

Transitivity as Ideational Scaffolding and Evidentiality as Interpersonal Positioning in Political Interviews

Jesusa E. Pineda¹, Elmer A. Gumban²

¹College of Arts and Sciences, Carlos Hilado Memorial State University

²College of Education, Carlos Hilado Memorial State University

ABSTRACT: This qualitative study employs Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) as its theoretical framework to investigate how political interviewees utilize transitivity processes and evidential markers in shaping political discourse. The research design integrates content analysis to quantify the prevalence of these linguistic elements and textual analysis to interpret their role in constructing meaning. The data consists of interviews with five presidential candidates from the 2022 Philippine presidential elections, sourced from a free video-sharing platform. The findings indicate that the material process emerged as the major transitivity process in political interviews, while the marker of induction dominated as an evidentiality marker. The pervasiveness of transitive verbs underscored the ideational metafunction of language in political interviews, indicating the politicians' commitment to action and making their ideas happen. The common use of transitive verbs in political interviews supports Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), which suggests that these verbs help convey experiences. They show how politicians express their beliefs and influence public perception. This indicates that transitive verbs are not just grammatical features but also ways to shape reality and frame goals in politics. Furthermore, "so" was the most frequently used marker, suggesting a solid presence of inductive reasoning, where conclusions are drawn based on occurrences or patterns and reflecting the reciprocity between ideational and interpersonal metafunctions in political discourse. The use of "so" in political interviews shows how politicians communicate ideas and connect with their audience. It highlights how they use evidence to build their arguments and influence opinions while maintaining a friendly and relatable tone. The study can contribute to understanding transitivity and evidentiality in political interviews. In education, the findings offer educators and curriculum developers direction on improving and making relevant language curricula to enhance the teaching and learning of languages.

KEYWORDS: Systemic Functional Linguistics, Metafunctions, Philippines

INTRODUCTION

Language encapsulates the fundamental aspects of meaning necessary for a mutual understanding of the world. These features are ideational, interpersonal, and textual metafunctions (Alaei & Ahangari, 2016). Ideational meanings pertain to how individuals use language to represent their experiences. Individuals consistently express actions performed by someone or something regardless of the intention behind the use of language (Halliday, 2003). Furthermore, the interpersonal metafunction views language as a mode of interaction where individuals either initiate or respond to requests for information or goods and services (Bakuuro, 2017). The textual metafunction refers to how a message is structured (Banks, 2024). Studying the metafunctions of language, as developed in systemic functional linguistics (SFL) by M.A.K. Halliday, provides valuable insights into how language works and how meaning is constructed.

This study focuses on the ideational and interpersonal metafunctions of language in political interviews. Expressing representational meanings through transitivity structures proves the ideational metafunction (Alaei & Ahangari, 2016). The interpersonal metafunction is observable through the use of evidential markers. Inquiring into transitivity and evidentiality in Filipino political interviews is essential for understanding how language influences ideas and power. These language features show how Filipino politicians create messages, justify their authority, and connect with the public. The political narratives of Filipino presidential candidates during interviews showcase distinct approaches to addressing critical issues. Some emphasize focusing on anti-corruption measures and efficient use of public funds. Others highlight economic growth as the key solution, advocating for infrastructure development and job creation while promoting unifying leadership to mobilize national efforts, working closely with communities to tailor solutions, and advocating for inclusive policies prioritizing education, healthcare, and livelihood programs.

This study uses the theoretical framework of M.A.K Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG). Function refers to how language operates in both external and internal ways. System refers to the web of alternatives that language makes available

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for use by a speaker (Banks, 2024). Halliday (1973; 1978; 1992; 1993; 2002a; 2002b; and 2007), in his many works, held that language is a means for creating meaning through word choices (lexicogrammar). The situation and cultural context shape the meaning, enabling a speaker or writer to achieve their communication goals. Hence, using language functionally indicates meaning simultaneously within a clause structure on three levels (Linares & Zhi-Ying, 2020), namely: experiential or ideational metafunction, interpersonal metafunction, and textual metafunction.

Several studies like those of Adjei et al. (2015); Zhang, 2017; Mayo and Tabaoda, 2017; Tehseem et al. (2020); Temmerman (2016); Gatcho, 2019; and Abdel-Moety (2015) have explored transitivity and evidentiality in political discourse. Even so, scarcely any study that utilized political interviews as its primary data source specifically dealt with transitivity and evidentiality to reveal the presence of interpersonal and ideational metafunctions. Accordingly, the researchers settled on examining political interviews in the Philippines, zeroing in on ideational and interpersonal metafunctions.

This research can bring about an understanding of systemic functional linguistics by illustrating the use of ideational and interpersonal metafunctions in political interviews. In relation to language education, this study can help students become more aware of how language is used in media and politics and develop their writing and speaking skills by teaching them to build strong arguments and understand how different cultures use language.

Objective of the Study

Generally, this study aimed to examine political interviews regarding ideational and interpersonal metafunctions.

Specifically, this study sought answers to the following questions:

1. What is the prevailing transitivity process in the political interviews?
2. What is the prevailing evidentiality marker in political interviews?
3. How does transitivity reflect the ideational metafunction of the language in the political interviews?
4. How does evidentiality reflect the interpersonal metafunction of the language in political interviews?

METHODOLOGY

This study has accomplished its objectives by employing a qualitative approach. The ideational and interpersonal functions of political interviews were to be scrutinized and set forth in this study through Systemic Functional Linguistics. Hence, the descriptive research design was deemed appropriate.

In particular, the political interviews were taken from a free video-sharing site and were aired in February 2022. The interviews featured the top five presidential candidates in the Philippines' 2022 elections, identified as significant contenders by Morales (2022), ensuring that the study focused on influential political figures. Their availability online made them practical for research and reflective of mediatized political communication. Furthermore, the questions posed to the candidates addressed critical societal issues, such as poverty and OFWs, which resonate deeply with Filipino voters.

As regards the gathering procedure, first, all interviews with the key contenders for the Philippines' 2022 presidential elections that were available online were viewed. Second, a video from a free video-sharing site was chosen after an in-depth investigation of all the interviews. Third, the interviews were transcribed. Fourth, the transcriptions were checked by an English language teacher and a Filipino language teacher. Fifth, a linguistic analysis of the political interviews was conducted after the transcriptions were verified. Among several interview questions, the interview question "With the urgent problems of joblessness and hunger, ano ang inyong gagawin?" ("With the urgent problems of joblessness and hunger, what will you do?") was chosen.

This study utilized linguistic analysis to identify the prevailing transitivity processes and evidentiality markers in the examined political interviews. Linguistic analysis involves a detailed examination of language and speech units, including their essential components, functions, and other facets, to determine their deeper meaning (Ubaydulloyevna, 2022). In this study, clauses served as the primary unit of analysis, focusing on how presidential candidates structured their utterances rather than analyzing individual words. By integrating Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) with linguistic analysis, the study ensures a coherent research design that effectively examines how candidates use language in political discourse. This is achieved by treating clauses as meaning-making structures, analyzing context-driven word choices, and applying the principles of Systemic Functional Grammar to classify transitivity and evidentiality within the discourse. Identifying transitivity processes and evidential markers, extracting transitive verb clauses, and categorizing language choices reflect the focus of Systemic Functional Grammar focus on how meaning is constructed through lexicogrammar within a social and cultural framework.

RESULTS

This study delves explicitly into the linguistic analysis of the ideational and interpersonal metafunctions concerning transitivity and evidentiality within the political interviews featuring five prominent contenders in the presidential elections in the Philippines 2022. The data for the study were extracted from the video about the political candidates' answers to the question "With

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the urgent problems of joblessness and hunger, ano ang inyong gagawin?” (With the urgent problems of joblessness and hunger, what will you do?).

The interviews contained eighty-four responses, varying among the five political candidates. Hence, a politician's responses may contain more transitivity processes than the others.'

The following is a summary of the findings derived from the analyses of the political interviews.

Prevailing Transitivity Process in the Political Interviews

As a component of the experiential metafunction, transitivity looks into how language depicts real-world experience. The clause as the all-important unit in the transitivity system, representing actions, feelings, events, or states of being (Halliday, 1985). Moreover, three primary components interact in the transitivity. These are the participant, the person or thing involved in the action or process, the process, the action or event itself, and the circumstances that describe the aspects of the situation. These components illustrate reality through language (Anggraini et al., 2018). The study of transitivity in political interviews provides valuable insights into how language is used to construct and convey political realities. By analyzing the participant, process, and circumstances within clauses, the role of language in shaping political discourse and public opinion may be appreciated.

The transitivity system effectively analyzes clauses, aids in identifying and encoding how humans perceive the world and can address issues related to personal reference, especially in situations where ambiguity might arise (Nwanko, 2023). Transitivity processes include material processes, mental processes, behavioral processes, verbal processes, relational processes, and existential processes. Mental processes refer to the "process of doing" that involves an actor and a goal or receiver of the action. Mental processes relate to how people think, perceive, and feel. Examples of behavioral processes are looking, watching, smiling, and laughing. Verbal processes involve conveying information with a speaker, an audience, and content. Relational processes give account of relationships and characteristics. Finally, existential processes imply the existence of phenomena (Toribio et al., 2023).

Indeed, the transitivity system provides a valuable framework for analyzing political discourse. Analysts can gain deeper insights into the strategies and tactics employed in political communication by understanding how politicians use transitivity processes to represent the world, encode messages, and address ambiguity. Table 1 delineates that the material process was the most common transitivity process observed in political interviews. There were eighty-four interview responses, but only fifty-two contained transitivity processes. The material process is the most prevalent by far, with a frequency of 40 occurrences (76.92%). The mental process, with six occurrences (11.54%), follows. Next is the verbal process, which appears three times (5.77%) The existential process appears two times (3.85%). The relational process has only one occurrence (1.92%), placing it fifth. Lastly, the behavioral process is absent (0%). The data strongly emphasizes the material process and focuses less on mental and verbal processes, with relational and existential processes rarely used and behavioral processes not used.

Tabel 1. Prevalent Transitivity Process

Transitivity Process	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Material	40	76.92%	1
Mental	6	11.54%	2
Verbal	3	5.77%	3
Existential	2	3.85%	4
Relational	1	1.92%	5
Behavioral	0	0%	6

The high frequency of material processes suggests that the text is action-oriented, emphasizing tangible and observable events. The lower occurrences of mental, verbal, existential, and relational processes indicate that the text is less focused on internal thoughts, communication, existence, or descriptions. The absence of behavioral processes further reinforces the idea that the discourse centers on actions rather than personal experiences or emotions.

The following extracts from the political interviews show the engagement of the political candidates in the material process:

Extract 1

“Boy, **nagawa** ko na, noong Chief PNP pa ako. Yung kotong,talagang **in-eliminate** ko.”

(Boy, I did it when I was still the Chief PNP. I really eliminated the bribery.)

Extract 2

“We have to **create** jobs because we cannot leave the situation as is.”

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Extract 3

"**Bigyan** mo sila ng tulong para sila ay umangat sa buhay"
(Give them help so that they can improve their lives.)

Extract 4

"Hindi nga ako **kumukuha** ng pork barrel ko eh."
(I am not taking my pork barrel.)

Extract 5

"**Dinecide** ko na hindi lang ako kumuha pork barrel para cuentas claras."
(I decided not to take the pork barrel for transparency.)

The verb "eliminate" in extract 1 is a material process that describes a physical action of removing or getting rid of something. In addition, the verb "ginawa" (do) in extract 1 is a material process indicating ongoing physical actions taken by the speaker in their role as a senator. While this statement is more about cognition, it implies awareness of material actions related to the context of corruption. In extract 2, the verb "create" is a material process that generates employment possibilities. The pronoun "we" suggests that the material process of creating jobs is a shared duty. The verb "bigyan" (to give) in extract 3 shows a material process as it involves a physical action where the subject (you) provides something tangible (help) to the object (them). In extract 4, the verb "kumukuha" (take) is a material process reflecting a physical action regarding the non-acceptance of funds. In extract 5, the verb "dinecide" (decided) is a mental process, but it leads to the material process "kumuha" (take) regarding financial integrity.

Prevalent Evidentiality Marker in the Political Interviews

Evidentiality, which refers to where information comes from and how authentic statements are, is vital to academic discourse. Languages differ in how they show evidentiality. They propose different means through grammar or words to show where knowledge comes from and how it is obtained (Yildiz & Turan, 2021). Similarly, Jianhong (2023) predicated that evidentiality is a linguistic feature and points out the source of information and the speaker's trust in its accuracy. Understanding the role of evidentiality in political discourse can help researchers gain a comprehensive understanding of how language is used to construct political realities and influence public opinion. Xu (2022) mentioned in their analysis of pragmatic functions of evidentiality that discourse studies have examined evidentiality as a tool of rhetorical persuasion (Antaki & Leudar, 2001, p. 468) or manipulation (Mushin, 2000; Berlin & Prieto-Mendoza, 2014) often categorizing it based on its reliability or subjectivity (Hart, 2011; Marín-Arrese, 2011b).

Table 2 illustrates the prevalence of induction markers as the primary evidential markers in political interviews. The Marker of Induction "So" ranks it the highest among all markers, appearing 21 times (35%). In second place are the Markers of Deduction, particularly the word "Should," which is used 11 times (18.33%). Similarly, the Markers of Deduction "Can" and "But" are both used eight times (13.34%), sharing the third rank. Markers of Belief such as "I know" and "I think," along with the Marker of Sensory Evidence, "I see," and the Marker of Matching Knowledge, "Of course," each appear two times, representing 3.33% of the total usage and sharing the 7.5 ranks. The Marker of Deduction "Would" is the least used, with just one occurrence (1.67%), placing it in the 10th rank. At the same time, Markers of Reliability are absent, with a frequency of 0%. Generally, the data highlights inductive reasoning, followed by deductive reasoning, with few markers of belief, sensory evidence, and matching knowledge against expectations.

Tabel 2. Prevalent Evidentiality Markers

Evidentiality Marker	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
Markers of Reliability	0	0%	0
Markers of Belief			
I know	2	3.33%	7.5
I think	2	3.33%	7.5
Markers of Induction			
Must	3	5.00%	5
So	21	35.00%	1
Markers of Deduction			
Should	11	18.33%	2
Can	8	13.34%	3.5

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Would	1	1.67%	10
Markers of Sensory Evidence			
I see	2	3.33%	7.5
Markers of Matching Knowledge			
Against Expectations			
But	8	13.34%	3.5
Of course	2	3.33%	7.5

The data suggests that the discourse primarily relies on inductive and deductive reasoning, with "so" as the most prevalent and "should" and "can" as the following prevalent markers. The minimal use of belief-based, sensory, and hypothetical markers implies a preference for logical structuring over personal conviction, perception, or speculation. Additionally, the absence of reliability markers suggests that the text does not draw heavily on external authority or factual verification, focusing instead on argumentation and inference.

The following extracts show the prevalence of "so" in the political interviews as an induction marker.

Extract 1

"Ngayon na senador ako, ginawa ko pa rin, **kaya** nga marami akong kaaway eh."
(Now that I'm a senator, I still did it. **So**, I have many enemies.)

Extract 2

"At ang gina-graduate natin na mga estudyante, **kaya** talagang ang pinaka-importante ay ang maparami natin ang mga trabaho para pasiglahin natin ang ekonomiya."
(And the students that we graduate, **so** it's really important to increase jobs to boost the economy.)

Extract 3

"But we still have to find ways. **Kaya** nga ang government nag-realign ng pondo, ang iba ipinag-lipat from other departments dito, para i-concentrate dito."
(But we still have to find ways. **So** the government realigned funds; some were transferred from other departments to focus here.)

Extract 4

"Pero in this case, ibang ang pinag-usapan, it is an emergency. **Kaya** we have no choice."
(But in this case, it's a different matter; it's an emergency. **So** we have no choice.)

Extract 5

"Kailangan naman din talaga ng private sector yung mga MSMEs, kailangan din maganda ang agrikultura, **kaya** basta't pareho ang ating nina-nais, at makagawa tayong magandang partnership, sa palagay ko magkakaroon tayong what we call synergy of the two forces helping the Philippines."

(The private sector really needs the MSMEs, and agriculture needs to be strong, **so** as long as we have the same goals and can create a good partnership, I think we will achieve what we call the synergy of the two forces helping the Philippines.)

In essence, "so" (or "kaya" in the Filipino context) operates as an evidential marker in these statements, connecting the preceding information to a logical conclusion or inference drawn by the speaker.

Reflection of Ideational Metafunction through Transitivity in Political Interviews

In the scrutinized political interviews, the material process of transitivity, denoting the act of doing or happening, was predominant. Politicians frequently asserted their past, present, or potential actions, indicating a proactive stance. Material processes are clauses that describe actions and events happening in the world (Ewusi-Mensah, 2015). They involved an actor who acts and may also include a goal: the recipient or entity impacted by the action. In this sense, the ideational metafunction of the language of politicians, as evident in their interviews, is observed in the transitivity processes.

Revealing the Interpersonal Metafunction through Evidentiality in Political Interviews

Interpersonal metafunction is mainly about helping people communicate, building and keeping social relationships, changing how people act, sharing individual viewpoints, and affecting others' feelings during conversations (Koutchade et al., 2020). The examination of the interpersonal metafunction includes various aspects, such as mood, modality, and deictic expressions (Koutchade et al., 2020).

The marker of induction, "so," prevailed in the political interviews, and modals such as must, "should", "can", and "would" emerged in the politicians' responses. Modals signify a language's interpersonal feature, impacting how politicians convey their viewpoints. To express their opinions, they often used modals such as "should," a verb exhibiting the concepts of obligation and expectation. In effect, the interpersonal metafunction of the language in the political interviews is manifested primarily by the evidential markers of induction and deduction.

DISCUSSION

The material process was the most prominent transitivity process observed in the political interviews. The dominance of the material process (76.92%) suggests that political candidates prefer discussing accomplishments and materializing policies and promises. Mental processes (11.54%) receive less attention, indicating political candidates are emphasizing their action-oriented image. Direct communication is not a significant focus in the interviews due to the infrequent use of verbal (5.77%) and relational (1.92%) processes. This may imply that the politicians would talk about actions more often to stay out of arguments or to avoid defending their relationships. Politicians rarely discuss anything other than those they customarily do, as evidenced by existential processes (3.85%) and the lack of behavioral processes (0%). This might result from intentionally focusing on specific actions rather than discussing abstract or intimate issues.

While previous studies did not utilize interviews with presidential candidates but rather on broader political discourses, their findings help support the results of this study. For example, the material process was the most dominant in Donald Trump's three presidential campaign speeches (Anggraini & Fidiyanti, 2018). Similarly, the presidential debate between Donald Trump and Joe Biden revealed the prevalence of material processes (Fadilah & Kuswoyo, 2021). This pattern resonates with Adjei, Ewusi-Mensah, and Okoh (2015), who revealed a prevalence of material processes (59.14%) and a minimal use of mental processes (14.37%). This dominance of material processes suggests that Mills and his government sought to emphasize concrete actions and developmental progress, positioning themselves as active agents of change (Adjei, Ewusi-Mensah, & Okoh, 2015).

Nelson Mandela utilized material processes in 16 clauses alongside an equal number of relational processes and 11 mental processes. This balance suggests that Mandela associates the inequality faced by African people with their interpretations of sensory information and emotions (Ali et al., 2021). Moreover, a transitivity analysis of President Rodrigo Duterte's 2016, 2017, and 2018 State of the Nation Addresses (SONA) revealed a predominant use of material processes. Duterte employed material processes to show his concrete actions and developmental plans for the Philippines clearly (Salvaleon, 2019). These findings highlight the significance of the material process in political discourse, emphasizing the role of action-oriented language in signifying political intent and commitment.

Abdulameer, Noor, and Nasser (2019) conducted a study that utilized a documentation method to collect data from two online newspapers, Al Jazeera (representing Eastern media) and The Guardian (representing Western media), covering the period from December 6, 2017, to May 13, 2018. The findings revealed that verbal processes were the most predominant in the discourse of social actors. In Eastern media, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan frequently employed verbal processes, while in Western media, French President Emmanuel Macron prominently utilized transitivity processes. Relational and mental processes followed these in the analyzed news. This suggests that Eastern discourse often emphasizes spoken actions and declarations, whereas Western discourse incorporates a broader range of processes to convey meaning.

Mental processes were evident in former U.S. President Obama's 2015 State of the Nation Address. Contrarily, former Prime Minister Rajoy utilized relational, verbal, and existential processes in his 2015 State of the Nation Address. The study also demonstrated that both politicians used evaluation and transitivity to persuade and legitimize their economic decisions (Cabrejas-Peñuelas, 2022). Furthermore, In Hillary Clinton's and Donald Trump's final 2016 presidential debate, material and verbal processes comprised 51% of Trump's statements. In contrast, mental, behavioral, relational, and existential they consisted of 49% of Clinton's utterances (Kashifa et al., 2022). Material, relational, mental, and existential processes were at work in the British Queen's Parliament. The fact that the material process succeeded highlights how forceful the government's activities were. While the mental process represented the government's confidence and future perspective, the relational process linked government power with the nation and its residents. The research concluded that the linguistic structure supports the speech's implicit meaning and that the absence of verbal and behavioral processes reinforced the speech's gravity and authority (Shi & Gu, 2022).

Finally, the findings align with Logogye and Ewusi-Mensah (2022), who highlighted material processes as dominant in President Akufo-Addo's inaugural address, emphasizing policy continuity and economic reforms. This suggests that political figures tend to favor linguistic structures that reinforce decisive action and governance priorities, which, in the present study, is reflected in the reliance on reasoning markers rather than personal or hypothetical expressions.

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In the political interviews, induction markers were the most prevalent evidential markers. This result suggests that the presidential candidates often adduced facts to support their statements. Moreover, "so" was the frequently used evidential marker to signal the politicians' assertions. In concurrence with the result of this study on the markedness of induction markers in political interviews, a significant focus on markers related to reliability (that the induction marker "so" also suggests) and belief was noticed. This result indicates a salient focus on credibility and personal belief within the investigated political discourse (Sassi & Zohra, 2020).

To reiterate, the material transitivity process, denoting the act of doing or happening, was predominant in the scrutinized political interviews. Politicians frequently asserted their past, present, or potential actions, indicating a proactive stance. This prevalence of transitive verbs underscores the ideational metafunction of language in political discourse, illustrating the politicians' earnest commitment to advancing ideas with tangible implications. The "ideational metafunction of a clause involves transitivity (process), participant(s), and circumstance(s)" (Bakuro, 2017, p. 212).

Ideational metafunction is revealed through transitivity. Alaei and Ahangari (2016) endeavored to clarify the ideational meaning in the introductory section of a narrative by analyzing lexico-grammatical choices within the transitivity system of the clause structure. Essentially, the grammar of a clause serves as a representation of experiential meanings related to the world, our experiences, and our perceptions of ongoing events. By examining transitivity patterns in the text, one can comprehend the development of the situational field, specify the subject matter, and observe how changes are introduced in the field.

Interpersonal metafunction is revealed through evidentiality. Interpersonal metafunction is mainly about helping people communicate, building and keeping social relationships, changing how people act, sharing individual viewpoints, and affecting others' feelings during conversations (Koutchade et al., 2020). The examination of the interpersonal metafunction includes various aspects, such as mood, modality, and deictic expressions (Koutchade et al., 2020).

The marker of induction, "so," prevailed in the political interviews, and modals such as must, "should", "can", and "would" emerged in the politicians' responses. Modals signify a language's interpersonal feature, impacting how politicians convey their viewpoints. To express their opinions, they often used modals such as "should," a verb exhibiting the concepts of obligation and expectation. Indeed, all the presidential candidates affirmed their sense of obligation or expectation regarding actions in the interest of their country.

The lack of reliability markers is evident in the political interviews, and this may suggest that little belief may be found in the political candidates' statements. Though rarely used, "I know" and "I think" show that the politicians state their personal beliefs. Contrastively, "So," the most prevalent evidential marker, suggests that politicians often use it argumentatively to organize their statements. The occurrence of "Should" at a high rate highlights a propensity among politicians to put forth recommendations. "I see" points to dependence on personal experience when conveying information. "But" indicates that the politicians utilize counterarguments to enrich their discussions.

The analysis illustrates how politicians strategically use language to project a proactive and action-oriented image, leveraging material processes and evidential markers to reinforce their political intentions and commitments.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

As part of the transitivity system, the material process is dominant in the political interviews with the top 5 presidential candidates in the Philippines in 2022. This indicates an inclination among politicians to influence political discourse. In addition, using "so" as an induction marker frequently highlights their reliance on evidential claims to strengthen their trustworthiness and communicate their firmly held beliefs. Overall, the ideational and interpersonal metafunctions of language in the political milieu are shown in the interaction between material processes and evidential markers.

Language is a powerful tool for shaping political discourse. Hence, political candidates may actively utilize all transitivity processes other than the material process to strengthen descriptions of the characteristics of their actions and events and more evidential markers other than induction and deduction markers so their constituents can believe the ideas they put forth. Moreover, a noticeable lack of behavioral processes may suggest that the politicians deliberately steered clear of personal experiences or made explicit allusions to their acts. This could indicate an attempt to keep up a more formal and authoritative image by putting more of an emphasis on thoughts and abstract ideas. Additionally, the sparing use of evidence markers other than induction and deduction indicate that statements are supported primarily by generic principles and logical reasoning.

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