



FORENSIC ANALYSIS OF SUICIDE LINGUISTIC PATTERNS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL INSIGHTS

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Abstract:

Suicide notes refer to those notes which are left explicitly by those persons who committed this or who thought about this. These notes or letters contain unsaid and left thoughts they could not describe or express. The approach that was used in this study is qualitative analysis. This research intends to analyze the critical linguistic features and psychological aspects used in these notes. The data that was analyzed was taken from eleven individuals. Researchers individually read every letter, then analyzed, described and classified every note and used five essential features of linguistics, which includes Expressing sentiments and emotions, Structure of the text, Vivid reasoning, Use of punctuation, Grammar and Vocabulary.

When researchers investigated those notes based on these features, they found that clear reasoning provides the most valid information about the situation and problems through which the victims went through. Through this approach, getting the point of view of those victims was relatively easy. In consequence, we can get more information about the analysis of suicidal notes in the field of forensic linguistics.

Keywords: Punctuation, suicidal letter, forensic linguistics, emotions

Introduction:

In forensic Linguistics, the research of any text, legal form, letter, statement or suicidal note is made on the basis of some linguistics tools, which are the Use of words, phrases, Sentence structure, writing style and pattern, comprehension of the context, understanding the actual meaning of discourse and ambiguity in the text. Forensic linguistics gained massive recognition because it helped simplify people's tasks.

Language is a term that can be used to deliver multiple meanings and various connotations, whether connotations, positive or negative. Here, semantics has an immense role in this domain. Other than this, metaphoric associations also help to find out the truth conditions and to evaluate the guilt and innocence of various cases.

There is a study provided by Heart, which he gave in 2014. This study seeks to know the contexts of those written notes left by the suicidal victims. In this research, suicide was not taken as any illegal, dangerous, unbearable, immoral or harmful act which leads to the stances and death of others. However, here we are talking about those acts in which people take their own lives, and this act is done deliberately and intentionally.

Many studies are indulged in studying suicide notes and researching the reasons which led them to do this with their life. Among these researchers are some prominent names like Sudjana and Firti, who decided to study Kurt Cobain's case deeply. Their study showed as a result that he was stressed and depressed in his life. He faced many unimportant problems that were not even a problem. This was proven by checking out the differences and similarities in the notes.

Research Questions:

In which forms, suicide notes can be found?

Which linguistics features and psychological terms are used to analyze suicide notes?

Research Objective:

Hence, previous studies were not found enough for the analysis of suicidal notes and texts in the field of linguistic features, which is best known as forensic linguistics. Those studies did not focus on comparing various notes because they hardly dealt with a maximum of one or two letters, which needed to be more accurate to get any authentic result. In order to fill the gaps in previous studies, this study decided to interpret eleven cases of suicides. This study's main concern was adding more information and knowledge for the upcoming researchers so they can better study suicidal notes under the study of forensic linguistics.

Literature View:

As we have discussed earlier, suicide daily notes, posts or texts are left by those people who committed suicide and those who intend to commit it in future. The suicidal notes which are left behind can be in multiple forms, including recordings, written letters, blogs or posts, videos recorded by them, audio tapes, personal diaries or any notebook written or related to them or their life.

In all of the notes carried throughout the research, written forms were about 25% to 30% as evidence. This research seeks to provide knowledge of essential elements which can be found in suicidal notes. This article discusses the features and linguistic terms used to analyze the data, known as forensic linguistics.

● **Clear Reasoning:**

Clear reasoning is one of the most important characteristics of suicidal notes because, in these, there is a clear statement given that the victim has committed the illegal act of suicide. These type of notes mainly provides an answer to a lot of Why?

Why was the victim so stressed about doing that?

Through which situation and traumas did he undergo?

What made him so helpless to take a step like this?

Why did he even think of doing this?

Clear reasoning gives the reply to all these question marks. The whole statement of the victim is surrounded by the phrase "because".

Prokofyeva proposed that clear reasoning should be divided into three categories: the disease, the first, angering someone or being offended by someone and blaming someone. When any person identifies any disease in himself and feels unable to cope with it, then ultimately, physical pain becomes the description of those suicidal notes. In these diseases, mental disorders are more risky and take the people to their death bed.

Chesney et al. gave an example of a 52-year-old married woman who underwent mental illness, and when her suicidal note was found, there was written on this:

“You remember when I came back from the hospital, I broke down, and that was the beginning of my illness.”

This clearly shows that people who are facing mental issues are more likely to take the step of committing suicide. In these cases, the majority are female because of their sensitivity and unrealistic nature. In this kind of suicidal note, the phrases that are commonly used are phrases or conjunctions like "since", "because", "until", and "when".

- Expressing emotions:

Another important figure in analyzing these suicidal notes is to keenly look at the emotions which are expressed in those notes. There can be a variety of feelings or sentiments that can be seen in those notes: anger, rage, helplessness, fear of living, absence of love, breaking up with someone, complexes, self-doubt and anxiety. Fear of living is considered the most common in those notes because of every inconvenience they suffer; they feel they can not bear this more and can not survive. For example,

"I can not go on longer in these terrible times."

It is reasonable that if any person wants to quit their or their life because of a particular fear. Some people intensely feel the fear of simply existence, and the only thing they feel that they have left is death. According to these victims, the peace which they langer in their lives could be seen only in ending their life. They feel they have achieved what they wanted, so now it is time to leave this world in peace. For instance,

"I feel calm and at peace and grateful that I can go to sleep painlessly."

Another element is helplessness, when people do not expect anything good from their future and lose hope. The absence of light or hope in anyone's life makes them think about ending their life. As hope grows, the stamina and wishes to live so, people vulnerably lead themselves to death when it is eliminated.

- **Text Structure:**

In the cases of suicides, what happens is that they firstly, before some time, consider this decision to take their life, then ultimately make the decision to do this practically and commit suicide. So when the time comes to do those in real, they know what they have to write as a suicidal note and which words will be considered their last words.

There was a suicide case of Ono and Solomon, and when their notes were found, there was written on them that

"through death, the life that one has revealed".

The form of address in this letter letters is supposed to refer to the person or someone to whom the letter has been written for several reasons. It can most commonly be found at the top of the note, like "Hello Jane" or "Dear David".

Then comes an introduction aimed at giving out the situation in which they went. Victims write this to give information about the reason for their suicide. This type of information is given in the first paragraph by saying,

"Your cops will want to know...."

- **Grammar:**

The Use of grammar and vocabulary in suicide notes is quite interesting. Victims usually write their notes from present to past, and the situations discussed are mostly present and future, which

they compare and relate to the circumstances and situations of their past. In this kind of note, the majority use the past tense to refer to or express what happened to them. For example, "I loved You, but you broke my heart."

Other than this, people also use the future tense to show concern about upcoming issues.

- **Punctuation:**

Punctuation is considered the most critical component in analyzing any text in the field of forensic linguistics. Through the Use of punctuation, we learn about the life experiences of victims, their educational background, and their family status. With the life of this, the victim tries to express his intensity of emotions and his condition. Schoene and Dethlef stated that researchers can easily resolve misunderstandings created during forensics through accurate and appropriate Use of punctuation studies.

In punctuation, the signs include full stop, semicolon, semicolon cash, apostrophe, asterisk, a sign of plus or minus, question marks, emojis, exclamation signs, ellipses and brackets. All these have specific uses and meanings through which researchers get to know the victim's emotions.

Method:

- 1. Research analysis:**

The method of research used in this study is the qualitative analysis approach. In this, the main concern is to study and see the various things from human and real-life perspectives. Furthermore, communication content has also been used to fulfil the research objectives meaningfully.

In short, this research paper intends to determine the linguistic features and elements used in the suicidal notes. It makes it quite easy and comprehensible for the researchers to analyze the text or any other provided information implicitly and explicitly.

- 2. Data collection:**

The data collecting tool used in this research article is the material and documents taken from the internet. From the internet, we took various suicidal notes, read them, described and then analyzed them so that we could provide the details of the linguistic features used in the suicidal notes. There are multiple articles or notes available for the public, and we used them as our tool.

- 3. Data analysis**

When all of the required data has been collected and compiled, the writer or researcher focuses on the steps of data analysis. In these steps, there are I am reading, describing and classifying.

For this research, suicidal notes have been taken, then read, described and classified the linguistic items to check out which, how, and where the victims use these features. For this purpose, we used the framework proposed by Prokofiev, which provided clear reasoning, emotion, text structure, punctuation, and grammar.

Conclusion:

We have analyzed the framework proposed by Prokofiev in various suicidal notes. In his study, he suggested five basic components which can be found in any suicidal note or text. These are clear reasons why he said the victim faces any kind of disease, hopelessness, blaming someone, despair of someone or rage or anger referring to someone. In short, it tells which issues and situations the victim faced and tries to know their point of view through this.

Other than this, some emotions come from being alive, having no peace, having a stressful life, hopelessness, and helplessness. Through this point, researchers know the emotions and mental or psychological through which they have dealt.

Then comes the point of text structure, where we discuss the context of the note and the points, including form of address, introduction, culmination and conclusion.

Lastly, some tools can be used, such as grammar and punctuation. These tell a lot about the victim's educational background, emotions, and social and family status. This study's aim and goal were achieved because these notes were analyzed without any limitations. Doing so has gained much knowledge and information in the foreign field.

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