

## **An Analysis of Speech Functions in the Victory Speech of French President Emmanuel Macron**

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### **ABSTRACT**

This study employs a descriptive qualitative method based on discourse analysis to examine the speech functions in French President Emmanuel Macron's victory speech, delivered on May 8, 2017. Guided by Halliday's theory of speech function, the research aimed at exploring how interpersonal meaning is realized through language in this significant political address. Data, consisting of the speech transcript was meticulously analyzed to identify patterns in mood and modality. The findings reveal a predominant use of statements, consistently realized through both full declarative clauses and declarative elliptical clauses. This dominance indicates that Macron's primary communicative purpose was to inform, assert, and establish his stance and intentions, delivering clear propositions and outlining future actions rather than engaging in direct questioning or commanding. The strategic combination of full and elliptical declaratives demonstrates Macron's articulation and his skill in structuring language for clarity and impact, ultimately conveying a resolute vision and fostering trust through declared commitments.

**Keywords:** Speech Function, Emmanuel Macron, Political Speech

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**ABSTRAK**

*Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif yang berbasis pada analisis wacana untuk mengkaji fungsi ujaran dalam pidato kemenangan Presiden Prancis Emmanuel Macron yang disampaikan pada tanggal 8 Mei 2017. Berlandaskan pada teori fungsi ujaran dari Halliday, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi bagaimana makna interpersonal direalisasikan melalui bahasa dalam pidato politik yang penting ini. Data berupa transkrip pidato dianalisis dengan cermat untuk mengidentifikasi mood dan modalitas. Hasil temuan mengungkapkan dominasi penggunaan pernyataan, yang secara konsisten direalisasikan melalui klausa deklaratif penuh dan klausa deklaratif eliptik. Dominasi ini menunjukkan bahwa tujuan komunikatif utama Macron adalah untuk menginformasikan, menegaskan, dan menetapkan sikap dan niatnya, menyampaikan proposisi yang jelas dan menguraikan tindakan di masa depan daripada terlibat dalam pertanyaan atau perintah langsung. Kombinasi strategis dari deklaratif penuh dan elips menunjukkan artikulasi Macron dan keterampilannya dalam menyusun bahasa untuk kejelasan dan dampak, yang pada akhirnya menyampaikan visi yang tegas dan menumbuhkan kepercayaan melalui komitmen yang dinyatakan.*

**Kata kunci:** Fungsi Ujaran, Emmanuel Macron, Pidato Politik

**A. Introduction**

Discourse analysis is the analysis of language in use. It also takes into account the relationship between language and the context in which it is used and concerns the description and analysis of both spoken and written interactions (Mullet, 2018). Discourse analysis, as an important tool, allows us to understand how language not only functions as a means of communication, but also as a reflection of power and ideology in society. Rooted in the works of foundational scholars such as Fairclough (2013), discourse analysis provides insights into the ways language is used to construct meaning, negotiate power, and establish identities. It examines not only what is said but also how it is said, why it is said, and the social, cultural, and political contexts that influence communication. By analyzing discourse, we can reveal biases, values, and assumptions hidden in text or everyday conversations, helping us become more critical of the information received. According to Fairclough (2013), discourse analysis provides insight into how language is used to negotiate power and form identity.

Language, as stated by Ferlien & Rumaf (2020), is an arbitrary communication tool that creates interaction between humans. This shows that language not only functions as a dispute resolution tool, but also has the potential to create

conflict. The speech function, which includes statements, questions, commands, and offers, is important to understand how to convey ideas so that the listener can understand them properly.

Speech is an action or performance in order to fulfill the intention of speakers and listeners and it is done by language users. Speech is used as a means of communicating experiences to satisfy the needs of those involved. On the basis of the above explanation, it can be concluded that a speech function is a way of communicating to someone so that participants understand ideas that also consist of several types based on a situation or a topic. The victory speech of a country leader is a crucial moment that not only conveys a political message, but also shapes public perception and arouses collective emotions. In this context, Emmanuel Macron's speech as President of France is an example of an interesting case study to analyze. With every word and intonation, Macron tries to reunite the divided nation, admit disappointment, and instill hope. An in-depth analysis of his speech can reveal how various language functions work simultaneously to achieve these complex goals. With this background, this article will discuss in depth how Emmanuel Macron's victory speech reflects the dynamics of language and discourse in social and political contexts, as well as how

meaning is built and understood by the audience.

## B. Research Method

This study used a descriptive qualitative method based on discourse analysis. According to Rustama, et al. (2024), qualitative research helps explore language meaning in context. Busetto et al. (2020) also state that analyzing speech functions reveals how speakers perform actions through language.

The data were taken from French President Emmanuel Macron's speech entitled "In victory speech, Macron pledges to serve France with humility and love" delivered on May 8, 2017. The transcript was obtained from YouTube and official news sites. The researcher used documentation to identify speech functions in the speech. Below is the text of the speech from "In victory speech, Macron pledges to serve France with humility and love":

*Today they expressed some anger, some dismay, and sometimes some beliefs. I respect them, but I will do all I can during the next five years so that no-one ever has a*

*reason again to vote for extremes. Europe and the world expect us to defend the spirit of the Enlightenment, under threat in so many places. They expect us to defend freedom everywhere, to protect the oppressed. They expect us to be just who we are. This majority to carry out change is what the country is hoping for and what the country deserves. I will serve you with humility, with strength, I will serve you by remaining true to the Republic's principles of liberty, equality and fraternity. I will serve you with love. Long live the Republic. Long live France.*

According to Halliday's theory as cited by Darong (2021), the texts were analyzed with reference to the speech function to understand how interpersonal meaning is realized through language. By examining features such as mood and modality, researchers can identify how speakers convey attitudes, perform actions, and establish relationships through speech. Through this framework, a deeper interpretation of the communicative purpose behind the text can be achieved.

## C. Result and Discussion

**Table 3.1 Unmarked Realizations of Speech Function**

No	Speech Function	Unmarked Mood	Realizations Clause
1	Statement	Declarative	Today they expressed some anger
2	Statement	Declarative (Elliptical)	Some dismay
3	Statement	Declarative (Elliptical)	And sometimes some beliefs
4	Statement	Declarative	I respect them
5	Statement	Declarative	But I will do all I can during the next five years
6	Statement	Declarative	So that no-one ever has a reason again to vote for extremes
7	Statement	Declarative	Europe and the world expect us to defend the spirit of the Enlightenment
8	Statement	Declarative (Elliptical)	Under threat in so many places
9	Statement	Declarative	They expect us to defend freedom everywhere
10	Statement	Declarative (Elliptical)	To protect the oppressed
11	Statement	Declarative	They expect us to be just who we are
12	Statement	Declarative	This majority to carry out change is what the country is hoping for
13	Statement	Declarative (Elliptical)	And what the country deserves
14	Statement	Declarative	I will serve you with humility
15	Statement	Declarative (Elliptical)	With strength
16	Statement	Declarative	I will serve you by remaining true to the

			Republic's principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity
17	Statement	Declarative	I will serve you with love
18	Statement	Declarative	Long live the Republic
19	Statement	Declarative	Long live France

Based on Halliday's theory divided the four basic speech functions, namely offer, question, statement and command. The four basic speech functions are related to both the exchanged process. The analysis of the victory speech by Emmanuel Macron reveals a predominant use of statements realized through the declarative mood and declarative elliptical mood in the data.

#### 1. Statements (Declarative Mood)

All of the clauses in the speech were statements, a statement is a type of utterance that conveys information, expresses of belief, or describes a state of affairs in speech function, and the realized through the speech are declarative mood and declarative elliptical mood. Example included:

##### a. Declarative Mood

This refers that clause explicitly contains all the expected grammatical elements of a declarative sentence, it's a complete statement.

- 1) Today they expressed some anger
- 2) I respect them
- 3) But I will do all I can during the next five years
- 4) So that no-one ever has a reason again to vote for extremes
- 5) Europe and the world expect us to defend the spirit of the Enlightenment
- 6) They expect us to defend freedom everywhere
- 7) They expect us to be just who we are
- 8) This majority to carry out change is what the country is hoping for
- 9) I will serve you with humility

10) I will serve you by remaining true to the Republic's principles of liberty, equality, and fraternity

11) I will serve you with love

12) Long live the Republic

13) Long live France

#### b. Declarative Elliptical Mood

An elliptical clause is where one or more words are omitted from the surrounding context, to avoid unnecessary repetition, making the text more compact and easier to understand.

- 1) Some dismay
- 2) And sometimes some beliefs
- 3) Under threat in so many places
- 4) And what the country deserves
- 5) With strength

The dominance of the declarative mood, wheather fully expressed or grammatically condensed the primary purpose of speech by Emmanuel Macron are to inform, assert, and establish his stance and intentions. The speech deliver clear propositions, convey beliefs, and outline future actions rather than to question, command, or express strong emotions directly.

In conclusion, the combination of full declarative and elliptical declarative in statement of speech function from speech by Emmanuel Macron demonstrates he is not only articulate in stating the message through his victory speech but also structuring his language for clarity and impact, aiming to convey a resolute vision and build trust with

people through a declared commitments.

#### D. Conclusion and Suggestion

The analysis of speech function in Emmanuel Macron's victory speech, titled as "Macron pledges to serve France with humility and love" and the speech delivered on May 8, 2017. The speech focusing on how language is used to convey meaning in a social and political context. The study utilizes a descriptive qualitative method based on discourse analysis. Discourse analysis, as an important tool, helps understand how language reflects power and ideology, and how it constructs meaning and negotiates power. It examines not only what is said but also how and why it is said, considering social, cultural, and political contexts. The speech functions, reveals a predominant use of Statements are utterances that convey information and express beliefs. The dominance of both full declarative and declarative elliptical moods indicates that Macron's primary purpose was to inform, assert, and establish his stance and intentions.

Future research could significantly expand upon this analysis of Emmanuel Macron's speeches, moving beyond the current focus on a single victory speech. One suggestion is to investigate how the proportion and types of speech functions and moods evolve across different speeches he delivers, such as policy announcements or international addresses, to discern if his communicative strategies adapt to varying contexts. Additionally, researchers could explore the speech functions and moods on the audience, perhaps by conducting surveys or reception studies to understand how the consistent use of statements and declarative moods influences public perception and trust. Given that discourse analysis also examines language as a reflection of power and ideology, a deeper dive into how Macron's declarative statements implicitly construct or reinforce specific ideological positions or power dynamics within French society would be valuable.

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