

THE STYLISTIC FEATURES OF NEWSPAPER HEADLINES A CASE OF ENGLISH DAILIES

**A Thesis Submitted to the Department of English Education
In Partial Fulfillment for the Master of Education in English**

13 (S)

Manisha Lamichhane

2017

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**Faculty of Education
Tribhuvan University, Kirtipur
Kathmandu, Nepal**

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T.U. Reg. No. 9-2-479-216-2008

M.Ed. Fourth Semester

Exam Roll No: 280163/071

Date of Approval of Thesis

Proposal: 22/08/2016

Date of Submission: 01/ 12/ 2016

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that to the best of my knowledge; this thesis is original; no part of it was earlier submitted for the candidature of research degree to any university.

Date: 30/11/2016

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RECOMMENDATION FOR ACCEPTANCE

This is to certify that **Miss Manisha Lamichhane** has worked and prepared the research of her M.Ed. thesis entitled **The Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines: A Case of English Dailies** under my guidance and supervision.

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DEDICATION

Dedicated to

My parents, **Mr. Pushpa Raj Lamichhane** and **Mrs. Sita Lamichhane**, who

have devoted their entire life to uplift and

enlighten my life.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This task of thesis writing has really taken me to newer world. As a result, I have felt a new experience in the context of my study. I have come to the realization that it is a part of the intensive study that gives a person an insight into self-study. In course of writing this thesis, I have fully been inspired by the invaluable cooperation, suggestions, guidance and counseling by various persons. Therefore, first of all I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my respected Guru as well as my thesis supervisor **Dr. Ram Ekwal Singh** Reader and Head, Department of English Education, T.U., Kirtipur for providing me with constant supervision and guiding me with regular inspiration, encouragement and invaluable suggestions throughout the study.

I would like to express my profound gratitude to **Dr. Anjana Bhattarai**, Professor and Ex-Head, Department of English Education, T.U., Kirtipur for her valued suggestions, and feedback in the viva of the proposal as well as thesis. I always remember her invaluable suggestions and encouragement.

I am gratefully acknowledged to **Dr. Rishi Ram Rijal**, Reader, Department of English Education, Mahendra Ratna Campus, Tahachal, Kathmandu for his inspirational and constructive suggestions as an external supervisor during the viva of thesis.

I am equally grateful to **Mrs. Madhu Neupane**, Lecturer, Department of English Education, TU., Kirtipur for her invaluable comments, insightful suggestions, encouragement and inspiration while conducting the viva of the proposal of this research which raised many awareness for carrying out this thesis.

I am highly indebted to **Dr. Jai Raj Awasthi**, Professor of English Education and **Mr. Swayam Prakash Rana**, Professor of Curriculum for their support and inspiration during the preparation of thesis.

I am grateful to **Prof. Dr. Anju Giri, Prof. Dr. Laxmi Bahadur Maharjan, Mr. Bhesh Raj Pokhrel, Mr. Guru Prasad Poudel, Mr. Resham Acharya, Mr. Khem Raj Joshi, Mr. Ashok Sapkota, Mr. Laxmi Prasad Ojha** and all my Gurus and Gurumas at the Department of Education T.U., Kirtipur for their inspiration, guidance and support.

I am thankful to **Hon'ble Ananta Poudel**, Member of Parliament elected from Makawanpur district who inspired me to join Tribhuvan University for better future.

I am equally thankful to the publisher of English Dailies who provided the opportunity to study the headlines to accomplish my thesis.

I am also thankful to **Mrs. Madhavi Khanal** and **Mrs. Nabina Shrestha**, Librarians, Department of English Education, TU., Kirtipur for providing me different books and materials which are helpful to my thesis.

Especially, I would like to thank my dear friends **Sukmita Adhikari, Sangita Giri** and **Kamala Sharma** for their love, inspiration and support during my stay in the Department. I would like to thank my colleagues **Mr. Hari Gautam** and **Mr. Himel Chapagain** for their support during the collection of reading materials.

Last but not least, I wish to thank all my family members for providing loving environment for me especially my father whose support has always led me towards success.

Manisha Lamichhane

2017

ABSTRACT

The present study entitled **The Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines: A Case of English Dailies** was carried out to identify and analyze the stylistic features of newspaper headlines in terms of lexical, rhetorical and syntactic features. This research is qualitative and quantitative in nature which is based on only the secondary data. The data for the study have been collected through observation checklists. I used non-random sampling procedure to select headlines of English dailies that is twenty from *The Himalayan Times* (here after *THT*) and twenty from *The Kathmandu Post* (here after *TKP*). The descriptive and simple statistical tools were used to analyze the data. This study found that proper nouns are the highest and abbreviations are the second highest lexical features used in the headlines. In the same way, most of the rhetorical features used in the headlines are alliteration and metaphor in which alliteration is the highest and metaphor is the second highest rhetorical features used in newspaper headlines. Analysis of syntactic features shows that simple sentences are the highest numbers of syntactic features and phrases cover second highest features of the total syntactic features in the analysis of headlines.

This thesis is divided into five chapters. Every chapter consists of necessary headings and sub-headings. Chapter one introduces background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study and operational definitions of the key terms. Chapter two consists of review of related literature and conceptual framework includes the review of related theoretical and empirical literature, implications of the study, and conceptual framework of the research. Chapter three deals with methods and procedures of the study which includes design of the study, population, sample and sampling strategy, research tools, sources of data, data collection procedures, data analysis procedures, and ethical considerations. Chapter four consists of analysis of data and interpretation of results. Findings, conclusion and recommendations are presented in chapter five. The final part of the study consists of references and appendices.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

| | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| i.e. | That is |
| no. | Number |
| Dr. | Doctor |
| T.U | Tribhuvan University |
| Viz | Namely |
| M.Ed. | Master of Education |
| M.A. | Master of Arts |
| % (Pr.) | Percent |
| THT | The Himalayan Times |
| TKP | The Kathmandu Post |
| APA | American Psychological Association |
| Et al. | And others |
| Prof. | Professor |
| Abbr | Abbreviation |
| Short | Shortening |
| Com | Compound words |
| Fuz | Fuzzy Words |
| Prop | Proper Nouns |
| Meta | Metaphor |
| Allit | Alliteration |
| Rhy | Rhyme |
| Idio | Idiom |
| Phra | Use of Phrases |
| Cls | Use of Clauses |
| Simp | Simple Sentences |
| Coml | Complex Sentences |
| Comp | Compound Sentences |
| Freq. | Frequency |
| Avg. | Average |

CHAPTER - ONE

INTRODUCTION

This study is about **The Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines: A Case of English Dailies**. This chapter consists of background of the study, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, research questions, significance of the study, delimitations of the study and operational definitions of the key terms.

1.1 Background of the Study

Language is a means of communicating ideas, feelings by the use of conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meaning. Language is a way by which human beings communicate. We cannot imagine communication without language. There are many languages in the world among them English is the most widely used language. It is an international language which is mostly used for international communication, politics, commerce, media, education, and diplomacy.

Mozuraityte (2015) says that the world has become a small village with the rapid expansion of the media. So, today's life is unimaginable without the mass media. There are various forms of mass media in the era of information and communication like printed as well as electronic media. The printed media has its own unique features and the influence on its readers as it is available on the hands of the readers. The newspaper as a form of the mass media is known for several ages. It is the most readable source of information throughout the world. Many people read newspapers to get adequate updates concerning events and happenings in the society. A lot of different printed as well as online newspapers endeavor to attract the readers. Whenever a newspaper is read, the first thing to be noticed is a headline. Firstly, the readers note the headlines of the article and only after then decide whether to read or not. Therefore, the headlines are one of the most important components of the piece of writing.

In other words, the content of newspaper will be primarily developed to the news of the day, and some analysis and comment on this news. Furthermore, regarding newspaper headlines Praskova (2009) writes:

A newspaper headline is often the only thing that readers read in a newspaper, or at least, it is the first thing that everyone notices in a newspaper. It serves as a guide for the reader that helps to decide whether to continue on reading the whole report or skip onto another one. So, headline is the key aspects of the newspaper to attract the readers' attention. (p.1)

Headline is a key element in newspaper as it conveys the main message to the readers and it works with the visual to get attention and communicates the creative concept. The headline is one type of text which can carry the message of the body part of news story. The headline should persuade the readers that there is persuasive information in the body part of the text. Style is the use of the language in a certain context, by a certain people and for a certain reason. Style impacts to writing, strengthens the contact with the reader and heightens their awareness. Therefore, style is always concerned with relationship between the participants in a certain situation. According to Malmkjaer (2006 as cited in Jakimaviciute, 2013, p. 5), "Stylistics is the study of style in a spoken and written text. By style it is meant a consistent occurrence in the text of certain items and structures, or types of items and structures, among those offered by the language as a whole." Similarly, Hapsah (2008) states that style is not just an ornamental to writing; it results from the many choices the writer makes in the course of his/her writing which shows one writer different from the other.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

A news story has its headlines on its top. It tells the nature of the story below. It usually flashes the central ideas of the news. It must encapsulate the story in

a minimum number of words, attracts the readers towards the story and if it appears in the front page, it should attract the readers to the paper. The structures of headlines are attractive and able to attract the readers with its persuasive features. The news writers use various stylistic devices in the newspaper headlines. Reah (2002) states, “Over time, headlines writers have developed the vocabulary that fulfills the requirements of the headlines, using words that are short, attention getting and effective.”

Many people have difficulty to understand newspaper headlines. This is because newspapers headlines are often incomplete sentences because of space limitations. We know that language teachers and the learners should be well informed about the language of the newspaper. More especially, the language of headlines is not regular and uniform. So, the learners of mass communication often find difficult to deal with language of newspaper headlines. In order to attract the reader’s attention, various stylistic devices are used to create different shapes, contents, and structures (Jakimaviciute, 2013). This is also one of the reasons why I found the topic ‘The Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines: A Case of English Dailies’ more relevant and interesting to study.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were as follows:

- a. To identify and analyze the stylistic features of newspaper headlines in terms of lexical, rhetorical and syntactic features and;
- b. To suggest some pedagogical implications.

1.4 Research Questions

The study was oriented to find out the answer to the following questions:

- a. What are the lexical features used in the newspaper headlines?
- b. What types of rhetorical features are found in the newspaper headlines?
- c. What syntactic features are used in the newspaper headlines?

1.5 Significance of the Study

There are some researches in the field of language used in newspaper in the Department of English Education but there is not any research carried out in the analysis of stylistic features of newspaper headlines in terms of lexical, rhetorical and syntactic features. Moreover, this study deals with the language used in the newspaper headlines of political and sports section.

This research paper aims to find out information about the selection of language in the headlines of the newspaper. The language of the headline is informative, impressive, clear and shortcut. Similarly, the headlines of the newspaper catch the eyes of the readers and motivate them to read ahead. In general, newspaper headlines constitute a specific genre and as such, they manifest certain tendencies that represent the style referred to as headlines. According to Bedrichova (2006), there are some typical features that can be traced in newspaper headlines and they are closely related to their functions. This study is expected to be useful to the prospective researchers who want to undertake researches on mass media in future. Similarly, language teachers might be benefitted as this study supports them to use newspaper headlines as authentic materials in the classroom. This study may be useful for the prospective students of mass communication and journalism, journalist, editors and other people who are directly or indirectly involved in mass media.

1.6 Delimitations of the Study

It is difficult to include a large area in this small research due to the limited time and resources. So, it has some limitations which were as follows:

- a. The study was limited to two English dailies in Nepal viz. *The Kathmandu Post* and *The Himalayan Times*.
- b. Forty headlines published from 26th August to 4th September, 2016 were selected for the purpose of analysis.
- c. The study has been done in terms of lexical, rhetorical, and syntactic features which were criteria for data analysis.

- d. The findings of this research are presented qualitatively and quantitatively.

1.7 Operational Definitions of the Key Terms

Some of the key terms most frequently used in the research are defined operationally in this section.

Newspaper: A printed publication, issued usually daily or weekly which are with news, advertisements, articles, on various types, subject. In this research, I have studied the headlines of only two English dailies in Nepal.

Headline: Headline is the title of a newspaper article printed in large letters especially at the top of the front page. Political and sports related headlines are studied in this research.

Stylistics: Stylistics is the branch of linguistics that analyzes and describes features of style. Stylistics follows from the concept of linguistic style. Style is created not only by the use of stylistic devices but also by the use of special grammar and lexis. Here in this research, I identified and analyzed the stylistics features of newspaper headlines in terms of lexical, rhetorical and syntactic features.

Lexical features: A lexical item is a single word, a part of a word, or a chain of words that forms the basic elements of a language's lexicon (vocabulary). I identified and analyzed the lexical features in terms of abbreviation, shortening, compound words, fuzzy words and proper nouns.

Rhetorical features: It is the speech or writing which is intended to influence people and persuade them to do or follow something. Rhetorical features like metaphor, alliteration, rhyme and idiom were analyzed.

Syntactic features: The study of how words are combined together to form phrases and sentences is referred to as syntax. And the likes of phrases, clauses and sentences are the syntactic features. I analyzed syntactic features in terms

of phrases, clauses, simple sentences, compound sentences and complex sentences.

Broadsheet: A broadsheet is the largest newspaper format and is characterized by long vertical pages (typically 22 inches or 560 millimeters). The term derives from types of popular prints usually just of a single sheet, sold on the streets and containing various types of material, from ballads to political satire. Format of the newspapers studied in this research are broadsheet.

Tabloid: A tabloid is a newspaper with compact page size smaller than broadsheet, although there is no standard for the precise dimensions of the tabloid newspaper format. It makes use of large pictures and trends to emphasize topics such as sensational crime stories, astrology, celebrity gossip and television.

CHAPTER - TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The present section explains the existing literature and research related to the present study for finding out what have been already studied how those research works become helpful to the present study. It is preliminary task that the researcher has to go through the exiting literature in order to acquaint with the available body of knowledge in the area of research. This section includes review of related theoretical literature, review of empirical literature, implications of the study and conceptual framework.

2.1 Review of Related Theoretical Literature

Review of theoretical literature provides an insight to researcher related to a number of aspects that have direct or indirect bearing in the research topic. It serves as a basis for developing a theoretical framework which helps to investigate the problem that the researcher wishes to explore. The most important function of the literature is to ensure that the researcher can read widely around the subject area in which they carry out research study.

2.1.1 Concept of Mass Media

Communication is the interaction between two or more people. It is something that changes even through one is in the act of examining it. Communication is, therefore, the act of sending and receiving messages. So, it can be said that communication is process itself. Within a circle of communication, mass communication is characterized as a large number of groups. Mass communication will be meaningful only when media is reliable. Mass media are the most powerful tool which reveals the facts and disseminates the day to day distilled events.

The term 'mass communication' was coined along with the term mass media early in the twentieth century. In the words of Sah (2012), mass communication is the dissemination of messages to heterogeneous and geographically dispersed audience. In common sense, it is the communication through different mass media. Berger (1998 as cited in Sah, 2012, p.20) says, "Mass communication involves the use of print or electronic media, such as newspapers, magazines, film, radio or TV to communicate to large number of people who are located in various places often scattered all over the country or the world." Mass media refers collectively to all media technologies that are intended to reach a large audience via mass communication. According to Gamble and Gamble (1989):

The mass media are the tools or instruments of communication that permit us to record and transmit information and experience rapidly to large, scattered and heterogeneous audience. In fact the mass media have revolutionized our personal as well as social life. We are more capable of expanding our communication through mass media and thus enabled to overcome the barriers caused by time and space. (p.8)

From the above definitions, we can conclude that mass media provides people of diverse communities and geographical settings with the opportunities to keep in touch with the world happenings often at the same time.

2.1.1.1Types of Mass Media

Generally, mass communication is the process in which messages are transmitted through media to individuals in a large and diversified group, not usually known to each other. The rapid emergence of mass media has brought great revolution in the field of mass communication. It has become the need of today to be familiar with the various forms of mass media. The rise of mass communication refers to the major turning points and circumstances of time

and place in which different mass media acquired public definitions in the sense of role in the society. Mass media are broadly divided into two types:

a) Electronic Media

Electronic media refer to things or results produced or operated by a flow of electronic and it uses air waves to reach the message to the audience (Sah,2012).Electronic media includes radio, television, film, and the internet. Bagale (2012,p.5) says, “The electronic media is also called telemetric media because two words telecommunications and information are clipped and made telematics.”Radio is an old electronic media which is a wireless apparatus for receiving sound broadcasting. Television is a more recent innovation which is a media device with screen and loud speaker for receiving television broadcast. Film is series of moving pictures recorded with sound that tells a story, shown on television or Cinema Theater. And the internet is an international communication through connecting networks and computers. It is the latest means of mass communication. So, the electronic media have developed the sense of intimacy and personal involvements among the people of world.

b) Print Media

The print media are the oldest form of mass communication. Print media are so named because they make use of printed symbols of communicating messages to the readers. Print media include books and manuals; newspapers, magazines and periodicals; brochures and prospectuses; pamphlets, posters, banners, signboards, traffic signs and signals; charts, graphs, diagrams, tables, caption writings, menus and bills. With the invention of the printing press, handwritten texts proliferated and people became widely educated. This old system also preserved the treasure of knowledge.

According to Durant and Lambrou (2010), print media describe advertising in a printed medium such as newspaper, magazine, or trade journals. There are different forms of print media such as books, magazines, newspapers and

journals. In this research, I have mainly studied the print media that is newspaper headlines.

2.1.2 The Newspaper

Today, newspapers are widely read by a good number of people across the world. Many people read the newspaper to get adequate updates concerning events and happenings in the society. The newspaper is one of the oldest mass media resources and it is highly demanded nowadays as they are printed and published almost in every language all over the world. It shows that despite of our fast changing world, newspaper till now play a very significant role. It can be assumed that factors which make newspaper important are: mobility, availability, periodicity, officiality and universality (everyone can find there something interesting and useful for oneself (Petrova, 2013).

Oxford Advance Learner's Dictionary (7th edition, p. 1026) defines the term 'newspaper' as, "A set of large printed sheets of paper containing news, articles, and advertisement published every day or every week." Newspaper contains message and it is especially written to be read. There are many types of newspaper, some of them are dailies and other is weekly and monthly.

Conboy (2010) mentions:

The language of the newspapers of the eighteenth century had become more adept at articulating the political opinions and commercial requirements of a broadened and more self-assured bourgeoisie. There was still no financial incentive or political motivation for the owners of newspapers to attempt to target the lower classes. The inclusion of the reader both implicitly and, in the form of letters, explicitly, ensured that newspapers contributed significantly to the creation of a national community of taste and opinion. (p. 54)

At the same time, newspaper is interesting for people because it contains information that is connected not only with political events, but also with other aspects of our lives, such as art, science, business, sports, crime, fashions and health.

2.1.2.1 Types of Newspaper

The word ‘newspaper’ suggests that their main function is to give news. Despite this, it is used to educate, enlighten or entertain people. The newspaper also seeks to influence public opinion on political, economic and other matters. Newspapers can provide a medium of information to those who do not have television, radio, or the internet. According to Tunstall (1996 as cited in Reah, 1998, p.2), there are three types of newspapers:

a) The Broadsheet Newspapers

The broadsheets are described as serious (quality) national daily or Sunday papers so called because of their size (Reah, 1998). It is generally believed that broadsheets contain more serious news than tabloids and are read by more educated people. The broadsheet newspapers are known for small photos, formal and specific lexis small headlines. Long and detail articles about national and international events are covered in these types of newspapers. For example in the U.K., The Telegraph, The Independent, The Times and The Guardian are the broadsheet newspaper.

b) The Middle- Range Tabloid

Middle range tabloids focus on the sensational stories as well as on the important news events. For example: The Express and The Daily Mail in the U.K.

c) Tabloids

Tabloids are less serious (popular) daily or Sunday papers so called because of their smaller size. It is added that the broadsheets now published in a tabloid

format. But they are still known as broadsheets or quality papers. It should be mentioned that tabloids tend to focus on personality and gossips, stories found in these newspapers are smaller comparing to broadsheets. The writing style is less formal and slangy, more pictures are found. For example, The Sun, The Mirror and The Star in the U.K.

Based on the nature of news they publish and the size of the paper, newspapers are categorized broadsheet, middle range tabloid and tabloid. The newspapers selected for the purpose of study in this research are categorized under broadsheet format of newspaper because they publish more hard news from national and international arena.

2.1.2.2 Newspaper Style

According to Conboy (2010, p. 112), “The style of the newspaper journalism encapsulated the changing relationship between reader and newspaper.” The language of newspaper is targeted to the readers. The newspaper style is concerned with who the readers of these newspapers are. Newspaper style can be defined as a socially recognized and functionally conditioned system of interrelated language means that serves the purpose of informing the reader of the events of the day and instructing him as to the evaluation of such events. Especially, publicist style is used in newspaper or magazine articles, public speeches, essays, and radio or TV comments.

Galperin (1981) states that newspaper style was last of all the styles of written literary English to be acknowledged as a peculiar form of writing, different from other forms. He defines the English newspaper style as a system of inter-related lexical, phraseological and grammatical means which purpose is to inform and instruct the reader. Even though the main function of newspaper writing is to inform, some newspaper genres such as editorial has only an evaluative function. (Galperin 1981, p. 34) divides newspaper style into:

- a) The language style of brief news items and communiques

- b) The language style of newspaper headings
- c) The language style of notices and advertisements

As it is mentioned in Galperin (1981) above, newspaper style consists of three different stylistic analyses. Among them I have selected the stylistic analysis of newspaper headlines as the major field of study.

2.1.3 Headlines

The headline is the most important part of the newspaper information and the way to influence people. It is a part of text which introduces the text and connects with other components of the holistic components. It usually relates to the topic, but may be abstract. It attempts to attract the reader's attention by telling them what the story is about, in a short and interesting way, but it does not often open in full form of the gist of the article and motivates readers to learn the offered information in detail. As a rule headline is produced in interesting eye-catching fonts and color. According to Stovall (2011), the headline should consist of just a few carefully chosen words that will set the tone for an ad as reward to the reader for reading through the ad.

"The best headlines both *tell and sell*, that is, they tell the reader quickly what the news is and persuade the reader that the story is worth reading" (Ludwig & Gilmore, 2005 as cited in Praskova, 2009, p. 9). Headlines are usually read first and the information expressed is used strategically by the editors or headline writers. Firstly, a good headline persuades the readers to stop and dedicate their time to reading the story. Such a headline catches reader's interest as well as it captures the essence of the story. The authors of headlines generally know pretty well what they want to say but, unfortunately, there are several obstacles, for example space or their own abilities (vocabulary, creativity, knowledge of the language), that must be overcome while creating a headline (LaRocque, 2003 as cited in Praskova, 2009).

Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (7th edition) defines the term headlines as the title of newspaper article printed in large letters especially at the top of the front page.

Newspaper headlines are often constructed in certain structures to specifically capture the highlights of news and stories in the newspapers. The headlines are often constructed to capture the interest of the readers since they determine whether people will eventually read the stories in the newspaper. According to Ungerer (2000 as cited in Ehineni 2014, p. 28), "A headline describes news story in a few words, informs quickly and accurately and arouses the readers' curiosity." Similarly, in order to attract readers' attention, journalists make the headlines eye-catching so that readers become curious to know the content of the whole story. Also, newspaper readers often see the headlines before they read the news details of the events captured in the newspapers. Thus, the way language is used and certain linguistic structures are constructed in newspaper headlines often have a great influence on the readers.

2.1.3.1 Features and Functions of Headlines

The primary functions of headlines involve the informative and descriptive function, i.e. the headlines inform about an event and describe the content of the news story, as well as impressive, due to their role in influencing readers' views and attitudes (Reah, 1998, as cited in Tereszkievicz, 2012). As Allan (2004 as cited in Tereszkievicz, p.466) emphasizes, a headline establishes the ideological principles for the interpretation of the content. Headlines, when taken together, may help index the contents and set the tone of the newspaper. Headlines comprise a unique component of news stories also due to their stylistic shape. They apply a variety of syntactic and lexical properties, as well as rhetorical devices.

The headlines in newspaper have its particular function. Different features of headlines functions differently to attract the readers. According to Morley

(1998 as cited in Jakimaviciute, 2013, p.9) some of the important functions of newspaper headlines are as follows:

- It attracts the readers' attention.
- It summarizes the content of the article.
- It indicates the writer's attitude to the story.
- It indicates the register of the article.
- It indicates the focus of the article.

Therefore, the special kind of language is used in the headlines and it does not have informality in the formation and functions. The headlines in the newspaper have distinctive characteristics which help to ensure the significance of the newspaper article. These are some features of headlines (Bleyer, 2005 as cited in Petrova, 2013, p.7) such as attractiveness, accuracy, conciseness and concreteness.

Attractiveness is to capture reader's attention and to cause desire to read an article. Accuracy in headlines involves avoidance of exaggerated and misleading messages and completes coherence between the title and the article. Conciseness in titles suggests containing of small amount of short words with the necessary connectives and particles, which fits to the format of newspaper. Concreteness in headline creates accelerated understanding and interest.

2.1.4 Style and Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines

Every written and spoken discourse has a style. The word itself refers to some kind of functions. A style depends upon the purpose of the text or the specific conditions of communication in different situation. However, there is no single and concrete definition of the word 'style'. Leech and Short (2007, p. 10) point out that, "Style refers to the way in which language is used in a given context, by a given person, for a given purpose."

According to Mathesius (1982 as cited in Mozuraityte, 2015, p. 15), "Style is a significant manner in which the linguistic means of expression has been

employed or will usually be employed for a concrete purpose.”In other words, style refers to ways of writing or speaking how a person varies the resources of language in order to make speech or written discourse meaningful. Moreover, it can be stated that stylistics investigates devices in language which help to make utterance more descriptive, effective, and vivid. Stylistics is the branch of linguistics that analyzes and describes features of style. In the words of Mozuraityte (2015), stylistic devices are not only used in literary styles but also in publicist and newspaper styles.

The journalism industry is highly competitive and for that reason attracting the attention of the readers/audience becomes the most important thing. The audience has a reason for choosing a particular newspaper, television news channel or radio station. Headlines play a key role in attracting the attention of readers, especially in the print media. The headline of a news story is the short summary which introduces the story at the beginning of a news report. Headlines play a key role in attracting the attention and leaving an impact on the reader. So, the newspapers employ certain features in the headlines.

Some of the key features of newspaper headlines are described here which I am going to explore through my research.

2.1.4.1 Lexical Features

A lexical item (or lexical unit, lexical entry) is a single word, a part of a word, or a chain of words that forms the basic elements of a language’s lexicon (vocabulary). Examples are cat, traffic light; take care of, and by the way. Lexical items can be generally understood to convey a single meaning, much as a lexeme, but are not limited to single words.

Lexical features have to do with lexical items such as words, titles and names. Lexical choices in English news headlines are made in the considerations of target readers, purposes, the subject matters and linguistic competence of the writers. English newspapers have gradually formed its own lexical features to

achieve the ABC principle (Accuracy, Brevity, and Clarity). Some words gain new meanings because they are frequently used in particular types of news headlines, and they gradually become idiomatic expressions in news headlines and reporting. These words are usually short and striking. For example: accord (give), allege (declared) and voice (to express). According to Li, Zhang and Du (2014, p.3), some of the key lexical features of newspaper headlines are as follows:

a) Abbreviation

Abbreviation, which is used in a large quantity in English newspaper, is a shortened form of a word or phrase used chiefly in writing to represent the complete form. Crystal (2003, p. 1), says that “Abbreviations are widely used in headlines because they save space on page and they also require the readers to stop a little to think of the original word or expression.” Abbreviations include different ways of shortening words like initialisms, acronyms, clipping and blending. Initialism is the process in which initials are pronounced as separate letters.

Examples: AIDS - Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
PM - Prime Minister
TOEFL - Test of English as A Foreign Language
IELTS - International English Language Testing System

b) Shortening

Shortening of different words in newspaper aims to spare more space or to cut down the length of the headlines. According to Ehineni (2014, p. 29)

“Shortening is a form of reduction of words in the news headlines which does not involve the selection of only initial letters of a word.”

Examples: grad – graduate, hosp – hospital, cig – cigarette, Hi-tech – High technology

c) Compound words

Compound words in English newspaper are usually formed by two or over two words. By compounding, we can make complicated structure simpler, what's more, save space. Combination of two or more roots is technically called compounding or composition. The new words that created by stringing words together are called compound words, or simply compounds. The productivity of compound words is limitless, because there is almost no limit on the kinds of combination, and words are the loosest elements and combine most freely.

Like: Bodyguard, Courtroom, walk-in.

Example: "Plan to aid school *dropouts* extended." Here "school dropouts" refers to "the student who drops out of school."

d) Fuzzy words

One of the principles of newspaper reporting is to achieve accuracy. However, sometimes it is not easy to identify clear boundaries between things or facts. When writers cannot depict a situation precisely as what it is, fuzzy words turn to be a wiser option, especially when to avoid possible controversy over some sensitive issues. A news headline, therefore, becomes more reasonable, reliable, and acceptable to the public when the news writer chooses more hedging words. For example: A lot of people forced to leave houses due to landslide

e) Proper Nouns

Nouns can be further divided into common nouns and proper nouns. Proper nouns (also called proper names) are nouns representing unique entities (such as USA, Earth or Jane). They distinguish from common nouns and describe a class of entities (such as a city, a planet or a person). Proper nouns are used to indicate a particular person, place, or thing without consideration of any descriptive meaning the word or phrase may have. Proper nouns are full names such as White House, Wall Street, Fleet Street, and Obama.

2.1.4.2 Rhetorical Features

Rhetorical language is often known as the speech or writing which is intended to influence people and persuade them to do or follow something. It is an art concerned with the use of public speaking as a means of persuasion. Rhetorical devices can be used to evoke an emotional response in the audience. According to Ehineni (2014, p.30), these are the types of rhetorical features:

a) Metaphor

Metaphor is a means of making an implicit, implied or hidden comparison between two things. The essence of metaphor understands one kind of thing in terms of another. Ehineni (2014) presents that a metaphor is a figure of speech which makes hidden comparison between two things that are unrelated but share some common characteristics. In other words, a resemblance of two contradictory or different objects is made based on a single or some common characteristics.

Examples: Immigration, the dirty water

Politics a dance of madness

When it rains cats and dogs?

b) Alliteration

According to Ehineni (2014), alliteration is derived from Latin's "*Latira*". It means "letters of alphabet". It is a stylistic device in which a number of words, having the same first consonant sound, occur close together in a series. Alliteration is the repetition of initial identical consonant sounds in successive or closely associated syllables, especially stressed syllables.

Examples: Pride and Prejudice

Kill or Cure?

Tiger Tied

c) Rhyme

Rhyme is the repetition of an identical stressed vowel sound, followed by identical consonant sound but preceded by different consonants. According to Ehineni (2014), a rhyme is a tool utilizing repeating patterns that brings rhythm or musicality in poems which differentiate them from prose which is plain. A rhyme is employed for the specific purpose of rendering a pleasing effect to a poem which makes its recital and enjoyable experience. In verse they are usually placed at the end of the corresponding lines.

Examples: Meet and fleet
Mountain and fountain
Madness and sadness

d) Idiom

Idioms are figurative expressions used to comment on issues. The term refers to a set expression or a phrase comprising two or more words. An interesting fact regarding the device is that the expression is not interpreted literally. The phrase is understood as to mean something quite different from what individual words of the phrase would imply. Alternatively, it can be said that the phrase is interpreted in a figurative sense.

Examples: Rome is not built in a day.

Not over until it's over.

One good term deserves another.

2.1.4.3 Syntactic Features

The study of how words are combined together to form phrases and sentences is referred to as syntax. Syntax is the study of the rules that govern the combination of words in sentences. In the words of Crystal (2003), syntax refers to the possible arrangements of elements within a sentence. Headlines have special language which does not follow the rules of normal English

grammar. Radford (1997 as cited in Shuaibu, Soye&Celtus, 2013) opines that syntax studies the level of language that lies between words and the meaning of utterance; that is, sentence structures. It is the level that mediates between sounds that someone produces and organizes into words and what they intend to say. The following are the syntactic features (Shuaibu et al., 2013):

a) Use of Phrases

A phrase is usually a group of words that denote a single idea and form a separate part of a sentence, but not containing a subject and predicate. It is a string of words that form a grammatical unit, usually within a clause or sentence, Ewuzie (2009 as cited in Shuaibu et al., 2013). They are used by the columnists to achieved different purposes in communication contexts.

For example: She made *a great mistake*.

He passed the exam despite his carelessness.

b) Use of Clauses

Clauses are group of words which contains a subject, a verb, a modifier and occasionally an object. It is classified into an independent and a dependent clause. The independent clause sometimes called a principal or main clause is actually a simple sentence, a complete sentence. The dependent or subordinate clause on the other hand, is joined by a conjunction to a principal clause. It depends on the principal clause in order to fully communicate.

For example:*The man has invited her to the party* but she did not attend.

They found him *while they were walking near the river*.

In the first example, *The man has invited her to the party* is an independent clause and in the second example, *while they were walking near the river* is a dependent clause.

c) Simple Sentences

A simple sentence has one clause beginning with a noun group called the subject, one finite verb, which may be followed by a noun group or an adjective or a noun group and an adverb called the predicate, Ewuzie (2009, Shuaibu et al., 2013). These kinds of sentences are stylistically used by writers, because it is often short and straight to the point. They are simply recognized by the number of verbs they contain and not by length. The simple sentence expresses an assertion, a question, a command, a wish or an exclamation that usually begins with a capital letter and ends with a full stop, a question mark or an exclamation mark.

For example: She is an airhostess.

They live in Kathmandu for six months.

d) Use of Compound Sentences

A compound sentence is one in which two or more simple sentences are coordinated, each independent of the other and joined with the conjunction and, but, or etc. An independent clause (unlike a dependent clause) can stand alone as a sentence.

For example:

The boys won the match and celebrated grand party.

The professor started the class early in the morning but the students did not enter in the classroom.

e) Use of Complex Sentences

A complex sentence is one that has a main clause and one or more subordinate clauses. The main clause normally contains the most important information on which the subordinate clause or clauses depend. The subordinate clause may come at the beginning or end of the sentence.

For example: She became very happy when she had met her parents.

(Main clause)

(Subordinate clause)

There are various stylistics features of newspaper language and more especially, the language of headlines is more diverse. However, I analyzed three major stylistic features of newspaper headlines namely lexical, rhetorical and the syntactic features.

2.2 Review of Empirical Literature

Though fewer researches have been conducted in this field in the context of Nepal, I have gone through some of the related literature. Each and every research work requires the knowledge of previous background to obtain the targeted objectives and to validate the study. Here, an attempt has been made to overview some of the related studies conducted in the past briefly.

Khanal (2011) studied on “Proverbs Used in Newspaper Articles and their Nepali Equivalents.” The main objectives of his study were to list out proverbs used in newspapers, to find out the frequency and to analyze cultural features of the proverbs. He selected 51 proverbs from the newspapers using non-random sampling strategy. The tool for data collection was observation. He came to the conclusion that proverbs are found mostly used on articles and a very few in news and rarely in lead. Cultural features are one of the major aspects of this study. The difference in the use of terms for similar meaning implied the change in culture. For example, diamond cuts diamond. Here, diamond of English is implied by iron in the Nepali culture. So, the study found out the different use of objects for the same meaning due to the change of culture.

Bagale (2012) has carried out the research entitled “An Analysis of the English Language Used in Different Newspaper Editorials.” The major objectives of her study were to find out the characteristic features of the language used in Nepali English newspaper editorials in terms of: sentence types, sentence length, voice, tense (past and non-past), aspect (perfective and progressive) heading and style of writing and S.V proximity. She selected 30 editorials from newspapers and applied judgment sampling, which is one of the most useful

non-probability sampling procedures. Observation and un-structured interview were the tools for data collection. Finally, she found that The Himalayan Times published two editorials in a day whereas The Kathmandu Post published only one editorial in a day. Regarding sentence types, complex sentences are used most frequently in both dailies i.e. 229 out of 465 which are 49 percent in THT and 180 of 350 which is 52 percent in TKP.

Petrova (2012) conducted a research entitled “Stylistic Peculiarities of Newspaper Headlines to Attract Readers’ Attention: The Escape Supplement of the Observer Newspaper.” The research aims to analyze peculiarities of newspaper headlines and to identify peculiarities of articles which attract the attention of readers most. A survey was conducted among ordinary readers of the ‘Escape Supplement of the Observer Newspaper.’ As a result of a survey, it was found out that the main factor that affects the attractiveness of the article’s headline is interest in headline theme and using words which heated curiosity of the readers.

Bhatt (2014) conducted a research entitled “Language Used in Advertisements.” The main objectives of the study were to find out rhetoric used in the advertisement and to suggest some pedagogical implications. He selected one hundred fifty advertisements from different newspapers. He had used non-random (quota) sampling procedures. The tool for data collection was observation. Finally, he found that advertisements of products were mostly found using propaganda to win people’s opinion and most of the advertisement used hyperbola to lure the candidates and consumers.

Chand (2015) carried out the research entitled, “Inferences in Advertising: A Case of Commercials in Print Media.” The main objective of his study was to determine the inferences in commercials in print media. He selected 40 students as a sample using purposive non-random sampling procedure. He used observation as a tool of data collection. Finally, he concluded that most of the respondents were impressed only to do some extent by the written text in the

advertisement. It shows that the language of the advertisement copy is not enough to express the customers.

Magar (2015) conducted a research entitled “The Language Used in Headlines in English Dailies.” The main objective of his study was to describe and analyze the language and graphological features of headlines. He selected eighty headlines as sample using non-random purposive techniques. He used observation as a research tool to collect the data. Finally, he concluded that blasting words are used maximally in the headlines of all the two newspapers published from Nepal. Regarding the use of the graphological features of headlines, headlines writers have used informational words more frequently than opinion manipulators words in the headlines of all two types of newspapers.

Mozuraityte (2015) conducted a research entitled “Newspaper Style: Stylistic Features of the Headlines.” The aim of presented research was to analyze the stylistic features of the newspaper headlines in terms of lexical and grammatical features. The research method used in the descriptive theoretical analysis made it possible to analyze scientific literature regarding the functional styles, newspaper style, headlines. For the purpose of investigation 200 examples of the newspaper headlines have been drawn from the British online newspaper The Telegraph. It concluded that the use of different lexical and grammatical features combined together creates the particular and distinctive style of the newspaper headlines. Moreover, it indicates not only the newspaper style, but also emphasizes the identity of the English Language Linguistic regularities.

2.3 Implications of the Study

Determining and reviewing the related literature is the central and most important task for research problem, improve methodology and contextualize the findings. Reviewing literature can be time consuming, daunting and frustrating, but it is also rewarding, useful and interesting. Literature review is

one of the essential tasks to conduct any research. According to Kumar (2009, p. 30), “The literature review is an integral part of entire research process and makes a valuable contribution to almost every operational steps.” To carry out this research, I also reviewed theoretical as well as empirical literature related to my research topic. While reviewing the literature, I have gone through different existing literature, different articles, journals, magazines, bulletins and books. Similarly, I had also developed my insight from the research works conducted in national and international scenario. All the reviewed literatures are the Nepali and foreign studies. All of them were about newspaper headlines.

The review of the thesis “Language Used in Advertisements” by Bhatt (2014) helped me to gather some ideas about the analysis of language in newspapers. I have reviewed Petrova (2012) “Stylistic Peculiarities of Newspaper Headlines to Attract Readers’ Attention: The Escape Supplement of the Observer Newspaper” which helped me to develop insight into some key features of newspaper headlines. In the same way, Khanal (2011), Bagale (2012), Chand (2015), supported to collect the appropriate data from the secondary sources and analyze them systematically. Moreover, Mozuraityte (2015) helped to expand the ideas about distinctive lexical and grammatical features of newspaper headlines.

For my study, the review of literature helped me in a number of ways. First it helped me to develop theoretical knowledge which brought clarity to my research problem. Secondly, it helped me to improve my research methodology. The literature supported me to collect the data and analyze it appropriately based on the objectives of my study.

Different studies and the research papers have been conducted in the field of newspaper and newspaper headlines. Magar (2015) has conducted a research on language of newspaper headlines. His research is mainly concerned with the language of the headlines and the graphological features of headlines.

However, his research could not study all the stylistic features of the newspaper like lexical, rhetorical as well as syntactic features which are more frequently used features in the newspaper headlines. Even Mozuraityte (2015) has focused more on grammatical features and few lexical features. So, I selected the topic and planned to carry out the research on ‘The Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines: A Case of English Dailies.’

2.4 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework grows out of the theoretical framework which relates to the specific research problem. According to Kumar (2009, p.37), “The conceptual framework stems from the theoretical framework and concentrates usually on one section of the theoretical framework which becomes the basis of the study.” Theoretical framework consists of the theories in which the study is embedded whereas conceptual framework describes the way or process to conduct the actual research. Here, actual research refers to methodology in general. The conceptual framework to conduct my study can be the diagrammatically shown in Figure 1.

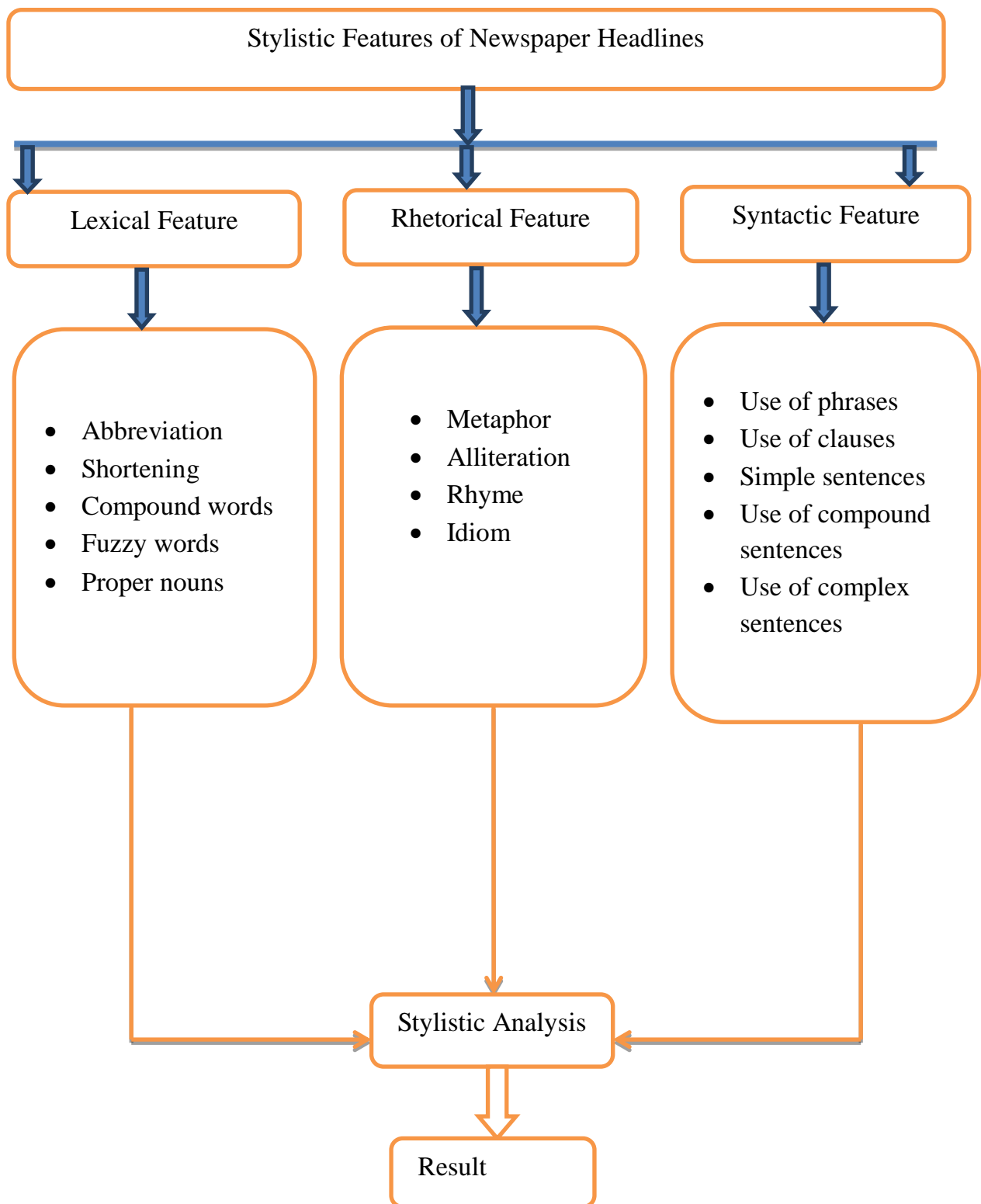


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework(Stylistic Features of Newspaper Headlines)

CHAPTER - THREE

METHODS AND PROCEDURES OF THE STUDY

Methodology and procedures are the vital elements of a research study. If any research work follows appropriate methodology and procedures, it will obtain its objectives easily. Appropriate methodology helps the researchers to go in a right path in his/her research work. So, I have followed appropriate method and procedures in this research. This section incorporates design of the study, population, sample and sampling strategy, research tools, sources of data, data collection procedures, data analysis procedures and ethical considerations.

3.1 Design of the Study

To achieve the objectives of the study, I followed survey research design. In this research, I have studied two different English dailies in Nepal i.e. *TKP* and *THT* and collected the headlines as the sample of the study. .

To quote Kerlinger (1986, as cited in Kumar, 2009), a research design is a plan, structure or strategy of research which a researcher will do from writing the hypothesis and their operational implications to the final analysis of data.

Survey is one of the important research methods used in educational investigation. It is a commonly used research design carried out to find out public opinion and attitude of different professionals to assess certain activities and study certain trends almost at a single point of time. It generally addresses a large group of population. The sample should be representative of the study population as a whole. Selection of a representative sample from the population as a whole is a difficult but very important and sensitive task. Survey research studies large population or universe by selecting and studying sample chosen from the population.

Similarly, Cohen and Manion (1985, as cited in Nunan, 2010, p. 140) say:

Surveys are the most commonly used descriptive method in educational research, and may vary in scope from large scale governmental

investigations through to small scale studies carried out by a single researcher. The purpose of a survey is generally to obtain snapshot of conditions, attitudes, and/or events at a single point in time.

Survey is the most commonly used method of investigation in educational research which can be carried out either by a group of researchers or by an individual. Data were collected only at a single point of time aiming to obtain overview of phenomenon, event, issue or a situation. The sample should be the representative of the study population as a whole. The finding of survey is generalizable and applicable to the whole group.

Here, I have used qualitative and quantitative methods to carry out the research. Data were collected using observation checklists as a research tool.

3.2 Population, Sample and Sampling Strategy

The population of the study was all the headlines of English newspapers which were published in two English dailies in Nepal that is *TKP* and *THT*. I have selected forty headlines as sample of the study. For the collection of secondary data, non-random sampling method was used to select forty headlines of English Newspaper dailies from political and sports related section.

3.3 Research Tools

Observation checklists were the main tools of data collection. Headlines available in two English newspaper dailies from political and sports related sections were studied in depth to collect data to conduct my research.

3.4 Sources of Data

Secondary sources of data were used in this study. Data were collected from two English dailies via, *TKP* and *THT*. Headlines were collected from the political and sports section. Some of the electronic books, research papers,

journals, thesis, magazine and websites were the sources of data. Some of the books are Galperin (1981), Reah (2002), and Conboy (2010).

3.5 Data Collection Procedures

For the completion of this study, I have adopted stepwise procedures. Two English dailies were selected that is *TKP* and *THT* for the purpose of data collection. The data were collected for 10 days from 26th August to 4th September, 2016. Forty headlines were collected for the purpose of analysis. Then, the headlines were categorized based on the checklists. Finally, the data were analyzed based on the features presented in the conceptual framework.

3.6 Data Analysis Procedures

After the collection of data, they were organized and analyzed to come to conclusion. Data were analyzed as per my purpose, nature of study and convention. Generally, the data from qualitative researches were analyzed using description and language. The systematically collected data were analyzed, interpreted and presented descriptively and quantitatively. The study has also used simple statistical tools. All the data/headlines were taken from English newspaper daily to carry out the research on its stylistic features.

3.7 Ethical Considerations

This is a qualitative and quantitative study which does not include any human subjects as informants. It is based on secondary sources of data. However the research needs to follow some ethical norms.

Especially, the plagiarism has been avoided citing the sources of information clearly based on the APA format of citation and referencing. On the other hand, collected data, evidence, findings and conclusions are presented honestly with no reduplication.

CHAPTER - FOUR

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

After collecting the data using purposive and non-random sampling method, I came to the analysis and interpretation section of the data which were collected from secondary sources. The main objectives of the research were to identify and analyze the stylistic features of newspaper headlines in terms of lexical, rhetorical and syntactic features. Secondary data were the forty headlines of English dailies viz. *TKP* and *THT*. The observation checklists were the main tools of data collection. The headlines have been collected from the political and sports sections. Raw data were analyzed and interpreted both qualitatively and quantitatively.

Contrary to it, the data were analyzed using simple statistical tools such as measure of frequency and percentile. I have presented the data in tables with numbers and percentages as per their nature and need. The stylistic features of newspaper headlines and the result of observation are presented, analyzed and interpreted here in this section.

4.1 Analysis of Data and Interpretation of Results

This section includes presentation, analysis, description, and discussion of collected data. The discussion of elicited data is mentioned in the subheading overleaf.

4.1.1 Holistic Analysis of Lexical, Rhetorical and Syntactic Features in *TKP* and *THT*

After the analysis of data, I have found following average frequency and percentage of occurrences of stylistic features in the headlines of *TKP* and *THT*.

Table 1

**Holistic Analysis of Lexical, Rhetorical and Syntactic Features in
TKP and THT**

| Stylistic Features of Headlines | | The names of Newspapers | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | | TKP | | THT | | TKP + THT | |
| | | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Average Freq. | Average Pr. (%) |
| Lexical Features | Abbreviation | 8 | 24.24 | 8 | 28.57 | 16 | 26.22 |
| | Shortening | 4 | 12.12 | 3 | 10.71 | 7 | 11.47 |
| | Compound Words | 3 | 9.0 | 2 | 7.14 | 5 | 8.1 |
| | Fuzzy Words | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Proper Nouns | 18 | 54.54 | 15 | 53.57 | 33 | 54.0 |
| | Total features | 33 | 100 | 28 | 100 | 61 | 100 |
| Rhetorical Features | Metaphor | 5 | 41.66 | 2 | 25.0 | 7 | 38.8 |
| | Alliteration | 5 | 41.66 | 6 | 75.0 | 11 | 61.11 |
| | Rhyme | 2 | 16.66 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Idiom | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | Total features | 12 | 100 | 8 | 100 | 18 | 100 |
| Syntactic Features | Use of phrases | 5 | 20.0 | 4 | 19.0 | 9 | 19.56 |
| | Use of clauses | 4 | 16.0 | 1 | 4.76 | 5 | 10.86 |
| | Simple sentences | 12 | 48.0 | 10 | 47.61 | 22 | 47.82 |
| | Compound sentences | 1 | 4.0 | 4 | 19.0 | 5 | 10.86 |
| | Complex sentences | 3 | 12.0 | 2 | 9.52 | 5 | 10.86 |
| | Total features | 25 | 100 | 21 | 100 | 46 | 100 |

In the holistic analysis of lexical features, it shows that proper nouns are highly used (54.0 %, 33 out of 61) lexical features. In the same way, abbreviations are second highest (26.22 %, 16 out of 61) lexical features. Likewise, third highest lexical features (11.47%, 7 out of 61) found in the analysis of shortened

words.8.1% (5 out of 61) are the compound words and fuzzy words are not found in the analysis of headlines of news related to politics and sports. Similarly, analysis of rhetorical features shows that alliteration is the highest number, 61.11 % (i.e. 11 out of 18), of rhetorical feature used in the headlines. On the other hand, second highest, 38.8 % (i.e. 7 out of 18), rhetorical features are metaphor. The metaphorical uses of the words highlight one item in terms of another. There are no uses of rhyme in the THT so, it has not been presented in the average analysis. In the same way, idioms are not used in the analysis of 40 headlines. Moreover, analysis of syntactic features shows that simple sentences are used mostly in the headlines with 47.82 % (i.e. 22 out of 46). In the same way, use of phrases is the second highest syntactic features in both newspapers with 19.56 % (9 out of 46). Use of clauses, compound sentences and complex sentences are used in the same number in average analysis. All three have occurred 10.86% (5 out of 46) of the total syntactic sentences.

4.1.2 Holistic Analysis of Lexical Features in *TKP* and *THT*

A lexical item is a single word, a part of a word, or a chain of words that forms the basic elements of a language's lexicon (vocabulary). Lexical features have to do with lexical items such as words, titles and names. Lexical choices in English news headlines are made in the considerations of target readers, purposes, the subject matters and linguistic competence of the writers. The analysis of lexical items consists of abbreviation, shortening, compound words, fuzzy words and proper nouns in this study.

I have found the following average frequency and percentage of occurrences of lexical features used in the headlines in *TKP* and *THT*.

Table 2
Holistic Analysis of Lexical Features in *TKP* and *THT*

| Lexical Features | The name of Newspapers | | | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|------------|-------|------------|---------------|-----------------|
| | TKP | | THT | | TKP+THT | |
| | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Avg. Freq. | Avg. Pr. (%) |
| Abbreviation | 8 | 24.24 | 8 | 28.57 | 16 | 26.22 |
| Shortening | 4 | 12.12 | 3 | 10.71 | 7 | 11.47 |
| Compound words | 3 | 9.0 | 2 | 7.14 | 5 | 8.1 |
| Fuzzy words | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Proper nouns | 18 | 54.54 | 15 | 53.57 | 33 | 54.0 |
| Total features | 33 | 100 | 28 | 100 | 61 | 100 |

As shown in the Table 2, proper nouns are the highest numbers (54.0 %, 33 out of 61) of lexical features. Names of persons and places are highlighted in the news headlines. In the same way, abbreviations are second highest (26.22 %, 16 out of 61) features found in the headlines of news related to politics and sports. Abbreviated forms are used to make the headlines short and easy to read the headlines. Third highest lexical features (11.47 %, 7 out of 61) found in the analysis are shortened words which are used to ensure the brevity of the headlines. They are the product of regular practice of news writers and readers too. 8.1 % (5 out of 61) are the compound words and fuzzy words are not found in the analysis of headlines.

4.1.3 Holistic Analysis of Rhetorical Features in *TKP* and *THT*

A rhetorical device uses words in a certain way to convey meaning or to persuade. It can also be a technique to evoke an emotion on the part of the reader or audience. Rhetoric means ‘persuasion’ and a rhetorical feature is any characteristic of a text that helps to convince readers of a certain point of view. Writers use a host of strategies to construct texts that are logically ordered, that establish their credibility and that appeal to their target audience. News writers use different rhetorical devices to attract the attention of the readers.

I have found the following average frequency and percentage of occurrences of rhetorical features used in the headlines in *TKP* and *THT* which are analyzed in the following table.

Table 3
Holistic Analysis of Rhetorical Features in *TKP* and *THT*

| Rhetorical features | The name of Newspapers | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------------------|---------|-------|---------|------------|--------------|
| | TKP | | THT | | TKP+THT | |
| | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Avg. Freq. | Avg. Pr. (%) |
| Metaphor | 5 | 41.66 | 2 | 25.0 | 7 | 38.8 |
| Alliteration | 5 | 41.66 | 6 | 75.0 | 11 | 61.11 |
| Rhyme | 2 | 16.66 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Idiom | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 12 | 100 | 8 | 100 | 18 | 100 |

In comparison to other features of headlines, the rhetorical features are found to be used very less. However, in the average analysis, it is found that 38.8 % (i.e. 7 out of 18) of the rhetorical features are metaphor in which a concrete word is used to refer to abstract word or concept. The metaphorical uses of the words highlight one item in terms of another. Moreover, alliteration is the highest number, 61.11 % (i.e. 11 out of 18), of rhetorical feature used in the headlines of the newspaper. It is the repetition of the consonant sounds in the nearby words. Furthermore, there are no uses of rhyme in the *THT* so, it has not been presented in the average analysis. In the same way, there are no uses of idioms found in the analysis of 40 headlines.

4.1.4 Holistic Analysis of Syntactic Features in *TKP* and *THT*

In linguistics, syntax is the set of rules, principles, and processes that govern the structure of sentences in a given language, specifically word order. The term syntax is also used to refer to the study of such principles and processes. More specially, formation of sentences combining words is the concern of the

syntactic analysis. In the newspaper, the author uses different syntactic patterns in the headlines. Use of phrases, use of clauses, simple sentences, complex sentences and compound sentences are analyzed in this study under syntactic features.

Here, I have found the following average frequency and percentage of classes of sentences syntactic features used in the headlines in *TKP* and *THT*.

Table 4
Holistic Analysis of Syntactic Features in *TKP* and *THT*

| Syntactic features | The name of Newspapers | | | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|---------|-------|---------|------------|--------------|
| | TKP | | THT | | TKP+THT | |
| | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Freq. | Pr. (%) | Avg. Freq. | Avg. Pr. (%) |
| Use of phrases | 5 | 20.0 | 4 | 19.0 | 9 | 19.56 |
| Use of clauses | 4 | 16.0 | 1 | 4.76 | 5 | 10.86 |
| Simple sentences | 12 | 48.0 | 10 | 47.61 | 22 | 47.82 |
| Compound sentences | 1 | 4.0 | 4 | 19.0 | 5 | 10.86 |
| Complex sentences | 3 | 12.0 | 2 | 9.52 | 5 | 10.86 |
| Total features | 25 | 100 | 21 | 100 | 46 | 100 |

Analysis of the syntactic features is related to the organization of the words to form a meaningful sentence in the headlines. Analysis of the headlines in both *TKP* and *THT* shows that simple sentences are used mostly in the headlines with 47.82 % (i.e. 22 out of 46). In the same way, use of phrases is the second highest syntactic features in both newspapers with 19.56 % (9 out of 46). Moreover, use of clauses, compound sentences and the complex sentences are used in the same number in average analysis. All three have occurred 10.86 %

(5 out of 46) of the total syntactic features. In case of sports headlines, the author uses more compound sentences.

4.1.5 Newspaper Wise Analysis of Stylistic Features

In this section, analysis of three stylistic features is presented newspaper wise. Earlier, I have presented the holistic analysis of three stylistic features of newspaper headlines. Here, I have presented these features based on the newspaper wise analysis.

4.1.5.1 Analysis of Stylistic Features in *The Kathmandu Post*

I have studied two English dailies i.e. *TKP* and *THT* which are leading newspapers in Nepal. Here, I have presented the analysis of three stylistic features in the headlines of *TKP* separately.

4.1.5.1.1 Analysis of Lexical Features

Here, I have found the following frequency and percentage of lexical features used in the headlines of *TKP*.

Table 5
Analysis of Lexical Features

| Lexical features of Headlines | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Abbreviation | 8 | 24.24 |
| Shortening | 4 | 12.12 |
| Compound words | 3 | 9.0 |
| Fuzzy words | 0 | 0 |
| Proper nouns | 18 | 54.54 |
| Total features | 33 | 100 |

The above table shows that highest numbers of lexical features used in the headlines are proper nouns. They cover 54.54 % (i.e. 18 out of 33) of the total lexical features in *TKP*. For example:

- Peace agreement in *Colombia*
- *Messi* makes winning return, *Brazil* sinks *Ecuador*
- *Solo* slapped with 6 – month ban
- *Arsenal* seal *Perez* deal
- *England* blast highest ever to total

Abbreviations are the second highest 24.24 % (i.e. 8 out of 33) lexical features found in the analysis of headlines. For instance:

- No change in statute at the cost of national interest *UML (Unified Marxist Leninist)* insists
- Japan asks *EASA (European Aviation Safety Agency)* to ensure engine safety
- *PM (Prime Minister)* to lead ‘Sleek’ teams to India, *US (United State)*
- *UN (United Nations)* officials, *PM* discuss peace process, *post- quake* recovery

Only 12.12 % (i.e. 4 out of 33) are the shortened words found in the analysis of headlines. Some of the examples of shortened words are:

- Runs galore as *Windies* win (West Indies)
- *Mourinho* laments timing of *Int’l* break (International)
- *Morcha’s* black day, *govt’s* celebration (Government)

In the same way, 9.0 % (i.e. 3 out of 33) compound words are used in headlines in the following ways:

- UN officials, PM discuss peace process, *post- quake* recovery
- *Morcha’s black day*, *govt,s* celebration
- Philippines declares ‘state of *lawlessness*’ after bomb kills 14

Fuzzy words are not used in the political and sports related news headlines.

4.1.5.1.2 Analysis of Rhetorical Features

I have studied four different rhetorical features; they are metaphor, alliteration, rhyme and idioms which are presented based on frequency and percentage of the rhetorical features in political and sports headlines in TKP.

Table6
Analysis of Rhetorical Features

| Rhetorical features of Headlines | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Metaphor | 5 | 41.66 |
| Alliteration | 5 | 41.66 |
| Rhyme | 2 | 16.66 |
| Idiom | 0 | 0 |
| Total features | 12 | 100 |

Table 6 shows that 41.66 % (i.e. 5 out of 12) of the rhetorical features are metaphor. Metaphors are the cross domain mappings and the comparison of the more abstract items with more concrete items. For example:

Solo *slapped* with 6 – month ban

England *blast* highest ever to total

Morcha's *black day*, govt,s celebration

In the first example, the word *slapped* is used metaphorically as it is used *Solo* is beaten in his cheeks but it means Solo is *banned*. Secondly, *blast* is generally known for the bomb blast but here the news writer has used to refer to the runs scored. In the same way, to highlight the meaning of protest, the news writer has used *black day* which is metaphorical which may attract the attention of the readers.

Use of alliteration is also 41.66 % (i.e. 5 out of 12) which means the repetition of the consonant sounds in the nearby words. Use of alliteration makes the headlines more rhythmic. For example:

Runs galore as *Windies* win

Sirigu set for *Sevilla* move

Messi to *miss* Venezuela game

There are very few uses of rhyme; only 16.66 % (i.e.2 out of 12) are the instances of repetition of vowel sounds. For example:

Japan asks EASA to *ensure engine* safety

Arsenal *seal* Perez *deal*

Finally, it is found that there are no uses of idioms in the analysis of 20 headlines from political and sports sections of *TKP*.

4.1.5.1.3 Analysis of Syntactic Features

Here, I have found the following frequency and percentage of syntactic features used in the headlines of *TKP*.

Table 7
Analysis of Syntactic Features

| Syntactic Features | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Use of phrases | 5 | 20.0 |
| Use of clauses | 4 | 16.0 |
| Simple sentences | 12 | 48.0 |
| Compound Sentences | 1 | 4.0 |
| Complex sentences | 3 | 12.0 |
| Total features | 25 | 100 |

As shown in the Table 7, 48.0 % (i.e. 12 out of 25) of syntactic features used in the headlines are simple sentences which are the highest number of syntactic features found in the analysis. Most of the short and simple sentences were used in the headlines. For example:

- PM to lead ‘Sleek’ teams to India, US
- Sirigu set for Sevilla move
- Japan asks EASA to ensure engine safety
- Verisk IT claim trophy

Generally, ‘to infinitive’ is used to refer to future actions and the present tense is used to present the past events and one or two days late news headlines are written in past tense.

To make the headlines more concise and short, the authors use the phrases in the newspaper headlines. It has whether a noun, verb or adjective as a head word which lacks complete elements of sentence. 20 % (i.e. 5 out of 25) of syntactic features are the phrases used in the headlines of *TKP*. For instance:

- Peace agreement in Colombia
- Proteas in command
- Morcha’s black day, govt’s celebration

Third highest uses of the syntactic features, 16 % (i.e. 4 out of 25), are the use of clauses. The author has used both dependent and independent clauses in the headlines. Mostly, the clauses are not uses separately. They are used in the complex and compound sentences. For example:

- Motion on CIAA chief loses steam after NC’s Thapa becomes minister
(Independent clause) (Dependent clause)
- Runs galore as windies win
(Independent clause) (Dependent clause)

There are only 12 % (3 out of 25) of complex sentences in which there is one dependent clause and an independent clause. Some of the headlines used of complex sentences are as follows:

- Motion on CIAA chief loses steam after NC’s Thapa becomes minister
- Philippines declares ‘state of lawlessness’ after bomb kills 14

Finally, 4% of the compound sentences are used in *TKP*. There are few headlines found to be used in which both independent clauses are used in the headlines. For example:

- Messi makes winning return, Brazil sinks Ecuador

4.1.5.2 Analysis of Stylistic Features in *The Himalayan Times*

In this section, three stylistic features in the headlines of *THT* are analyzed based on the checklists prepared. Here, I have presented the analysis of three stylistic features in *THT*.

4.1.5.2.1 Analysis of Lexical Features

Here, I have found the following frequency and percentage of lexical items used in the headlines of *THT*.

Table 8
Analysis of Lexical Features

| Lexical features of Headlines | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Abbreviation | 8 | 28.57 |
| Shortening | 3 | 10.71 |
| Compound words | 2 | 7.14 |
| Fuzzy words | 0 | 0 |
| Proper nouns | 15 | 53.57 |
| Total features | 28 | 100 |

As shown in the Table 8, proper nouns are most repeatedly used in the newspaper headlines which are one half 53.57 % (i.e.15 out of 28) of other lexical features in *THT*. Such as:

- *Congress* finalizes Ministers' names, swearing- in today
- *Du Plessis* ton puts *South Africa* on top

- *PushpaSadan* in final
- *France* court mulls lifting burkini ban

In the same way, abbreviations occur 28.57 % (i.e. 8 out of 28) of total lexical features in *THT*. For instance:

- Meeting of *SAARC* (*South Asian Association for Regional Co-operation*) finance ministers
- *NWA* (*National Women Association*) election begins
- Steyn strikes as SA(South Africa) clinch series

Moreover, ‘Shortening’ covers 10.71 % (i.e. 3 out of 28) of the total lexical features. Some of the examples of the shortened words are:

- Restructure local bodies by *mid-Jan* (*middle January*)
- *Govt* (*government*)reappoints Upadhayay as envoy to India: EC.
- Statute amendment *thru*(*through*) consensus: Deuba

Very few compound words are used in the headlines of *THT* so, it covers 7.14 % (i.e. 2 out of 28) of the total lexical features. Here in the examples:

- South African *batsmen* flourish against Kiwis
- Djokovic *overcomes* injury scares, Nadal wins,

Here, ‘batsmen and overcomes’ are the compound words. As in the Table 5, fuzzy words are not found in the headlines of *THT* as well.

4.1.5.2.2 Analysis of Rhetorical Features

Here, I have found the following frequency and percentage of rhetorical features used in the headlines of *THT*.

Table9
Analysis of Rhetorical Features

| Rhetorical features of Headlines | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Metaphor | 2 | 25.0 |
| Alliteration | 6 | 75.0 |

| | | |
|----------------|---|-----|
| Rhyme | 0 | 0 |
| Idiom | 0 | 0 |
| Total features | 8 | 100 |

There are only two rhetorical features (metaphor and alliteration) found to be used in the 20 headlines from the political and sport sections of *THT*. Among them highest number of rhetorical features are of alliteration which covers 75 % (6 out of 8) of total rhetorical features. For example:

- France court mulls lifting *burkiniban*
- West Ham *suffer shock* defeat, knocked out of Europa League
- *Steyn strikes* as SA clinch series

In the same way, there are only 25.0 % (2 out of 8) of the metaphorical features used in the headlines of *THT*. For example:

- South African batsmen *flourish* against Kiwis

The word *flourish* is used metaphorically. Batsmen are compared to the flowers as they can be flourished.

In a nutshell, there are no uses of rhymes and idioms in the analysis of newspaper headlines of political and sports section.

4.1.5.2.3 Analysis of Syntactic Features

Here, I have found the following frequency of classes of sentences being used in the headlines in *THT*.

Table 10
Analysis of Syntactic Features

| Syntactic Features | Frequency | Percentage (%) |
|--------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Use of phrases | 4 | 19.0 |
| Use of clauses | 1 | 4.76 |
| Simple sentences | 10 | 47.61 |
| Compound sentences | 4 | 19.0 |

- Restructure local bodies by mid-Jan : EC

To sum up, the headlines writers have selected the headlines to encapsulate the whole text which can provide strong information and message to convince the concerned readers.

CHAPTER – FIVE

FINDINGS, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section presents the findings, conclusion and recommendations of the study on the basis of the analysis and interpretation of collected data.

5.1 Findings

After the analysis of the data, it can be concluded that language of newspaper and the news headlines is slightly different from that of language used in other genres like literature. The language of the headline is brief and short that can provide a glimpse of news below. Headlines have their own style of writing structure. The words are concise, distractive, and meaningful in order to catch the readers' attention. There are high uses of the shortening and abbreviations. Not only this, the headlines are made up of simple sentences to make short as well as the use of metaphor and alliteration makes headlines more rhythmic. Some major findings of the study are as follows.

a) Lexical Features

Analysis of lexical features shows that proper nouns are the mostly, 54.0 % (i.e.33 out of 61), used features in the headlines of both *TKP* and *THT*. Name of the persons and places are used in the headlines in the form of noun phrases even if the headlines are short. Similarly, abbreviations cover 26.22 % (i.e. 16 out of 61) of total lexical features in which names of the institutions and

organizations are written with abbreviated forms in the headlines. In the same way, shortened words which cover 11.47 % (i.e. 7 out of 61) of the lexical features. Moreover, 8.1 % (i.e. 5 out of 61) of the total lexical features are compound words whereas there are no uses of fuzzy words found in the headlines of political and sports news in both *TKP* and *THT*.

b) Rhetorical Features

Highly used rhetorical features are alliterations with 61.11 % (i.e. 11 out of 18) in which the uses of similar sounding words initiating with consonant sounds are used to make the headlines more attractive. In the same way, 38.8 % (i.e. 7 out of 18) of the rhetorical features are metaphors found in the analysis of headlines to attract readers' attention. However, there are very few uses of rhyme and there are no uses of idioms found in the analysis of both *TKP* and *THT*.

c) Syntactic Features

The analysis of syntactic features shows that 47.82 % (i.e. 22 out of 46) headlines are simple sentences. Short sentences are used along with supporting phrases. Similarly, 19.56 % (i.e. 9 out of 46) occurrences of phrases indicate that the news writer uses very short headlines with noun phrases, verb phrases and adjective phrases. Uses of compound sentences cover 10.86 % (5 out of 46) in which most of the compound sentences are used in the headlines of sports news. There are very few uses of clauses and complex sentences (10.86 %, 5 out of 46) in both the headlines of political and sports news in *TKP* and *THT*.

5.2 Conclusion

After the analysis of headlines, it is concluded that newspaper headlines are first sight of any news which speak about the nature of news below. Based on the findings presented above, the conclusion has been presented here. Analysis of lexical features indicates that proper nouns are mostly used in the newspaper headlines in which noun phrases are used as short headlines. Abbreviated forms

are the second highest lexical features used and the shortening words are used to reduce the space of the headlines. There are very few uses of compound words but there are no uses of fuzzy words in the headlines. Similarly, rhetorical features are used in the headlines of political and sports news to attract the attention of the readers. Mostly, there are the uses of alliteration in the headlines which added the rhythm in the headlines. In the same way, the second highest used rhetorical features metaphor presents the abstract concepts through concrete words or concepts. There are very few uses of rhyme in the analysis and idioms are not used in the headlines. Similarly, analysis of syntactic features shows that simple sentences are mostly used syntactic features. Simple sentences along with phrases are used in the headlines. The use of phrases are also one of the highest syntactic features of news headlines in which noun phrases, verb phrases and adjective phrases are repeatedly occurred. In the same way, the uses of compound sentences are also used in the headlines to convey different information in the same headlines. However, there are very rare uses of complex sentences in the headlines. It is found that clauses are not only used in the headlines separately but they are used in the complex and compound sentences as independent and dependent clauses.

5.3 Recommendations

On the basis of the conclusion obtained from analysis and interpretation, I have pinpointed the main implications of the study on three different levels as below:

5.3.1 Policy Related

Policy is a line of argument rationalizing the course of action of a government; it is made to systematize the activities of the people belonging to the particular field. It refers to the policy of teaching and testing English language in the teaching learning activities which are not practiced. The usefulness of the findings of the research to the people to formulate the policies is listed below:

1. It would be fruitful if curriculum designers and text book writers may include newspaper headlines in the textbook.
2. The concerned authorities may formulate the policies to encourage the students of mass communication to conduct research related to newspaper language.

5.3.2 Practice Related

Plans and policy do not work well unless they are implemented effectively. The study analyzed in the research is directly related to the practical field of mass media. Therefore it would be very useful for the stakeholders of English Language Teaching. The practitioners of ELT such as teachers, textbook writers, material producers and headlines writer should effectively utilize the study. The research may be applied in day to day practice for teachers, students and textbook writers in the following way:

1. The study shows that different features of language like lexical, rhetorical and syntactic are used in newspaper headlines. Therefore, they may be used by teachers and students in the classroom to learn language appropriately.
2. The teacher who teaches mass communication at different levels of schools and colleges might consider the findings of the study.
3. Students and the news readers may understand the formation of the news headlines based on the findings of the study.
4. Textbook writers may consider the basic nature of lexical, rhetorical and syntactic features of newspaper headlines while writing text books based on the findings of the study.

5.3.3 Further Research Related

Headlines act as a forerunner to the news reports. That is, readers tend to read the headline before they read the news article. Moreover, headlines serve three important functions. First they provide a brief summary of the main news to the reader; hence, readers do not have to read the whole story to capture the point. Second, they attract attention. Headlines distract people's attention by various font sizes and vocabulary used. Third, they often provide an initial indicator of the content and style of the news values of the newspaper. This is important for the way in which the newspaper appeals to its audience. So the study on the language of newspaper headlines is very fruitful and beneficial to the teachers, students and the textbook writers of mass media. However, this study is not complete in itself. So other many researches can be conducted in this field.

No work is final and no research is complete itself. The present research is unable to occupy several areas related to the topic. Other possible areas of study in this field are;

- a. Role of newspaper headlines in language teaching
- b. Critical discourse analysis of language of newspaper headlines
- c. The linguistic features used in newspaper advertisement

So, the upcoming researchers may conduct other many research studies in the field of language of newspaper which assists the study of mass media.

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Appendix I

Observation Checklist: The Kathmandu Post

Lexical Features

| Date | Headline | Abbr. | Short. | Com. | Fuz. | Prop. |
|--------|--|-------|--------|------|------|-------|
| Aug 26 | Peace agreement in <i>Colombia</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 26 | <i>Solo</i> slapped with 6 – month ban | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 27 | <i>PM</i> to ‘intake initiatives’ to address <i>Dr.KC</i> ’s demands | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Aug 27 | <i>VeriskIT</i> claim trophy | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 28 | No change in statute at the cost of national interest, <i>UML</i> insists | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 28 | <i>Sirigu</i> set for <i>Sevilla</i> move | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 29 | Motion on <i>CIAA</i> chief loses steam after <i>NC</i> ’s <i>Thapa</i> becomes minister | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 29 | Runs galore as <i>Windieswin</i> | | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Aug 30 | <i>UN</i> officials, <i>PM</i> discuss peace process, <i>post- quake</i> recovery | ✓ | | ✓ | | |
| Aug 30 | <i>Proteas</i> in command | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 31 | <i>PM</i> to lead ‘Sleek’ teams to <i>India</i> , <i>US</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 31 | <i>Arsenal</i> seal <i>Perez</i> deal | | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 1 | <i>Morcha</i> ’s <i>black day</i> , <i>govt</i> ’s celebration | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Sep 1 | <i>England</i> blast highest ever to total | | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 2 | Preparation for <i>PM</i> ’s <i>India</i> visit in full <i>Swing</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 2 | <i>Mourinho</i> laments timing of <i>Int’l</i> break | | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Sep 3 | <i>Japan</i> asks <i>EASA</i> to ensure engine safety | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 3 | <i>Messi</i> makes winning return, <i>Brazil</i> sinks <i>Ecuador</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 4 | <i>Philippines</i> declares ‘state of <i>lawlessness</i> ’ after bomb kills 14 | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Sep 4 | <i>Messi</i> to miss <i>Venezuela</i> game | | | | | ✓ |

Rhetorical Features

| Date | Headline | Meta. | Allit. | Rhy. | Idio. |
|--------|--|-------|--------|------|-------|
| Aug 26 | Peace agreement in Colombia | | | | |
| Aug 26 | <i>Solo slapped</i> with 6 – month ban | ✓ | ✓ | | |
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| Aug 27 | Verisk IT claim trophy | ✓ | | | |
| Aug 28 | No change in statute at the cost of national interest, UML insists | | | | |
| Aug 28 | <i>Sirigu set</i> for <i>Sevilla</i> move | | ✓ | | |
| Aug 29 | Motion on CIAA chief loses steam after NC’s Thapa becomes minister | | | | |
| Aug 29 | Runs galore as <i>Windies</i> win | | ✓ | | |
| Aug 30 | UN officials, PM discuss peace process, post-quake recovery | | | | |
| Aug 30 | Proteas in command | | | | |
| Aug 31 | PM to lead ‘Sleek’ teams to India, US | | | | |
| Aug 31 | <i>Arsenal seal</i> <i>Perez deal</i> | | | ✓ | |
| Sep 1 | <i>Morcha’s black day</i> , govt,s celebration | ✓ | | | |
| Sep 1 | England blast highest ever to total | ✓ | | | |
| Sep 2 | Preparation for PM’s India visit in full Swing | ✓ | | | |
| Sep 2 | Mourinho laments timing of Int’l break | | | | |
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|-------|----------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--|
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| Sep 4 | Messi to miss Venezuela game | | | ✓ | | |

Appendix II

Observation Checklist: The Himalayan Times

Lexical Features

| Date | Headline | Abbr | Short | Com. | Fuz. | Prop |
|--------|---|------|-------|------|------|------|
| Aug 26 | <i>Congress finalizes Ministers' names, swearing- in today</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 26 | <i>West Ham suffer shock defeat, knocked out of Europa League</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 27 | <i>Meeting of SAARC finance ministers</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 27 | <i>France court mulls lifting burkini ban</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 28 | <i>'PM committed to tabling bill before he visits India'</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 28 | <i>South African batsmen flourish against Kiwis</i> | | | ✓ | | |
| Aug 29 | <i>Restructure local bodies by mid-Jan : EC</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Aug 29 | <i>Du Plessis ton puts South Africa on top</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Aug 30 | <i>NWA election begins</i> | ✓ | | | | |
| Aug 30 | <i>Aussies cast off woes with national lap of honour at Opera House</i> | | | | | |
| Aug 31 | <i>Djokovicovercomes injury scares, Nadal wins</i> | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| Aug 31 | <i>PM seeks options to restructure local bodies</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 1 | <i>Steyn strikes as SA clinch series</i> | ✓ | | | | |
| Sep 1 | <i>Aussies defeat Sri Lanka , clinch ODI series in Dambulla</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 2 | <i>Govt reappoints Upadhayay as envoy to India</i> | | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Sep 2 | <i>Luiz back at Blues, Foxes break transfer record</i> | | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 3 | <i>'Bill may be tabled after prime minister's India, US tour'</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ |

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|-------|--|--|---|--|--|---|
| Sep 3 | <i>PushpaSadan</i> in final | | | | | ✓ |
| Sep 4 | Statute amendment <i>thru</i> consensus: <i>Deuba</i> | | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| Sep 4 | <i>Sherpa</i> wins seventh edition title | | | | | ✓ |

Rhetorical Features

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West Ham suffer shock defeat, knocked out of Europa League

Agence France Presse
Paris, August 26

English Premier League club West Ham suffered a shock defeat by Romanian side Astra Giurgiu on Thursday that saw them knocked out of the Europa League in a mirror image of last season's campaign.

Slaven Bilic's side had left the tie in the balance after a disappointing 1-1 away draw a week ago and that result came back to haunt them as Astra took the lead on the stroke of half-time through Filipe Teixeira.

West Ham were guilty of slack defending as Daniel Niculae found Teixeira free in the box with the striker rolling the ball past Darren Randolph. That was enough to hand the Romanians a 2-1 victory on aggregate, mirroring Astra's 4-3 win over the Hammers at the same stage

of Europe's second-tier club competition last season, a hammerblow for West Ham fans hoping to see more European football at the club's new Olympic Stadium base.

In other results, French side Saint-Etienne endured a torrid final 45 minutes at stade Geoffroy-Guichard after goalkeeper Stephane Ruffier was sent off on the stroke of half time for punching Beitar Jerusalem striker Itay Shechter. The Israeli striker had collided with the French keeper with his studs showing in a seemingly genuine attempt to play the ball and Les Verts' Ruffier was appropriately sent off for his reaction.

Despite the red carding, Christophe Galtier's side were never really under threat and saw out a 0-0 draw to progress to the group stages of the Europa League after winning 2-1

in Israel. Italian side Sassuolo, who finished sixth in Serie A last year, qualified for the first time in their history for a European competition after a lacklustre 1-1 draw against Serbia's Crvena Zvezda.

Belgian side Anderlecht were another high profile team to progress to the next round after they despatched Salvia Prague 3-0 to complete a 6-0 aggregate win. Greek side Panathinaikos also advanced to the competitions group stage after a 1-1 draw against Danish side Brondby. The Greeks had won the 1st leg 3-0 giving them an overall win of 4-1 on aggregate.

Turkish side Fenerbahce logically advanced to group stages after outclassing Swiss outfit Grasshoppers. The Turks scored two second half goals through Fernandao and Miloslav Stoch to guarantee qualification.

Restructure local bodies by mid-Jan: EC

Himalayan News Service
Kathmandu, August 29

The Election Commission today reinforced its statement that it wanted restructuring of local bodies and election-related laws at least four months ahead of the election date.

"Holding discussion with members of the Local Bodies' Restructuring Commission at the office of EC yesterday, Chief Election Commissioner Ayodhi Prasad Yadav said the report of the restructuring commission should be implemented and election laws should be brought at least four

months before the election date," Spokesperson for the EC Surya Prasad Sharma stated today. As the government has announced local polls by mid-April, the restructuring of local bodies and framing of election laws should be accomplished by mid-January to address the EC's concern.

Yadav said early restructuring of the local bodies was imperative to ensure free and fair civic polls. "Once the commission gives its report, it will be easier for the EC to prepare for polls," Yadav added. The Parliament is yet to pass new laws related to elections at all three

levels - local bodies, provinces and the Parliament - as per the provision of the new constitution.

In response, Chairman of Local Bodies' Restructuring Commission Balaramdas Paudel and members of the commission had reported to the EC that they were working to forge consensus among political parties on disputed issues related to restructuring, said the EC statement.

They also expressed commitment that the restructuring commission would work in a way to support the Election Commission.

Verisk IT claim trophy



■ Players and officials of Verisk IT celebrate after winning the UIC Cup in Kathmandu on Saturday. POST PHOTO

POST REPORT

KATHMANDU, AUG 27

Verisk , Information Technologies on Saturday claimed the third edition of the UIC Cup Corporate Indoor Cricket Tournament title.

In the final match at the Ultimate Indoor Cricket facility in Koteshwor, Verisk edged Century Bank by eight runs. Batting first, Century made 62 in their allotted 12 overs before Verisk replied with 70. Arjun Aryal of Verisk was named the man-of-the-series that won him a round trip

indoor cricket

ticket from Fly Dubai.

Earlier in the semi-finals, Verisk defended a low total of 64 runs restricting Citizens Bank to 41 in reply for a 23-run victory. Century had eased past Youwe Home by 73 runs in their last four match after putting on 113 runs while batting first. Youwe were shut down for 40 runs. Century had overcome Mega Bank by 62 runs in the Qualifier before they slipped in the final.

Diwash Bhattarai (batsman), Suraj Timalsina (bowler), Bishnu Tiwari (fielder)

and Sushan Devkota (wicket-keeper) were other individual award winners. The 11-day tournament was organised by Ultimate Indoor Cricket with 21 teams fighting for the title.

The 12-over-a-side match at the indoor consists of six players in each team. Every single individual has to bowl two overs, while each batting pair will get to play four full overs with each dismissal deducting five runs from the team's total. The chasing side has to play full 12 overs even if it manages to overhaul the target early.

Morcha's black day, govt's celebration

POST REPORT
KATHMANDU, SEPT 1

As the government prepares to celebrate the first anniversary of promulgation of the country's new constitution, the agitating parties have decided to observe it as the black day.

The constitution drafted by the Constituent Assembly was adopted on September 20 last year amid protests from Madhesi and Tharu forces in which more than 50 people including security personnel were killed.

The Madhes-based parties have refused to take ownership of the charter, insisting that they would own it up only after the government makes further amendments to address their demands.

The government has announced to celebrate the historic occasion from September 17 to 19 with events across the country. President Bidhya Devi Bhandari and heads of the constitutional bodies are scheduled to attend

Madhes-based parties
to organise events to
honour their martyrs

the main event to be organised at Tundhikhel.

The Samyukta Loktantrik Madhesi Morcha, an alliance of the Madhes-based parties, has already decided to observe the occasion as the black day. Morcha, which did not take part first in the constitution drafting process and then in the voting, has been demanding major changes in the constitution that, according to them, discriminates against a certain section of the society.

The constitution was imposed upon the disgruntled people through the use of force, said Sadbhawana Party Chairman Rajendra Mahato. Morcha affiliates are organising events to honour the protesters who died during the Madhes movement. For instance, the Parsa chapter of the Madhesi Morcha has been observing a martyrs' week.

PM seeks options to restructure local bodies

Prakash Acharya

Kathmandu, August 31

Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal today met Local Bodies' Restructuring Commission chief Balananda Paudel in Baluwatar, discussed with him alternatives to settle disputes regarding restructuring of local bodies and instructed him to proceed with the task as per its mandate.

PM Dahal said he would also continue his efforts to forge consensus among political parties on the issue by mid-September. Dahal had urged Paudel to work keeping in mind that local bodies' election would be held by mid-April, sources said.

Dahal asked Paudel whether the number of village councils and municipalities could be increased from 565 to address demands of the main opposition party, Nepali Congress, and some other parties, according to the commission's member Sunil Ranjan Singh. Paudel, however, told the PM that it would not be appropriate to increase the number, as more local bodies than the proposed number would not be economically viable and sustainable and would need larger staff and more economic resources to exercise their rights and duties. Paudel told Dahal that the commission was mandated to increase the number only nominally.

House panel's instructions

KATHMANDU: A meeting of the Development Committee of the Legislature Parliament on Wednesday instructed the Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development to restructure local bodies at the earliest.

The panel also instructed Office of Prime Minister and Council of Ministers and Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs to bring bills related to local bodies' election at the earliest. Stating that the implementation of constituency development programme was getting delayed in the absence of any regulation, the panel instructed MoFALD to bring the required regulation. — HNS

del told the PM that if the parties wanted, they could amend the constitution and mention about transforming llakas into local bodies instead of restructuring the local bodies.

Three major parties are divided over the number of local bodies -- the NC has sought around 1,000