The results show that the Pakistani review genre, quantitatively, scores low on D1 but high on D3 and D5. Statistically, the book reviews were found to have values of -13.11, 5.69, and 1.37 for D1, D3, and D5, respectively. Similarly, for film reviews the values for D1, D3, and D5 were found to be -12.36, 4.06, and 1.59, respectively. With the help of textual examples, the study, qualitatively, delineates the important lexico-grammatical features that load on D1, D3, and D5. The lexico-grammatical patterns analysis reveals that the book reviews and the film reviews have high scores for D3 and D5 due to the frequent use of *Verbs*, *Pronouns*, and a low score on D1 due to the occasional use of *Private Verbs*, *That-deletion*, and *Contractions*. Moreover, comparatively, the study shows that the book reviews use more *Nouns*, *Adjectives,* and *Long Words* frequently than the film reviews. It is expected that the findings of the current study will, at theoretical level, help future researchers to understand the functional dimensions of the review genre. The study is expected to enlighten the ESP course developers in designing the empirically informed syllabi at a practical level.

Keywords: Multidimensional, Book Reviews, Film Reviews, Genre, Register

1. Introduction

Language variation is a known fact in communication studies. This variability is realized at almost all linguistic levels of human speech and has remained a primary focus of the study among the researchers of different disciplines like sociolinguistics,

dialectology, ethnography, discourse studies, conversation analysis, etc. Nonetheless, the scholars of these disciplines generally take a reductionist stance to identify correlation/s between the linguistic variable/s and the host of other possible social, psychological, cultural, or demographic variables. Over the last couple of decades, with the theoretical developments in Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), Genre, and Register studies have empirically demonstrated that language variability is not only an outcome of a situational and cultural context, rather certain discoursal and functional goals are also achieved through the employment of such variability (e.g., Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013; Bhatia, 2008; Swales, 1990; Hyland, 2008). In the same vein, Biber (1988), through a series of his influential work on multidimensional analysis (MDA) has demonstrated that the co-occurrences of specific linguistic features or linguistic patterning may assign a distinctive functional dimension to a text (see Biber, 1986, 1988, 1995, 2006, etc.)

In his seminal work, Biber (1988) delineates the theoretical framework for MDA and expounds on the empirical parameters for identifying the functional dimensions of linguistic variation. His analysis focusses only on the lexico-grammatical features of the text and is based on the premise that the microscopic linguistic variation, at the lexico-grammatical level of the text, has statistically verifiable, linear-association with the contextual factors like interlocutors, objectives of interaction, and the mode of communication. Evidentially, this theoretical orientation is influenced by the notion of Register—a key concept in systemic functional linguistics SFL (see Halliday & Matthiessen, 2013).

Biber (1988), in his seminal work, "Variation across Speech and Writing" came up with an ingenious taxonomy of functional dimensions based on the positive and negative features of different lexico-grammatical linguistic forms. He demonstrates how different text types have different dimensional distributions according to their use (Biber, 1988). Biber's (1988) MDA offers a dimensional taxonomy for categorizing registers according to their lexico-grammatical variations. These dimensions are:

- Dimension 1 is between Involved and Informational Production.
- Dimension 2 is between Narrative and Non-narrative Discourse.
- Dimension 3 is between Explicit and Situation-dependent Reference.
- Dimension 4 is between Overt Expression of argumentation.
- Dimension 5 is between Abstract and Non-abstract.

1.1 Focus of the Study

Since 1988, many scholars have explored varieties of registers, mostly, synchronically to compare the cross-register variation (Biber 1991; Conrad 1994; Tribble

1999); and, rarely, diachronically to explore the temporal variation for registers (e.g., Biber & Finegan 1989; Watson 1994). The current study is limited as it applies only three dimensions (D1, D3, and D5) from Biber's (1988) taxonomy to explore the synchronic variation for the book reviews and film reviews published in Pakistani English newspaper. The rationale for selecting these three dimensions was motivated by the possibility that the Review Genre was expected to show significant variation across D1, D3, and D5. Moreover, according to Biber (1988), review genre scores low on D1 and high on D3 and D5. So, it was anticipated that as the film and book reviews functionally provide *Information*, they may score low for D1. On the other hand, as the film and book reviews were expected to be more *Explicit* registers expounding on the *Abstract* ideas, so the score on D3 and D5 was expected to be positive. Focusing on these three dimensions, the study aims to achieve the following research objectives:

- To explore the values of *Informational, Explicit* and *Abstract* dimensional factors (i.e., D1, D3 and D5) in the book reviews and the film reviews published in Pakistani English Newspaper.

- To conduct a comparative analysis of the values of the *Informational, Explicit* and *Abstract* dimensional factors (i.e., D1, D3 and D5) for the book reviews and the film reviews published in Pakistani English newspaper.

2. Literature Review

In SFL, Genre is a significant macro-level component of the cultural context of interaction. It deals with those contextual conventions that provided the schematic structure to any text. Nonetheless, a text's schematic structure is marked by certain linguistic patterns that generally occur only once in the text. So, in genre studies, the researchers' primary focus remains on the study of rhetorical structures of a text and the cultural conventions that determine the schematic structure of a text. As the context of text production becomes an important marker of the textual organization, different text-types can be grouped under one genre-type according to the context of interaction. For instance, in our case, the book and the film reviews are a special kind of text-types that can be studied as related to the Newspaper Review genre. The schematic structure of the Review genre is determined by the contextual conventions of the newspaper discourse. So, following these conventions, the book's general schematic structure and the film reviews exhibit similar linguistic patterns. These linguistic patterns perform different discoursal-functions in a genre and explicate the context of text production. Nonetheless, a genre's schematic structure cannot be fully understood without taking into account the lexico-grammatical elements from which macro-level linguistic patterns ensue. The

lexico-grammatical elements in SLA are further studied at the micro-level context of interaction known as Register.

Register studies involve the linguistic analysis of the texts at the lexico-grammatical level. Register dissects the immediate context of interaction into three variables, the field, tenor and mode. Halliday and his associates have explained that field refers to the nature or kind of the interaction topic. Tenor indicates the relationship between the interactants, and mode stands for the medium of interaction. At the semantic level, these three contextual variables are realized as three metafuctions, i.e., ideational, interpersonal and textual, in a text. SFL explains that field, tenor and mode determine the systematic choices at the language-level in the form of lexico-grammatical features. For the current study, the motivations for selecting the certain lexico-grammatical choices and their functional implications for the film and the book review are essential. Biber (1988) has shown that different text types have different functional dimensions at the lexico-grammatical level. These functional dimensions are typical of the register type under investigation. The current study is an attempt to study the lexico-grammatical features of the book review and the film review genre to understand the comparative differences in their function dimensions, as suggested by Biber (1988).

Among other contextual and linguistic differences, the genre and Register perspectives also differ at the level of analysis. Genre takes on a macro-level perspective to explain the distribution of linguistic characteristics and large rhetorical structures over the whole text. This endevour helps to explain how different text-types emerge as sharing similar rhetoric patterning. It also seeks to explain and interpret the cross-generic linguistic differences in the texts. On the other hand, the register analysis involves a micro-level perspective on the texts, focusing on the role of linguistic features in constructing three lexico-semantic metafunctions, i.e., ideational, interpersonal and textual.

Furthermore, the text's register analysis establishes the role of immediate contextual elements of field, tenor, and medium in yielding the text's systemic production. Therefore, register analysis explains the association between the situational context and the text's functional aspects produced under these contextual factors. It is also worth noting that many researchers like Biber (1988), Bhatia (2002), Swales (1990) etc., do not differentiate between Genre and Register and prefer the term 'genre'. Contrarily, Hymes (1984), Biber (1995), Biber, Conrad and Cortes (2004), and Conrad (1994) use the term 'register' while discussing the linguistic features of a text. Following the academic traditions of SFL, the current research will use the terms genre and register distinctly.

Typically, field refers to the topic of communicative event, tenor refers to the personal relationship between the text producer and the text consumer and mode stand for the medium of communication as being oral or written. To further elaborate these contextual elements, Biber and Conrad (2019) have proposed a comprehensive framework for analyzing any communicative event's immediate situational elements. His list of these situational elements is extensive but not exhaustive. Biber (1988) identifies participants, relations between the participants, communication channel, production circumstances, settings of communicative events, communicative purpose and topic as primary situational components of an immediate context (see Biber, 1988, p. 40).

Biber (1988) explains that participant refers to the person that produces or consumes text. The commonly known participants are the addresser and the addressee. In some cases, it is easy to identify the addresser, but the addressee is not recognizable. For instance, in our case, the Newspaper Review genre, most of the time, the writer of the film or book review is a known addresser, but the addressee of these reviews is an imagined reader of such reviews. The language used by the text-producer or the addresser is influenced by multiple social, linguistic, cultural and situational factors.

Moreover, the addresser's knowledge about the addressee or the intended reader also contributes to the linguistic choices made for the communication. The relationship between the participants is also an important factor that contributes to the use of language. In this regard, the participants' social awareness about their relationship, social roles, and shared background knowledge is also a contributing factor.

Registers may also differ from each other in language due to the difference in the channel. According to Biber (1988), this difference is more evident in the written and the spoken form of registers. The mode of communication is one of 'the most important situational parameters' that determines registers' language structure (p. 43). Some of the significant differences in the written and spoken discourses are clause structure, tokenization, normalization, and verbalization. It is important to consider that the choice of medium is primarily a matter of context. Certain communication contexts require a specific mode of communication as telephonic communication and newspaper discourse both require different modes for interaction. People read more written language types than the spoken language as they read ads, articles, novels, blogs, editorials, books, e-mail messages, research articles, handouts etc.

Another essential dimension of registers is their settings. According to Biber (1988) refers to the situational aspects of time and place. Generally, the Register itself is *Situation-dependent,* and specific linguistic clues can be traced to understand the contextual settings. The communicative purpose is also an important factor that

determines language structure. Registers can be differentiated on the bases of the purpose of communication. For instance, an argumentative text is different from a persuasive text, and an expository text is different from narrative fiction. At times a single communicative event may entertain multiple communicative purposes. The topic is another important dimension that affects the lexico-grammatical choices of a discourse. Biber (1988) considers it one of the most significant situational factors influencing the text's vocabulary choices. In SFL, the field is the situational factor that produces the ideational meaning of the text. Furthermore, a technical discussion on a topic will differ from a layman's discussion on the same topic.

3. Methodology

The current study applies quantitative and qualitative techniques to achieve the research objectives. This triangulation was required to quantitatively explore the dimension scores for the book and the film reviews; and, later, to explicate, with the help of examples, the qualitative differences between the use of lexico-grammatical features of the targeted dimensions.

3.1 Data Scheme

For the current study, the book reviews and the film reviews were collected from six Pakistani English dailies, The Dawn, The Newsline, The Daily Pioneer, The Pakistan Today, The Pakistan Times, and The Friday Times. The data was retrieved from the archives of the online issues of these newspapers. The newspaper publications used for the data collection spanned over a period of 3 years, i.e., Oct. 2017 to Oct. 2020. The scheme for the collected data is given below:

Table 1

Data Scheme for the Book Reviews and the Film Reviews

	No of Book & Film Reviews	**Corpus Size (Approximately)**	**Percentage (Approximately)**
Book Reviews	141	0.6 m	50 %
Film Reviews	149	0.5 m	50 %
Total	290	1.1 m	100 %

3.2 Framework: Multidimensional Analysis (Biber, 1988)

The research objectives of the study were achieved by applying Biber's (1988) framework for multidimensional analysis (see literature review). There are five

dimensions of this framework, but the current study focuses on only three dimensions, as discussed below:

Dimension 1 deals with the lexico-grammatical features of *Involved* and *Informational* discourse. A positive score on this dimension means that the corpus is *Involved*, but the negative score indicates that the text-type, under analysis, is quite *Informational*. As the book and film reviews provide the information, so the negative scores for our corpus is expected. At the lexico-grammatical level, characteristically, the *Informational* texts have high occurrences of nouns, adjectives, and long words, but if the text presents verbs and pronoun, it will be *Involved*.

Dimension 3, functionally, differentiates the *Explicit* and *Situation-dependent* discourses. The current study explores this dimension to see if the corpus is contextually dependent or independent. A negative multidimensional score will show that the text will be *Situation-dependent*, and its value will be in the negative direction on the graph, whereas the positive score on this dimension shows that the text is *Explicit* or contextually independent. Typically, among other lexico-grammatical features of this dimension, Nominalizations may result in high positive scores. For our review genre, it is expected that D3 will be *Explicit* and have positive value.

Dimension 5 establishes the distinction between the *Abstract* and the *Non-abstract* nature of the information provided in the discourse. If the score is high and positive, it means that the text is abstract on this dimension. In this case, the text will provide the information based on some general ideas logically. The text of the book and the film reviews may be *Abstract* as the review genre, technically, provides the abstract ideas and information. So, it is expected that this dimension may be positive.

3.3 Research Tool: Multidimensional Analysis Tagger (MAT)

The study applies Multidimensional Analysis Tagger (MAT, Nini, 2015), version 1.3, to study the multi-dimensional scores for the compiled corpus. The Multidimensional Analysis Tagger (MAT) is a Windows program that replicates Biber's (1988) tagger, and it is suitable for the multidimensional analysis of the English written texts. This program can do two types of analysis. The grammatical analysis provides the annotated version of the text, and Statistical analysis gives graphs and multidimensional values in the form of output tables and images.

3.4 Methods and Procedures

For the multidimensional analysis, the following methodological steps were followed:

1. The review genre based on the book reviews and the film reviews was developed by taking data from the Pakistani English newspapers (see the section on data scheme).
2. All the data was converted from .pdf and .docx file formats to .txt format.
3. The Multidimensional Analysis Tagger (MAT), developed by Nini (2015), was used to analyze the compiled corpus.
4. For multidimensional analysis, first, the corpus of the book reviews and the film reviews were tagged with MAT's help. Tagged files for the book reviews and the film reviews were generated in separate file folders.
5. Later, MAT identified the co-occurring lexico-grammatical patterns and applied the factor analysis to work out the dimension scores for the loaded corpus texts. During this stage of analysis, the following output tables, graphs, and files were produced by MAT:
    1. "Corpus-Statistics.txt"
    2. "Zscores.txt"
    3. "Dimensions.txt"
    4. "Dimension#.png"
    5. "Text-Types.png"
6. The lists of the identified lexico-grammatical features and their multidimensional scores were exported to Microsoft Excel to generate the tabulated files and graphs, before interpreting the results.

4. Data Analysis

The following diagram (fig.1) shows the multidimensional scores of the book reviews and the film reviews.
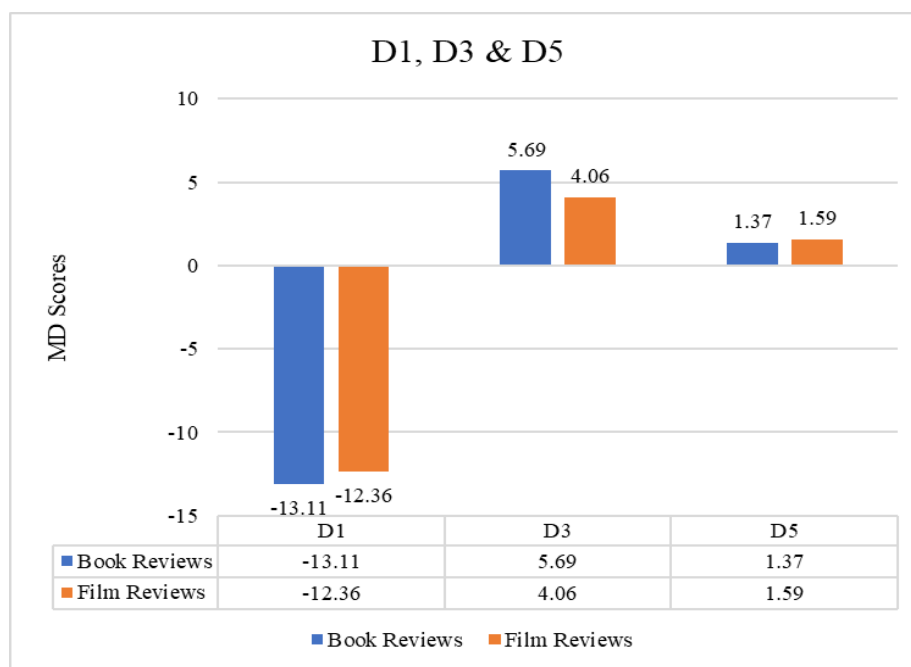
Figure 1: Multidimensional Scores for D1, D3 and D5

As shown in fig 1, the value of D1 for the book reviews and the film reviews is negative i.e., -13.11 and -12. 36, respectively. These high negative values show that the book reviews and the film reviews have *Informational* textual orientation. No doubt, the book reviews and the film reviews provide information to the readers about the quality of the book or the film, which determines the negative values for this dimension. Negative D1 values demonstrate that the review genre may have frequent occurrences of Nouns, Adjectives and Long words. It is also worth flagging up that the book revies and the film reviews have an insignificant quantitative difference (-0.75) for D1.

Fig 1 also shows that, for D3, the book reviews and the film reviews have positive values. Comparatively, the book reviews have a value of 5.69, and the film reviews have a value of 4.06. So, for D1, there is a mean difference of 1.63 for the functional orientation of the book reviews and the film reviews. This means that the book reviews are relatively more Explicit and context-independent than the film reviews.

Fig 1 also shows that, for the book reviews and the film reviews, the values of D5 are 1.37 and 1.59, respectively. These values are low but positive, which show that the corpus is *Abstract*. As the reviews typically critique the books and the films, the authors prefer a technical and formal lexico-grammatical feature. The positive values for D5 also demonstrate that the review genre is based on general ideas, and generally, they do not refer to a particular person, thing or situation.

4.1 Dimension 1: Positive and Negative Features

Table 2 and Table 3 give the mean score values for the book reviews and the film reviews. The values for the positive and negative features show that due to high-frequency occurrences of the nouns, Type-token Ratio and Past Participle, Post Nominal Clauses, the negative value of D1 is relatively high. These linguistic features make both the review texts more informational and less Involved.

Table 2

Positive Features of Dimension 1: Involved

Positive Features of Dimension 1	Book Reviews	Film Reviews
WH Clauses [WHCL]	0.0	-0.1
Non–phrasal co-ordination [PHC]	3.3	2.59
WH questions [WHQU]	0.33	0.33
Amplifiers [AMP]	-0.31	-0.23
Indefinite pronouns [INPR]	-0.5	-0.4
Causative subordination [CAUS]	-0.12	-0.12
Pronoun IT [PIT]	0.07	0.13
General emphatics [EMPH]	-0.05	0.02
Final preposition [STPR]	-0.37	-0.37
Possibility modals [POMD]	-0.54	-0.6
Sentences relatives [SERE]	2.25	2.75
General hedges [HDG]	-0.31	-0.31
Discourse particles [DPAR]	-0.39	-0.39
BE as main verb [BEMA]	-1.12	-0.96
First person pronoun [FPP1]	-0.74	-0.77
Demonstrative pronouns [DEMP]	-0.04	-0.21
Do as pro-verb [PROD]	-0.6	0.49
Present tense verb [VPRT]	-0.58	-0.31
THAT deletion [THATD]	-0.44	-0.44
Second person pronoun [SPP2]	-0.52	-0.5
Analytic negation [XX0]	-0.36	-0.3
Contractions	-0.53	-0.42
Private verb [PRIV]	-0.69	-0.74

Table 3

Negative Features of Dimension 1: Informational

Negative Features (Informational)	Book Reviews	Film Reviews
Noun [NN]	2.24	2.8
Type token ratio [TTR]	1.57	1.71

Agentless passives [PASS]	-0.17	0.0
Word length [AWL]	0.85	0.67
Attributive adjective [JJ]	0.87	0.71
Preposition [PIN]	0.23	-0.17
Place adverbials [PLACE]	0.0	0.0
Past participial post nominal clauses [PASTP]	2.25	3.5

The values of these lexico-grammatical features also highlight that the book and the film reviews are highly *Informational* and less *Involved*. Nonetheless, book reviews are slightly more Informative than film reviews.

The textual analysis of the book reviews and the film reviews shows that Nouns, Attributive Adjectives, Prepositions, Type-token Ratios, and Word-length contribute to the higher negative values for this dimension. For instance, Nouns make the review genre more informative than the other linguistic features present in the text. The value of Nouns in book reviews is 2.24, and, in the film, reviews is 2.8. It means that there are more Nouns in the film reviews than that of the book reviews. This is quite understandable as a film review may depend heavily on the common and the proper nouns for discussing characters, directors, movies, places, etc. Some examples of the Nouns found in the book reviews are *India, China, family, sentiment, soldiers, uniform, nation, mandate, train, boat, stress, fruit etc.* Examples of nouns from the film reviews include *director, producer, time, outsiders, life, search, Pakistani, cinema, songs, completion, place, dimension, assistant, world, things, ticket etc.*

Attributive adjectives are among the other lexico-grammatical features that play an important role in yielding high negative values for the book reviews and the film reviews. Book reviews have a value of 0.87, and the film reviews have a value of 0.71. Some examples of attributive adjectives in the corpus of book reviews are (adjectives are in Italics), *first*-rate, *national* sentiment, *different* kind, *military* mandate, *new* generation, *southern* trip, *tribal* man, *present* state, *striking* passage, *initial* days. Similarly, the examples of attributive adjectives from film reviews are *alien* doors, *better* life, *Iranian* cinema, *imaginative* screenwriters, *varied* results, *noteworthy* films, *young* assistant, *utopian* world etc.

4.2 Dimension 3: Positive and Negative Features

Table 4 and Table 5, in the following, give the values on D3 for the book reviews and the film reviews. The tables show that due to the frequency occurrences of Phrasal Coordination, Pied, Nominalization, WH relative clauses on subject position, etc., D3 has a positive value. Furthermore, on this dimension, the difference between the book

reviews and the film reviews is 1.63. Table 4 shows that the values of WH clauses on the subject position for both the reviews are almost the same, but the book reviews have more WH clauses. Furthermore, the values of WH clauses on object positions for the book reviews is -0.47 and for the film reviews is -0.59. So, the value of film review is slightly less than the book review, which shows that book reviews have more WH clauses on object positions. Moreover, the Phrasal-coordination values for both types of reviews are high with a difference of 0.71, indicating more frequent use of Phrasal-coordination for the book reviews. Examples of Phrasal-coordination from the book reviews include *ethnicity and religion, racism, dehumanizing, islamophobic, legal and social context, family and loved ones, manners and conversations, etc.* Moreover, the value of nominalization is higher for the book reviews than the film reviews. The use of –ty. –ment, -ness, -tion is more in the book reviews. Examples from the book reviews include *ethnicity, societies, environment, entitlement, abilities, predictions, expedition, conversation* etc. examples from film reviews include *fondness, opportunity, animation, production, locations etc.*

Table 4

Positive Features of Dimension 3: Explicit

Positive Features of Dimension 3	Book Reviews	Film Reviews
Phrasal Coordination [PHC]	3.3	2.59
Pied – piping construction [PIRE]	0.27	0.09
Nominalization [NOMZ]	0.35	-0.21
WH relative clauses on subject Positions [WHSUB]	0.35	0.2
WH relative clauses on object Positions [WHOBJ]	-0.47	-0.59

Among the negative features, Table 5 shows that the values of time adverbials are -0.4 and -0.29 for the book reviews and the film reviews, respectively. So, film reviews have more time adverbials than book reviews. The examples of time adverbials from film reviews include *once, after, now, early.* Moreover, the example of time adverbials from book reviews is *just* and *again.* Moreover, Table 5 shows that Time Adverbials are more frequently used in book reviews and film reviews than the Place Adverbials.

Table 5

Negative Features of Dimension 3: Situation-dependent Reference

Negative Features of Dimension 3	Book Reviews	Film Reviews
Adverbs [RB]	-1.76	-1.78
Time Adverbials [TIME]	-0.4	-0.29
Place Adverbials [PLACE]	0.0	0.0

4.3 Dimension 5: Positive and Negative Features

This dimension has five positive and one negative feature. The values for this dimension show that the book and the film reviews are *Abstract* in textual function.

Table 6

Positive Features of Dimension 5: Abstract

Positive Features	Book Reviews	Film Reviews
By–Passives [BYPA]	0.38	0.31
Agentless Passives [PASS]	-0.17	0.0
Other Adverbial Subordinates [OSUB]	0.73	1.0
Past-participial Clauses [PASTP]	2.25	3.5
Conjuncts [CONJ]	1.0	0.94

Table 7

Negative Feature of Dimension 5: Non-Abstract

Positive Features	Book Reviews	Film Reviews
Type-token Ratio	1.57	1.71

As shown in Table 6, the values of this dimension for the book reviews and the film reviews are positive, which means that these registers contain abstract information. It is evident that the Past-participial Clauses, Adverbial Subordinates, and By-passives are frequently used in the book reviews and the film reviews. These linguistic features make both the review texts more Abstract in nature. The difference between the reviews is just 0.22, which is minimal and shows that the film reviews have marginally more abstract information.

The value of Past-participle Clauses (PASTP) for film reviews is 3.5, and for the book reviews, its value is 2.25. The difference between the reviews is 2.25, which shows that PASTP is more frequently used in the film reviews than book reviews. Some

examples of PASTP from the book reviews are *she has published, and the series has earned, those engaged.* Similarly, the examples from the film reviews include *she has tackled, may have elicited, Leigh had provided, an attractive divorced woman, I also heard.*

Moreover, the values of Agentless Passives are -0.17 and 0.0 for the book reviews and the film reviews, respectively. So, the sentences of Agentless Passives are almost very rare in both reviews. Some examples of agentless passives are *shopaholic was published, Chaand being beaten, I was sent.* Similarly, the values of the other Adverbial Subordinates (OSUB) are 0.73 for the book reviews and 1.0 for the film reviews. This shows that film reviews have more Adverbial Subordinates than that of book reviews. Moreover, Conjunctions are found rarely in both the reviews although their value is 1.0 for the book reviews and 0.94 for the film reviews.

Dimension 5 has only one negative feature, i.e., Type-token ratio. Table 7 shows positive but low values for this dimension, reflecting that the language used in the book reviews and the film reviews is slightly technical and formal with some lexical variety.

5. Conclusion

In different fields of inquiry, several studies purport to measure language variation on any given linguistic features. Nevertheless, Biber (1988) warns that the focus on the frequency occurrences and the variability of such linguistic features in a text can be misleading if co-occurring linguistic features (i.e., register dimensions) are not taken into account. This current research has applied Biber's (1988) multidimensional framework to explore the use of cooccurring lexico-grammatical features in the corpus of book and film reviews published in the Pakistani English newspapers over the period of three years. The data shows that, with some differences, the book reviews and the film reviews are *Informational*, *Explicit* and *Abstract*.

It is expected that further studies in this direction can enrich our knowledge about the register-dimensions of the review genre. Furthermore, multidimensional studies are closely linked with ESP and other pedagogical endevours. It is expected that this study will help the instructors to understand the register-specific cooccurring linguistic features and general schematic structure of the book and the film reviews. Furthermore, the findings of the study can be utilized for developing teaching materials by educating professionals.

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