

**LANGUAGE DEVIATION IN SMS:
GRAPHOLOGY AND GRAMMAR**

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

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DECLARATION

I here by 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.

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DEDICATION

Dedicated

*to my parents and sisters without whom I would not
be in the position where I am now.*

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ABSTRACT

The present study entitled 'Language deviations in SMS: Graphology and Grammar', is an attempt to describe the language deviations in English SMS text messages with reference to Graphology and Grammar. The study also aims to pin-point the determinants for the use of deviant form of language in SMS text messages. The study is based on the both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary sources of data were the secondary level English teachers from Kathmandu Valley. The secondary sources of data for this study were the SMSes collected from the mobile users of secondary level English teachers from Kathmandu valley. The major findings of the study are that the language of SMS text message is deviated and the deviations can occur at both graphology and grammar. The determinants for graophological deviations are: economy regarding time, text and money; no separate keys for all letters; informal communication; to be unique and creative in the message; to amuse the readers; establish trend or fashion; message is more important than its form; laziness; haste; for secrecy; not so important in SMS; not always possible to write the whole words; time consuming and nuisance; no one to one correspondence between sounds and spelling; homophonic alphabets to refer to words; homophonic numbers to refer to words. And the determinants for grammatical deviations are: economy in terms of time, text and money; established trend or fashion; maintain secrecy; informal communication; not always possible for lengthy completeness; message is more important than its form; not necessary in SMS; meanings are clear without them; minor role in language; information can be conveyed through content words.

This study incorporates four main chapters and other many sub-chapters. The first chapter deals with the general background of the study, review of the related literature, objectives and significance of the study. The second chapter consists of the methodology, data gathering procedure, and limitations of the study. Similarly, the third chapter includes the analysis and interpretation of data. In the same way, the fourth chapter presents findings and recommendations based on the analysis and interpretation of the collected data. The final part of the study consists of references and appendices.

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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ATM	:	Automated Teller Machine
Aux	:	Auxiliary
CDMA	:	Code Division Multiple Access
Cont.	:	Containing
DO	:	Direct Object
Eng.	:	English
ETSI	:	Europe Telecommunication Standards Institute
GPRS	:	General Packet Radio Service
GSM	:	Global System for Mobile Communication
IDEG	:	Implementation of Data and Telemetric Services Experts Group
Prep	:	Preposition
SMS	:	Short Message Service
SMSC	:	Short Message Service Center
SMSTM No.	:	SMS text message number
Su.	:	Subject

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

This is the general introduction of the whole thesis. The study is about the language deviations in SMS with reference to graphology and grammar. Introduction consists of different headings and sub-headings. General background, review of the related literature, objectives and significance of the study are the major headings under introduction.

1.1 General Background

Language is primarily a means of communication. It is the most widely used means of communication. Language like other forms of social activity has to be appropriate to the speaker, receiver, situation and subject matter. Effective communication demands not only the grammatically correct utterances but situationally appropriate as well.

The expression, 'shut the door', for example is grammatically correct but to use this to one's superior, say to his boss, is not acceptable. Similarly, to use literary language for scientific purposes will be a mistake. So language varies not only according to the social characteristics. (e.g. class, caste, sex, education, etc) of the speaker, but also according to the social context in which s/he finds himself.

The same speaker uses different linguistic varieties in different situations and for different purposes. These different varieties suitable to the situations are registers. Cheshire (1992), Downes (1994) and Biber (1988) say that "the term Register is widely used in sociolinguistics to refer to 'varieties according to use" (as cited in Hudson 1980, p.45). A register is used by a particular group of people, usually sharing the same occupation (e.g. doctors, lawyers) or the same interests (e.g. stamp collection, cricket fans). A particular register often distinguishes itself from other registers by having a number of distinctive words, by using words or phrases

in a particular way (e.g. in tennis: deuce, love, tramlines), and some times by special grammatical constructions (e.g. legal language).

Halliday, McIntosh , and Strevens, P. (1978) distinguishes three general types of dimensions: 'field', 'mode', and 'tenor'. Field is concerned with the purpose and subject matter of the communication, mode refers to the means by which communication takes place-notably, by speech or writing and tenor depends on the relations between participants (p. 33).

The types of registers, as distinguished by Halliday (ibid.) has been briefly discussed here:

a. Situation /tenor based register

The same speaker/user uses different varieties of a linguistic code according to where, when and to whom he is speaking. For example, formal and informal English.

b. Mode based register

The language used by the same person differs according to the channel (visual or auditory) he is using. Thus spoken and written varieties of language come under mode-based register.

c. Topic/field based register

The variety of language changes according to the subject matter or field about which one is talking such varieties are called field based registers. Literary English, scientific English, English for mass media, language used in the field of internet, telegraphic messages, SMS text messages etc. are the examples of topic/field based register.

As mentioned above, language is that widely used means of communication which varies according to the use (situation, mode and field). The language used in one field certainly differs from another field. As language of electronic media (i.e.

radio, television, film, Email etc) and print media (i.e. books, manuals, newspapers, magazines, brochures, banners etc.) have their own kind of language, the other media of communication, the SMS has brought along its own language. The language of SMS mirrors the new communication technology. It is unpredictable, unrestricted and evolves at an incredible speed. The research will try to account some linguistic deviations found in the language of SMS text messages and will also try to find out the determinants for using deviant form of language in SMS text messages.

1.1.2 What is SMS?

SMS stands for '**short message service**'. It is a technology that enables the sending and receiving of messages between mobile phones. It is a service available on most digital mobile phones other mobile devices and some fixed phones, that permits the sending of short messages between mobile phones and even landline telephone. The terms text messaging, text messages, more colloquially SMSes, text, or even texts and their variants are more commonly used in North America, the UK, Spain and the Philippines while most other countries prefer the term SMS.

SMS first appeared in Europe in 1992. It was included in the GSM (Global System for mobile communication) standards right at the beginning. Later it was ported to wireless technologies like CDMA and TDMA. The GSM and SMS standards were originally developed by ETSI (Europe Telecommunication standards Institute).

As suggested by the name "short message service", the data that can be held by an SMS message is very limited. One SMS message can contain at most 140 bites (1120 bits) of data, so one SMS message can contain up to 160 characters if 7-bit character encoding is used (7-bit character encoding is suitable for encoding Latin characters like English alphabets). SMS text messaging supports language

internationally. It works fine with all languages supported by Unicode, including Arabic, Chinese, Japanese and Korean.

Besides texts, SMS messages can also carry binary data. It is possible to send ringtones, pictures, operator logos, wallpapers, animations, business cards and WAP configurations to a mobile phone with SMS message. One major advantage of SMS is that it is supported by 100 per cent GSM mobile phones. Almost all subscription provided by wireless carriers include inexpensive messaging service. Unlike SMS, mobile technologies such as WAP and mobile Java are not supported on many old mobile phone models.

SMS as defined within Global system for mobile communication (GSM) digital mobile phone standard that is popular in Europe, the middle East, Asia, Africa and some parts of North America has several unique features. A single SMS can be up to 160 characters of text in length, those 160 characters can comprise of words and numbers combination. Non-text based SMS (for example, in binary format) are also supported.

SMS is a store and forward service, in other words, SMS is not directly from sender to recipient but always via SMS center. Each mobile telephone network that supports SMS has one or more messaging centers to handle and manage the short messages. SMS features confirmation of message delivery. This means that users do not simply send SMS and trust and hope that it gets delivered. Instead the sender of the short message can receive a delivery report notifying them whether the SMS has been delivered or not (Source: http.info@smsagent.net, retrieved on 14 November 2010).

1.1.2 Use of SMS

There are different kinds of SMS beliefs on the market today and many others are being developed. Applications in which SMS messaging can be utilized are virtually unlimited. Some major uses of SMS are described below:

a. Person to Person Message

Nowadays, it is very common for mobile phone users to communicate with each other using SMS. Typically, person to person messaging is used for various purposes like:

- i. Everyday Function: greeting, welcoming, farewell, apologizing, thanking, introducing etc.
- ii. Request and offers: Favours, praise, Sympathy etc.
- iii. Direct function: Agreeing/disagreeing, refusing, ordering, persuading, etc.
- iv. Asking about/Expressing : Surprise/amazement likes, dislike, interest, disinterest, anger, etc.
- v. Asking about/Stating: Advice, decision, choices, ability, prohibition, opinions, conditions etc. (Source: <http://info@smsagent.net>, retrieved on 14 November 2010)

SMS is an ideal messaging medium when the information to be communicated is short or when it takes too long to have a full conversation. It is useful when someone is traveling overseas or not available to take a voice call. It is very useful when someone is in a noisy place to receive the call. The effectiveness of using SMS as a communication media is high as both senders and recipients find it easy to compose, send, read and reply short messages. Once users have familiarized themselves with reading and sending short messages they often find that SMS is a useful way of exchanging information and keeping in touch with friends and family members.

b. Voice and fax mail Notification

SMS is also often used to notify mobile phone users that they have new voice or fax messages waiting. An alert via SMS is dispatched into the mailbox.

c. Downloading Ring Tones, Logos, Icons or Picture Message

Another emerging SMS- based application is the downloading of ringtones, logos, icons or picture message. SMS messages can carry binary data and so SMS can be used as the transport medium of wireless downloads.

d. Load of Content /Time/Space etc.

SMS is economic medium of communication. It is economic regarding its content, time, space and money. This is the era of 21st century. people are more concerned with their own business. They are busy and have no time to share their feelings face to face. So, to save their time, people are making the use of SMS in their daily communication. No matter how far they are, how long content they have and how little time they have, they communicate their feelings and emotions in very short forms i.e. SMS through mobiles. For them SMS is the chief way of communication in their daily life.

e. Provision of Information

Through SMS we can get various information from the service provider. The information such as current news, weather report, date and time, financial data, horoscopes etc. can be sent from the service provider. Many of these services are not free of charge.

f. SMS-Voting

SMS-voting is one of the most popular modern application in the SMS technology. We can directly and indirectly take part in different contests. We can easily involve ourselves in various cultural and political contests through the use of SMS.

1.1.3 Benefits of SMS

Mobile phone or cellular telephone, (commonly, 'mobile phone' or 'cell phone') is a long range, portable electronic device which is basically used for verbal communication. In addition to the verbal communication, mobile is used as a sending and receiving device. Every time verbal communication is not possible. At that time SMS works as a good means of communication. For example, when a serious meeting is running in the office or in the hospital ward (i.e. No speaking or silent zone) at that time the particular participant can not communicate verbally, but can send message silently. SMS is also equally important when we are in the noisy place, where we can not understand the voice call. Some benefits of SMS have been listed below:

- i. Delivery of notification and alerts.
- ii. Guaranteed message delivery.
- iii. Higher speed of delivery.
- iv. Reliable, low-cost communication mechanism for concise information.
- v. Ability to screen message and return calls in a selective way.
- vi. Increased subscriber productivity.

(Source: <http://www.ntc.net.np>, retrieved on 14 November 2010)

1.1.4 Limitations of SMS

There is no doubt that SMS has been very popular. What is more interesting to observe is that this popularity has been in spite of many limitations of SMS. Many of these limitations are the driving force behind the developments and initiatives being taken in the field of short messaging. Some of the limitations of SMS are:

(Source: <http://info@smsagent.net>, retrieved on 14 November 2010)

- i. Messages are plain vanilla in nature. We can only send simple text messages. There is no scope for any graphics or audio.

- ii. The messages are limited by size. An SMS message can't exceed 160 characters. In case of longer e-mails or information service messages like news, the messages need to be broken down into more than one message. The need to break the messages into several smaller segments could make SMS comparatively costlier in comparison to GPRS (for the same kind of service). Also, this doesn't look very appealing on a mobile device!.
- iii. The limitation of easy input mechanisms in mobile devices makes it very uncomfortable sending messages larger than even 5-6 words.
- iv. Many proprietary protocols are used by SMS operators and application developers need to implement different interfaces for making their applications work with different SMS centers. X.25 is used as a popular protocol for connecting with SMS centers.
- v. The store and forward nature of SMS, though useful in many applications makes SMS not very suitable.

1.1.5 Language of SMS

As mentioned above in the introduction, the language of SMS text messages is different from the language used in other field. The language of SMS text message is unique in its manner. There are different aspects which make the language of SMS different from other field of language. Luitel (2007) concluded that the excessive use of simple sentences, incorrect spelling, self created abbreviation, use of numbers to refer to a word, use of single letter to refer to a word, use of non-linguistic sings, code-mixing and excessive use of informal language are some of the major characteristic features of the language used in SMS text messages.

Consequently, the language used in the field of SMS seems to have various absurdities in comparison to other forms of language. From linguistic point of view they tend to carry the language full of error.

1.1.6 Language of SMS: Errors or Deviations

Due to its various absurdities, the language of SMS text message can be seen as an erroneous language from the linguistic point of view. So it is very important to make a distinction between an error and a deviation. In this connection Widdowson (1984) says: “An error is taken as evidence of deficient competence in the language and calls for correction. a deliberate literary deviation on the other hand is taken as evidence of more than common mastery” (p.153).

Therefore, the distortion in SMS text message is also deliberately fashioned for an effect. One does not react by accusing the sender (i.e. message creator or sender) like sender of incompetence and incorrect in English. Hence we can undoubtedly say that the language of SMS is a deviant form of language but not the language full of error.

1.1.7 Deviations in English SMS Text Message

In its general sense, the term 'deviation' refers to 'a difference from what is normal or acceptable.' It is the distortion of the norms of standard. According to Crystal (2003), "Deviation is a term used in linguistic analysis to the characteristic of a sentence or other language unit which does not confirm to the rules of grammar" (p.134).

Similarly, Abrams (2005) defines deviation as "Deviation corresponds to the traditional idea of poetic license : the writer of literature is allowed in contrast to everyday speaker- to deviate from rules, maxims or convention" (p.230).

Regarding SMS text messages, the senders ignore the rules and conventions generally observed by the users of the language. They ignore the rules and conventions of standard written text in matters such as syntax, spelling, word order, etc. Hence, the language of SMS is the deviant form of discourse. It is the linguistic freedom enjoyed by the sender (i.e. Message creator)

1.1.8 Types of Language Deviation

There are different types of language deviation. The linguistic deviation can be found at different levels of language. According to Leech (1969), "There are mainly three levels of language (i.e. Realization, form and semantics) where the deviations occur" (p.37).

The three levels of language as referred to Leech (ibid.) has been given in the table below:

Table No. 1
Three Levels of Language

Realization	Form	Semantics
Phonology Graphology	Grammar and Lexicon	(Denotative or conotative meaning)

Apart from these three levels of language, Leech (ibid) also talks about other ancillary branches of linguistics. They are dialectology, register study and historical linguistics. These are the three different dimensions on which the three patterns presented in the table 1 are liable to vary. Dialectology is the study of dialect; register study, as its name implies, takes in to account of register; and historical linguistics charts the development of language through time. We can also account for the deviation based on these three dimensions.

Following Leech (ibid.), there are eight types of language deviations. They are briefly described as follows:

i. Phonological deviation

Phonology, one of the realizations of language, refers to the study of the meaning potential of clusters of sounds. For Widdowson (1984),"The phonology of English requires no alliteration, assonance, rhyme or metric measure in message forms (p.

154)". But , in some genre, like the language of poetry makes abundant use of those phonological devices. Therefore, the language of poetry is taken as the phonologically deviant genre.

ii. Graphological deviation

The term 'graphology' is somewhat wider than the more usual term 'orthography', as it refers to the whole writing system: punctuations, spelling, typography, alphabet and paragraph structure. Any strangeness in the use of these causes deviation in the language.

iii. Lexical deviation

The two parts, the lexicon and the grammar, together comprise the formal aspect of the language. They are in the 'both-and' relationship. The process of word formation by adding a prefix or a suffix to an item or joining together two items without following the conventions is taken as one of the main examples of lexical deviations.

iv. Grammatical deviation

By grammatical deviations, we mean the violation of the rules of grammar. The violation of collocations, the disjointed syntax, the use of incomplete clauses/sentences, omission of the obligatory grammatical function, etc. are some examples of grammatical deviations.

v. Semantic deviation

Any oddities found in the transference of meaning in the language is known as semantic deviation. Redundancy, ambiguity, indeterminacy and the use of metaphors are taken as some of the devices of semantic deviations.

vi. Dialectal deviation

Dialect is that variety of language which is distinguished according to the user. In some prose or poetry writing, we can find dialectics, i.e. the borrowing of features of socially or regionally defined dialects. It is minor form of license not generally available to the average writer of fictional prose, who is expected to write in the generally accepted and understood dialect known as 'Standard English'.

vii. Deviation of registers

By register, we mean that variety of language distinguished according to the use. One language user mixes the language of one register with that of another one leading the deviation of registers.

viii. Deviation of historical period

The language user has 'the freedom of the language' in the sense that he is not restricted to the language of his own particular period. The language user take language items from the dead languages such as Latin, Greek, Sanskrit etc. though whatever important changes the language may have undergone in the meantime.

1.1.9 Graphological Deviation in the Language of SMS

Widdowson (1984) states:

“The term 'graphology' is some what wider than the more usual term 'orthography', as it refers to the whole writing system: punctuation, spelling, typography, alphabet, abbreviations and paragraph structure. Phonology and graphology are in an 'either-or' relationship. To the extent the spelling represents pronunciation, any strangeness of pronunciation will be reflected by a strangeness of written form (p.154)’’.

In this way, the distortion in the whole writing system: punctuation, spelling, typography, alphabet, abbreviations and paragraph structure lead to the graphological deviation, which can also be found in the language of SMS text messages.

Harmer (2001) says:

Although incorrect spelling does not prevent the understanding of a written message, it can be adversely affect the reader's judgment. All too often bad spelling is perceived as a lack of education or care. This is not necessarily the case in emails, and SMS text messages have spellings and 'words' all of their own (p.324).

The manner of the text does not prevent the understanding of a message. In the case of SMS and emails, the manner of the text is not important. What is important is only the matter or content.

1.1.10 Grammatical Deviation in the Language of SMS

By grammatical deviation, we mean the violation of the rules of grammar. The language of SMS mostly follows 'asyntactic' styles. To distinguish between the many different types of grammatical deviation, it is well to start with the line traditionally drawn between morphology (the grammar of the word) and syntax (the grammar of how words pattern within sentences).

In this way, the violation of collocation, the disjointed syntax, the use of incomplete clauses/sentences, omission of the obligatory grammatical function etc. are some of the examples of grammatical deviation. And which can also be found in the language of SMS text message.

1.2 Review of the Related Literature

Very few studies have been carried out in the language of SMS text messages. It is quite a new field of study in our context. Some works and researches related to find out this topic in some way are reviewed here:

Sapkota (2005) conducted a research entitled 'A study on the Language used in email, chat and text messaging (SMS)'. The researcher has attempted to the characteristic features of the English language used in e-mail, chat groups and SMS in the morphological level, syntactic level and language functions etc. The data for his study was selected by using judgmental sampling procedure. The study reveals that the language of net-speak is very informal and hybrid of both written and oral conventions. It also shows that grammatically incomplete sentences, ellipsis of auxiliaries and models, deletion of pronoun, code switching are the common features of e-discourse. Similarly, Luitel (2006) gave his views about the communication of modern world in his research entitled " Language study on SMS: A descriptive study". His main objective of the study was to find out the language used in SMS by English language teachers and non- English language teachers. For this he collected the data from the sampling population using quota sampling. His main finding of the study was simple sentences are used maximally by non-English language teachers and English language teachers commit fewer mistakes than non-English language teachers. Likewise, Adhikari (2007) conducted the research entitled "Language Deviation in poetry: A case of the poems prescribed for the B.Ed. students". The research is an attempt to identify and describe the kinds of language deviation found in the poems prescribed in the course 'Teaching English literature' (Eng. Ed. 392). The study is solely based on the secondary sources of data. The main findings of the study is deviation at all the levels of language is not necessary condition for poetry though

it can occur at all the levels of language and the semantic level of language in poetry is more deviated than other language levels.

In the same way, Miyata (2007) conducted the research entitled 'Types of Linguistic Deviation in Oliver Twist'. She applied the principles proposed by Leech in the prosaic English. She discussed six different types of linguistic deviation found in 'Oliver Twist' leaving out the dialectal deviation and deviation of historical period. The study is solely based on the secondary sources of data. She concluded that the language of 'Oliver Twist' proved to have many interesting features of linguistic deviation. Likewise, Lohani (2008) carried out the research entitled "A Study on the Coding System of Short Message Service (SMS)". The research is an attempt to find out the trend of language of SMSes. The data have been collected from naturally occurring SMS of the T.U. students, businessmen and High school level teachers through their cell phones using non-probability quota sampling procedure. The researcher has not used other tools like interview and questionnaire for the collection of data. The study has presented comparative and descriptive analyses of the SMS and modern coding system. Especially the comparison is on different areas, such as various types of abbreviations, syntactic structures non-linguistic signs, numerals, code-mixing, formality of languages etc.

Although the above mentioned studies are related to the language of SMS and the language deviations, no study has been carried out on the language deviations in SMS regarding the two aspects: graphology and grammar. Therefore, the present study aims to describe the language deviation in English SMS text message with reference to graphology and grammar. The study also aims to pin-point the determinants for the use of deviant form of language in SMS text message. This research is different from the researches reviewed above in its subject matters, objectives and methodology.

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study were as follows:

- a. To describe the language deviation in English SMS text messages with reference to the following two aspects of language:
 - i. graphology
 - ii. grammar
- b. To pin-point the determinants for the use of deviant forms of language in SMS text message.
- c. To suggest some pedagogical implications.

1.4 Significance of the Study

The study deals with the deviant language of SMS text messages. SMS text message is such a thing which is to be enjoyed not in terms of its manner (i.e. physical aspect of the text) but in terms of its matter (i.e. content or meaning). This study will be significant especially for the students of applied linguistics who have a keen interest in the deviant language of SMS text message.

This study will be equally advantageous to the student, teacher and syllabus designers as well. It is obvious that all the people involving in the use of mobile phone will be benefited by it.

It is, therefore, expected to be useful as a reference material for all those who are involved in teaching, and learning about the changing nature of language especially which is influenced by modern technology (i.e. use of language in SMS text messages).

CHAPTER TWO

METHODOLOGY

This chapter incorporates the description of the sources of data, sampling procedure, tools for data collection and processes of data collection. It also comprises the description of the limitations of the study.

2.1 Sources of Data

Both primary and secondary sources of data were used to carry out the research.

2.1.1 Primary Sources of Data

The primary sources of data for this study were the secondary level English teachers from Kathmandu valley.

2.1.2 Secondary Sources of Data

The secondary sources of data for this study were the SMSes collected from the mobile users of secondary level English teachers from Kathmandu valley. The SMSes were only the outgoing used by SMS users in their natural communication. In addition to this, books, articles, journals, websites and previous research works that are carried out in this department were the secondary sources of data for this study.

2.2 Sampling Procedure

The researcher applied quota sampling which is mostly used in non-probability sampling design. For this, the researcher collected 200 English SMSes from the mobile users of secondary level 40 English teachers in the Kathmandu valley. All the SMSes were naturally communicated outgoing SMSes. Out of 200 SMSes,

five SMSes were collected from each teacher. After getting SMSes from each teacher, the questionnaire was prepared to elicit their opinions on the deviations. Finally, the researcher collected the questionnaire.

2.3 Tools for Data Collection

The researcher collected the SMSes sent by the mobile users requesting them for the purpose of the study. The researcher copied data from the sampling population with the help of his own mobile phone, computer, data cable etc. The researcher downloaded the SMSes using data cable and computer. He also used questionnaire as a tool for data collection.

2.4 Process of Data Collection

- a. The researcher visited the concerned people to collect SMSes and described the purpose of the study.
- b. The researcher requested and convinced them about the secrecy of their SMSes.
- c. The researcher asked them to forward their SMSes to the researcher's mobile.
- d. The researcher downloaded the forwarded SMSes with the help of data cable and computer.
- e. First the researcher analyzed the deviations in SMSes and then he distributed the questionnaire.
- f. Finally, the researcher collected the questionnaire.

2.5 Limitations of the Study

The study was carried out under the limitations given below:

- a. The study was limited to only graphological (capitalization, spacing between words, punctuation, mis-spelling, alphabet, abbreviation and numerals) and grammatical (incomplete clause and sentence; omission of grammatical functions like predicate, subject, subject+predicate, direct

object; omission of articles, auxiliaries and prepositions) deviations found in English SMS text messages.

- b. The study was limited to the SMS communication of English language teachers only.
- c. The research was carried out on the basis of the analysis of only 200 SMSes and 40 questionnaires.
- d. The non-linguistic aspects of language like facial expressions and body movements were not included under the scope of the study.

CHAPTER THREE

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

This chapter deals with the analysis and interpretation of data. The two major deviations (i.e. graphological and grammatical) found in SMS text messages have been analyzed and interpreted along the following lines:

3.1 Language Deviations in SMS Text Messages

Deviation involves a departure from a 'norm' or 'convention'. Different kinds of language deviations occur in the language of SMS. Deviation results from the intentional violation of the existing 'rules' of language. Deviation can take place at any level of language. The language deviations in the SMS text messages have been presented and analyzed below in relation to graphology and grammar in which it occurs.

3.1.1 Graphological Deviations in SMS

The language of SMS violates the usual 'norms' of graphology. Graphology comprises different devices like capitalization, spacing between words, punctuation, mis-spelling, alphabets, abbreviations, numerical and paragraph structure. The devices of graphological deviations with their examples which are found in the collected SMS text messages have been presented and analyzed below:

3.1.1.1 Capitalization

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding capitalization. The eccentric use of capitalization is found in SMS text messages. Here, the deviation regarding capitalization has been analyzed in the following table.

Table No. 2

Graphological Deviations Regarding Capitalization

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
8	Dipak sir plz <u>HOLD My CLASS</u> <u>2 Day ClAss 9 3rd</u> Period Coz <u>I'LL B</u> <u>LATE</u>	200	89	44.5
30	I don't think I'll continue the job. <u>VP IS CHANGING</u> <u>HIS COLOUR !</u>			
39	May b 2de, i'm ready 2 face <u>awasti. So nt</u> sure now 2 pas my proposal. <u>tirth</u> comng son may b with <u>sushil, kedar</u> n <u>ravi.do</u> masti.			

The above table shows that 44.5 per cent of the total SMS contains deviation regarding capitalization. As shown in the examples above, the use of capital letters is predominantly high in the SMS text messages. The entire letters in the sentences are found in capital letters in the SMSTM No. 8 and 30. As the unusual use of capital letters in the SMS text message, the use of small letters in the sentence initial and proper names' initial are also highly found. SMSTM No. 31 is an ample example for the eccentric use of small letters in the sentence initial and proper name's initial too.

3.1.1.2 Spacing between Words

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding spacing between words. The peculiar use of spacing between words is found in SMS text messages. Here, the deviation regarding spacing between words has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 3
Graphological Deviations Regarding Spacing between Words

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
76	@ wish _ u _ a _ very _ very Happy _ New _ Year 2011 @	200	28	14
99	Heaven <u>Is</u> DaPlace <u>Where</u> I <u>Would</u> Be Da <u>De</u> U <u>would</u> Stop <u>Loving</u> Me !			
112	U_R_Hearty _invited_2 My_syster's Mariz Date: 25th Mangsir 2067 Time: 11am_4PM Venu:Tara Party Palace Gairi Gau			

The above table shows that 14 per cent of the total SMS contains deviation regarding spacing between words. The SMSTM No. 76 and 112 in the above table show that the space between words in the SMS text messages is eccentrically high, which in fact create deviated language. There is not only the unusual use of spaces

between words in SMS text messages but also the use of closed words (without space between words) as in the SMSTM No. 99.

3.1.1.3 Punctuation

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding punctuation. The deviant use of punctuation is usual in SMS text messages. Here, the deviation regarding punctuation has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 4
Graphological Deviations Regarding Punctuation

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
14	B careful_shez principalzdater	200	102	51
53	By dawaycan u provide me ghimirez jiwan kanda ki ful 2de ?			
120	Whts dis ? But u said u loved me ! i'll never leav u bikash as long as i liv, thats wht u said isn't it ?			

The above table shows that 51 per cent of the total SMS contains deviation regarding punctuation. The SMSTM No. 14, 53 and 120 in the above table show that punctuation is remarkably used in the SMS text messages.

3.1.1.4 Mis-spelling

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding spelling. The use of mis-spelling has been usual in SMS text messages. Here, the deviation regarding spelling has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 5
Graphological Deviations Regarding Mis-spelling

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
17	<u>da starz</u> r out <u>da mun</u> is up 1 more hug 1 more smile <u>kis u</u> once <u>kis u</u> twice now its time <u>4</u> bed. <u>cloz</u> <u>ur eyz</u> , n sleep <u>tite</u> !	200	165	82.5
11	Hi <u>hapy</u> new <u>yr</u> 2011 2 <u>u al n ur</u> family. may <u>dis yr</u> bring <u>hapines</u> n prosperity in <u>ur</u> life <u>4ever</u> .			
57	<u>Thanx 4 msz</u> I'v <u>sml problm</u> if <u>pocibl I'l cam</u>			

The above table shows that 82.5 per cent of the total SMS contains mis-spelling. From the examples above it has been found that the maximum number of words in the SMS text messages are mis-spelled. The SMSTM No. 17, 11 and 57 shown in

the table are taken as the ample representative of SMS containing the words with mis-spelling.

3.1.1.5 Alphabets

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding alphabets. The peculiar use of alphabets has been a usual trend in the SMS text messages. Here, the deviation regarding alphabets has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 6
Graphological Deviations Regarding Alphabets

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
15	Ok sir, <u>b</u> der on time <u>C</u> <u>U</u> .	200	76	38
22	Com 2've <u>T</u> <u>n</u> Dipak sir also waiting <u>u</u> .			
60	<u>S</u> sir, i searched dem in da shop 2 <u>n</u> i don't think my <u>ies</u> <u>r</u> poor 2 <u>C</u> dem.			

The above table shows that 38 per cent of the total SMS contains deviation regarding alphabets. The SMSTM No. 15, 22 and 60 in the above table show that alphabets are astonishingly used in SMS text messages.

3.1.1.6 Abbreviations

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding abbreviations. The unusual use of self-created abbreviations has been a usual trend

in the SMS text messages. Here, the deviation regarding abbreviations has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 7
Graphological Deviations Regarding Abbreviations

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
92	By10 ! <u>OMG</u> , hw it be pocible ? I'm 16 KM away Lets met 2 moro 8 depart.	200	106	53
140	No matter the sky is black or blue, no matter there's stars or moon, as long as ur heart is true, sweet dreams will always <u>b</u> with <u>u</u> . <u>GN</u> !			
169	When u met inform me <u>ASAP</u> . <u>ATB</u> n <u>HAND</u> .			

The above table shows that 53 per cent of the total SMS contains deviation regarding abbreviations. From the above table it has been found that eccentric use of abbreviations is high in the SMS text messages, mostly the self-created abbreviations. The SMSTM No. 92, 140 and 169 in the above table are the ample representatives of SMS with unusual use of abbreviations.

3.1.1.7 Numericals

The language of SMS violates the usual norms of graphology regarding numericals. The use of numerical to convey words is another distinctive device to

describe the deviant language of SMS. Here, the deviation regarding numerals has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 8
Graphological Deviations Regarding Numericals

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
4	I wud never <u>4</u> get da eyes dat usd <u>2</u> stare <u>8</u> me: da arms dat usd <u>2</u> hug me; da lips dat usd <u>2</u> kis me: n da heart dat usd <u>2</u> love me: dats wy i wud nver <u>4</u> get u !!!	200	132	66
200	Proposal pas <u>b4</u> vacation nt pocible so in <u>10s</u> . mising u			
48	<u>4</u> geting u is hard <u>2</u> do <u>4</u> geting me is up <u>2</u> u <u>4</u> get me nt <u>4</u> get me neva but don't <u>4</u> get we r <u>gre8</u> <u>2</u> gether.			

The above table shows that 66 per cent of the total SMS contains deviations regarding numerals. It has been found that the use of numerals to refer to words is surprisingly high in the SMS text messages. The SMSTM No. 4, 200 and 48 shown in the above table are the ample examples with the deviant use of numerals.

3.1.2 Grammatical Deviations in SMS

Though the notion 'grammar' is very broad and vast, it has a very restricted meaning in this study since it refers to the study of surface syntactic arrangement. It comprises incomplete clauses and sentences; omissions of grammatical functions like omission of 'predicate, subject +predicate, direct object; omission of 'Auxiliaries'; omission of articles; and omission of prepositions. These devices of grammatical deviations with their examples have been presented and analyzed below:

3.1.2.1 Incomplete Clause

The grammatical aspect of SMS text messages is deviated from the usual conventions by the use of incomplete clauses. Here, the grammatical deviation in the SMS due to incomplete clauses has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 9

Grammatical Deviations Regarding Incomplete Clause

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
3	<u>As busy, nt receive u.</u> Sorry 4 that What hapend ? I'v No balance pls cal rigt nw.	200	44	22
29	Its our ill fate. he now momore. <u>da doctor arivd</u> <u>after died.</u>			
33	Me 2 hav nt put of the radio from my ears. what a silly news. Did u beliv ? The rumour <u>pm going2</u> <u>resign</u> is nt true.			

The above table shows that 22 percent of the total SMS contains grammatical deviation regarding incomplete clauses. The examples in the table show that people prefer incomplete clauses to complete clauses in the SMS text messages. The SMSTM No. 3, 29 and 33 are the ample examples of incomplete clauses in the SMS text messages.

3.1.2.2 Incomplete Sentences

The grammatical aspect of SMS text messages is deviated from the usual conventions by the use of incomplete sentences too. Here, the grammatical deviation in the SMS due to incomplete sentences has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 10
Grammatical Deviations Regarding Incomplete Sentences

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
66	__ coming balkhu. U also com __ else wil be late 2 set off.	200	92	46
111	_____ In clas. pls cal later.			
170	_____ Enjoying ? Don't forget to			

The above table shows that 46 percent of total SMS contains grammatical deviations due to incomplete sentences. It shows that people often use incomplete sentences in the SMS text messages. From the above table it can be clear that incomplete sentences can also equally contribute to make the language of SMS deviant. The SMSTM No. 66, 111 and 170 clearly depict incomplete sentences regarding grammatical deviations.

3.1.2.3 Omission of Grammatical Functions

The grammatical aspect of SMS text message is deviated from the usual conventions due to the omission of different grammatical functions like omission of predicate, subject, subject + predicate and direct object. Here, the grammatical deviation in the SMS due to omission of grammatical functions has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 11

Grammatical Deviations Regarding Omission of Grammatical Functions

SMSTM No.	Devices	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
44	Omission of 'p'	Hureeeeeee! Nepal won. _____ Jamuna hi hi !	200	43	21.5
56	Omission of 'su'	_____ studying right nw. _____ By 3._wait til i com.		68	34
59	Omission of 'su' + 'p'	_____nt. told but nt cam. wht iresponsibl ! I can't control dem alone. send Akash sir 2.		23	11.5
117	Omission of 'Do'	Talk _ whn i'm bored Kiss __whn i'm sad hug__ whn i cry care__whn i die luv__whn I'm still alive !		17	8.5
Total			200	151	75.5

The above table shows that 75.5 per cent of the total SMS contains grammatical deviations regarding omission of grammatical functions. Out of them 21.5 percent of SMSes were with the omission of 'p', 34 percent of SMSes were with the omission of 'su', 11.5 percent of SMSes were with the omission of 'su' + 'p' and 8.5 percent of SMSes were with the omission of 'Do'. From the above table it can be clear that omission of different grammatical functions like omission of predicate, subject, subject + predicate and direct object are some of the responsible aspects which make the language of SMS text messages grammatically deviant. The SMSTM No. 44, 56, 59 and 117 clearly depict omission of different grammatical functions respectively.

3.1.2.4 Omission of Auxiliaries

Omission of 'Aux' is also taken as one of the major deviations in describing grammatical deviations. The sentences without auxiliary verbs like 'be', 'do' and 'have' are found in the SMS text messages. Hence, the language of SMS violates the usual conventions of grammar due to the omission of auxiliary verbs. Here, grammatical deviation due to omission of auxiliary verbs has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 12
Grammatical Deviations Regarding Omission of 'Aux'

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
16	___ coming or nt ? ___ getting late yar. punctuality ?	200	39	19
69	Moon__shining stars __ twinkling hw i xpress u my heart__trimbling !			
77	Sister__already arived. __being late 4 tika pls. whre u ? com soon.			

The above table shows that 19 per cent of the total SMS contains grammatical deviations due to omission of 'aux'. The SMSTM No. 16, 69 and 77 are the ample examples with omission of 'aux'. It shows that people usually omit auxiliary verbs while creating SMS text messages.

3.1.2.5 Omission of Articles

The grammatical aspect of SMS text messages is different from the usual conventions due to the omission of articles in sentences. The sentences without articles are found in the SMS text messages. Here, grammatical deviations due to omission of articles have been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 13
Grammatical Deviations Regarding Omission of Articles

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
2	Wht__gud idea ! now its easy 2 Solve. pocibl in jestha ? if nt we think later. ok by.	200	44	22
47	anytime u lik.i go nowhre 2 de. But soner__better.			
82	Harka sir ? don't u know ! He is in__USA. By grace of IOM. Some of __ Bhutnese			

The above table shows that 31 per cent of the total SMS contains grammatical deviations due to the omission of preposition. The SMSTM No. 2, 47 and 82 in the above table show the omission of articles in the SMS text messages.

3.1.2.6 Omission of Prepositions

Omission of preposition is also taken as one of the major deviations in describing grammatical deviations. The sentences without prepositions are found in the SMS text messages. Hence, the language of SMS violates the usual conventions of grammar due to the omission of prepositions. Here, grammatical deviation due to omission of prepositions has been analyzed in the following table:

Table No. 14
Grammatical Deviations Regarding Omission of Prepositions

SMSTM No.	Examples	Total No. of SMS	Total No. of SMS Cont. Deviation	per cent of Deviation
6	Ask shopkeeper 2. I think 10 kiloes__rice enough 4 we 40. we r @ chicken farm Sangitji also coming there.	200	62	31
24	operation__16th poush Father already arived__ktm. I'm alone. send__uncle.			
31	Honey, plz turn__kantipur FM. Yo Maya Vanne going on. Sabina'Z tips are worthy not miss. Whts up ? LU.			

The above table shows that 22 per cent of the total SMS contains grammatical deviations regarding the omission of articles. The SMSTM No. 6, 24 and 31 clearly depict the SMS text messages with the omission of prepositions. From the above SMS it has been clear that omission of prepositions appear randomly without considering the various types of prepositions

3.2 Determinants for deviant forms

Deviation involves a departure from a 'norm' or 'convention'. Deviation results from the intentional violation of the existing 'rules' of language. Different kinds of language deviations occur in the language of SMS. From the above analysis it has been proved that the language that SMS violates the usual 'norms' of graphology and grammar. Graphology comprises different devices like capitalization, spacing between words, punctuation, mis-spelling, alphabets, abbreviations and numerical whereas grammar comprises incomplete clause and sentence, omission of different grammatical functions, omission of 'aux', omission of articles, and omission of prepositions.

The section, 'Determinants for deviant forms' deals with the analysis and interpretation of the opinions on the deviations collected from the informants. The heading 'Determinants for deviant forms' indicates the factors that are responsible for the use of deviant forms of language in SMS text messages. In other words, the factors that force ones to use deviant forms of language in SMS text messages. As we know, deviation results from the intentional violation of the existing rules of language, the message creators must have some intentions besides using deviant forms rather than usual forms.

The opinions, of all the 40 informants, on the determinants for the use of deviant forms of language in their SMS text messages have been analyzed here.

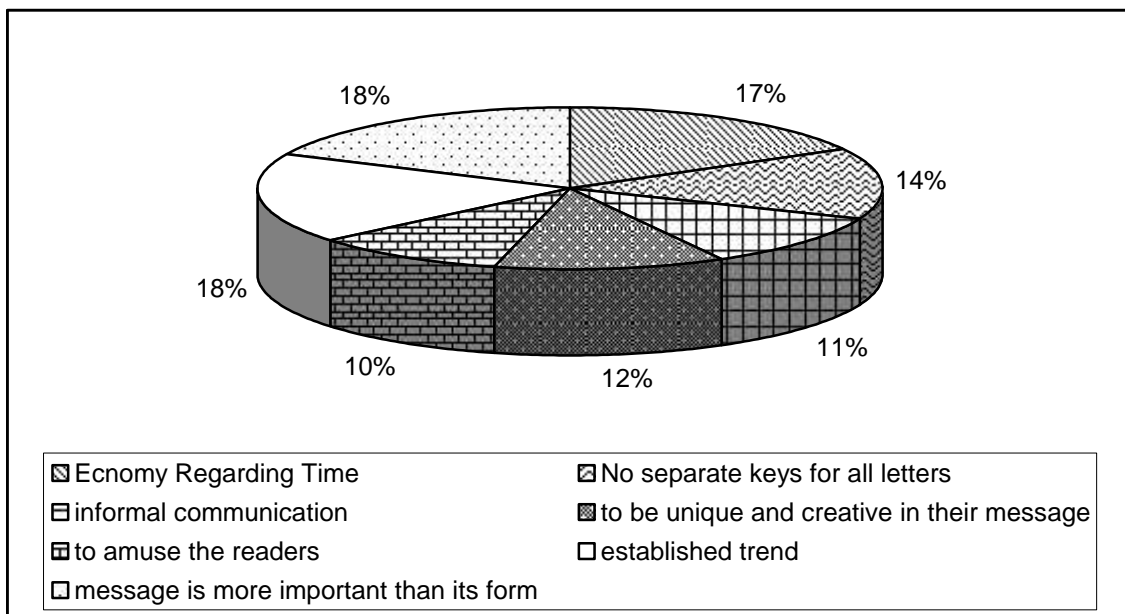
3.2.1 Determinants for Graphological Deviation

The determinants for graphological deviation in the language of SMS have been analyzed with reference to various items like capitalization, spacing between words, punctuation, mis-spelling, alphabets, abbreviations, and numericals on the basis of the responses obtained from the informants.

3.2.1.1 Determinants for Capitalization

While writing SMS text message, people usually do not follow the usual norms of capitalization. The fourth statement was related to this. The following figure clearly shows the responses obtained regarding determinants for capitalization.

Figure No. 1
Determinants for Capitalization



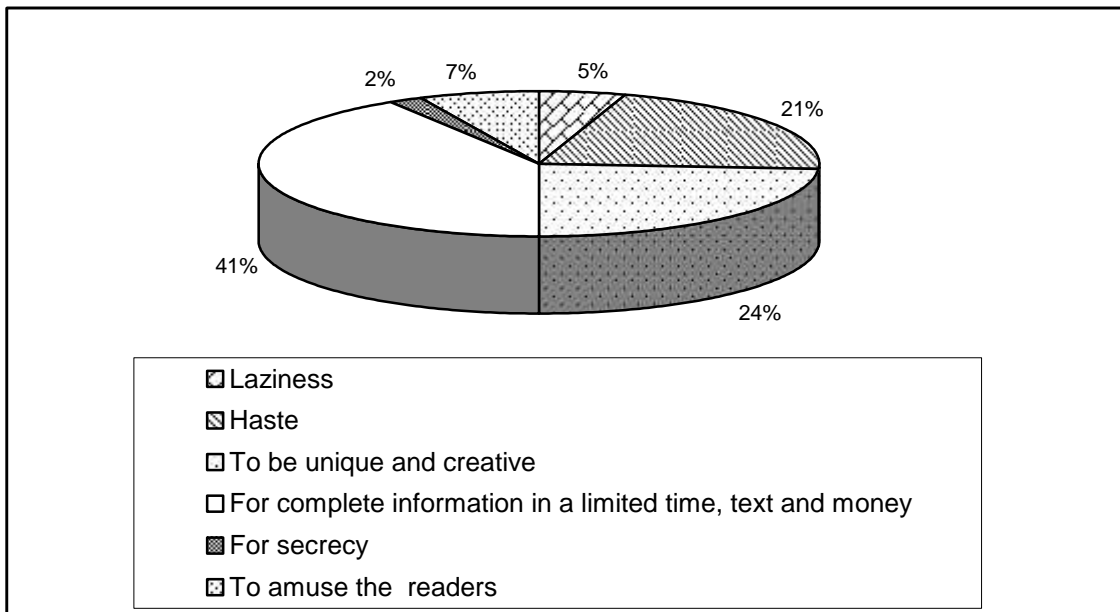
The figure above shows that 18 per cent of the total respondents pointed out that message is more important than its form, 18 percent of them pointed that determinant for capitalization is established trend, and 12 per cent of them asserted that people want to be unique and creative in their message. Likewise, 14 per cent

of them indicated that there are no separate keys for all letters. Similarly, 17 per cent of them focused on economy regarding time. Likewise, 11 per cent of them pointed that informal communication is the determinant for capitalization. Lastly, only 10 per cent of them pointed that to amuse the readers is one of the determinants for capitalization in SMS text messages.

3.2.1.2 Determinants for Spacing between Words

The respondents were given a statement which was related to the graphological deviation regarding spacing between words. The aim of the statement was to find out the reasons for spacing between words in the SMS text messages. The responses obtained from the respondents are schematically presented below:

Figure No. 2
Determinants for Spacing between Words



The figure above shows that 41 per cent of the total respondents pointed that the determinants for spacing between words are limited time, text and money; 24 per cent of them stated that to be unique and creative they make deviations. Similarly,

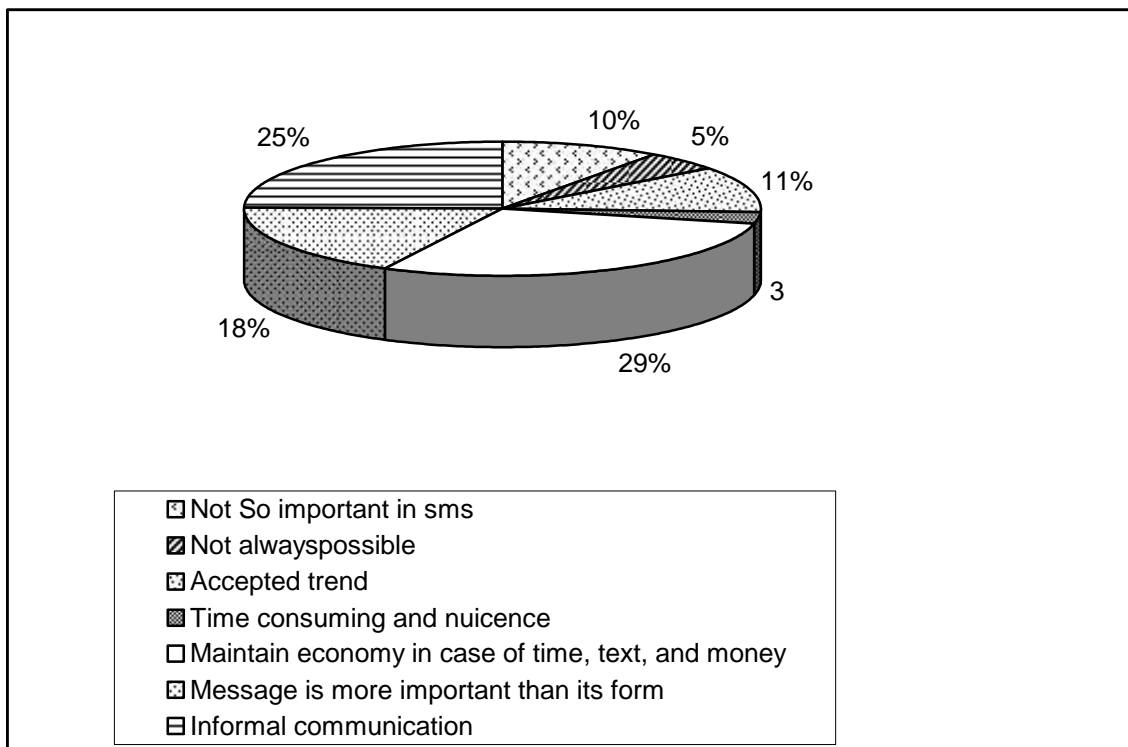
21 per cent of them focused on haste, 7 per cent of them pointed that amusement for the readers. Likewise, 5 per cent of them focused on laziness and only 2 per cent of them asserted that the purpose for secrecy.

3.2.1.3 Determinants for Punctuation

The respondents were asked to point out the factors that determine people to violate the usual norms of punctuation. The responses obtained from the respondents have been clearly analyzed below:

Figure No. 3

Determinants for Punctuation



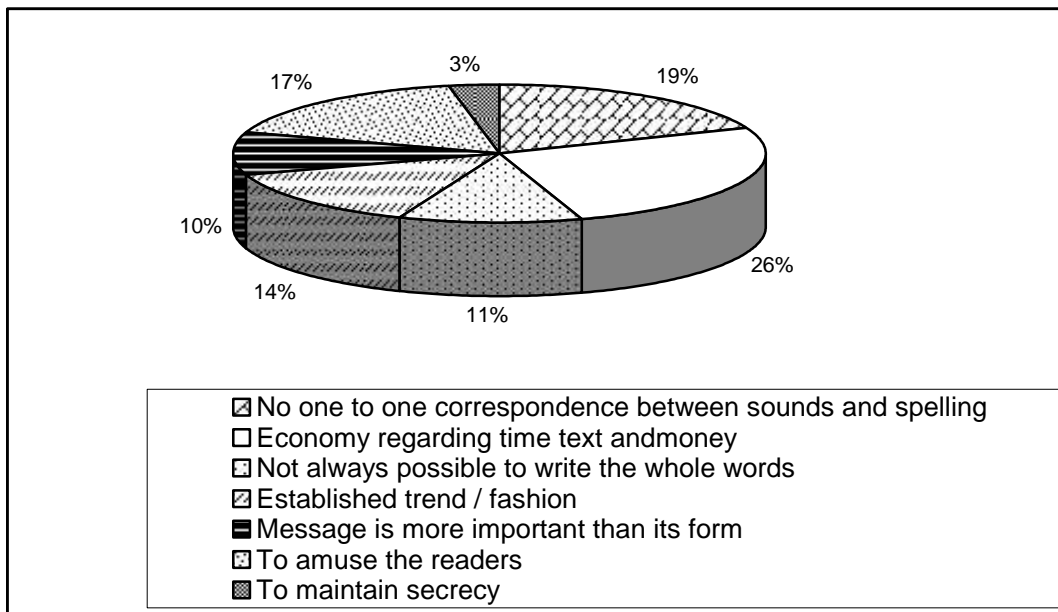
As it is presented in the figure above, 29 percent of the total respondents stated that the determinant for punctuation is to maintain economy in terms of time, text and money; 25 per cent of them focused on informal communication; 18 per cent of them indicated that message is more important than its form; 11 per cent of them asserted that it was an accepted trend; 10 per cent of them pointed out that it

was not so important in SMS. Similarly, 5 per cent of them indicated that it was not always possible. Lastly, only 3 per cent of them stated that the determinants for punctuation are time consuming and nuisance.

3.2.1.4 Determinants for Mis-Spelling

The respondents were asked to write the reasons for mis-spelling in the SMS text messages. The responses obtained from the respondents have been clearly analyzed below:

Figure No. 4
Determinants for Mis-spelling



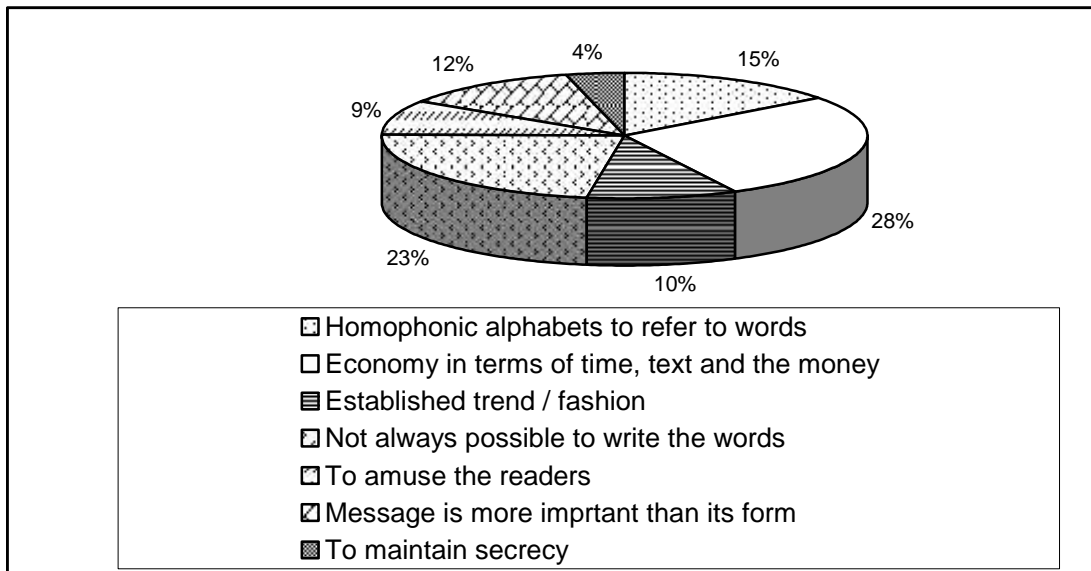
The figure above shows that 26 per cent of the total respondent pointed out that economy regarding time, text and money was one of the determinants for mis-spelling; 19 per cent of them stated that there was no one to one correspondence between sounds and spelling; 17 per cent of them focused that the deviation takes place while amusing the readers; 14 per cent of them indicated that it was an established trend/fashion. Similarly, 11 per cent of them pointed out that it was not

always possible to write the whole words, 10 per cent of them asserted that the message is more important than its form and only 3 per cent of them pointed that deviation occurs while maintaining secrecy.

3.2.1.5 Determinants for alphabets

The respondents were asked to give their opinion on the use of alphabets instead of words in the SMS text message. The responses obtained from them have been clearly analyzed below.

Figure No. 5
Determinants for Alphabets



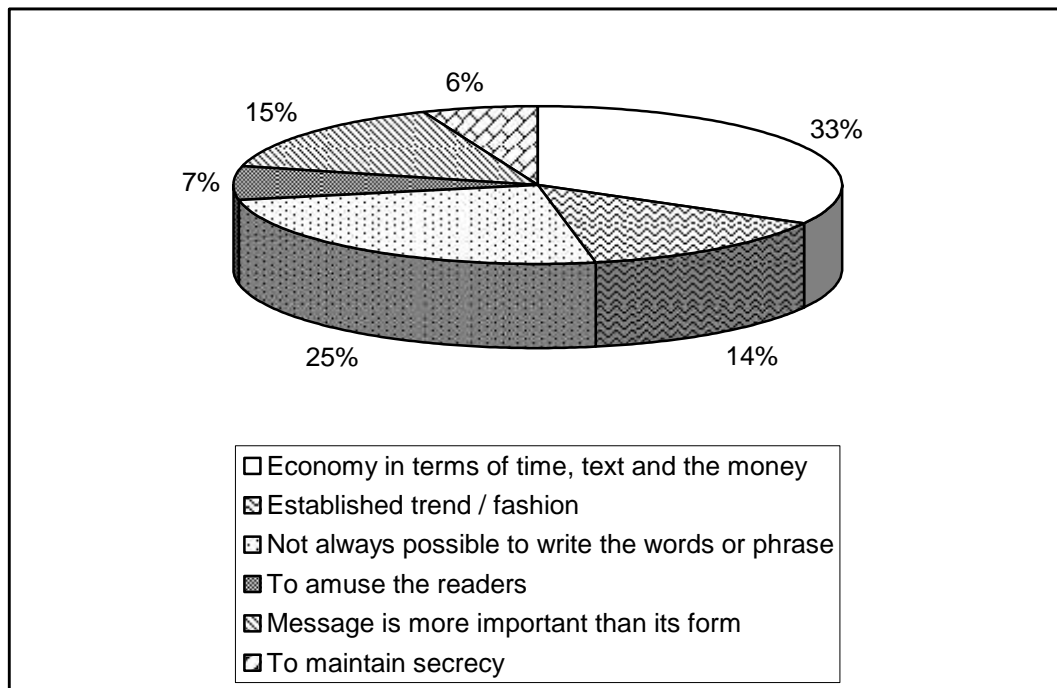
As we can see in the figure above, 28 per cent of the total informants pointed that the determinant for the use of alphabets is economy in terms of time, text and money; 23 per cent of them focused that it was not always possible to write the words; 15 per cent of them stated that due to available homographic alphabets to refer to words; 12 per cent of them indicated that the message was important than its form; 10 per cent of them focused that it was an established trend/ fashion; 9 per cent of them asserted that it was to amuse the readers; and only 4 per cent of them pointed that for maintaining secrecy.

3.2.1.6 Determinants for Abbreviations

The respondents' were asked to give their opinion on the use of abbreviation instead of full words, phrase or sentence in the SMS text message. The responses obtained from the respondents have been analyzed here clearly.

Figure No. 6

Determinants for Abbreviations



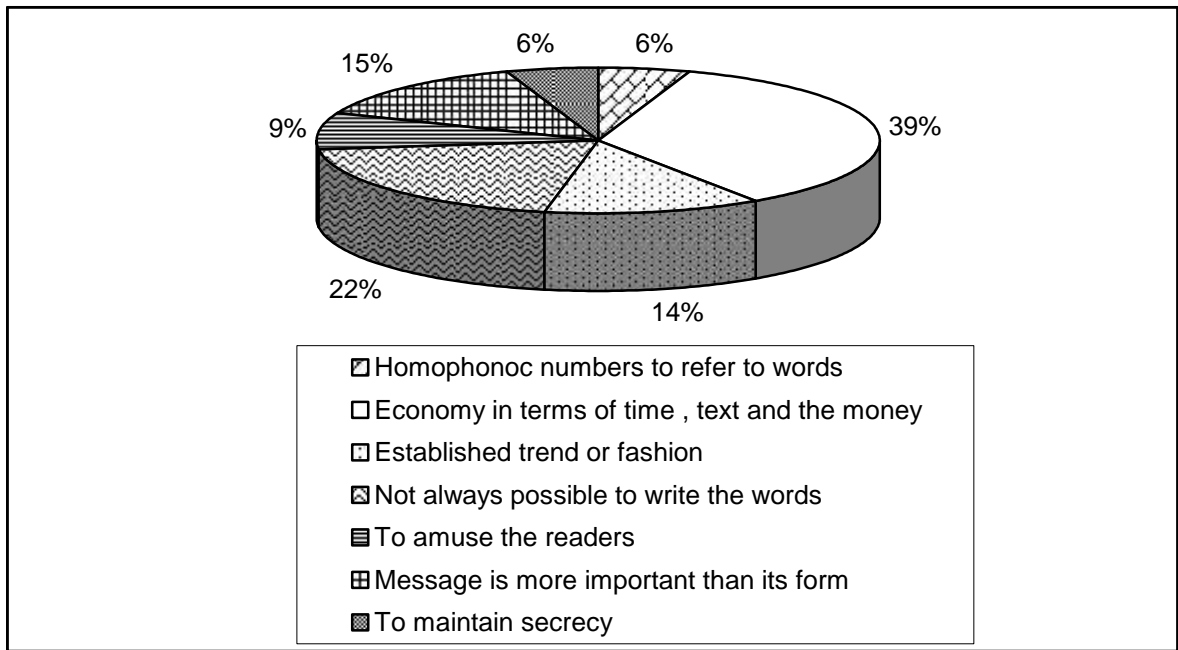
The figure above shows that 33 per cent of the total respondents pointed out that it was economy in terms of time, text and money; 25 per cent of them focused that it was not always possible to write the words or phrase, 15 per cent of them asserted that the message was more important than its form, 14 per cent them stated that it was an established trends/fashion, 7 per cent of them indicated that to amuse the readers people use abbreviations and only 6 per cent of them focused for maintaining secrecy.

3.2.1.7 Determinants for Numerical

The respondents were asked to write the things that determine people to use the numbers to refer to words in the SMS. The responses obtained from the respondents have been analyzed below.

Figure No. 7

Determinants For Numerical



As we can see in the figure above, 39 per cent of the total respondents stated that deviation occur while maintaining economy in terms of time, text and money; 22 percent of them focused that it was not always possible to write the words. Similarly, 14 per cent of them indicated that message was more important than its form, 15 per cent of them pointed out that it was an established trend/fashion. Likewise, 9 per cent of them asserted that people use numbers to refer to words to amuse the readers, 6 per cent of them stated that due to the available homophonic numbers to refer to words and 6 per cent of them focused that for maintaining secrecy etc.

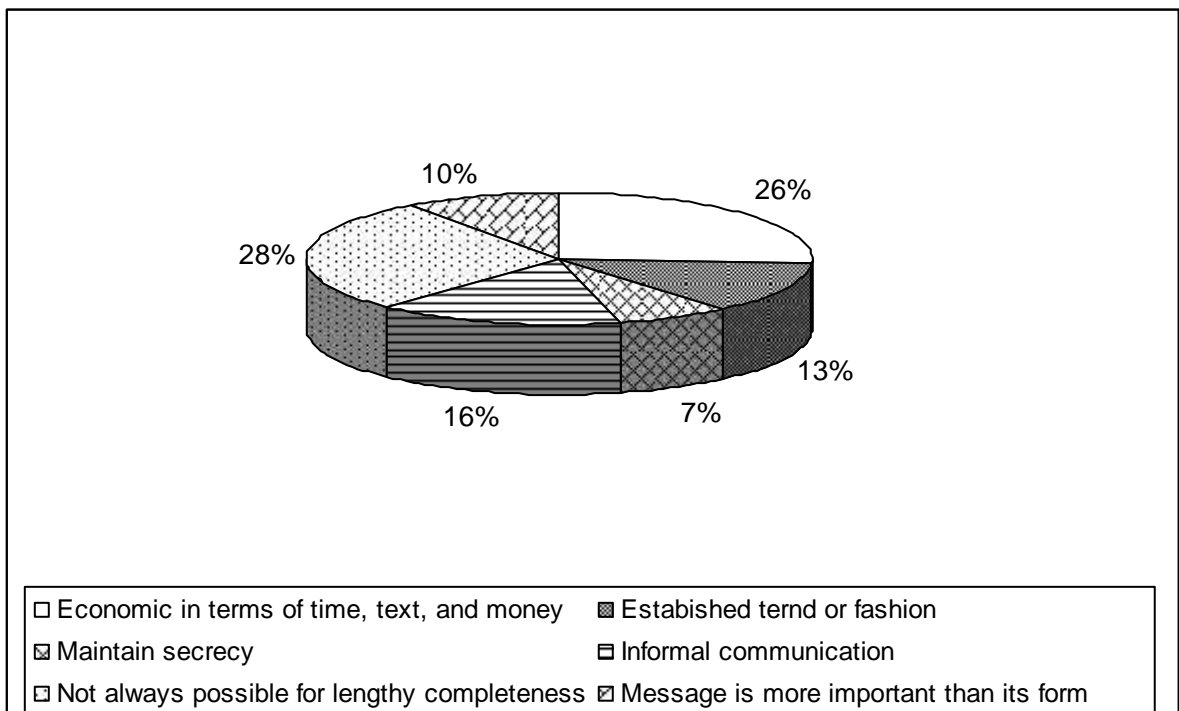
3.2.2 Determinants for Grammatical deviation

The determinants for grammatical deviation in the language of SMS have been analyzed below with reference to the various items like incomplete clauses and sentences, omission of grammatical functions, omission of auxiliaries, articles and prepositions on the basis of responses obtained from the respondents.

3.2.2.1 Determinants for Incomplete Clause and Sentences

The respondents were asked to point out the reasons for using incomplete clauses and sentences instead of complete ones in the SMS text messages. The responses obtained from respondents have been analyzed below.

Figure No. 8
Determinants for Incomplete Clause and Sentence



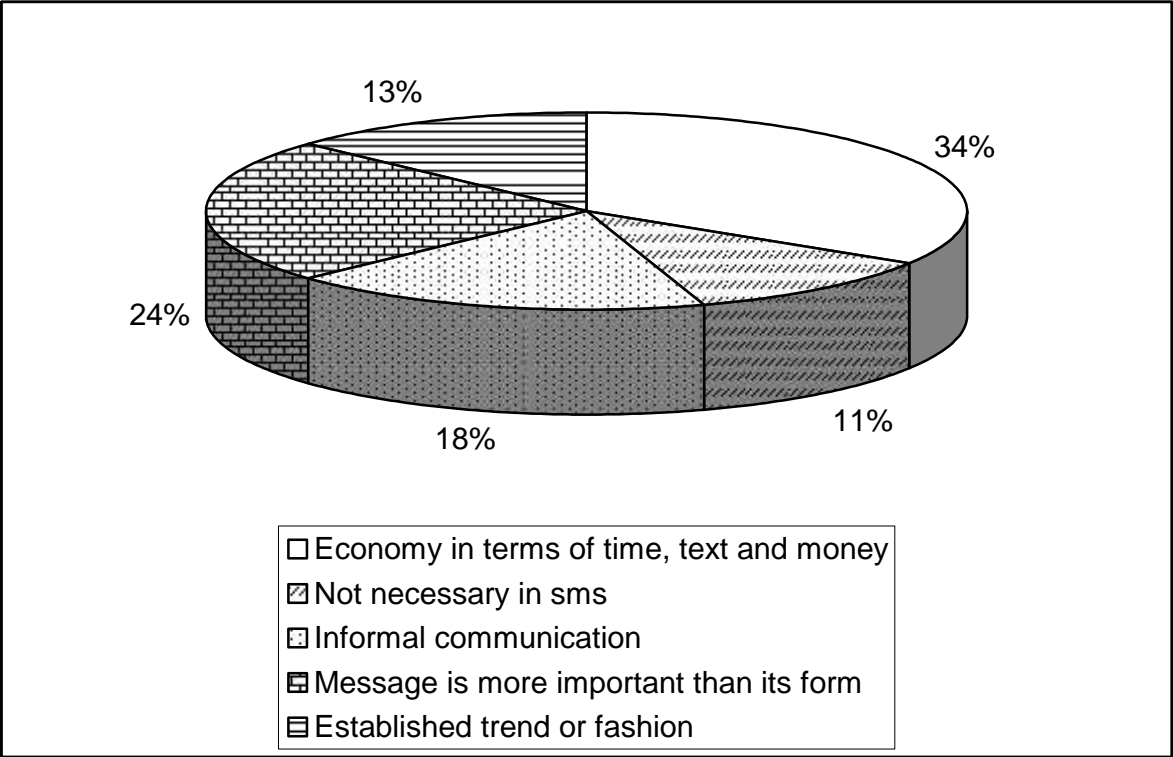
As it is represented in the figure above, 28 per cent of the total respondents stated that it was not always possible to write complete sentences in SMSes, 26 per cent

of them indicated that to maintain economy in terms of time, text and money people use incomplete clauses and sentences in SMSes; 16 per cent of them asserted that the SMS communication was informal, 13 per cent of them pointed that it was established trend/ fashion for incomplete clauses and sentences in SMSes. Similarly, 10 per cent of them focused that message was more important than its form in SMSes, and only 7 per cent of them indicated that the deviation occurs while maintaining secrecy.

3.2.2.2 Determinants for Omission of Different Grammatical Functions

The respondents were asked to write the factors that are responsible for the omission of different grammatical functions in the language of SMS. The responses obtained from the respondents have been analyzed below.

Figure No. 9
Determinants for Omission of Different Grammatical Functions



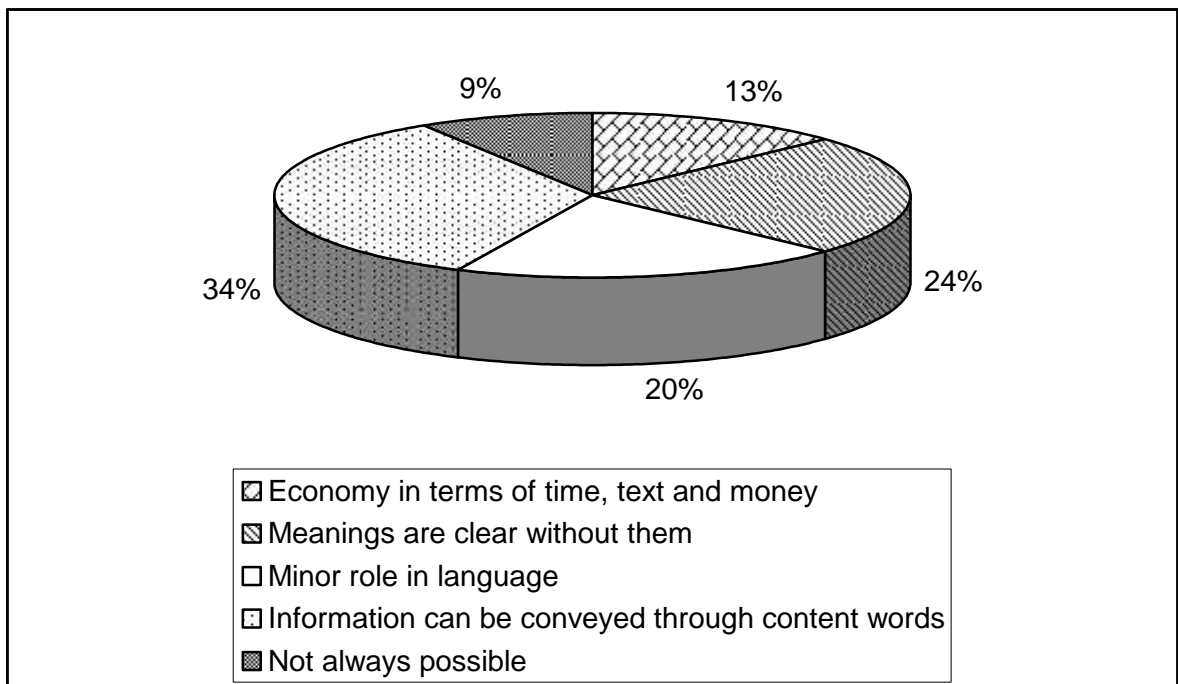
The above figure represents that 34 per cent of total respondents pointed that the omission of different functions were due to the limitations of time, text and money; 24 per cent of them focused that the message was more important than its form, 18 percent of them stated that the SMS communication was informal, 13 per cent of them focused that it was established trend/fashion for the omission and similarly, only 11 percent of them indicated that the grammatical completeness were not necessary in SMSes.

3.2.2.3 Determinants for Omission of Auxiliaries, Articles and Prepositions

The respondents were asked to give their opinion on the omission of obligatory grammatical elements like auxiliaries, articles and prepositions in the SMS text message. The responses obtained from the respondents have been analyzed below.

Figure No. 10

Determinants for Omission of Auxiliaries, Articles and Prepositions



As we can see in the figure above, 34 per cent of the total respondents pointed that the information can be conveyed through content words, 24 per cent of them focused that the meanings were clear without auxiliaries, articles and prepositions, 20 per cent of them stated that the role of the were not the major in SMSes. Similarly, 13 percent of them asserted that omission of them occur while maintaining economy in terms of time, text and money and only 9 per cent of them pointed that it was not always possible to include auxiliaries, prepositions and articles in SMSes.

CHAPTER FOUR

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Findings

On the basis of the analysis and interpretation of the data, the findings of the study have been summarized as follows:

1.
 - a. Language of SMS text message is deviated. Deviation can occur at both graphology and grammar.
 - b. The use of capital letters is dominantly high in the SMS text messages. The use of small letters in sentence initial and initial letter of proper names are also found in the SMS text messages.
 - c. The space between words in the SMS text messages are unusually high. The words without spaces (i.e. closed words) were also found in the SMS text messages.
 - d. The maximum number of words in the SMS text messages are mis-spelled.
 - e. Alphabets are eccentrically used in the SMS text messages to refer to words.
 - f. The peculiar use of abbreviations are also found in the SMS text messages, mostly the abbreviation are self-created to refer to words, clause, phrase and sentences.
 - g. The use of numerical to refer to words is remarkably high in the SMS text messages.
 - h. Omission of the different grammatical functions is the most prominent grammatical deviation in the language of SMS text messages.
 - i. Omission of the 'aux', preposition and articles are also found in the language of SMS text messages.

2. The determinants for the use of deviant form of language in SMS text messages are as follows:
 - a) The determinants for graphological deviations are: economy regarding time, text and money; no separate keys for all letters; informal communication; to be unique and creative in the message; to amuse the readers; established trend or fashion; message is more important than its form; laziness; hast; for secrecy; not so important in SMS; not always possible to write the whole words; time consuming and nuisance; no one to one correspondence between sounds and spelling; homophonic alphabets to refer to words; homophonic numbers to refer to words.
 - b) The determinants for grammatical deviations are: economy in terms of time, text and money; established trend or fashion; maintain secrecy; informal communication; not always possible for lengthy completeness; message is more important than its form; not necessary in SMS; meanings are clear without them; minor role in language; information can be conveyed through content words.

4.2 Recommendations

On the basis of the findings of the study, the researcher has attempted to forward some suggestions for teaching innovative functions of language, which would be beneficial for the teachers, students, other researchers and above all the readers and senders of English SMS text message.

- a. Language of SMS text messages is deviated. While teaching language in the classroom, the teacher should make the students familiar with such unusual features of language.
- b. Due to its various absurdities, the language of SMS text messages can be seen as an erroneous language from the linguistic point of view. Therefore,

it is very important to make a distinction between error and SMS deviation in the language classroom.

- c. The students can be asked to find out other discourses in which some unusual features of SMS text messages can be found.
- d. The information technology is developing and becoming a new form of communication in its own right. Therefore, curriculum designers, teachers and students should be aware of it.
- e. Educators and practitioners should not deny but recognize the novelty of a whole new set of practices associated with the language of SMS.
- f. In modern teaching/learning activities, communicative aspects should be emphasized rather than strict grammatical rules and classical form of language.
- g. The linguistic and critical aspects of SMS text messages are complementary to each other. Therefore, not only the critical aspect but also the linguistic aspect of the text should equally be focused in the teaching and examination.
- h. SMS text message is such a thing which is to be enjoyed not in terms of its manner (i.e. physical aspect of the text) but in terms of its matter (i.e. content or meaning). Therefore, it is crucial for any teacher in the language classroom to focus on meaning aspect of the text rather than its form.
- i. The students should be made clear regarding the distinctions between the language of SMS text messages and the language of other ordinary letters.
- j. Other researchers can carry out a contrastive study on the types of language deviations found in the SMS text messages composed in their native language and the SMS composed in the English language.

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