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Complex Sentences in Political and Newspaper Discourse

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Cílem práce je porovnat strukturu podřadných souvětí v diskurzu politických projevů a novinových článků s politickou tematikou. Student nejprve na základě studia relevantní lingvistické literatury definuje podřadné souvětí a větu vedlejší. Dále představí taxonomie vět vedlejších, na jejichž základě stanoví kritéria pro analýzu; zaměří se především na formu vedlejších vět (finitní, nefinitní, neslovesné) a jejich větněčlenskou funkci (obsahové, přívlastkové, přístavkové, příslovečné). Popíše rovněž typické jazykové prostředky a větnou strukturu politických projevů a novinových článků. Na základě podrobné analýzy vytvořeného korpusu porovná distribuci, stavbu a komplexitu podřadných souvětí ve zkoumaných textech. Závěrem objasní užití prototypických syntaktických struktur podřadných souvětí a okomentuje převažující tendence s ohledem na funkce příslušného diskurzu.

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ANNOTATION

This thesis aims to compare the structure of complex sentences in political speeches with complex sentences in the newspaper reports that focus on political events or issues. The theoretical part of the thesis draws on a range of relevant sources and begins by defining the complex sentence and subordinate clause. It then presents a taxonomy of subordinate clauses the subsequent analysis relies on, with particular attention given to the form (finite, non-finite, and verbless) and function (nominal, relative, appositive, and adverbial) of these dependent clauses. The chapter concludes with a brief overview of key features of newspaper and political discourse, focusing especially on their syntactic characteristics relevant to the analysis. In the practical part of the thesis, the key findings from the analysis of the two corpora are presented, and the structures of complex sentences compared. The analysis discusses the prevailing tendencies in the use of subordinate clauses and relates them to defining features of the two selected discourses.

KEY WORDS

complex sentence, subordinate clause, finite form, non-finite form, nominal clause, relative clause, appositive clause, adverbial clause, political speech, newspaper report

ANOTACE

Cílem práce je porovnat strukturu podřadných souvětí v diskurzu politických projevů a novinových článků s politickou tematikou. Nejprve je na základě studia relevantní lingvistické literatury definováno podřadné souvětí a věta vedlejší. Dále je představena taxonomie vět vedlejších, na jejichž základě jsou stanoveny kritéria pro analýzu; v popředí zájmu stojí především forma vedlejších vět (finitní, nefinitní, neslovesná) a jejich větněčlenská funkce (obsahová, přívlastková, přístavková, příslovečná). Práce rovněž popisuje typické jazykové prostředky a větnou strukturu politických projevů a novinových článků. Na základě podrobné analýzy vytvořeného korpusu je porovnána distribuce, stavba a komplexita podřadných souvětí ve zkoumaných textech. Závěrem je objasněno užití prototypických syntaktických struktur podřadných souvětí a při okomentování převažujících tendencí se práce opírá o funkce příslušného diskurzu.

KLÍČOVÁ SLOVA

podřadné souvětí, vedlejší věta, určitý (finitní) slovesný tvar, neurčitý (nefinitní) slovesný tvar, obsahová věta, vztavná věta, přístavková věta, příslovečná věta, politický projev, novinový článek

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Introduction

The thesis aims to compare the use of complex sentences in political speeches and news reports. In analysing complex sentences, particular attention will be given to the form and function of subordinate clauses in each type of discourse. Moreover, the analysis will examine the total number of clauses and the distribution of main and subordinate clauses in the complex sentences of each discourse.

The theoretical part of the thesis comprises five individual chapters that provide the necessary informational background for the subsequent analysis. Chapter 1 defines the most basic linguistic concepts of the thesis. It begins with a definition of a sentence and a clause, continues with an overview of the distinction between main and subordinate clauses, and concludes with a description of the possible categorisation of sentences, with particular attention being paid to the complex sentence. Chapters 2 and 3 focus solely on subordinate clauses. Chapter 2 presents the individual forms of subordinate clauses. The largest section of the chapter compares the characteristic features of finite and non-finite subordinate clauses, while the third type, the verbless subordinate clause, is discussed only briefly. Chapter 3 then examines the functions of subordinate clauses. It follows the general division of subordinate clauses into nominal, relative, appositive and adverbial clauses, and links each functional type to its prototypical finite and non-finite forms. Finally, chapters 4 and 5 deal with the two types of discourse analysed in the thesis, highlighting the discourses' linguistic characteristics that may be relevant for the subsequent analysis. In chapter 4, the discourse of newspaper reporting is covered, while chapter 5 provides a brief definition of political discourse, with the remaining part of the chapter devoted to political speeches and their linguistic characterisation.

The practical part of the thesis is presented in chapter 6, which summarises and interprets all the significant findings of the analysis. The organisation of this chapter broadly reflects the structure established in the theoretical part. The chapter begins with the analysis of the overall results, including the total number of clauses, the distribution of their two principal types (i.e. main and subordinate), and the forms and functions of subordinate clauses occurring in the analysed complex sentences. This overview is followed by a more detailed analysis of the individual functional types of subordinate clauses and their forms. The complex sentences in the two

discourses are compared, and the key findings are explained through their connection to the relevant features of political speeches and news reports.

As a final remark to this introduction, it should be noted that several AI tools were employed throughout the writing process—primarily to research relevant sources. Occasionally, AI tools were also used to enhance the readability and clarity of specific sections of the text. At no point were AI tools used to independently compose any part of the thesis.

1 Complex sentence

The following chapter strives to provide definitions as well as other key characteristics of some of the linguistic concepts or terms on which the thesis relies. The chapter will firstly define a sentence and a clause while also dealing with the basic division of clauses into main and subordinate. The remaining part of the chapter will then focus on the categorization of sentences into a few major types, with special attention being paid to a complex sentence, as it represents the type of sentence structure the thesis aims to analyze.

1.1 Sentence and clause, main and subordinate clause

Mathesius (1975, 79–80) defines a sentence as an “elementary utterance” used by the speaker as a form of reaction to a particular reality. Mathesius’s definition of a sentence includes another important requirement: such an utterance needs to be “subjectively complete” (1975, 80). In this case, subjectivity refers to the fact that the speaker himself considers his utterance to be complete and has nothing more to add to it. Such completeness is also typically marked in spoken discourse by a change in intonation on the part of the speaker. However, such a definition of a sentence has its challenges. For example, there are not always clear-cut boundaries between sentences in spoken discourse, and therefore, determining the end of one sentence and the beginning of another is not always possible, as Quirk et al. (1985, 47) point out, calling the sentence an “indeterminate unit”.

The applicability of this unit to speech is also questioned by Biber et al. (2007, 50), who choose to go even further and do not use the sentence as a unit of grammar when analysing different types of discourse. A slightly different view is taken by Carter and McCarthy (2006, 486). They fully acknowledge the problematic nature of the sentence as a unit of grammar as far as spoken language is concerned, but they still choose to consider the sentence as the largest unit of mainly written grammar, adding that the sentence is clearly marked in any written text “by an initial capital letter on the first word and a full stop after the last word”. In this thesis, the approach proposed by Carter and McCarthy will be used.

Despite its somewhat problematic nature, it is important to say that the sentence is generally accepted as the largest unit of grammar. While Carter and McCarthy (2006, 486) might choose to specify that this view relates primarily to written grammar, other grammarians add no such

specification. The hierarchy of grammatical units proposed by Quirk et al. (1985, 42–43) has the sentence as its highest unit. In this hierarchy, a higher unit consists of one or more representatives of the grammatical unit immediately below it. Therefore, the sentence can be said to consist of one or more clauses:

[1] *I'll see you tomorrow*. (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 554)

[2] *When I left college, I couldn't find any work*. (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 488)

While the sentence in example [1] contains only one clause, the sentence in example [2] consists of two clauses: *When I left college* and *I couldn't find any work*. Many grammarians, including Biber et al. (2007, 120) or Carter and McCarthy (2006, 486), agree that the defining characteristic of a clause is that its centre is represented by a verb phrase (phrase being a term given to a grammatical unit one level below that of a clause). Thus, the clause in example [1] has the verb phrase composed of the modal verb *will* and the lexical verb *see*. The clauses in example [2] centre around the verb phrase *left* and *couldn't find*, respectively.

Apart from having a verb phrase at its centre, a prototypical clause consists of two parts: a subject and a predicate (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 44). The subject is typically represented by a noun phrase denoting an entity responsible for an action or a state, while the predicate consists of a verb phrase and elements accompanying it (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 486). Elements that accompany and depend on a verb phrase include the object, the complement or the adverbial (Quirk 1985, 49–50). All clauses in examples [1] and [2] have the personal pronoun *I* as their subject, referring to the person who is responsible for the action contained in each of the verb phrases. The predicate of the clause in example [1] is underlined. Its main constituent is the verb phrase *'ll see*, with the other two constituents being dependent on it: *you* (a personal pronoun with a syntactic function of an object) and *tomorrow* (an adverb with a syntactic function of an adverbial). Both underlined predicates of the two clauses in example [2] display the same syntactic pattern: a verb phrase (*left* and *couldn't find*, respectively) and an object, its accompanying element (*college* and *any work*, respectively). In both cases, the object is an obligatory element of the clause, as it is needed to fully complete the meaning of the verb phrase. The same thing can be said about the object in the clause in example [1], while the adverbial *tomorrow* is not an obligatory element of the clause; it only provides additional information, and the clause would be grammatically correct even without it. These examples clearly illustrate the

reason for classifying the verb phrase as the centre of a clause; it is the verb phrase itself that determines the type of constituents which may occur around it and whether they are obligatory or only optional.

Clauses used for forming a sentence are generally divided into two basic types: a main and a subordinate clause. Only the main clause can form a sentence on its own (see example [1]), while the subordinate clause lacks this ability and needs to be always accompanied by a main clause on which it is dependent (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 554):

[3] *The weather has been remarkably warm since we returned from Italy last week.* (Quirk 1985, 44)

Quirk et al. (1985, 44; 988) define subordinate clauses as “clauses which are embedded in other clauses”. In other words, they function as constituents of a different clause which is superordinate to them, i.e. situated one level above them in the syntactic hierarchy. To use example [3], the underlined subordinate clause is embedded in the main clause *the weather has been remarkably warm*, in which it functions as an adverbial of time. Thus, the subordinate clause helps to specify the period of remarkable weather, but as was already said, it can only function as a part of the main clause, which is needed to fully express the meaning of the sentence. Similarly, the subordinate clause in example [2] *when I left college* is only a constituent of the main clause *I could not find any work*, once again functioning as an adverbial of time. Lastly, it should be mentioned that the dependence of the subordinate clause on the superordinate clause is frequently marked by a subordinating conjunction at the beginning of the dependent clause (Quirk 1985, 44). For example, the subordinate clauses in examples [2] and [3] are introduced by the subordinating conjunctions *when* and *since*, respectively.

1.2 Categories of sentences

The type and number of clauses contained in a sentence are the main criteria for the classification of sentences. Carter and McCarthy (2006, 488–489) divide sentences into three basic categories: simple, compound and complex. Similar division is proposed by Quirk et al. (1985, 719), who only choose to classify compound and complex sentences as the two possible subcategories of multiple sentences:

[4] *It snowed last night.* (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 488)

[5] *It was Christmas Day, and the snow lay thick on the ground.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 46)

[6] *You can borrow my car if you need it.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 719)

The sentence in example [4] contains only one clause. Such sentences are called simple, and as was already pointed out, only the main clause has the ability to form such sentences. The remaining two categories of sentences always need to include at least two clauses. The compound sentence (example [5]) consists of at least two main clauses which are linked together by a coordinating conjunction (*and, or, but*). As only grammatical units of the same function can be coordinated, the coordinated clauses in a compound sentence are always main clauses, i.e. equal as far as their hierarchical position is concerned (Quirk et al. 1985, 46; 987). Lastly, the complex sentence (example [6]) needs to consist of a main clause and at least one subordinate clause (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 488). The complex sentence in example [6] features the subordinate clause *if you need it*, which is dependent on the main clause *You can borrow my car*. The subordination is expressed by the subordinating conjunction *if* and the dependent clause functions as the adverbial of condition in the complex sentence.

2 Clauses and their categorisation according to form

Chapter 2 should be considered a continuation of the introduction to the key linguistic terms of the thesis. After providing a definition of a clause and discussing its basic division into subordinate and main in the previous chapter, the focus will now move to the verb phrase and its verb forms, which – as was already pointed out – constitute the centre of a clause. To be more precise, chapter 2 will mainly deal with the basic division of verb forms into finite and non-finite. Contrasting the two verb forms will help to highlight the differences between finite and non-finite clauses. Following the consideration of finite and non-finite clauses, the chapter will end with the analysis of the verbless clause. Thus, providing an overview of clause structure categorization according to form.

2.1 Finite and non-finite clause

The word *finite* conveys a notion of something being *limited*, and therefore, finite verb forms could be defined as verbs “limited with respect to person and number” (Huddleston and Pullum, 2016, 89). A finite verb phrase needs to have as its first or only verb a finite verb, while a non-finite verb phrase consists of only non-finite verb forms (Quirk et al. 1985, 149). The same is true for a clause as well.

[7] *The boy who was seen by the guard was her son.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 89)

[8] *The boy seen by the guard was her son.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 89)

The underlined clause in example [7] is finite because it has a finite verb *was*, a form of the verb *be* that can be used only with the subject in the third person singular (i.e. *who/the boy*). In contrast, the underlined clause in example [8] contains only the non-finite verb form *seen*, which does not fall under any such restrictions and would remain the same even if the subject of the main clause changed from singular (i.e. *the boy*) to plural (i.e. *the boys*), for example: *the boys seen by the guard vs the boys who were seen by the guard*. However, as Quirk et al. (1985, 149) point out, this overt (visible) concord in person and number between the subject of a clause (i.e. *who*) and the finite verb phrase (i.e. *was seen*) can be observed in English only in the third person singular (-s ending) as well as with the verb *to be*, particularly in the present tense.

As Carter and McCarthy (2006, 532) highlight, another very important difference between the two clauses is that a finite clause contains a verb form expressing the grammatical category of

tense (i.e. *a tensed verb form*), while a verb form in non-finite clauses does not contain any indication of tense (i.e. *a non-tensed verb form*), the terms tensed and non-tensed being synonymous with finite and non-finite. Quirk et al. (1985, 149) use the term “tense contrast” when discussing the ability of finite verbs to show the category of tense by having different forms for the past and present tenses. To illustrate that, if the tense of the main clause in examples [7] and [8] is changed from the past into the present (i.e. *The boy was her son* into *The boy is her son*), the verb form in the non-finite subordinate clause in example [8] will remain the same (i.e. *seen*), while the finite verb form in the underlined clause in example [7] will reflect the change in the main clause, also replacing the original past tense with the present (i.e. *is seen* instead of *was seen*). It should also be said that non-finite verb forms are not marked for the grammatical category of mood and their subject is often left unexpressed (Biber et al. 2007, 197).

Non-finite clauses typically function only as subordinate clauses. It is this connection between non-finiteness and subordination that explains the fact that non-finite clauses express far fewer grammatical categories than their finite counterparts (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 89): Non-finite clauses can be less explicit because they are typically part of larger syntactic structures, accompanied by a main clause, which generally contains the necessary information. Thus, the main clause and sometimes the wider context become vital for any interpretation of non-finite clauses (Biber et al. 2007, 198). Using the sentence in example [8], the main clause *the boy (...)* *was her son* is used to determine the subject (i.e. *the boy*) and tense (i.e. *the past*) of the subordinate clause (*seen by the guard*).

After covering the basic distinction between finite and non-finite verb forms and clauses, the chapter will now focus on the possible classifications of non-finite clause. Biber et al. (2007, 198) choose to differentiate between three main categories of non-finite clauses based on the verb form used in each of the clauses: [9] infinitive, [10] *-ing* participle and [11] *-ed* participle.

[9] *The best thing would be **to tell everybody**.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 993)

[10] ***Leaving the room***, he tripped over the mat. (Quirk et al. 1985, 993)

[11] ***The discussion completed***, the chairman adjourned the meeting for half an hour. (Quirk et al. 1985, 993)

However, not all grammarians use the above-mentioned classification of non-finite clauses and their verb forms. For example, Dušková et al. (1994, 265–272) name *the infinitive*, *gerund* and

the participle as the three non-finite verb forms. The two approaches to classification share two of the categories, as the categorization proposed by Dušková et al. (1994) also includes a further division of participles into present (terms used for *-ing* participles) and past (being equal to *-ed* participle). However, the term *gerund* [12] is used only by Dušková et al.

[12] ***Having a fever is pleasant, vacant.*** (Biber et al. 2007, 199)

As example [12] illustrates, the *gerund* shares the same form with the *-ing participle* [10]. However, the two differ in their syntactic functions: only *gerund* takes syntactic roles typical for nouns – i.e. subject, object, subject complement, etc. (Dušková et al. 1994, 268). Thus, in the categorization proposed by Dušková et al., the *-ing* form in example [12] would be classified as a *gerund* because it is part of the subject of the sentence (underlined), while the same form in example [10] would be labelled as a present participle, having the syntactic function of an adverbial. In contrast, Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 1188) argue that while distinguishing between *-ing* participles and *gerunds* might be common in traditional grammar, such a distinction lacks any justification, as there is no difference in form. Instead, the two grammarians coined their own term, *the gerund-participle*, which would apply to the *-ing* form in examples [10] as well as the one in [12]. Given the variety of terms used to classify non-finite verb forms and clauses, it should be stated that the thesis will rely on the categorization proposed by Biber et al. (2007, 198).

After introducing the main types of non-finite clauses, this part of chapter 2 will further explore the characteristics that set such clauses apart from their finite counterparts. As was already mentioned, non-finite clauses are less explicit. It is precisely due to their inability to express tense or due to the frequent omission of the subject and subordinator that non-finite clauses can be said to represent *a means of syntactic compression* (Quirk et al. 1985, 995). Tárnayiková (2007, 161– 162) prefers the term *condensation* to describe a process in which a finite clause is reduced to a non-finite in order to achieve a greater compactness of a text. Using the sentence *Leaving the room, he tripped over the mat* in example [10], the non-finite clause *Leaving the room* could be seen as the reduced form of the finite clause *As he was leaving the room*. Such a reduction illustrates the fact that the finite verb form indicating tense (i.e. *was*), the subordinating conjunction *as* and the subject *he* can be left out, turning a finite clause into a non-finite, without any loss of meaning. As was already pointed out, many of the missing pieces of information can

be typically recovered from the main clause (i.e. *he tripped over the mat*), and therefore, keeping all the information even in the non-finite clause might be deemed less economical, reducing the overall compactness of a text. According to the study done by Rafajlovičová (2008a, 71), the frequency of non-finite clauses seems to be related to the degree of formality of a text, in other words, the greater the formality, the higher the frequency of non-finite clauses. Considering the findings of the study, finite clauses seem to dominate the language of interviews, while non-finite clauses prevail in academic prose. Such findings could be at least partially explained by the fact that the ability to produce or process high degrees of condensation seems to require a certain amount of time, which is far more limited in spoken discourse (i.e. interview) than in written discourse (i.e. academic prose).

2.2 Verbless clause

Clauses are generally divided into three major forms. Apart from finite and non-finite clauses, the verbless clause is typically named as one of the possible forms of a clause. Biber et al. (2007, 198; 201) choose to classify the verbless clause among non-finite clauses, while Huddleston and Pullum (2007, 222) argue that the two forms significantly differ, as the verbless clause is marked by an even greater dissimilarity to (finite) canonical clauses than its non-finite counterpart: verbless clauses do not contain any verb form, as the term itself makes clear, and they also lack the ability of non-finite clauses to represent a great variety of different syntactic functions. The verbless clause can be said to be an example of an *ellipsis*; typically, it is the verb *to be* that has been *omitted* (Leech 2006, 123). Apart from the verb *to be*, the subject of verbless clauses is frequently left unexpressed, and as was the case with non-finite clauses, the missing constituents can be deduced from the context (Quirk et al. 1985, 996). It is this reconstructibility of the omitted parts that characterises the process of ellipsis (Leech 2006, 36).

[13] Although not a classic, this 90-minute video is worth watching. (Biber et al. 2007, 201)

[14] While in Boston, I lived with my aunt. (Huddleston and Pullum 2007, 222)

Using examples [13] and [14], the underlined verbless clauses should be seen as the reduced variants of the finite clauses *Although it is not a classic* and *While I was in Boston*, respectively. However, verbless clauses can also be deemed to reduce non-finite clauses, “taking syntactic compression one stage further” (Quirk et al. 1985, 996). Thus, the non-finite clauses *Although*

not being a classic and *While being in Boston* can also be considered as possible substitutions of the underlined verbless clauses in examples [13] and [14], respectively.

3 Subordinate clauses and their categorisation according to function

After dealing with the possible forms of subordinate clauses in the previous chapter, the focus of the theoretical part of the thesis will now turn to the range of syntactic roles and functions these clauses typically fulfil. Chapter 3 will therefore provide an overview of the possible categorisation of subordinate clauses according to their function. When discussing potential functions of English subordinate clauses, the basic division of dependent clauses into nominal, relative, appositive and adverbial will be followed. In other words, Chapter 3 will not only discuss the syntactic roles represented by a variety of clause elements (e.g., subject, object, subject complement, adverbial), but it will also examine a range of additional functions that subordinate clauses may perform (e.g., adjectival complement, postmodifier). When discussing the four functional categories listed above, the prototypical clause forms and their characteristics related to that particular role or function will be highlighted.

3.1 Nominal clause

This section of chapter 3 will examine subordinate clauses which often convey the same range of syntactic functions as noun phrases, i.e. *subject, object, complement*, etc. Quirk et al. (1985, 1047) refer to those clauses as *nominal*. However, this term is not adopted by all grammarians. For example, Biber et al. (2007, 658) use the term *complement clause*, on the grounds that the principal function of the clause lies in completing the meaning of the verb or adjective on which it is dependent. Similarly, Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 950) or Dušková et al. (1994, 594) also stress the significance of such clauses in completing the semantic meaning of units of higher hierarchy; however, the two scholars choose the label *content clause*, which – in their terminology – applies only to finite clauses with syntactic roles similar to noun phrases. As the heading of this part of chapter 3 illustrates, the term proposed by Quirk et al. (1985) will be used throughout the thesis. Additionally, the thesis will rely on Biber et al.'s (2007, 658) division of nominal or complement clauses into four major types: i.e. *that-clause, wh-clause, to-infinitive clause* and *ing-clause*. The nominal *that-* and *wh-*clauses are finite, while the nominal *to-* infinitive and *ing-*clauses are non-finite.

3.1.1 That-clause

A *that-clause* is a finite nominal clause that typically functions as a subject, direct object or subject complement, i.e. clause elements also available to other nominal clauses and typical for nouns. Dušková et al. (1994, 594) or Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 951) use the term *declarative* when analysing nominal *that-clauses*, as such clauses normally contain statements, usually asserting something about reality. Before introducing any other potential syntactic roles of a *that-clause*, it is important to focus solely on its role as a clause element:

[15] *That they haven't replied* *doesn't worry her.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 957)

The underlined nominal clause in example [15] functions as the subject of the sentence. It precedes the predicate of the main clause (i.e. *doesn't worry her*), accompanying the verb phrase *doesn't worry* which expresses an emotional state. However, as Biber et al. (2007, 660) point out, *that-clauses* do not frequently appear in the *pre-predicate position*, being more commonly found in the *post-predicate position* (i.e. after the predicate of the superordinate clause). To achieve that, the clausal subject is *extraposed*, placed after the predicate and its original position filled with an *anticipatory it* (Dušková 1994, 392; 596–597). Using example [15], the underlined subject in the pre-predicate position can be moved to the post-predicate position using *extraposition* with the anticipatory *it*: *It doesn't worry her that they haven't replied*. According to Tárníková (2009, 76–78), there seems to be a general “tendency to move long and complex or ‘heavy’ portions of the text from the initial position and put them into or toward the final position”. The so-called *end-weight principle* helps to explain the fact that nominal clauses are generally preferred in the post-predicate position, as such placement seems to increase the comprehensibility of a text.

In the post-predicate position, nominal clauses can also have a syntactic role of a *direct object* and they are predominantly used to report people's thoughts, attitudes and speech (Biber et al. 2007, 660):

[16] *I noticed that he spoke English with an Australian accent.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1049)

[17] *You said you loved me.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1025)

The underlined object clauses in examples [16] and [17] contain the message that is being reported by the subject of the main clauses (i.e. *I* and *you*, respectively) and are dependent on the

verbs of the main clauses that specify the type of reporting (i.e. the verb *noticed* capturing one of the processes of cognition *and* the verb *said* related to communication). It should also be observed that, unlike the subject nominal clause in the pre-predicate position, the object nominal clauses can occur even without *that* conjunction (Quirk et al. 1985, 1049). Omission of *that* conjunction – seen in example [17] – is generally more associated with informal style (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 953).

The *subject complement* is the last clause element left to discuss in connection with a *that*-clause. The clause element is also termed a *subject predicative* by Biber et al. (2007, 671); a *that*-clause with said syntactic role follows a copular verb, helping to identify or specify the subject of the verb. Because the copular verb in question is the verb *to be*, Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 959) classify given *that*-clause as the *complement of the verb to be*. However, the thesis will use the term *subject complement*, which is also preferred by Quirk et al. (1985, 1049).

[18] *The fact/ problem/ rumour is he can't afford the rent.* (Huddleston and Pullum, 2016, 959)

The content of the underlined subject complement clause in example [18] clearly articulates *the fact, problem or rumour*. In other words, it is vital for specifying the subject of the sentence. Moreover, example [18] also illustrates another characteristic of a *that*-clause functioning as a subject complement, i.e. the omission of the conjunction *that* is permissible.

According to the classification proposed by Biber et al. (2007, 658–660), a nominal *that*-clause has four possible syntactic roles; apart from functioning as various clause elements in a higher clause, it can also complete the meaning of adjectives:

[19] *Max is **certain** that he is being victimized.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 964)

The underlined *that*-clause completes the meaning of the adjective *certain* by specifying what Max is certain about. While the *that*-clause itself serves only as the complement of the adjective, the adjective together with its dependent complement clause functions as the subject complement of the higher clause.

3.1.2 Wh-clause

Biber et al. (2007, 683) classify nominal *wh*-clauses either as *nominal relative clauses* or as *dependent interrogative clauses*, which share some of their key characteristics with questions. The following section of Chapter 3 will focus exclusively on interrogative *wh*-clauses, as it is more logical to discuss nominal relative clauses in the part of the chapter that addresses finite relative postmodifiers (see 3.2.1).

Similarly to *wh*-questions, *wh*-interrogative clauses contain a *wh*-element (e.g., *who*, *what*, *which*, *when*, *where*, *how*) signalling an information gap (Quirk et al. 1985, 817; 1051). The *wh*-element also has a syntactic role of a clause element in the subordinate *wh*-interrogative clause (Dušková et al. 1994, 601).

[20] *I wonder where he put the key.* (Dušková et al. 1994, 601)

The underlined *wh*-clause in example [20] does not include any information about the location of the key. The missing information concerning location is indicated by the adverb *where* which functions as the adverbial of place in the subordinate clause. This feature (i.e. the gap) of *wh*-clauses could be contrasted with nominal *that*-clauses (e.g. *I know that he left his key in the car*), which typically contain all the necessary pieces of information. Example [20] also demonstrates one of the chief uses of *wh*-clauses. They are frequently used to pose indirect questions, following verbs such as *ask* or *wonder* (Biber et al. 2007, 683). The indirect question in example [20] could be seen as the equivalent of the direct question *Where did he put his key?* However, unlike direct questions, *wh*-clauses expressing indirect questions have the word order of declarative clauses or sentences. In other words, there is *no subject–verb inversion*, accompanied by the use of the *auxiliary do* in the present and past simple (Dušková 1994, 601). Thus, the *wh*-clause *where he put the key* has the subject *he* placed before the lexical verb *put*, whereas the equivalent direct question *Where did he put his key?* is marked by a partial inversion, with the subject being preceded by the past form of the auxiliary verb *do*.

In the sentence *I wonder where he put the key*, the *wh*-clause functions as a direct object, complementing the verb *wonder*. In general, the syntactic roles of a *wh*-interrogative clause closely match those of a nominal *that*-clause (3.1.1), with the addition of a prepositional complement, a function available to the former but not to the latter (Quirk et al. 1985, 1050–1051):

[21] *He's only interested in how he can make a quick profit.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 979)

The underlined wh-clause [21] can be considered a complement to the preposition *in*. In turn, the prepositional phrase *in how he can make a quick profit* is necessary to complete the meaning of the adjective *interested*. Finally, the adjective and its complementation in example [21] function as the subject complement of the sentence. Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 979) use the term *oblique complement* when referring to the wh-clauses which do not complete an adjective (or even a verb) directly but only as a part of a prepositional phrase, distinguishing the *oblique* from the *core* complement which immediately follows an adjective (e.g. *I am not sure why you are complaining*).

3.1.3 Infinitive clause

The *nominal to-infinitive clause* displays the same range of syntactic roles as the nominal that-clause (Biber et al. 2007, 659–660; 693). In the subject role, the to-infinitive clause frequently expresses actions or situations that are abstract or general in their nature and might never be realized (Dušková et al. 1994, 545–546):

[22] *It's natural for them to be together.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1063).

As the example [22] demonstrates, the to-infinitive clause as a subject is more commonly extraposed, as was the case with a nominal that-clause (Biber et al. 2007, 724). Moreover, a nominal to-infinitive clause can often be treated as a condensed variant of the nominal that-clause, as the two possible transformations suggested by Quirk et al. (1985; 1063) illustrate: *It's natural that they should be together* or *It's natural that they are together*. The two that-clauses clearly show that the nominal to-infinitive clause can indicate a possibility or a fact, respectively. The fact that one nominal to-infinitive clause can be paraphrased by two that-clauses of contrasting meaning further exemplifies the less explicit nature of the non-finite verb forms, which was introduced in 2.1. Despite a certain lack of explicitness, even the nominal to-infinitive clause can have its subject overtly expressed (e.g. *for them*). The preposition *for* is typically used, and if the subject is a pronoun, it needs to be in the objective case, i.e. *them* instead of *they* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1061).

Many verbs take an infinitive as their object. As Dušková et al. (1994, 549–551) point out, the structure of the infinitive clause is determined by the preceding verb; while some transitive verbs allow a noun phrase before the infinitive [23], others only permit to be complemented by the infinitive itself [24]:

[23] *Liz believed Pat to be ill*. (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1202)

[24] *I hope to finish soon*. (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1177)

In example [23], the proper noun *Pat* functions as the subject of the infinitive *to be* and only the whole infinitive clause *Pat to be ill* is the object of the verb phrase *believed*. In other words, the meaning of the utterance is not that Liz believes Pat, but rather that she believes that he is ill. If the subject of the infinitive clause is not overtly expressed (i.e. there is no noun phrase in front of the infinitive), it is implicitly shared with the subject of the main clause (Biber et al. 2007, 693). Thus, the underlined object infinitive clause in example [24] implicitly shares its subject (i.e. the pronoun *I*) with the main clause *I hope*. In contrast, Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 1176–1177) argue against analysing the infinitive clauses in examples [23] and [24] as objects, instead, they suggest that all these non-finite clauses dependent on a verb of a higher clause should be seen as a special type of complement, i.e. *catenative complement*. The term *catenative* refers to the ability of such verbs and their clausal complements to form never-ending chains, with each clause being dependent on the preceding one (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1177):

[25] *She intends to try to persuade him to help her redecorate her flat* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1177)

Example [25] contains four object to-infinitive clauses (i.e. *to try*, *to persuade*, *to help* and *redecorate*). Apart from the infinitive *to try*, each subordinate clause is dependent on the preceding one. The sentence in example [25] also includes an infinitive without the particle *to* (i.e. *redecorate*), which is dependent on the verb *to help*. The so-called *bare infinitive* is used after a small group of verbs, for example, verbs of perception such as *see*, *hear*, or *feel* (Aarts et al. 2014, 30). It should be noted that some scholars, for example Quirk et al. (1985, 1061; 1067), analyze bare infinitives separately from to-infinitives.

In the object position, the nominal infinitive clause is frequently employed in the reported speech. While the nominal that-clause is used for statements and the wh-interrogative clause for

questions, the infinitive clause transforms into indirect speech commands; thus, the sentence *Mary told/asked Alan to sit down* can be said to report the command “*Please sit down*” (Leech 2006, 101–102). Apart from functioning as a subject or an object, the infinitive clause frequently follows copular verbs such as *be*, *seem* or *appear*: *The deadline seems to be feasible* (Dušková et al. 1994, 546). Similarly to a nominal *that*-clause, the infinitive in these constructions functions as a subject complement, as it provides additional information about the subject of the main clause, i.e. *the deadline*. Additionally, the nominal infinitive clause can have a syntactic role of an adjective complement (e.g. *I’m very eager to meet her*) or it can even occur in the interrogative clauses, as can be observed in the sentence *I don’t know what to say* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1052; 1061).

3.1.4 -Ing clause

The *-ing* participle clause (also known as a gerund or gerund-participle clause) represents the last nominal clause left to discuss. In many ways, the *-ing* nominal clause shows greater similarity to a noun phrase than the infinitive or *that*-clause; in fact, the so-called *gerundial nouns* (e.g. *breaking*) are derived from verbs using the suffix *-ing* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1188):

[26] *Old drawings of towns fascinate me.* (Dušková et al. 1994, 569)

[27] *His drawing the picture so rapidly fascinated me.* (Dušková et al. 1994, 570)

In example [26], the underlined syntactic structure is not a clause but a noun phrase. The noun with the *-ing* suffix (i.e. *drawings*) displays a list of characteristics common to the said word class (Dušková et al. 1994, 569): it distinguishes between singular and plural number (*drawing* vs *drawings*) and can be premodified by an adjective (i.e. *old*) or postmodified by a prepositional *of-phrase* indicating the genitive case (i.e. *of towns*). In contrast, the underlined nominal *-ing* clause in example [27] lacks the attributes listed above. Instead, it shows features typical of verbs (Dušková et al. 1994, 569): the *-ing* clause can take an object on its own (i.e. *the picture*) and it also allows for complementation in the form of an adverbial (i.e. *so rapidly*). Despite their differences, the two underlined structures share the same syntactic role, functioning as the subject in their respective sentences. It should also be added that the contrast between an *-ing* clause and a noun phrase with a verbal (or gerundial) noun is not always clear-cut: for example, in the sentence *They liked our singing*, both interpretations are possible, with the clause referring

the action of singing, while the noun being more focused on the mode of signing (Quirk et al. 1985, 1065).

Similarly to example [27], the subject of the non-finite clause *our singing* differs from the main clause *They liked*, and therefore, it needs to be expressed. The subject of the *-ing* clause can be either in the genitive (e.g. *his, vehicle's*) case or objective case for pronouns (e.g. *him*) and common case for nouns (*vehicle*), with the genitive being preferred in formal style (Quirk et al. 1985, 1063; 1194). In both examples listed above, pronouns in the genitive case are used (*his* and *our*, respectively). However, in the sentence *They liked our singing*, the nominal *-ing* clause functions as the object to the finite verb *like*. Lastly, as Quirk et al. (1985, 1063) point out, the list of syntactic roles of the nominal *-ing* clause also includes the subject complement (e.g. *Her first job had been selling computers*) or adjectival complement (e.g. *They are busy preparing a barbecue*). Many of these adjectives (e.g. *afraid of, available for, capable of*) are followed by a preposition, and in addition to taking an *-ing* clause, they can also be followed by a noun phrase (Biber et al. 2007, 749). In other words, besides the functions already mentioned, the *-ing* clause can fulfil the syntactic role of a prepositional complement, which further cements its similarity to a noun phrase.

3.2 Relative clause

The following section of Chapter 3 begins with a brief introduction to the structure of the noun phrase, followed by an examination of the characteristics of the adnominal relative clause, the most prototypical type of finite relative clause. Subsequently, the sentential and nominal relative clauses are discussed to cover all three types of the finite relative clause. Finally, the section concludes with the treatment of non-finite relative clauses.

3.2.1 Finite relative clause

The adnominal relative clause is closely tied to the structure of the noun phrase, particularly as a form of postmodification (Quirk et al. 1985, 1244). The postmodification represents one of the four possible constituent parts of the noun phrase – alongside the *head*, the *determinative*, and

the premodification – and consists of “all the items placed after the head” (Quirk et al. 1985, 1238–1239):

[28] *the penny-pinching circumstances that surrounded this international event* (Biber et al. 2007, 575)

The noun phrase in example [28] centres around the head noun *circumstances*, which is preceded by the central determiner *the*, the determinative constituent, and the compound adjective *penny-pinching* serving as the premodifier of the head. The adnominal relative clause *that surrounded this international event* is placed after the head noun, functioning as the postmodifier of the central constituent of the phrase.

The postmodifying relative clause may help to define the head noun by delimiting its reference and thus differentiating it from other nouns; however, the relative clause can also be non-defining, providing only additional information about the head it postmodifies, without contributing to the identification of the head noun (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 327). The term restrictive is commonly used for the former type of the relative clause, while the latter is called non-restrictive; additionally, non-restrictive clauses are marked by an “intonation break in speech, and by commas in writing” (Arnold 2007, 272).

[29] *Kim has three pets (,) which a neighbour looks after*. (Arnold 2007, 273)

In example [29], the underlined relative clause would be restrictive if Kam had more than three pets, and therefore, there would be a need to distinguish the pets that the neighbour looks after from those he does not. In contrast, the non-restrictive relative clause preceded by a comma tends to suggest a certain “totality”; in other words, Kim has only three pets, and the fact that they are looked after by a neighbour is not needed for their identification (Arnold 2007, 273). It should also be noted that the relative clause is merely a postmodifier of the noun phrase, only the whole noun phrase *three pets (,) which a neighbour looks after* functions as the direct object to the verb *has*.

Biber et al. (2007, 608) recognize three main components of the relative clause: the *antecedent* (i.e. the head noun being postmodified), the *relativizer* (i.e. the relative pronoun or adverb which refers back to the head), and the *gap* (i.e. unfilled syntactic position in the relative clause corresponding to the position the head would occupy). Example [29] shows a relative clause with

the head noun *pets* as the antecedent, the relative pronoun *which* as the relativizer, and the gap following the verb *look after* in the position of a prepositional object where the noun phrase *three pets* would normally occur. Conversely, Dušková et al. (1994, 615) do not discuss the gap as one of the components of the relative clause; instead, they argue that the relativizer always functions as a clause element in the postmodifying clause. Thus, the relativizer *that* in example [28] has a syntactic role of the subject in the relative clause (*circumstances*) *that surrounded this international event*, while the relative pronoun *which* in example [29] functions as the object of its subordinate clause, leaving no gap to fill. If the relativizer does not function as the subject of the relative clause, it can be left out (Dušková et al. 1994, 624). However, the omission of the relativizer is not possible in non-restrictive relative clauses (Quirk et al. 1985, 1258). Thus, the relativizer *which* in example [29] can be left out only if the subordinate clause is understood to be restrictive.

Apart from the adnominal relative clause, Quirk et al. (1985, 1244–1245) also list the sentential [30] and nominal [31] relative clauses among finite relative clauses:

[30] *The quarrel ended in reconciliation, which surprised me.* (Dušková et al. 1994, 626)

[31] *What he did was quite outrageous.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1035)

Unlike the adnominal relative clause, the sentential relative clause does not take a noun phrase as its antecedent, but rather an entire clause (Quirk et al. 1985, 1245). The sentential relative clauses are restricted to the relativizer *which* and are most commonly found in informal spoken language, providing evaluation or commenting on the content of the clause or even “longer stretches of discourse” (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 566). In example [30], the underlined sentential relative clause expresses surprise at the content of the main clause, namely the fact that the quarrel ended in reconciliation. The nominal relative clause [31] is generally included among nominal clauses, as was already suggested (3.1.2). The nominal relative clause is most closely related to the nominal *wh*-interrogative clause, as both contain a *wh*-element and exhibit the same range of syntactic functions (Biber et al. 2007, 683). However, the two nominal clauses differ in that the *wh*-element of the nominal relative clause implicitly contains an antecedent, which the remaining part of the clause postmodifies (Dušková et al. 1994, 613). For that reason, Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 1034) prefer the term fused relative clauses. To illustrate, the nominal relative clause in example [31] can be paraphrased as *the thing he did*, revealing the

antecedent (i.e. *thing*) that the remaining part of the clause (i.e. *he did*) postmodifies. Lastly, the nominal relative clause *What he did* functions as the subject of the main clause.

3.2.2 Non-finite relative clause

Non-finite relative clauses – represented by the -ing, -ed and to-infinitive clauses – share many of their key characteristics with their finite equivalents (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 574–576). Such clauses can be viewed as condensed counterparts of the finite relative clauses. The process of condensation and the contrast between finite and non-finite clauses have already been discussed (see 2.1), and therefore, the following part of chapter 3 will focus primarily on the distinguishing features of the three non-finite postmodifiers.

The -ed and -ing clauses can only condense finite relative clauses with the relative pronoun in the subject position, the antecedent always being their implied subject (Quirk et al. 1985, 1263; 1265):

[32] *People living near the site will have to be evacuated.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1264)

[33] *I came across a letter written by my grandfather.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1264)

The underlined non-finite relative clauses in examples [32] and [33] could be considered counterparts to the finite clauses (*people*) *who live near the site* and (*a letter*) *which was written by my grandfather*, respectively. The relative pronouns *who* and *which* fulfill the role of a subject in their respective relative clauses, referring anaphorically (i.e. back) to the head noun. The possible finite equivalents clearly show that, in terms of the grammatical category of voice, the -ed postmodifying clause is inherently passive, whereas the -ing clause is active (Quirk et al. 1985, 1265). In example [33], the -ed relative clause features the so-called long passive, with the *by-phrase* specifying the agent, i.e. the entity responsible for the action of writing a letter. Additionally, it is important to clarify that the -ing postmodifier does not always correspond to finite verbs in the progressive aspect, as evidenced by the fact that even verbs without progressive forms can appear in -ing postmodifying clauses (Dušková et al. 1994, 581). To illustrate that, the finite transformation of the -ing relative clause from example [32], the clause *people who live near the site* contains the non-progressive form of the verb *live*. Generally, the

term reduced relative clause is applied to -ed and -ing clausal postmodifiers. The process of reduction is particularly visible when comparing the finite clause (*a letter*) *which was written by my grandfather* with the -ed clause in example [33], with the latter differing from the former only by the omission of the relative pronoun (i.e. *which*) and the auxiliary verb *be* marking the passive voice.

The to-infinitive clause represents the last type of a condensed relative clause. The to-infinitive postmodifier shows greater flexibility than the participle clauses discussed above: the to-infinitive clause can postmodify even the antecedent that does not function as the implicit subject of the clause (Biber et al. 2007, 632). In other words, the infinitive relative clause can be used to condense even finite relative clauses in which the relativizer functions as an object, subject complement or adverbial (Quirk et al. 1985, 1265–1266):

[34] *He is definitely not a man to underestimate.* (Dušková et al. 1994, 566)

In example [34], the to-infinitive relative clause postmodifies the antecedent *man*, the implicit object of the clause *to underestimate*. In the corresponding finite postmodifier – i.e. (*a man*) *whom people/you should underestimate* – the relativizer has the syntactic role of the object of the relative clause. The underlined to-infinitive clause does not contain an overt subject, as its reference is generic in nature (i.e. *not a man for all people to underestimate*). In contrast, if the speaker wished to specify who should not underestimate the man, the prepositional *for-phrase* would be used (e.g. *not a man for you to underestimate*), as was the case with to-infinitive nominal clauses (see 3.1.3).

3.3 Appositive clauses

Apart from the clausal postmodifiers introduced above – i.e. the finite relative clause and its condensed counterparts – the noun phrase can be postmodified by the appositive clause (Quirk et al. 1985, 1260; 1271). The *that*-clause represents a prototypical finite appositive clause, while the to-infinitive clause is the most common type of non-finite appositive postmodification, with both clauses predominantly functioning as restrictive postmodifiers (Biber et al. 2007, 645–646). Although appositive clauses may appear similar or identical to relative clauses, at least on the surface, the two types of clausal postmodification exhibit significant differences:

[35] *Peter reached out for the well-thumbed report that lay behind him on the cupboard top.*
(Biber et al. 2007, 644)

[36] *Other semiconductor stocks eased following an industry trade group's report that its leading indicator fell in September.* (Biber et al. 2007, 645)

In examples [35] and [36], the underlined finite *that*-clauses postmodify the same head noun *report*. However, the restrictive relative clause in example [35] serves to identify the report by specifying its location, while the appositive clause in example [36] states what the report was about. In other words, the clause in example [36] “presents the complete content of the head noun,” whereas the relative clause does not (Biber et al. 2007, 645). Moreover, the two *that*-clauses also differ syntactically: *that* in the appositive clause does not have a role of a clause element, being a conjunction that cannot be replaced by a *wh*-pronoun, as is possible in the relative clause (Quirk et al. 1985, 1244). It should also be pointed out that, in contrast to relative clauses, appositive clauses can only follow a small group of abstract nouns (e.g. *suggestion, idea, or belief*), complementing the abstract meaning of such nouns (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1039).

As the primary function of appositive clauses is to express the content or full meaning of abstract nouns, there are scholars, including Biber et al. (2007, 644–645) and Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 1038–1039), who argue that such clauses should be considered complementation of the head noun, rather than its postmodification. For example, Biber et al. (2007, 644; 658) prefer the term *noun complement clause* to distinguish it from the complement clauses controlled by a verb or an adjective. As discussed earlier (see 3.1), the term *complement clause* refers to the same type of clause that this thesis labels as nominal. Even grammarians who treat the appositive clause as a postmodifier, for example, Dušková et al. (1994, 600) and Quirk et al. (1985, 1047), include it within nominal clauses. In fact, the nouns that precede appositive clauses often have corresponding verb and adjective forms that can precede nominal clauses (Dušková et al. 1994, 600). The nouns such as *hope, possibility, doubt* or *suggestion* can be considered “nominalized equivalents” of the verbs and adjectives that can also control a nominal clause (Biber et al. 2007, 648–649). Finally, it should be noted that the thesis will analyze appositive clauses as postmodifiers, while classifying them separately from nominal clauses governed by verbs or adjectives.

As was already stated, the non-finite appositive clauses typically feature the to-infinitive verb form. The to-infinitive appositive postmodifier frequently lacks a corresponding finite appositive clause (Quirk et al. 1985, 1272). In other words, the former cannot be treated as the condensed counterpart of the latter, as was the case with relative clauses:

[37] *He lost the ability to use his hands.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1272)

The underlined appositive postmodifier in example [37] could be paraphrased with the help of an appositive of-phrase (i.e. *the ability of using his hands*), but not a finite appositive clause introduced by the conjunction *that* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1272). This is due to the fact that the prototypical finite and non-finite appositive clauses tend to postmodify a different subset of head nouns. Based on the research undertaken by Biber et al. (2007, 648; 652–653), that-appositive clauses commonly postmodify nouns expressing various degrees of certainty or marking the source of the proposition contained in the that-clause (e.g. *fact, possibility, opinion, report, idea*), whereas the to-infinitive appositive postmodifier follows nouns such as *effort, chance, decision, plan*, referring to human goals, opportunities or actions.

3.4 Adverbial clauses

The adverbial is predominantly an optional clause element that is typically associated with three main functions (Biber et al. 2007, 762–764): It may [38] express information about the circumstances of an event or state (e.g., location, time, reason, etc.); [39] convey the speaker's or writer's comment concerning either the content or the style of the message; or [40] perform a connective function, linking various units of discourse. Although adverbials are closely connected with the word class of adverbs, they can also take the form of noun phrases, prepositional phrases, or finite, non-finite or verbless clauses (Hasselgård 2010, 14).

[38] *She wrote to me when she arrived in Oxford.* (Carter and McCarthy 2006, 579)

[39] *Stated bluntly, I have legal control over their estate.* (Quirk et al. 1985, 1073)

[40] *To conclude, we may place the three notions of saliency in an ordered relation as follows...* (Biber et al. 2007, 876)

The underlined finite clause in example [38] is an adverbial clause of time that provides circumstantial information about the action contained in the main clause (i.e. *She wrote to me*) by

specifying the time of the writing. The adverbials that add circumstantial details related to the proposition in the main clause are termed *adjuncts* by Quirk et al. (1985, 1070) or *circumstantial adverbials* by Biber et al. (2007, 763). The -ed participle clause in example [39] serves to convey the style in which the proposition of the main clauses is presented. In other words, the speaker chooses to state the key information bluntly. The adverbials falling into this second category are referred to as *disjuncts* by Quirk et al. (1985, 1070) or as *stance adverbials* by Biber et al. (2007, 764). Lastly, the to-infinitive clause in example [40] introduces the sentence and connects it with the preceding parts of the text by indicating that the sentence will serve to summarize what was previously said. Such adverbials with textual function are labelled as *conjunctions* by Quirk et al. (1985, 1068) or as *linking adverbials* by Biber et al. (2007, 765). Adverbial clauses primarily fulfil the roles of adjuncts and disjuncts (Quirk et al. 1985, 1068).

Unlike the adjunct, both the disjunct and conjunct are not “integrated” into the structure of a clause (Hasselgård 2010, 19–21). Both types of adverbial clauses are not dependent on the main clause or its finite verb. Consequently, the disjunct and conjunct are marked from other clause elements – including the adjunct – by their “superordinate role” (Quirk et al. 1985, 631). It should be said that the division of adverbials into the categories introduced above is not shared by all scholars. For example, Huddleston and Pullum (2016, 665–779) classify all adverbials as adjuncts but still distinguish among several subtypes, some of which—such as *speech-act related* and *connective adjuncts* – correspond to the types of adverbials illustrated in examples [39] and [40], respectively. However, the thesis will follow the classification and terminology proposed by Quirk et al. (1985).

Adverbials can occur in a wider variety of syntactic positions than other clause elements.

Generally, three main positions can be distinguished (Hasselgård 2010, 41–42):

- (1) Initial – the adverbial occurs before the subject and the finite verb of the main clause.
- (2) Medial – the adverbial is positioned either between the subject and the main verb or between the verb and other obligatory clause elements, such as the object. Moreover, if the verb phrase of the main clause is complex, the adverbial can also be placed between the first auxiliary and the remaining part of the phrase.
- (3) End – the adverbial appears after all the obligatory elements of the clause or sentence.

While adjuncts most commonly occur in the end position, disjuncts and conjuncts are rarely placed finally (Halliday 2014, 158). Thus, in the above-listed examples, the disjunct [39] and conjunct [40] occur initially, while the adjunct [38] can be found in the end position. It should be said that adverbial clauses functioning as adjuncts are typically restricted only to the initial and end position, as even a short clausal adjunct in the medial position would be difficult to process despite being possible in theory (Biber et al. 2007, 830):

[41] *I borrowed a portable phone to ring Waterloo.* (Biber et al. 2007, 830)

[42] *I borrowed, to ring Waterloo, a portable phone.* (Biber et al. 2007, 830)

Both underlined to-infinitive clauses in the examples above function as adverbial clauses of purpose, specifying the purpose for borrowing a portable phone. In fact, the to-infinitive adverbial clauses predominantly express the purpose of the action of the superordinate clause. However, the medial position of the infinitive in example [42] seems unnatural, as it expresses the purpose of the borrowing before introducing the borrowed item—that is, the object of the sentence. Such sequencing is likely to confuse readers or listeners, thereby reducing the overall comprehensibility of the sentence.

Non-finite and verbless clauses can be introduced without a subordinator, subordinating conjunctions such as *because*, *if* or *in order to* (Aarts et al. 2014, 401–401). While this presents no difficulty in classifying to-infinitive adverbial clauses, as examples [41] and [42] confirm, the absence of a subordinator results in considerable “indeterminacy” in the case of verbless, -ing and -ed adverbial clauses (Quirk et al. 1985, 1123):

[43] *Realising he no longer had the premier's support, Ed submitted his resignation.*
(Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1265)

Due to the lack of any subordinator, the -ing clause in example [43] could be classified either as an adverbial clause of reason (i.e. *because he realised...*) or as a non-restrictive relative clause (*Ed, who realised...*). To a lesser extent, the clause could also be viewed as an adverbial clause of time, describing the temporal circumstances of the resignation. Such participle and verbless clauses are classified as *supplementive* by Biber et al. (2007, 820) and Quirk et al. (1985, 1123) to distinguish these non-finite clauses from adverbials with less indeterminate status.

4 Newspaper discourse

As the name suggests, a prototypical newspaper is expected to focus primarily on reporting “the news of the day,” that is, on providing “new information” about “recent events” (Reah 2002, 2; 4). However, no newspaper can cover every event occurring around the world, and therefore, the editors of a particular newspaper are responsible for selecting only those events that are most likely to impact or interest their readers (Reah 2002, 4). In other words, only events deemed “newsworthy” are chosen for reporting (Fowler 1991, 13). Besides newspaper reports that the thesis aims to analyse, a newspaper can include reviews, advertising, imaginative writing, and various other items, proving to be stylistically eclectic in nature (Crystal and Davy 2013, 173). While analysis articles attempt to interpret the event in question and editorials or readers' comments often feature strong opinions, news reports are solely focused on describing the event without any bias or expression of a particular stance, as the main function of newspaper reporting is to inform (Biber and Conrad 2019, 112; 114; 116). Newspapers are generally divided into broadsheets and tabloids, with the former being associated with “journalistic quality and seriousness,” whereas the latter is said to be more “entertainment-oriented”, being marked by sensationalism and colloquial style (Sterling 2009, 223–224).

4.1 Syntactic features of newspaper discourse

Many of the linguistic features of newspaper discourse can be explained by the fact that it is written and not spoken. Production circumstances typical for any written register provide an opportunity for potential planning and editing of the language, resulting in greater complexity of noun phrases compared with spoken registers (Biber and Conrad 2019, 117; 121). Crystal and Davy (2013, 186) also identified frequent complex pre- and postmodification of noun phrases in their analysis of newspaper discourse. According to Bednarek and Caple (2019, 106), it is this complexity of noun phrases that is often used in the discourse for achieving “brevity” by “a maximum packaging of meaning in minimum space.” The need to provide a great deal of information, thus fulfilling the communicative purpose of newspaper reporting, in a limited space of a newspaper article can certainly be classified as one of the defining features of the discourse.

Bednarek and Caple (2019, 110) also mention the frequent use of short sentences in newspaper discourse to fulfil the above-mentioned requirement for brevity; such short sentences often make a paragraph and are not marked by any deviations from standard syntax. However, the number of sentences per paragraph and their complexity can also be greatly influenced by the degree of formality of a given newspaper article, as the analysis by Crystal and Davy (2013, 180; 188–190) points out.

Another important aspect of newspaper reporting is the incorporation of various sources and the information these sources provide into the news stories themselves. Journalists may use sources with different viewpoints to satisfy the need for objectivity, while any source on its own can provide valuable facts, evidence, or even newsworthiness if the concerned source is the so-called “elite speaker”, a well-known person of some influence (Bednarek and Caple 2019, 112). It is also important how the material provided by the sources is incorporated into the story: direct quotes might give the story greater authenticity and enable the journalist to use expressions of strong evaluation without the risk of being accused of partiality while indirect speech is considered to be more neutral, and according to various studies, it tends to be preferred over direct speech in newspaper reporting (Bednarek and Caple 2019, 112):

[44] *The police **say** that they haven't the time or resources to worry about hashish.*

(Biber et al. 2007, 667)

In example [44], the reporting expression *say* precedes the underlined reported clause, which functions as the object in the main clause and contains the entirety of the indirect speech. The resulting syntactic structure is a complex sentence containing a nominal *that*-clause. Therefore, the frequent use of indirect speech in newspaper articles may prove significant for the analysis presented in the thesis. Similarly, the overall findings of the analysis might be shaped by the frequency of adverbial clauses. For example, Biber and Conrad (2019, 119) note that the types of adverbials most frequently occurring in newspaper reporting are those referring to time and place, providing readers with the necessary details of the report's context.

5 Political discourse

At its most basic level, political discourse may be described as an analysis of texts and talk of politicians, i.e. elected or appointed members of society who are paid for their political activity and represent the central authors of the discourse (van Dijk 1997, 12–13). However, as van Dijk (1997, 13–14) points out, the list of participants in the political discourse should also include voters, members of pressure groups, demonstrators or dissidents; in other words, all political actors engaged in political actions such as governing, legislating, protesting, voting and many others. Fairclough and Fairclough (2012, 17–18) adopt van Dijk’s definition and argue that political discourse is closely tied to various institutional settings or contexts—such as parliament, government or, to some extent, online discussion forums—through which people can influence matters of shared public concern. Outside these contexts, the different actors listed above cannot be said to be taking part in political discourse (Fairclough and Fairclough 2012, 18). However, the term *political* is often associated with conflict, control and domination, and as a result, some scholars regard all discourse as inherently political, since such issues can arise even in the context of staff meetings, for example (Wilson 2001, 398). Nonetheless, the thesis will rely on van Dijk’s definition of political discourse and its main participants.

5.1 Syntactic features of political speeches

According to Charteris-Black (2018, xiii), political speeches represent a “coherent stream of spoken language,” generally planned in advance with a clear purpose in mind and presented by a speaker to an audience in a context that is political. Similarly, Reisigl (2008, 243) highlights the fact that political speeches are rarely spontaneous, as such speeches are typically delivered on formal occasions with a limited room for improvisation. Consequently, political speeches tend to be written beforehand, though speakers might choose to deviate from the prepared text when delivering the speech (Reisigl 2008, 243). The written nature of political speeches may significantly influence their linguistic features, as it does in newspaper reporting (see 5.1). For example, Tárnyiková (2007, 58) suggests that the written mode differs from the spoken by “a higher degree of complexity” in its syntactic structures, as evidenced by the use of longer and more condensed clauses. The longer and more complex sentences are the direct result of the

“luxury of time” when producing a written text (Tárnyiková 2007, 58), as has been noted repeatedly throughout this thesis.

When discussing sentence structure in political discourse, many scholars, including van Dijk (1997, 23) and Woods (2006, 73), suggest that nominalization is frequently used for political or ideological manipulation of syntax. Nominalization refers to a “process of noun formation,” in which verbs such as *fly* or adjectives such as *bright* are transformed into their respective noun forms, in this case, the nouns *flight* and *brightness* (Carter and Goddard 2016, 146). For example, as was already mentioned (3.3), nouns postmodified by appositive clauses are often “nominalized equivalents” of the verbs and adjectives that control a nominal clause:

[45] *Perhaps this habit goes back to the primitive **belief** that the word and the thing, the name and the object, are identical.* (Janovský 2023, 40)

[46] *They **believe** their culture is superior to any in the world.* (Huddleston and Pullum 2016, 1129)

The head noun *belief* is the nominalized equivalent of the verb *believe*. In example [45], the finite appositive that-clause postmodifies the noun *belief*, while the underlined that-clause in example [46] is controlled by the verb *believe* and functions as its object. Each subordinate clause conveys the content of the respective belief. However, the agent, the entity that identifies itself with a particular belief, can be determined only in example [46], as the finite verb *believe* needs to be preceded by a subject (i.e. *they*). Therefore, one nominal clause might be preferred over the other based on whether it is desirable to specify the agent in a given context or not (Biber et al. 2007, 650). While nominalized forms commonly provide the desired impersonal tone in academic or technical writing, the use of nominalization without any reference to agency can also be purely ideological, serving to hide the undesired, whether it is “the cause of something or a responsible individual agent” (Carter and Goddard 2016, 146–147). Perhaps the speaker in example [45] does not want to specify the type of people who believe in something primitive, as such an accusation could be challenged and proven untrue. It should be added that nominalisation is also a frequent feature of newspaper reporting (Fowler 1991, 79–80)

Additionally, political speeches often employ repetition—a rhetorical device intended to emphasize key ideas and make them more memorable—in a continuing effort to persuade the target audience (van Dijk 1997, 35). As Woods (2006, 67) suggests, many viewers at home will

only see an edited version of the speech containing the main highlights, and therefore, a political speech needs to include a variety of sound bites, “snappy messages that are clear and memorable,” and can be easily replayed and covered in the media, while still providing the central argument or idea of the speech. Moreover, a sequence of repetitions can be used to evoke a sense of determination and convince the audience about the strength of the speaker’s purpose (Charteris-Black 2018, 72):

[47] *We meet at a college noted for knowledge, in a city noted for progress, in a State noted for strength, and we stand in need of all three...* (Janovský 2023, 36)

In example [47], the past participle *noted* is repeated three times. However, the rhetorical device introduced above does not cover only the repetition of the same lexical form. The repetition observed in a variety of political texts and talks can also occur at the level of sounds (e.g. alliteration or rhyme) or syntactic units in the case of parallelism (van Dijk 1997, 35). It is the repetition of the same syntactic structure that is significant for the purposes of this thesis. The use of parallelism can be observed in example [47], which contains three underlined non-finite relative clauses. As Woods (2006, 71) points out, three-part lists represent a particularly prevalent form of syntactic repetition. According to Beard (2000, 38), the appeal lies in the sense of unity and completeness that the three-part list seems to evoke.

6 Analysis

The analysis aims to compare the structure of complex sentences in political speeches and newspaper reporting. Thus, the categorization of subordinate clauses according to their form as well as syntactic function in complex sentences will be of primary importance. Moreover, the analysis will also focus on the total number of main and subordinate clauses in each of the two analysed discourses, as this information is vital for determining the overall complexity of sentence structure in the selected political speeches and newspaper reports. Lastly, as far as the subordinate clauses in the analysed sentences are concerned, the prevailing tendencies will be summarised and explained in terms of the key characteristics of the two discourses chosen for the analysis.

6.1 Corpus and methodology

For the analysis, 15 political speeches and the same number of news reports were selected. The 15 political speeches and news reports were all produced within the past five years, as the main goal of this thesis is to analyse and summarise current tendencies in the structure of complex sentences in both text types. Each of the news reports in the corpus was selected to approximately correspond to one of the fifteen political speeches, as far as its topic and date of production were concerned. For example, *Joe Biden's State of the Union Address (C)*, given only a few days after Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and praising the bravery of the Ukrainians, is matched with *The New York Times* report (c.) published around the same time and recounting the first hours of the invasion. This criterion was deemed important to ensure that the findings of the analysis reflect the distinct characteristics of the two types of discourse, rather than differences in topic or time of production among the selected samples. Additionally, in order to allow for a greater stylistic variety in the samples of public speaking, no more than two speeches by the same politician are included in the corpus. As far as the news reports are concerned, only broadsheet newspapers and their online versions were chosen as the sources in the corpus, given the fact that their degree of formality is typically reasonably similar to that observed in most political speeches. Accordingly, the corpus includes news reports from several of the most prominent British and American broadsheet newspapers, such as *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, *The New York Times* or *The Washington Post*. Lastly, it should be noted that sentences

containing direct speech in the analysed reports are not included in the corpus, as the analysis focuses solely on the characteristics related to the written register of such reports.

The political speeches in the corpus are arranged alphabetically by the speakers' surnames, and each speech is assigned a capital letter from *A* to *O*. The matched newspaper reports are assigned a lower-case letter followed by a dot, ranging from *a.* to *o.* Only the first 5 complex sentences in each of the samples are analysed, as examining all the complex sentences in a given political speech or news report would significantly reduce the number of different samples in the corpus. Each of the 5 complex sentences in a source is assigned a number indicating its order (1–5). This number is combined with the letter assigned to the source to form an index (e.g. A1 or a.1), which is placed at the beginning of the sentence. The clauses that are being discussed are always underlined. Lastly, when deemed necessary or practical, the beginning of each subordinate clause is indicated by an ordinal number in brackets (e.g. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, etc.), showing the order among the subordinate clauses in the sentence.

6.2 Overall findings of the analysis

75 complex sentences were analysed in each of the two discourses and their respective samples. The complex sentences in the selected political speeches (PS) comprised 233 clauses, of which 94 (40%) were main clauses and 139 (60%) were subordinate. Furthermore, finite subordinate clauses (76 occurrences) were more frequent than non-finite ones (63 instances), accounting for 55% and 45% of the dependent clauses in the speeches, respectively. In contrast, the selected samples of news reports (NR) contained 274 clauses. However, the news reports featured fewer main clauses than the political speeches. With only 82 occurrences, main clauses accounted for 30% of the analysed clauses in the news reports, while subordinate clauses (192 instances) constituted the remaining 70%. The complex sentences in the news reports also differed markedly from those in the political speeches in terms of their distribution of finite and non-finite subordinate clauses. In the reports, non-finite dependent clauses (104 instances) formed the majority (54%), while finite subordinate clauses occurred 88 times, accounting for 46% of the total. Lastly, it should be said that no verbless clauses were identified in the corpus.

	Political speeches	Newspaper reports
Total number of clauses	233	274
Main clauses	233/ 94 (40%)	274/ 82 (30%)
Subordinate clause	233/ 139 (60%)	274/ 192 (70%)
Finite subordinate clauses	139/ 76 (55%)	192/ 88 (46%)
Non-finite subordinate clauses	139/ 63 (45%)	192/ 104 (54%)

Table 1. *The Forms of clauses in the corpus*

The higher number of subordinate clauses and the tendency for these clauses to be non-finite reflect the fact that the newspaper reporting represents a more prototypical written discourse. Although political speeches are also typically written beforehand, they are composed with the awareness that the public will listen or watch a given speech rather than read its transcript. Conversely, news reports are primarily intended to be read, providing readers with the time to process greater degrees of condensation or subordination:

- (1) ^{o.3} *But the shooting is sure* ^(1st) *to shift the messaging and tenor* — ^(2nd) *not to mention the security* — *of the massive gathering* ^(3rd) *where the former president is expected* ^(4th) *to announce his running mate and* ^(5th) *try* ^(6th) *to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.*

The complex sentence in example (1) clearly illustrates the complexity more frequently observed in the analysed news reports. Out of the 6 subordinate clauses in the sentence, only the relative clause (3rd) is finite. The three subsequent nominal infinitive clauses (4th, 5th and 6th) do not have their subject expressed, as the subject (i.e. *the former president*) is already named in the preceding finite relative clause, which also contains the implicit tense of the three infinitives. Such a degree of condensation might be hard to follow when only listened to. Additionally, the complex sentence exemplifies multiple levels of subordination: the object clause *try* (5th) is controlled by the verb of the finite subordinate clause (i.e. *is expected*), but the 5th subordinate clause also governs the object clause beginning with the infinitive *to unify* (6th). However, this is not to say that a similarly high number of subordinate clauses never occurs in the analysed complex sentences of political speeches. In fact, the complex sentence with the highest number of subordinate clauses can be found in *speech E*:

- (2) ^{E3} ***The outcome of this election is not*** ^(1st) *what we wanted, not* ^(2nd) *what we fought for,* ^(3rd) *not what we voted for, but* ***hear me*** ^(4th) *when I say* ^(5th) *the light of America's promise*

will always burn bright, ^(6th)as long as we never give up and ^(7th)as long as we keep fighting.

In contrast to the previous complex sentence, example (2) contains only finite subordinate clauses and is marked by the frequent use of parallelism, the repetition of the same syntactic structures. There are three coordinated subject complement clauses (1st, 2nd and 3rd), all of which have a form of the wh-clause, or two adverbial clauses (6th and 7th) that also share the same structure. The combination of parallelism and finite form makes such a sentence easy to follow despite the number of clauses. As discussed in the theoretical part of the thesis, three-part lists are a common feature of political speeches, as the number three is considered the most effective for creating a sense of completeness.

The complex sentence in example (2) also illustrates another feature that distinguishes the discourse of political speeches from that of news reporting: the frequent coordination of multiple main clauses. While example (1) contains only one main clause, example (2) includes two main clauses (in bold), joined by the conjunction *but*. The frequent use of main clauses in the political speeches reflects the discourse's preference for finite clauses and coordinated structures, both of which are easier to process than their counterparts. Additionally, unlike the news reports, the analysed political speeches were marked by the recurring use of irregular sentences, a feature typically associated with the spoken discourse:

(3) ^{B3}*I pledge ^(1st)to be a President ^(2nd)who seeks ^(3rd)not to divide, but ^(4th)to unify. Who doesn't see Red and Blue states, but a United States. And who will work with all my heart to win the confidence of the whole people.*

In example (3), only the first sentence can be classified as complex and included in the corpus. The subsequent two sentences are termed irregular, as they do not contain a finite main clause and consist only of subordinate clauses. Thus, even though example (3) features another instance of parallelism—in this case, a three-part list composed of finite relative clauses—only the relative clause (2nd) that is part of the first sentence can be included in the analysis. Naturally, this characteristic of political speeches has an influence on the overall results of the analysis, particularly with regard to the number and types of subordinate clauses.

After primarily examining the forms of subordinate clauses, it is now necessary to turn to their prototypical functions in the analysed samples. As *Table 2* illustrates, the speeches and reports show a similar number of nominal and appositive clauses.

Subordinate clauses	Political speeches	Newspaper reports
Nominal clause (finite)	29	24
Nominal clause (non-finite)	29	29
Total	58 (42%)	53 (28%)
Relative clauses (finite)	29	37
Relative clauses (non-finite)	7	24
Total	36 (26%)	61 (32%)
Appositive clauses (finite)	4	3
Appositive clauses (non-finite)	9	11
Total	13 (9%)	14 (7%)
Adverbial clauses (finite)	14	22
Adverbial clauses (non-finite)	18	38
Total	32 (23%)	60 (31%)
Other (finite)	–	2
Other (non-finite)	–	2
Total	–	4 (2%)
Total number of subordinate clauses	139 (100%)	192 (100%)

Table 2. Functions of subordinate clauses in the corpus

However, the percentage distribution of nominal clauses is significantly higher in the speeches (42%) than in the reports (28%). This could suggest that subordinate clauses in the discourse of political speeches function primarily as obligatory elements (e.g. subject, object, subject complement) of their superordinate clauses. In turn, the complex sentences with primarily obligatory elements could be deemed as less complex. According to Rafajlovičová (2008a, 69), it would seem that “the greater the frequency of nominal clauses, the less formal the text”, as her study identified the highest percentage of nominal clauses “in spoken, conversational texts”. Additionally, contrary to the similarity in the overall number of nominal and appositive clauses between the two discourses, the number of adverbial and relative clauses in the news reports is nearly double that observed in the political speeches. This difference primarily results from the greater prevalence of non-finite relative and adverbial clauses in the reports, a non-finiteness being a feature closely linked to their written mode, as previously noted. The higher occurrence

of relative and adverbial clauses in the reports will be explained when the two types of subordinate clauses are discussed at length (see 6.4 and 6.6). Lastly, the *Other* category – found only in the reports – was introduced to account for subordinate clauses that could not be assigned to any of the three primary types.

6.3 Nominal clause

As *Table 2*, already illustrated, nominal clauses are only slightly more common in the political speeches (58 occurrences) than in the news reports (53 instances). Due to this similarity, it could be argued that the higher number of subordinate clauses in the reports is caused by the discourse's characteristics not typically expressed by nominal clauses. As far as the individual types of nominal clauses are concerned, the reports and speeches do not differ markedly in their distribution of that-clauses (PS: 18 instances; NR: 20 occurrences), to-infinitive clauses (PS: 26 occurrences; NR: 28 instances), or -ing clauses (PS: 3 instances; NR: 1 occurrence). However, the two types of discourse show a clear contrast in the frequency of wh-clauses (PS: 11 occurrences; NR: 4 instances). According to the corpus study conducted by Biber et al. (2007, 749), non-finite nominal clauses are strongly associated with written discourse, whereas finite nominal clauses are most frequently found in conversational discourse. However, despite the slight preference for finite nominal clauses in the political speeches, the infinitive is the most represented nominal clause in both selected discourses. As far as the syntactic roles of the nominal clauses in the corpus are concerned, the object is the prototypical function of the clauses in both discourses (PS: 37 instances; NR: 40 occurrences), followed by the subject complement (PS: 13 occurrences; NR: 4 instances) and adjectival complement (PS: 5 instances; NR: 5 occurrences). The subject represents a syntactic role that the analysed nominal clauses rarely fulfil (PS: 3 instances; NR: 3 occurrences). This is consistent with the findings presented by Biber et al. (2007, 722), who report that over 60% of all the nominal clauses across registers take the post-predicate position and are controlled by a verb.

6.3.1 That-clause

In all the selected samples, the nominal that-clause predominantly functions as an object of the superordinate clause (PS: 14 out of 18 occurrences; NR: 18 out of 20 occurrences). Only 2 instances of the subject that-clause were identified in the corpus, both appearing in the news

reports. Apart from these syntactic functions, the nominal that-clause also served as a complement of an adjective (4 occurrences), but only in the corpus of political speech.

As *Table 3* clearly illustrates (see below), the object that-clause in the newspaper reporting tends to be overwhelmingly controlled by communication verbs (e.g. *say, announce, tell, warn, etc.*), whereas in the political speeches, the clause shows no such preference. It could be argued that this contrast is the result of one of the key characteristics of newspaper reporting: the inclusion of various sources.

Political speeches	Newspaper reports
<i>think, say</i> (3)	<i>say</i> (7)
<i>know</i> (2)	<i>announce</i> (3)
<i>tell, hope, request, find, promise, forget, reveal</i> (1)	<i>tell, confirm</i> (2)
–	<i>warn, hope, feel, reveal</i> (1)

Table 3. Verbs taking an object that-clause in the corpus (number of occurrences)

In the newspaper reports, the nominal that-clause is used predominantly in reported speech, containing the information provided by the source. Conversely, the political speeches are prone to also use the nominal that-clause to express thoughts or supposed knowledge, for example:

- (4) ^{C3}He thought ^(1st)he could roll into Ukraine and ^(2nd)the world would roll over.
- (5) ^{k.2}He said they would take on opposition duty “respectfully, professionally and humbly”.

In example (4), coordinated nominal that-clauses are controlled by the verb *think*. *Speech C* contains all the object that-clauses preceded by the said verb in the corpus, all of which are used by the politician to list Putin’s assumptions that did not turn out to be true. In example (5), the nominal that-clause is used to report a statement by a politician in the newspaper article. The example also shows one of the features of reported speech, the tense agreement known as *the sequence of tenses*. Because of the past tense of the verb *say*, the modal verb of the original utterance (i.e. *will*) is replaced by *would*, its past form. However, it should be said that not all examples of the reported speech in the corpus are marked by this backshift, some retaining the tense of the original utterance. Additionally, it should be noticed that the nominal that-clauses in the examples above have the conjunction *that* omitted. The omission might be associated with

the greater informality of style, however, the speeches and reports in the corpus show almost an equal number of nominal that-clauses without *that* (PS:10 occurrences; NR: 9 instances).

According to Biber et al. (2007, 681), the omission is particularly common across registers after the verbs *say* and *think* – a finding also confirmed by the corpus presented in the thesis.

The 2 that-clauses with a syntactic role of a subject are both extraposed, reflecting the tendency to place syntactically heavier units at the end of the sentence or a clause:

(6) ^{n.4} *Sir Graham*, ^(1st) *who oversees leadership elections*, *said* ^(2nd) *it was his expectation*
^(3rd) *that Conservative party members will get the final vote on the new leader...*

The underlined that-nominal clause in example (6) functions as the subject of the 2nd subordinate clause, but it is replaced in the subject position by the anticipatory *it* and placed after the finite verb *was* and the subject complement *his expectation*. As was already stated, no subject that-clause was identified in the political speeches. Instead, said speeches contained 4 that-clauses that complemented adjectives expressing a variety of emotional states (i.e. *afraid*, *sorry*, *confident*, *optimistic*):

(7) ^{K4} *To all the Conservative candidates and campaigners who work tirelessly but without success*, I am **sorry** *that we could not deliver what your efforts deserved*.

In example (7), the clause serves to specify the reason the speaker feels sorry, complementing the meaning of the adjective *sorry*. While adjectival complements in the form of that-clauses are preferred in the speeches, the same syntactic function is fulfilled by the infinitive clause in the reports. The tendency might once again reflect the overall distribution of finite and non-finite clauses in the two discourses. Additionally, the tendency could also reflect the types of adjectives found in each discourse, as not all adjectives can be complemented by both of the nominal clauses. However, the sample of clausal adjectival complements in the corpus is too small to make such general statements.

6.3.2 Wh-clause

The wh-clause occurs significantly more often in the political speeches (11 instances) than in the newspaper reports (4 occurrences). The nominal wh-clause can be either interrogative or nominal relative. Because both types of the wh-clause share almost the exact list of wh-elements, it is

sometimes difficult to distinguish one from the other (Quirk et al. 1985, 1056). Therefore, this analysis uses the umbrella term wh-clause to encompass both types, while still highlighting the differences between them. Unlike the declarative that-clause, the wh-interrogative clause is not used to report information. Instead, this type of wh-clause is more similar to questions in that it indicates a missing piece of information, as previously discussed in the theoretical section of the thesis. This characteristic of interrogative wh-clauses may partly account for the low frequency of nominal wh-clauses in the newspaper reports, since the primary function of this discourse is to convey information rather than to leave gaps of the unknown.

In the analysed corpus, the wh-clause most frequently takes the syntactic role of an object (PS: 6 instances; NR: 2 occurrences)

(8) ^{D5}*I cannot help but wonder what our forebears from 1776 would make of this friendship today.*

The object wh-clause in example (8) could be classified as interrogative, representing a rhetorical question, which is left unanswered by the speaker. Since the question is indirect, its word order follows that of a declarative statement. However, the object wh-clauses in the corpus are not controlled solely by the verbs used in posing indirect questions. More commonly, the clause in the corpus is controlled by a variety of verbs (e.g. *remember*; *think*, *redefine*) that do not have such a function:

(9) ^{a.2}*...she has been thinking about how to redefine what the Conservative party stands for...*

The underlined clause in example (9) illustrates that the majority of the wh-clauses introduced by the *what* element in the corpus could be categorized as nominal relative clauses. The wh-element *what* implicitly contains the antecedent the clause postmodifies. Thus, the wh-clause in example (9) could be paraphrased using the relative clause *the principles/values that the Conservative party stands for.*

Apart from functioning as the object, the analysed wh-clauses also frequently fulfil the role of a subject complement (PS: 5 occurrences; NR: 1 case):

(10) ^{E3}*The outcome of this election is not ^(1st) what we wanted, not ^(2nd) what we fought for, not ^(3rd) what we voted for, but hear me...*

Example (10) uses a part of the complex sentence already shown in full in example (2). This is because the sentence's parallelism, the sequence of three coordinated subject complements, influences the overall findings regarding the syntactic roles of wh-clauses in the corpus, as 3 out of the 5 subject complement wh-clauses in the political speeches occur within a single sentence. All three underlined wh-clauses could be classified as nominal relative clauses (e.g. *the thing that we voted for*). The grammatical subject of the main clause (i.e. *the outcome of this election*) is also the implied object of the underlined wh-clauses (i.e. *we didn't want this outcome*), marking the case of *object-to-subject raising*. Lastly, a nominal wh-clause with the subject syntactic role is found only once in the corpus, in one of the analysed newspaper reports. Additionally, this wh-clause also represents the only subject clause in the corpus that is not extraposed:

(11)^{d.1} *Quite what he would have made of the technicolour spectacle laid on for Donald Trump's unprecedented second state visit is anyone's guess.*

Despite its complexity and length, the wh-clause in example (11) remains in the pre-predicate position, preceding the main verb *is*. Consequently, the reader must process even the relative clause embedded in the subject (i.e. *laid on for Donald...*) before getting to the main verb and the subject complement.

6.3.3 Infinitive clause

As was already pointed out, the infinitive is the most frequently occurring type of nominal clause in both the selected political speeches (26 instances) and the news reports (28 occurrences). It was also noted that the nominal to-infinitive clauses, unlike the finite nominal clauses, are more common in written registers than in conversation. In this respect, the two analysed discourses both exhibit a characteristic of a written discourse, despite the general preference for finite clauses observed in the political speeches. Regarding the syntactic roles of the infinitive nominal clause, the non-finite clause shows a similarity to other nominal clauses in the corpus, predominantly occurring in the post-predicate position, functioning most frequently as the object of verbs in the political speeches (14 out of 26 occurrences) as well as news reports (18 out of 28 instances).

In the news reports, the object to-infinitive clause is frequently controlled by finite verbs signalling a pre-planned future event:

(12)^{h.5} *The US president is expected to visit Israel on Monday to address the Knesset in Jerusalem.*

(13)^{o.2} *Trump's campaign said ^(1st)he still plans ^(2nd)to attend the Republican National Convention, ^(3rd)which is scheduled ^(4th)to begin in Milwaukee on Monday.*

Examples (12) and (13) illustrate that newspaper discourse is not concerned only with reporting past events, but that one of its chief functions also lies in providing information about possible future developments. In example (12), the object to-infinitive clause is controlled by the verb phrase *is expected*, predicting that it is highly likely that the president will visit Israel on Monday. In fact, the passive verb phrase *is expected* precedes 4 of the analysed to-infinitive clauses in the news reports, the most in the corpus. This could suggest that passive structures are preferred when reporting on possible future events in the discourse, as the short passive can be used to introduce new pieces of information without identifying their source (i.e. by whom it is expected?). Similarly, example (13) features another passive verb phrase (i.e. *is scheduled*) with the to-infinitive object (4th subordinate clause). The choice of the controlling verb *is scheduled* implies that the event will almost certainly *begin in Milwaukee on Monday*, given its scheduled nature. In example (13), there is also the object to-infinitive clause *to attend the Republican National Convention*. However, unlike in the previous cases, the infinitive clause (2nd subordinate clause) follows a verb *plans*, which is in the active voice.

None of the underlined to-infinitive clauses in examples (12) and (13) has its subject directly expressed. Instead, the non-finite subordinate clauses implicitly share the subject with their finite clause, as is typical for the majority of object infinitive clauses in the corpus. To illustrate, the personal pronoun *he*, which is the subject of the finite subordinate clause *he still plans* in example (13), is also the implicit subject of the to-infinitive clause *to attend the Republican National Convention*. Apart from informing about possible events or situations, the object to-infinitive clauses serve a range of additional functions in the news reports, including the reporting of indirect speech when following verbs *pledge* and *vowed*. Lastly, the samples of reports also include two examples of infinitival prepositional objects (see the *report a.* in

Appendix II), both of which contain the wh-element before the infinitive and are controlled by the same verb (e.g. *thinking about* ^{a.2}*how to redefine*...).

In the political speeches, 9 out of the 14 analysed object infinitive clauses share the same implied or expressed subject, the personal pronoun *I* or its object form *me*, with 3 additional infinitive clauses having the inclusive pronoun *we* and its forms as their subject. Therefore, it could be argued that the content of political speeches is mainly centred on the speaker and their audience:

(14)^{K2} *To the country, I would like* ^(1st)*to say* ^(2nd)*first and foremost I am sorry.*

(15)^{M1} *We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves* *to be taken advantage of any longer.*

In example (14), the implied subject of the underlined object clause is the personal pronoun *I*, which corresponds to the grammatical subject of the main clause *I would like*. The controlling verb phrase *like* expresses the speaker's desire, while the object infinitive *to say* denotes the desired action and introduces indirect speech contained in the 2nd subordinate clauses of the sentence. Many of the nominal infinitive clauses in the speeches are controlled by verbs that either introduce the speaker's desires (e.g. *want, need*) or promises (e.g. *pledge, seek*). In contrast, the object clause and its governing verb in example (15) convey modality, specifying what is not allowed. The reflexive pronoun *ourselves* functions as the subject of the underlined clause, clarifying that it is the speaker and his audience who will not permit to be taken advantage of. Lastly, in contrast to the infinitive *to say*, which only introduced indirect speech in example (14), there are two instances in the corpus of political speeches where the infinitive clause itself includes indirect speech, following the verbs *tell* and *ask* and expressing indirect commands:

(16)^{G5} *I am really not easily moved to tears, but I was so overcome with sadness* ^(1st)*that I had* ^(2nd)*to ask them* *to go away.*

The underlined object clause in example (16) specifies the speaker's indirect command. Importantly, the subject of the infinitive clause differs from the subject of the preceding finite subordinate clause (1st subordinate clause). The objective case of the personal pronoun *they* (i.e. *them*) functions both as the object of the verb *ask* and as the subject of the infinitive, answering the questions of who was asked and who was to go away.

In the corpus, the subject complement occurs as the second most common syntactic role of the nominal infinitive clause, being more frequently found in the speeches (8 instances) than in the reports (3 occurrences):

(17)^{A4} *And in the 2020s, our test is ^(1st)to restore a strong economy, ^(2nd)secure our borders, and ^(3rd)rebuild Britain's strength so our children inherit a country that works.*

(18)^{L4} *It appears to be a gamble that Mr. Trudeau is willing to take.*

Example (17) provides another instance of parallelism: all three coordinated subject complement infinitive clauses follow the copular verb *be*, helping the politician specify the tasks that constitute a test for her and her countrymen. Due to the frequent use of listing and parallelism, *speech A* contains 7 out of 8 infinitives with the syntactic role of a subject complement in the given corpus, further highlighting the impact of structural repetition on the overall findings of the analysis, particularly in the discourse of political speeches. In the news reports, all 3 subject complement infinitives follow the linking verb *appear*. Unlike in the case of the linking verb *be*, the subject complement following the verb *appear* in example (18) does not state what the subject is, but rather what it appears to be. In other words, it makes the statement about the subject less direct and certain – a key feature of newspaper reporting, where journalists must assess situations while remaining impartial and acknowledging that their evaluations may not prove to be entirely accurate.

The adjectival complement represents the last syntactic function of the nominal infinitive clause that can be observed in both analysed discourses, even though this role of the infinitive is primarily found in the reports (5 out of the overall 6 occurrences in the corpus):

(19)^{J4} *However, this year's total is **unlikely** to break the record set in 2022, when 45,755 migrants arrived in small boats.*

The adjective *unlikely* in example (19) expresses a degree of certainty regarding the proposition contained in the complement clause. Together, the adjective and its complement clause function as the subject complement of the main clause, providing information about the subject.

Specifically, the chance that *this year's total* will surpass the record remains low. In the corpus of news reports, the to-infinitive functions as a complement to adjectives expressing various degrees of certainty (i.e. *unlikely, sure*) or willingness (i.e. *keen, eager, willing*). In contrast, the

nominal clauses in the political speeches primarily complement affective adjectives, with the nominal that-clause being the preferred adjectival complement in that discourse (4 out of 5 instances). However, as was previously stated, the overall number of adjectival complement clauses in the corpus is too low to make any generalisation. The same can be said about the nominal clauses with the syntactic role of the subject (only 6 occurrences in the corpus), with all 3 subject clauses in the political speeches having the infinitive form and being extraposed:

(20)^{H1} *It is important* ^(1st)to remember ^(2nd)*what brings us together every year.*

The subject clause in example (20) has an embedded object wh-clause (2nd subordinate clause), and therefore, it would be too disruptive and difficult to process if placed in the prototypical subject position. However, all subject clauses in the corpus are extraposed, with the only exception being the nominal wh-clause in example (11).

6.3.4 -Ing clause

The -ing clause is a marginal type of nominal clause in the analysed corpus, occurring three times in the political speeches and only once in the news reports. Instead, in the selected samples, the -ing clause predominantly functions as a non-finite appositive or adverbial clause, often as a part of prepositional phrases with said syntactic roles. Regarding the syntactic functions of the nominal -ing clause, only two can be identified in the samples: prepositional object (PS: 2 cases) and direct object (PS: 1 instance; NR: 1 occurrence):

(21)^{A5} *Thank you, for standing by the only party that can meet the test of our generation.*

(22)^{G3} *We sat down and the cameras started rolling...*

In example (21), the verb *thank* requires a preposition *for* to express the object *standing by the only party*. The -ing clause is the non-finite verb form used in prepositional complements and the whole underlined subordinate clause functions as the prepositional object to the verb *thank*. In contrast, the lexical verb *started* in example (22) does not need to be accompanied by a preposition and the -ing clause *rolling* can function as its object directly.

6.4 Relative clause

In contrast to the analysed nominal clauses, the two discourses differ markedly as far as the number of relative clauses is concerned. In the political speeches, 36 relative clauses can be identified, the vast majority of which are finite (29 instances), with only a small number being non-finite (7 occurrences). Even though the selected samples of news reports also display a prevalence of finite relative clauses (37 out of 61 occurrences), the reports are marked by the significant occurrence of non-finite relative clauses (24 out of 61), leading to a greater overall frequency of relative postmodifiers in that discourse. For example, Rafajlovičová (2008b, 78), whose study compared relative clauses across texts of varying formality, found that the finite relative postmodifiers outnumbered their non-finite counterparts in all the analysed registers. However, she also identified that non-finite relative clauses tend to be more prevalent in written and more formal texts – i.e. the newspaper and academic discourse – than in the discourse of interviews, which is spoken and typically less formal. Therefore, it could be argued that the fact that finite relative postmodifiers account for a larger proportion of the relative clauses in the political speeches (81%) than in the news reports (61%) is the result of the spoken nature of the former. Additionally, the two analysed discourses differed in their distribution of non-restrictive postmodifiers. While non-restrictive relative clauses are quite rare in the selected political speeches (4 instances, 11% of the total), they appear relatively often in the news reports (19 instances, 31% of the total). This is consistent with the findings of the corpus study by Biber et al. (2007, 603), who also identified that non-restrictive relative postmodifiers “make up about 30% of all relative clauses” in the newspaper discourse. According to Rafajlovičová (2008b, 80), the high frequency of non-restrictive postmodifiers in newspaper reporting is due to the two characteristics of the discourse: 1) a greater number of proper nouns that function as antecedents of the postmodifying clauses, and 2) the tendency of the discourse to provide additional pieces of information that might be of interest to the reader, but that do not represent the main focus of the report.

6.4.1 Finite relative clause

In the news reports, 23 restrictive finite relative clauses were identified, with the remaining 14 finite relative clauses being non-restrictive. By contrast, the selected samples of political

speeches contained 27 restrictive finite relative postmodifiers compared to only two non-restrictive:

(23)¹⁵ *When the gap between the sacrifices made by people and the **service** they receive from politicians grows this big, it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation...*

(24)^{a.3} *The Tory leader feels that this **week**, when her party gathered in Manchester for its annual conference, she has done that.*

In example (23), the underlined finite relative clause is restrictive because it helps to specify the referent of the head noun *service*. In other words, the restrictive relative clause is necessary for the identification of the type of *service* the speaker is referring to, i.e. the service *the people receive from politicians*. Conversely, the referent of the head noun *week* in example (24) is already determined by the determiner *this*, with the finite non-restrictive relative clause only providing additional information about it by mentioning that it was also the week the party conference took place. Even though the reference of the determiner *this* is deictic (i.e. context-dependent), every news report includes a date of publication, and the reader will be able to determine the time period the expression *this week* refers to. As the information the relative postmodifier provides is not vital, the non-restrictive clause is separated from the rest of the sentence by commas.

While the antecedent *week* in example (24) is a common noun, it should be said that the non-restrictive finite relative clauses in the corpus of newspaper reports primarily postmodify proper nouns – i.e. names of people (e.g. *Trump*, *Sir Graham*), names designating unique public offices (e.g. *the Queen*, *the Prince of Wales*) or names of institutions and particular events (e.g. *the 1922 Committee*, *the Republic National Convention*):

(25)^{e.5} *Harris, a former senator from California, would bring her own liabilities to the race against **Trump**, whom Democrats consider an existential threat to democracy.*

(26)^{d.3} *The **Queen**, who had been absent from the Duchess of Kent's funeral at Westminster Cathedral the day before while suffering with sinusitis, appeared to have made a good recovery.*

The frequency of proper noun antecedents in the analysed newspaper reports is directly linked with the higher number of non-restrictive postmodifiers in the discourse, as Rafajlovičová

(2008b) suggested. The head noun Trump, being a surname of a concrete politician, does not need to be further identified. Instead, the non-restrictive relative clause in example (25) serves to comment on the way the politician is perceived by his political rivals. Similarly, the reference of the antecedent in example (26) is already established, with the head noun *Queen* in combination with the definite determiner denoting a unique office or title held by only one individual at a given time. Therefore, the non-restrictive postmodifier can be used to provide background information about Queen's absence during the previous day. In other words, the non-restrictive relative postmodifier's primary function in the newspaper discourse is "to add newsworthy but often incidental information" about the antecedent (Biber et al. 2007, 604).

Regarding the head nouns of the analysed finite relative clauses, it can be observed that antecedents referring to people are more common in the news reports than in the political speeches. Clearly, this difference is largely due to the high number of proper nouns that the non-restrictive relative clauses in the reports postmodify. Nevertheless, the finite relative clauses in the speeches appear to function primarily as postmodifiers to a range of abstract nouns (e.g., *trust, duty, dedication*):

(27)^{D2} *Our people have fought and died together for **the values** we hold dear.*

In example (27), the relative postmodifier serves to restrict the reference of *the values* people *fought for* to those that the politician and his countrymen *hold dear*, invoking a certain degree of shared knowledge by expecting that the audience will be able to infer the specific values the speaker is referring to. Even though political speeches can revolve around concrete policies, as is, for example, the case in *Keir Starmer's Immigration Speech* (J), most of the samples in the corpus tend to be more abstract in nature, which could explain the high frequency of abstract-noun postmodifiers in the discourse.

The analysis also focused on the possible omission of the relativizer in the restrictive finite relative clauses. The omission of the relative pronoun in example (27) is possible because the relativizer would fulfil the object syntactic role in the relative clause (i.e. *we hold the values dear*), with the subject of the postmodifying clause being the personal pronoun *we*. However, as was noted in the theoretical part of the thesis, the relativizer cannot be omitted if it functions as the subject of the postmodifier:

(28)^{1,3} *But they will also leave Canada weakened as it braces for President-elect Donald J. Trump, who has threatened the country with **tariffs** that could cripple its economy.*

Thus, the inclusion of the relative pronoun *that* in example (28) is mandatory, being the subject of the clause (i.e. *the tariffs could cripple*). While the majority of relativizers in the corpus fulfil the subject role in their respective restrictive relative clauses, the analysis indicates that the omission of non-subject relativizers is a distinctive feature of the political speeches (13 omissions out of 13 possible) rather than of the news reports (4 omissions out of 9 possible). This finding could represent yet another confirmation of the assumption that newspaper reporting constitutes a more formal discourse compared to political speeches, as such frequent omissions tend to be associated with more informal contexts.

6.4.2 Non-finite relative clause

As was already highlighted, non-finite relative clauses are more prevalent in the news reports (24 occurrences) than in the political speeches (7 instances). The two discourses also differ in their distribution of the three major types of non-finite relative postmodifiers. In the political speeches, the -ed clause (5 occurrences) is the prototypical non-finite relative clause, whereas the -ing and to-infinitive relative postmodifiers are represented only once in the discourse. This is consistent with the findings presented by Rafajlovičová (2008b, 78–79), who identified that participle postmodifiers (i.e. the -ed and -ing clauses) form almost 90% of all non-finite relative clauses across registers. In contrast, the news reports in the corpus reveal a different tendency, with -ed and -ing postmodifiers (8 and 5 instances, respectively) being only slightly more common than to-infinitive relative clauses (11 occurrences). The low percentage of participle postmodifiers in the samples of newspaper discourse may be related to the high frequency of supplementary adverbial clauses in the reports, some of which could also be classified as non-finite relative clauses (see 6.6.2). Moving to the restrictive and non-restrictive postmodification, the to-infinitive functions only as a restrictive postmodifier in both discourses. Regarding non-restrictive postmodification, only the -ed clauses (2 occurrences) serve this role in the political speeches. Conversely, the report shows a more balanced distribution, with 3 -ing and 2 -ed non-restrictive participle postmodifiers.

As was already said, the to-infinitive clause constitutes the most frequently occurring form of non-finite relative postmodification in the reports. Apart from the issue of supplementive clauses, the prevalence of to-infinitive postmodifiers in the reports may also be connected to the ambiguity of certain infinitives placed directly after a noun phrase.

(29)^{f4} *The assault began with **a blitzkrieg** to disable its air defences.*

The underlined clause in example (29) could be considered ambiguous as to its syntactic function. Although the clause is classified as a non-finite relative postmodifier, it could also be considered an adverbial clause of purpose. In other words, the to-infinitive in example (29) can be categorized as a condensed equivalent of the finite relative clause (*a blitzkrieg*) *that should disable its air defences* or as an adverbial expressing the purpose of the action contained in the main clause (i.e. *The assault began with the blitzkrieg **in order to** disable its air defences*). Even though the syntactic role of these infinitives could have been left undetermined, the majority of such clauses were classified as relative postmodifiers, as this interpretation often seems the most plausible. In contrast, the infinitive in example (30) can be clearly identified as a relative postmodifier:

(30)^{i.4} *...the shock defeat capped off an awful night for the Tories, with Ms Truss becoming **the first former prime minister** to lose their seat since Alec Douglas-Home in 1966.*

In example (30), the adverbial interpretation of the infinitive would make little sense, with the underlined non-finite postmodifier evidently corresponding to the finite relative clause (*prime minister*) *who has lost their seat*.

The infinitives in examples (29) and (30) illustrate the key characteristic common to the to-infinitive relative postmodifiers in the reports: these clauses predominantly condense finite relative clauses in which the relative pronoun is the subject. Thus, the infinitive relative postmodifiers with non-subject gaps are rare in the corpus, despite the option:

(31)^{N5} *Now is **the time** to tackle the issues that are holding Britain back.*

The to-infinitive relative clause in example (31) can be viewed as the condensed counterpart to the finite relative postmodifier (*the time*) *at which we should tackle the issues*, with the relativizer having the syntactic role of an adverbial. Additionally, the possible transformation

reveals that the to-infinitive postmodifiers in the corpus often have a modal meaning, expressing obligation, as was also the case in example (29).

According to the study undertaken by Biber et al. (2007, 631), the -ed relative clauses (PS: 5 instances; NR: 8 occurrences) seem to be overwhelmingly preferred over their finite equivalents in cases of relative postmodifiers with a verb in the passive voice. This is not necessarily the case in the analysed news reports, in which the -ed relative postmodifier is only slightly more common than finite relative clauses with a passive verb phrase. Conversely, all the passive relative postmodifiers in the samples of political speeches are realised by the -ed relative clause:

(32)^{N4} *We now face severe global **headwinds** caused by Russia's appalling war in Ukraine and the aftermath of Covid.*

(33) *Eighty years ago, the world was emerging from the most savage conflict in our history...
^{H2} A deliberate, industrial-scale **genocide**, aimed at obliterating Europe's Jewish population, saw six million people murdered...*

The -ed relative clauses in examples (32) and (33) could represent the condensations of the finite relative postmodifiers (*headwinds*) *which were caused by Russia's appalling war...* and (*genocide*), *which was aimed*, respectively. These possible transformations illustrate that the condensed clauses differ from their finite counterparts only in the omission of the relativizer (i.e. *which*) and the auxiliary verb (i.e. *were* and *was*, respectively). It is this similarity that might explain the preference for these reduced relative clauses in the speeches, since the -ed relative clause represents the type of condensation that might be easy to follow even in spoken discourse. In example (32), the -ed relative clause includes a long passive, in which the *by*-phrase specifies the events the speaker views as the causes of *several global headwinds*. As this information is important for identifying the type of headwinds being referred to, the -ed postmodifier is restrictive. In comparison, the -ed relative clause in example (33) is non-restrictive, providing only additional information about the genocide, whose identity can be established from the preceding sentences of the speech. In other words, the fact that the Holocaust represents the genocide referred to is obvious from the mention of *the most savage conflict* which ended 80 years ago. Moreover, unlike the clause in example (32), the -ed relative clause *which was aimed* contains only a short passive, without the *by*-phrase which would identify the agent who aimed to obliterate the Jewish population.

The -ing relative clause constitutes the least represented type of relative postmodification in the corpus (PS: 1 occurrence; NR: 5 instances). The research presented by Biber et al. (2007, 631) revealed that relative clauses containing verbs of progressive aspect are significantly more likely to be realised by the -ing participle clause than by its finite counterpart. However, while the corpus of selected speeches and reports features only few finite relative clauses marked for the progressive aspect, the overall number of -ing relative postmodifiers is too small to confirm the tendency identified by Biber et al. (2007). Furthermore, 2 out of the 6 -ing relative clauses could be said to condense finite relative clauses with the non-progressive aspect:

(34) ^{J3} *As the ONS sets out, nearly one million people came to Britain in the year ending June 2023.*

(35) ^{a.5} *Badenoch arrived in Manchester at the weekend amid gloomy warnings ^(1st)that her party – ^(2nd)languishing at just 16% in the polls and ^(3rd)fast losing support to Reform UK – was facing oblivion.*

As example (34) illustrates, the -ing relative clause does not inherently express the progressive aspect, with the most likely equivalent of the underlined non-finite clause being the non-progressive finite relative postmodifier *(the year) that ended June 2023*. The -ing postmodifier is restrictive because the head noun *year* does not refer to a calendar year, but rather to a year-long period whose exact span is determined by the relative clause (i.e. the period from June 2022 to June 2023). Conversely, the two -ing relative clauses in example (35) are both non-restrictive, as the party in question is identified by the central determiner *her*, referring anaphorically to the leader of the Conservative party Kemi Badenoch. Moreover, unlike in example (34), the two -ing relative postmodifiers could be transformed into finite relative clauses with the progressive aspect – i.e. *(her party), which was languishing and fast losing support*.

6.5 Appositive clause

Appositive postmodifiers represent a relatively marginal type of clausal postmodification. In the speeches, both finite and non-finite appositive clauses (13 occurrences) constitute approximately 27% of all clausal postmodifiers. A nearly identical distribution was reported in a previous study (Janovský, 2023), which focused exclusively on clausal postmodification in political speeches

and found that appositive postmodifiers (56 occurrences) accounted for 28% of the 200 analysed clausal postmodifiers. In the current study, the reports show an even stronger prevalence of relative clauses, with appositive clauses (14 instances) representing only around 18% of clausal postmodifiers in the discourse. As was highlighted in the theoretical part of the thesis (see 3.3), appositive postmodification is limited only to abstract head nouns, which significantly reduces the frequency of appositive clauses across registers. In other words, relative clauses are bound to occur more frequently, irrespective of the type of discourse, as such clauses can postmodify almost any head noun. However, the higher percentage of appositive postmodifiers in the speeches could suggest that the discourse is characterised by a stronger need to define various abstract concepts.

To illustrate the difference between the two types of postmodification, one of the complex sentences in the corpus can be used:

(36)^{m.4} *In a deeply divided nation, voters embraced Mr. Trump's **pledge** ^(1st) to seal the southern border by almost any means, ^(2nd) to revive the economy with 19th-century-style tariffs ^(3rd) *that would restore American manufacturing and* ^(4th) to lead a retreat from international entanglements and global conflict.*

Example (36) presents another use of parallelism, a three-part list consisting of 3 coordinate to-infinitive clauses, showing that structural repetition occurs not only in the political speeches but also in the selected reports. The underlined to-infinitive clauses all postmodify the abstract antecedent *pledge*. In each case, the type of postmodification can be classified as appositive, as the infinitives are used to specify the content of individual pledges that *Mr. Trump* made during his presidential campaign (e.g. *the pledge was to seal the southern border*). In other words, appositive clauses help express the full or concrete meaning of nouns that are abstract in nature. Furthermore, the head noun *pledge* illustrates that many of the antecedents of appositive clauses in the corpus have equivalent verb forms, which could introduce nominal clauses (e.g. *Mr Trump pledged to seal the southern border*). Despite the potential for ideological manipulation (see 6.1), the agents related to the head nouns of appositive clauses in the corpus are typically indicated by the possessive determiner (e.g. *Trump's*) or can be deduced from the textual context. Lastly, apart from the infinitive appositive clauses, example (36) also features a relative clause *that would restore American manufacturing*, which postmodifies the head noun *tariffs*. The meaning of the

noun *tariffs* is concrete, denoting a special type of tax levied on goods entering a country. As a result, the restrictive relative clause serves only to establish a defining characteristic of these *tariffs* by specifying their intended effect.

Regarding the form of appositive clauses in the corpus, non-finite appositive postmodifiers are featured more frequently in both discourses (PS: 9 instances; NR: 11 cases) than their finite counterparts (PS: 4 occurrences; NR: 3 instances). All analysed finite appositive clauses have the form of that-clause, while the to-infinitive – with 8 occurrences in both the speech and reports – represents the prototypical non-finite appositive postmodifier in the corpus. Only a small number of non-finite appositive clauses are realised by a prepositional phrase featuring an -ing clause (PS: 1 instance; NR: 3 occurrences). In contrast to relative clauses, non-finite appositive clauses cannot be considered condensed equivalents of finite appositive postmodifiers, as was already pointed out (see 3.3). Instead, each form typically postmodifies a different subset of abstract nouns. In the corpus, the appositive that-clause postmodifies nouns that mainly express a stance toward the content of the postmodifying clause, typically either conveying various degrees of certainty or indicating a source (e.g. *rumours, belief, announcement*). On the other hand, the to-infinitive appositive postmodifier in the corpus mainly follows abstract nouns related to people's goals, opportunities and actions (i.e. *effort, attempt, plotting*):

(37) ^{m.3}His defiant **plans** to upend the country's political system held appeal to tens of millions of voters...

(38) ^{F4}Earlier today, Putin delivered another televised address and offered the absurd **pretext** that he sought the “demilitarisation and denazification of Ukraine”.

By postmodifying the head noun *plans*, the to-infinitive appositive clause in example (37) denotes a person's future action or goal (i.e. *to upend the country's political system*).

Meanwhile, the antecedent *pretext* is used in example (38) to mark the politician's stance towards the proposition contained in the appositive that-clause. Specifically, the antecedent *pretext* suggests that the speaker considers the reason (i.e. *that he sought the “demilitarisation and denazification of Ukraine”*) given by Putin to be a false one, a mere excuse justifying the invasion. The preference for to-infinitive appositive clauses in both the political speeches and the newspaper reports suggests that the two discourses are mainly concerned with the goals and actions of their respective actors. Moreover, such findings are supported even by previous

research. For instance, Biber et al. (2007, 653) confirmed the prevalence of infinitive appositive postmodifiers in news reports, while Janovský (2023, 39) identified a similar tendency in political speeches.

Unlike the to-infinitive and that-clause, the -ing clause cannot occur in appositive postmodification on its own, but always needs to be accompanied by the preposition *of*. Consequently, only the entire prepositional *of-phrase* fulfils the role of an appositive postmodifier. While some antecedents can be postmodified by the *of-phrase* appositive postmodifier as well as the to-infinitive clause, the *of-phrase* becomes the only possible form of non-finite appositive postmodification with abstract nouns expressing modality outside human control (Quirk et al. 1985, 1272–1273):

(39) *Long lines of cars moved out of Kyiv, many heading west in **hopes of finding sanctuary in one of the few parts of the country**...*

The antecedent *hopes* in example (39) allows appositive postmodification by the *of-phrase* but not by the to-infinitive (e.g. ~~in hopes to find~~...), as the head noun expresses a desire related to the future whose fulfilment is not entirely in the hands of the people escaping Kyiv in their cars.

6.6 Adverbial clause

The adverbial clause occurs far more frequently in the analysed newspaper reports (60 instances) than in the samples of political speeches (32 cases), as was already noted. In both discourses, almost all adverbial clauses can be classified as adjuncts. Moreover, in the two discourses, the non-finite forms of adverbial clauses (PS: 18 occurrences; NR 38 instances) seem to be preferred over the finite adverbials (PS: 14 instances; 22 occurrences). The non-finite forms account for 56% of adverbial clauses in the political speeches and 63% in the newspaper reports. According to Hasselgård (2010, 270–271), who analysed adjuncts across a range of text types (including conversation, academic writing, news, and fiction), academic and newspaper writing contain the highest proportion of clausal adjuncts. In contrast, genres such as sports commentaries tend to rely more heavily on adjuncts expressed by single adverbs or adverbial phrases (Hasselgård 2010, 270–271). The finding could suggest that the high number of adverbial clauses in the analysed news reports may be related to their written mode, given the fact that a similar pattern was observed in academic writing, another prototypically written register with a comparable

level of formality. Furthermore, the study found that news texts contained, proportionally, the highest number of non-finite adverbial clauses among all the analysed text types (Hasselgård 2010, 271). This finding appears to partially support the tendency also observed in the selected news reports – i.e. the high number of non-finite adverbial clauses. However, this thesis differs from Hasselgård (2010, 271) in that its corpus of news reports features more participle than to-infinitive adverbials. In the corpus of news reports, the prevalence of adverbials in the form of participle clauses might be connected to the functional ambiguity of certain -ed and -ing clauses (see 6.6.2). The ambiguity of some of the analysed to-infinitive clauses, and its effect on the overall findings, was already covered in the section dealing with non-finite relative postmodifiers (see 6.4.2).

Regarding the syntactic position of adverbial clauses, the research presented by Hasselgård (2010, 136) found that 75% of the clausal adjuncts were placed in the end position. This seems to reflect the general tendency to place syntactically heavier units closer to the end of a clause or a sentence. The preference for the end position was also identified among the clausal adverbials in the corpus, with the exception of finite adverbial clauses in the speeches, which showed the same number of occurrences in both the initial and end position (7 instances). The prevalence of the end-position adverbials is particularly strong in non-finite clauses in both discourses (PS: 16 out of 18 occurrences; NR: 33 out of 38 instances). For example, only the end position is unmarked (i.e. neutral) for all infinitive adverbials. In other words, the infinitive adverbial clauses are placed in the initial position only for the purposes of emphasis (only 1 instance in the corpus). Even though supplementive clauses appear more frequently in the initial position, they are still predominantly positioned at the end of the clause or sentence, serving as an afterthought to the previous content of a given grammatical unit.

6.6.1 Finite adverbial clause

In both the political speeches and news reports, finite adverbial clauses (PS: 14 occurrences; NR: 22 instances) primarily fulfil a temporal semantic role in their respective complex sentences. For example, as Biber et al. (2007, 823) point out, adverbial clauses of time are particularly common in the discourse of news because “they can describe certain events in relation to others”. In other words, these subordinate clauses indicate a time relation with the event of the superordinate clause, expressing that the time of the superordinate clause is “previous to” (i.e. *Time before*),

“subsequent to” (i.e. *Time after*), or “simultaneous with” (i.e. *Same time*) the event denoted in the adverbial clause (Quirk 1985, 1080–1086):

(40) ⁱ⁻¹*Sir Keir Starmer will become the prime minister* ^(1st)*after Labour won the general election with a landslide and* ^(2nd)*the Tories suffered a historic wipeout.*

In example (40), the two underlined adverbial clauses of time specify that the event of the main clause (i.e. *Keir Starmer becoming the prime minister*) happened after the events contained in the two subordinate clauses (i.e. *Labour winning the general election* and *the Tories suffering a historic wipeout*, respectively). Thus, the adverbials of time primarily serve to provide information about the temporal context or background of the superordinate clause, which represents the main focus of the sentence. In the reports, *Time after* is indicated by 8 adverbial clauses, 7 of which have the conjunction *after* as their temporal subordinator. In contrast, all the adverbial clauses of time in the political speeches fall into the category of *Same time*:

(41) ^{F2}*Shortly after 4am this morning, I spoke to President Zelenskyy of Ukraine* *as the first missiles struck his beautiful and innocent country and its brave people.*

The adverbial clause with the *as* subordinator in example (41) suggests that the time of the main clause is simultaneous with the time of the subordinate clause: the politician spoke to President Zelenskyy at the moment the first missiles struck the country. Once again, the focus of the complex sentence is on the fact that the politician spoke to Zelensky, with the adverbial clause being in the background and providing further temporal context. In the corpus, the conjunction *when* is also used as a subordinator for the *same-time* adverbial clause. In the reports, the *same-time* adverbials show a similar frequency to those indicating *Time after*.

It should be noted that the adverbial clauses in the reports present a wider range of temporal contexts, indicating not only that the time of the main clause may coincide with or be subsequent to the time of the superordinate clause, but also that the event in the superordinate clause may occur before the event in the adverbial clause (i.e. *Time before*):

(42) ⁿ⁻³*An election for the leadership of the Conservative party will be completed by 28 October and Ms Truss will remain as prime minister* *until a new leader is chosen.*

In the corpus, the clause with the subordinator *until* in example (42) represents the only finite adverbial of time that indicates that the event of the main clause is previous to the one denoted in the adverbial. Thus, the report suggests that Ms Truss's prime ministership precedes the election of the new leader. Overall, it could be argued that both discourses are characterised by the tendency to specify the time relations between the background events expressed in adverbial subordinate clauses and the core event contained in the superordinate clause. However, while the political speeches appear to focus primarily on the immediate temporal context (i.e. simultaneous) of the given core event, the reports tend to include additional pieces of temporal information that are more distant from the time of the main clause. In other words, the chief function of newspaper reporting, i.e. to inform, may often require a more comprehensive description of the temporal context surrounding the event of the superordinate clause.

It is important to say that not all finite adverbial clauses in the corpus can be assigned to a single semantic category:

(43)^{E3} ...*the light of America's promise will always burn bright*, ^(1st) *as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting*.

The subordinator *as long as* in example (43) could either indicate a temporal or conditional semantic relation between the superordinate clause *the light of America's promise will always burn bright* and the underlined adverbial clauses. Thus, in the temporal interpretation, the simultaneity of all the actions is stressed, whereas in the conditional reading of the subordinate clauses *the light of America's promise will only burn if the people never give up and keep on fighting*. Similarly, in example (44), the adverbial clause with the subordinator *while* could be temporal, stressing the simultaneity of the action of winning with the action containing the slashing of Badenoch's majority:

(44)^{a.1} *While she went on to win North West Essex*, *a new redrawn seat, Badenoch's majority was slashed by almost 25,000...*

However, the more likely interpretation of the adverbial in example (44) is that of concession: she still won, but her majority was significantly slashed. Although some of these semantic differences may not substantially affect the overall meaning of a complex sentence, they

nonetheless highlight an important feature of the corpus – namely, that a small number of finite adverbial clauses are introduced by subordinators that permit dual interpretation.

Even though the adverbial of times constitute the majority of finite adverbial clauses in the corpus, the selected samples of political speeches and newspaper reports also feature adverbials with a variety of different semantic roles. In addition to temporal clauses and a few ambiguous cases, the reports include a concessive, conditional, comparative, and comment adverbial clause. In contrast, the corpus of political speeches features an adverbial clause of reason, purpose and comparison along with 2 comment clauses:

(45)^{L4} *My friends, as you all know, I am a fighter.*

(46)^{b.5} *Throughout Friday, it was clear that the image of American democracy has taken a battering, as had the country's reputation as a dependable ally.*

In example (45), the adverbial clause comments on the content of the main clause *I am a fighter*. The comment clause *as you know* is used to engage the listeners and to seek their confirmation of the proposition *I am a fighter*. It also conveys a degree of informality and warmth towards the audience (Quirk et al. 1985, 1115), both of which can help the politician in persuasion. As example (45) further shows, the comment clause is separated from the rest of the sentence by commas, as it is not integrated into the surrounding structure. In example (46), the underlined adverbial clause of comparison is used to compare *the image of American democracy* to *the country's reputation*, pointing out a similarity between the two (i.e. both had *taken a battering*). The comparative clause in example (46) is also marked by ellipsis, with its object and lexical verb being omitted (i.e. *a battering* and *taken*, respectively). According to Quirk et al. (1985, 1130), “ellipsis is the rule rather than the exception” in comparative clauses, as these subordinate clauses frequently mirror the structure and content of their superordinate clauses and the omission prevents unnecessary repetition. Lastly, the comparative adverbial in example (46) is also marked by the *subject-verb* inversion.

6.6.2 Non-finite adverbial clause

As was already pointed out, the frequent use of condensation seems to represent one of the characteristics of the written mode, resulting in a high number of non-finite adverbial clauses in the analysed news reports (38 occurrences out of 60 clausal adverbials in the discourse). In

contrast, the non-finite form is only slightly preferred in the adverbial clauses of the selected speeches (18 out of 32 clausal adverbials in the discourse). In the speeches, the to-infinitive (8 instances) constitutes the most frequently occurring non-finite form of adverbial clauses, followed jointly by the -ing and -ed adverbials (each with 5 occurrences). Conversely, the news reports show a far more unequal distribution of the individual non-finite forms of adverbial clauses, with the -ing adverbial (22 occurrences) being considerably more common than the to-infinitive adverbial clause (15 instances), while the past participle adverbial occurs only once in the selected samples.

All the infinitive adverbial clauses in the political speeches express the semantic relationship of purpose. While the adverbial infinitives in the reports also predominantly function as adverbial clauses of purpose (10 out of 14 instances), they additionally fulfil the semantic role of result (3 occurrences) or represent the only example of a non-finite comment clause in the corpus:

(47)^{B5} *I sought this office to restore the soul of America.*

(48)^{m.1} *Donald J. Trump rode a promise^(1st) to smash the American status quo^(2nd) to win the presidency for a second time,^(3rd) *surviving a criminal conviction, indictments, an assassin's bullet, accusations of authoritarianism and an unprecedented switch of his opponent^(4th) to complete a remarkable return to power.**

In example (47), the underlined adverbial clause helps to establish the purpose of the action expressed by the finite verb *sought* on which the infinitive depends. In other words, the politician *sought* the office in order *to restore the soul of America*. In political speeches, infinitive adverbials of purpose might be widely used because they enable speakers to clearly express the motivation underlying their own actions or those of their allies or opponents. According to Biber et al. (2007, 823), the need to assign motivation to various events also explains the frequency of adverbial to-infinitive clauses in newspaper reporting. Apart from indicating motivation, the to-infinitive adverbial clauses are commonly used in the news discourse to mark the result of events (Biber et al. 2007, 828), as example (48) illustrates. In example (48), the 2nd subordinate clause describes the result of the action expressed in the main clause (i.e. *rode a promise*), while the result denoted in the 4th subordinate clause relates to the action of the 3rd subordinate clause. Thus, Trump's act of making a specific promise and his survival of various threats led to his victory and return to power, respectively.

Generally, non-finite adverbial clauses do not contain a subordinator. This tendency can be observed even in the corpus, with only a few non-finite adverbials being introduced by a subordinator (PS: 1 occurrence; NR: 7 instances), all of which contain the -ing verb form, as no other non-finite verb form can typically follow a subordinator. While rare in political speeches, the non-finite adverbial clauses with a subordinator are used in the reports to capture a variety of semantic relations, the temporal being particularly common:

(49)^{b,2} *Leaders around the world saw^(1st) former vice president Joe Biden strengthen his path to the White House on Friday^(2nd) after taking the lead in Georgia and Pennsylvania.*

Similarly to the finite adverbial clauses with the subordinator *after*, the -ing adverbial clause of time in example (49) signifies that the event of its superordinate clause (1st subordinate clause) took place after the event of the adverbial, i.e. after Joe Biden took the lead. While such clauses can be clearly identified as temporal, the corpus of news reports also features -ing adverbial clauses marked by the subordinator *with* (3 instances), whose semantic role is harder to pinpoint:

(50)^{j,3} *That puts this year's crossings within less than 300 of last year's total of 29,437 with more than two months remaining.*

According to Malá (2005, 95), the participle clauses that have a different subject than their superordinate clause, the so-called absolute clauses, are typically of low information value and can be assigned only the semantic role of *accompanying circumstances*. Thus, the participle clause in example (50) only provides a piece of circumstantial information (i.e. that more than two months still remain to the end of the year) that accompanies the content of the main clause. Despite their low informational value, these clauses highlight the tendency of newspaper reporting to provide a very broad description of the circumstantial context of the covered events.

The participle clauses without a subordinator are called *suppletive*. As a result of the absence of the subordinator, their semantic role is often difficult to determine. In the speeches, there are 9 suppletive clauses (5 -ed and 4 -ing clauses). In comparison, 16 adverbial participle clauses in the reports could be classified as suppletive. Except for one case, all suppletive clauses in the reports have the -ing form. It should be noted that the ambiguity of suppletive clauses does not have to relate only to their semantic role, but, in some cases, also to the indeterminate syntactic function:

(51)^{d4} Wearing a sapphire blue ensemble by Fiona Clare and a hat by Philip Treacy, the Queen took part in all the planned events.

(52)^{H3} Cities were laid waste, (1st) throttled by siege, (2nd) fire-bombed into oblivion, or (3rd) pulverised by the first and only use of atomic weapons in war.

The underlined supplementive clauses in examples (51) and (52) could also be categorized as non-restrictive relative clauses postmodifying the head nouns *Queen* and *Cities*, respectively (i.e. *the Queen, who was wearing...* and *Cities, which were throttled by siege*). Non-restrictive relative clauses are quite flexible in terms of their syntactic position and do not have to immediately follow their antecedent. It is this potential mobility that can lead to ambiguity, enabling both relative and adverbial interpretation of these clauses (Quirk et al. 1985, 1271). For the purposes of this analysis, it was determined that only participle clauses that immediately follow a head noun would be classified as non-restrictive relative postmodifiers. Thus, participle clauses in examples (51) and (52) are categorized as supplementive clauses. Although the underlined adverbials could be interpreted as expressing a temporal relationship with their main clause (e.g. *While she was wearing ... the Queen took part*), the analysis adopts Biber et al.'s (2007, 820) explanation of the semantic role of supplementive clauses: i.e. that such participial adverbials “show a circumstance that supplements the action or state in the main clause”. Based on such a definition, the term *accompanying circumstances* could also be applied. Using example (52), the clauses containing the participles *throttled*, *fire-bombed*, and *pulverised* can be interpreted as providing a circumstantial context for the event of the main clause by specifying the individual ways in which *the cities were laid waste*. It should also be noted that example (52) contains 3 out of 5 -ed participle adverbial clauses in the selected speeches. Therefore, this instance of parallelism may explain the higher frequency of past participle adverbials in the given discourse.

Even when there is no functional ambiguity and the participle clauses clearly function as adverbials, the issue of semantic ambiguity still remains:

(53)^{f2} *Russia's a full-scale invasion of Ukraine started before dawn yesterday with air, land and sea attacks, leaving western capitals scrambling to co-ordinate a response.*

In example (53), the -ing adverbial clause could be interpreted as expressing the result of the action contained in the main clause: the invasion began before dawn, so that the western capitals

were left scrambling. However, the underlined clause could also have a temporal semantic role, stressing that the event of the main clause preceded the situation described in the subordinate clause: the invasion began before the western capitals were left scrambling. Although the first interpretation may appear more plausible, the absence of a subordinator makes it difficult to draw such a definitive conclusion. Therefore, following the definition proposed by Biber et al. (2007, 820), the adverbial supplementive clause in example (53) is deemed to name one of the circumstances accompanying the event of the main clause (i.e. the start of the invasion). The focus of supplementive clauses on circumstantial information also helps explain the high frequency of these participle adverbials in the news reports, given the discourse's preoccupation with the contextual details surrounding the main event, as noted on several previous occasions.

6.7 Other

The last category of subordinate clauses was identified only in the selected samples of news reports, with 4 overall examples showing the same distribution of finite and non-finite clauses. While the thesis uses the term *Other*, these clauses could be treated as postmodifiers, but they differ from the two types of postmodification discussed above (i.e. relative and appositive):

(54)ⁿ⁻¹ *Liz Truss has announced that she is to resign as prime minister just six weeks after taking office.*

(55)^{c-3} *Hours before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia...*

The underlined clauses in examples (54) and (55) serve in the role of postmodifiers of the head nouns *weeks* and *hours*, respectively. In both cases, the postmodification is used to specify the period the report is referring to, with only the whole noun phrases, i.e. *six weeks after taking office* and *hours before the attacks began*, having the syntactic role of an adverbial of time. Despite a similar function, the clauses in examples (54) and (55) cannot be considered relative. For example, by including the relativizer, the clause (*hours*) *before which the attacks began* would express a dramatically different meaning from the one intended by the adverbial in example (55). All four clausal postmodifiers labelled as *Other* modify head nouns referring to various periods of time (e.g., *years, weeks, minutes, hours*). This pattern further supports the

tendency observed in the reports to provide temporal or circumstantial context to the covered events or news stories.

Conclusion

The analysis compared the use of complex sentences in political speeches (PS) and news reports (NR). In total, 75 complex sentences were analysed for each discourse. The two discourses differed in the overall number of clauses (PS: 233 instances; NR: 274 occurrences) as well as in their distribution of main (PS: 94 instances; NR: 82 occurrences) and subordinate clauses (PS: 139 instances; NR: 192 occurrences). A similar contrast between the two discourses was related to the forms of subordinate clauses. In the speeches, the finite form was preferred over non-finite in the subordinate clauses (76 instances and 63 occurrences, respectively), whereas the opposite was true in the news reports, where non-finite subordinate clauses were more frequent than their finite counterparts (104 occurrences and 88 instances, respectively). In the reports, the greater number of subordinate clauses and their predominant non-finite form appear to reflect the written mode of the discourse. As news reports are primarily designed to be read, the reader has more time to process even texts with higher degrees of condensation and subordination. On the other hand, political speeches are mainly listened to, despite being written beforehand. Therefore, the discourse needs to rely more heavily on the coordination of main clauses and finite form in subordinate clauses, as too many highly condensed structures or multiple levels of subordination may be difficult for the audience to process in such a short amount of time.

The nominal clause is slightly more common in political speeches (58 occurrences) than in the news reports (53 instances). However, the percentage distribution of nominal clauses is significantly higher in the speeches (42%) than in the reports (28%), which seems to reflect the higher degree of informality of the former. In both discourses, most nominal clauses take the syntactic role of an object (PS: 37 occurrences; NR: 40 instances). The preference for the object syntactic role might reflect the tendency to place subordinate clauses closer to the end of the sentence or superordinate clause. Apart from the preferred syntactic role, the two discourses also share the most frequently occurring form of the nominal clause, which in both cases is the to-infinitive nominal clause (PS: 26 occurrences; NR: 28 instances). In this respect, the political speeches display a feature more typically encountered in written registers, suggesting that the speeches could be positioned somewhere between a prototypical spoken and written discourse. Lastly, the two discourses significantly differ only in their distribution of nominal wh-clauses (PS: 11 instances; NR: 4 occurrences). The fact that many of the nominal wh-clauses could be

classified as interrogative seems to be at least partly connected to the low occurrence of *wh*-clauses in the reports, as leaving too many information gaps would be contrary to the chief function of the discourse (i.e. to inform)

The analysis further shows that political speeches and news reports markedly differ in their distribution of relative clauses (PS: 36 occurrences; 61 instances). Partly, this is the result of the higher number of non-finite postmodifiers in the reports connected to their written mode (24 occurrences compared to only 7 instances in the speeches). However, the reports also exhibit a greater frequency of non-restrictive relative postmodifiers, which constitute 31% (19 occurrences) of all the relative clauses in the discourse. In comparison, the non-restrictive relative clauses account only for 11% (4 instances) of the relative postmodifiers in the political speeches. This discrepancy might reflect the tendency of newspaper writing “to add newsworthy but often incidental information” about the antecedent (Biber et al. 2007, 604), which is not commonly observed in the selected speeches. Moreover, this might also be connected to a significant number of proper-noun antecedents in the reports compared to a preference for common or abstract head nouns in the speeches, reflecting the different focus of the two discourses.

Unlike relative postmodifiers, appositive clauses show a comparable number of occurrences in the two discourses (PS: 13 instances; NR: 14 occurrences). Both the political speeches and the news reports also display a similar preference for non-finite appositive clauses (PS: 9 occurrences; NR: 11 instances). However, these non-finite clauses cannot be regarded as condensed variants of their finite counterparts. Instead, the contrast between the two types of appositive clauses stems from the fact that each tends to postmodify a different subset of abstract nouns. In this regard, the preference for *to*-infinitive appositive clauses – by far the most common non-finite form of appositive postmodifiers, with 8 occurrences in each discourse – reflects the tendency of both speeches and reports to focus primarily on human goals, opportunities, and actions.

Along with the relative clause, the adverbial clause represents a functional type of a subordinate clause whose frequency markedly differs between the two analysed discourses (PS: 32 instances; 60 occurrences). Once again, this difference appears to be linked, at least in part, to the higher number of non-finite clauses found in the adverbials of the reports (PS: 18 instances; NR: 38

occurrences). However, this prevalence of adverbial clauses can also be ascribed to one of the chief characteristics of the newspaper writing – i.e., comprehensive description of the temporal and circumstantial context surrounding the key events. Although most finite adverbial clauses in both discourses serve a temporal semantic role, those in the political discourse express only simultaneity with the time of the superordinate clause. Conversely, the clauses in the reports include a broader range of temporal relations, including indications that the event of the subordinate clause was previous or subsequent to the time of the superordinate clause. Moreover, the central role of contextual information in news discourse is further reflected in the use of non-finite adverbial clauses. Supplementive participial clauses – defined by Biber et al. (2007, p. 820) as expressing “a circumstance that supplements the action or state in the main clause” – occur more frequently in the reports (16 instances) than in the speeches (9 instances). Additionally, the corpus of news reports also features 7 -ing adverbial clauses with a subordinator that also provide either temporal or circumstantial information, compared with only 1 occurrence of such adverbials in the speeches. However, it should also be said that the two discourses show a similar number of infinitive adverbial clauses of purpose (PS: 8 instances; NR: 10 occurrences). Lastly, the analysed news reports also contained four subordinate clauses classified as *Other*, as they do not fall into any of the three main functional types. These clauses further highlight the importance of temporal context in news writing, since all four postmodify expressions of time (e.g., *years*, *hours*), further specifying the time period being referred to.

RESUMÉ

Tato diplomová práce se zabývá strukturou podřadných souvětí v politických projevech a novinových článcích. Jejím cílem je porovnat strukturu podřadných vět v daných typech diskurzu a zaměřit se na četnost jednotlivých typů vedlejších vět a jejich formy ve vybraných politických projevech a novinových článcích. Práce se skládá z teoretické části, jež v pěti kapitolách definuje základní pojmy a představuje jejich stručnou charakteristiku, a části praktické, která navazuje na dané teoretické poznatky a využívá je při interpretaci výsledků analýzy vybraných ukázek.

První z pěti kapitol teoretické části se zaměřuje na definici nezákladnějších lingvistických termínů této diplomové práce. Nejdříve je definována věta, jež představuje hierarchicky nejvýše postavenou syntaktickou jednotku, jejíž přesné ohraničení je však především v mluveném projevu velmi komplikované. Tato práce tak pracuje s definicí, v níž je věta v psaném projevu jasně vymezena velkým počátečním písmenem na jejím začátku a tečkou na jejím konci. V první kapitole je rovněž definována klauze, která představuje syntaktickou jednotku hierarchicky situovanou mezi větou a frází a jež může být vymezena za pomoci svého obligatorní konstituentu, verbální fráze. Dále jsou v kapitole představeny věta hlavní a věta vedlejší, která se liší od věty hlavní tím, že je začleněná (či podřazená) do jiné věty. První kapitola je zakončena charakteristikou souvětí souřadného a podřadného. Zatímco souvětí souřadné se sestává jen z vět hlavních, souvětí podřadné musí obsahovat krom věty hlavní alespoň jednu větu vedlejší.

Druhá kapitola teoretické části práce se detailně zabývá formou vět či klauzí. Převážná část této kapitoly srovnává určité (tj. finitní) a neurčité (tj. nefinitní) slovesné tvary. Určité slovesné tvary jsou schopny vyjádřit všechny slovesné kategorie, včetně té časové. Neurčité slovesné tvary (tj. infinitiv a participia) tuto schopnost postrádají, a tak nemohou tvořit větu hlavní ale pouze větu vedlejší. Poslední část druhé kapitoly se věnuje větě neslovesné, pro níž je charakteristická elipsa slovesa *be*. Přestože tento typ věty neobsahuje žádný slovesný tvar, vypuštěnou slovesnou frází lze obvykle velmi snadno rekonstruovat, neboť výskyt jednotlivých forem slovesa *be* je v daných případech očekávaný.

Třetí kapitola předkládá taxonomii vedlejších vět dle jejich funkce a jednotlivé větěčlenské funkce (tj. obsahová, přívlastková, přístavková a příslovečná) detailně analyzuje. Z jednotlivých

kategorií se kapitola nejprve zabývá vedlejšími větami obsahovými, které jsou charakterizovány tím, že vykonávají obdobnou škálu funkcí jako substantiva, v souvětích se tedy tento funkční typ vedlejších vět nejčastěji vyskytuje v roli podmětu, předmětu či jmenné části přísudku. Závislé věty oznamovací (*that-clauses*) a závislé věty tázací (*interrogative wh-clauses*) tvoří dvě nejčastější finitní formy obsahových vět, zatímco v nefinitních obsahových větách se může vyskytovat pouze infinitiv a přičestí přítomné (*-ing clause*). Po obsahových větách se třetí kapitola věnuje vztažným větám s funkcí přívlastku. Tento typ vedlejší věty postmodifikuje jmennou frázi, ke které náleží, a pomáhá buď vymezit její význam (restriktivní vztažná věta), nebo jen přináší o dané frázi dodatečné informace (nerestriktivní vztažná věta). Jako součást postmodifikace jmenných frází působí i další funkční typ vedlejších vět, vedlejší věta přístavková. Tento typ větné postmodifikace se však pojí jen s abstraktními substantivy, jejichž význam doplňuje a konkretizuje. Finitní formy přístavkových vět jsou nejčastěji uvozené pomocí podřadící spojky *that*, zatímco nefinitní přístavkové věty zpravidla obsahují infinitiv. Třetí kapitola byla zakončena rozborem příslovečných vět vedlejších, které je možné dále členit na adjunkt, disjunkt a konjunkt. Adjunkt reprezentuje nejčastější typ vedlejší věty příslovečné, jako jediný z výše zmíněných typů příslovečných vět je plně integrovaný do struktury souvětí a přináší informace o okolnostech (např. *místní, časové, příčinné*) souvisejících se slovesem nadřazené věty. Naproti tomu disjunkt vyjadřuje především postoj mluvčího k obsahu následující věty či souvětí, zatímco konjunkt slouží k propojení jednotlivých vět nebo větších textových celků. Vedlejší věty příslovečné mohou v souvětí mít následující tři pozice: počáteční (*initial*), středovou (*medial*) a koncovou (*end*). Především adjunkt se vyskytuje primárně na počátku či na konci souvětí.

Pátá kapitola se zaměřila na novinový diskurz, především tedy na novinové články, jejichž cílem je informovat čtenáře o vybraných událostech. Tyto články vykazují rysy typické pro psaný projev, včetně časté premodifikace a postmodifikace jmenných frází, které přispívají k cílené stručnosti novinové diskurzu. Poslední, šestá kapitola se zabývala politickým diskurzem, jehož hlavními aktéry jsou samotní politici, a politickými projevy, pro něž je typická častá nominalizace či syntaktický paralelismus, opakování též větné stavby.

V šesté kapitole, v praktické část této diplomové práce, byly představeny výsledky analýzy korpusu ukázek z 15 vybraných politických projevů a novinových článků. V každém ze dvou

diskurzů bylo celkově analyzováno 75 podřadných souvětí. Vybrané ukázky novinových článků obsahovaly celkový počet 274 vět, z nichž 82 (30 %) bylo vět hlavních a 192 (70 %) vět vedlejších. 104 (54 %) z celkového počtu vedlejších vět mělo nefinitní formu, zatímco finitní forma se vyskytovala u 88 (46 %) vedlejších vět v daném diskurzu. Oproti tomu souvětí v analyzovaných ukázkách politických projevů obsahovaly nižší celkový počet vět (233 úkazů). Z těchto 233 vět bylo v daných projevech 94 (40 %) vět hlavních a 139 (60 %) vět vedlejších. Krom vyššího počtu vět hlavních se politické projevy lišily od novinových článků rovněž v preferované formě vět vedlejších, neboť finitní forma (76 úkazů) se vyskytovala u 55 % vedlejších vět v daném diskurzu, zatímco nefinitní vedlejší věty (63 úkazů) tvořily zbývajících 45 %. Větší množství vedlejších vět a preference jejich non-finitní formy je důsledkem skutečnosti, že novinové články představují jednu z forem psaného projevu, který dává čtenáři více času na zpracování i vyšší míry větné kondenzace či subordinace. I když politické projevy bývají rovněž dopředu napsané, jsou připravovány s vědomím toho, že většina veřejnosti tyto projevy nebude číst, nýbrž je jen uslyší. Tyto podmínky vysvětlují preferenci projevů pro koordinaci vět hlavních a finitní formu vět vedlejších, které jsou pro posluchače obvykle lépe zpracovatelné.

Obsahové vedlejší věty jsou poněkud častější v ukázkách politických projevech (58 úkazů) než ve vybraných novinových člancích (53 úkazů). Je však třeba říci, že obsahové věty v politických projevech mají daleko větší procentuální podíl na celkovém počtu vedlejších vět v daném diskurzu (tj. 42 %, zatímco obsahové věty tvoří jen 28 % všech vět vedlejších v novinových člancích). Právě větší neformálnost politických projevů a jejich mluvený charakter jsou příčinou velkého počtu obsahových vět v daném diskurzu. Co se týče celkové počtu obsahových vět, rozdíl mezi dvěma diskurzy je primárně zapříčiněn větším množstvím obsahových vět uvozených *wh-členem* v politických projevech (11 úkazů oproti pouhým 4 příkladům v člancích). Tyto věty mívají mnohdy tázací funkci, a proto nemusejí být tak časté v novinových člancích, jejichž hlavním cílem je zprostředkovávat nové informace. U obou diskurzů však nejčastější formou obsahových tvoří infinitiv (26 úkazů v projevech v porovnání s 28 úkazy v člancích). Tato skutečnost ukazuje na to, že politické projevy se poněkud liší od prototypických forem mluveného projevu (např. konverzace).

Analyzované diskurzy se výrazně liší v četnosti vedlejších vět vztahných, které jsou téměř násobně častější v novinových člancích (61 úkazů) než v politických projevech (36 příkladů). Tento rozdíl je zapříčiněn větším počtem nefinitních vztahných vět v člancích (24 úkazů oproti jen 7 příkladům v projevech), ale rovněž i tendencí novinového diskurzu pro časté využití nerestriktivní postmodifikace u vztahných vět (19 příkladů oproti jen 4 úkazům v projevech). Tyto výsledky tak nejen potvrzují preferenci nefinitních forem u vedlejších vět novinových článků, ale také poukazují na skutečnost, že novinové články obsahují velmi často i informace, které jsou spíše okrajové, tedy ne nezbytné pro pochopení dané události. Další typ analyzované větné postmodifikace představují přístavkové věty, které vykazovaly podobnou četnost v obou diskurzích (13 úkazů v projevech oproti 14 příkladům v člancích). Oba diskurzy se rovněž shodovaly v preferenci pro nefinitní formy daných vedlejších vět (9 úkazů v projevech oproti 11 příkladům v člancích), především tedy pro infinitivní přístavkové věty (v obou diskurzích 8 úkazů). Tato četnost infinitivních přístavkových vět by naznačovala, že v daných diskurzích jsou postmodifikovány primárně abstraktní substantiva, která se vztahují k jednání či cílům člověka.

Jako poslední z hlavních funkčních typů vedlejších vět byly analyzovány věty příslovečné, které se podobně jako věty vztahné ukázaly být mnohem častější v novinových člancích (60 úkazů) než v politických projevech (32 příkladů). Opět lze tuto skutečnost částečně vysvětlit větším výskytem nefinitních příslovečných vět v analyzovaných člancích (38 úkazů oproti 18 příkladům v projevech). Avšak onen nepoměr rovněž reflektuje tendenci novinových článků v daleko větší míře využívat příslovečné věty při popisu kontextu událostí vět hlavních nebo nadřazených. Finitní příslovečné věty (14 úkazů v projevech oproti 22 příkladům v člancích) mají v obou diskurzích primárně časovou sémantickou roli, ale zatímco tyto finitní věty v politických projevech vyjadřují pouze simultánnost děje věty vedlejší s dějem nadřazené věty, v novinových člancích vystihují i skutečnost, že děj nadřazené věty předchází nebo následuje děj věty příslovečné. Význam kontextu pro novinový diskurz se odráží i ve větším počtu příslovečných vět ve formě participii, které vyjadřují průvodní okolnosti děje (19 úkazů v člancích oproti 9 příkladům v projevech). V neposlední řadě je důležité rovněž zmínit, že korpus novinových článků obsahuje 4 vedlejší věty, které nelze zařadit pod žádný z hlavních funkčních typů. Tyto vedlejší věty představují formu postmodifikace, která se však liší od té vztahné či přístavkové a pomáhá více specifikovat různé jednotky času (např. *years, minutes, hours*), čímž je dále potvrzena četnost vymezení časového kontextu v analyzovaných novinových člancích.

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<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/oct/10/palestinians-displaced-gaza-home-ceasefire-israel-hamas>
- i. **Starmer Will Become New PM as Labour Landslide Wipes out Tories** (The Telegraph)
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/07/05/starmer-heading-for-downing-street-labour-landslide/>
- j. **Small Boat Crossings for 2024 about to Exceed Last Year’s Total** (The Times)
<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/2024-small-boats-numbers-close-to-equalling-last-years-total-03hwhpnlm>
- k. **Rishi Sunak Has No Plans to Move to US after Election Defeat, Allies say** (The Guardian)
<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/jul/09/rishi-sunak-will-not-move-to-us-after-election-defeat-allies-say>

- l. **Justin Trudeau’s Trying to Save His Party. Is He Hurting Canada? (The New York Times)**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/07/world/canada/justin-trudeau-liberal-party-canada.html>
- m. **Donald Trump Returns to Power, Ushering in New Era of Uncertainty (The New York Times)**
<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/06/us/politics/trump-wins-presidency.html>
- n. **Liz Truss Announces Resignation after just 45 days as Prime Minister (The Independent)**
<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/liz-truss-resigns-prime-minister-b2206823.html>
- o. **Shooting at Trump Rally Upends Presidential Campaign (The Washington Post)**
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/07/13/trump-shooting-campaign-politics/>

List of abbreviations and explanation of highlighting in Appendices (I–IV)

1) Explanation of highlighting:

- a) Main clause
- b) Nominal clause
- c) Relative clause
- d) Appositive clause
- e) Adverbial clause
- f) Other

2) List of abbreviations:

- a) MC – main clause
- b) SB – subordinate clause
- c) S – subject
- d) C_s – subject complement
- e) C_{ajd} – complement of an adjective
- f) C_p – complement of a preposition
- g) O_d – object direct
- h) P – syntactic position of an adverbial clause
- i) SR – semantic role of an adverbial clause

Appendix I – Complex Sentences in Political Speeches (A–O)

(A) Badenoch, Kemi – Leader’s Speech at the Conservative Party Conference 2025

<https://www.conservatives.com/news/kemi-badenoch-closes-conference>

^{A1} Only the Conservative party can deliver the stronger economy and stronger borders that will give people a more prosperous future.

Every generation must face its test.

^{A2} In the 1940s, our test was to defeat fascism and ensure the victory of freedom.

^{A3} In the 1980s, it was to banish socialism and deliver prosperity.

^{A4} And in the 2020s, our test is to restore a strong economy, secure our borders, and rebuild Britain’s strength so our children inherit a country that works.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Conference, thank you.

^{A5} Thank you, for standing by the only party that can meet the test of our generation.

A1: MC (1)¹; SC (1)

A2: MC (1); SC (2)

A3: MC (1); SC (2)

A4: MC (1); SC (5)

A5: MC (1); SC (2)

(B) Biden, Joe – Victory Speech

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/read-joe-bidens-full-victory-speech-after-winning-the-presidential-election>

My fellow Americans, the people of this nation have spoken.

They have delivered us a clear victory.

A convincing victory.

A victory for “We the People.”

¹ Throughout Appendices I and II, the number in brackets denotes the number of clauses – either main clauses (MC) or subordinate clauses (SC) – in a given complex sentence.

^{B1} We have won with the most votes ever cast for a presidential ticket in the history of this nation — 74 million.

^{B2} I am humbled by the trust and confidence you have placed in me.

^{B3} I pledge to be a President who seeks not to divide, but to unify.

Who doesn't see Red and Blue states, but a United States.

And who will work with all my heart to win the confidence of the whole people.

For that is what America is about: The people.

^{B4} And that is what our Administration will be about.

^{B5} I sought this office to restore the soul of America.

B1: MC (1); SC (1)

B2: MC (1); SC (1)

B3: MC (1); SC (4)

B4: MC (1); SC (1)

B5: MC (1); SC (1)

(C) Biden, Joe – State of the Union Address

<https://bidenwhitehouse.archives.gov/state-of-the-union-2022/>

Madam Speaker, Madam Vice President, and our First Lady and Second Gentleman, members of Congress and the Cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court, my fellow Americans: Last year, COVID-19 kept us apart.

This year, we're finally together again.

^{C1} Tonight — tonight we meet as Democrats, Republicans, and independents, but, most importantly, as Americans with a duty to one another, to America, to the American people, and to the Constitution, and an unwavering resolve that freedom will always triumph over tyranny.

Six — thank you.

^{C2} Six days ago, Russia's Vladimir Putin sought to shake the very foundations of the free world, thinking he could make it bend to his menacing ways.

^{C3} He thought he could roll into Ukraine and the world would roll over.

C⁴ Instead, he met with a wall of strength he never anticipated or imagined.

He met the Ukrainian people.

From President Zelenskyy to every Ukrainian, their fearlessness, their courage, their determination literally inspires the world.

Groups of citizens blocking tanks with their bodies.

Everyone from students to retirees, to teachers turned soldiers defending their homeland.

And in this struggle — President Zelenskyy said in his speech to the European Parliament, “Light will win over darkness.”

C⁵ The Ukrainian Ambassador to the United States is here tonight sitting with the First Lady.

C1: MC (1); SC (1)

C2: MC (1); SC (4)

C3: MC (1); SC (2)

C4: MC (1); SC (2)

C5: MC (1); SC (1)

(D) Charles III – State Banquet Speech to Donald Trump

<https://www.rev.com/transcripts/state-banquet-in-windsor>

Mr President, Mrs Trump, it is with great pleasure that my wife and I welcome you to Windsor Castle, on this, your second state visit to the United Kingdom.

This unique and important occasion reflects the enduring bond between our two great nations

D¹ Anchored by the deep friendship between our people, this relationship, which, with good reason, we and our predecessors have long called ‘special’, has made us safer and stronger through the generations.

D² Our people have fought and died together for the values we hold dear.

D³ We have innovated, traded and created together, fuelling our economies and cultures through myriad forms of exchange.

We have celebrated together, mourned together and stood together in the best and worst of times.

^{D4}Mr President, as we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence next year, it is remarkable to think just how far we have come.

^{D5}I cannot help but wonder what our forebears from 1776 would make of this friendship today.

D1: MC (1); SC (2)

D2: MC (2); SC (1)

D3: MC (3); SC (1)

D4: MC (1); SC (3)

D5: MC (1); SC (2)

(E) Harris, Kamala – Concession Speech

<https://19thnews.org/2024/11/kamala-harris-full-concession-speech/>

Good afternoon.

Good afternoon everyone, good afternoon.

Thank you all.

Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you.

So let me say, and I love you back, and I love you back.

^{E1} So let me say my heart is full today.

^{E2} My heart is full today, full of gratitude for the trust you have placed in me, full of love for our country and full of resolve.

^{E3} The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not what we fought for, not what we voted for, but hear me when I say the light of America's promise will always burn bright, as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting.

To my beloved Doug and our family, I love you so very much.

To President Biden and Dr. Biden, thank you for your faith and support.

E4 To Governor Walz and the Walz family, I know your service to our nation will continue

E5 And to my extraordinary team, to the volunteers who gave so much of themselves, to the poll workers and the local election officials, I thank you.

E1: MC (1); SC (2)

E2: MC (1); SC (1)

E3: MC (2); SC (7)

E4: MC (1); SC (1)

E5: MC (1); SC (1)

(F) Johnson, Boris – Statement to the House of Commons on Ukraine (24 February 2022)
<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/pm-statement-to-the-house-of-commons-on-ukraine-24-february-2022>

F1 Mr Speaker, I have just come from a meeting of G7 leaders, joined by Secretary General Stoltenberg of NATO, and with permission I will update the House on our response to President Putin’s onslaught against a free and sovereign European nation.

F2 Shortly after 4am this morning, I spoke to President Zelenskyy of Ukraine as the first missiles struck his beautiful and innocent country and its brave people, and I assured him of the unwavering support of the United Kingdom.

F3 And I can tell the House that at this stage, Ukrainians are offering a fierce defence of their families and their country and I know that every Hon Member will share my admiration for their resolve.

F4 Earlier today, Putin delivered another televised address and offered the absurd pretext that he sought the “demilitarisation and denazification of Ukraine”.

F5 In fact he is hurling the might of his military machine against a free and peaceful neighbour, in breach of his own explicit pledge and every principle of civilised behaviour between states, spurning the best efforts of this country and our allies to avoid bloodshed.

F1: MC (2); SC (1)

F2: MC (2); SC (1)

F3: MC (2); SC (2)

F4: MC (2); SC (1)

F5: MC (1); SC (2)

(G) Johnson, Boris – Tribute to HM Queen Elizabeth II

<https://www.ukpol.co.uk/boris-johnson-2022-tribute-to-hm-queen-elizabeth-ii/>

G¹ I hope the House will not mind if I begin with a personal confession.

G² A few months ago, the BBC came to see me to talk about Her Majesty the Queen.

G³ We sat down and the cameras started rolling, and they requested that I should talk about her in the past tense.

G⁴ I am afraid that I simply choked up and could not go on.

G⁵ I am really not easily moved to tears, but I was so overcome with sadness that I had to ask them to go away.

G1: MC (1); SC (2)

G2: MC (1); SC (2)

G3: MC (3); SC (2)

G4: MC (1); SC (2)

G5: MC (2); SC (2)

(H) Martin, Micheál – National Statement to the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly 26th September 2025

<https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-the-aoiseach/speeches/national-statement-by-aoiseach-miche%c3%a1l-martin-to-the-80th-session-of-the-united-nations-general-assembly-26th-september-2025/>

Madam President of the General Assembly, distinguished Heads of State and Government, Secretary General, Excellencies, Friends.

H¹ It is important to remember what brings us together every year.

Eighty years ago, the world was emerging from the most savage conflict in our history.

80 million people lay dead.

^{H2} A deliberate, industrial-scale genocide, aimed at obliterating Europe's Jewish population, saw six million people murdered – a monstrous crime that remains unsurpassed in human history.

People were targeted for death because of their ethnic identity, their sexual orientation, their disability.

^{H3} Cities were laid waste, throttled by siege, fire-bombed into oblivion, or pulverised by the first and only use of atomic weapons in war.

Humanity had descended into the abyss.

^{H4} This United Nations was the phoenix that rose from that darkness, the highest expression of our commitment to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security.

^{H5} It was the best attempt by those who had seen the worst of humanity to offer a different path to future generations.

H1: MC (1); SC (2)

H2: MC (1); SC (3)

H3: MC (1); SC (3)

H4: MC (1); SC (3)

H5: MC (1); SC (2)

(I) Starmer, Keir – First Speech as a Prime Minister

<https://labourlist.org/2024/07/labour-general-election-results-starmer-full-speech-downing-street/>

Thank you.

Good afternoon.

¹¹ I have just returned from Buckingham Palace, where I accepted an invitation from His Majesty the King to form the next government of this great nation.

¹² I want to thank the outgoing Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak.

¹³ His achievement as the first British Asian Prime Minister of our country – the extra effort that that will have required – should not be underestimated by anyone.

¹⁴ We pay tribute to that today, and we also recognise the dedication and hard work he brought to his leadership.

¹⁵ When the gap between the sacrifices made by people and the service they receive from politicians grows this big, it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation, a draining away of the hope, the spirit, the belief in a better future – that we need to move forward together.

I1: MC (1); SC (2)

I2: MC (1); SC (1)

I3: MC (1); SC (1)

I4: MC (2); SC (1)

I5: MC (1); SC (5)

(J) Starmer, Keir – Immigration Speech (November 2024)

<https://labourlist.org/2024/11/keir-starmer-speech-immigration-statistics-net-migration-prime-minister-transcript-read-full/>

^{J1} When we came into office – we immediately conducted an audit of public finances and we found a £22 billion black hole.

^{J2} Now – the independent Office of National Statistics has conducted vital work on the state of immigration and found the previous Government were running an open borders experiment.

^{J3} As the ONS sets out, nearly one million people came to Britain in the year ending June 2023.

^{J4} That is four times the migration levels compared with 2019.

^{J5} Time and again – the Conservative Party promised they would get those numbers down.

J1: MC (2); SC (1)

J2: MC (2); SC (1)

J3: MC (1); SC (2)

J4: MC (1); SC (1)

J5: MC (1); SC (1)

(K) Sunak, Rishi – Resignation Speech

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c4ng0l02zd3o>

Good morning.

^{K1} I will shortly be seeing His Majesty The King to offer my resignation as prime minister.

^{K2} To the country, I would like to say first and foremost I am sorry.

^{K3} I have given this job my all, but you have sent a clear signal that the government of the United Kingdom must change and yours is the only judgement that matters.

I have heard your anger; your disappointment and I take responsibility for this loss.

^{K4} To all the Conservative candidates and campaigners who work tirelessly but without success, I am sorry that we could not deliver what your efforts deserved.

^{K5} It pains me to think how many good colleagues who contributed so much to their communities and our country, will now no longer sit in the House of Commons.

K1: MC (1); SC (1)

K2: MC (1); SC (2)

K3: MC (3); SC (2)

K4: MC (1); SC (3)

K5: MC (1); SC (3)

(L) Trudeau, Justin – Resignation Speech

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cvg62lvr845o>

^{L1} Every morning I've woken up as prime minister, I've been inspired by the resilience, the generosity, and the determination of Canadians.

^{L2} It is the driving force of every single day I have the privilege of serving in this office.

^{L3} That is why, since 2015, I have fought for this country - for you - to strengthen and grow the middle class.

Why we rallied to support each other through the pandemic, to advance reconciliation, to defend free trade on this continent, to stand strong with Ukraine and our democracy.

And to fight climate change and get our economy ready for the future. We are at a critical moment in the world.

^{L4}My friends, as you all know, I am a fighter.

^{L5}Every bone in my body has always told me to fight because I care deeply about Canadians.

L1: MC (1); SC (1)

L2: MC (1); SC (2)

L3: MC (1); SC (3)

L4: MC (1); SC (1)

L5: MC (1); SC (2)

(M) Trump, Donald – Second Inaugural Address

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/remarks/2025/01/the-inaugural-address/>

Vice President Vance, Speaker Johnson, Senator Thune, Chief Justice Roberts, justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, President Clinton, President Bush, President Obama, President Biden, Vice President Harris, and my fellow citizens, the golden age of America begins right now.

From this day forward, our country will flourish and be respected again all over the world.

^{M1} We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves to be taken advantage of any longer.

During every single day of the Trump administration, I will, very simply, put America first.

Our sovereignty will be reclaimed.

Our safety will be restored.

The scales of justice will be rebalanced.

The vicious, violent, and unfair weaponization of the Justice Department and our government will end.

^{M2} And our top priority will be to create a nation that is proud, prosperous, and free.

America will soon be greater, stronger, and far more exceptional than ever before.

^{M3} I return to the presidency confident and optimistic that we are at the start of a thrilling new era of national success.

^{M4} A tide of change is sweeping the country, sunlight is pouring over the entire world, and America has the chance to seize this opportunity like never before.

^{M5} But first, we must be honest about the challenges we face.

M1: MC (2); SC (1)

M2: MC (1); SC (2)

M3: MC (1); SC (1)

M4: MC (3); SC (1)

M5: MC (1); SC (1)

(N) Truss, Liz – Prime Minister’s statement on the steps of Downing Street

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-minister-liz-truss-statement-6-september-2022>

^{N1} Good afternoon, I have just accepted Her Majesty The Queen’s kind invitation to form a new government.

^{N2} Let me pay tribute to my predecessor.

Boris Johnson delivered Brexit, the Covid vaccine, and stood up to Russian aggression.

History will see him as a hugely consequential Prime Minister.

^{N3} I’m honoured to take on this responsibility at a vital time for our country.

What makes the United Kingdom great is our fundamental belief in freedom, in enterprise, and in fair play.

Our people have shown grit, courage and determination time and time again.

^{N4} We now face severe global headwinds caused by Russia's appalling war in Ukraine and the aftermath of Covid.

^{N5} Now is the time to tackle the issues that are holding Britain back.

N1: MC (1); SC (1)

N2: MC (1); SC (1)

N3: MC (1); SC (1)

N4: MC (1); SC (1)

N5: MC (1); SC (2)

(O) Vance, J. D. – RNC Speech

<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/address-accepting-the-vice-presidential-nomination-the-republican-national-convention-2>

Greetings, Milwaukee.

My fellow Americans and my fellow Republicans, my name is J.D. Vance, from the great state of Ohio.

My friends, tonight is a night of hope.

A celebration of what America once was, and with God's grace, what it will soon be again.

^{O1} And it is a reminder of the sacred duty we have to preserve the American experiment, to choose a new path for our children and grandchildren.

^{O2} But as we meet tonight, we cannot forget that this evening could have been so much different. Instead of a day of celebration, this could have been a day of heartache and mourning.

^{O3} For the last eight years, President Trump has given everything he has to fight for the people of our country.

He didn't need politics, but the country needed him.

⁰⁴ Now, prior to running for president, he was one of the most successful businessmen in the world.

⁰⁵ He had everything anyone could ever want in a life.

O1: MC (1); SC (3)

O2: MC (1); SC (2)

O3: MC (1); SC (2)

O4: MC (1); SC (1)

O5: MC (1); SC (1)

Appendix II – Complex Sentences in newspaper reports (a.– o.)

- a. **Badenoch Sets Out Her Vision to Redefine Tory Party – but Few Are Listening** (The Guardian)

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2025/oct/08/badenoch-sets-out-her-vision-to-redefine-tory-party-but-few-are-listening>

When Kemi Badenoch was knocking on doors in her Essex constituency in the run-up to the last election, she was confronted by a former Tory voter who told her: “I don’t know what the blue rosette you’re wearing means any more.”

a.1 While she went on to win North West Essex, a new redrawn seat, Badenoch’s majority was slashed by almost 25,000 from her win in Saffron Walden and the Conservative party as a whole suffered its worst defeat in parliamentary history.

a.2 Ever since that day, her allies say, she has been thinking about how to redefine what the Conservative party stands for and turn the page after a tumultuous chapter in the party’s history, one which has left its reputation in tatters.

a.3 The Tory leader feels that this week, when her party gathered in Manchester for its annual conference, she has done that.

a.4 Her problem is whether it will make any difference.

a.5 Badenoch arrived in Manchester at the weekend amid gloomy warnings that her party – languishing at just 16% in the polls and fast losing support to Reform UK – was facing oblivion.

a.1: MC (2); SC (1)

a.2: MC (1); SC (5)

a.3: MC (1); SC (2)

a.4: MC (1); SC (1)

a.5: MC (1); SC (3)

b. **As Biden Inches Closer to Victory, U.S. Allies Cautiously Weigh Outreach amid Trump Threats** (The Washington Post)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2020/11/06/world-reaction-us-election/>

The whole world is watching the chaotic aftermath of the U.S. presidential race.

b.1 And the whole world is wondering what is going on.

b.2 Leaders around the world saw former vice president Joe Biden strengthen his path to the White House on Friday after taking the lead in Georgia and Pennsylvania — two states that are critical for any chance of President Trump winning a second term.

b.3 But Trump’s unsubstantiated attacks on the vote count continued to overshadow preliminary results.

Officials and newspapers around the world lamented the polarization and dysfunction in the world’s oldest Western democracy.

b.4 In a speech late Friday, Biden did not declare victory but said the numbers point to a Democratic win.

He also addressed the president’s attacks on the vote count process: “Democracy works. Your vote will be counted. I don’t care how hard people try to stop it. I will not let it happen.”

b.5 Throughout Friday, it was clear that the image of American democracy has taken a battering, as had the country’s reputation as a dependable ally.

b.1: MC (1); SC (1)

b.2: MC (1); SC (4)

b.3: MC (1); SC (1)

b.4: MC (1); SC (1)

b.5: MC (1); SC (2)

c. **The Invasion of Ukraine: How Russia Attacked and What Happens Next** (The New York Times)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/02/24/world/europe/why-russia-attacked-ukraine.html>

After months of troop and tank buildups, of grim warnings of violence and vague assurances of peace, and of efforts at diplomacy in Washington, the halls of the United Nations and the capitals of Europe, Russia’s invasion of Ukraine began early Thursday morning, with shelling and rocket attacks on several major cities including the capital, Kyiv, and dozens of deaths.

c.1 Explosions thundered in the dim light before dawn, minutes after President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia cynically declared the start of a “special military operation” to “demilitarize” Ukraine but not occupy the country.

c.2 His announcement came as the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting, stunning ambassadors who had to deliver impromptu reactions to the rapidly changing events.

c.3 Hours before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia, saying he wanted to speak to them directly after Mr. Putin had rejected his phone call.

“Listen to the voice of reason,” Mr. Zelensky said. “The Ukrainian people want peace.”

They did not get it.

c.4 Ukrainians had hoped for months that the forecasts of an invasion from Russia, a nation with which they share much history and culture, could not be true.

But on Thursday they awoke to its dire reality.

c.5 Long lines of cars moved out of Kyiv, many heading west in hopes of finding sanctuary in one of the few parts of the country not ringed with Russian forces.

c.1: MC (1); SC (2)

c.2: MC (1); SC (3)

c.3: MC (1); SC (5)

c.4: MC (1); SC (2)

c.5: MC (1); SC (3)

d. **Royals Give Trump a Spectacular Welcome for ‘Ultimate’ State Visit** (The Times)

<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/royal-family/article/trump-state-visit-royal-family-william-kate-charles-2q3mjkt3s>

Explaining the value of monarchy, Clement Attlee once said: “We do want a little light, colour and symbolism in our national life.”

d.1 Quite what he would have made of the technicolour spectacle laid on for Donald Trump’s unprecedented second state visit is anyone’s guess.

d.2 When Trump’s three helicopters arrived in the walled garden by Victoria House on the Windsor estate, the Prince and Princess of Wales led the charge to greet their guests.

The lawn had never been used as a landing site before and the King couldn’t resist a peek out of the window.

“This is my father,” William joked as he walked over to the King and Queen with the president, who was holding hands with his wife, Melania.

During the official handshakes, Trump appeared to tell Kate, who was wearing a maroon Emilia Wickstead dress, hat by Jane Taylor and a feather brooch: “You’re beautiful.”

The president then joined the King in the Irish State Coach for a ten-minute carriage procession to Windsor Castle.

Mrs Trump travelled behind with the Queen in the Scottish State Coach.

d.3 The Queen, who had been absent from the Duchess of Kent’s funeral at Westminster Cathedral the day before while suffering with sinusitis, appeared to have made a good recovery.

d.4 Wearing a sapphire blue ensemble by Fiona Clare and a hat by Philip Treacy, the Queen took part in all the planned events.

d.5 The route, lined with troops, took them past Frogmore Cottage, the former home of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

d.1: MC (1); SC (2)

d.2: MC (1); SC (2)

d.3: MC (1); SC (3)

d.4: MC (1); SC (1)

d.5: MC (1); SC (1)

e. **Biden Makes Stunning Decision to Pull Out of 2024 Race (The Washington Post)**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/07/21/joe-biden-drops-out/>

e.1 President Biden abruptly ended his reelection campaign Sunday, sending shock waves through the political world and plunging the Democratic Party into an unprecedented scramble to choose a new nominee to face former president Donald Trump.

“It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your President,” Biden, 81, wrote in a letter he posted to social media Sunday afternoon.

“And while it has been my intention to seek reelection, I believe it is in the best interest of my party and the country for me to stand down and to focus solely on fulfilling my duties as President for the remainder of my term.”

e.2 In a separate social media post Sunday, Biden endorsed his vice president, Kamala D. Harris, to replace him as the Democratic Party’s standard-bearer ahead of its national convention Aug. 19-22.

“Today I want to offer my full support and endorsement for Kamala to be the nominee of our party this year,” Biden said in a post shared on X.

“Democrats — it’s time to come together and beat Trump. Let’s do this.”

Biden’s exit leaves his party in an almost unprecedented position just months ahead of the Nov. 5 election.

e.3 In a presidential race that has already been rocked by a felony conviction and an assassination attempt, the latest plot twist added to the sense of tumult that has gripped the nation’s politics this year.

e.4 Even as the party appeared to be coalescing around Harris on Sunday, some lawmakers were advocating for a more open process to allow other potential candidates to compete for the nomination, further highlighting the turbulent impact of Biden’s decision.

e.5 Harris, a former senator from California, would bring her own liabilities to the race against Trump, whom Democrats consider an existential threat to democracy.

e.1: MC (1); SC (4)

e.2: MC (1); SC (1)

e.3: MC (1); SC (2)

e.4: MC (1); SC (5)

e.5: MC (1); SC (1)

f. **Russia Invades Ukraine: A Dark Day for Europe President Zelensky Warns of New Iron Curtain across the Continent (The Times)**

<https://www.thetimes.com/world/russia-ukraine-war/article/russia-launches-full-scale-invasion-of-ukraine-v35ch8qww>

f.1 President Zelensky of Ukraine warned that “a new iron curtain” was falling across Europe last night as Russian tanks and paratroopers laid siege to Kyiv in an apparent attempt to decapitate the country’s democratic government.

f.2 Russia’s a full-scale invasion of Ukraine started before dawn yesterday with air, land and sea attacks, leaving western capitals scrambling to co-ordinate a response.

f.3 The United States sent thousands more troops to Europe as Nato vowed to defend its eastern allies even as Ukraine faced the might of the Russian military alone.

f.4 The assault began with a blitzkrieg to disable its air defences.

In a pre-dawn address from the Kremlin, President Putin warned that any western retaliation would provoke a response “never seen in history”.

Biden warned that excluding Russia from the Swift international payments system, which Johnson is pushing for, was not an option because “that’s not the position the rest of Europe chooses to take”.

^{f.5} In Ukraine, after cruise missiles targeted anti-aircraft systems, airfields and ammunition stores early in the day, Russian helicopters descended on an airfield north of Kyiv, disgorging paratroopers to take control before the arrival of land forces from Belarus.

f.1: MC (1); SC (3)

f.2: MC (1); SC (3)

f.3: MC (1); SC (3)

f.4: MC (1); SC (1)

f.5: MC (1); SC (3)

g. Queen Elizabeth II Dies Aged 96 at Balmoral (The Telegraph)

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/royal-family/2022/09/08/queen-dead-age-96-royal-family-balmoral-buckingham-palace/>

Queen Elizabeth II has died at the age of 96, peacefully at her home of Balmoral.

Britain's longest-reigning monarch died on Thursday afternoon.

^{g.1} The news was announced after her family had flown in to be together at the Queen's Scottish home.

^{g.2} She had pledged to dedicate her life to duty and did just that until her final days, last seen to be in good spirits in a photograph after appointing her 15th prime minister just 48 hours before.

^{g.3} In a statement at 6.30pm, Buckingham Palace confirmed that she had died and reassured the public that the moment had been peaceful.

^{g.4} The Queen's health is understood to have deteriorated rapidly on Thursday, with members of her family making last-minute arrangements to fly to Balmoral.

^{g.5} She is succeeded by her eldest son and heir, until then the Prince of Wales, who became King upon the moment of her death.

g.1: MC (1); SC (2)

g.2: MC (2); SC (3)

g.3: MC (2); SC (2)

g.4: MC (1); SC (3)

g.5: MC (1); SC (1)

h. Palestinians Displaced to Southern Gaza Begin Journey Home as Ceasefire Comes into Effect (The Guardian)

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2025/oct/10/palestinians-displaced-gaza-home-ceasefire-israel-hamas>

h.1 Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians in Gaza have begun to return to the ruins of their homes after the ceasefire rapidly negotiated in recent days between Hamas and Israel came into effect at noon local time on Friday – the first relief from relentless violence that inhabitants of the devastated territory have had since March.

h.2 Israeli troops withdrew to new agreed-upon positions during Friday morning and Hamas is expected to release the 20 living Israeli hostages it is holding early next week, after which Israel will free 250 Palestinians serving long-term sentences in Israeli prisons, as well as 1,700 others detained during the war.

h.3 The hostages for prisoners deal, approved by the Israeli cabinet on Thursday night, is the first phase of a US-drafted “peace proposal” announced by Donald Trump last week that has raised hopes of a durable end to the two-year conflict, though all involved recognise the difficulties ahead.

h.4 The Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, claimed credit for the hostage release, saying in an address on Friday that the “security of Israel” had dictated his actions in Gaza.

“I believed that if we applied heavy military pressure, combined with heavy diplomatic pressure, we would absolutely be able to return all of our hostages,” said Netanyahu, who thanked Trump for his support.

h.5 The US president is expected to visit Israel on Monday to address the Knesset in Jerusalem.

h.1: MC (1); SC (4)

h.2: MC (2); SC (5)

h.3: MC (1); SC (5)

h.4: MC (1); SC (2)

h.5: MC (1); SC (2)

i. Starmer Will Become New PM as Labour Landslide Wipes out Tories (The Telegraph)

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2024/07/05/starmer-heading-for-downing-street-labour-landslide/>

i.1 Sir Keir Starmer will become the prime minister after Labour won the general election with a landslide and the Tories suffered a historic wipeout.

Rishi Sunak conceded the election just before 5am, congratulating Sir Keir on his victory and telling Tories who had lost their seats: “I am sorry.”

i.2 Labour racked up a string of major gains from the Conservatives as a slew of Cabinet ministers including Grant Shapps, Gillian Keegan and Penny Mordaunt lost their seats.

i.3 Liz Truss was defeated in her seat of South West Norfolk, losing narrowly to Labour.

i.4 Coming just before 7am, the shock defeat capped off an awful night for the Tories, with Ms Truss becoming the first former prime minister to lose their seat since Alec Douglas-Home in 1966.

i.5 The former business secretary Sir Jacob Rees Mogg was a major Labour scalp, losing his seat at 5am - the same time Labour officially obtained a majority by passing the threshold of 326 seats.

i.1: MC (1); SC (2)

i.2: MC (1); SC (1)

i.3: MC (1); SC (1)

i.4: MC (1); SC (3)

i.5: MC (1); SC (3)

- j. **Small Boat Crossings for 2024 about to Exceed Last Year's Total** (The Times)
<https://www.thetimes.com/uk/politics/article/2024-small-boats-numbers-close-to-equalling-last-years-total-03hwhpnlm>

j.1 The number of migrants to have crossed the English Channel in small boats so far this year has almost reached the total number that arrived in the entirety of 2023.

j.2 Home Office figures revealed that 509 people made the journey on Thursday in 11 boats, taking the provisional total for 2024 so far to 29,154.

j.3 That puts this year's crossings within less than 300 of last year's total of 29,437 with more than two months remaining.

By this time last year 26,501 had crossed the Channel.

j.4 However, this year's total is unlikely to break the record set in 2022, when 45,755 migrants arrived in small boats.

j.5 Since Sir Keir Starmer became prime minister in July, 15,912 migrants have crossed the Channel in small boats, higher than the 15,068 migrants who arrived in the same period last year.

j.1: MC (1); SC (2)

j.2: MC (1); SC (2)

j.3: MC (1); SC (1)

j.4: MC (1); SC (2)

j.5: MC (1); SC (2)

- k. **Rishi Sunak Has No Plans to Move to US after Election Defeat, Allies say** (The Guardian)

<https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/jul/09/rishi-sunak-will-not-move-to-us-after-election-defeat-allies-say>

k.1 Rishi Sunak is understood to have told MPs he has no plans to leave for California and will do all he can to facilitate a smooth leadership transition.

Sunak has moved into the offices of the leader of the opposition in Portcullis House and chaired his first shadow cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

He took his place on the opposition benches for the election of the Commons speaker, when he congratulated Keir Starmer, saying it was a “formidable task” and that they “argued vigorously ... but still respect each other”

Sunak said: “To be sent to this place by our constituencies is the greatest honour and responsibility”, and said he looked forward to continuing to represent Richmond and Northallerton.

k.2 He said they would take on opposition duty “respectfully, professionally and humbly”.

k.3 Allies of the former prime minister said he was keen to strongly counter any rumours that he was eager to abandon the party in favour of a life over the Atlantic.

k.4 Sunak paid particular tribute to his own constituency, where the result made him the safest Conservative MP in the country.

k.5 Conservative MPs met on Tuesday to begin the process of electing a new 1922 Committee of backbenchers, which will set the timetable for a leadership election.

k.1: MC (1); SC (6)

k.2: MC (1); SC (1)

k.3: MC (1); SC (4)

k.4: MC (1); SC (1)

k.5: MC (1); SC (3)

1. **Justin Trudeau’s Trying to Save His Party. Is He Hurting Canada? (The New York Times)**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2025/01/07/world/canada/justin-trudeau-liberal-party-canada.html>

l.1 Justin Trudeau’s announcement on Monday that he would resign was the last card that Canada’s deeply unpopular prime minister, who had set his party on course to lose a national election, had left to play.

^{1.2} The political levers he has pulled will give Mr. Trudeau's Liberal Party a chance to reinvent itself without him.

^{1.3} But they will also leave Canada weakened as it braces for President-elect Donald J. Trump, who has threatened the country with tariffs that could cripple its economy.

^{1.4} It appears to be a gamble that Mr. Trudeau is willing to take.

^{1.5} To allow his party's thousands of members to choose his successor, a lengthy process that will involve campaigning, Mr. Trudeau suspended Parliament until March 24.

1.1: MC (1); SC (5)

1.2: MC (1); SC (2)

1.3: MC (1); SC (3)

1.4: MC (1); SC (3)

1.5: MC (1); SC (3)

m. Donald Trump Returns to Power, Ushering in New Era of Uncertainty (The New York Times)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/11/06/us/politics/trump-wins-presidency.html>

^{m.1} Donald J. Trump rode a promise to smash the American status quo to win the presidency for a second time, surviving a criminal conviction, indictments, an assassin's bullet, accusations of authoritarianism and an unprecedented switch of his opponent to complete a remarkable return to power.

^{m.2} Mr. Trump's victory caps the astonishing political comeback of a man who was charged with plotting to overturn the last election but who tapped into frustrations and fears about the economy and illegal immigration to defeat Vice President Kamala Harris.

^{m.3} His defiant plans to upend the country's political system held appeal to tens of millions of voters who feared that the American dream was drifting further from reach and who turned to Mr. Trump as a battering ram against the ruling establishment and the expert class of elites.

^{m.4} In a deeply divided nation, voters embraced Mr. Trump's pledge to seal the southern border by almost any means, to revive the economy with 19th-century-style tariffs that would restore American manufacturing and to lead a retreat from international entanglements and global conflict.

^{m.5} Now, Mr. Trump will serve as the 47th president four years after reluctantly leaving office as the 45th, the first politician since Grover Cleveland in the late 1800s to lose re-election to the White House and later mount a successful run.

m.1: MC (1); SC (4)

m.2: MC (1); SC (4)

m.3: MC (1); SC (3)

m.4: MC (1); SC (4)

m.5: MC (1); SC (3)

n. Liz Truss Announces Resignation after just 45 days as Prime Minister (The Independent)

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/liz-truss-resigns-prime-minister-b2206823.html>

^{n.1} Liz Truss has announced that she is to resign as prime minister just six weeks after taking office.

^{n.2} The dramatic announcement outside the door to 10 Downing Street came shortly after the PM requested a meeting with the chair of the backbench 1922 Committee, Sir Graham Brady.

^{n.3} An election for the leadership of the Conservative party will be completed by 28 October and Ms Truss will remain as prime minister until a new leader is chosen.

^{n.4} Sir Graham, who oversees leadership elections, said it was his expectation that Conservative party members will get the final vote on the new leader unless MPs coalesce behind a single candidate for a coronation.

^{n.5} The breakneck timetable would require any ballot to be conducted online in a matter of a day or two, but will ensure the new PM is in place in time for chancellor Jeremy Hunt's crucial 31 October statement setting out the government's tax and spend plans.

n.1: MC (1); SC (2)

n.2: MC (1); SC (1)

n.3: MC (2); SC (1)

n.4: MC (1); SC (3)

n.5: MC (2); SC (2)

o. **Shooting at Trump Rally Upends Presidential Campaign (The Washington Post)**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/07/13/trump-shooting-campaign-politics/>

^{o.1} A shooting at former president Donald Trump's campaign rally Saturday evening — which is being investigated as an assassination attempt — upended the already dark and tumultuous race for the White House.

^{o.2} Trump's campaign said he still plans to attend the Republican National Convention, which is scheduled to begin in Milwaukee on Monday.

^{o.3} But the shooting is sure to shift the messaging and tenor — not to mention the security — of the massive gathering where the former president is expected to announce his running mate and try to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.

^{o.4} President Biden, speaking from Rehoboth Beach, Del., condemned the shooting.

^{o.5} Biden's campaign, meanwhile, announced it was pausing its communication and pulling down all television ads as quickly as possible.

o.1: MC (1); SC (1)

o.2: MC (1); SC (4)

o.3: MC (1); SC (6)

o.4: MC (1); SC (1)

o.5: MC (1); SC (2)

Appendix III – Categorization of subordinate clauses in political speeches (A–O)

1 Nominal clause

1.1 That-clause

- 1) Six days ago, Russia’s Vladimir Putin sought to shake the very foundations of the free world, thinking ^{C2}he could make it bend to his menacing ways (O_d).
- 2) He thought ^{C3}he could roll into Ukraine (O_d) and the world would roll over.
- 3) He thought he could roll into Ukraine and ^{C3}the world would roll over (O_d).
- 4) So let me say ^{E1}my heart is full today(O_d).
- 5) The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not what we fought for, not what we voted for, but hear me when I say ^{E3}the light of America’s promise will always burn bright (O_d), as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting.
- 6) To Governor Walz and the Walz family, I know ^{E4}your service to our nation will continue (O_d).
- 7) And I can tell the House ^{F3}that at this stage, Ukrainians are offering a fierce defence of their families and their country (O_d). and I know that every Hon Member will share my admiration for their resolve.
- 8) And I can tell the House that at this stage, Ukrainians are offering a fierce defence of their families and their country and I know ^{F3}that every Hon Member will share my admiration for their resolve (O_d).
- 9) I hope ^{G1}the House will not mind (O_d) if I begin with a personal confession.
- 10) We sat down and the cameras started rolling, and they requested ^{G3}that I should talk about her in the past tense.
- 11) Now – the independent Office of National Statistics has conducted vital work on the state of immigration and found ^{J2}the previous Government were running an open borders experiment (O_d).
- 12) Time and again – the Conservative Party promised ^{J5}they would get those numbers down (O_d).
- 13) To the country, I would like to say ^{K2}first and foremost I am sorry (O_d).

- 14) But as we meet tonight, we cannot forget ^{O2}that this evening could have been so much different (O_d).
- 15) I am **afraid** ^{G4}that I simply choked up (C_{adj}) and could not go on.
- 16) I am **afraid** that I simply choked up and ^{G4}could not go on (C_{adj}).
- 17) To all the Conservative candidates and campaigners who work tirelessly but without success, I am **sorry** ^{K4}that we could not deliver (C_{adj}) what your efforts deserved.
- 18) I return to the presidency **confident** and **optimistic** ^{M3}that we are at the start of a thrilling new era of national success (C_{adj}).

1.2 Wh-clause

- 1) And that is ^{B4}what our Administration will be about (C_s).
- 2) The outcome of this election is not ^{E3}what we wanted (C_s), not what we fought for, not what we voted for, but hear me when I say the light of America's promise will always burn bright, as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting.
- 3) The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not ^{E3}what we fought for (C_s), not what we voted for, but hear me when I say the light of America's promise will always burn bright, as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting.
- 4) The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not what we fought for, not ^{E3}what we voted for (C_s), but hear me when I say the light of America's promise will always burn bright, as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting.
- 5) That is ^{L3}why, since 2015, I have fought for this country (C_s) - for you - to strengthen and grow the middle class.
- 6) Mr President, as we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence next year, it is remarkable to think ^{D4}just how far we have come (O_d).
- 7) I cannot help but wonder ^{D5}what our forebears from 1776 would make of this friendship today (O_d).
- 8) I hope the House will not mind ^{G1}if I begin with a personal confession (O_d).
- 9) It is important to remember ^{H1}what brings us together every year (O_d).
- 10) To all the Conservative candidates and campaigners who work tirelessly but without success, I am sorry that we could not deliver ^{K4}what your efforts deserved (O_d).

11) It pains me to think ^{K5}how many good colleagues who contributed so much to their communities and our country, will now no longer sit in the House of Commons (O_d).

1.3 To-infinitive clause

- 1) In the 1940s, our test was ^{A2}to defeat fascism (C_s) and ensure the victory of freedom.
- 2) In the 1940s, our test was to defeat fascism and ^{A2}ensure the victory of freedom (C_s).
- 3) In the 1980s, it was ^{A3}to banish socialism (C_s) and deliver prosperity.
- 4) In the 1980s, it was to banish socialism and ^{A3}deliver prosperity (C_s).
- 5) And in the 2020s, our test is ^{A4}to restore a strong economy (C_s), secure our borders, and rebuild Britain's strength so our children inherit a country that works.
- 6) And in the 2020s, our test is to restore a strong economy, ^{A4}secure our borders (C_s), and rebuild Britain's strength so our children inherit a country that works.
- 7) And in the 2020s, our test is to restore a strong economy, secure our borders, and ^{A4}rebuild Britain's strength (C_s) so our children inherit a country that works.
- 8) And our top priority will be ^{M2}to create a nation (C_s) that is proud, prosperous, and free.
- 9) I pledge ^{B3}to be a President (O_d) who seeks not to divide, but to unify.
- 10) I pledge to be a President who seeks ^{B3}not to divide (O_d), but to unify.
- 11) I pledge to be a President who seeks not to divide, but ^{B3}to unify (O_d).
- 12) Six days ago, Russia's Vladimir Putin sought ^{C2}to shake the very foundations of the free world, thinking he could make it bend to his menacing ways.
- 13) Six days ago, Russia's Vladimir Putin sought to shake the very foundations of the free world, thinking he could make it ^{C2}bend to his menacing ways (O_d).
- 14) I cannot help but ^{D5}wonder (O_d) what our forebears from 1776 would make of this friendship today.
- 15) So let me ^{E1}say (O_d) my heart is full today.
- 16) I am really not easily moved to tears, but I was so overcome with sadness that I had to ask them ^{G5}to go away (O_d).
- 17) I want ^{I2}to thank the outgoing Prime Minister, Rishi Sunak.
- 18) When the gap between the sacrifices made by people and the service they receive from politicians grows this big, it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation, a draining away of

the hope, the spirit, the belief in a better future – that we need ^{I5}to move forward together (O_d).

- 19) To the country, I would like ^{K2}to say (O_d) first and foremost I am sorry.
- 20) Every bone in my body has always told me ^{L5}to fight (O_d) because I care deeply about Canadians.
- 21) We will be the envy of every nation, and we will not allow ourselves ^{M1}to be taken advantage of any longer (O_d).
- 22) Let me ^{N2}pay tribute to my predecessor (O_d).
- 23) Mr President, as we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence next year, it is remarkable ^{D4}to think (S) just how far we have come.
- 24) It is important ^{H1}to remember (S) what brings us together every year.
- 25) It pains me ^{K5}to think (S) how many good colleagues who contributed so much to their communities and our country, will now no longer sit in the House of Commons.
- 26) I'm **honoured** ^{N3}to take on this responsibility at a vital time for our country (C_{adj}).

1.4 -Ing clause

- 1) Thank you, ^{A5}for standing by the only party (O_p) that can meet the test of our generation.
- 2) A deliberate, industrial-scale genocide, aimed ^{H2}at obliterating Europe's Jewish population (O_p), saw six million people murdered – a monstrous crime that remains unsurpassed in human history.
- 3) We sat down and the cameras started ^{G3}rolling (O_d), and they requested that I should talk about her in the past tense.

2 Relative clause

2.1 Finite restrictive relative clause

- 1) Only the Conservative party can deliver the stronger **economy** and stronger **borders** ^{A1}that will give people a more prosperous future.
- 2) And in the 2020s, our test is to restore a strong economy, secure our borders, and rebuild Britain's strength so our children inherit **a country** ^{A4}that works.
- 3) Thank you for standing by the only **party** ^{A5}that can meet the test of our generation.

- 4) I am humbled by the **trust** and **confidence** ^{B2}you have placed in me.
- 5) I pledge to be a **President** ^{B3}who seeks not to divide, but to unify.
- 6) Instead, he met with a **wall of strength** ^{C4}he never anticipated or imagined.
- 7) Instead, he met with a **wall of strength** he never anticipated or ^{C4}imagined.
- 8) Our people have fought and died together for the **values** ^{D2}we hold dear.
- 9) My heart is full today, full of gratitude for the **trust** ^{E2}you have placed in me, full of love for our country and full of resolve.
- 10) And to my extraordinary team, to the **volunteers** ^{E5}who gave so much of themselves, to the poll workers and the local election officials, I thank you.
- 11) A deliberate, industrial-scale genocide, aimed at obliterating Europe's Jewish population, saw six million people murdered – a monstrous **crime** ^{H2}that remains unsurpassed in human history.
- 12) This United Nations was the **phoenix** ^{H4}that rose from that darkness, the highest expression of our commitment to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security.
- 13) It was the best attempt by **those** ^{H5}who had seen the worst of humanity to offer a different path to future generations.
- 14) His achievement as the first British Asian Prime Minister of our country – the extra **effort** ^{I3}that that will have required – should not be underestimated by anyone.
- 15) We pay tribute to that today, and we also recognise the **dedication** and hard **work** ^{I4}he brought to his leadership.
- 16) When the gap between the sacrifices made by people and the **service** ^{I5}they receive from politicians grows this big, it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation, a draining away of the hope, the spirit, the belief in a better future – that we need to move forward together.
- 17) I have given this job my all, but you have sent a clear signal that the government of the United Kingdom must change and yours is the only **judgement** ^{K3}that matters.
- 18) To all the Conservative **candidates** and **campaigners** ^{K4}who work tirelessly but without success, I am sorry that we could not deliver what your efforts deserved.
- 19) It pains me to think how many good **colleagues** ^{K5}who contributed so much to their communities and our country, will now no longer sit in the House of Commons.

- 20) Every **morning** ^{L1}I've woken up as prime minister, I've been inspired by the resilience, the generosity, and the determination of Canadians.
- 21) It is the driving force of every single **day** ^{L2}I have the privilege of serving in this office.
- 22) And our top priority will be to create a **nation** ^{M2}that is proud, prosperous, and free.
- 23) But first, we must be honest about the **challenges** ^{M5}we face.
- 24) And it is a reminder of the sacred **duty** ^{O1}we have to preserve the American experiment, to choose a new path for our children and grandchildren.
- 25) For the last eight years, President Trump has given **everything** ^{O3}he has to fight for the people of our country.
- 26) He had **everything** ^{O5}anyone could ever want in a life.
- 27) Now is the time to tackle **the issues** ^{N5}that are holding Britain back.

2.2 Finite non-restrictive relative clause

- 1) Anchored by the deep friendship between our people, this relationship, ^{D1}which, with good reason, we and our predecessors have long called 'special', has made us safer and stronger through the generations.
- 2) I have just returned from **Buckingham Palace**, ^{I1}where I accepted an invitation from His Majesty the King to form the next government of this great nation.

2.3 Non-finite restrictive relative clause

- 1) We have won with the most **votes** ^{B1}ever cast for a presidential ticket in the history of this nation.
- 2) When the gap between the **sacrifices** ^{I5}made by people and the service they receive from politicians grows this big, it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation, a draining away of the hope, the spirit, the belief in a better future – that we need to move forward together.
- 3) We now face severe global **headwinds** ^{N4}caused by Russia's appalling war in Ukraine and the aftermath of Covid.
- 4) As the ONS sets out, nearly one million people came to Britain in the **year** ^{J3}ending June 2023.
- 5) Now is the **time** ^{N5}to tackle the issues that are holding Britain back.

2.4 Non-finite non-restrictive relative clause

- 1) A deliberate, industrial-scale **genocide**, ^{H2}aimed at obliterating Europe’s Jewish population, saw six million people murdered – a monstrous crime that remains unsurpassed in human history.
- 2) Mr Speaker, I have just come from a **meeting of G7 leaders**, ^{F1}joined by Secretary General Stoltenberg of NATO, and with permission I will update the House on our response to President Putin’s onslaught against a free and sovereign European nation.

3 Appositive clause

3.1 Finite appositive clause

- 1) Tonight — tonight we meet as Democrats, Republicans, and independents, but, most importantly, as Americans with a duty to one another, to America, to the American people, and to the Constitution, and an unwavering **resolve** ^{C1}that freedom will always triumph over tyranny.
- 2) Earlier today, Putin delivered another televised address and offered the absurd **pretext** ^{F4}that he sought the “demilitarisation and denazification of Ukraine”.
- 3) When the gap between the sacrifices made by people and the service they receive from politicians grows this big, it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation, a draining away of the hope, the spirit, the **belief** in a better future – ^{I5}that we need to move forward together.
- 4) I have given this job my all, but you have sent a clear **signal** ^{K3}that the government of the United Kingdom must change and yours is the only judgement that matters.

3.2 Non-finite appositive clause

- 1) In fact he is hurling the might of his military machine against a free and peaceful neighbour, in breach of his own explicit pledge and every principle of civilised behaviour between states, spurning the best **efforts** of this country and our allies ^{F5}to avoid bloodshed.
- 2) This United Nations was the phoenix that rose from that darkness, the highest expression of our **commitment** ^{H4}to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security.

- 3) It was the best **attempt** by those who had seen the worst of humanity ^{H5}to offer a different path to future generations.
- 4) I have just returned from Buckingham Palace, where I accepted an **invitation** from His Majesty the King ^{I1}to form the next government of this great nation.
- 5) A tide of change is sweeping the country, sunlight is pouring over the entire world, and America has **the chance** ^{M4}to seize this opportunity like never before.
- 6) Good afternoon, I have just accepted Her Majesty The Queen's kind **invitation** to form a new government.
- 7) And it is a reminder of the sacred **duty** we have ^{O1}to preserve the American experiment, to choose a new path for our children and grandchildren.
- 8) And it is a reminder of the sacred **duty** we have to preserve the American experiment, ^{O1}to choose a new path for our children and grandchildren.
- 9) It is the driving force of every single day I have the **privilege** ^{L2}of serving in this office (Cp).

4 Adverbial clause

4.1 Finite adverbial clause

- 1) The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not what we fought for, not what we voted for, but hear me ^{E3}when I say (P: end; SR: temporal) the light of America's promise will always burn bright, as long as we never give up and as long as we keep fighting.
- 2) ^{I5}When the gap between the sacrifices made by people and the service they receive from politicians grows this big (P: initial; SR: temporal), it leads to a weariness in the heart of a nation, a draining away of the hope, the spirit, the belief in a better future – that we need to move forward together.
- 3) ^{J1}When we came into office (P: initial; SR: temporal)– we immediately conducted an audit of public finances and we found a £22 billion black hole.
- 4) Mr President, ^{D4}as we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence next year (P: initial; SR: temporal), it is remarkable to think just how far we have come.
- 5) Shortly after 4am this morning, I spoke to President Zelenskyy of Ukraine ^{F2}as the first missiles struck his beautiful and innocent country and its brave people (P: end; SR: temporal), and I assured him of the unwavering support of the United Kingdom.

- 6) Mr President, ^{D4}as we approach the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence next year (P: initial; SR: temporal), it is remarkable to think just how far we have come.
- 7) But ^{O2}as we meet tonight (P: initial; SR: temporal), we cannot forget that this evening could have been so much different.
- 8) The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not what we fought for, not what we voted for, but hear me when I say the light of America's promise will always burn bright, ^{E3}as long as we never give up (P: end; SR: temporal/conditional) and as long as we keep fighting.
- 9) The outcome of this election is not what we wanted, not what we fought for, not what we voted for, but hear me when I say the light of America's promise will always burn bright, as long as we never give up and ^{E3}as long as we keep fighting (P: end; SR: temporal/conditional).
- 10) ^{J3}As the ONS sets out (P: initial; SR: comment), nearly one million people came to Britain in the year ending June 2023.
- 11) My friends, ^{L4}as you all know (P: initial; SR: comment), I am a fighter.
- 12) And in the 2020s, our test is to restore a strong economy, secure our borders, and rebuild Britain's strength ^{A4}so our children inherit a country (P: end; SR: purpose) that works.
- 13) Every bone in my body has always told me to fight ^{L5}because I care deeply about Canadians (P: end; SR: reason).
- 14) I am really not easily moved to tears, but I was ^{G5}so overcome with sadness that I had to ask them (P: end; SR: comparative) to go away.

4.2 Non-finite adverbial clause

- 1) I sought this office ^{B5}to restore the soul of America (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 2) A few months ago, the BBC came ^{G2}to see me (P: end; SR: purpose) to talk about Her Majesty the Queen.
- 3) A few months ago, the BBC came to see me ^{G2}to talk about Her Majesty the Queen (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 4) This United Nations was the phoenix that rose from that darkness, the highest expression of our commitment to unite our strength ^{H4}to maintain international peace and security (P: end; SR: purpose).

- 5) I will shortly be seeing His Majesty The King ^{K1}to offer my resignation as prime minister (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 6) That is why, since 2015, I have fought for this country - for you – ^{L3}to strengthen and grow the middle class (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 7) That is why, since 2015, I have fought for this country - for you - to strengthen and ^{L3}grow the middle class (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 8) For the last eight years, President Trump has given everything he has ^{O3}to fight for the people of our country (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 9) Now, ^{O4}prior to running for president, he was one of the most successful businessmen in the world (P: Initial; SR: temporal).
- 10) We have innovated, traded and created together, ^{D3}fuelling our economies and cultures through myriad forms of exchange (P: end; SR: supplementive).
- 11) In fact he is hurling the might of his military machine against a free and peaceful neighbour, in breach of his own explicit pledge and every principle of civilised behaviour between states, ^{F5}spurning the best efforts of this country and our allies (P: end; SR: supplementive) to avoid bloodshed.
- 12) Six days ago, Russia's Vladimir Putin sought to shake the very foundations of the free world, ^{C2}thinking (P: end; SR: supplementive) he could make it bend to his menacing ways.
- 13) The Ukrainian Ambassador to the United States is here tonight ^{C5}sitting with the First Lady (P: end; SR: supplementive) .
- 14) ^{D1}Anchored by the deep friendship between our people (P: initial; SR: supplementive) , this relationship which, with good reason, we and our predecessors have long called 'special', has made us safer and stronger through the generations.
- 15) Cities were laid waste, ^{H3}throttled by siege (P: end; SR: supplementive), fire-bombed into oblivion, or pulverised by the first and only use of atomic weapons in war.
- 16) Cities were laid waste, throttled by siege, ^{H3}fire-bombed into oblivion (P: end; SR: supplementive), or pulverised by the first and only use of atomic weapons in war.
- 17) Cities were laid waste, throttled by siege, fire-bombed into oblivion, or ^{H3}pulverised by the first and only use of atomic weapons in war (P: end; SR: supplementive).

18) That is four times the migration levels ^{J4}compared with 2019 (P: end; SR: supplementive).

Appendix IV – Categorization of subordinate clauses in newspaper reports (a.– o.)

1 Nominal clause

1.1 That-clause

- 1) The Tory leader feels ^{a.3}that this week (O_d), when her party gathered in Manchester for its annual conference, she has done that.
- 2) Ukrainians had hoped for months ^{c.4}that the forecasts of an invasion from Russia, a nation with which they share much history and culture, could not be true (O_d).
- 3) President Zelensky of Ukraine warned ^{f.1}that “a new iron curtain” was falling across Europe last night (O_d) as Russian tanks and paratroopers laid siege to Kyiv in an apparent attempt to decapitate the country’s democratic government.
- 4) In a statement at 6.30pm, Buckingham Palace confirmed ^{g.3}that she had died (O_d) and reassured the public that the moment had been peaceful.
- 5) In a statement at 6.30pm, Buckingham Palace confirmed that she had died and reassured the public ^{g.3}that the moment had been peaceful (O_d).
- 6) Home Office figures revealed ^{j.2}that 509 people made the journey on Thursday in 11 boats (O_d), taking the provisional total for 2024 so far to 29,154.
- 7) The Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, claimed credit for the hostage release, saying in an address on Friday ^{h.4}that the “security of Israel” had dictated his actions in Gaza (O_d).
- 8) Liz Truss has announced ^{n.1}that she is to resign as prime minister (O_d) just six weeks after taking office.
- 9) In a speech late Friday, Biden did not declare victory but said ^{b.4}the numbers point to a Democratic win (O_d).
- 10) Hours before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia, saying ^{c.3}he wanted (O_d) to speak to them directly after Mr. Putin had rejected his phone call.
- 11) Rishi Sunak is understood to have told MPs ^{k.1}he has no plans (O_d) to leave for California and will do all he can to facilitate a smooth leadership transition.

- 12) Rishi Sunak is understood to have told MPs he has no plans to leave for California and ^{k.1} will do all (O_d) he can to facilitate a smooth leadership transition.
- 13) He said ^{k.2} they would take on opposition duty “respectfully, professionally and humbly”(O_d).
- 14) Allies of the former prime minister said ^{k.3} he was keen (O_d) to strongly counter any rumours that he was eager to abandon the party in favour of a life over the Atlantic.
- 15) Sir Graham, who oversees leadership elections, said ^{n.4} it was his expectation (O_d) that Conservative party members will get the final vote on the new leader unless MPs coalesce behind a single candidate for a coronation.
- 16) Trump’s campaign said ^{o.2} he still plans (O_d) to attend the Republican National Convention, which is scheduled to begin in Milwaukee on Monday.
- 17) Biden’s campaign, meanwhile, announced ^{o.5} it was pausing its communication (O_d) and pulling down all television ads as quickly as possible.
- 18) Biden’s campaign, meanwhile, announced it was pausing its communication and ^{o.5} pulling down all television ads as quickly as possible (O_d).
- 19) Throughout Friday, it was **clear** ^{b.5} that the image of American democracy has taken a battering (S), as had the country’s reputation as a dependable ally.
- 20) Sir Graham, who oversees leadership elections, said it was his expectation ^{n.4} that Conservative party members will get the final vote on the new leader (S) unless MPs coalesce behind a single candidate for a coronation.

1.2 Wh-clause

- 1) Ever since that day, her allies say, she has been thinking about how to redefine ^{a.2} what the Conservative party stands for (O_d) and turn the page after a tumultuous chapter in the party’s history, one which has left its reputation in tatters.
- 2) And the whole world is wondering ^{b.1} what is going on (O_d).
- 3) ^{d.1} Quite what he would have made of the technicolour spectacle (S) laid on for Donald Trump’s unprecedented second state visit is anyone’s guess.
- 4) Her problem is ^{a.4} whether it will make any difference (C_s).

1.3 To-infinitive clause

- 1) Leaders around the world saw former vice president Joe Biden ^{b.2}strengthen his path to the White House on Friday (O_d) after taking the lead in Georgia and Pennsylvania — two states that are critical for any chance of President Trump winning a second term.
- 2) But Trump's unsubstantiated attacks on the vote count continued ^{b.3}to overshadow preliminary results (O_d).
- 3) Hours before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia, saying he wanted ^{c.3}to speak to them directly (O_d) after Mr. Putin had rejected his phone call.
- 4) Even as the party appeared to be coalescing around Harris on Sunday, some lawmakers were advocating for a more open process to allow other potential candidates ^{e.4}to compete for the nomination (O_d), further highlighting the turbulent impact of Biden's decision.
- 5) The United States sent thousands more troops to Europe as Nato vowed ^{f.3}to defend its eastern allies even as Ukraine faced the might of the Russian military alone.
- 6) She had pledged ^{g.2}to dedicate her life to duty (O_d) and did just that until her final days, last seen to be in good spirits in a photograph after appointing her 15th prime minister just 48 hours before.
- 7) The Queen's health is understood ^{g.4}to have deteriorated rapidly on Thursday (O_d), with members of her family making last-minute arrangements to fly to Balmoral.
- 8) Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians in Gaza have begun ^{h.1}to return to the ruins of their homes (O_d) after the ceasefire rapidly negotiated in recent days between Hamas and Israel came into effect at noon local time on Friday – the first relief from relentless violence that inhabitants of the devastated territory have had since March.
- 9) Israeli troops withdrew to new agreed-upon positions during Friday morning and Hamas is expected ^{h.2}to release the 20 living Israeli hostages (O_d) it is holding early next week, after which Israel will free 250 Palestinians serving long-term sentences in Israeli prisons, as well as 1,700 others detained during the war.
- 10) The US president is expected ^{h.5}to visit Israel on Monday (O_d) to address the Knesset in Jerusalem.
- 11) Rishi Sunak is understood ^{k.1}to have told MPs (O_d) he has no plans to leave for California and will do all he can to facilitate a smooth leadership transition.

- 12) To allow his party's thousands of members ^{1.5}to choose his successor (O_d), a lengthy process that will involve campaigning, Mr. Trudeau suspended Parliament until March 24.
- 13) The breakneck timetable would require ^{n.5}any ballot to be conducted online in a matter of a day or two (O_d), but will ensure the new PM is in place in time for chancellor Jeremy Hunt's crucial 31 October statement setting out the government's tax and spend plans.
- 14) Trump's campaign said he still plans ^{o.2}to attend the Republican National Convention (O_d), which is scheduled to begin in Milwaukee on Monday.
- 15) Trump's campaign said he still plans to attend the Republican National Convention, which is scheduled ^{o.2}to begin in Milwaukee on Monday (O_d).
- 16) But the shooting is sure to shift the messaging and tenor — not to mention the security — of the massive gathering where the former president is expected ^{o.3}to announce his running mate (O_d) and try to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.
- 17) But the shooting is sure to shift the messaging and tenor — not to mention the security — of the massive gathering where the former president is expected to announce his running mate and ^{o.3}try (O_d) to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.
- 18) But the shooting is sure to shift the messaging and tenor — not to mention the security — of the massive gathering where the former president is expected to announce his running mate and try ^{o.3}to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution (O_d).
- 19) The Queen, who had been absent from the Duchess of Kent's funeral at Westminster Cathedral the day before while suffering with sinusitis, appeared ^{d.3}to have made a good recovery (C_s).
- 20) Even as the party appeared ^{e.4}to be coalescing around Harris on Sunday (C_s), some lawmakers were advocating for a more open process to allow other potential candidates to compete for the nomination, further highlighting the turbulent impact of Biden's decision.
- 21) It appears ^{1.4}to be a gamble (C_s) that Mr. Trudeau is willing to take.

- 22) However, this year's total is **unlikely**^{j.4} to break the record set in 2022 (C_{adj}), when 45,755 migrants arrived in small boats.
- 23) Allies of the former prime minister said he was **keen**^{k.3} to strongly counter any rumours (C_{adj}) that he was eager to abandon the party in favour of a life over the Atlantic.
- 24) Allies of the former prime minister said he was keen to strongly counter any rumours that he was **eager**^{k.3} to abandon the party in favour of a life over the Atlantic (C_{adj}).
- 25) But the shooting is **sure**^{o.3} to shift the messaging and tenor (C_{adj})— not to mention the security — of the massive gathering where the former president is expected to announce his running mate and try to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.
- 26)^{l.4} It appears to be a gamble that Mr. Trudeau is **willing**^{l.4} to take (C_{adj}).
- 27) Ever since that day, her allies say, she has been thinking about ^{a.2}how to redefine (O_p) what the Conservative party stands for and turn the page after a tumultuous chapter in the party's history, one which has left its reputation in tatters.
- 28) Ever since that day, her allies say, she has been thinking about how to redefine what the Conservative party stands for and ^{a.2}turn the page after a tumultuous chapter in the party's history (O_p) one which has left its reputation in tatters.

1.4 -Ing clause

- 1) Russia's a full-scale invasion of Ukraine started before dawn yesterday with air, land and sea attacks, leaving western capitals ^{f.2}scrambling (O_d) to co-ordinate a response.

2 Relative clause

2.1 Finite restrictive relative clause

- 1) Leaders around the world saw former vice president Joe Biden strengthen his path to the White House on Friday after taking the lead in Georgia and Pennsylvania — two **states**^{b.2} that are critical for any chance of President Trump winning a second term.
- 2) In a presidential **race**^{e.3} that has already been rocked by a felony conviction and an assassination attempt, the latest plot twist added to the sense of tumult that has gripped the nation's politics this year.

- 3) In a presidential race that has already been rocked by a felony conviction and an assassination attempt, the latest plot twist added to the **sense of tumult** ^{e.3}that has gripped the nation's politics this year.
- 4) Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians in Gaza have begun to return to the ruins of their homes after the ceasefire rapidly negotiated in recent days between Hamas and Israel came into effect at noon local time on Friday – the first **relief** from relentless violence ^{h.1}that inhabitants of the devastated territory have had since March.
- 5) The hostages for prisoners deal, approved by the Israeli cabinet on Thursday night, is the first phase of a US-drafted “**peace proposal**” announced by Donald Trump last week ^{h.3}that has raised hopes of a durable end to the two-year conflict, though all involved recognise the difficulties ahead.
- 6) The number of migrants to have crossed the English Channel in small boats so far this year has almost reached the total **number** ^{j.1}that arrived in the entirety of 2023.
- 7) Justin Trudeau’s announcement on Monday that he would resign was the last **card** ^{l.1}that Canada’s deeply unpopular prime minister, who had set his party on course to lose a national election, had left to play.
- 8) But they will also leave Canada weakened as it braces for President-elect Donald J. Trump, who has threatened the country with **tariffs** ^{l.3}that could cripple its economy.
- 9) It appears to be a **gamble** ^{l.4}that Mr. Trudeau is willing to take.
- 10) In a deeply divided nation, voters embraced Mr. Trump’s pledge to seal the southern border by almost any means, to revive the economy with 19th-century-style **tariffs** ^{m.4}that would restore American manufacturing and to lead a retreat from international entanglements and global conflict.
- 11) To allow his party’s thousands of members to choose his successor, a lengthy **process** ^{l.5}that will involve campaigning, Mr. Trudeau suspended Parliament until March 24.
- 12) The political **levers** ^{l.2}he has pulled will give Mr. Trudeau’s Liberal Party a chance to reinvent itself without him.
- 13) Israeli troops withdrew to new agreed-upon positions during Friday morning and Hamas is expected to release the 20 living Israeli **hostages** ^{h.2}it is holding early next week, after which Israel will free 250 Palestinians serving long-term sentences in Israeli prisons, as well as 1,700 others detained during the war.

- 14) The former business secretary Sir Jacob Rees Mogg was a major Labour scalp, losing his seat at 5am - the same **time** ^{i.5}Labour officially obtained a majority by passing the threshold of 326 seats.
- 15) Rishi Sunak is understood to have told MPs he has no plans to leave for California and will do **all** ^{k.1}he can to facilitate a smooth leadership transition.
- 16) His announcement came as the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting, stunning **ambassadors** ^{c.2}who had to deliver impromptu reactions to the rapidly changing events.
- 17) Since Sir Keir Starmer became prime minister in July, 15,912 migrants have crossed the Channel in small boats, higher than the 15,068 **migrants** ^{j.5}who arrived in the same period last year.
- 18) Mr. Trump's victory caps the astonishing political comeback of a **man** ^{m.2}who was charged with plotting to overturn the last election but who tapped into frustrations and fears about the economy and illegal immigration to defeat Vice President Kamala Harris.
- 19) Mr. Trump's victory caps the astonishing political comeback of a **man** who was charged with plotting to overturn the last election but ^{m.2}who tapped into frustrations and fears about the economy and illegal immigration to defeat Vice President Kamala Harris.
- 20) His defiant plans to upend the country's political system held appeal to **tens of millions of voters** ^{m.3}who feared that the American dream was drifting further from reach and who turned to Mr. Trump as a battering ram against the ruling establishment and the expert class of elites.
- 21) His defiant plans to upend the country's political system held appeal to **tens of millions of voters** who feared that the American dream was drifting further from reach and ^{m.3}who turned to Mr. Trump as a battering ram against the ruling establishment and the expert class of elites.
- 22) Ukrainians had hoped for months that the forecasts of an invasion from Russia, a **nation** ^{c.4}with which they share much history and culture, could not be true.
- 23) But the shooting is sure to shift the messaging and tenor — not to mention the security — of the massive **gathering** ^{o.3}where the former president is expected to announce his running mate and try to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.

2.2 Finite non-restrictive relative clause

- 1) Ever since that day, her allies say, she has been thinking about how to redefine what the Conservative party stands for and turn the page after a tumultuous chapter in the party's **history**, ^{a,2}one which has left its reputation in tatters.
- 2) The Tory leader feels that **this week**, ^{a,3}when her party gathered in Manchester for its annual conference, she has done that.
- 3) She is succeeded by her eldest son and heir, until then the **Prince of Wales**, ^{g,5}who became King upon the moment of her death.
- 4) **The Queen**, ^{d,3}who had been absent from the Duchess of Kent's funeral at Westminster Cathedral the day before while suffering with sinusitis, appeared to have made a good recovery.
- 5) But they will also leave Canada weakened as it braces for President-elect **Donald J. Trump**, ^{l,3}who has threatened the country with tariffs that could cripple its economy.
- 6) Justin Trudeau's announcement on Monday that he would resign was the last card that **Canada's** deeply unpopular **prime minister**, ^{l,1}who had set his party on course to lose a national election, had left to play.
- 7) **Sir Graham**, ^{m,4}who oversees leadership elections, said it was his expectation that Conservative party members will get the final vote on the new leader unless MPs coalesce behind a single candidate for a coronation.
- 8) Harris, a former senator from California, would bring her own liabilities to the race against **Trump**, ^{e,5}whom Democrats consider an existential threat to democracy.
- 9) However, this year's total is unlikely to break the record set in **2022**, ^{j,4}when 45,755 migrants arrived in small boats.
- 10) Sunak paid particular tribute to his own **constituency**, ^{k,4}where the result made him the safest Conservative MP in the country.
- 11) Conservative MPs met on Tuesday to begin the process of electing a new **1922 Committee of backbenchers**, ^{k,5}which will set the timetable for a leadership election.
- 12) A **shooting** at former president Donald Trump's campaign rally Saturday evening — ^{o,1}which is being investigated as an assassination attempt — upended the already dark and tumultuous race for the White House.

- 13) Trump’s campaign said he still plans to attend the **Republican National Convention**,
^{o.2}which is scheduled to begin in Milwaukee on Monday.
- 14) Israeli troops withdrew to new agreed-upon positions during Friday morning and Hamas is expected to release the 20 living Israeli hostages it is holding early next week, ^{h.2}after which Israel will free 250 Palestinians serving long-term sentences in Israeli prisons, as well as 1,700 others detained during the war.

2.3 Non-finite restrictive relative clause

- 1) Long lines of cars moved out of Kyiv, many heading west in hopes of finding sanctuary in one of the few **parts of the country** ^{c.5}not ringed with Russian forces.
- 2) Quite what he would have made of the technicolour **spectacle** ^{d.1}laid on for Donald Trump’s unprecedented second state visit is anyone’s guess.
- 3) Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians in Gaza have begun to return to the ruins of their homes after the **ceasefire** ^{h.1}rapidly negotiated in recent days between Hamas and Israel came into effect at noon local time on Friday – the first relief from relentless violence that inhabitants of the devastated territory have had since March.
- 4) Israeli troops withdrew to new agreed-upon positions during Friday morning and Hamas is expected to release the 20 living Israeli hostages it is holding early next week, after which Israel will free 250 Palestinians serving long-term sentences in Israeli prisons, as well as 1,700 **others** ^{h.2}detained during the war.
- 5) The hostages for prisoners deal, approved by the Israeli cabinet on Thursday night, is the first phase of a US-drafted “**peace proposal**” ^{h.3}announced by Donald Trump last week that has raised hopes of a durable end to the two-year conflict, though all involved recognise the difficulties ahead.
- 6) The hostages for prisoners deal, approved by the Israeli cabinet on Thursday night, is the first phase of a US-drafted “peace proposal” announced by Donald Trump last week that has raised hopes of a durable end to the two-year conflict, though **all** ^{h.3}involved recognise the difficulties ahead.
- 7) Israeli troops withdrew to new agreed-upon positions during Friday morning and Hamas is expected to release the 20 living Israeli hostages it is holding early next week, after

which Israel will free 250 **Palestinians** ^{h.2}servicing long-term sentences in Israeli prisons, as well as 1,700 others detained during the war.

- 8) The breakneck timetable would require any ballot to be conducted online in a matter of a day or two, but will ensure the new PM is in place in time for chancellor Jeremy Hunt's crucial 31 October **statement** ^{n.5}setting out the government's tax and spend plans.
- 9) President Biden abruptly ended his reelection campaign Sunday, sending shock waves through the political world and plunging the Democratic Party into an unprecedented scramble to choose a new **nominee** ^{e.1}to face former president Donald Trump.
- 10) Explosions thundered in the dim light before dawn, minutes after President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia cynically declared the start of a "**special military operation**" ^{c.1}to "demilitarize" Ukraine but not occupy the country.
- 11) Explosions thundered in the dim light before dawn, minutes after President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia cynically declared the start of a "**special military operation**" to "demilitarize" Ukraine but ^{c.1}not occupy the country.
- 12) The assault began with a **blitzkrieg** ^{f.4}to disable its air defences.
- 13) In Ukraine, after cruise missiles targeted anti-aircraft systems, airfields and ammunition stores early in the day, Russian helicopters descended on an airfield north of Kyiv, disgorging **paratroopers** ^{f.5}to take control before the arrival of land forces from Belarus.
- 14) Coming just before 7am, the shock defeat capped off an awful night for the Tories, with Ms Truss becoming the first former **prime minister** ^{i.4}to lose their seat since Alec Douglas-Home in 1966.
- 15) The number of **migrants** ^{j.1}to have crossed the English Channel in small boats so far this year has almost reached the total number that arrived in the entirety of 2023.
- 16) Justin Trudeau's announcement on Monday that he would resign was the last card that Canada's deeply unpopular prime minister, who had set his party on **course** ^{l.1}to lose a national election, had left to play.
- 17) Justin Trudeau's announcement on Monday that he would resign was the last **card** that Canada's deeply unpopular prime minister, who had set his party on course to lose a national election, had left ^{l.1}to play.

- 18) Now, Mr. Trump will serve as the 47th president four years after reluctantly leaving office as the 45th, the first **politician** since Grover Cleveland in the late 1800s ^{m.5}to lose re-election to the White House and later mount a successful run.
- 19) Now, Mr. Trump will serve as the 47th president four years after reluctantly leaving office as the 45th, the first **politician** since Grover Cleveland in the late 1800s to lose re-election to the White House and ^{m.5}later mount a successful run.

2.4 Non-finite non-restrictive relative clauses

- 1) Badenoch arrived in Manchester at the weekend amid gloomy warnings that her **party** – ^{a.5}languishing at just 16% in the polls and fast losing support to Reform UK – was facing oblivion.
- 2) Badenoch arrived in Manchester at the weekend amid gloomy warnings that her **party** – languishing at just 16% in the polls and ^{a.5}fast losing support to Reform UK – was facing oblivion.
- 3) President **Biden**, ^{o.4}speaking from Rehoboth Beach, Del., condemned the shooting.
- 4) The **route**, ^{d.5}lined with troops, took them past Frogmore Cottage, the former home of the Duke and Duchess of Sussex.
- 5) The hostages for prisoners **deal**, ^{h.3}approved by the Israeli cabinet on Thursday night, is the first phase of a US-drafted “peace proposal” announced by Donald Trump last week that has raised hopes of a durable end to the two-year conflict, though all involved recognise the difficulties ahead.

3 Appositive clause

3.1 Finite appositive clause

- 1) Badenoch arrived in Manchester at the weekend amid gloomy **warnings** ^{a.5}that her party – languishing at just 16% in the polls and fast losing support to Reform UK – was facing oblivion.
- 2) Allies of the former prime minister said he was keen to strongly counter any **rumours** ^{k.3}that he was eager to abandon the party in favour of a life over the Atlantic.
- 3) Justin Trudeau’s **announcement** on Monday ^{l.1}that he would resign was the last card that Canada’s deeply unpopular prime minister, who had set his party on course to lose a

national election, had left to play.

3.2 Non-finite appositive clause

- 1) President Zelensky of Ukraine warned that “a new iron curtain” was falling across Europe last night as Russian tanks and paratroopers laid siege to Kyiv in an apparent **attempt** ^{f.1}to decapitate the country’s democratic government.
- 2) The political levers he has pulled will give Mr. Trudeau’s Liberal Party a **chance** ^{l.2}to reinvent itself without him.
- 3) Donald J. Trump rode a **promise** ^{m.1}to smash the American status quo to win the presidency for a second time, surviving a criminal conviction, indictments, an assassin’s bullet, accusations of authoritarianism and an unprecedented switch of his opponent to complete a remarkable return to power.
- 4) Mr. Trump’s victory caps the astonishing political comeback of a man who was charged with **plotting** ^{m.2}to overturn the last election but who tapped into frustrations and fears about the economy and illegal immigration to defeat Vice President Kamala Harris.
- 5) His defiant **plans** ^{m.3}to upend the country’s political system held appeal to tens of millions of voters who feared that the American dream was drifting further from reach and who turned to Mr. Trump as a battering ram against the ruling establishment and the expert class of elites.
- 6) In a deeply divided nation, voters embraced Mr. Trump’s **pledge** ^{m.4}to seal the southern border by almost any means, to revive the economy with 19th-century-style tariffs that would restore American manufacturing and to lead a retreat from international entanglements and global conflict.
- 7) In a deeply divided nation, voters embraced Mr. Trump’s **pledge** to seal the southern border by almost any means, ^{m.4}to revive the economy with 19th-century-style tariffs that would restore American manufacturing and to lead a retreat from international entanglements and global conflict.
- 8) In a deeply divided nation, voters embraced Mr. Trump’s **pledge** to seal the southern border by almost any means, to revive the economy with 19th-century-style tariffs that would restore American manufacturing and ^{m.4}to lead a retreat from international entanglements and global conflict.

- 9) Leaders around the world saw former vice president Joe Biden strengthen his path to the White House on Friday after taking the lead in Georgia and Pennsylvania — two states that are critical for any **chance**^{b.2}of President Trump winning a second term.
- 10) Long lines of cars moved out of Kyiv, many heading west in **hopes**^{c.5}of finding sanctuary in one of the few parts of the country not ringed with Russian forces.
- 11) Conservative MPs met on Tuesday to begin the **process**^{k.5}of electing a new 1922 Committee of backbenchers, which will set the timetable for a leadership election.

4 Adverbial clause

4.1 Finite adverbial clause

- 1) Hours before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia, saying he wanted to speak to them directly^{c.3}after Mr. Putin had rejected his phone call (P: end; SR: temporal).
- 2) In Ukraine,^{f.5}after cruise missiles targeted anti-aircraft systems, airfields and ammunition stores early in the day (P: initial; SR: temporal), Russian helicopters descended on an airfield north of Kyiv, disgorging paratroopers to take control before the arrival of land forces from Belarus.
- 3) The news was announced^{g.1}after her family had flown in (P: end; SR: temporal) to be together at the Queen's Scottish home.
- 4) Tens of thousands of displaced Palestinians in Gaza have begun to return to the ruins of their homes^{h.1}after the ceasefire rapidly negotiated in recent days between Hamas and Israel came into effect at noon local time on Friday (P: end; SR: temporal) – the first relief from relentless violence that inhabitants of the devastated territory have had since March.
- 5) Sir Keir Starmer will become the prime minister^{i.1}after Labour won the general election with a landslide (P: end; SR: temporal) and the Tories suffered a historic wipeout.
- 6) Sir Keir Starmer will become the prime minister^{i.1}after Labour won the general election with a landslide and the Tories suffered a historic wipeout (P: end; SR: temporal).

- 7) The dramatic announcement outside the door to 10 Downing Street came shortly ^{n.2}after the PM requested a meeting with the chair of the backbench 1922 Committee, Sir Graham Brady (P: end; SR: temporal).
- 8) ^{i.5}Since Sir Keir Starmer became prime minister in July (P: initial, SR: temporal) 15,912 migrants have crossed the Channel in small boats, higher than the 15,068 migrants who arrived in the same period last year.
- 9) ^{d.2}When Trump's three helicopters arrived in the walled garden by Victoria House on the Windsor estate (P: initial; SR: temporal), the Prince and Princess of Wales led the charge to greet their guests.
- 10) His announcement came ^{c.2}as the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting (P: end; SR: temporal), stunning ambassadors who had to deliver impromptu reactions to the rapidly changing events.
- 11) President Zelensky of Ukraine warned that “a new iron curtain” was falling across Europe last night ^{f.1}as Russian tanks and paratroopers laid siege to Kyiv (P: end; SR: temporal) in an apparent attempt to decapitate the country’s democratic government.
- 12) Labour racked up a string of major gains from the Conservatives ^{i.2}as a slew of Cabinet ministers including Grant Shapps, Gillian Keegan and Penny Mordaunt lost their seats (P: end; SR: temporal).
- 13) But they will also leave Canada weakened ^{i.3}as it braces for President-elect Donald J. Trump (P: end; SR: temporal), who has threatened the country with tariffs that could cripple its economy.
- 14) The United States sent thousands more troops to Europe ^{f.3}as Nato vowed (P: end; SR: temporal) to defend its eastern allies even as Ukraine faced the might of the Russian military alone.
- 15) An election for the leadership of the Conservative party will be completed by 28 October and Ms Truss will remain as prime minister ^{n.3}until a new leader is chosen (P: end; SR: temporal).
- 16) ^{e.4}Even as the party appeared (P: initial; SR: temporal/ concessive) to be coalescing around Harris on Sunday, some lawmakers were advocating for a more open process to allow other potential candidates to compete for the nomination, further highlighting the turbulent impact of Biden’s decision.

- 17) The United States sent thousands more troops to Europe as Nato vowed to defend its eastern allies ^{f.3}even as Ukraine faced the might of the Russian military alone (P: end; SR: temporal/ concessive).
- 18) ^{a.1}While she went on to win North West Essex (P: initial; SR: concessive/ temporal), a new redrawn seat, Badenoch's majority was slashed by almost 25,000 from her win in Saffron Walden and the Conservative party as a whole suffered its worst defeat in parliamentary history.
- 19) The hostages for prisoners deal, approved by the Israeli cabinet on Thursday night, is the first phase of a US-drafted "peace proposal" announced by Donald Trump last week that has raised hopes of a durable end to the two-year conflict, ^{h.3}though all involved recognise the difficulties ahead (P: end; SR: concessive).
- 20) Sir Graham, who oversees leadership elections, said it was his expectation that Conservative party members will get the final vote on the new leader ^{n.4}unless MPs coalesce behind a single candidate for a coronation (P: end; SR: conditional).
- 21) Throughout Friday, it was clear that the image of American democracy has taken a battering, ^{b.5}as had the country's reputation as a dependable ally (P: end; SR: comparative).
- 22) Ever since that day, ^{a.2}her allies say (P: initial; SR: comment), she has been thinking about how to redefine what the Conservative party stands for and turn the page after a tumultuous chapter in the party's history, one which has left its reputation in tatters.

4.2 Non-finite adverbial clause

- 1) When Trump's three helicopters arrived in the walled garden by Victoria House on the Windsor estate, the Prince and Princess of Wales led the charge ^{d.2}to greet their guests (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 2) President Biden abruptly ended his reelection campaign Sunday, sending shock waves through the political world and plunging the Democratic Party into an unprecedented scramble ^{e.1}to choose a new nominee (P: end; SR: purpose) to face former president Donald Trump.

- 3) In a separate social media post Sunday, Biden endorsed his vice president, Kamala D. Harris, ^{e.2}to replace him as the Democratic Party's standard-bearer ahead of its national convention Aug. 19-22 (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 4) Even as the party appeared to be coalescing around Harris on Sunday, some lawmakers were advocating for a more open process ^{e.4}to allow other potential candidates (P: end; SR: purpose) to compete for the nomination, further highlighting the turbulent impact of Biden's decision.
- 5) Russia's a full-scale invasion of Ukraine started before dawn yesterday with air, land and sea attacks, leaving western capitals scrambling ^{f.2}to co-ordinate a response (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 6) The news was announced after her family had flown in ^{g.1}to be together at the Queen's Scottish home (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 7) The Queen's health is understood to have deteriorated rapidly on Thursday, with members of her family making last-minute arrangements ^{g.4}to fly to Balmoral (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 8) The US president is expected to visit Israel on Monday ^{h.5}to address the Knesset in Jerusalem (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 9) Rishi Sunak is understood to have told MPs he has no plans to leave for California and will do all he can ^{k.1}to facilitate a smooth leadership transition (P: end; SR: purpose).
- 10) Conservative MPs met on Tuesday ^{k.5}to begin the process (P: end; SR: purpose) of electing a new 1922 Committee of backbenchers, which will set the timetable for a leadership election.
- 11) ^{l.5}To allow his party's thousands of members (P: initial; SR: purpose) to choose his successor, a lengthy process that will involve campaigning, Mr. Trudeau suspended Parliament until March 24.
- 12) Donald J. Trump rode a promise to smash the American status quo ^{m.1}to win the presidency for a second time (P: end; SR: result), surviving a criminal conviction, indictments, an assassin's bullet, accusations of authoritarianism and an unprecedented switch of his opponent to complete a remarkable return to power.
- 13) Donald J. Trump rode a promise to smash the American status quo to win the presidency for a second time, surviving a criminal conviction, indictments, an assassin's bullet,

accusations of authoritarianism and an unprecedented switch of his opponent ^{m.1}to complete a remarkable return to power (P: end; SR: result).

- 14) Mr. Trump's victory caps the astonishing political comeback of a man who was charged with plotting to overturn the last election but who tapped into frustrations and fears about the economy and illegal immigration ^{m.2}to defeat Vice President Kamala Harris (P: end; SR: result).
- 15) But the shooting is sure to shift the messaging and tenor — ^{o.3}not to mention the security (P: medial; SR: comment) — of the massive gathering where the former president is expected to announce his running mate and try to unify his party and the nation behind his vision of grievance and retribution.
- 16) Leaders around the world saw former vice president Joe Biden strengthen his path to the White House on Friday ^{b.2}after taking the lead in Georgia and Pennsylvania (P: end; SR: temporal) — two states that are critical for any chance of President Trump winning a second term.
- 17) She had pledged to dedicate her life to duty and did just that until her final days, last seen to be in good spirits in a photograph ^{g.2}after appointing her 15th prime minister just 48 hours before (P: end; SR: temporal).
- 18) The Queen, who had been absent from the Duchess of Kent's funeral at Westminster Cathedral the day before ^{d.3}while suffering with sinusitis (P: medial; SR: temporal), appeared to have made a good recovery.
- 19) The former business secretary Sir Jacob Rees Mogg was a major Labour scalp, losing his seat at 5am - the same time Labour officially obtained a majority ^{i.5}by passing the threshold of 326 seats (P: end; SR: means).
- 20) The Queen's health is understood to have deteriorated rapidly on Thursday, ^{g.4}with members of her family making last-minute arrangements (P: end; SR: accompanying circumstances) to fly to Balmoral.
- 21) Coming just before 7am, the shock defeat capped off an awful night for the Tories, ^{i.4}with Ms Truss becoming the first former prime minister (P: end; SR: accompanying circumstances) to lose their seat since Alec Douglas-Home in 1966.
- 22) That puts this year's crossings within less than 300 of last year's total of 29,437 ^{j.3}with more than two months remaining (P: end; SR: accompanying circumstances).

- 23) His announcement came as the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting, ^{c.2}stunning ambassadors (P: end; SR: supplementive) who had to deliver impromptu reactions to the rapidly changing events.
- 24) Hours before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia, ^{c.3}saying (P: end; SR: supplementive) he wanted to speak to them directly after Mr. Putin had rejected his phone call.
- 25) Long lines of cars moved out of Kyiv, ^{c.5}many heading west (P: end; SR: supplementive) in hopes of finding sanctuary in one of the few parts of the country not ringed with Russian forces.
- 26) ^{d.4}Wearing a sapphire blue ensemble by Fiona Clare and a hat by Philip Treacy (P: initial; SR: supplementive), the Queen took part in all the planned events.
- 27) President Biden abruptly ended his reelection campaign Sunday, ^{e.1}sending shock waves through the political world (P: end; SR: supplementive) and plunging the Democratic Party into an unprecedented scramble to choose a new nominee to face former president Donald Trump.
- 28) President Biden abruptly ended his reelection campaign Sunday, sending shock waves through the political world and ^{e.1}plunging the Democratic Party into an unprecedented scramble (P: end; SR: supplementive) to choose a new nominee to face former president Donald Trump.
- 29) Even as the party appeared to be coalescing around Harris on Sunday, some lawmakers were advocating for a more open process to allow other potential candidates to compete for the nomination, ^{e.4}further highlighting the turbulent impact of Biden's decision (P: end; SR: supplementive).
- 30) Russia's a full-scale invasion of Ukraine started before dawn yesterday with air, land and sea attacks, ^{f.2}leaving western capitals (P: end; SR: supplementive) scrambling to coordinate a response.
- 31) In Ukraine, after cruise missiles targeted anti-aircraft systems, airfields and ammunition stores early in the day, Russian helicopters descended on an airfield north of Kyiv, ^{f.5}disgorging paratroopers (P: end; SR: supplementive) to take control before the arrival of land forces from Belarus.

- 32) The Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, claimed credit for the hostage release, ^{h.4}saying in an address on Friday (P: end; SR: supplementive) that the “security of Israel” had dictated his actions in Gaza.
- 33) Liz Truss was defeated in her seat of South West Norfolk, ^{i.3}losing narrowly to Labour (P: end; SR: supplementive).
- 34) ^{i.4}Coming just before 7am (P: initial; SR: supplementive), the shock defeat capped off an awful night for the Tories, with Ms Truss becoming the first former prime minister to lose their seat since Alec Douglas-Home in 1966.
- 35) The former business secretary Sir Jacob Rees Mogg was a major Labour scalp, ^{i.5}losing his seat at 5am (P: end; SR: supplementive) - the same time Labour officially obtained a majority by passing the threshold of 326 seats.
- 36) Home Office figures revealed that 509 people made the journey on Thursday in 11 boats, ^{j.2}taking the provisional total for 2024 so far to 29,154 (P: end; SR: supplementive) .
- 37) Donald J. Trump rode a promise to smash the American status quo to win the presidency for a second time, ^{m.1}surviving a criminal conviction, indictments, an assassin’s bullet, accusations of authoritarianism and an unprecedented switch of his opponent (P: end; SR: supplementive) to complete a remarkable return to power.
- 38) She had pledged to dedicate her life to duty and did just that until her final days, ^{g.2}last seen to be in good spirits in a photograph (P: end; SR: supplementive) after appointing her 15th prime minister just 48 hours before.

5. Other

- 1) Explosions thundered in the dim light before dawn, **minutes** ^{c.1}after President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia cynically declared the start of a “special military operation” to “demilitarize” Ukraine but not occupy the country.
- 2) **Hours** ^{c.3}before the attacks began, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine made a dramatic televised plea to the people of Russia, saying he wanted to speak to them directly after Mr. Putin had rejected his phone call.
- 3) Now, Mr. Trump will serve as the 47th president four **years** ^{m.5}after reluctantly leaving office as the 45th, the first politician since Grover Cleveland in the late 1800s to lose re-election to the White House and later mount a successful run.

- 4) Liz Truss has announced that she is to resign as prime minister just six **weeks** ^{n.1}after taking office.

Appendix V – Tables

	Political speeches	Newspaper reports
Total number of clauses	233	274
Main clauses	233/ 94 (40%)	274/ 82 (30%)
Subordinate clause	233/ 139 (60%)	274/ 192 (70%)
Finite subordinate clauses	139/ 76 (55%)	192/ 88 (46%)
Non-finite subordinate clauses	139/ 63 (45%)	192/ 104 (54%)

Table 3. The Forms of clauses in the corpus

Subordinate clauses	Political speeches	Newspaper reports
Nominal clause (finite)	29	24
Nominal clause (non-finite)	29	29
Total	58 (42%)	53 (28%)
Relative clauses (finite)	29	37
Relative clauses (non-finite)	7	24
Total	36 (26%)	61 (32%)
Appositive clauses (finite)	4	3
Appositive clauses (non-finite)	9	11
Total	13 (9%)	14 (7%)
Adverbial clauses (finite)	14	22
Adverbial clauses (non-finite)	18	38
Total	32 (23%)	60 (31%)
Other (finite)	–	2
Other (non-finite)	–	2
Total	–	4 (2%)
Total number of subordinate clauses	139 (100%)	192 (100%)

Table 4. Functions of subordinate clauses in the corpus

Political speeches	Newspaper reports
<i>think, say</i> (3)	<i>say</i> (7)
<i>know</i> (2)	<i>announce</i> (3)
<i>tell, hope, request, find, promise, forget,</i> <i>reveal</i> (1)	<i>tell, confirm</i> (2)
–	<i>warn, hope, feel, reveal</i> (1)

Table 3. Verbs taking an object that-clause in the corpus (number of occurrences)