

Theme And Rheme In Academic Texts. (In Examples Of Formal Magazine Articles)

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Abstract: Newspapers and magazines are very common in our life and these days' language learners are using articles extracted from them to boost a target language. By considering this trend, it is decided to analyze theme and rheme patterns of scientific articles written in English language. In this article, the general rules, usage in sentences, examples of these two linguistic theories are highlighted. Understanding the theme of rheme can make a big difference to promote a reading skill in a foreign language.

Key words: discourse, theme, rheme, context, clause, compound, relative, sequence.

Introduction

Discourse analysis examines patterns of language across texts and considers the relationship between language and the social and cultural contexts in which it is used. Discourse analysis also considers the ways that the use of language presents different views of the world and different understandings. It examines how the use of language is influenced by relationships between participants as well as the effects the use of language has upon social identities and relations.¹ It also considers how views of the world, and identities, are constructed through the use of discourse. Discourse analysts are also interested in how people organize what they say in the sense of what they typically say first, and what they say next and so on in a conversation or in a piece of writing. This is something that varies across cultures and is by no means the same across languages.

Discussion.

Theme is the starting point of a clause; that is, what the clause is 'about'. The remainder of the clause is the rheme. Thus, in the sentence 'Hiragana represents the 46 basic sounds of the Japanese language', the theme is 'Hiragana'. The rest of the sentence is the rheme; that is, what the sentence has to say about Hiragana. In this instance 'Hiragana'

is a topical theme. Conjunctions such as and or but when they occur at the beginning of a clause are an example of textual theme. An item that expresses a point of view on the content of the clause such as of course is an interpersonal theme. The relationship between linguistic form and communicative function is of central interest in the area of pragmatics and, as Cameron (2001) argues, is highly relevant to the field of discourse analysis.

Theme and rheme in texts are helpful for acquiring delivered message, expressing experiences, keeping the track with the information in texts. Theme is considered the information given earlier in a text while rheme is something new coming after the theme. In each sentence, the help of theme guarantees existence of rheme and sometimes theme also can be repeated as a rheme of a new sentence. So we can conclude about the definition of theme and rheme like micro text units come within sentences and carry out meaning. Theme cannot exist without rheme and vice versa. This is because we know what is serving as a theme and rheme only when at least two sentences come in sequenced way.

In recent years new diets with names like 'vegan', 'keto' and 'paleo' have become very

popular. Are you **a vegetarian, Neil?** Do **you** follow any particular diet?²

Here in the example above the general topic or theme is about diet as words like: diet, vegan, vegetarian, follow any diet are all related to food consumption. If we analyze the sentences by chunking there are three sentences:

1. In recent years new diets with names like 'vegan', 'keto' and 'paleo' have become very popular.
2. Are you a vegetarian, Neil?
3. Do you follow any particular diet?

- The main idea of the first sentence is to explain the topic and make the receiver informed about what is going to be explained further.

- In the second sentence, explanation is becoming direct rather than being indirect or non-personal. So-called, the personal pronoun is being the subject of the sentence and name of the receiver is mentioned. In addition, a question is given.

- In the third sentence, the additional question is given and the directness becoming sharper also, name is omitted here and referencing is given.

Each of the sentences above has meaning. The information given before a sentence is a theme for the next sentence. That is first sentence is a theme for the second one and the second is for the third one. As there is no the fourth sentence third remains here as a rheme.

If we take only one sentence as an isolation: **This amazing hotel is built every December.**³, regardless of taking new information about the time of construction, we are unaware of what kind of hotel is being discussed here. So sentences in isolation carry rheme but not the theme. So because of the some language units it is usually impossible to get the whole meaning of even a single sentence when they are deprived from the text.

Moving on only the theory of theme, it has double meanings within a context.

1. General meaning of the whole text.

2. The earlier given information in sequences of sentences.

Results and Analysis.

Here we will discuss the second meaning of the theme, as the first meaning is obviously clear. Within a single sentence, theme is usually considered the subject. However, we should not confuse theme as grammatical and communications categories. In simple sentences, grammatical and communicational categories of theme are the same but in complex and compound sentences, the difference is distinguishing:

Simple sentences:

Many of us are well aware that ultra-processed foods are harmful for our health.⁴

Researchers first spotted the enormous tree in satellite images in 2019 as part of a 3D mapping project.⁵

Scientists around the world are trying to use artificial intelligence to create a new type of 'clock' that can measure your true biological age.⁶

Compound sentences:

Some researchers have theorised that **ultra-processed foods** increase inflammation because they are recognised by the body as foreign – much like an invading bacteria.⁷

Research like ours can help people gain a more scientifically grounded understanding of social interactions with new people and ultimately become more confident and knowledgeable about how to make a good first impression.⁸

A recent review of the literature by Matthias Doepke of Northwestern University and co-authors makes the case that, in rich countries, **fertility** may rise, or at least fall at a slower rate, if norms,

policies and the market for child care make it easier for a woman to have children and a career.⁹

In subordinating clause which can not stand alone the theme is downloaded on the independent sentence (Some researchers have theorised that ultra-processed foods increase inflammation, A recent review of the literature by Matthias Doepke of Northwestern University and co-authors makes the case that, in rich countries, fertility may rise, or at least fall at a slower rate)

Relative clause(who, which,that)

Sentences not beginning with subjects:To conduct their study, the researchers had 16 participants follow two different meal schedules, each for a period of six days total.

In countries such as the UK, US and Canada, ultra-processed foods now account for 50% or more of calories consumed.¹⁰

As the boss of Tesla, the world's most valuable carmaker, and SpaceX, the world's second-most valuable unicorn, Elon Musk is the stuff of business legend.¹¹

In conversations with strangers, people tend to think they should speak less than half the time to be likable but more than half the time to be interesting, according to new research my colleagues Tim Wilson, Dan Gilbert and I conducted.¹²

In the following sentences, the subjects(in bold and underlined) are not the of the sentences but the language units beginning the sentences are. Third sentence is an exception because here adjective of the subject is coming before the noun it is connected. In other sentences, adverbial noun phrases and location circumstances (**In countries such as the UK, US and Canada**), infinite verb phrase (**To conduct their study**). So such sentences are called a meaning of markedness as they are used to emphasize and increase stylistic effect. To conclude when sentences are in irregular word order they are marked, regular order as

subject + verb is unmarked. Also here a question is risen about negative and question sentences.

“Why not end this illegal trade by changing its name?”¹³

Why not use it as an opportunity to delegate tasks?¹⁴

This is not because psychologists do not yearn to monitor their participants for longer.¹⁵

Not all interventions are equally effective.¹⁶

In question sentences the theme is explained by question words (who, what), auxiliary words (did, have, are) because omitting them in speech causes misunderstanding although they are not considered as a main unit of syntax. In negative sentences not + verb is considered as a theme.

Interpersonal theme is a theme that is not a subject coming at the beginning of the clause. In most cases, interpersonal theme is explained by it. An interpersonal theme can express probability (e.g. perhaps), usuality (e.g. sometimes), typicality (e.g. generally) or obviousness (e.g. surely). It can also express opinion (e.g. to my mind), admission (e.g. frankly), persuasion (e.g. believe me), entreaty (e.g. kindly), presumption (e.g. no doubt), desirability (e.g. hopefully) or prediction (e.g. as expected) (Halliday and Matthiessen 2004).

It was not until the 1930s that B. F. Skinner suggested that private events—including thoughts and feelings—should be subjected to the same controlling variables as observable behaviour.

It's super important at a time when the Amazon is facing such frightening levels of deforestation.

It's long been popular advice for people looking to lose weight to avoid late night snacking. It's no wonder, with a host of research showing that late night eating is linked to greater body weight and increased risk of obesity.

Multiple theme

Sometimes themes come in a form of more than one and this type of theme is called Multiple theme.

According to the Norwegian Nobel Committee, his friendship with Bertha von Suttner, a peace activist and later recipient of the prize, profoundly influenced his decision to include peace as a category.

In North America, where a more commonly used term is pedestrian mall, such areas are still in their infancy.

However, from now, energy produced but not used during the day will charge the Powerwall and can then be used to provide them with the energy they need when they're at home and their lights, music centres, computers, televisions and myriad other devices need feeding.

Textual theme	Interpersonal theme	Topical theme	Rheme
Because,	of course	the dating game	is a clumsy dance of blunders and misunderstandings.
However	it seems unlikely that	Descartes	would deliberately challenge the church
	This suggests that	other factors contribute to the harms	caused by ultra-processed foods.
But	it's been unclear	if this is simply because	these foods are of poor nutritional value.

Constant theme

Text can be used for both spoken and written language. It usually refers to a stretch, an extract or complete piece of writing or speech. While we are producing the text we may use one theme in more than one sentences and themes are repeated over at least two sentences. This type of theme is called **Constant theme**.

Usually, our inflammatory response resolves quite quickly, but some people may develop chronic inflammation throughout their body. This can cause tissue damage, and is involved in many chronic diseases – such as cancer and cardiovascular disease.¹⁷

Many of us are well aware that ultra-processed foods are harmful for our health. But it's been unclear if this is simply because these foods are of poor nutritional value.¹⁸

As the boss of Tesla, the world's most valuable carmaker, and SpaceX, the world's second-most valuable unicorn, Elon Musk is the stuff of business legend. As a gifted technologist

with an enduring air of misfit adolescence he also has more than a whiff of the comic book about him.

Linear theme or zig zag.

Sometimes, the rheme used in a sentence, come as a theme in the next sentence. This is called linear theme. The term 'modality' describes a range of grammatical resources used to express probability or obligation. Generally, obligation is used in speech, especially when wanting to get things done such as 'You should keep your room tidy'.

Many studies have found that poor diets can increase inflammation in the body, and that this is linked to higher risk of chronic diseases.

Starlink is not a monopoly; nor is SpaceX's satellite-launch business (though it is currently the West's only option for launching astronauts into orbit); nor is Twitter. But all three have global importance, and will do for some time to come.

Materials and Methods.

In the process of writing this article, the magazines run in English language helped a lot. Theme and rheme made us appealed after reading the information in Irisqulov's book of "Introduction into Linguistics". we suddenly came across these two theories and wanted to investigate more. At the beginning we wanted to compare theme and rheme usage in English and Uzbek languages but then we changed our mind and decided to make it another article and for this time to collect information only in English language. Methods used are traditional reading magazin articles and pick up sentences can be helpful to highlight the point emphasized.

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