

Artikel Achmad Fanani, Maisarah Decoding

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DECODING NUANCED COMMUNICATION THROUGH SENTENCE STRUCTURES IN AN ISLAMIC LECTURE

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Abstract

This research explores Mufti Menk's lecture on jealousy available on YouTube, focusing on linguistic strategies in addressing success-related jealousy. Employing a qualitative descriptive approach, the study categorizes 374 English sentences from the lecture into four types. While predominantly composed of simple sentences, the presence of compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences adds linguistic variation. The research contributes to understanding Mufti Menk's communication strategies, providing insights into his nuanced approach to addressing a significant topic within the Muslim community. The findings not only shed light on linguistic aspects but also lay a foundation for future studies exploring psychological dimensions. Mufti Menk's deliberate use of sentence structures facilitates accessible yet nuanced communication on jealousy-related matters.

Keywords: Mufti Menk, Lecture Speech, Types of Sentence, Communication

INTRODUCTION

Ismail ibn Musa Menk, or Mufti Menk, stands as a prominent Islamic scholar in Zimbabwe, contributing significantly to the spiritual guidance of the Muslim community (Begum, et al., 2022). The research focuses on a lecture he delivered on YouTube, specifically addressing the complex emotion of jealousy. The aim is to scrutinize the sentence structures employed by Mufti Menk in conveying this critical message.

Previous studies (e.g., Ashidiq, 2023; Cusi & Berghout, 2023; and Aswar, Febrian, Alfayed, & Safitri, 2023) have not extensively delved into the specific linguistic analysis of Mufti Menk's lectures, leaving a notable gap in understanding how he employs sentence structures in addressing emotional and spiritual topics. This research introduces a unique approach by categorizing sentences into simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex structures, thereby providing a novel perspective on the communication strategies of this revered Islamic scholar.



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Previous research on Islamic lectures and communication styles has offered valuable insights, but certain gaps persist in the current body of knowledge. In a study by Ashidiq (2023), the focus was on Mufti Menk's role as the Grand Mufti for the Muslim community in Zimbabwe, emphasizing his significance as a spiritual leader. However, the linguistic analysis of Mufti Menk's lectures, particularly regarding emotional and moral topics, has not been extensively explored. Additionally, Cusi & Berghout's study (2023) contributed to understanding Mufti Menk's discourse by categorizing sentences into types but did not specifically delve into the linguistic nuances concerning a complex emotion like jealousy. The research by Aswar, Febrian, Alfayed, & Safitri (2023) discussed the importance of sentence types in effective information delivery but did not connect this linguistic aspect to religious discourse or explore how Islamic scholars strategically use different sentence structures. Thus, a comprehensive analysis addressing the specific linguistic strategies employed by Mufti Menk in tackling jealousy-related topics remains a gap in the existing research landscape.

This research anticipates contributing valuable insights into Mufti Menk's communication style, shedding light on its effectiveness in delivering religious concepts. The findings hold significance for religious discourse and education, particularly in addressing common human emotions within an Islamic framework. By understanding the nuances of Mufti Menk's discourse, this study aims to enrich the broader understanding of the role of Islamic scholars in shaping moral and spiritual perspectives within diverse communities.

In the realm of effective information delivery, the choice of sentence types plays a crucial role (Hui et al., 2019). Simple sentences offer clarity, while compound sentences add complexity and depth (Crossley et al., 2014). Complex sentences contribute detail and richness to speech content (Baxtiyorovna & Baxranovna, 2021). The amalgamation of these sentence types in compound-complex sentences provides flexibility and structure (Eslami, 2014). Understanding the characteristics of each sentence type is vital for speakers to adapt their language style, ensuring the effective communication of messages to diverse audiences. This theoretical framework sets the stage for comprehending Mufti Menk's deliberate selection of sentence structures in addressing jealousy in his lectures.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research adopts a qualitative descriptive approach to explore a deep understanding of the content presented in the YouTube video titled "HOW TO STOP BEING JEALOUS OF OTHERS SUCCESS" by Mufti Menk. The primary data source for this study is the English sentences found in the lecture, providing significant insights into strategies for overcoming jealousy towards the success of others.

The research instrument used to collect data is primarily the video content of Mufti Menk's lecture, which was transcribed for analysis. The process involved employing tracking techniques to capture specific linguistic elements within the lecture. The unit of analysis in this case was the sentence, with a total of 374 sentences being gathered for further examination. To categorize and analyze the data, we utilized a systematic approach, classifying each sentence into one of four types: Simple sentences, Compound sentences, Complex sentences, and Compound-Complex sentences. Therefore, the primary research instrument was the combination of tracking techniques, video transcription, and a categorization framework for linguistic analysis.

The choice of a qualitative descriptive method is relevant as the research aims to describe and comprehend various types of sentences used in Mufti Menk's lecture. Analyzing sentence structures will offer a clearer picture of how information is conveyed and the choice of language style in the context of addressing jealousy towards others' success.

By detailing the types of sentences used, this study is expected to contribute to a deeper understanding of the strategies conveyed by Mufti Menk in addressing feelings of jealousy. The analysis results can serve as a basis for further studies on the psychological and linguistic aspects embedded in the lecture.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Finding

Table 1. Types of sentences in the video

No	Type of sentence	Number of occurrences	Example
1	Simple sentence	218	"Allah had instilled with him all the natural qualities of man." "Wow. That's a powerful statement."
2	Compound sentence	63	"Then the Islam will come to the people and it will return as it came to the people."

3	Complex sentence	83	"Thank Allah and go and do it." "Allah Almighty in His divine wisdom allowed shaitan to influence Adam alayhi salam, knowing that he already told Adam what to do and what not to do." "Hence, on earth when you see people having a lot of wealth, having a lot of material possessions, people say that man is extremely successful but they forget that he can't sleep at night."
4	Compound-complex sentence	10	"Because from the very beginning, when Adam inclined because of the devil's contamination, and his persistence, when the devil succeeded for a moment to lower the guard of Adam, what was his downfall? He acted upon an inclination."

The provided data (as shown in Table 1) comprises sentences categorized into four types based on their structural complexity. The most prevalent type is the simple sentence, constituting 218 sentences. These sentences, such as "Allah had instilled with him all the natural qualities of man" and "Wow. That's a powerful statement," are characterized by their straightforward structure, consisting of a single independent clause. The simplicity of these sentences contributes to clear and direct communication, allowing for impactful statements and expressions of awe.

Additionally, the data includes 63 compound sentences, exemplified by statements like "Then the Islam will come to the people and it will return as it came to the people" and the directive "Thank Allah and go and do it." Compound sentences feature two or more independent clauses joined by coordinating conjunctions, conveying more complex ideas or actions. Furthermore, there are 83 complex sentences, such as "Allah Almighty in His divine wisdom allowed shaitan to influence Adam alayhi salam, knowing that he already told Adam what to do and what not to do." and "Hence, on earth when you see people having a lot of wealth, having a lot of material possessions, people say that man is extremely successful but they forget that he can't sleep at night." These sentences involve a combination of **an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses**, providing additional context and depth to the narrative.

Finally, the data includes 10 compound-complex sentences, combining elements of both compound and complex structures, as seen in the example, "Because from the very beginning, when Adam inclined because of the devil's contamination, and his persistence, when the devil succeeded for a moment to lower the guard of Adam, what was his downfall? He acted upon an inclination." These sentences exhibit a high level of

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structural intricacy, incorporating multiple independent and dependent clauses to convey nuanced and interconnected ideas.

Discussion

The research results indicate that the given lecture text predominantly consists of simple sentences. Simple sentences, composed of a single clause, provide clarity in conveying ideas or information. In writing, the use of simple sentences often serves as an effective tool to ensure the reader's precise understanding (Crossley et al., 2014).

In both written and oral communication, diversity in using simple sentences can be a key element that adds a dynamic touch to a piece of writing. The selection of simple sentences is often considered a strategic step, especially when clarity and speed in delivering a message are the top priorities. In this case, the clarity of simple sentences is not just a communication tool; it is an art that portrays its expressive strength. For instance, through the use of simple sentences, a speaker can create a narrative or religious advice that can be quickly identified in its essence by the reader.

While the majority of sentences in this text are indeed simple, it does not imply a lack of complexity or depth in delivering the message. In fact, within each simple sentence lies the potential to convey profound and relevant meanings (Crossley et al., 2014). Take, for example, the first sentence discussing the concept of human creation and the endowment of natural traits by Allah. Although the sentence structure is simple, the intended meaning remains clear and well-understood by the audience.

It is important to acknowledge that clarity in simple sentences does not signify a lack of complexity in the ideas or concepts being conveyed. On the contrary, the speaker's ability to communicate complex messages through simple sentences demonstrates a skill in simplifying complex concepts into a form accessible to various readers (Crossley et al., 2014).

However, the diversity in using simple sentences also has broader implications, especially in shaping the rhythm and flow of the writing. In longer texts, simple sentences can serve as a solid foundation. This foundation can then be expanded with the addition of more complex and elaborative sentences to provide additional depth to the writing. Therefore, diversity is not solely about clarity; it is also about orchestrating the rhythm and flow of the writing as a whole.

Thus, even though this lecture text is dominated by simple sentences, it aligns with its goal of delivering a clear and effective message. The clarity and assertiveness brought by simple sentences provide a robust foundation for the development of further ideas and concepts in this writing. In the context of religious advice or a lecture, where a strong and easily digestible message is crucial, the use of simple sentences can create a harmonious balance between the depth of meaning and optimal readability (Crossley et al., 2014).

The research results indicate the presence of compound sentences in the lecture text, offering diversity and clarity in connecting ideas or actions. Although the number of compound sentences in this text is not as abundant as simple sentences, their presence adds a layer of complexity to the writing. Compound sentences provide an opportunity for the speaker to articulate related ideas in more detail, portraying causal relationships or event sequences more elaborately.

In the context of this lecture text, the use of compound sentences may indicate the speaker's desire to provide a deeper understanding or elaborate on specific aspects of the discussed topic. The complexity of compound sentences can present a more dynamic and challenging piece of writing, enticing readers to pay closer attention to the presented details (Baxtiyorovna & Baxranovna, 2021).

Furthermore, compound sentences can also offer a smoother flow and stronger connections between the ideas presented. The choice of words and arrangement of clauses in compound sentences can create a close-knit relationship between ideas that might feel more disjointed in simple sentences.

With the inclusion of compound sentences, this lecture text becomes more varied in its sentence structure, offering a more dynamic reading experience. Although compound sentences are more complex, the clarity of the relationships between ideas is maintained, ensuring that readers can follow the train of thought effectively.

The utilization of compound sentences within this lecture serves a multifaceted purpose. Firstly, it reflects the speaker's intention to delve into the intricacies of the topic, providing a nuanced and comprehensive exploration (Baxtiyorovna & Baxranovna, 2021). Compound sentences, characterized by their combination of two or more clauses, enable the author or speaker to unfold layers of information within a single sentence.

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Secondly, the use of compound sentences contributes to the overall dynamism of the text. As compound sentences connect related ideas, they create a more engaging narrative flow. This dynamic quality captures the reader's attention, encouraging them to delve deeper into the content. The speaker strategically employs compound sentences to sustain the audience's interest throughout the lecture (Baxtiyorovna & Baxranovna, 2021).

While compound sentences may not dominate the text, their strategic inclusion serves as a powerful tool for the speaker to deepen the exploration of the topic, maintain reader engagement, and ensure clarity in conveying complex ideas. The judicious use of compound sentences within the lecture enriches the overall texture of the discourse, contributing to a more dynamic and compelling reading experience.

In this lecture, there are several complex sentences that enrich the language structure and provide information in more detail. Complex sentences, by combining main clauses with subordinate clauses or exceptions, allow the speaker to convey ideas with a higher level of complexity.

The prevalence of a considerable number of complex sentences in this lecture indicates the speaker's desire to present more profound thoughts and detailed relationships between the conveyed ideas. Complex sentences bring a richer nuance to the text, enabling readers or audience to engage in a deeper understanding of the topics discussed.

The utilization of complex sentences in written communication adds depth and intricacy to the conveyance of information (Hui et al., 2019). In this context, the speaker employs complex sentences to enhance efficiency in information delivery, establish robust connections between related ideas, and introduce additional dimensions to the discussed concepts. Consequently, the presence of complex sentences enriches the presentation and fortifies the clarity of communication within the text.

Complex sentences play a pivotal role in conveying information more efficiently compared to simple sentences. By incorporating main clauses and subordinate clauses, complex sentences allow the speaker to present multifaceted ideas within a single sentence. This structural complexity aids in streamlining the flow of information, providing a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter. For instance, the intricate relationships between cause and effect, conditions, or contrasting elements can

be seamlessly expressed through the use of complex sentences, contributing to a more nuanced portrayal of ideas.

Furthermore, complex sentences establish strong connections between interrelated ideas. The coordination of clauses within a complex sentence creates a cohesive narrative that binds concepts together. This interconnectedness enables readers to follow the logical progression of ideas, fostering a deeper engagement with the content. In instances where ideas are intricately linked or one idea depends on another for clarity, complex sentences become instrumental in elucidating these connections.

The introduction of additional dimensions to the discussed concepts is another significant benefit of employing complex sentences. The inclusion of qualifying details, exceptions, or elaborations within a single sentence enriches the content by providing a more comprehensive view of the subject. This depth enhances the reader's comprehension and allows for a more thorough exploration of complex topics. Complex sentences, through their layered structure, enable the speaker to delve into the intricacies of ideas, offering audience a more profound insight into the subject matter (Hui et al., 2019).

The deliberate use of complex sentences in this text serves as a strategic tool to enhance the efficiency, coherence, and depth of communication (Hui et al., 2019). By incorporating intricate sentence structures, the speaker navigates through the complexities of the topics discussed, fostering a more profound understanding among the audience. The deployment of complex sentences contributes to the overall enrichment of the text, ensuring that the communication of ideas is not only clear but also imbued with a nuanced and multidimensional quality.

Lastly, in this lecture text, there are several compound-complex sentences that blend the elements of compound and complex structures. Both examples provide profound insights into religious concepts and the relationship between human actions and Allah's mercy (Hui et al., 2019).

In the context of compound-complex sentences, the use of multiple clauses allows for a more comprehensive exploration of ideas. The combination of compound and complex structures enriches the narrative by presenting a detailed cause-and-effect relationship and highlighting nuanced aspects of the concepts discussed. This

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complexity adds depth to the audience's understanding, making the text more engaging and thought-provoking.

The use of compound-complex sentences in this lecture text signifies the speaker's endeavor to present more profound thoughts, emphasizing relationships and nuanced aspects within religious concepts. Therefore, the presence of compound-complex sentences provides a complex yet detailed structure, offering audience in-depth insights.

Compound-complex sentences, characterized by their amalgamation of independent and dependent clauses, allow the author or speaker to delve into multifaceted relationships between ideas (Gunawan, 2019). Each clause contributes a layer of meaning, creating a tapestry of interconnected concepts. For instance, the inclusion of subordinate clauses aids in specifying conditions, exceptions, or additional details that enhance the overall narrative.

The intricate structure of compound-complex sentences facilitates the portrayal of cause-and-effect relationships. By integrating both independent and dependent clauses, the speaker can articulate not only the actions or events but also the underlying reasons or consequences. This level of detail enhances the narrative by providing readers with a more comprehensive understanding of the subject matter.

Moreover, compound-complex sentences excel in conveying contrasts within the text. The juxtaposition of ideas through the use of independent clauses allows the speaker to highlight distinctions, presenting a more nuanced perspective. This is particularly beneficial when exploring complex religious concepts that may involve paradoxes or apparent contradictions (Gunawan, 2019).

The choice to incorporate compound-complex sentences is a deliberate strategy to navigate the complexities inherent in religious discourse. These sentences act as vehicles for conveying intricate theological ideas, offering readers a more thorough exploration of the subject matter. The detailed structure encourages readers to engage with the text on a deeper level, fostering a nuanced understanding of the religious concepts under discussion.

The utilization of compound-complex sentences in this text serves as a deliberate effort by the speaker to present religious ideas with depth and intricacy. The complexity of the sentence structure is a reflection of the nuanced nature of the concepts being discussed. Through the use of compound-complex sentences, the speaker not only

enriches the narrative but also provides the audience with a comprehensive and layered understanding of religious themes. The intentional deployment of such sentences enhances the overall quality of communication, allowing for a more profound engagement with the subject matter.

⁴ **CONCLUSION**

Based on the research findings, it can be concluded that the video is predominantly composed of simple sentences, totaling 218 sentences. Examples like "Allah had instilled with him all the natural qualities of man" highlight the clarity in message delivery. Although compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences are present, their proportions are relatively smaller. The number of compound sentences reaches 63, while complex and compound-complex sentences are 83 and 10, respectively. Despite being fewer in quantity, these sentences provide variation and complexity to the language structure, showcasing the speaker's ability to present ideas with varying levels of intricacy.

With the dominance of simple sentences, the video likely aims to convey messages directly and be easily understood by the audience. Nevertheless, the presence of compound and complex sentences adds a dimension to the information delivery. This illustrates the speaker's effort to impart depth and complexity to the discussed material, adjusting the sentence structure according to the needs of the desired message conveyance.

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