

ANALYSIS OF PRESUPPOSITION IN THE BROADCAST “KAMALA HARRIS DISCUSSES U.S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL” BY 60 MINUTES

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates the underlying assumptions evident in the “Kamala Harris Discusses U.S. Relationship with Israel” segment aired by 60 Minutes, delving into how these implicit beliefs inform the dialogue and affect audiences’ interpretations. Utilizing a descriptive qualitative methodology, the research pinpoints significant presuppositions, including the belief that Benjamin Netanyahu serves as the Prime Minister of Israel, the perception of the Biden-Harris administration’s capacity to sway international policies, the association of Iran with militant organizations like Hamas and Hezbollah, and the collective recognition of the Middle East as the central geopolitical framework. These presuppositions, derived from shared cultural, political, and social knowledge, facilitate effective communication by obviating the need for extensive explanations. The study underscores how these assumptions serve as crucial components in the communication process, shaping the audience’s grasp of the intricate matters pertaining to U.S.-Israel relations, military support, diplomacy, and regional stability in the Middle East. It stresses the important function of presuppositions in determining how delicate geopolitical subjects are articulated and comprehended by both speakers and receivers.

Keywords : *Presupposition Analysis, U.S.-Israel Relations, Pragmatics in Discourse*

Article History

Received: Januari 2025

Reviewed: Januari 2025

Published: Januari 2025

Plagiarism Checker No 234

Prefix DOI : Prefix DOI :

10.8734/argopuro.v1i2.365

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Publish by : Argopuro



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ISSN 2988-6309



INTRODUCTION

Pragmatics examines the application of language in authentic scenarios to express significance that transcends mere literal expressions. It investigates the ways in which context, social interactions, speaker motivations, and cultural conventions influence the interpretation of our words and the perceptions of others. Unlike grammar or syntax that center around sentence composition, pragmatics delves into the ways and reasons behind language usage in particular situations.

In this analysis the writer choose presupposition as a material for analysis of broadcast “Kamala Harris Discusses U.S Relationship With Israel” Presupposition refers to underlying assumptions or background knowledge that the speaker and listener are believed to share before a statement is made. It means that certain information is mutually understood and accepted as true, so there’s no need for it to be explicitly mentioned during the conversation. This implicit

understanding allows communication to flow more naturally, as both parties operate on a common foundation of assumed knowledge.

Presupposition plays a critical part in pragmatics as it helps bridge the gap between unequivocal communication and the implicit environment participated by the actors in a converse. Yule (1996) highlights that presumptions enable speakers to bed unstated beliefs or hypotheticals into their utterances, which listeners can interpret grounded on participated artistic, social, and conversational morals. This implicit element of communication allows individualities to convey meaning efficiently without the need for total explanations, making relations more cohesive and contextually applicable.

By examining presumptions, experimenters can uncover underpinning hypotheticals that shape communication, revealing the speaker's intents, artistic influences, and the dynamic interplay between language and meaning in specific surrounds.

The purpose of this text is to highlight the ongoing tension and dynamics between the U.S. government, led by Vice President Kamala Harris, and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu regarding military actions in the Middle East. It focuses on the U.S.'s military aid to Israel, its diplomatic efforts to address humanitarian concerns, and the challenge of influencing Israel's decisions on military strategy, including issues such as a ceasefire, the situation in Lebanon, and Iran's involvement. The text also emphasizes the importance of the U.S.-Israel alliance, despite the challenges in getting Netanyahu to follow specific diplomatic pressures from the U.S. government.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study adopts a descriptive qualitative research method to dissect the presupposition present in the broadcast "Kamala Harris Discusses U.S Relationship With Israel" by 60 Minutes. The qualitative approach is particularly suitable for this research as it allows for an in-depth examination of the implicit meanings and underpinning hypotheticals bedded within the discourse. Through this system, the study seeks to research how presupposition serve to convey unstated information that's mutually understood between the speaker and the audience. The data for this study are drawn from the paraphrase of the broadcast, fastening on statements made by Kamala Harris and the context in which they were delivered. The experiments will dissect the verbal rudiments, contextual suggestions and realistic aspects that reveal presumptions. By employing a descriptive approach, this study aims to totally identify, classify, and interpret the types of presupposition used in the broadcast. Also, the research incorporates theoretical fabrics from pragmatic, similar as Yule's (1996) conception of presupposition and Levinson's (1983) principles of implicature, to guide the analysis. The study emphasizes understanding how these presupposition reflect artistic, social, and political surround, as well as the speaker's intentions in shaping audience perception. The findings will be presented descriptively to give a comprehensive understanding of the part of presupposition in the broadcast and their impact on communication.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In the broadcast "KAMALA HARRIS DISCUSSES U.S RELATIONSHIP WITH ISRAEL" presupposition Harris emphasizes that U.S. military aid is essential for Israel's defense and that diplomatic efforts, including calls for humanitarian aid and a ceasefire, are on going.

Result

a. Presupposition 1

The use of Prime Minister Netanyahu presupposes that Netanyahu currently holds (or held) the position of Prime Minister of Israel. This assumption is based on the understanding that the speaker or writer is aware of Netanyahu's political role.

b. Presupposition 2

The Biden-Harris administration holds political power and influence, enough to be involved in international or domestic policy decisions, such as pressing for a ceasefire.

This implies that the administration has the authority to make diplomatic or political demands and is actively engaged in such negotiations or policy discussions.

c. Presupposition 3

Iran is somehow connected to or supportive of Hamas and Hezbollah, which is often claimed in geopolitical discussions.

This presupposes that the speaker assumes or believes in the relationship between Iran and these groups, often in terms of financial, logistical, or military support.

d. Presupposition 4

There is a specific region being discussed, which is typically understood to refer to the Middle East or a similar geopolitical area.

This presupposes that the speaker and audience are aware of the region being referenced (likely the Middle East, North Africa, or a similar area where Arab leaders are influential).

DISCUSSION

The exploration of the underlying assumptions highlighted in the broadcast "Kamala Harris Discusses U.S. Relationship with Israel" uncovers the complex function of unspoken beliefs in crafting the narrative and directing audience comprehension. The initial assumption, positing that Benjamin Netanyahu holds the position of Prime Minister of Israel, sets the stage for the dialogue by portraying him as the principal figure symbolizing Israeli leadership. This belief is crucial because it not only places Netanyahu as a pivotal decisionmaker but also presupposes the audience's awareness of his political stature, thus simplifying the discourse. By depending on this mutual understanding, the speaker can concentrate on the essence of U.S.-Israel relations without the necessity of explicitly defining Netanyahu's role.

The subsequent assumption highlights the power of the Biden-Harris administration in global diplomacy, especially its capacity to affect military and diplomatic choices. This belief presents the U.S. government as a formidable player capable of participating in negotiations and exerting pressure for results such as ceasefires and humanitarian assistance. The presumption reflects the speaker's aim to reiterate the administration's proactive engagement and dedication to tackling Middle Eastern concern. It also reinforces the perception of the U.S. as an international mediator and emphasizes the difficulties encountered when trying to influence a complicated ally like Israel.

The third assumption implies that Iran has connections to or provides support for groups like Hamas and Hezbollah, which are frequently involved in discussions surrounding regional conflict. This belief carries geopolitical ramifications, as it mirrors commonly accepted notions about Iran's influence in unsettling the region through financial, logistical, or military backing to these factions. By incorporating this assumption, the speaker aligns with a narrative that depicts

Iran as a notable threat to Israel's safety and the broader equilibrium of the Middle East. This portrayal aids in contextualizing the urgency of U.S. diplomatic and military assistance for Israel.

Lastly, the fourth assumption situates the conversation within the geographical and geopolitical framework of the Middle East. The implicit allusion to the region presupposes that the audience acknowledges its significance as a focal point of political, military, and humanitarian challenges.

This belief negates the requirement for extensive clarifications regarding the region's importance and allows the speaker to dive straight into the interactions between the U.S. and Israel. The shared recognition of the Middle East's relevance empowers the audience to concentrate on the subtleties of the discussed issues, including the repercussions of U.S. involvement and its efforts to balance military support with diplomatic initiatives.

The discussion underscores how assumptions function as a bedrock for effective communication by embedding shared knowledge and convictions within the dialogue. These unspoken beliefs not only facilitate the narrative but also unveil the speaker's intent and the underlying cultural, social, and political contexts shaping the discourse. By scrutinizing these assumptions, we attain a more profound comprehension of the intricacies surrounding U.S. Israel relations and the broader geopolitical dynamics at work.

CONCLUSIONS

The conclusion of this dialogue is that while the U.S. provides significant military aid to Israel, there are tensions between the Biden-Harris administration and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu over certain actions, such as the continuation of military operations and decisions regarding Lebanon and Iran. Kamala Harris emphasizes that the U.S. will continue to pressure Israel diplomatically, advocating for humanitarian aid, a ceasefire, and the release of hostages. Despite these differences, Harris underscores the importance of the broader alliance between the American and Israeli people, rather than focusing solely on the relationship with Netanyahu.

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