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Syntactic Structural Analysis of Print Media Language: the Case of Tell Magazine

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Abstract
This article investigates the syntactic structure of print media language, and demonstrates how standard the language is, if the language use follows the standard convention of writing or not, and it also looks at the clause structure of the sentences. Data used is obtained from Tell Magazine of August and November 2012, and it comprises of two issues which gives a total of one hundred and twenty-six (126) sentences. The result shows that most of the sentences used in Tell Magazine are complex; about 58.8% of them, 31.7% are simple sentences, 6.3% are compound sentences and 3.2% are compound - complex sentence. The investigation shows that complex sentences and independent clauses are used more than simple sentences and dependent clauses. However, complex nominal and verbal groups are frequently used more than the simple ones. Tell Magazine appears to have the upper middle class as its target audience. It is therefore the magazine could not be a good reader for secondary school students or people with poor English language background because very few of them may understand the style and discourse used in the magazine particularly its editorial columns.
Keywords: Syntax, Print Media, Analysis, Sentence structure, Language

Introduction
Print media language represents a wide range of linguistically distinctive varieties than any other domain of language use. This is

owed to the written form in which the language is used to express ideas, and thus communicate with the general public in order to inform, educate and entertain. News Magazine on the other hand, is one of the print media which consists of pages featuring different types of linguistic performance on different social contexts.

Crystal and Davy (1969) state that, "the language use in print media is channelled towards creating an effective communication between the general public and the government; as well as establishing a connection with the state, community, national and international boundaries". The newsmagazine prints out the need of a particular community to the appropriate authorities. Thus, its language is persuasive, authoritative, and rich in flavour and spices. However, the authenticity of any writing lies in its ability to represent a sound knowledge of grammar, or structural grammar. This becomes relevant in the sense that a language is a set of sentences which are in sentential forms of only terminal symbols which are derivable from grammar.

Background to the Study

It is often wrongly assumed most of the time that print media language is unique and correct in all its distinctive linguistic features. This implies that, its deviation from a standard linguistic norm would result into something "new" and accepted in the sense of the reader or the general public.

This research examines the structural grammar usage in print media especially the news magazine, and focuses on issues towards subject, verb and concord, which are fundamental in the rules governing English language use in any writing or utterance. However, attention is also paid to the 'simplicity' and 'complexity' of sentences, nominal groups and verbal groups. This may help account for the weakness in language use in print media writing

which the everyday reader ignores and as such, assumes it as a kind of modification in the English language.

Research Methodology

The research methodology applied here is that of content analysis which deals with collected samples of materials from a basic source (Tell Magazine). In the analysis, the data are presented and the structure of their syntactic constituents are analysed. The type of English analysed in this research is what is referred to as" print media language". Emphasis would be on the sentence structures and the types of sentences used, as well as meaning derived from the surface structures in the textual data.

Review of Related Literature

The discussions here are on grammar, print media language and style, and also some reviews on syntactic analyses that have been done about print media language.

Myers (1966) explains that "grammar shows the structure underlying sentence in a language. A grammar is unambiguous if each sentence has only one interpretation". Chomsky (1980) believes that "grammar may be formalized by a set of production rules, turning a valid "non terminal sentences into valid sentences." The theoretical perspectives of grammar are derived mainly from traditional grammar, structural grammar, transformational grammar and more recently, systematic functional grammar introduced by Halliday (1985). Many great grammarians have created grammatical theories, which have greatly influenced grammar over the decades. These grammarians include Leonard Bloomfield, Zelling Harris, and Noam Chomsky.

Grammatical Rules

The world book encyclopaedia (1992) describes grammar as "a set of principles by which a language functions". Grammar has a branch called syntax which, focuses on the order of words along the chain of syntactic axis and paradigmatic axis. At the level of

syntax, the sentence is the highest-ranking unit. Thus, the rank scale will be seen as:

- Sentence
- Clause
- Phrases/groups
- Words
- Morphemes

Traditional grammarians like Reed and Kellog (1909) prescribe grammar by giving specific names and definitions to parts of speech. The most widely known labelling within a sentence is the identification of the subject, predicate, object and adjuncts (S.V.O.A).

Cattel (1969) describes structural grammar "as any grammar in which there is an attempt to describe the structure of the grammatical sentence". Structural grammarians analyse sentence in terms of their syntactic constituents or rather, by dividing the whole sentence into the immediate constituents.

Sentence Structure Rules

Transformational generative grammar describes grammatical rules as arriving at well - arranged sentences. These sentences have patterns in which they can occur. A sentence may be seen as comprising five units called "elements of sentences or clause structure of subject, verb, object, complement, and adjuncts". (S, V, C, O, A) For example:

a. They made Goodluck president.

Simple, Compound, Complex and Compound Complex Sentences

After discussing structure and rules, it is now proper to discuss and show different types of sentences we have, since, they are usages of grammar. According to Quirk, Greenbaum, Leech, Suarkulk (1985) grammar and sentence are mutually defining sentences. The

sentence is the highest-ranking unit of a grammar, and therefore, the purpose of grammatical description of English is to define by means of whatever descriptive apparatus necessary (rules, category), what counts as grammatical sentence in English. Every sentence has two basic parts, the subject and the predicate. According to Dougal (1978) an easy way to understand the parts of a sentence is to think of the sentence as telling who did something or what happened. The subject tells who or what. The predicate tells what happened. This subject and predicate analysis correspond to Halliday's (1985) identification of subject, predicate as well as complements, cited earlier on. However, some other linguists refer to subject and predicate as "noun phrase" and "verb phrase" respectively, during syntactic analysis. The simple sentence consists of a single independent clause. According to Quirk and Greenbaum (1989), "In a simple sentence, it may consist of just a noun, a verb and still be complete because it is the same thing as the subject and predicate". For example;

a. He laughed. b. The plane flew.

c. They sang. d. She jumped.

Hogue (1996) defines a compound sentence as a sentence with two simple sentences connected by a comma and a coordinating conjunction. According to Hogue (1996), compound sentences have the following formula:

Simple Sentence	**COORDINATING CONJUNCTION**	**Simple Sentence**
SS	CC	SS

A complex sentence consists of two parts, which include a simple clause and one or more subordinate clause (dependent clause). Dougal (1978) defines a clause as a group of words that contains a verb and its subject. It follows from this that, a simple sentence is a clause, since, it has both verb and subject. In a complex sentence, there is one main clause or independent clause and subordinate clause or dependent clause. Dougal (1978) explains that subordinate clauses are dependent on the main clause". Young

(1980) says a kind of embedding occurs when one clause is made a constituent of another clause; the case normally described as subordination. Thus, two simple sentences merged into one sentence become a complex sentence by subordinating one into another. For example:

a. The bridges, which were of historic interest, were destroyed by fire.
b. John and Ali will visit the man who lives there.

In such complex sentence, the lexical verb explains what the sentence is about. However, embedding of subordinate clauses into main clause, give us to theoretical possibility of grammatical units having indefinite lengths. Thus, a competent writer should be able to write with more complex sentences than simple sentences.

A compound complex sentence consists of two or more main clauses and at least one subordinate clause. According to Ukamaka (2010), a compound complex sentence is made of two or more main clauses and at least one Subordinate clause. For Example:

m.cl.1 sub.cl conj. m.cl.2

1. The work stops// when it rains// but// the tools are kept very handy.
   a. m.cl.1 conj. m.cl.2
      sub.cl
2. Samuel came in the morning// and// told us that he was successful in the Examination//although his score was very low.

Print Media Language and Style

There are more than a hundred newspapers, magazines and periodicals in Nigeria. Some of them are government owned, some are community based, but most of them are privately owned and urban based. All Nigerian newspapers are presently printed in the tabloid format (UNDP Nigeria).

The major publications are newspapers and the newsmagazines, which are published daily and weekly respectively. The print media industry is also replete with specialized publications,

lifestyle publications and celebrity gossip journals. (UNDP Nigeria)

The major print outlets in Nigeria are;

1. The Guardian	2. This Day	3. Punch
4. Tribune	5. Vanguard	6. Daily Trust
7. Business Day	8. Champion	9. The Sun
10. Daily independent	11. News Watch	12. Tell
13. The News.		

Crystal and Davy (1969) believe that, there are different types of styles in any newspaper language, due to the presence of different social context. This is because: "A newspaper (newsmagazine) is always very eclectic, from the stylistic point of view. Besides, news items, we find within its pages, articles, reviews, imaginative writing of various kinds, advertising, competitions and much more, which from the linguistic point of view could be dealt with, under the headings of other kinds of English, or would be too idiosyncratic to allow generalization". This explains why the print media uses individual house style, in order to differentiate their way of writing and layout. Most newsmagazines and newspapers have their own house style book, which new recruits have to learn.

In print media language, the language used must be:

- Clear and precise.
- Unambiguous.
- Sentences and paragraphs should be generally short.

Sentence type is typically statements (declarative sentences). Adverbial are extremely common in print media language which tends to come towards the end of a clause, except for the small groups of adverbs which have a fixed or relatively fixed position before the verb. However, the above-mentioned feature operates at the sentence level. Print media language often goes for these principles:

1. Shorter sentences. 2. Avoidance of unusual words.

3. Not using adjuncts excessively. 4. Writing in active voice rather than passive voice. 5. Simple punctuation.

Print media language should be as informal and as conversational as possible. Conversational writing style does not mean being casual or indifferent about the words used. The essence is to convey precise language using normal informal language. Oxford house style describes the style and language used in print media advert as; "The style and language of advert are likely to be different depending on whether it is advertising in the printed media or online". However, the following points about style and language apply to all job adverts, regardless of the media used.

• Use short sentences with more than 15 words in a sentence reduce the clarity of the meaning, and after drafting the communication, seek out commas and 'and's, and replace them with full stop.

• Use short bite-sized paragraphs and bullet points this is particularly important for online adverts. (NB Bullet points maybe more costly for print media which is charged according to space).

• Use "you" instead of "we have" or "must have", and this style makes applicants feel more affinity with the role. For example, you should be passionate about digital media and the internet with a keen interest in everything to do with advertising and media.

• Avoid upper- case (capital) even in headings as it is much slower to read owing to the absence of word shapes, and is also less accessible for people with reading difficulties. Increase prominence by using a larger point-size and boldening.

• Avoid italic; shadows, and light colours reserved out of dark, all of which reduce readability. Use simple black (or dark coloured) text on a white (or light coloured) background for maximum readability.

Data Analysis and Presentation

For the analysis, the two issues used in the study are presented and analysed. The analysis is based on the theoretical framework of structural grammar. The structural grammar describes the structure

of the grammatical sentence". The core concern of the structural grammarians is to analyse sentence in terms of their syntactic constituents or rather, by dividing the whole sentence into the immediate constituents. Cattel (1969) describes structural grammar "as any grammar in which there is an attempt to describe the structure of the grammatical sentence". As a framework for understanding the structure of language, structural grammar focuses and operates on the relationship between words and their functions within sentences. The theory emphasizes the way in which elements of language are organized, rather than concentrating solely on meaning. Structural grammar analyses the components of sentence and its structure.

Excerpt 1: Simple Sentences

The analysis here, examines what makes a sentence to be simple. A Simple sentence is a sentence that has one subject verb combination (Hogue, 1996). However, a simple sentence sometimes can occur with other elements like object, adjunct, and complement. The formula adopted for analysing the simple sentences is: SV, SSV, SVV and SSVV.

S V

1. Not a few Nigerians are worried by this development.

S V

V

2. They expressed their concern about his government's inability to handle Boko Haram.

S V

3. Sometimes, she rather sends a permanent secretary, without a prior notice to others.

S V V

4. The president was advised to appoint a competent person as a new defence minister.

S V V

5. He should either resign as president or convert to Islam.

S

6. But Reuben Abati, special adviser to the president on media and publicity,
V
rejected both options promptly.
S V
7. As president Jonathan is the leader of both Muslims and Christians.
S V
8. The president cannot be intimidated by any group or individual.
S V
9. The president will never resign.
S V V
10. This cannot be allowed to continue.
S V
11. President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan recently presented the 2013 budget proposal to a joint session of the national assembly.
S
12. The president, through the federal ministry of finance and office of the
V
budget, must be commended for the timely presentation of the 2013 budget estimate.
S V
13. The budget has taken into account the capital component of the first implementation of the National Development Plan as well as the vision 20; 2020.
S V V
14. Moreover, it is crucial that the 2013 budget estimates be discussed alongside the 2012- 2015 medium Team Expenditure Framework and fiscal strategy paper, MTEF & FSP.
S V
15. The situation is not the same in most of the states and local governments in the country.
S V

16. The magnitude of such expenditures could be projected through historical trends.
S V
17. Huge expenditures of the states and local government can put in disarray the fiscal policy of the government.
S V
18. There are 36 states and one federal capital Territory but one Nigerian economy.
S
19. The manner in which all states and the FCT met to share revenue can
V
also provide a forum for fiscal coordination.
S V V
20. What the Nigeria economy needs to avoid is fiscal rascality by all level of government.
S V
21. All growth is broadly inclusive.
S V
22. Growth connotes a sustained increase in the production possibilities of an economy over a long period of time.
S V
23. How the growth is distributed coupled with structural changes within an
V
economy constitute economic development.
S V
24. President Jonathan has examined these issues in the 2013 budget.
S V
25. The 2013 budget is not pro- poor.
S S V
26. For president GoodLuck Jonathan, this is not the best of times.
S

27. With the threat of impeachment from the house of representatives and
S V
dire security situation in the country, the president is said to be facing perhaps the most challenging period of his presidency.
S V V
28. Another minister that was asked to be fired was Stella Oduah in charge of aviation for alleged non-performance.
S V
29. Two former heads of state were said to have expressed their readiness to
V
offer him a competent replacement.
S
30. The loss of innocent lives being experienced by the day across the nation
V
is simply unbearable.
S V V
31. The rescue template reportedly presented to Jonathan appeared too bitter for him to swallow.
S
32. Consequently, in terms of rigour, rules and processes, the 2013 budget
V
estimate is difficult to fault.
S V
33. The federal government ought to have a clue, albeit on budget estimates, of expenditure it the other two levels of government.
S V
34. In my view, the concept of inclusive growth is rather a misnomer.
S V
35. Therefore, the budget ought to have been captioned: "fiscal consolidation, Growth and development.

S V

36. Consequently, 'inclusive growth' suggests the failures of the trickle - down development thesis.

S V V

37. In forecasting, it is always better 10 be conservative,

S V

V

38. This source of revenue is exogenous and volatile even as Nigeria has no control over its price and output.

S

39. The budget resting on the theme of; "fiscal consolidation with inclusive

V

Growth", appears to be a continuation of the president and his team's

V

perception on how best to transform Nigeria into a modern and knowledge based economy.

S V

40. Under him, the nation appears to be at war with itself with the rise in the killing and destruction by the Boko Haram insurgents and other security challenges, pitching ethnic and religious groups against one another.

Excerpt 2: Compound Sentences

The analysis here would help determine what makes a sentence to be compound. "A compound sentence is two simple sentences connected by a comma and a coordinating conjunction (Hogue, 1996)." The formula is:

Simple Sentence	**Coordinating Conjunction**	**Simple Sentence**
	and	
	But	
	Or	
	So	
	For	
	Nor	
	Yet	

1. It seems forces that appear willing and ready to dismember the country, //and possibly fling him out as a failed president, are weaving a web of conspiracy around him.
2. Based on the over N1.17 trillion subsidy scam alone, the leader felt that the minister ought to have been shown the door on moral ground // but they feared Jonathan lacked the courage to fire her due to a family relationship.
3. He repeated his readiness for dialogue with the sect, //but lamented that none of the sect members or their sponsors had come forward for dialogue.
4. Ordinarily these apprehensions may have been ignored by defence experts as unfounded anxieties of 'bloody civilians; //but when two former military head of state Olusegun Obasanjo and Ibrahim Babangida who have not been great friends lately due to political differences, came together to troubled shoot for the presidency, and it could be very nalve to overlook it.
5. Whichever version is correct, //their body language points to the same conclusions.
6. It reflects the technical competence of the Budget office, //and it is hoped that the inherent capacity is sustained.
7. All economic agents contribute to growth, //and their shares depend on their relative contributions.
8. Budgets are estimates; //the devil is in the details.

Excerpt 3: Complex Sentences

The analysis carried out on these sentences would help determine the nature of complex sentence. A complex sentence has one independent (main) clause and one or more dependent (subordinate) clauses (Hogue 1996). The formula for a complex sentence is: IC DC (no comma) or DC, IC (comma). Dependent clauses are identified by some words which we call subordinating conjunctions. The subordinating conjunctions are: although, in order that, if, since, as long as, meanwhile, until, which, so that, whatever, however, before, than, and as well as.

DC

1. (With the threat of impeachment from the house of representatives and

IC

the dire security situation in the country,) (the president is said to be facing perhaps the most challenging period of his presidency.)

IC

2. (This is why some prominent Nigeria including former leaders met with president Jonathan recently in Aso Rock with a view to helping him out of

DC

the situation,)(in order to prevent the nation's ship from hitting the rocks.)

IC

DC

3. (Sources close to the seat of power hinted last week) (that the national leaders were disturbed about certain shortcomings of the Jonathan government and they told him so, in a point-black, a no-holds-barred manner.)

IC DC

4. (They were not particularly impressed) (that the president continues to say the problem would be over soon while it gets worse.)

DC IC

5. (Although they felt that though the economy is growing.) (they expressed the belief that it could had growth faster if the government had been able to restore peace in the country.)

IC DC

6. (Their advice is) (that Jonathan must act and act fast to avert a political catastrophe that a forceful change of government could cause.)

IC DC

7. (It was gathered) (that if the president failed to act on their advice,) (he could be abandoned to his fate.)

IC

8. For instance, (he was advised to step up projects implementation, fight corruption, overhaul his cabinet and remove at least four ministers,)
DC
(including Dieziani Alison - Madueke, the petroleum minister.)
9. As a member of the Economic Management Team, EMT, (it was
IC DC
alleged) (that she does not attend meetings regularly and says nothing when she attends.)
DC
10. (Given the crucial role her ministry plays in national income generation,)
IC
(it was argued this might constitute a drawback on the performance of the EMT.)
DC
11. (The two other ministers on the elders list are believed to be fundamental
IC
to the president's performance,) (one of them is said to have been the arrowhead of the campaigns for the last general election.)
IC DC
12. In the area of security, (it was learnt) (that even though the leaders gave Jonathan Kudos for removing the National security advisers, NSA, and
DC
defence minister) (they insisted that more still needed to be done in this regard.)
IC
13. For Jonathan, (it appeared a personal attack to advise him to remove the petroleum minister and he was said to have bluntly turned down the request
DC

believing that the oil companies are after her) (because of the controversial)

DC

petroleum industry Bill) (which the president described as a patriotic instrument that could help reform the nation's oil and gas sector.)

IC

14. (The president was said to have similarly refused to accede to firing

DC

other named ministers,) (as he believed they were crucial to the successful delivery of his reform agenda.

IC

15. (The president was also said to have challenged the elders at the meetings, particularly those from the North to play more active roles in

DC

helping to tame members of the Boko Haram, and maintained) (that he had done much to certain their insurgency.)

DC IC

16. (Although the elders intervention did not achieve much,) (it was said to be a window of opportunity for the president to adjust and change his style of governance by addressing his image challenges such as his apparent unwillingness to tame corruption, perceived incompetence, personal weakness as evident in his inability to confront issues, his resort to clannishness and cronyism in major appointments and alleged lack of integrity in sticking to his convictions.)

IC DC

17. (The Magazine learnt) (that some of the elders were particularly worried by the president inability to protect Nigerians and tame corruption in the oil and gas sector.)

IC DC

18. (It was alleged) (that much of the oil subsidy fund was frittered away on

DC
the last general elections) from (which the president and his party benefited generously.

IC DC
19. (The concerned Nigerians feared) (that the country was heading for the

DC
rocks) (if things were allowed to continue 'the Jonathan way".)

IC
20. (This palpable fear caused tempers to rise by several decibels last week)

DC
(as various individual and groups joined verbal swords in the current drums of war being sounded across the country.)

IC DC
21. (For those who had doubts) (if Boko Haram has political connotations, the group provided the evidence that indeed their bloody campaign is mostly political when they gave president Jonathan the devil's alternatives to peace.)

DC
22. (In a 30-minute video footage in Hausa posted in you Tube on

IC
Saturday, August 4, AbubakarShekau) (the sect leader, urged Jonathan to "abandon this ungodly power... repent and for sake Christianity...")

IC DC

DC
23. (It suggested) (that theirs is a political pressure group) (that wants a violent and forceful overthrow of the government.

DC
24. (When Nigerians voted overwhelmingly for President Jonathan in the

IC
2011 general election,) (they knew they were voting for a Christian.)

IC

25. (It amounts to sheer blackmail for any individual or group to) (ask the

DC

president to resign or convert to Islam.)

IC

26. (Last Wednesday, Ahmed Joda, a retired permanent secretary and former chairman of the Nigerian Communications Commission, NCC, added

DC

support to the Boko Haram demand) (when he asked Jonathan to renounce 2015 to restore peace in the country.)

IC DC

27. (In a statement in Abuja, he started) (that the "president should defuse

DC

the present political tension) (that now pervades the country.)

IC

28. (This should begin with his renouncing any intention he may have of contesting the 2015 elections and devoting his entire time, energy and the

DC

Resources of the country) (in order to give Nigeria a credible and acceptable constitution; a free, transparent and fair election.)

IC

29. Not only that, (he also wants the president to "restructure his cabinet;)

DC DC

(appoint more credible people;) (complete his present mandate to continue the work of governing the country to preside over a free, fair and transparent general election in 2015".)

IC

30. In addition, (he should "impose an austerity budget and reduce

DC

government waste;)(work with the judicial system to undertake an accelerated fight against corruption".)

IC DC

31. (Visibly demonstrate) (that all awarded government contracts are faithfully and actively being executed; become more visibly and more actively engaged in solving present security challenges.)

DC

IC

32. (If Shekau had made his demand in isolation,) (many people may have waved it off as one of those outbursts from extremist.)

DC IC

33. (If Joda had made his in neutral times,) (it would have been taken as the concern of a senior citizen, watching events from his retirement.)

DC IC

34. (And as the Magazine's investigation suggest,) (the generals had to put their individual grievances aside to save the country from one of two threatening evils - a civil war, military coup or both.)

DC

35. (According to Babangida in an interview with the Daily trust in his

IC

Minna home,) (their intervention was at the instance of Jonathan.)

IC DC

DC

36. (Another version insists) (that it was the duo) (that went to the president to advise him on how to safeguard the unity of the country and the 12 year-old democracy.)

IC

37. This, (it was gathered, may have been informed by rumblings the

DC

perceived in the barracks), (which if not nipped in the bud might lead to a catastrophe for the country.)

DC

38. (If Jonathan who has been visibly withdrawn from both men in recent times had cause

IC

to rally them for help to cure the Boko Haram cancer,) (then it underscores a level of desperation.)

DC

39. On the other hand, (if two quarrelling generals suddenly unite for what

IC

They have believe to be the common good,) (those close to them say they have indeed foreseen a calamity ahead for a country they both fought for to keep as one.)

IC DC

40. (Babangida confirmed) (that both of them had held the first meeting in Abuja in the last week of July.)

DC IC

41. (After the meeting) (they issued a joint statement released by KassimAfegbua, Babangida's spokesman, on Saturday, July 29, urging Nigerians to use the holy month of

DC

Ramadan irrespective of their religion (as "a great opportunity to turn the tide against insecurity, violence and hatred".)

IC DC

42. (They noted amongst others) (that, "internecine crises are raging across the land unabated with damaging consequences on the social, political and economic life of the nation.)

DC IC

43. (And in the process,) (untold hardships are being visited on all citizens in one form or another on a daily basis.)

IC DC

44. (Budgets, through mere estimates, are important not only) (because they reflect the financial outlays of government's philosophy for moving the country forward in a given year.)

IC

45. (The National Assembly now has ample time to examine the budget,)

DC

(thus performing its oversight functions.)

IC DC

46. Perhaps, (this may be the first time in recent years) (that the budget, after being accented to as the Appropriation Act, would be implemented on January 1, 2013.)

DC

47. Nonetheless, (while it is important to stress fiscal consolidation,) (the

IC

Problem in the system is more of fiscal co-ordination.)

IC

48. (States and local governments have constitutional rights to spend in a

DC

given manner,) (and if expenditures at the other level of government are not

DC

properly coordinated,) (then fiscal consolidation becomes a mirage.)

IC DC

49. (The other levels of government are very vibrant) and (can raise debt instruments to enhance spending.)

DC

50. (While this ratio fails within the threshold of the Fiscal Responsibility

IC

Act,) (there is nothing really wrong with deficits financing provided the projects so financed such as infrastructure, ete, are viable and can play their way.)

IC DC

51. (Studies have shown) (that deficits of five percent of GDP geared towards infrastructural development have stimulated growth and development in economics like Vietnam and China, among others.)

IC DC

52. (This is so,) (no matter how growth is measured.)

DC IC

53. (If an economy is growing) (but cannot address positively such questions as - what is happening to employment? What is happening to health? What is happening to provision of basic needs, among others? - then) (that

DC

economy is not experiencing development.)

DC IC

54. (It is because, over the years,) (most economies have been experiencing

DC

non-employment generating.) (and non-pro-poor growth) (that has

DC

necessitated the invention, particularly by the Bretton-woods institutions, of the concept of "inclusive growth".)

DC IC

55. However, (if development takes place,) (growth would further be enhanced.)

DC IC

56. (In the case of Nigeria,) (the high growth rate of almost 8 percent has not

DC

addressed cogent development matters,) (hence the economy remains underdeveloped.)

IC

57. (Another matter in the 2013 budget centres on the assumption of the

DC

benchmark oil price of US$75/barrel) (which reflects a marginal increase from the US$72/barrel approved in the 2012/2013-budget.)

DC

58. (Except the joint House of Assembly has a better robust model for

IC

forecasting the oil price benchmark,) (the US$75/barrel is more realistic.)

IC

59. (The technical personnel in the budget office have used all available

DC

expertise and information to arrive at) (that benchmark and it should be allowed to stand, rather than fall under political pressure.)

IC DC

60. (I suppose) (that the political pressure must also have been captioned in

DC

the model) (as well as other vulnerabilities.)

IC

61. In dealing with fiscal prudence, (it is also necessary to examine the expenditure profile and reduce wasteful spending like the cost of

DC

government) (as well as reducing the national debt, particularly the domestic debt.)

IC

62. (Based on the incentives given to commercial airlines, government ought

DC

to ensure) (that airlines are properly regulated as arbitrary increases in airfares negate the existence of regulations in this sub-sector.)

IC

63. (It would have been useful to state the items or provide the specifics on)

DC

(how this budget would help the poor and greatly curb the rising poverty profile in the country.)

IC DC

64. (Another disturbing trend is) (that according to the MTEF & FSP in 2013, the contribution of the manufacturing sector to GDP would be 3.3 percent.)

IC DC

65. (These figures are not encouraging) (if the economy is to experience structural transformation and be one of the latest 20 economies in the world by the year 2020.)

IC DC

66. (It is, therefore, important) (that the desire to diversity the economy away from crude oil export dependency be taken seriously.)

IC DC DC

67. (The hope is) (that in the near future,) (Nigeria would implement its budgets based on non-oil revenues.)

IC DC

68. (They complained) (that Alison Madueke had on several occasions also shown a visible arrogance at cabinet meetings.)

IC DC

69. (They were similarly concerned) (that the Boko Haram insurgency could lead to a religions war in the country.)

IC DC

70. (Nobody should imagine) (that he will succumb to black mail.)

IC DC

71. (This came as a shock to some Nigerians) (who hitherto felt the group may have genuine grievance and should be listened to.)

IC DC

72. (The deficit is to GDP in 2013) (as compared to 2.85 percent of GDP in 2012.)

IC DC

73. (The president has called on us) (who were heads of government to come together towards working out modalities for lasting peace in the country.)

IC

74. Currently, (the nation is gripped by a regime of fear and uncertainty) (that

DC

virtually all citizens have difficulties going about their day-to-lives without great anxiety and trepidation.)

Excerpt 4: Compound-Complex Sentences

Our analysis here determines what makes a sentence "compound-complex". Ukamaka (2010) is of the opinion that a compound-complex sentence is made up of two or more main clauses and at least one subordinate clause.

IC

1. (But taken in the context of recent suspected attempts to incite a forceful

IC

change of government, Jonathan's think tank,) (the Niger Delta, the southern half of Nigerian and Christians in the country are suspecting a genuine plot

DC

to frustrate Jonathan out of power) (before or at the latest, in 2015.)

IC DC

2. (It is gratifying to note) (that the budget provides for a sinking fund of N100 billion for paying government's maturing debt obligations' and curb

IC

the rising debt profile,) (The fiscal incentives seem satisfactory if transparently implemented.)

IC DC

3. (This could increase to 4.6 percent in 2015) (while building and

IC

construction,) (usually a potent sub-section, would contribute 1.3 percent and 1.8 percent to GDP by 2013 and 2015 respectively.)

DC

4. (While it is clear that the success of any budget depends on

IC

implementation) (the country has performed woefully in this regard].)

IC

(for Nigeria, a heavy reliance on oil revenue is unhealthy.)

Summary and Conclusion

The primary source of data is Tell Magazine's, and two issues were selected and analysed in order to obtain the required information. The major focus of this research includes grammar since, sentences reflect such usage or otherwise. However, simple, compound, complex and compound-complex sentences were identified in the course of the research. The structures of sentences are also shown as well as the nature of the nominal and verbal groups.

In the analysis, it was found that complex sentences were used more than any other types of sentences in Tell Magazine. Also, complex nominal and verbal groups are frequently used more than the simple ones. This is not surprising because the magazine appears to have the upper middle class as its target audience. Moreover, print media language has the tendency to pre and post-modifiers almost all the words in a single clause or phrase, in order to add more colour to a story. Unconventionality was discovered in the write ups which, the everyday reader would regard as the standard norm in English language usage, while in reality it is not.

Based on the analysis obtained in the sentence structure of the Tell Magazine, it was found that complex sentences and independent clauses are used more than simple sentences and dependent clauses. With this, it is very clear that Tell Magazine may not be a good reader for secondary school students especially those of Northern Nigeria because very few of them may understand the style and discourse used in the magazine particularly its editorial columns. The study shows that even in colleges and universities some students might find it difficult to understand the grammatical synopsis of this Magazine. It is estimates that only about 25% of students studying in our universities may comprehend the grammatical use of Tell Magazine effectively. Thus, Tell Magazine is mainly for those who are well educated and have the means to purchase it. This audience among others may include directors, university lecturers, principals, permanent secretaries, rectors, heads of departments and vice chancellors of universities.

In conclusion, Tell Magazine meets up its obligations to its target audience by meeting up to the standard use of the sophisticated English language. Tell Magazine is clearly a magazine not suited for elementary school students or people with poor English language background. The magazine is recommended for graduates who have just graduated from universities and colleges of education as the must-read material for them to meet up with the super sophisticated world of the English language.

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