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A Transitivity Analysis of Shashi Deshpande's Short Story "And Then?"

Abstract: The research paper describes Process Types, Participants Function, and Circumstantial Elements of Transitivity Analysis of Shashi Deshpande's short story entitled "And Then?". The system of Transitivity is a part Systemic Functional Linguistic and used for analyzing experimental meaning in language this is the way in which we talk of our experiences. The method can be used for analyzing literary text. The aim of the paper is to investigate how the Transitivity in extracts reflects the processes the main character old widow woman goes through. The results show that the old women goes through mental condition it shows Mental Processes and her actions show material processes.

The researcher has applied descriptive qualitative method that described texts in the story. The researcher includes the explanation of the major process type of the Transitivity model and their sub classifications in addition to the participant's roles that are directly involved in the processes. This is followed by the application of the transitivity theory to the literary text. A result of the analysis shows the use of certain Process types and Participants, Circumstances.

The study found that the characterized process types of Participant Functions were mental Process (40%) material Process (22%), Verbal Process (14%) Relational Process (5%) Behavioural Process (5%)

Key words- Transitivity, Systemic Functional linguistic.

1. Introduction:-

Language is a compound of knowledge and abilities enabling speakers of the language to communicate with each other to express ideas, emotions and desires. Linguistics is the study of knowledge system, how is system structured. Linguistics is concerned about the analysis the nature and structure of human language. Systemic Functional Grammar is a branch of Linguistics. It is the study of relationship between language and its functions in social settings. The study was developed in 1960s by British linguist M.A.K Halliday, who had been influenced by work of Prague school and British linguist J.R. Firth (1890-1960).

Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics theory is a powerful concept to analyse the texts. This framework looks at language from the outside as well as the inside the text. It analyses language as used naturally in any social settings. The framework used to understand the descriptions of grammatical resources and the general functionality of language within discourse.

The systemic model claims that lexicogrammatical system falls into three major subsystems which are called Metafunctions. Halliday names the metafunctions as: Textual metafunction, Interpersonal metafunction and experiential metafunction. The grammatical system of 'mood' is linked to the appearance of Interpersonal meaning, 'process type' to the appearance of Experimental meaning, and 'theme' to the appearance of Textual meaning.

Ideational meaning is also called experimental meaning. It corresponds to clause as representation, Clause as representation is represented by Transitivity. It relates to process, participant and circumstance. In traditional grammar every clause in English must have a verb while in Systemic Functional Linguistic every clause must have a process. Processes are central to Transitivity.

According to Halliday (2004) ¹ there are three kinds of grammar, namely 'theme is the grammar of discourse', 'mood is the grammar of speech function', and then "transitivity is the

grammar of experience". Halliday also defines Transitivity as "the grammar of the clause" as a structural unit for expressing a particular range of ideational meanings. This study refers to theories of System Functional Linguistics proposed by some linguist, especially M.A.K. Halliday (2004) in *An Introduction Functional Grammar*.

According to Bloor & Bloor (1995.P.9)² consists of two kinds, the experiential and logical function and Transitivity is in the function of experiential. Eggins (2004, 2006)³ points out that the system of Transitivity or process type expresses the experiential meaning. Transitivity has been a popular part of the analytical tool in the critical discourse analysis. The Transitivity model provides a means of discovering how certain linguistic structures of the text Transitivity means of discovering how certain linguistic structures of the text Transitivity means the ability of verbs to talk object. The process types are defined as the clause as the representation. The process itself is shaped in a long term and each process. Transitivity has the border meaning in the branch of linguistics known as Systemic Functional Linguistics. The concept of transitivity is used in this paper for analyzing the extracts of Shashi Deshpande's short story "and then?"

Transitivity system is used as an analytical framework by many researchers. Hasan (1985) has applied it to the interpretation of an eponymous widower in Les Murray's poem 'The Widower' M.A.K Halliday (1971) himself, the originator of the Systemic Functional Linguistic theory, has applied it to the study of two different communities in William Golding's novel 'The Inheritors'

Shashi Deshpande's 'and then?' is a short story of which was published in 2008. Shashi Deshpande began her literary career in 1970, with the publication of a collection of short stories. She has published near about eighty stories. Her stories describe the social and moral restrictions which Indian women have to contend with in life. The writer deals with the struggles

and adjustments of the middle-class Indian women. Shashi Deshpande's themes and motifs are based on the lives and problems of women.

“And then?” is a story of old woman who feels lonely and emptied after her husband's death. She has two children, a son a daughter. Her son Vishwa is married and is living with his wife, and daughter. Her daughter Anju has been living with her when the old woman's husband died. One her daughter declares her plan of going to states. The old woman pleads her daughter not to go. The old woman ask her daughter to get married before going abroad to which the daughter does pay any attention. Daughter says that the plan has been decided when her father was alive and her father is well aware of her plans. The old lady feels alienated in her son's house and could not adjust herself. Her son and daughter in law very their best to make her feel at ease.

The clauses are numbered in order of the story. The analysis covers the whole story. The researcher divided the story into four parts to represent the changes and development in main character's thoughts and feelings.

2. Objectives:-

The aim of this paper is to

- Identify the Transitivity Process types in short story “and then?”
- Identify the Participant Functions in short story “And then?”
- Identify the Circumstantial elements in short story “and then?”

3. Method:-

The researcher uses qualitative type of study to investigate. Qualitative research is appropriate to be conducted in humanities social science, because the main objective of

qualitative study is to understand the phenomenon, fact, reality and event which are experiences by human.

The following is a portion of the text, which researcher has analyzed semantically on the basis of M.A.K. Halliday's transitivity framework, with participant function and process type given within bracket. Researcher has taken four Texts from short story "And then?". Verbs all of which describes the certain kind of processes are divided into groups on semantic and grammatical grounds. The process may be Material Mental, Relations, Verbal, Behavioural and Existential.

4. Background of the Text-A

This is a starting text of the story. Story starts with the conversation of a child and her grandmother. Grandmother was telling her childhood stories to girl. The child has habit always asking the question and then? The grandmother was thinking about it. The grandmother relating her life with this question and then? The story moves around the question.

4.1 Text-A

I (Actor) TRIED (Material process) and I (Actor) tried (Material Process) but I (Behaver) just couldn't pronounce (Behaviours Process) "r"

'Never? (Verbiage)

'No never. So every day (Circumstances) my grandfather (Actor) made (Material Process) me (Actor) stand in front of him and say (Verbal Process) "Dharmakshetre, Krusushetre", and you (senser) know (mental process) what I (sayer) said? (Verbal) (Verbiage)

'What' (verbiage)

'Dharmakshetla Kulukshetle' (Verbiage)

She laughs (Behavioural) delightedly' and then? (Verbiage)

‘And then? Let me (senser) see (mental process) Yes my grandfather (sayer) said (Verbal) he (Actor) would give (Material Process) me (goal) a present, anything I (senser) wanted (Mental) the day I (Sayer) said (Verbal) the words correctly. So I (Actor) tried (Material) harder. And one day (Circumstances) I (Sayer) said (verbal) it correctly just like that, Dharmakshetre Krukshetre’

‘And you got our present? (Verbiage) she (sayer) asks (Verbal) anxiously.

‘Yes, I (Actor) got (Material Process) it, my grandfather would never cheat, (Verbiage)

‘What did he (Actor) give (material process) you? What did you (sayer) ask (verbal) for? (Verbiage)

What did I (Sayer) ask (Verbal) for? What did I (senser) want (mental)? It takes me (senser) some time to remember (mental) tunneling may way back through the years to the child I had been (Circumstances)

I (Senser) wanted (mental) those sweets, they (Sayer) called (Verbal) them orange and lemon sweets. I (Senser) don’t know (mental) if you still get them (Circumstance) They were like (mental) this.’

4.2 Transitivity analysis of the text-A

There are 26 clauses in the text. Verbs in passage A are finite. The text in is past tense and present tense./ There is no future tense in the text. There are 23 processes-

Processes	Material processes	Mental processes	Relational Processes	Verbal Process	Behavioural Process	Existential Processes
	9	7	0	9	2	0

Participant-

Actor	Goal	Senser	Phenomenon	Sayer	Receiver	Verbiage	Behaver
7	1	7	1	6	1	6	1

There are 4 circumstances in the text-

So every day (Circumstances- Location-time)

And one day (Circumstances-Location-time)

My way back through the years to the child I had been (Circumstances-Location-time)

If you still get them (Circumstances –contingency (default)

4.3 Background of the Text-B

The second text is related to the old woman and her daughter. Her daughter decided to go to States. She already informed her father before his death,. Her mother doesn't have any idea about it. She was not happy with the decision of her daughter. This text includes conversation between them.

4.4 Text-B

The tummit (Actor) dies (Material Process) does, as it always does (Material Process) at the sight of the child who is now sleeping (Circumstances). But even my (Senser) pleasure (Mental-Emotive) in her is tained (Phenomenon). I (Senser) have to keep reminding (Mental-Emotive) myself (Phenomenon) she (Attribute) is (Relational Process) not mine not mine. My husband I (sayer) had said (Verbal Process) and he (Actor) went (Material Process) away leaving me alone (Circumstances) My Vishwa I (senser) had thought (Mental-Cognitive) and now I am just a burden and a responsibility (Mental Process) to him (Phenomenon). My Anju I (Actor) playing (Material) with a hard pebbly lime she (Actor) had picked (Material Process) off the ground (Goal). Ceaselessly throwing (Material Process) it up an acting (Material Process) it again in her hands. And saying (verbal process) to me (Receiver), 'Amma, I (Actor) 'M Going (Material Process) to the states (Verbiage)

Let's go in Amma (Receiver) (Verbiage) Anju (Sayer) said (Verbal Process) As I (Behaver) went to starting (Behavioural Process) at the woman (Actor) pulling (Material Process) her baby's cloth off the line. (Circumstances) we (Sayer) can't talk (Verbal) here (Verbiage)

4.5 Transitivity Analysis of the Text-B

There are 19 clauses in the text. The present tense is used in this passage.

Processes	Material processes	Mental processes	Relational Processes	Verbal Process	Behavioural Process	Existential Processes
	11	4	1	4	1	0

Participants-

Actor	Goal	Senser	Phenomenon	Sayer	Receiver	Attribute	Behavior	Verbiage
8	3	2	2	3	1	1	1	3

There are 4 circumstances-

At the sight of the child who is now sleeping (Circumstances-Location time)

without compunction or pity (Circumstance-Accompaniment-Commutative)

that scene now, (Circumstance Location time)

the two of us in the garden (Circumstance-extent-frequency)

4.6 Background of the Text-C

In this text the protagonist understands that her daughter going to live in aboard. The protagonist wants her daughter should marry first and then go far abroad. After protagonist husband's death she was feeling lonely and in secured. She fr4oced her to get married.

4.7 Text-C

Finally I (Actor) used (Material Process) my most powerful weapon 'you (senser) know (Mental-cognitive) your father (Phenomenon) would have filed (mental emotive) you (senser) know (Mental-cognitive) how he (Phenomenon) uses to worry about your' (Verbiage)

'Appa' Appa (Senser) hknow (Mental-cognitive) (Actor) was going. (Material) I (Sayer) talked (Verbal Process) to him (Receiver) and he (Senser) understood (Mental-cognitive) my (Phenomenon) point of view

The treachery (Mental Process) of the dead is (Relational Process) worse than treachery of the living it is (Relational) unalterably final (Circumstances) Ever since (Circumstance) Anju (Senser) spoke, (Behavioural) the thought (mental) would not leave me (phenomenon) why didn't he (Sayer) tell (Verbal) me? (Receiver) why did he (Senser) keep (Mental Process) this from me (Phenomenon) and the worst thought (Mental Process) how many things did he (senser) keep (Mental Process) from me? (Phenomenon)

Suddenly that day (Circumstance) I (Senser) had felt mental Process a distance for both of us Anju and me using (Material Process) the dead man as a weapon molding (Mental Process) him (Phenomenon) like (Mental Process) children to with plasticine to the shape we wanted (Mental Process) perhaps that was why I (Sayer) said (verbal process) what I should not have done (Material Process) You (Attribute) are (Relational Process) selfish Anju you always were. You (Senser) didn't think (Mental Process) of anyone but yourself (Verbiage)

4.8 Transitivity Analysis of the text-C

There are 18 clauses in the text. The past tense and present tense is used in the text.

Processes	Material processes	Mental processes	Relational Processes	Verbal Process	Behavioural Process	Existential Processes
	5	13	2	3	0	0

Participants-

Actor	Goal	Senser	Phenomenon	Attribute	Sayer	Receiver	Verbiage
2	1	7	7	1	3	2	1

There are 4 circumstances-

to go without getting married.(Circumstance- Accompaniment- commutative)

unalterably final.(Circumstance – Location- time)

Ever since (Circumstance-Extent Duration)

Suddenly, that day,(Circumstances- location Place)

4.9 Background of the Text-D

This is last text of the short storey. The protagonists thinking about herself. She was afraid of the future about her son. She was living with her son but Shaku her daughter's friend insists her to share a protagonist house. Her son was not ready for this proposal;. He told her mother she will live with him.

4.10 Text –D

I (Senser) don't know (Mental-cognitive) 'I' (Senser) I am not keen (Mental Process) myself really...' (Verbiage)

Disapponment yes I (Sensor) m almost sure (Mental Process) is that fits across his face but he (Actor) quickly puts (Material) on an approving look ‘I’ (Sensor) am glad you (Phenomenon) think (Mental-cognitive) that way Amma I (Sensor) didn’t want (Mental-cognitive) to say anything (Phenomenon) yesterday (Circumstances) I (Behaver) saw her speaking (Behavioural Process) to you but I (Sensor) know (Mental-cognitive) she (Attribute) (Relational Process) Anjus fried but she’s a woman who left (Mental Process) her husband We (Sensor) don’t’ know (Sensor) why...’

Is this what Shaku (Behaver) sees (Behaioural Process) on people’s faces when she (Actor) goes (Material Process) to ask for a house to live in ? (Circumstances) and is (Relational Process) this son Vishwa (Attribute) ? he (Sensor) seems (Mental Desideterive) so smug, so self righteous, narrow...

Its better not to get involved (Mental Process) you (Sensor) never know (Mental-cognitive) what problem it could lead to and it isn’t that you (Sensor) need (Mental Process) the money I (Sensor) do not lime (Mental-Emotive) idea...’

It is like (Mental Process) hearing my (sensor) own thoughts (Mental Process) spoken aloud. I should be pleased (Mental Process) but I am not I (Behavioural) I am looking (Behavioural Process) in a mirror and seeing a face I (Sensor) don’t like (Mental Process) at all smug, narrow and self righteous.

Transitivity Analysis of the text-D

There are 22 clauses in the text. There is no future tense in the text. There are 23 Processes-

	Material	Mental	Relational	Verbal	Behavioural	Existential
Processes	processes	processes	Processes	Process	Process	Processes

	2	18	4	0	2	0
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Participants-

Actor	Goal	Senser	Phenomenon	Attribute	Behavior	Verbiage
2	0	14	3	2	2	1

There are 2 Circumstance-

Yesterday (circumstance- Location- time)

to ask for a house to live in? (Circumstance –Cause –Purpose)

5. Findings and discussion:-

5.1 Research Findings

The data are taken from Short storey entitled ‘and then?’ Each clause of the story was analyzed into three constitutes of transitivity system. They are Process Type Participant Functions, and Circumstantial Elements. The Process types were classified into Material Process, Mental Process, Relational Process, Behavioural Process, Existential Process and Verbal process. The participant Functions were related to the Process Types. The existence of circumstance in a clause is optional in this chapter the finds of the study are divided into four subchapter. The first is process types that are characterized in the textbook the second is participant function and the third is Circumstantial Elements that are characterized in the text

book. The last subchapter explain about findings refer to topic, grammar, communicative skills a major competence.

5.1.12 Process Types

There are 85 clauses analyzed in this research. The characterized process are mental, material, Verbal, Bahavioural Relational Existential and in order. The distribution of the Process Types of transitivity analysis characterized in the text book can be seen in the table below:

Table 1 Process types in “And Then?”

Process Types	frequency of occurrence	Percentage
Mental	40	47%
Material	22	25%
Verbal	14	16%
Behavioural	05	5%
Relational	05	5%
Existential	00	0%

Mental process occur 40 times in story “And then? In refers to process of thinking knowing liking wanting and perceiving,. Material Process occurs 22 times. It refer to process of construing material world of doing. Verbal process occurs 14 time which refers to the processes of construing something said by its participant Behavioural Process occurs 5 times Relational Process occurs 5 times and it construes relationships of description. Existential Process has the lowest frequency of occurrence.

5.1.2 Participant Functions

There are 102 participants found in this research. It reflects the Process Types that are characterized in the story. The amount of Participant in a process also represents the dominant

process. The result of the participant Functions of transitivity analysis that are characterized in the text book can be seen in the table below:-

Table 2 Participants of Narrative text And then?

Participants	frequency of Occurrence	percentage
Actor	19	22%
Goal	5	5%
Senser	30	35%
Phenomenon	13	15%
Sayer	12	14%
Verbiage	10	11%
Attribute	4	4%
Receiver	4	4%
Behaver	4	4%
Existant	0	0%

From the table above, it can be concluded that the most dominant Participants found in the textbook were related to the most dominant Process, which is Mental. The sum of Participants from Senser and phenomenon . Actor is the most dominant Participant based on its occurrence but the sum of Participants occur in Material cannot exceed that of Participants in Relational.

5.1.3. Circumstantial Elements

There are 14 Circumstances found in this short story “And then?”.

Table 3 circumstances of “And then?”

Circumstance	frequency of occurrence	percentage
Location	8	9%
Accompaniment	2	2%
Extent	2	2%
Cause	1	1%
Contingency	1	1%

Mental processes-

Mental process is processes of perceiving, thinking and feeling. Mental processes take place in the internal world of the mind. These are related to emotional, intellectual, and sensorial. They are probed by asking about mental reaction about thoughts, feeling, and perceptions. These processes involve the clauses of feeling, thinking, wanting, and perceiving.

The researcher finds 40% of Mental Process. The participants in this process mainly concern on Senses and phenomenon. Based on the findings senses appear 30 and phenomenon appears 13 times.

It indicates that the author often employs the process of thinking or feeling in order to reveal the idea or experiences that are appropriate with reader’s level the researcher can prove it by showing the analysis.

‘And then?’ is a short story about old widow woman. She was suffering from loneliness. It is a reflection of Shashi Deshpande’s world view. Loneliness is an emotional condition in which a person experiences isolation. It is a feeling of being cut off, detached from

and alienated towards other people. A subjective sense of inner emptiness or hollowness is experienced by lonely people. A feeling of separation or isolation from the world is experienced by them. Shashi Deshpande has dominantly dealt with the theme of loneliness in this story - "And Then?".

Conclusion-

The analysis has shown that the examination of linguistics features of a text not only helps in understanding the structure of the text but also the deep meanings of it. The analysis reveals the hidden self of the character. This study has answered the research objectives and it can be concluded that:

1. The characterized Process Type of the Short story "And then?" is Mental Process. It reaches 47 as the highest frequency of occurrence. Mental process is the dominant process. It indicates that the author often employees the process of perceiving, thinking and feeling in order to reveal the idea or experience that are appropriate with the learner's level.

2. The characterized Participant Functions of the Short story "And then"? .The Participants of Mental Process named Senser and Phenomenon. They are mentioned 30 and 13 times.

3. The characterized Circumstantial Element of the Short story is Location, especially Time-Location.

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Nike Puspita Wanodyatama – Verbs Of Cognition In Mental Processes In The English Clauses: A Functional Grammar Approach The International Journal of Social Sciences 30th June Vol 12 No 1.

Silvi Salsabil -A Transitivity Analysis of English Texts In Bahasa Inggris When English Rings The Bell A Thesis

According to Emila (2014, 79) grammar has three main systems, the mood transitivity theme system. Present research paper will focus on only the Transitive system. Transitivity system relates with the ideational content of the text which is defined as how text express the ideas or content (Paltridge, 2000:117)

Each of the grammatical systems suggested by M.A.K. Halliday is related to the Metafunctions. These Metafunctions are Interpersonal, Experimental and Textual.

According to Halliday and Mattheesn (2004, 170) proves a model or schema to represent certain experiences.

According to Halliday (1985, p.101)⁵ “Transitivity specifies the different types of process that are recognized in the language, and the structure by which they are expressed.”

Thompson explained Transitivity as “a system for describing the whole clause, rather than just the verb and its object (2004: 88,89) The system of transitivity is used to for analyzing experimental meaning in the language that it the way of in which we talk of our experiences

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