

CORPUS LINGUISTICS STUDY: INVESTIGATING AUXILIARY VERB ON CNN NEWS

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Abstract

This article uses descriptive data research to determine how many auxiliary verbs were used in news stories included in the article. Thus, the purpose of this paper is to investigate the use of auxiliary verbs in the news section of CNN News in order to determine the frequency of auxiliary verbs and how it relates to the characteristics of news text. This research was compiled. The CNN News corpus, which consists of news articles, belongs to the group of soft news, with a total word count of 923 from 25 pieces of an online news article. The auxiliary verb types used in this study are those compiled in Areluck Harnmontree's auxiliary verb compilation.

Keywords – Auxiliary, Corpus, News, Verb

Introduction

According to Chafe (1970), the verb is essential because it determines the arguments of the clauses, including the types and number of arguments. Furthermore, in some languages, verbs are the linguistic units to which tenses and other grammatical categories are attached (Comrie, 2000). Because verbs naturally state actions, events, and states, they are more dynamic than nouns, whereas nouns refer to static entities (Clackson, 2007). Furthermore, it comes to verb usage, and it has been influenced by the context in which the verbs are used. It is assumed that the use of linguistic units will be influenced by the linguistic context, such as text categories, medium, and dialects (Bybee & Hopper, 2001; Oktavianti, 2016, 2019).

There are various types of verbs: action verbs, phrasal verbs, modal verbs, and auxiliary verbs. An auxiliary verb is a verb (such as have, be, may, do, shall, will, can, or must) merged with another verb to indicate the verb tense, form a question, and many other uses (Merriam Webster). In English, auxiliary verbs are verbs that help connect two words in a sentence. Aside from connecting, auxiliary verbs provide and change the meanings of words in sentences within sentences (Kampung Inggris).

Auxiliary verbs (abbreviated AUX) add functional or grammatical meaning to the clause in which they appear, such as expressing tense, aspect, modality, voice, emphasis, and so on. Auxiliary verbs are usually used in conjunction with the main verb. The main verb provides the clause's main semantic content. According to Walsh, J. Martyn and Walsh, Anna Kathleen (1959:15), an auxiliary verb is a verb that assists another verb. A verb phrase is made up of a verb and its helper or helpers. Auxiliary verbs include do, did, be (in its various forms), have, may, can, must, will, shall, might, could, would, and should. Do, be, and have are three of the most common auxiliary verbs.



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There are four types of auxiliary verbs in English. Starting with being, do, have, and auxiliary modal. The auxiliary be included the words is, am, are, was, were, been, being, and to be. Be is commonly used to describe adjectives, nouns, and present particles. Its usage must be catered to its subject, as mentioned earlier. Do is a verb-descriptive auxiliary verb. Is composed of the words do, did, and does. Do and does are used in the present tense and did in the past tense. An auxiliary verb can be used in the present perfect, past perfect, or future perfect form. This auxiliary is mainly composed of the words have, had, and has. Modals utilize a broad-based range of purposes than the primary auxiliary verbs. A modal auxiliary verb can express abilities, possibility, as well as permission. Modals in English include can, could be able to, may, might, shall, should, must, have to, will, and would.

Using a corpus enables a far more empirical approach and provides more data for analysis. Moreover, the use of corpus can lead to faster and more accurate analysis of the frequency of use, which is the crucial analysis of corpus linguistics (Biber & Quirk, 2012). Furthermore, by using a corpus and focusing the analysis on the frequency of linguistic units, it is possible to identify what is genuinely essential. According to Baker (2010: 125), frequency indicates markedness; it indicates that something frequently is a significant concept. In linguistic analysis, a linguistic unit that frequently appears in a specific text identifies the unit as a typical text feature.

As one of the written media of language use, newspapers have gained popularity compared to fiction and academic from the same written medium. Each text category has unique qualities. This study focuses on studying newspaper or news text, primarily how verbs are used in the text. It is essential to investigate language use in news text because the language used in newspapers is the closest to the language used in daily life (Bell, 1991; Conboy, 2010). Language is used manipulatively in fiction (Leech & Short, 2007), whereas other academic texts require standardizations of language use (Biber & Gray, 2016). As a result, studying language in media helps to depict actual language use.

To constrict the context, this study investigated 25 online news articles from CNN News and focused on world, sports, business, and technology sections. The decision of online newspaper is not tricky because CNN has been a well-known World English Language Newsfeed. As a result of the enormous contents of the newspaper, it is easier to access and compile the corpus, and it provides large and varied data.

Methodology

This representative studies a corpus-based approach, collecting data from CNN's news on various sections such as world, sports, business, and technology section. The compiled corpus was then analyzed by identifying the auxiliary verb usage inside CNN's news article.

However, there is a tendency for ambiguity for some words, such as look, which can be classified as either perception or perception/relational. The quantitative procedure is irrelevant for the second problem proposed in this study. This study modified Geertz's (Stake, 2010) concept of thick description to interpret the relationship as shown by the data, findings, and theory to relate frequency and text characteristics. In terms of interpretation,



this study connects the available findings to the relevant theory, namely the theory of news text characteristics.

a. The form of research

Research is an activity of collecting, processing, analyzing, and presenting data that is carried out systematically and objectively to solve problems. The approach used in this research is a descriptive qualitative approach.

b. Research Site

Auxiliary verbs in the CNN post are carried out at home on Mujahidin Street, Giyanti, Temanggung Regency, Central Java Province.

c. Source of data

The data required in this form of written data is the source of this data is the sentences that contained auxiliary verb in CNN News. There are 25 news articles that were used as written data sources for the research. The title of the post are listed below:

- 1) The looming crisis in Brussels that no one is talking about.
- 2) Christian Pulisic becomes the first US men's international to score in a Champions League semifinal. Published in
- 3) Elon Musk on Mars: 'You might not come back alive. Published in
- 4) 'When we come together, it is powerful,' Thierry Henry says of social media blackout
- 5) Coronavirus deaths are down in the US, and vaccines may be partly responsible
- 6) Taiwan blames China for slowing down its access to Covid-19 vaccines. The reality is more complicated
- 7) Peru's Shining Path rebel group kills 16 ahead of presidential elections, says military
- 8) Thousands flee Goma as a threat of another volcanic eruption looms
- 9) Millions of mice are swarming Australian towns. Now there is a plan to end the plague with poison
- 10) 'A Quiet Place Part II' takes a bigger step into the world beyond the original
- 11) A fatty heart puts your health at risk, regardless of your weight. Here is how to avoid it
- 12) Five exercises to combat chronic aches from too much computer time
- 13) Sergio Aguero to join FC Barcelona as Spanish club begins squad overhaul
- 14) Lewis Hamilton equals Michael Schumacher's record of seven world titles
- 15) Seychelles is 60% vaccinated, but infections are still rising. That is not as bad as it sounds
- 16) Peru more than doubles its official Covid-19 death toll, leaving it with the world's worst death rate
- 17) Vietnam detects a suspected new coronavirus variant that's a hybrid of the UK and India strains
- 18) Tasmanian devils born on the Australian mainland for the first time in 3,000 years
- 19) Cyclone Yaas batters India's east coast leaving tens of thousands homeless
- 20) On Memorial Day, remember this secret troop of Jewish commandos from World War II
- 21) Samsung's Galaxy S20 lineup packs better cameras, battery life, and built-in 5G
- 22) Here is why some McDonald's restaurants are putting cameras in their dumpsters
- 23) Smartphone addiction ruins sleep, a study says, but you can fight back
- 24) Do not try to 'catch up' this summer
- 25) Syrians vote in the 'non-event' presidential election set to be won by Assad.



d. Research Instruments

Looking for and analyzing the data about auxiliary verb sentences in the headlines of CNN News.

e. Data collection techniques

Read the post-American newspaper, look for and record the verb sentences, and classify what is meant in the verb.

Findings and Discussion

This section will look at how many auxiliary words were used in 25 different CNN news items. Moreover, there are some discoveries about the research based on the 25 news that has already been analyzed. The discovery is about the function and how many different auxiliary verbs are used in these 25 news articles.

The auxiliary verbs investigation of frequency was carried out by classifying the verbs into verb types as compiled by Areeluck Harnmontree. The auxiliary verb types are as follows.

Table 1. Auxiliary Verb Group		
Auxiliary Verb Group (3 Main Auxiliaries)	TENSE	
	Present	Past
Verb To Be	Is, am, are	Was, were
Verb To Do	Does, do	Did
Verb To Have	Has, have	Had
Four Pairs Modal	Can	Could
	Will	Would
	Shall	Should
	May	Might
Expression with to Three Single Word	Ought to	Used to
	Must	Dare, Need

The findings consist of 923 data points divided into three main types of auxiliary verbs and modal functions. However, in this investigation, the findings served only as a sample due to many data points. Only one type of linguistic evidence is served in each sample. To avoid bias interpretation, the researcher employs systematic random sampling, focusing first on the type of modal auxiliaries. Thus, serving the data and determining the frequency.

This section discusses the frequency of verb types and which verb types are the most and least frequent in the corpus. First, there is a discussion of verb type frequencies based on the selection of auxiliary verb types table by Areeluck Harnmontree. The frequency of the verbs found in CNN's corpus of news section is listed below.

A. Main Types of auxiliary

1. Verb To Be

Be is a verb that is frequently used to describe adjectives, nouns, and present particles. Its implementation must be adapted to the subject in the CNN news articles. The verb *is* used 172 times, verbs *are* used 95 times, the verb *was* used 89 times, and verbs *were* used 56



times. The only verb that the researcher did not find is the verb *am*. There are samples of the sentence.

- This study *is* an excellent example of why health care providers.
- Covid-19 vaccinations *are* already having a significant impact on the death rate.
- Taiwan *was* a Covid success story.
- Almost half its 6,396 confirmed infections *were* reported in the past month alone.

2. Verb To Do

Do is an auxiliary verb that describes a verb. Is made up of the words do, did, and does. Do and does are used in the present tense, while did is used in the past. The verb *do* use 22 times, the verb *does* use 3 times, and the verb *did* use 7 times. There are samples of the sentence.

- All you have to *do* is go with a circular flow.
- Police in the area, so this terrorist action *does* not go unpunished.
- Yotaka *did* not offer details on alleged Chinese interference.

3. Verb To Have

Have is an auxiliary verb that can be used in three different ways: present perfect, past perfect, and future perfect. This auxiliary consists primarily of the words have, had, and has. The verb *have* used 112 times, and the verb *had* used 55 times; the verb *has* used 94 times. There are samples of the sentence.

- Muyaya said scientists still do not *have* a clear picture of what is happening.
- The island of 23 million people *had* recorded close to zero local infections for the month.
- Henry tells CNN that he *has* not spoken directly with anyone at Instagram.

B. Modals Auxiliary

1. Can and Could

The modal verb in a sentence can convey permission and theoretical possibility based on the context. The modal verb could perform the same function as the verb can, but it usually appears in past tenses. The verb *can* be used 44 times, while the verb *could* be used 22 times. There are samples of the sentence.

- "I *can* deal with mice and killing mice," Hodge said
- The second half was very tactical, and you *could* feel that we are a bit tired.

2. Will and Would

Will and would are used to express willingness, intention, and prediction. The verb would express insistence, but it is uncommon and with a strong emphasis on the word. The verb *will* be used 56 times. Besides that, the verb *would* be used 41 times. There are samples of the sentence.

- Samsung says the S20 and its 5G capabilities *will* also appeal to gamers.
- Herd immunity *would* be reached faster in countries using vaccines.

3. Shall and Should

Shall be used to express what is unavoidable or appears likely to occur in the future and express determination. Should be used in an auxiliary function to express a condition, obligation, propriety, or necessity. Should also express future from a past point of view, and



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make a polite request or soften a direct statement. The verb *shall* only use 1 time, and the verb *should* be used 12 times. There are samples of the sentence.

- I was kind of in a weird mood, *shall* I say? We talked a lot throughout those.
- “The goal was well deserved and we *should* have scored at least one more.”

4. May and Might

The verbs may and might are both used in granting or seeking permission, but the difference is that the verb might is in the past tense. The verb might is far more speculative than the verb may. The verb *may* be used 21 times; meanwhile, the verb *might* be used 9 times. There are samples of the sentence

- Fruit and vegetables because toxic volcanic dust *may* have settled on the goods.
- Elon Musk on Mars: 'You *might* not come back alive.'

5. Ought to and Used to

Ought to is a synonym for must, need, shall, and should. Should be used to express obligation, propriety, natural expectation, or logical consequence used to is a verb that means a situation existed in the past but no longer exists. Something repeatedly happened in the past but no longer happened. Both ought to and used to verbs are not found by the researcher.

Table 2. Auxiliary Verb

Auxiliary Verb	Frequency	Percentage
Are	95	10,29
Can	44	4,76
Could	22	2,38
Did	7	0,75
Do	22	2,38
Does	3	0,32
Had	55	5,95
Has	94	10,18
Have	112	12,13
Is	172	18,63
May	21	2,27
Might	9	0,97
Need	10	1,08
Shall	1	0,10
Should	12	1,30
Was	89	9,64
Were	56	6,06
Will	56	6,06
Would	41	4,44
Total	923	100,00

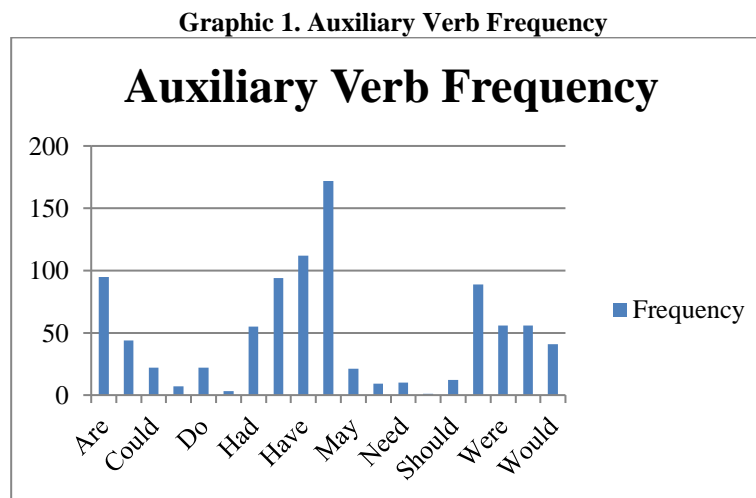
6. Must, Dare, and Need

Must is an auxiliary verb used to command or request everything, be compelled by physical necessity, or be required by an immediate or future need or purpose. Dare is an auxiliary verb that is used to mean to be sufficiently strong. Need is an auxiliary verb that refers to a state of necessity or obligation. The verbs must and dare are not founded by the researcher. Meanwhile, the verb *needs* to be used 10 times. The example of the verb used is down below.



- Until then, Chen said, Taiwan will *need* to rely on foreign vaccines to deal with

The data of the auxiliary verb from 25 CNN news stories have already been collected, and it will be analyzed how many auxiliary verbs were used in all 25 news items.



The table, supported by the chart, demonstrates that the auxiliary verb *is* is prevalent in the CNN online news article. Based on the research, the auxiliary verb *is* appears 172 times and records for 18,63 percent of the total frequency, so it is the most frequently used. Inside many CNN news, the auxiliary verb *is* picks a role as connecting to show characteristic, position, and situation that happened.

Moreover, the auxiliary verb *have* is the second most frequent auxiliary verb, accounting for 12,13 percent. The auxiliary verb *have* gives some connects to show someone or something is the same subject, and show condition, and situation that happened in the news. Furthermore, the auxiliary verb *are* is the third most common auxiliary verb, accounting for 10,29 percent. The auxiliary verb *are* gives any roles on showing condition, and situation. Those three give examples that auxiliary verb have function connector to expressing someone or something is the same as the subject of the sentence, characteristic, position, location, condition, and situation. Auxiliary verb also used for naming people and things, and describing or giving many more information (Pickering. 2000 : 46).

They are followed by other auxiliary verbs such as *has* with a percentage of 10,18, *was* with a percentage of 9,64, *were* and *will* each spend 6,06, *had* with a percentage of 5,95, *can* with a percentage of 4,76, *would* with a percentage of 4,44, *could* and *do* each spends 2,38, *may* have a percentage of 2,27, *should* have a percentage of 1,30, *need* has a percentage of 1,08, *might* have a percentage of 0,97, *did* has a percentage of 0,75, *does* has a percentage of 0,32, and *shall* have a percentage of 0,10.

Conclusions

This research found that there is 923 frequency in total with the types of the modal auxiliary verb used in CNN news article *are*, *can*, *could*, *did*, *do*, *does*, *had*, *has*, *have*, *is*, *may*, *might*,



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need, shall, should, was, were, will and would. The most widely used auxiliary verb is (*is*), because according to the findings, the auxiliary verb "*is*" appears 172 times and accounts for 18,63 percent of the total frequency. The second widely used auxiliary verb is (*have*) because "*have*" scores 112 times and accounts for 12,13 of the frequency. The minor third widely used auxiliary verb is (*Are*) because the verb "*are*" make 95 appereance and accounts for 10,29 of the frequency.

It can be implied that the primarily used auxiliary verb are *is* that spend a big number in this investigation, then *have* in the second place, and the least widely used is *Are*. But still, they use another auxiliary verb like *has* with a percentage of 10,18, *was* with a percentage of 9,64, *were* and *will* each spend 6,06, *had* with a percentage of 5,95, *can* with a percentage of 4,76, *would* with a percentage of 4,44, *could* and *do* each spends 2,38, *may* have a percentage of 2,27, *should* have a percentage of 1,30, *need* has a percentage of 1,08, *might* have a percentage of 0,97, *did* has a percentage of 0,75, *does* has a percentage of 0,32, and *shall* have a percentage of 0,10.

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