Biases in Official English and Arabic Israel-Palestine Online News Reports: Critical Stylistic Perspective

التحيزات في التقارير الإخبارية الرسمية باللغتين الإنجليزية والعربية حول قضية إسرائيل وفلسطين عبر الإنترنت: منظور أسلوبي نقدي

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Abstract

The research is set to address a very valuable and significant issue in this kind of online discourse, that is, how language is employed to create various stylistic effects and helps normalize different socio-political and cultural ideological biases in online news reports published by global news agencies. The socio-political and cultural loads underlying these types of online reports (in the form of headlines) are manifested through different styles. Through adopting Jeffries` model (2010) of critical stylistics, the research attempts to uncover systematically how different stylistic choices are manipulated to achieve the desired ideological biases. The study has reached several conclusions, for instance, there is a clear tendency in the English online headlines to naturalize the Israeli violent universally unacceptable acts. Also, in the Arabic data, the Gazza crisis is presented factually and as it is in reality, a region targeted with every possible deadly force. Moreover, The English headlines primarily function to Narrate and Report the conflict as a series of actions and statements by official entities.

Keywords: Ideology, Critical stylistics, Politics, News reports

الملخص

يهدف البحث إلى معالجة قضية قيمة ومهمة للغاية في هذا النوع من الخطاب عبر الإنترنت، وهي كيفية استخدام اللغة لخلق تأثيرات أسلوبية مختلفة والمساعدة في تطبيع التحيزات الأيديولوجية الاجتماعية والسياسية والثقافية المختلفة في التقارير الإخبارية عبر الإنترنت التي تنشرها وكالات الأنباء العالمية. وتتجلى الأحمال الاجتماعية والسياسية والثقافية الكامنة وراء هذه الأنواع من التقارير عبر الإنترنت (في شكل عناوين رئيسية) من خلال أنماط مختلفة. ومن خلال اعتماد نموذج جيفريز (2010) للأسلوبية النقدية، يحاول البحث الكشف بشكل منهجي عن كيفية التلاعب بالاختيارات الأسلوبية المختلفة لتحقيق التحيزات الأيديولوجية المطلوبة. وتوصلت الدراسة إلى عدة استنتاجات، على سبيل المثال، هناك ميل واضح في عناوين الإنترنت الإنجليزية إلى إضفاء الطابع الطبيعي على أعمال العنف الإسرائيلية غير المقبولة عالميا. كما أن البيانات العربية تعرض أزمة غزة بشكل واقعي وكما هي في الواقع، منطقة مستهدفة بكل قوة مميتة ممكنة. علاوة على ذلك، تعمل العناوين الإنجليزية في المقام الأول على سرد الصراع والإبلاغ عنه كسلسلة من الإجراءات والتصريحات الصادرة عن الكيانات الرسمية .

الكلمات المفتاحية: الأيديولوجية، الأسلوبية النقدية، السياسة، التقارير الإخبارية

1. Introduction

If you read about the Gaza crisis in English and then in Arabic, it can feel like you are reading about two different events. The facts on the ground might be similar, but the story being told is completely different. This is because the words used in news reports are never just neutral containers of information. Words are actually strong paths towards how humans conceptualize the world. There are hidden intentions behind each lexical item used in a headline carrying a hegemonic power towards a certain idea. What is just mentioned here forms what is known as ideological bias. This often encompasses a tripartite of culture, audience and political environment.

There is a simple strong concept upon which this study is built, that is the language of the online headlines is in fact a battle. If we look at the lexical and grammatical and other choices used in a headline we can have a clear conception of words being used in news igniting battlefields. This is where the minds go straight to acritical stylistic analysis. A method that is extremely useful to uncover the texts` hidden biases. This tool equips the researcher with all potential powers to sort out how socio-political biases are manifested in a text. This could involve questions about for example why such words present such a person as a receiver? Or doer of a certain action?

A stylistician may seem impressed in some way about how certain headlines are formed, for example "Israel launches airstrikes." This is a headline to be contrasted with another headline involving, "Gaza hit by airstrikes." The first one shows who is acting. The second one is vague; it tells you what happened but who is responsible? It is not mentioned. Another example, the difference between referring to a dead person as a civilian or a martyr. These two words are not synonymous. Civilian is a legal term, casualty is a statistical term, whereas martyr is a religious and political term which honors death as a

symbol of sacrifice for a cause. Each word builds a different image in the audience mind.

This study uses critical stylistics (Jeffries 2010 model) to contrast and compare English and Arabic online news headlines involving the Gaza crisis. The main aim is to sort out the various worlds that these two languages build up for the readers. English, as a global language often influenced by Western media, and Arabic, which is deeply connected to the region, often tell the story in different ways. By presenting these headlines along and together, we can see these differences obviously. One can deduct how the same event can be viewed as a war between two sides, or as an aggression by a state that has power, or a resistance by the targeted inhabitants.

Focusing on online reports is also crucial being the data of analysis in this study. Most people get their news from online headlines that come across their screens and this is a feature of our digital age. These headlines feature speed and high effect as they are short, punchy, and often emotionally charged to attract attention. Hence, it can be said that the ideological intention in these little pieces of text is more focused and powerful than ever before. The audience read the headline as the only part of the story, so it creates an immense power to shape the perception of the audience.

The study collects a group of online headlines from a corpus of English and Arabic news sources. By applying Jeffries` 2010 critical stylistics approach, it carefully analyzes the language, so that the analysis looks for patterns that shows how actors are named, how actions are described, and what is taken for granted as simple common sense. The principal enquiry is that how do potential style power manifested in language choices in English and Arabic headlines build up different versions of reality for their audiences?

The study hypothesizes that English headlines tend to construct a reality of a conflict between two official parties Israel and Hamas viewed from a distant, neutral standpoint. The language likely focuses on actions and statements from authorities, using more formal and restrained vocabulary. On the other hand, the Arabic headlines often attempt to build a narrative of an unequal conflict eventually these headlines use language that forms a picture of a victimized people who face a tyrannical occupation. Such image is created via the selection of words that provoke moral judgments.

Finally, this research gains significance from the fact that it makes us smarter audience who can comprehend news in a world flooded with information. The study also enables us to understand how language works to persuade us and that is is a vital skill. This study aims to show that in the discourse of war, words are never innocent. They are weapons, tools for building support, and lenses that color our understanding. By critically analyzing the language of online reports, we can better see the hidden arguments and ideologies that are being sold to us every day, hidden in plain sight between the words of a simple headline.

2. Literature review

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict is one of the most discussed and long-standing issues in world politics. In the last few years, this conflict grew to a very critical level. In today's digital world, online news agencies have a major role in shaping how people understand and talk about this conflict.

In early October 2023, Hamas fighters fired rockets into Israel and stormed southern Israeli cities and towns across the border of the Gaza Strip in a surprise attack, killing more than 1,300 Israelis, injuring 3,300, and taking hundreds of hostages. One day after the October 7 attack, the Israeli cabinet formally

declared war against Hamas, followed by a directive from the defense minister to the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) to carry out a "complete siege" of Gaza. It is the most significant escalation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in several decades.

In January 2024, under pressure from its principal ally, the United States, and amid global scrutiny both over the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and doubts about the feasibility of completely eradicating Hamas, Israel signaled its intent to shift to lower-intensity operations in Gaza. The IDF also started to shift its focus from northern Gaza to prepare for a campaign in southern Gaza, including in the city of Rafah.

As of January 2025, 1.9 million Gazans—about 90 percent of Gaza's population—have been displaced and are categorized as facing acute or catastrophic food insecurity. There are currently no functioning hospitals in Gaza. The war has led to over 46,000 Gazan deaths, of which the Israeli military estimates 17,000 were Hamas militants. Israel has argued in many cases that its actions were necessary because Hamas's guerilla warfare tactics often involve fighters embedding themselves in civilian areas. The military has also cited military successes, including the June 2024 rescue of four living hostages in central Gaza and the elimination of Hamas's top leadership, including the group's leader Yahya Sinwar, military chief Mohammed Deif, and Deif's deputy Marwan Issa. However, the United States has cautioned that it assesses Hamas has been able to recruit replacements for nearly all the fighters that it has lost so far due to the war's radicalizing effects on Gazans. (internet source).

As the approach adopted in this study and which is applied to deal with Gaza crisis news, Critical stylistics can be seen as the tool with which we can know how language reflects ideologies and power relations. Linguistic choices are containers of far-fetched meanings. For instance, the use of terms like militants or freedom fighters can frame the same group of people in opposite

ways (Jeffries, 2010, p. 12). This shows how language can guide readers to interpret events according to certain viewpoints. In the context of online news, these subtle differences become even more influential because digital readers are exposed to fast and emotionally charged content every day.

As the data of the study, online discourse refers to all communication that happens via online virtual platforms such as news websites, blogs, and social media. People can get news fast and share them fast and view such services as accurate and precious. (Fairclough, 2013, p. 45). In this sense, the study of online discourse is actually essential in understanding how the public opinion in digital communities is constructed and how ideological bias in such communities spreads.

During the Gaza-Israel crises, people resolve to online urgent reports since most of them are curious about the fast events accompanying such a crisis. In this sense, people will get the picture differently from different sources since these sources follow certain agendas and the y direct the news towards certain ideological purposes. For instance, a research has shown that in 2023 Al Jazeera news put focus on the suffering and pain of the Palestinians whereas other news concentrated on political and war issues (Smith, 2024, p. 78).

There was another study in May 2021 which deduced that FOX news agency presented Israel as a legal being which tries to rightly defend its rights. The Indonesian website for news Detik.com on the other hand attempted to show the picture of the conflict neutrally (Rahman & Lee, 2022, p. 67).

A comparative study targeting Al Jazeera and BBC News reports in December 2023 also reached great differences. This channel viewed the crisis emotionally with respect to the people of Gaza as those who suffer all the time. On the other hand, BBC News was directly neutral showing what is really factual not going off reality (Adams & Ali, 2023, p. 54).

The lexical choices in headlines can drive the community`s collective opinion. Words like occupation, settlements, and terrorists have strong meanings which eventually drives our understanding the other way around. Jones (2023, p. 34) found that Fox News, in May 2021, often used very strong and emotional words, which made people more interested and start discussions. This shows that language in news can not only give information but also make people think or feel in a certain way.

1.1 The Problem

The very fast developments in technology made the world like a small village in terms of communication. Among these developments is the World Wide Web through which people can instantly communicate and can also keep in touch with the up to date news posted officially on the web. This has led to a modern medium of communication that is “online discourse” or what Crystal (2006) calls “A third medium” in its own right which is essentially multi-modal in nature. The study attempts to fill in the following gap: how such English and Arab agencies produce and reproduce anti-Palestine ideology among internet users.

1.2 The Aims

The study aims at:

1) Uncovering how Language in online official news platforms can be employed to legitimize the Israeli acts.
2) Elucidating how certain stylistic resources can be utilized seamlessly to normalize ideological biases in a way that best serves the news agencies.

1.3 Hypotheses

The study hypothesizes that:

1) Online discourse has certain organization principles and norms that make it third unique medium along with writing and speaking.
2) Online reports make use of various stylistic resources to achieve desired effects and ideologies.
3) The English news agencies attempt to normalize and legitimize the Israeli acts.

3. Methodology

3.1 Data Collection

The data to be analyzed are online headlines on the web sites different well-known agencies. 10 headlines are collected to represent each language i.e. English and Arabic. These online headlines are subjected for both qualitative and quantitative analyses.

3.2 Procedures

The procedures followed in this study can be summarized as follows:

1) Providing a theoretical background for critical stylistics and online discourse specifically the news agencies.
2) Selecting online reports from official English and Arabic news web sites.
3) Using Jeffries (2010) critical stylistics Model to account for the data in mean to an end manner by analyzing and uncovering the ideologies desired.
4) Using combined quantitative-qualitative method to sort out the stylistic strategies and their significance in English and Arabic online reports.

3.3 Adopted model

Since the study is interdisciplinary it requires an eclectic model for data analysis; hence Jeffries (2010) critical stylistics is adopted to account for the data in a mean to an end manner by analyzing and uncovering the ideologies desired.

3.4 Limits

The study is limited to the analysis of online official Israel-Palestine English and Arabic reports that are published online in English through the official web sites.

4. Practical part

4.1 Qualitative analysis

4.1.1 Qualitative analysis of the English headlines

1) "Israel launches strikes on Gaza after Hamas attack" (BBC News)

- Prioritizing – representing actions\states-prioritizing-foregrounding\backgrounding-assuming implying.

The headline prioritizes "Israel launches strikes" as the main clause, framing it as the primary event, while placing Hamas attack in a subordinate temporal clause. This syntactic structure presents a sequence of action-reaction, creating a neutral-toned but state-centric narrative that implicitly establishes Israeli actions as a response, thereby backgrounding the initial trigger and its context. So here the category of prioritizing is overt in can be seen clearly as being driven to naturalize and legitimize the Israeli actions as being reflections of Hama illegal offence.

2) "Dozens killed in Israeli strike on Gaza refugee camp" (The Guardian)

-Naming describing- representing actions\states-foregrounding\backgrounding-assuming implying.

In this headline there is a syntactic obscurity of agency. The use of passive voice killed and nominalization strike so the attention on the victims and where it is located. The deliberate naming of Gaza refugee camp is a factual descriptor in which a heavy ideological weight is loaded. This provokes vulnerability and enhances a protected status in the context of international law, thereby implicitly the scale and choice of target are condemned. Although at a first glance, the syntax of the sentence shows somehow neutrality but still the crime is presented nominally as a state of affairs not an internationally forbidden action.

3) "Gaza faces 'severe' water shortage, UN warns" (Reuters)

Naming describing- representing states-foregrounding\backgrounding-assuming implying.

The UN which is always supposed to be the carrier of justice also frames the Gaza events from a different perspective. A careful look at this online headline shows that the speech of the UN is manipulated to add authority and frames the crisis as a future risk with the verb "faces." Hence, a reality of an impending, de-politicized humanitarian disaster is built up, effectively making the event far off the direct responsibility of any specific actor and framing it as a natural crisis as well as a logistical one. The UN which is the international protector seems under this statement as the international observer.

4) "Biden says he's working 'around the clock' to get aid into Gaza" (CNN)

Representing actions-naming describing-foregrounding\backgrounding-assuming implying.

Turning the worlds eye on the US humanitarian concerns over Gaza is not a new issue. The CNN here seems very focused about the Biden`s continuous attempts to aid Gaza while closing the eye off the US sheer support of the Israeli strikes. In this headline the verbal process ("says") and the positive intention of a US leader are prioritized. By focusing on the humanitarian effort and the phrase "around the clock," this kind of positive image construction brings forward the image of the universal savior (in this case the US) ignoring the roots of the conflict and the genocides committed

5) "Netanyahu vows 'mighty vengeance' after Hamas attack" (The Times of Israel)

Representing actions\states-naming\describing-equating\contrasting-assuming\implying

Representing actions is manifested lexically in this headline. The verb vows and the NP mighty vengeance form the action not just as a policy but as a personal, almost biblical pledge. Using this frame builds up a social reality features a righteous retribution alluding to a sense of historical grievance which in turn gives the right to a severe military reaction. This is achieved via alluding to a narrative of historical justice. Here the legitimization of the Israeli PM vows is achieved via representing his intentions as legal reactions to illegal Hamas actions.

6) "Palestinians say Israeli strike hits Gaza hospital, hundreds reported dead" (Associated Press)

Otherness-representing actions-naming describing-nominalization-foregrounding\backgrounding.

The otherness is quite clear in this headline. The use of attribution Palestinians say, reported is a central way of presenting the speech of others. Imagining that this genocide is represented as a false or exaggerated reality is just a marker of an extremely ideological bias towards the event. Palestinians are presented here as claimers who might be far from the reality of describing such a genocide. Also, the nominalization of the act of striking mitigates the illegitimate bloody act of eliminating one of the main health institutions in the region.

7) "In Wartime Gaza, Children Fight to Survive Famine." (New York Times headline)

Representing actions\states-naming\describing-foregrounding\backgrounding-assuming\implying.

Using naming and describing and representing actions in this headline, the phrase Children Fight to Survive Famine constructs a powerful picture. Children in the strip are framed as warriors struggling for survival and victims at the same time. The hard context of the crisis is achieved via the nominal famine which suggests a very severe situation of draught and famine. Although the focus of the headline is on children as actors specifically as life seekers, the headline closes an eye over who is the reason behind this suffering?. Foregrounding here is used to highlight human pain so that the source of pain stays out of focus.

8) "Israel's war in Gaza enters fourth month with no end in sight" (Financial Times)

Naming\describing-representing states-assuming implying-foregrounding\backgrounding.

Naming and describing are used in this headline to legitimize the Israeli unnecessary war. calling "Israel's war" as being neutral naturalizes the state's framing of its own military campaign. In referring temporally enters fourth month along with the sum up phrase no end in sight represent the event as a protracted, ongoing state of affairs. In this sense, the scale and duration of the conflict are normalized, with the ideological implication of presenting it as an intractable, enduring condition rather than a series of discrete, debatable actions.

9) "Families of hostages held in Gaza plead for their release" (The Washington Post)

Naming\describing-representing states-assuming implying-foregrounding\backgrounding-foregrounding\assuming implying-prioritizing.

The emotional plead of the hostages' families is sympathetically prioritized here in this headline. Directing the lens towards the human sympathetic suffering by using foregrounding can shifts the focus from the political roots and the causes of this suffering. Moreover, the image created here for Gazan hostages redirect the world`s attention to the fact that people in Gaza should be more responsible for their actions and not involve their youth with anti-Israeli actions, the thing which would end their life in prison.

10) "Gaza health ministry says 25,000 killed in Israeli offensive" (Agence France-Presse)

Representing actions-naming\describing-foregrounding\backgrounding-assuming\implying.

The headline attributes the casualty figure to the Gaza health ministry," a strategy of presenting the speech of others that simultaneously provides specific information and introduces a potential source of bias for the reader to consider. The neutral naming of "Israeli offensive" avoids more charged terms like "aggression," maintaining a detached, institutional tone that reports claims without endorsing their moral framing.

4.1.2 Qualitative Analysis of the Arabic Corpus (10 Headlines)

1. Al Jazeera: "طائرات الاحتلال تشن غارات على قطاع غزة" (Occupation aircraft launch raids on the Gaza Strip)

Naming\describing-representing actions-events\states-representing participants.

The foundational ideological choice is the naming of Israel as "الاحتلال" (al-ihtilal - the occupation). This is not a neutral identifier but a political categorization that frames the state as an illegitimate, military power. This lexical choice precludes a neutral "conflict" and instead establishes a fundamental power imbalance, framing all subsequent military actions ("raids") as acts of an oppressive entity, not a sovereign state.

2. Palestine Today: " مستشفى المعمداني في غزة.. مئات الشهداء في مجزرة مروعة" (The Baptist Hospital in Gaza.. Hundreds of martyrs in a horrific massacre)

Naming\describing-evaluating-representing actions\events.

The headline uses heavily loaded naming: "شهداء" (shuhada' - martyrs) sanctifies the dead as heroes of a cause, and "مجزرة" (majzara - massacre) defines the event as a brutal slaughter. This

language leaves no room for neutral interpretation, immediately positioning the event within a narrative of atrocity and righteous sacrifice, and functioning as a direct rebuttal to any competing narrative.

3. Al Mayadeen: " حزب الله يرد على استشهاد القائد في حماس بقصف مواقع إسرائيلية" (Hezbollah responds to the martyrdom of the leader in Hamas by bombing Israeli sites)

Assuming\implying-represeting actions\events-naming and describing.

The headline constructs a chain of justified action through presupposition. It takes for granted the moral validity of the "استشهاد" (istishhad - martyrdom) as the legitimate catalyst. This frames Hezbollah's military action ("يقصف" - bombs) not as an escalation but as a logical "رد" (radd - response), creating a narrative of legitimate resistance and a unified front against a common enemy.

4. Al Araby TV: " شهداء وجرحى في قصف إسرائيلي على حي الشجاعية في غزة" (Martyrs and wounded in an Israeli bombardment on the Shuja'iyyah neighborhood in Gaza)

Representing participants-foregrounding\backgrounding-naming and describing

The very first word, "شهداء" (martyrs), performs an immediate act of categorization that assigns honor and purpose to the dead. This is paired with the specific representation of space (" حي الشجاعية" - the Shuja'iyyah neighbourhood), which grounds the abstract violence in a specific, lived-in community. This combination personalizes the loss and frames it not as collateral damage but as a targeted assault on a civilian community, whose members die as heroes.

5. Shehab News Agency: " أهالي غزة يعانون من جفاف وآبار مياه الشرب على وشك النضوب" (The people of Gaza suffer from drought and drinking water wells are on the verge of depletion)

Representing states\events-naming and describing-representing participants.

The headline begins by naming the affected group as " أهالي غزة" (Ahl Ghazzah - the people/families of Gaza), a term that evokes community and kinship. The verb "يعانون" (yu'aنون - they suffer) is a relational process that emphasizes enduring states of pain. This lexical set constructs the reality of the crisis not as a statistical shortage but as a profound, collective human suffering, building empathy and highlighting the shared plight of the population.

6. Sky News Arabia: " بايدن يؤكد دعمه الكامل لإسرائيل في حربها على غزة" (Biden affirms his full support for Israel in its war on Gaza)

Representing actions-naming and describing-evaluation.

The choice of the verb "يؤكد" (yu'akkid - affirms) conveys certainty and resolve, while the phrase "الدعم الكامل" (al-da'm al-kamil - full support) leaves no room for ambiguity. This representation of action frames the US President not as a neutral mediator but as a direct and unequivocal party to the conflict. The ideological implication is to situate the war within a broader geopolitical power struggle, with the US and Israel as aligned actors against Gaza.

7. BBC News Arabic: "نتنياهو: سندفع ثمنًا باهظًا جدًا وسننتقم من حماس" (Netanyahu: We will pay a very heavy price and we will take revenge from Hamas)

Representing speech and thought-representing participants-evaluation.

The direct quotation presents the speech of the Israeli leader, using the first-person plural "we" which polarizes "us" (Israel)

against "them" (Hamas). The lexical choices "ثمنًا باهظًا" (thaman bahizan - a heavy price) and "ننتقم" (nantaqim - we will take revenge) are emotionally charged. This framing portrays the conflict as a deeply personal and national vendetta, rather than a strategic military operation, emphasizing a cycle of vengeance.

8. Al Quds TV: " الشهر الرابع على العدوان الإسرائيلي على غزة.. مجازر متواصلة ووضع إنساني كارثي" (The fourth month of the Israeli aggression on Gaza.. continuous massacres and a catastrophic humanitarian situation)

Assuming and implying-naming and describing-representing events\states.

This headline is built on a series of powerful assumptions. It presupposes the nature of the conflict as "العدوان" (al-'udwan - the aggression) and the events as "مجازر" (majazir - massacres). These are not presented as viewpoints but as established, objective facts. The ideological effect is to frame the entire timeline of the conflict from its inception as one of unprovoked assault and ongoing atrocity, preemptively dismissing any counter-narrative.

9. Sawa News Agency: " عائلات الأسرى في غزة تطالب بإنقاذ أبنائها من القصف الإسرائيلي" (The families of the captives in Gaza demand the rescue of their sons from the Israeli bombardment)

Representing participants-representing actions-naming and describing.

The naming of the hostages as "الأسرى" (al-asra - the captives) is significant, as this is the term used for prisoners of war, framing them differently from the term "hostages." Furthermore, the headline strategically shifts the immediate threat; the families are not demanding release from Hamas, but rescue "from the Israeli bombardment." This reframes the primary danger, representing the actions of Israel as the most immediate lethal threat to the captives' lives.

10. France 24 Arabic: " وزارة الصحة في غزة: 25 ألف شهيد منذ بدء العدوان الإسرائيلي" (Gaza Health Ministry: 25 thousand martyrs since the start of the Israeli aggression)

Representing speech-naming and describing-evaluation.

Even in a more internationally focused outlet, the ideological lexicon is present. The use of "شهيد" (shahid - martyr) and "العدوان" (al-'udwan - aggression) demonstrates how this naming is deeply embedded in the Arabic media discourse on this issue. It shows a consistent ideological framing that rejects neutral terminology, instead embedding the reporting within a narrative that honors the dead and presupposes the illegitimacy of the Israeli military campaign from its very beginning ("since the start of the aggression").

4.2 Quantitative Analysis Using Jeffries' Model

In this section the English and Arabic corpora are measured statistically with respect to their frequencies and the extent to which they have scored in the corpus.

Table 1: Frequency of Jeffries' Critical Stylistic Features in English Headlines

Textual-Conceptual Function	Feature Demonstrated	Example from English Headlines	Frequency (Out of 10)
Naming & Describing	Neutral/Institutional Terms	"Israel," "Hamas," "Gaza health ministry," "killed"	10
Representing Actions/Events	Material Action Processes	"launches strikes," "trade fire," "vows vengeance"	9
Equating & Contrasting	Implicit Contrast (Israel vs. Hamas)	"Israel launches strikes *after* Hamas attack"	4
Exemplifying & Enumerating	Use of Quantifiers	"*Dozens* killed," "*25,000* reported dead"	3
Prioritizing	Actor + Action in Theme Position	"**Israel** launches..."; "**Biden** says..."	10
Assuming & Implying	Event as Justified Starting Point	"*After* Hamas attack..."	3
Negating	--	--	0
Hypothesizing	--	--	0
Presenting Speech/Thoughts	Reporting Verbs	"says," "warns," "vows"	5
Representing Space/Society	Geographical Focus	"in Gaza," "on Gaza refugee camp"	8

As the table allocated for the English data exhibits, there is a worldview of a conflict between state-level actors, reported from an external, observational perspective. The language prioritizes agency and action, using neutral naming and describing to present a seemingly objective, institutional account.

Table 2: Frequency of Jeffries' Critical Stylistic Features in Arabic Headlines

Textual-Conceptual Function	Feature Demonstrated	Example from Arabic Headlines	Frequency (Out of 10)
Naming & Describing	Loaded/Moralizing Terms	"شهداء " (martyrs), "مجزرة " (massacre), "الاحتلال " (the occupation)	10
Representing Actions/Events	Material & Relational Processes	"تشن غارات " (launch raids), "يعانون من " (suffer from)	10
Equating & Contrasting	Explicit "Us vs. Them"	"أهالي غزة " (The people of Gaza) vs. "طائرات الاحتلال " (Occupation aircraft)	8
Exemplifying & Enumerating	Use of Quantifiers	"مئات الشهداء " (hundreds of martyrs)	2
Prioritizing	The Act or its Consequences as Theme	"مستشفى " (The hospital...); "شهداء وجرحى " (Martyrs and wounded...)	7
Assuming & Implying	Illegitimacy as Fact	"الشهر الرابع على العدوان " (The fourth month of the aggression)	6
Negating	--	--	0
Hypothesizing	--	--	0
Presenting	Reporting Verbs	"يؤكد " (affirms),	4

Speech/Thoughts		"تطالب " (demand)	
Representing Space/Society	Societal & Experiential Focus	" (The أهالي غزة" people/families of Gazaحي), " " (The الشجاعية Shuja'iyyah neighbourhood)	9

As the table allocated for the Arabic data exhibits, there is a worldview of an asymmetric struggle and humanitarian crisis. The language is fundamentally evaluative and advocative, using naming and describing to moralize the conflict, and equating/contrasting to build a clear binary between a victimized people and an aggressor.

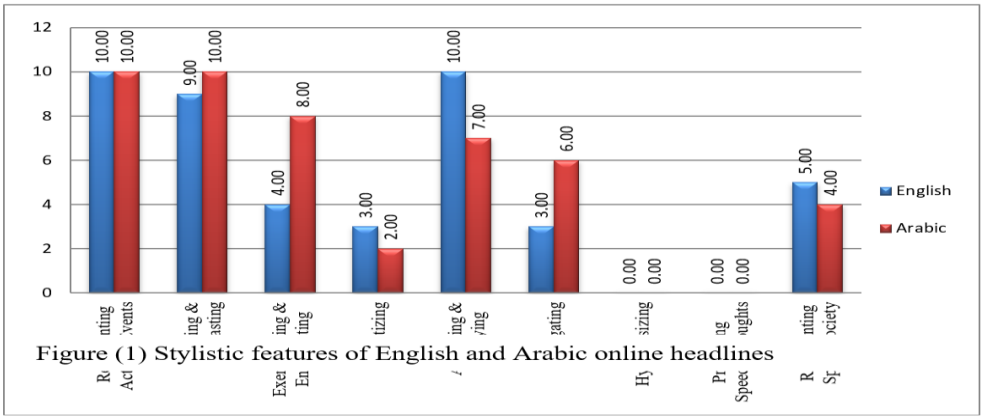


Figure (1) Stylistic features of English and Arabic online headlines

The contrasting figure (1) shows that the English and Arabic data are equal with respect to representing actions and states which is one of the high scoring categories. Arabic exceeds English with respect to equating and contrasting while English over scores Arabic in assuming and implying, prioritizing and representing space-society. Negating and exemplifying are higher for Arabic whereas the two categories of hypothesizing and presenting speech thought scored zero frequency for both languages.

Conclusions

In this section, several conclusions are drawn based on the quali-quanti analyses. It can also be said that the hypotheses of the current study are well validated throughout the conclusions.

1) Representing Space/Society was very high in both corpora (English 8/10, Arabic 9/10). However, the focus differed drastically. English framed space geographically ("in Gaza," "on a camp"), while Arabic framed it socially and experientially ("the people of Gaza," "the Shuja'iyyah neighbourhood").
2) With respect to ideological bias, there is a clear tendency in the English online headlines to naturalize the Israeli violent universally unacceptable acts.
3) In the Arabic data, the Gazza crisis is presented factually and as it is in reality, a region targeted with every possible deadly force.
4) The English headlines primarily function to Narrate and Report the conflict as a series of actions and statements by official entities.
5) The Arabic headlines primarily function to Evaluate and Condemn the conflict, framing it through a lens of oppression, suffering, and moral injustice.
6) The English corpus showed a 100% frequency (10/10) in using neutral/institutional Naming and Describing and in Prioritizing institutional actors as the sentence theme.
7) The English online reports are structurally designed to mimic an external, observational perspective which constructs a reality where the conflict is something happening over there, between official entities (Israel, Hamas, the UN), and is being reported by a detached third party.

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