

Conference Paper

A Dramatic Fall: Critical Discourse Analysis of Boris Johnson's Resignation Speech

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to dissect the image formed by Boris Johnson in his resignation speech as British Prime Minister. A qualitative descriptive method was used in this study with Critical Discourse Analysis by Norman Fairclough. Analysis at the micro level using transitivity suggested that Boris Johnson mostly used mental processes, especially in the process of desirability. The data found that there were 11 uses of modality such as 'should', 'will', and 'can'. This data mostly showed the probability that the former prime minister suggested when dealing with the future programs that would be conducted without his concern any longer. Among 73 data points of pronouns, the pronoun 'I' dominated the content of the speech, followed by the pronouns 'we' and 'our', which had 12 data points each. The pronoun 'I' indicated the unmarked theme (subject/theme) in a declarative clause to only concern the former prime minister himself. Socially, situationally, and institutionally, it can be seen that Boris Johnson received pressure to step down from his position. Based on the discussion, it can be concluded that Boris Johnson wanted to build an image that he was a successful leader and still willing to contribute even after he was no longer in office. Further research could be carried out, especially in terms of research on the resignation speeches of world leaders.

Keywords: Boris Johnson Resignation Speech, critical discourse analysis, Norman Fairclough Theory

Introduction

Suharto, Indonesia's 32-year president, read out his resignation speech on Friday, 21 May 1998 (Setyawan, 2022). The speech marked the collapse of the New Order and the start of the Reform Order in Indonesia. This event can be said to be the most historic event in Indonesia because, with this speech, the era of openness, freedom of opinion, and real democracy began. The incident was inseparable from the urging of massive demonstrations from students who demanded a change of leadership due to the crushing of the economic crisis that hit Indonesia.

Across the ocean, in a newer era, Boris Johnson was forced to relinquish his position as UK prime minister after many of his party members resigned from the government (Thompson, 2022). Indeed, there are several factors, including ethics and others, but it cannot be denied that the main problem that forced the former prime minister to resign was economic problems. Skyrocketing inflation, the stagnation of the British economy, the crisis in the cost of living, and the threat of an economic recession that threatens people's lives have made people no longer believe in the firm leadership shown by Boris Johnson.

The resignation speech is indeed interesting to discuss because it is often awaited by people who want regime change. Linguistically, these speeches are also interesting to analyze because they will reveal the image that was deliberately formed by former state leaders when they

How to cite:

Bowo, T. A., Wijayanti, N., & Wulansari, D. (2022). A dramatic fall: Critical discourse analysis of Boris Johnson's resignation speech. *1st International Conference on Language Education, Linguistics and Literature 2022*. NST Proceedings. pages 122-138. doi: 10.11594/nstp.2022.2615

resigned. According to Chimbarange et al. (2013) explain that the main purpose of a politician's speech is to persuade the people to agree with the validity of the politician's claims. A leader's speech is indeed an important tool or instrument to shape the political thoughts of voters with the aim of selling ideology to the public who are potential voters (Handayani et al., 2018).

Language cannot be separated from society because language is part of society and is not something that comes from outside (Megawati, 2021). Therefore, language in the form of speech cannot be separated from the discourse that exists in society. Discourse can be dissected using discourse analysis or critical discourse analysis. Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) and Discourse Analysis (DA) are two different things. DA is an interdisciplinary approach that is able to explore various social domains in several types of studies. Meanwhile, CDA focuses on social issues, especially on the production and reproduction of power abuse or power domination (Amoussou & Allagbe, 2018).

Critical Discourse Analysis developed in the late 1970s (Chen, 2018). CDA is the study of language that seeks to explain social phenomena from multiple perspectives, such as sociology, politics, and communication. This approach explains discourse from a social and institutional perspective. The CDA explores the power and ideology contained in political discourse. Critical Discourse Analysis deals with studying and analyzing written or spoken text to reveal the existence of power, dominance, and inequality. It examines how existence is maintained and reproduced in social, political, and historical contexts. CDA explores social context to embrace the socio-political conditions that shape discourse to analyze how power structures are constructed and analyzed. It means that it can also be used to describe, interpret, analyze, and critique social life that is reflected in speech (Handayani et al., 2018). CDA explores relationships between discursive practices, texts, and events and also wider social and cultural structures, relations, and processes (Fairclough, 2013). With some of the above understanding, it can be concluded that Critical Discourse Analysis is a tool to dissect the relationship between human language and its relationship with social, institutional, and cultural conditions.

Political speech is the production of a politician or statesman who has political authority and power. Therefore, the speech has a special place to describe the realization of the intentions of the politician who made the speech. Through political speeches, opinions, ideologies, and stances of a politician can be seen in depth.

Fairclough proposed a three-dimensional framework based on systematic functional linguistics and social semiotics. Linguistic texts, discourses, and sociocultural practices are closely related. He also considers discourse to be a social practice. Critical discourse analysis reflects that social structure determines discourse patterns and discourse influences social structure. An overview of Fairclough's three-dimensional model can be seen in the following figure (Ekleisia & Rido, 2020):

The transitivity system includes six processes: physical, mental, behavioral, verbal, relational, and existential. Different verbs belong to different processes with specific meanings. Process choices reflect people's perspectives on experience and behavior. All processes consist of participants, processes, and circumstances associated with the process. Material processes are what is done and what is happening. Participants are both actors and targets. Actors refer to entities that can be humans or objects. A target can be a person or something referred to by a pronoun or noun. This process uses action verbs to express concrete and abstract actions. Mental processes are concerned with a person's inner perception of the world. It includes sensors and phenomena. Sensors are the mind and phenomena can be objects, facts, or things. A relational process is a process that shows the relationship between two objects. It can be used to describe the characteristics of an entity. The verbal process involves three participants: the target recipient, the word choice, and the recipient. The exchange of information and the expression of meaning can be realized through language. Behavioral processes include physiological and psychological behaviors such as breathing, smiling, and dreaming (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014).

Personal pronouns can indicate a participant's position, power, or role in communication. The choice of personal pronoun determines the relationship between the speaker and listener. "We" is a first-person plural pronoun that includes inclusive and exclusive pronouns. The former can create a more equal and harmonious atmosphere than exclusive personal pronouns. The second person pronoun "you" can achieve interactive functions. Third-person pronouns imply the potential role of the listener.

Modality is a critical issue of interpersonal function. It can reveal people's cognition and attitude. Modality can be divided into 3 levels: low modal verbs (can, may, could, might); center modal verbs (will, would, should); excessive modal verbs (must, ought, need). These are advantageous modal verbs. The better price of a modal verb is, the extra affirmative of discourse is. Modality can also be labeled into 3 fundamental values, which display the degree of probability, usuality, duty, and inclination.

Based on the explanations above, the focus of this research is to find out the image that will be displayed by Boris Johnson to the public through his resignation speech. In addition, this research will also predict what the former prime minister will do; whether he wants to continue to contribute to the government or distance himself from the government.

Material and Methods

The study used the Norman Fairclough approach and qualitative research design. Fairclough has espoused a three-dimensional model of CDA to analyze hidden patterns and structures of power and ideology in a text. These three dimensions are description, interpretation, and explanation (Haider & Gujjar, 2021). In the description, a text is analyzed on the linguistics levels such as vocabulary, grammar, and textual structures. Under the interpretation, the situational context and inter-textual context are analyzed. In explanation, the re-description of linguistic choices and the text's orientation is analyzed which means that the relationship between power and ideology is scrutinized. The main purpose of the explanation is to analyze some particular assumptions of cultures, ideologies, societies, and practices that can bring change or maintain the prevailing power relations (Fairclough, 2013).

Fairclough text analytics approaches attempt to integrate three dimensions: 1. Textual or textual analysis (micro level), that is a description of text; 2. Analysis of discourse practice (meso level), ie interpretation of the process of generating, distributing, and using discourse, including intertextuality and interdiscursivity; 3. Analysis of sociocultural practice (macro level), ie explanation of social processes hidden in the discourse (Tambunan et al., 2018).

The Critical Discourse Analysis from Norman Fairclough was once used by Handayani et al. (2018) in conducting CDA research with Donald Trump's speech as the object. The conclusion of the research is this speech conveyed meaning as persuading, criticism, contrastive participant, power, authority, allusion, and claim, which were implicitly contained in this speech. In addition, According to Merrita (2021) examined the speech of the Indonesian president, Joko Widodo. The research concludes that the speaker wants to reveal that the president is a leader with a leadership attitude that prioritizes citizen welfare, reflection as a visionary leader, a competitive attitude towards other countries, focus on the unity of the nation, a leader carrying out improvement in several sectors, and a proud leader towards Indonesia. CDA research has also been conducted on Boris Johnson's speech when the Prime Minister made a speech about the Covid-19 pandemic. The results of the study show that he assured the people of England that the government is standing by them in this hour of difficulty. He appreciated the efforts made by the NHS against the Pandemic. He also appreciated the patience of the people of England in following the SOP's given by the government. He informed the people that England is going to enter into the second phase of COVID-19 and it could only be defeated if the people keep on following the instructions given by the government and NHS (Haider & Gujjar, 2021).

The data source of Boris Johnson's resignation speech is obtained from The New York Times newspaper dated July 7, 2022 (Nicholls, 2022). Researchers also read other materials and relevant

literature for additional information that supports research goals. The study also draws on the background and assumptions of the researchers' knowledge.

Results and Discussion

Transitivity

Transitive = Transitive pattern

Datum 1

"I today appointed a Cabinet to serve as I will until a new leader is in place."

I	Today	Ap- pointed	a cabi- net	to serve as I will	until a new leader is in place
Subject	Adv of time	Verb	Object	Prep Phrase	Adv clause

Datum 1 is a transitive sentence that shows the first person singular "I" as subject/agent. The pronoun "I" refers to Boris Johnson. The subject performs the action "appointed" a cabinet. The result of the action taken is an effective way in the form of forming a cabinet/an agency formed by the government as a solution to support the running of the government. The subject/agent becomes the focus in the sentence and the result of the action is problem solving. Boris emphasized that he still has an important role at the end of his term by making breakthroughs with implied meanings to strengthen his image and position in the eyes of the people.

Datum 2

"At the same time, in this country, we've been pushing forward a vast programme of investment in infrastructure, skills and technology."

At the same time, in this country	We	have been pushing for- ward	a vast pro- gramme of invest- ment	in infrastruc- ture, skills and technology
Adv of time, place	Sub- ject	Verb	Object	Prep Phrase

Datum 2 is a transitive sentence with the pronoun "we" as the subject/agent. The subject took the action "have been pushing forward" a vast program of investment. The phrase "have been pushing forward" means that the action has been taken and is still ongoing until now. This means that Boris considers that this method shows a strong effort in action. The word "we"/kami is used to indicate the involvement of the collaborative process in achieving performance, both with colleagues in the government structure and stakeholders, namely through "vast program" investment. How Boris convinces the audience of the efforts that have been made to prosper the people. The results of the action are considered to be an effective solution in supporting the UK economy. The subject/agent becomes the focus of the sentence and the result of the action is problem-solving.

Datum 3

"And our brilliant and Darwinian system will produce another leader equally committed to taking this country forward through tough times."

And	our brilliant and Darwinian system	will produce	another leader	equally	committed to taking this country forward through tough times
Conj	Subject	Verb	Object	Adv of manner	Adj clause

Datum 3 is a transitive sentence with the phrase "our brilliant and Darwinian system" as the subject/agent. However, there is a pronoun "our" on the subject which expresses ownership of something, namely a brilliant Darwinian system designed to support the running of government related to social and international security. The use of pronouns remains pinned to mark/implicitly emphasize the efforts that have been made during Boris' tenure. Boris does not claim that this system is the product of his thinking. The word "our"/we are intended to indicate the involvement of the performance achievement process that is carried out together. Boris implies that the policy set is a mutual agreement so that the impact/result, both positive and negative, is a shared responsibility. The subject takes the action "will produce" another leader. The result of the action is the contribution that has been made with concrete evidence, namely the existence of a Darwinian system which is expected to provide a way for new leaders to help the people, especially in going through difficult times. If it is interpreted implicitly that what Boris said is a form of appeal or perhaps a satire for the new leader to act like him who is considered to care about his people. The subject/agent becomes the focus of the sentence and the result of the action is problem-solving.

Datum 4

"And I want you to know that from now on until the new prime minister is in place, your interests will be served and the government of the country will be carried on."

And	I	Want	you	To know	That.....in place	Your interest....carried on
Conj	Subject	Verb	Object	PP	Adj clause 1	Adj Clause 2

Datum 4 is a transitive sentence with the subject/agent being the pronoun "I". The word "I" refers to the position of the subject as the doer who dominates the action. The word "want" as a verb that shows an invitation to the object to follow the subject, namely Boris. This means that implicitly, Boris is still positioning his existence among the audience even though Boris has resigned. Boris continues to show his power as a leader. While the object of "you" is the audience involved in proving the existence of the subject.

The results show that there are five types of processes used by Boris Johnson to represent his experiences such as doing, happening, feeling, or being. These are the material process, relational process, mental process, behavioral process, and existential process. The material process is mostly used by Boris Johnson followed by the relational process and then the mental process. To show his ideas, Boris Johnson used the material process mostly and showed his principle that better do action than only talk. To draw the attention of UK society and influenced their thought, Boris Johnson addressed his speech by composing it effectively, in which he started the speech by emphasizing his existence through his role in the previous and further ideas to prove that he is still aware and care about everything. He mentioned some important actions and invited the audiences to flash back to his contribution in the last years. He also tried to impress people by

expressing his thanks and appreciation to who he cooperated. At the end, he implicitly persuaded the public to hand in hand with him for better future. Boris Johnson is quite narcissistic, indicated by his pride of himself mostly so he seems special and deserves to have privilege from the others. From the available data, it is concluded that Boris does not want to resign (as illustrated by the expression of the sentence/clause used. Boris tries to parse/remind his role in society so that he will still be judged worthy to be PM again).

Processes

The types of processes found in the text are material processes, relational processes, mental processes, verbal processes, behavioral processes, and existential processes. The most dominant type of process used by Boris Johnson in his resignation speech is the material process found in 16 clauses. Audiences are invited to keep positive thinking about him by giving a good impression in his speech such as the contribution that has been made or even trying to make peace with the situation and conditions related to the new PM candidate. Then, the relational process that appears in the 8 clauses is showing the ownership or existence of something. While the mental process consists of 7 clauses with expressions that show feelings or meanings of thoughts such as pride and a sense of responsibility for things that are currently happening or will happen. Processes that rarely appear or are used by Boris in representing his experiences include behavioral processes and existential processes. Behavioral and existential processes appear in one clause each. The behavioral process is only carried out to emphasize his hard work in the last days of his position, and the existential process is only carried out at the beginning of the speech by mentioning the existence of a new leader as his successor. This means that Boris wants to show by giving the impression that he can accept the circumstances of his resignation as British PM. The verbal process does not appear because the actor (Boris) in his speech is not indicated by using words that are directly said or spoken such as "say", "ask", "announce", etc. Boris prefers to use the word "want to" before the words "say" and "thank" so as not to seem more polite and appreciate the audience.

Material processes

The material process is the process of doing or doing something either in the form of physical activities or real actions taken by a person or group of people to other people. Actors in this clause are realized by nouns or noun phrases while material processes are realized by verbs or verb phrases.

Datum 2:

"**I agree with Sir Graham Brady**, chairman of our backbench of MPs, that the process of choosing that new leader should begin now and the timetable will be announced next week."

I	<u>agree with</u>	Sir Graham Brady	chairman of our backbench of MPs, that the process of choosing that new leader should begin now and the timetable will be announced next week
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Datum 3:

"I today appointed a Cabinet to serve as I will until a new leader is in place."

I to-day	<u>ap- pointed</u>	a Cabinet to serve	as I will until a new leader is in place
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Datum 4:

"**I want to say to the millions of people who voted for us in 2019** - many of them voting Conservative for the first time- thank you for that incredible mandate, the biggest Conservative majority since 1987, the biggest share of the vote since 1979."

I	want to say	to the millions of people	who voted for us in 2019
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Datum 8:

"At the same time, in this country, we've been pushing forward a vast programme of investment in infrastructure, skills, and technology."

At the same time, in this country	we	've <u>been pushing forward</u>	avast programme of investment in infrastructure, skills and technology
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Datum 9:

"But opportunity is not. And that is why we must keep leveling up, keep unleashing the potential of every part of the United Kingdom."

But opportunity is not. And that is why	we	<u>must keep</u>	leveling up, keep unleashing the potential of every part of the United Kingdom
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Datum 10:

"In the last few days, I've tried to persuade my colleagues that it would be eccentric to change governments when we are delivering so much when we have such a vast mandate, and when we are only a handful of points behind in the polls - even in mid-term after quite a few months of pretty relentless sledding, and when the economic scene is so difficult domestically and internationally."

In the last few days	I	've <u>tried to persuade</u>	my colleagues...
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Datum 13:

"And my friends, in politics, no one is remotely indispensable. **And our brilliant and Darwinian system will produce another leader equally committed to taking this country forward through tough times.**"

And my friends, in politics, no one is remotely indispensable	And our brilliant and Darwinian system	<u>will produce</u>	another leader equally committed to taking this country forward through tough times
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Datum 14:

"Not just helping families to get through it, but changing and improving the way we do things. Cutting burdens on businesses and families and, yes, cutting taxes. Because that is the way to generate the growth and the income **we need to pay for great public services.**"

Not just helping families to get through it, but changing and improving the way we do things. Cutting burdens on businesses and families and, yes, cutting taxes. Because that is the way to generate growth and the income	we	<u>need to pay</u>	for great public services
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Datum 15:

"To that new leader, whoever he or she may be, I say: **I will give you** as much support as I can."

To that new leader, whoever he or she may be, I say:	I	<u>will give</u>	you as much support as I can
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Datum 16:

"And to you, the British public, I know that there will be many people who are relieved and perhaps quite a few who will also be disappointed. And **I want you to know how sad I am to be giving up the best job in the world.** But them's the breaks."

And to you, the British public, I know that there will be many people who are relieved and perhaps quite a few who will also be disappointed. And	I	<u>want</u>	you to know how sad I am to be giving up the best job in the world. But them's the breaks
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Datum 17:

"I **want to thank** Carrie and our children, all the members of my family, who have had to put with so much for so long."

I	<u>want to thank</u>	Carrie and our children, all the members of my family	who have had to put with so much for so long
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Datum 18:

"I **want to thank** the peerless British Civil Service for all the help and support that you have given our police, our emergency services, and of course our fantastic NHS who, at a critical moment, helped to extend my period in office, as well as our armed services and our agencies that are so admired around the world, and our indefatigable Conservative Party members and supporters, whose selfless campaigning makes our democracy possible."

I	<u>want to thank</u>	the peerless British Civil Service	for all the help and support...
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Datum 19:

"I **want to** thank the wonderful staff here at Chequers, here at Number 10, and our fantastic prop force detectives - the one group, by the way, who never leak."

I	<u>want</u> <u>to</u>	thank the wonderful staff here at Chequers	here at Number 10, and our fantastic prop force detectives - the one group, by the way, who never leak
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Datum 20:

"Above all, I want to thank you, the British public, for the immense privilege that you have given me. And I want you to know that from now on until the new prime minister is in place, your interests will be served and the government of the country will be carried on.

Above all,	I	<u>want</u> <u>to</u> <u>thank</u>	you, the British public, for the immense privilege...
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Datum 22:

"I've travelled to every part of the United Kingdom and, in addition to the beauty of our natural world. I've found so many people possessed of such boundless British originality, and so willing to tackle old problems in new ways, that I know that even if things can sometimes seem dark now, our future together is golden.

I	<u>'ve</u> <u>trav-</u> <u>elled</u>	to every part of the United Kingdom	and, in addition to the beauty of our natural world....
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The eleven examples above show the material process realized by the verb phrase: "appointed, have been pushing forward, have tried to persuade, will produce, will give, want, and have traveled." Boris Johnson not only uses action verbs to realize material processes in the form of transitive verbs with an S V O pattern, also in the form of intransitive verbs with an S V pattern as in the following example "I agree with Sir Graham Brady", "And that is why we must keep leveling up, keep unleashing the potential of every part of the United Kingdom.", "We need to pay for great public services.", and "I've traveled to every part of the United Kingdom and, in addition to the beauty of our natural world. These verbs explain that the actions taken by Boris are systematic from concepts, and actions, to efforts to achieve them, while the participants who act as actors consist of the pronoun "I" referring to Boris Johnson himself. The clauses used are in the form of active sentences which put the subject at the beginning of the sentence as a major theme so that the audience will focus on the speaker, namely Boris Johnson. Implicitly, Boris is still positioning his existence in the audience even though Boris has resigned. Boris continues to show his power as a leader. Boris emphasized that he still has an important role at the end of his term by making breakthroughs with implied meanings to strengthen his image and position in the eyes of the people. Meanwhile, the pronouns "we" and "our" which indicate ownership refers to Boris and the parties involved. The words "we and our" are intended to indicate the involvement in the process of achieving the performance of several related parties. Boris implies that the policies set are a mutual agreement so that the impact/result, both positive and negative, is a shared responsibility. This material process often appears in the form of active sentences. The more dominant use of active sentences seems subjective because it focuses on the actor and his assessment of himself.

Relational processes

Relational processes have two categories, namely attribution, and identification. Process analysis is carried out based on the clauses that appear. The clause may indicate the quality of an entity or identify an entity. 8 clauses describe the relational process found in Boris Johnson's speech.

Datum 2:

"I agree with Sir Graham Brady, chairman of our backbench of MPs, that the process of choosing that **new leader should begin now and the timetable will be announced next week.**"

The timetable	will be announced	next week
Token	Identifying: Circumstantial	value

This clause presents the identifying category of the relational process. It forms a passive voice to show the process using the words “will be announced” to point out the timetable as the token and the phrase ‘next week’ as value.

Datum 3:

"I today appointed a Cabinet to serve as I will until **a new leader is in place.**"

A new leader	is	in place
Carrier	Attributive: circumstantial	Attributive location

This clause shows the attributive category of the relational process. “A new leader” is classified as the carrier and “in place” as the attribute indicating the position of the new leader after the election.

Datum 8:

"The biggest is a century."

The biggest	is	a century
Carrier	Relational process	Attribute

This clause presents an attributive category, consisting of the phrase “the biggest” which relates to a vast programme of investment in Boris Johnson’s policy. The biggest is the carrier, the word “is” is the verb addressing the relational process, and a century is an attribute.

Datum 9

And if we can do that in this country, **we will be the most prosperous in Europe.**"

We	Will be	The most prosperous in Europe
Carrier	Relational process	Attribute

This clause explains the quality of the carrier. The word “we” means the country possessed by a society. The country is expected to be more prosperous in Europe. The words “will be” relate to the carrier and attribute to indicate the goal of the existence or the possessiveness of an entity.

Datum 12

"But, as we've seen at Westminster, **the herd instinct is powerful** and when the herd moves, it moves."

The herd instinct	is	powerful
Carrier	Relational process	Attribute

This clause presents the attributive category of the relational process using the word “is” to relate the carrier and the attribute. “Powerful” emphasizes the quality of the herd instinct which indicates the analogy of the public’s movement. As long as the society gathers in action, the goal can be gained easily like the example of the use of powerful herd instinct. Based on the clause, the carrier is the herd instinct, the relational process is a verb “is”, and the attribute is powerful.

Datum 13

"And my friends, in politics, **no one is remotely indispensable.**"

No one	is	remotely indispensable
Carrier	Relational process	Attribute

This clause points out the attributive category. It consists of a carrier "no one", the relational verb "is", and an attribute "remotely indispensable". The attribute modifies the carrier to explain the situation/condition in politics.

Datum 21

"Being Prime Minister is an education in itself."

Being Prime Minister	is	an education in itself
Carrier	Relational process	Attribute

This clause indicates the carrier as a "being" (both attribute and identifying), the word "is" as the relational verb, and "an education in itself" as the attribute. "Being Prime Minister" addresses the point of view of the former for a new leader in UK. A lot of valuable and important things can be experienced in this case.

Datum 22

"I've traveled to every part of the United Kingdom and, in addition to the beauty of our natural world, I've found so many people possessed of such boundless British originality, and so willing to tackle old problems in new ways, that I know that even if things can sometimes seem dark now, **our future together is golden.**"

Our future together	is	Golden
Carrier	Relational process	Attribute

This clause presents the quality of a relational process. The phrase "our future together" as the carrier is emphasized by the attribute "golden". These are linked by the word "is" as the relational verb. "Golden" indicates the quality of the future itself. It can be golden if the parties take part together to reach the goal of "the future".

The relational processes of eight examples above show processes that are mutually related to each other. Regarding Boris Johnson the British PM who was later asked to resign, these 8 clauses describe Boris' existence after the resignation process took place. Boris implied that it was not easy to become PM and required to be sensitive to the environment, especially in the world of politics. A new leader is expected to lead as he has done. Being proud of himself still appears in these clauses by using the pronouns "I" and "we" so that Boris remains the focus of attention of the audience. How to bring England into a prosperous country in Europe. A very valuable future must be fought for through a capable leader who is likened to a figure who has instincts such as "the herd instinct" which has full power. The 8 clauses are Boris Johnson's messages to a new leader who will be elected to replace him.

Mental processes

Mental processes are processes related to the meaning of thoughts and feelings. In other words, mental processes involve the use of the brain, feelings, and perceptions that tend to present two participants who have senses and can sense something directly, namely the sensor and the phenomenon being sensed. There are 7 clauses included in the mental process, including:

Datum 5

"The reason I have fought so hard in the last few days to continue to deliver that mandate in person was not just because I wanted to do so, but because **I felt it was my job, my duty, my obligation** to you, to continue to do what we promised in 2019."

I	<u>felt</u>	it was my job, my duty, my obligation
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Datum 6

"Of course **I'm immensely proud of the achievements of this government.**"

I'm immensely	<u>proud of</u>	the achievements of this government
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Datum 7

Let me say now to the people of Ukraine: **I know that we in the UK will continue to back your fight for freedom for as long as it takes.**"

I	<u>know</u>	that we in the UK will continue to back your fight for freedom for as long as it takes
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Datum 11

"I regret not to have been successful in those arguments and of course, it's painful not to be able to see through so many ideas and projects myself."

I	<u>regret</u>	not to have been successful in those arguments
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Datum 12

"But, as **we've seen at Westminster**, the herd instinct is powerful and when the herd moves, it moves."

we	've <u>seen</u>	at Westminster
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Datum 20

"And to you, the British public, **I know that there will be many people who are relieved and perhaps quite a few who will also be disappointed.**"

I	<u>know</u>	that there will be many people who are relieved and perhaps quite a few who will also be disappointed
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Datum 22

"I've travelled to every part of the United Kingdom and, in addition to the beauty of our natural world, I've found so many people possessed of such boundless British originality, and so willing to tackle old problems in new ways, that **I know that even if things can sometimes seem dark now, our future together is golden.**"

I	<u>know</u>	that even if things can sometimes seem dark now, our future together is golden
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Mental processes in Boris Johnson's speech are represented by active verbs such as "felt", "know", "have seen", "regret" which indicate Boris' feelings, thoughts, and visions. Boris feels that there are still tasks/obligations that have not been maximized, which makes him still try to complete them at the end of his term. Boris shows his power in action. However, Boris also

expressed his regret at not being able to continue to contribute further to the current government due to his resignation process. Boris uses his thinking ability (logic) rather than his emotions in representing his experiences. The two examples above show mental processes that are realized by the verb “know” that occur over and over again. Boris also still shows his pride in himself by explaining that he is proud of the existing government, in which Boris is also involved.

Verbal processes

The verbal process is the process of saying or saying something, involving 3 participants, namely the sayer, receiver, and verbiage. The sayer is responsible for the verbal process, and the receiver becomes the beneficiary of the process. While verbiage is words that are stated in the process. The verbal process clause is not found in the data because Boris does not use direct sentences that are conveyed or spoken to the audience in his speech such as verbs "say", "ask", "announce", etc.

Behavioral processes

Behavioral processes are a combination of material processes and mental processes. The sensing and Doing processes relate to the physics and psychological aspects of human behavior. This process is made clear by the verbs used. Here's the behavioral process clause found in Boris Johnson's resignation speech:

Datum 5

"The reason **I have fought so hard in the last few days to continue to deliver that mandate in person was not just because I wanted to do so**, but because I felt it was my job, my duty, my obligation to you, to continue to do what we promised in 2019."

I	have <u>fought</u>	so hard in the last few days to continue to deliver that mandate in person not just because I wanted to do so
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This clause explains Boris who has worked hard for the people to accomplish his job, duty, and obligation. He emphasizes himself by using the pronoun “I” to show his pride that can contribute to society at the end of his position as Prime Minister and the verb “have fought” to prove his action at the same time. Boris invites the audience to feel and see his action by deliberating the commitment to support the government. Based on the data, there is only one clause expressing the behavioral process. Boris prefers to show off his pride by addressing the actions concretely so he mostly uses a material process to cover.

Existential processes

The existential process represents the existence of a person or an entity. This process marker usually uses the word "there" in the sentence. Boris Johnson's speech in this study uses an existential process to explain his position and role in UK society. The following clause demonstrates the existential process of Boris' resignation speech:

Datum 1

"It is clear now the will of the parliamentary Conservative Party that **there should be a new leader of that party and therefore a new prime minister.**"

It is clear now the will of the parliamentary Conservative Party that there	should be	a new leader of that party and therefore a new prime minister
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The clause above focuses on the implied meaning conveyed by Boris Johnson as the previous PM who will resign. The word "there" is the keyword of this existential process. The clause is indicated to remind the parliamentary Conservative Party to immediately elect a new leader as Prime Minister. This process is carried out indirectly making the audience think about this, namely the existence of a PM in the government. Audiences can play a role and participate in reminding the party concerned to do what Boris says.

Modality

Modality is one of the grammar elements that is used to express probability, usuality, potential, obligation, and inclination. It is expressed through the use of models such as will, would, can, could, shall, and should. Some of these modalities include what is called a 'modal adjunct' that is represented through adverbial and prepositional phrases such as perhaps, probably, certainly, sometimes, often, and always. Furthermore, modality shows the meaning between yes and no which is between positive and negative polarity. Types of modality can be divided into two namely modalization (probability and usuality) and modulation (inclination and obligation). The modalization as a feature of the indicative type shows the meaning as positively no (it isn't) as expressed in certainly, probably, possibly, always, usually, and sometimes while modulation as an imperative type unravels the meaning of negatively no (don't) as expressed in required, supposed, allowed, determined, keen, and willing. The expressions of probability are also depicted in these two elements namely subjective and objective (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2014). This is part of the orientation if the expression is implicit or explicit. The subjective shows the speaker uses the utterances as the projection I Think in 'will' and 'must'. Meanwhile, to show the objective, one must use its likely in prepositional phrases such as 'probably' and 'certainly'. The data find that there are 11 uses of modality such as 'should', 'will', and 'can'. These data mostly show the probability that the former prime minister suggests when dealing with future programs or events will be conducted without his concern any longer.

Pronoun

Interpersonal meaning is attached in the use of pronouns that are a person as Thing (she, you) and as possessive determiners that are a person as Deictic (her, your). By using the semantic view, pronouns can be categorized as actor-goal and doing-happening.

Datum 1

It is stated in his statement:

"*I agree....that the new leader should begin now...*" showing the obligation in a modal adjunct. It is stressed with the use of the pronouns *I* to show the objective perspective.

Datum 2

In another statement, he says:

"*I today appointed a Cabinet to serve as I will until a new leader is in place*" indicating that it is part of the potentiality in a modal adjunct that he is still the prime minister as he is eager to own a job as much as the time needed. It is supported by his objective in using the pronoun "*I*".

Datum 3

In showing gratitude to his people, the former prime minister uses three pronouns at once such as *I*, *You*, and *Us*. It unravels his objective feeling by using the modality *Want*.

"*I want to say to the millions of people who voted for us in 2019 - many of them voting Conservative for the first time - thank you for that incredible mandate, the biggest Conservative majority since 1987, the biggest share of the vote since 1979*".

The pronouns *I* is used to show objectivity, meanwhile the pronouns *You* is to acknowledge the people who gave him the biggest vote result, and the pronouns *Us* to share his concern about being united with his people.

Datum 4

"The reason *I* have fought so hard...because *I* wanted to do so.....but because *I* felt it was *my job*, *my duty*, *my obligation to you*.....what *we* promised in 2019".

The utterance above has several repetition of *I* and *my*. Rather than using the subjective "It is likely that.....", he keeps using objective *I* and *My*.

Datum 5

Paragraph 4 shows the further achievement that the government has made. In addition, the former prime minister uses the pronouns *I*, *Us*, *Me*, and *We* to indicate all of the achievements during his leadership.

".....*I'm* immensely proud.....,getting *us* all through....Let *me* say....: *I* know that *we* in the UK *will* continue to back *your* fight....".

Among 73 data of pronouns, the pronoun 'I' dominates the content of the speech followed by the pronouns 'we' and 'our' which have 12 data each. The pronoun 'I' indicates the unmarked Theme (Subject/Theme) in a declarative clause to only concern the former prime minister himself.

Situational, institutional, and social

Boris Johnson's term was forced to end on July 7, 2022. "BoJo"'s reign ended after more than 50 of his ministers resigned. Still, the prime minister insisted he would continue as chair while the Conservative Party began the process of choosing his successor (Guy et al., 2022). Without actually saying a word out loud, Johnson announced his retirement outside the famous doors of 10 Downing Street, where many of his predecessors delivered their resignation speeches.

It was about three years ago that Boris Johnson led the conservative party to the most votes since 1987. But that feat has faded for several performance and ethical reasons. One such ethical reason is the Chris Pincher scandal. Chris Pincher, then Conservative Vice-President, visited a closed membership club in London. In his words, he "drank too much" and was "embarrassed". He was accused of groping two men, leading to a string of allegations dating back several years. It ended with the downfall of the prime minister. This triggered a series of events. Downing Street said it was unaware of the "specific allegations" against Mr. Pincher until Mr. Johnson was appointed deputy commissioner in February. Ministers later repeated this line - even though it turned out to be inaccurate (Amoss, 2022).

One of the most crucial reasons for Boris Johnson's resignation was the party gate scandal during the Covid-19 outbreak in the United Kingdom. The prime minister has been fined for violating lockdown rules after attending a June 2020 birthday gathering. He also apologized for going to a "Bring Your Own Liquor" party held in Downing Street's gardens during the first lockdown. It details a series of social events by politicians who flouted the Down Rule. "Center leaders must take responsibility for this culture, both politically and publicly," she wrote.

It is undeniable that the biggest reason why Boris Johnson resigned was economic reasons. The war between Russia and Ukraine has sparked this situation and countries in the European region must bear the consequences. Soaring oil prices and food prices because of the war suffocated the economic life of the United Kingdom. Inflation has risen sharply in 2022, to the current rate of 9.1% (Amoss, 2022). The steps taken by the Boris Johnson administration have only made the situation worse, for example, by cutting fuel duty by 5p per liter, it also went ahead with a tax rise in April. The government said the tax rise would pay for health and social care, and changes that kicked in this week softened the blow, but anyone earning more than £34,000 a year will still pay more.

The prolonged war between Ukraine and Russia has made the political situation in Britain become volatile. The support of western countries including Britain for Ukraine has made the economic situation worse because Russia is a big exporter of energy to western countries. Boris Johnson, as British prime minister at the time, continued to give his support to Ukraine which caused the crisis to drag on. Boris Johnson's promise that he will continue to support Ukraine reaped disapproval from some because people think Boris Johnson does not pay attention to the state of his own country.

His image as a strong leader is evidenced by his denial of party members who urged Boris Johnson to resign. He said that replacing him as prime minister was an 'eccentric' act because he thought he had contributed greatly to Britain's progress (Amoss, 2022). He added that his government had been able to suppress the pressure of an unstable economy from the international community so Boris Johnson considered replacing him under these circumstances would be inappropriate. At the end of his speech, Boris Johnson said that "To that new leader, whoever he or she may be, I say: I will give you as much support as I can" (Amoss, 2022). This quote can be interpreted that Boris Johnson still wants to contribute to his country even though he is no longer in the position of prime minister.

Conclusion

Based on the findings and discussion, it can be seen that Boris Johnson mostly used process materials (16 data) to show that he was a real leader who worked for the country. The relational process was seen in eight (8) data that showed ownership of something. Mental processes occupy the third position (7 data), which illustrates that the former prime minister wanted to show that he was a responsible leader. The 11 data found in modality explain that most of it revolved around the probability that Boris Johnson would not take office again. From 73 pronoun data, it was found that most of them refer to "I" which indicated an unmarked theme (subject/theme) in a declarative clause that is concerned with the prime minister himself. Situationally, institutionally, and socially, Boris Johnson was faced with problems related to social ethics such as the violation of the lockdown in the Covid situation. In addition, the biggest problem is the economic crisis that haunts the UK caused by the outbreak of war between Russia and Ukraine. Boris Johnson was one of the first western world leaders to condemn and impose economic sanctions on Russia. The economic sanctions turned to the UK because Russia was a very large energy exporter in Europe. Soaring energy prices made the British public represented by lawmakers urge Boris Johnson to resign. In his resignation speech, Boris Johnson wanted to build an image that he was a successful leader and was only dropped for reasons that were not related to his performance. At the end of the speech, the former prime minister said that after

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