INVESTIGATION OF SEMANTIC FIELD OF SADNESS EMOTION IN TV CORPUS: A CORPUS-DRIVEN STUDY

د تلویزیون کارپس کې د خپګان احساساتو د سیمانتیک ساحي څیرنه: د کارپس لخوا پرمخ ورل شوي تحقیق

¹ Dr. Zafar Ullah   ² Dr. Arshad Ali   ³ Shahzeb Shafi

Abstract

There are limited linguistic options for expressing the emotion of Sadness by non-native English speakers. To address the issue, current interdisciplinary study links disciplines of Psychology, Linguistics, Computer Science, and Big Data Science. This study employed the theoretical framework of Psychology, linguistic source of Oxford Thesaurus, and Corpo-lingual database of TV Corpus built by Mark Davies in 2019. The semantic field of "sadness" was taken from English Oxford Thesaurus. Psychoevolutionary Theory of Basic Emotions (1980) by Robert Plutchik was applied on TV Corpus to extract frequencies for semantic fields of "sadness" emotion. A descriptive study of secondary data revealed that grief, depression, misery, and Sadness with frequencies 4159, 2779, 2648, and 1369 were the most frequent among fifteen (15) lexical entries of Sadness. In short, the results presented ample evidence for the TV Corpus to be the monitor corpus of informal spoken English, especially for expressing emotions.

***Keywords*:** TV Corpus, Plutchick's Theory of Emotions, Sadness, Oxford Thesaurus, Semantic Field.

¹ Lecturer in English, Department of English, Virtual University (VU), G-10 Islamabad, Capital Territory, Pakistan. zafarullah76@gmail.com

² Associate Professor/ Head of Department, Faculty of English, National University of Modern Languages (NUML), Multan Campus, Punjab, Pakistan. arali@numl.edu.pk

³ MPhil Scholar, Department of English (GS), National University of Modern Languages (NUML), H-9 Islamabad, Capital Territory, Pakistan. shahzebshafi10@gmail.com

1. Introduction

TV Corpus is one of the latest English language corpora consisting of 325 million words, launched in February 2019 and built by Mark Davies. It includes 75000 TV shows, including dramas and comedies from 1930 to 2018, composed of 88 years span. TV Corpus has highly informal language, situational phrases, more progressive sentence syntax, and less 'to be' passives. It is a bit more informal than the actual spoken language in some cases. TV Corpus also provides details of language change in time of more than eighty years and language varieties in six diverse English-speaking dialects. It is a large corpus of informal English. It is even thirty-three times larger than the British National Corpus (BNC), making it significant for study. It allows users to create 'Virtual Corpora' based on genre, IMDB ratings, movie ratings, country, year of telecast, title, script, plot, and particular series or serial in just seconds (Davies, 2019).

The study begins by outlining the application of Robert Plutchik's Theory of Emotions (1980a) on TV Corpus (2019) built by Mark Davies, a renowned professor from Brigham Young University (BYU), USA. This "Virtual Corpora" being built can be used to study feelings of Sadness, as stated by Plutchik in his Theory of Emotions. Plutchik believes that eight (8) primary emotions are paired in a "positive versus negative" format. They are joy against Sadness, anger against fear, trust against disgust, and surprise against anticipation (Duc-Anh & Matsumoto, 2018; Plutchik 1980a, 1980b, 2003; Plutchik & Kellerman, 2013). There are also secondary emotions that can be formed with the help of a combination of these emotions. He explains them through a wheel of emotions, which he published in his book in 1980 (Drews, 2007; Plutchik 1980a, 1980b). The study focused on one primary emotion suggested by Plutchik in his Theory of Emotions, namely Sadness.

A semantic field is a concept in linguistics that deals with a group of words closely related in terms of meanings (Faber & Uson, 1999, p. 67; Jackson & Amvela, 2000, p.14). These words show similar semantic properties (Brinton, 2000, p. 112). This concept is emerging in the field of computational semiotics (Anderson, 1990, p. 327), linguistic anthropology (Ingold, 1996, p. 127), and interpretation (Carson, 1996). Its origin is evident from Jost Tier in the 1930s. John Lyons called it a lexical field (Corson, 2012, pp. 31-32), which compares lexical relations of words within a language and computational semiotics (Andersen, 1990, p. 327). The semantic field deals with semantics and related concepts and phenomena (Akmajian, Demers, Farmer, Harnish, 2001, p. 329; Hintikka, 2013, p. 41). It is an arrangement of links between related ideas metaphorically (Stern, 2000, p. 242). Frame Semantics is its new alternative form (Faber & Uson, 1999, p. 73).

1.1 Research Objectives

This mixed-method study has the following aims:

i.   To calculate the frequency of words and expressions which describe the emotion of Sadness
ii. To elucidate the prominent informal native language expressions for sadness emotion

1.2 Research Questions

The research questions are as follows:

i.   What is the frequency of words used to illustrate the emotion of Sadness in the TV Corpus?
ii. How has the emotion of Sadness been elucidated in Davies' TV Corpus?

2. Literature Review

Corpus Linguistics is an emerging interdisciplinary field that deals with the use of digital computational tools and programs for language teaching and learning. This field is gaining attention from linguistics, computer science, and business disciplines researchers and scholars. Corpus linguistics is amazingly effective in diachronic deviations in the language. Corpus is a digitized full text of a writer, age, area, discipline, field, or language. Corpus can also be used for emotional, psychological, historical, lexical, semantic, semiotic, pedagogical, acoustical, and phraseologic drifts in language over time and genre. For instance, while studying Shakespearean Corpus, it was evident that 'You' forms were used in comedies and romances with lexical verbs;

while 'Thou' forms in tragedies, histories, and all other sub-genres with closed class verbs (Busse, 2002a, 2002b; Rudanko, 2006; Walker, 2005).

The architecture of the database was an updated version of the 2005 corpus. It was based on extensive usage of relational databases. First, the Main [seqWords] table showed a unique [ID] that exhibited sequential order of words in a column (1---- 385 Million); [wordID] that showed the unique type of each integer value so one could describe the total number of words in a language; and [textID] that was a reference to any text on TV Corpus (1--- 325Million). Second, [Dictionary] table. It included part of speech (POS), frequency (How many times the form of the word occurred), form, [wordID], and a lemma (base form) with information in the columns. Third, he [sources] table. It includes [textID], genre, sub-genre, year of publication, title, and name of the author of the published work. There were also other architectures, including [Synonym] table and customized [wordlist] table (Davies, 2009, 2012b; Shafi, 2019).

The architecture of TV Corpus is a relational database type. This architecture was scalable with speed and size. Also, the modular architecture of TV Corpus made it easy to incorporate even after the addition of information. The word was easy to search for its all details and its occurrences in the form of hypertexts. It was easy to explain a word, phrase, parts of speech, wide substrings, lemma, synonyms, collocates, and word lists, by genre, time period, or their combination with the help of charts, graphs, and tables on a yearly and genre basis. TV Corpus provided a search for collocates as well. The [Word] and [Context] columns had to be used for searching collocates. In addition, these collocates could be managed manually. The architecture of the corpus could be used to search for an extensive list of node words and collocates. TV Corpus also delivered a function to search for word comparisons of closely related meanings. It enabled users to search for how often a word was used in the English language over another word. The TV Corpus also contained a thesaurus of more than 0.37 million words with synonyms for almost thirty thousand words (Davies, 2009, 2010, 2012a).

In online communication, conveying emotions and their interpretation seemed more complex than direct communication. It was because of limitations of communication modality (Arimoto & Okanoya, 2014; Kruger, Epley, Parker, & Ng, 2005). The detection of semantic deviation in early modern English was "a difficult and largely unsolved problem for the history of the English lexicon"? As described by Manfred Görlach (Lancashire, 2012, p.181). Both phrasal and lexical neologisms were challenging to be identified in the word lists. On the other hand, readers need to understand the meaning of a word in the context before they identify a semantic drift. Two web-based new diachronic corpora, Lexicons of Early Modern English (LEME) and Early English Books Online (EEBO), could be used for association and lemmatization with certain senses in the Oxford English Dictionary. LEME could serve the diachronic analysis of phrasal and lexical neologisms. However, half a million entries of LEME were not uniformly examined.

The Closed-caption TV corpus was limited to data of 28 months. It was limited to main characters and genres instead of dynamic emotional analysis (Mochizuki & Shibano, 2015). Written discourses had different emotional annotations regarding writers, readers, and the text itself. Written discourses studied in two corpora illustrated the Standard English corpus with various genres and domains and movie review corpus (Buechel & Hahn, 2017). There was a gap as no TV Corpus was used, and spoken discourses were ignored in the research work. Emotional Movies Transcript Corpus (EMTC) used more than 2.1 million utterances from movies close to real life to study misinterpretation of partner's emotions. It was unable to focus on dramas and was limited to text-based communication (Duc-Anh & Matsumoto, 2018). There were books and research recently on dynamic emotional analysis and its history. Emotions were analyzed in intellectual and cultural contexts in these works with their modern shift. However, they could not use any real-life contexts like TV Corpus (Ruys, Champion, & Essary, 2019; Harbus, 2019).

COCA served as the English language's initial monitoring corpus to study its changes over time, built by Mark Davies at Birmingham Young University (BYU). Many other corpora existed, namely BNC, BoE, and ANC. However, they could not serve the purpose of monitoring the English language. These corpora served in their fields, but they were static. There was no addition, which made them unsuitable for studying diachronic change. COCA, COHA, ETAPE, and EATER were beneficial to find semantic, lexical, genre-based, and historical variations over time. Also,

COCA and COHA were unique in finding variation and data in the last three (3) decades. However, all these corpora could not find informal, colloquial language because their data was not taken from TV drama serials or drama series but was extracted from formal TV shows. It even included news and Radio channels, so TV Corpus served the purpose.

The most miniature work was done on TV Corpus as it had been the latest corpus. TV Corpus could serve as the monitor corpus for informal English language like COCA for formal language. This corpus has made corpus studies even more appealing and diverse. All the previous works could not provide details and frequency of the words used to demonstrate emotions. This study has answered all the questions related to this context. TV Corpus by Mark Davies was launched in 2019. Corpus linguistics will be the future of linguistics, business, and computer science in the coming days.

3. Research Methodology

3.1 Theoretical Framework

Psychoevolutionary Theory of Basic Emotions (1980) by Robert Plutchik is helpful to understand the communication of emotions through words. This theory deals with human emotions as well as with their detailed analysis. Eight (8) primary emotions were being shed with complete clarity in Plutchik's theory. The eight primary emotions could be categorized in as 'positive versus negative' format. They were joy against Sadness, anger against fear, trust against disgust, and surprise against anticipation. He elucidated the emotions through a Wheel of Emotions that he published in his book *'EMOTION: A Psychoevolutionay Synthesis'* in 1980 (see Figure 1) (Drews, 2007). The framework is as follows, "There are different expressions, words or phrases which represent an emotion, and each emotion has prototype patterns from a group of expression, words, and phrases which represent that emotion more efficiently" (Plutchik 1980a, 1980b, 2003; Plutchik & Kellerman, 2013) (Postulate 4, Prototype Patterns).
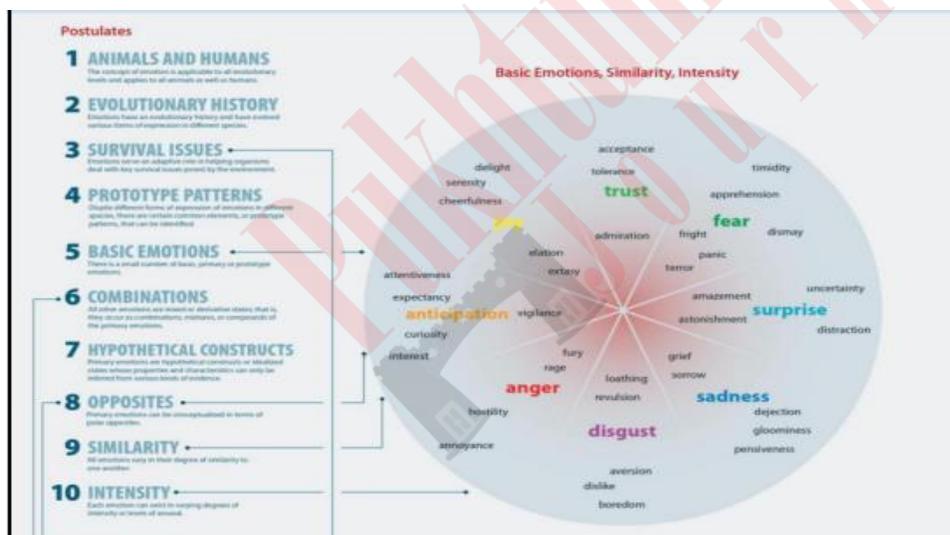
Figure 1. Plutchik's Wheel of Emotions

3.2 Research Design

The subsequent research was a mixed-method that encompassed a qualitative method as well as a quantitative method. Secondary data sampling was utilized in the research process. Semantic field elements were taken from Oxford Thesaurus as secondary data (Udrang, 1993). This sample was in the form of synonyms of sadness snapshots by 'Snipping Tool'. The words obtained as synonyms were then searched and evaluated in TV Corpus, and their frequency was extracted. This available data of synonyms was then arranged in descending order to obtain the most prominent semantic fields. The frequency of each synonym sample was noticed. Random examples of the four (4) most occurring synonyms were then snapshots again as new samples for the descriptive study. Four (4) of these snapshots were from the semantic field of Sadness. Each sample contained ten examples of practical usage of synonyms of Sadness.

3.3 Research Method

The method analyzed the content of the TV Corpus built by Mark Davies for the emotion of Sadness by a list obtained for its synonyms from the Oxford Thesaurus. The descriptive study examined words and phrases for emotions and their frequency in daily life and the drama industry. A descriptive study was carried out as an informal TV Corpus was put into service for written content analysis. Transcripts of written data checked on TV Corpus had been utilized for the data analysis of sources of synonyms of Sadness extracted from Oxford Thesaurus. The empirical inquiry of extracts from Oxford Thesaurus on TV Corpus was significant as it made readers understand the use of corpus. Moreover, the informal TV Corpus built by Mark Davies helped check the frequency of the semantic field of sadness emotion.

4. Findings and Discussion

According to Oxford Thesaurus, different words can represent the emotion of 'Sadness' (Udrang, 1993). For 'Sadness', fourteen (14) synonyms were obtained in total, which are present in Table 1 along with their frequencies. Figure 2 shows all the synonyms of 'Sadness' in a screenshot taken from Oxford Thesaurus by Snipping Tool.
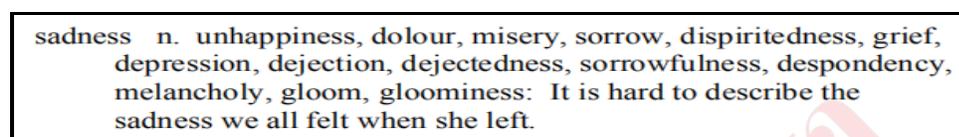
Figure 2. Synonyms of Sadness

All the synonyms were arranged in the descending order of their frequencies as obtained from a search in the TV Corpus. The frequency of these words was different in the TV Corpus. On the one hand, the word on the top of the table was most suitable to express the feeling of Sadness: On the other hand, the word on the bottom of the table was least suitable for the emotion of Sadness.

Table 1. Semantic Field of Emotion of Sadness with Frequencies

No.	Emotional Word	Frequency	No.	Emotional Word	Frequency
1	Grief	4159	9	Despondency	31
2	Depression	2779	10	Dejection	3
3	Misery	2648	11	Gloominess	2
4	Sadness	1369	12	Dolour	0
5	Sorrow	1148	13	Dispiritedness	0
6	Gloom	353	14	Dejectedness	0
7	Melancholy	336	15	Sorrowfulness	0
8	Unhappiness	249			

The emotion of Sadness has been elucidated in the TV Corpus with the help of synonyms of Sadness. It can be found easily by searching for these synonyms in their contexts in informal speeches. Right words can be chosen to express feelings of Sadness from daily life conversations by native speakers. The frequency of words describes the intensity a particular synonym produces to express the emotion of Sadness. A less frequent word used to illustrate the emotion of Sadness can produce less intensity as it is not easily understood in informal speech contexts. Quantitative data for Sadness consists of Table 1, which gives synonyms and frequencies for qualitative evaluation of data, which is carried out with the help of descriptive study and data analysis.

According to Table 1, 'Grief' with the frequency of 4159 was the most occurring synonym of 'Sadness' in TV Corpus, making it one of the most appropriate words to express the feeling of 'Sadness'. The word 'Depression' took the second position with the frequency of '2779' and 'Misery' with the frequency of '2648' was at the third position in the TV Corpus to express the emotion of 'Sadness'. The word 'Sadness' itself took fourth place with the frequency of '1369',

which showed that the word 'Sadness' itself could also explain the emotion of Sadness very fittingly. No word in TV Corpus has a frequency of more than 10000 among all the 15 findings for 'Sadness'. These four words were most appropriate for creating an emotional sensation of Sadness. According to Table No. 1, 5 words have a frequency of more than 1000 times. 'Sorrow' with the frequency of '1148' could also express the feeling of Sadness appropriately but could not be compared to 'Grief', 'Depression', 'Misery', and 'Sadness'.

There were various fewer occurring words in the TV Corpus to express the feelings of 'Sadness'. Three words were in-between frequency of 101 to 1000, which made them less plausible to express the emotion of 'Sadness'. One (1) word was an in-between frequency of 11 to 100, and two (2) words had an in-between frequency of 1 to 10. These three words expressed feelings of 'Sadness' even lesser than the upper ones. Four words never occurred in the TV corpus: dolour, dispiritedness, dejectedness, and sorrowfulness. These were the least suitable to express the emotion of Sadness as they never occurred in the informal TV Corpus. Statistics for all these words and their frequency can be seen in Table 1. It was evident from Table 1 that words with less frequency were less likely to exhibit feelings of 'Sadness' in the informal speech contexts.

Figure 3. Data for Grief

'Grief' is the most frequent synonym for the emotion of "Sadness' with the frequency of 4159. Other words can add more emotions to 'Sadness' like 'a lot of Grief' (Entry 1) and 'boundless Grief' (Entry 10). It is also evident from the findings in Figure 3 that 'Grief' takes possessive pronouns with it, evident in 'her Grief' (Entry 5), 'giving you grief' (Entry 7), and 'those Grief' (Entry 3). Entry 7 in Figure 3 stated 'Good grief'; even the positive nature of 'good' was killed, and it only intensified the 'grief' to express strong emotion of Sadness. 'Grief' can be used in places, like 'grotto of Grief' (Entry 6), or in language as an expression, for instance, 'one syllable of Grief' (Entry 3).

Figure 4. Data for Depression

'Depression' is the second most occurring word in the TV corpus for the synonym of 'Sadness' with the frequency of 2779. Depression is collocated with adjectives like 'experience depression' (Entry 1), 'terrible depression' (Entry 2), 'severe depression' (Entry 4), and 'great depression' (Entry 7). It is also used as a phrase, mainly, 'deal with depression' (Entry 3), 'indication of depression' (Entry 9), and 'risk of depression' (Entry 10). Like "Grief", it also got a place with pronouns, such as 'your depression' (Entry 5).

Figure 5. Data for Misery

'Misery' and 'Sadness' are other semantic fields for showing the emotion of 'Sadness' with frequencies of 2648 and 1369, respectively. These words also occurred with personal pronouns, phrases, expressions, and adjectives. Synonyms of 'Sadness' expressed the feeling of Sadness or some other negative emotions along with Sadness. It is evident through all the snapshots taken from TV Corpus: Grief (Figure 3), depression (Figure 4), Misery (Figure 5), and Sadness (Figure 6). All these synonyms were stuck to the emotion of Sadness.

Figure 6.Data for Sadness

In some cases, synonyms of Sadness showed signs of anger or guilt or repentance accompanied by Sadness, which could be negligible. The thing that differed was the intensity of 'Sadness', which was different for different contexts using different synonyms. It is noticed that all synonyms of 'Sadness' could be used to show the emotion of 'Sadness' irrespective of some particular context. It reveals that synonyms of 'Sadness' are loyal to the emotion of Sadness and express the feeling of Sadness only.

5. Conclusion

The research study focused on applying Plutchik's Theory of Emotions on the TV Corpus built by Mark Davies, the renowned professor from Brigham Young University, USA. TV Corpus proved itself to be the monitor Corpus for informal spoken English. One primary emotion, namely Sadness, based on its synonyms in English Oxford Thesaurus, was extracted, and data was collected for analysis. The results indicated fourteen (14) synonyms of 'Sadness' in the English Oxford Thesaurus. These words were arranged in descending order of their frequencies obtained from TV Corpus. Synonyms with their relative usage exhibited high frequency and could express particular feelings more than their contemporaries; they have been placed above in their respective tables and vice versa.

'Grief', 'Depression', 'Misery', and 'Sadness' were the most occurring words in TV Corpus among the 15 entries for 'Sadness' with frequencies 4159, 2779, 2648, 1369, respectively. These were placed on top of the list because of their relatively higher frequencies in TV Corpus, making them the most suitable words to express the feeling of 'Sadness'. It was noticed in the TV Corpus that a word more consumed to express the feeling of 'Sadness' overtime was not utilized in the sense of some other emotions. They were noticed to have the slightest deviation from their primary emotional usage, exhibiting Sadness. Entries for synonyms of 'Sadness' expressed the

feelings of 'Sadness' and were limited to it. The plausible reason for this difference was that synonyms of 'Sadness' were not used as extensively in the TV Corpus as synonyms of other emotions. If these synonyms of Sadness were used extensively, they might also accompany some other emotions in the future.

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