

Coordination and Apposition in Energy Reports in Selected Nigerian Online Newspapers

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Abstract

This study investigated the syntactic uses of coordination and apposition in energy reports in selected Nigerian newspapers published online. Fifteen energy reports were purposively selected from three Nigerian online newspapers – *The Guardian*, *The Punch* and *Vanguard*. The data analysis was guided by Hengeveld and Mackenzie's Functional Discourse Grammar. The results showed that coordination was a crucial process in combining grammatical structures as applied to virtually every element of the sentences. The results also showed that coordination helped to give comprehensive details that were difficult to capture with a single lexical item and enhanced the level of details in syntactic situations in groups involvement. Where the coordination *and* was dominant, it was mainly used for the semantic purpose of addition. Furthermore, the findings showed that apposition was a useful grammatical element which catered for details such as names, positions and designated departments of officials and agencies mentioned in energy reports. It is therefore concluded that coordination and apposition are useful grammatical elements which can aid not just the cohesion of scientific reports but also improve their comprehensiveness and comprehensibility.

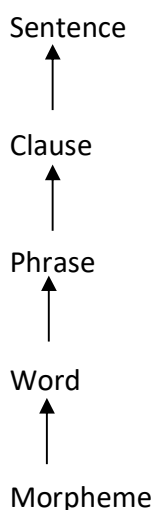
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1.0 Introduction

Normally, the use of language on a daily basis does not necessarily require in-depth structural knowledge and its inherent rules. Notwithstanding, every language has a set of rules governing it and the body of rules is known as grammar. These rules guide the combination of meaningful elements to form words, words to form phrases, phrases to form clauses, clauses to form sentences and sentences to form discourses. Grammar provides the language user and the language learner with a basis for understanding a language structure, the possibilities of patterning and possible constraints (Morley, 2000). The grammar of any language is made up of sub-fields such as syntax, morphology, phonology and semantics. Semantics is concerned with the meaning of expressions, phonology is concerned with the speech and sound systems,

morphology covers the word formation processes, while syntax deals with how words are combined to form sentences.

In clearer terms, syntax is defined as “the branch of grammar dealing with the ways in which words, with or without appropriate inflection, are arranged to show connections of meaning within the sentence” (Matthew, 1982, p. 1). The structural understanding of a language is the goal of syntax, and fundamental to this is the grammatical hierarchy of the linguistic units. For English, the grammatical units are hierarchised. The sentence is the largest and the highest on the grammatical rank scale while the morpheme is the smallest and indivisible unit of language, as espoused by Halliday (1961) in *Scale and Category grammar*. In between them are clause, phrase and word. By implication, as illustrated, a unit is made up of the unit(s) below it.



Understanding syntax is therefore crucial to the communication of our message whether in interpersonal relationships or on a public platform. As such, the meaning-bearing elements of a language can be combined in various and unique ways to express different meanings. This means that users of language employ a striking variety of possible arrangements of the elements in sentences. In the construction of English sentences, deliberately or not, grammatical elements are deployed to contribute to making meaning and communicating ideas. Coordination and apposition are two grammatical elements which give syntactic and semantic organisation and dynamism to linguistic structures.

Coordination occurs where two or more elements of equal status are conjoined to make a larger unit (Huddleston and Pullum, 2005, p. 225). In other words, grammatical structures that will be coordinated must be of the same type, i.e. words of the same type can be coordinated, and the same applies to phrases and clauses. Instead of having ideas, actors, actions and participants in separate sentences, they could easily be brought together in a sentence through coordination. Coordination as a process is achieved by the use of coordinators, otherwise known as coordinating conjunctions. In English, the three popular coordinators are as follows: *and*, *but*, *or*. If the coordinators are overtly used as in *Deji and Romoke are some of the fairest people I know*, then this kind of coordination is known as

syndetic while the absence of coordinators in a coordination process as in *Esther always gets the job done in a slow, steady fashion* is regarded as asyndetic. The omission of coordinators often implies that they are substituted by punctuation marks, usually a comma or semi-colon. Closely related to coordination is apposition. In a manner similar to coordination, apposition also displays a relationship of equivalence (Downing and Locke, 2006, p. 277). Apposition is the relation between linguistic units of similar status which have identical reference. Aremo (2004), identifies apposition as making two or more items share a sentence that anyone of them may perform on its own while being similar in reference as in *Atiku Abubakar, the PDP presidential candidate, has arrived in Oyo town* which can be further broken down into *Atiku Abubakar has arrived in Oyo town* and *The PDP presidential candidate has arrived Oyo town*, thus making *Atiku Abubakar* and *The PDP presidential candidate* appositives.

Communication is an integral part of the human life. Human beings cannot do without communicating. The indispensability of communication has given rise to innovations concerning how communication can be made to a large number of people at once. From ancient times, town criers were often used to disseminate information to the people from the stable of the monarch or high chief. Modern times have seen these crude methods replaced with the media. The media is all about reaching many people at once with the same piece of information. The mass media is broadly dichotomized into the print and the broadcast media (Olawaju, 2015). Mass media in Nigeria started with the print media. It came into existence in the nineteenth century when *Lagos Times* and *Weekly Records* among other newspapers were published only in English (Babalola, 2002; Aderinwale, 2009). The earliest kinds of newspapers were the community newspapers which were used to propagate the Gospel (Habeeb, 2012) during the introduction of Christianity to Nigeria and its neighbouring countries. With societal advancement and sophistication, newspapers have expanded in contents to have dedicated sections for different kinds of news and information. Some of these sections include business news, health reports, environmental reports, energy reports, fashion and style, sports, opinion, agro-economy and so on.

Moreover, with the emergence of the Internet, there is relative ease and speed in the spread and reach of information, including news. The Internet is a technological phenomenon that continues to redefine the limits of human innovations. The Internet with all its capabilities has changed the face of journalism, while evolving into a major news source (Olley and Chile, 2015). In what seems to be a global diffusion of innovation and social change, the newspaper industry in Nigeria has also joined the world trend of publishing daily newspapers on the Internet. There is no gainsaying that majority of Nigerian newspapers are on the Internet presently. Traditional news media have been forced to reorient themselves to adapt their roles in information markets to a new competitive situation. The implication of this is that newspapers are no longer strictly paper-based, rather they are fast becoming web-based. As such, newspapers can be categorized to be part of both the print and electronic media, giving rise to the neologism 'online newspaper'. The only significant difference between printed newspaper and online newspaper is the medium of delivery. The contents and segments remain the same. Sajjad (2013) notes that online newspapers are mere electronic replicas of the traditional newspapers. Olley and Chile (2015) suggest that Nigerian newspapers have embraced the internet partly as a means of reaching out to the outside world and partly as a way of not being left out of the information advantages which the internet has brought to the

print industry globally and most importantly, as a result of the threats from the broadcast industry.

For an oil rich country like Nigeria, it is not surprising that oil accounts for about 80% of her Federal revenue and approximately 90% of foreign exchange earnings (Nweze and Edame, 2016, p. 272). Therefore, reports on crude oil, gas, refineries, oil machineries and the entire energy sector are of paramount concern, and are contained in the energy section of a newspaper. Likewise, energy reports are indicative of how scientific reports are written. This study therefore explores energy reports and discuss the inherent grammatical elements being deployed by the selected Nigerian online newspapers.

2.0 Literature Review

Various scholars have worked on syntactic analysis as well as linguistic features of news and newspaper reports. Crystal and Davy (1969) investigated the English of newspaper reporting. Using the theoretical framework of stylistics, their study explored the graphological, syntactic and lexical parameters of news reports.

Babalola's (2002) study showed the diverse ways that Nigerian newspapers, like newspapers the world over, can be used to promote the teaching of reading and writing, and ultimately, build a literate community. Ayoola (2010) examined the use of language for the presentation of conflicting ideological positions in Niger-Delta discourse in Nigerian national newspapers while Patrut (2012) conducted a syntactic analysis of phrases in the Romanian language. Ehineni (2014) considered Nigerian English newspaper headlines from a syntactic perspective paying attention to the lexical and functional heads while Ayaga and Umaru (2016) analysed the structural patterns of information in Nigerian media texts, observing the various syntactic methods employed to communicate ideas to readers.

Furthermore, Olarewaju and Babalola (2016) investigated the use of gendered English in Nigerian newspapers, exploring how the Nigerian media (re)present the male and female gender in news reports, editorials and feature articles. It was discovered that gender bias is still very much in practice. Also, Olusanya (2017) examined how syntactically ambiguous headlines are structured in order to deliberately achieve humour and aesthetics in language use. Several efforts have been put into the language and discourse of news and news reporting by scholars in diverse academic studies in different parts of the world.

Despite these attempts of syntactic analyses across different discourses which have focused on news headlines, ambiguity, language structure, structural patterns of information and clausal features, rigorous research is still lacking on grammatical elements, some of which include but are not limited to apposition, coordination, subordination and grammatical metaphors. These elements are often deployed in everyday use of language, from verbal to written forms, in formal and informal settings but lack concrete research on their usage and the implications, syntactically and semantically, especially in news discourse which attracts throng of readership.

In other words, the syntax of coordination and apposition in newspaper energy reports, especially in Nigeria, has not enjoyed much exploration. Investigating the syntax of coordination and apposition in energy reports in Nigerian newspapers published online will reveal how syntactic structures are used to make meaning in newspaper reporting, and this can help achieve a more effective mass communication.

3.0 Materials and Methods

Theoretical Framework

Functional Discourse Grammar

This study uses Functional Discourse Grammar approach to investigate the use of grammatical elements in order to determine their semantic implications in the Nigerian online energy reports selected for the study. It is not enough to describe the use of syntactic elements, rather the explication of the meaning being projected from the use of the elements especially in the discourse of news reporting provides a wholesome syntactic study.

Functional Grammar is a model of grammar motivated by functions. It was proposed by Dik (1978) but has undergone several revisions. The latest published version features the expansion of the model with a pragmatic/interpersonal model by Hengeveld and Mackenzie (2008). This revision and expansion have necessitated the modification of the name of the theory to read Functional Discourse Grammar (henceforth FDG). The principles of FDG that guide the analysis of natural language usage explain phonology, morphosyntax, pragmatics and semantics in one linguistic theory. FDG posits that utterances are built top-down in the order presented below: the pragmatic aspect of the utterance, the semantic aspect and the morphosyntactic aspects of the utterance.

In other words, FDG is conceived of as the Grammatical Component of an overall model of verbal interaction which is linked to a Conceptual Component, an Output Component and a Contextual Component. These three non-grammatical components interact in various ways with the Grammatical Component, more specifically with the operations of Formulation and Encoding. Formulation concerns the rules that determine what constitutes valid underlying pragmatic and semantic representations in a language. Encoding concerns the rules that convert these pragmatic and semantic representations into morphosyntactic and phonological ones. FDG assumes that both Formulation and Encoding are language-specific, i.e., no universal pragmatic, semantic, morphosyntactic, or phonological categories are postulated until their universality has been demonstrated through empirical research.

The Conceptual Component is responsible for the development of both a communicative intention relevant for the current speech event and the associated conceptualizations with respect to relevant extra-linguistic events, and is thus the driving force behind the Grammatical Component as a whole. The Output Component generates acoustic or signed expressions on the basis of information provided by the Grammatical Component. Its function may be seen as translating the digital (i.e., categorical, opposition-based) information in the grammar into analogue (i.e., continuously variable) form. The Contextual Component contains a description of the content and form of the preceding discourse, of the actual perceivable setting in which the speech event takes place, and of the social relationships between participants. This type of information is relevant to many grammatical processes, such as narrative chaining, reflexives, and passives. For a study of this nature, the Contextual Component encompasses the description of the peculiar discourse of energy reporting, the setting and the people involved in the reports.

There are four levels of analysis within the theory of FDG: the interpersonal level, the representational, the morphosyntactic and the phonological levels. The interpersonal level is

meant to capture all the linguistically coded aspects of an utterance that relate to the interaction between a speaker and an addressee. Keizer (2015), establishes that it is a strategic level representing the steps taken by the speaker to realize his/her communicative intention. The representational level deals with the aspects of meaning and meaning making which can be described from the communicative text. Along with the interpersonal which describes the nature of the units, it captures the complete pragmatic and semantic contents of linguistic expressions. The morphosyntactic level addresses the encoding of the communicative intentions of the users of language while the phonological level of representation feeds into the operation of articulation as it is obligatory in the production of a linguistic expression (Keizer, 2015, p. 252). Two levels of analysis relevant to this study are the morphosyntactic and the representational levels.

The morphosyntactic level caters for the syntactic dissection in which structural properties of lexical and grammatical items are subjected to. The syntactic elements under consideration in this study are coordination and apposition. Therefore, structural properties of these elements are considered: the type of coordinator/appositive, the syntactic feature whether it links clauses or phrases and so on. An appositive could be full, partial, restricted, unrestricted etc. The representational level guides the semantics of linguistic expressions that comprise the data for this study. As such, the semantic vitality of the deployment of syntactic elements is revealed at the representational level. Coordinator 'and' is usually used for addition and chronology, 'or' is commonly used in situations where alternatives are available while 'but' generally signifies contrast. These are some of the semantic implications which are considered at the representational level in FDG. The appropriateness of this theory is therefore underpinned because of the aforementioned parallel parameters between FDG and energy reports as FDG makes provisions for the structural analysis of coordination and apposition as well the derivable meaning from the discourse of scientific reporting.

FDG, which was developed from functional grammar (Hengeveld, 1989), emphasises the complete description and explanation of the meaning-making capabilities of languages, particularly, modern English language. Hengeveld (ibid) maintains that language helps the encoder and decoder to discern reality, decide on what is important and what is not. It helps in the organization of activities visible and recognizable by others. Language enables users to build identities or roles and/or define relationships. It is an inter-connector and the instrument used in assigning values to different phenomena. Hengeveld and Mackenzie (2008), opine that in FDG, grammatical units are not analysed in isolation nor the clause the most basic unit of analysis, but rather as part of a larger discourse context. That is, it captures the formal properties of linguistic units in terms of the world they are used to describe and the communicative intentions with which they are produced.

Data

The data for this study were drawn from the reports in the energy columns of three online newspapers in Nigeria: *The Guardian*, *The Punch* and *Vanguard*. Five energy reports were selected from each of the three online newspapers, specifically between June 2017 and June 2018. Energy reports particularly have proved to be an intriguing group of data due to the little attention paid to them and their tendency to provide insights into the nature of reports on scientific issues. *The Guardian*, *The Punch* and *Vanguard* newspapers were selected not only for

their wide coverage, accessibility and popularity but also for their consistency in publishing energy reports. The data were analysed and discussed from the theoretical perspective of Hengeveld and Mackenzie's Functional Discourse Grammar.

4.0 Results and Discussion

Analysis of Coordination

Noun Phrases

In the following instances of coordination of noun phrases drawn from the data, the syntactic nature and semantic import of coordinators "and", "but" and "or" are analysed. Instances are picked randomly from the three online newspapers selected as sources for the primary data. The coordinator is emboldened, while the entire noun phrase that contains the coordinator is underlined.

1. The project, which is being carried out through the Rural Electrification Agency (REA), is expected to power Federal Universities **and** Teaching Hospitals with Solar energy. – Text V1
2. The first phase of the project will include nine federal universities **and** one teaching hospital. – Text V1
3. Hott further said the AfDB plans to provide \$300m to support the Federal Government's power sector recovery programme; **or** the FG's planned investment in power distribution companies to enable them to unlock 2,000MW of stranded power. – Text V1
4. Justice Hassan specifically ordered Sea Petroleum Oil & Gas Limited **and** its affiliated companies to hand over the company's business, which sits on over 9000 square meters of land in the fastest developing area of Lagos State along the Lekki-Epe Express Way... – Text V2
5. The researchers found that governments **and** agencies planning solar projects lacked awareness of how many people they wanted to reach... - Text V4

From the identified instances of coordination of noun phrases, it is obvious that majority of the coordination processes in sentences 1-5 contain phrases, which is achieved by coordinator *and*. Semantically, the use of coordinator *and* signifies a pure addition to the initial phrase by the second phrase. In sentence 3, the use of coordinator *or* denotes alternative between two options – 'the Federal Government's power sector recovery programme; **or** the FG's planned investment in power distribution companies to enable them to unlock 2,000MW of stranded power.'

Adjectival Phrases

Just like the noun phrase, adjectival phrases are capable of being coordinated. Some instances found in the data are analysed below.

6. He said, "Of note are the Discos' legitimate concerns of TCN's need to stop the indiscriminate load dumping to impractical network areas that make distribution inefficient, unviable **and** impracticable for technical and commercial efficiencies, due to poor infrastructure construction, substandard materials and inefficient reckless approvals of grid

extensions for political considerations and interference during the days of NEPA/PHCN.” – Text P1

7. He said the unfair interpretation of off-peak energy data as load rejection was grossly inaccurate and misleading. – Text P1
8. The unfair interpretation of off-peak energy data as load rejection is grossly inaccurate and misleading. – Text P1

In sentence 6, coordination of multiple adjectival phrases is achieved with coordinator *and*. The predicative adjectival phrases *inefficient*, *unviable* and *impracticable* in qualifying the noun phrase *distribution* may not be contained in one word, hence the need for a syntactic element to conjoin different predicative words. Such semantic implication can be termed addition. The same applies to sentences 7 and 8.

Verb Phrases

9. “As (the President of AfDB) Adesina would always say, “Light up and power Africa”, I would say it is good to light up Nigeria also,” he said. – Text V1
10. This is not and cannot be labelled as load rejection by Discos. – Text P1
11. Naturally, Discos take and distribute more energy during the day time/business hours than night time when demand is generally low due to lesser demand. – Text P1
12. We thank and recommend them for their response – Text G4
13. The Vice President said it was an important project for government as it would “improve general satisfaction and create an atmosphere where academic activities can thrive and go undisturbed.” – Text V1

Semantic Implication

Sentence 9 features coordination of lexical verbs. It provides semantic dynamism as more than one meaning is projected in one object. Also, instead of having two separate simple sentences which have similar arguments, coordination is used to bring two actions reflected in respective verbal elements together in a single sentence. In sentence 9, it is *light up and power*, for sentence 11, *take and distribute*, and sentence 12, *thank and recommend*. The usage of **and** in these sentences shows that the actions are chronological, i.e., one comes after the other. In sentence 10 however, the coordination is that of auxiliaries’ not lexical verbs. The coordinated auxiliaries “is not” and “cannot be” are helping the lexical verb “labelled”. The semantic import is modality in chronological sequence, i.e. “is not labelled” and “cannot be labelled” are brought together to form one predicator through coordination. Sentence 13 is another instance of lexical verb coordination, with a preceding auxiliary *can*. The chronology starts with *thrive*, followed by *go*. There is, however, some ambiguity in the expression as the auxiliary *can* may apply to only *thrive* or *thrive* and *go* to produce “can thrive” and “can go”.

Coordination of Main Clauses

Main clauses which are also known as independent clauses are the type of clauses considered in this section for their combinatorial possibilities and implications. Below are instances drawn from the data.

14. Vice President Yemi Osinbajo, SAN has said that ‘despite the sectoral challenges, the Buhari administration will complete major projects that will improve the power sector in the country and also implement a plan that will provide solar energy in a number of universities in the country. – Text V1
15. Last week, TCN said that the Nigerian National Petroleum Company, NNPC, had restored the ruptured pipeline and gas is gradually building up in most generating stations, adding that gas and power supply would be back to normal within two days. – Text V3
16. Governments in Africa are still finding it difficult to officially adopt the technology, **and** this has greatly affected its uptake,” she says. – Text V4
17. We will investigate the company that exported it **and** ask our quarantine department to check and find out why such a consignment was left here. – Text P2
18. “The Ikeja Electric marketing officer covering my area has been moved to another area, I made several efforts at their Somolu Business Unit to complain **but** my supply was disconnected. – Text P3
19. This would be used to allocate the 2,000MW that is currently available **but** cannot be distributed; noting that generated power had risen to 7,000MW in 2017 from 3,000MW recorded in May 2015. – Text G4
20. This year, we should work harder to increase our people’s access to meters **and** reduce the incidents of estimated billing as the Nigerian Electricity Regulatory Commission (NERC) concludes the Meter Regulations that will open up the meters supply and installation business. – Text G4

Semantic Analysis

The coordination in sentence 14 is achieved by coordinator *and* which further underscores that overwhelming majority of the coordination processes in the discourse of energy reports are achieved with *and*. The second clause *also implement a plan that will provide solar energy in a number of universities in the country* is chronologically next to the first (preceding) clause. For sentence 15, the second clause is a consequence of the first. Gas is gradually building up in most generating stations because of the restoration of the ruptured pipeline, making it a case of cause and effect. The semantic pattern found in sentence 15 also applies to sentence 16, as the difficulty in adopting technology had an impact on its uptake. The semantic relationship between the coordinated clauses in sentence 17 is that of chronological sequence but not causality. Sentences 18 and 19 record the only instances of coordinator *but*. *But* achieves a solitary semantic function which is contrast, between the two conjoined clauses. Despite the several efforts made by the customer, the supply line was still disconnected. The same contrast occurs in sentence 19 where the available allocation of power contradicts the inability to distribute it. The semantic relationship between the clauses in sentence 20 is that of chronological sequence, similar to sentences 14, 16 and 17.

Dependent Clauses

The syntactic relation in the coordination of dependent clauses as well as their semantic implications is discussed in this section.

21. Fashola said: “I also use the opportunity to call out to manufacturers to let us know where they are, how much power they need, **and** how we can connect you because we have 2,000MW of undistributed power. – Text G4
22. I understand that the consensus with the consumers is important **and** that there is the need for OPEC to see if prices are too high **and** then to react,” he said. – Text G5
23. Members of OPEC and non-OPEC members are currently gathered in Vienna, where on Saturday they will take a decision to either cut **or** increase global oil production output. – Text G5
24. According to him, estimated billing is killing consumers **and** that the DISCOs are using it to exploit customers. – Text P3
25. According to Okorie, he was away for six months **and** before going, he explained to the staff of Ikeja Electric that covers the area that they should stop electricity to his flat for six months. – Text P3

Semantic Analysis

Coordination is used to link dependent clauses to independent clauses, a characteristic of complex sentences. The dependent clauses coordinated in sentence 21 are WH-nominal clauses which give details of the power situation. Also in sentence 22, the dependent clauses are nominal – that-clause and to-infinitive. Nominal clauses usually answer the question ‘what’ or ‘who’. Hence, they are used to give information as usual in declarative sentences. The use of *and* in the sentences signifies pure addition of details. In sentence 23 however, the use of *or* denotes alternative ideas. The alternative lies between cutting global oil production output or increasing it. In sentence 24, the coordination achieved through the use of *and* signifies similarity between the clauses. The second clause makes a point similar to the first; the second clause *the DISCOS are exploiting the customers* is similar to the first clause *estimated billing is killing consumers*. For sentence 25, an adverbial clause is joined to a preceding simple sentence which introduces another main clause. Notwithstanding the ellipsis, the second clause is an appended comment on the first, giving details regarding the first clause.

Analysis of Apposition

Instances of apposition drawn from the data are analysed in this section, syntactically and semantically. The purposively selected instances cut across the three selected newspapers for this study.

26. For the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Dr. Ibe Kachikwu, failure to provide timely approvals will result in delayed production, loss of revenue and profitability, reduced economic growth and loss of future investment opportunities. – Text G1
27. “Technological advancements such as surveillance with down hole gauges, multi-phase flow meters, digitization, artificial intelligence were slowly being adopted by DPR. DPR sought to ensure that these technologies had been tested,” he added. – Text G1
28. The Group General Manager, National Petroleum Investment Management Services (NAPIMS), Mr. Roland Ewubare said that FDP is necessary because not every field is economic to develop, adding that mistakes come at a heavy price. – Text G1

29. In a telephone interview, AEDC's Head of Corporate Communication, Mr. Fadipe Oyeboode, attributed the non-supply and load-shedding in some areas to the limited allocation from the national grid to AEDC. – Text G2
30. Speaking on what the Federal Government is doing to improve electricity supply in the country, the Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Babatunde Raji Fashola, had said government was putting together a policy position to help expand the distribution network of the DisCos. – Text G4
31. The Minister of State for Petroleum Resources, Dr. Emmanuel Ibe Kachikwu, said Nigeria would advise against additional oil supply to the global market by OPEC and non-OPEC members. – Text G5
32. The order also affects Princess Stella Oduah's other business interests for which AMCON has since appointed Moyosore Jubril Onigbanjo, SAN, as Receiver over the assets of Princess Stella Oduah-Ogiemwonyi; Sea Petroleum Oil & Gas Limited; Sea Petroleum and Gas FZE as well as Star Tourism and Hotels Limited. – Text V2
33. However, since the beginning of this week, a report from the office of the Vice President of Nigeria, Prof Yemi Osinbajo, obtained by Vanguard, stated thus: "On June 25 2018, average power sent out was 3,685MWh/hour (up by 238.56MWh/h from the previous day). – Text V3
34. Meanwhile, General Manager, Public Affairs of TCN, Mrs. Ndidi Mbah, said that through the implementation of Transmission Rehabilitation and Expansion Program, TCN is building new substations as well as upgrading existing ones and transmission lines all over the country. – Text V3
35. Emma Onyejeose, the coordinator of Nigeria's annual Alternative Energy Expo, says that a recent influx of fake solar panels from China to Ghana was one example where a lack of government control led to people having bad experiences with solar power. – Text V4
36. "So many projects fail because, when we talk about solar parks in Africa, most of the time people think this is just about finding an empty plot of land and implementing a project," says Eugene Ikejemba, an engineering PhD student at the University of Twente in the Netherlands, who led the study. – Text V4
37. Rick Perry, United States Energy Secretary, disclosing this at the ongoing Africa Oil Week conference in South Africa said the plan is targeted at enhancing development in the continent.

Semantic Analysis

The semantic interpretation of the use of apposition in sentences 26 and 28 is equivalence, specifically appellation. The relation between the appositives, *For the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources* and *Dr Ibe Kachikwu* is such because both the appositive and the noun phrase are definite and the latter is a proper noun, referring specifically to Dr Ibe Kachikwu, as is the case with *The Group General Manager, National Petroleum Investment Management Services (NAPIMS)* and *Mr. Roland Ewubare* in sentence 28. In sentence 27, the appositives project the relation of exemplification, which is a sub-categorization of inclusion. *Technological advancement* is exemplified (further broken down into) *surveillance with down hole gauges, multi-phase flow meters, digitization, and artificial intelligence*.

The semantic import in the appositive relationships in sentences 30-32 is that of equivalence which can be specifically termed appellation. The apposition simply defines the

title or position of the anchor. *AEDC's Head of Corporate Communication* is Mr. *Fadipe Oyebode*, in sentence 31, *the Minister of Power, Works and Housing* is *Babatunde Raji Fashola* while *the Minister of State for Petroleum Resources* is Dr. Emmanuel Ibe Kachikwu. For sentence 34, the semantic relation between the appositives is that of inclusion, which can be further particularized to exemplification. In other words, the defining appositive (in this case *Sea Petroleum Oil & Gas Limited, Sea Petroleum and Gas FZE as well as Star Tourism and Hotels Limited*) exemplifies the defined appositive (*the assets of Princess Stella Oduah-Ogiemwonyi*). Sentences 35 and 37 exemplify the semantic relation of appellation between the appositive units. In sentence 35, *the coordinator of Nigeria's annual Alternative Energy Expo* serves as an appellation for *Emma Onyejeose* while in sentence 37, both noun phrases *Rick Perry, United States Energy Secretary* are definite, making their relation that of equivalence, specifically appellation. Sentence 36, however, displays a relation of attribution between the anchor *Eugene Ikejemba* and the appositive *an engineering PhD student at the University of Twente in the Netherlands*. The defining appositive, *an engineering PhD student at the University of Twente in the Netherlands*, as characteristic of attribution is usually an indefinite noun phrase.

Findings and Conclusion

From the analysis of data, coordination proves to be an important process in combining grammatical structures. When writing a scientific report, coordinators make it possible to link several syntactic constituents, i.e. phrases, clauses and often sentences. Although coordination occurs heavily in phrasal structures, it is not restricted to one grammatical class nor element of the sentence. Virtually every element of the sentence is coordinated. This helps to reduce the wordiness of expressions where an action is applied to two or more entities and helps in giving comprehensive details which would have been difficult to communicate with a single lexical item. Apart from this, coordination enhances the level of details for the nominal head, especially where nominal groups are used in the discourse.

It is discovered that there is an overwhelming use of the coordinator *and* over other coordinators such as *or* and *but*. Perhaps, this justifies why scholars such as Grennbaum and Nelson (2002) and Goodall (2014), only acknowledge *and* and *or* in their research, leaving out *but*. Throughout the data, the coordinator *but* is used only two times. Therefore, in terms of the frequency of coordinators, *and* is the most dominant, especially for addition in terms of semantic implication as discovered in the study. When a second structure is only an addition to the first, this means that the conjoined syntactic structures may not be chronological but they would be congruent.

The coordination of modifiers alongside multiple heads also produces cases of ambiguity. When the modifier (pre or post) is more than one, it becomes rather difficult, depending on the context of usage, to determine which of the modifiers applies to respective heads. Furthermore, the study has revealed that apposition is perhaps an indispensable grammatical element in scientific reports. In the details of such reports, the names, positions and designated departments of officials and agencies are often required, and apposition is the grammatical vehicle that is primarily deployed to convey these vital pieces of information. The details are significant because they create the public perception of authority and mastery over scientific developments which can affect the country as a whole.

From the analysis of apposition in the study, the dominant semantic implication of apposition is appellation. Appellation, as a relation of naming, exists between two noun phrases, with one being more specific than the other. In other words, appositional constructions are used to provide more specific details such as name and position of the parties involved in the energy reports. Also, apposition in a manner similar to hyponymy caters for inclusion of items that are listed under a constituent. Even though the items are not necessarily identical with the preceding structure, they are included in the reference.

In conclusion, the study has been able to unveil the syntactic and the semantic implications of coordination and apposition in the energy reports of selected Nigerian online newspapers. The study concludes that coordination is vital to the conjoining and cohesion of reports, while apposition provides specific details which aid comprehensiveness and comprehensibility of scientific reports.

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